

eThembeni Cultural Heritage

20 October 2017

Amafa aKwazulu-Natali 195 Jabu Ndlovu Street Pietermaritzburg 3200 August Telephone 033 3946 543 bernadetp@amafapmb.co.za

Attention Bernadet Pawandiwa

Dear Ms Pawandiwa

Heritage Scoping Report

Portion 23 of the Farm Riet Vallei No. 851

R103 Inchanga, eThekweni Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal

### Project Description 1

Future Indefinite Investments 180 are proposing to expand their logistics and warehousing facilities and establish extended distribution facilities in Cato Ridge. The facility will be located on vacant land described as Portion 23 of the Farm Riet Vallei No 851, KwaZulu-Natal. Portion 23 lies adjacent to the R103 along Harrison Flats at the intersection of the access road to Harrison Railway Siding. The proposed development is in keeping with the eThekweni Municipality's LDP for Outer West. See Google Image below and SG diagram (as also loaded to SAHRIS Case File).

Guy Nicholson Consulting CC are the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners to oversee acquiring Environmental Authorisation from the competent authority (DEDTEA: eThekwini) in terms of the amended EIA Regulations, 2014, for which a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment process is applicable.

#### **Observations**

eThembeni inspected the site on 20 October 2017. The site (Portion 23) is a subdivision of an adjacent property, Lot 47 of the Farm Riet Vallei No 851 (see SG diagram).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information provided by Guy Nicholson Consulting CC.

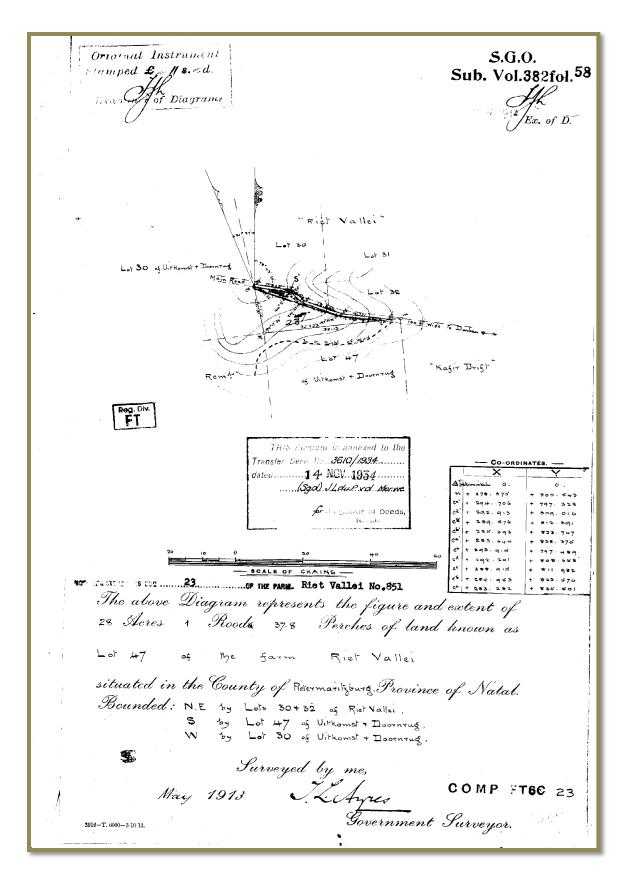


Figure 2 SG Diagram

The SG Diagram indicates that the Farm Riet Vallei had been subdivided into numerous smaller farm portions through the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> C. Over the last fifteen years, during its inception and development, the Cato Ridge Logistics Hub and Industrial Park has come to comprise further subdivisions of the respective parent farm portions. eThembeni have conducted 13 separate assessments in and around the logistics hub over the last decade. Table1 summarises our general findings of the various properties:

Table 1.

Heritage resource type	Observation
Places, buildings, structures	None were identified within the proposed development
and equipment	areas.
Places associated with oral	None were identified within the proposed development
traditions or living heritage	areas.
Historically significant Landscapes	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas
Natural features	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas
Traditional burial places	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas
Ecofacts	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas
Geological sites of scientific or	None were identified within the proposed development
cultural importance	area.
Archaeological sites	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas.
Historical settlements and	None were identified within the proposed development
townscapes	areas
Public monuments and memorials	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas
Battlefields	None were identified within the proposed development
	areas

#### Places, buildings, structures and equipment

No structures are present on Portion 23.

### Landscapes

Historically, the area would have served as seasonal Spring-time grazing and used for cultivation. Clear plough contour scars were observed during the field inspection indicating extensive previous cultivation. A 2002 Google image of the site clearly indicates the plough scars and a clearly discernible and substantial access track (Fig.2). This may have led to old buildings or maybe just a rubble dumping site. I could not see any foundations during the site visit. It may have been labour houses in wattle and daub with some attendant brickwork and cement floors comprising a very sparse scatter of rubble. See kml. loaded to SAHRIS.

The now fallow land is largely covered in *Aristida junciformis* grass, an unpalatable and indicator species of overgrazing, and thick stands of triffid weed (Chromolaena odorata), *Lantana camara* and umbongabonga / bugweed (*Solatum mauritianum*) have colonised the understory of the larger *Ficus* and *Acacia* trees present on the property. Much of the vacant land in the immediate surrounds, prior to infrastructure development, has been utilised as "communal" grazing by cattle-keeping residents in the adjacent Ximba Traditional Authority and Fredville Informal Settlement in the Valley of a Thousand Hills.

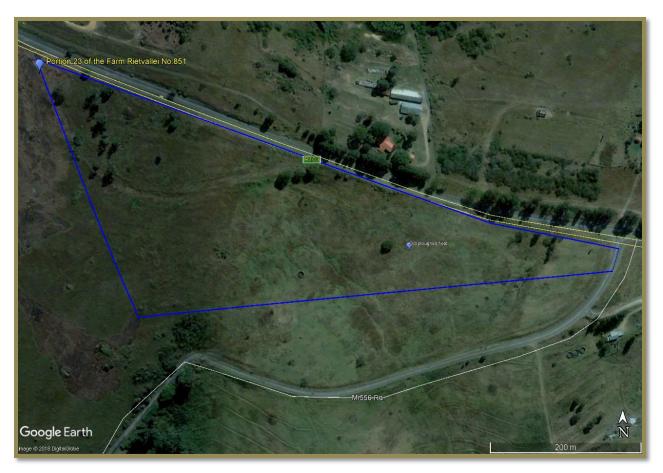


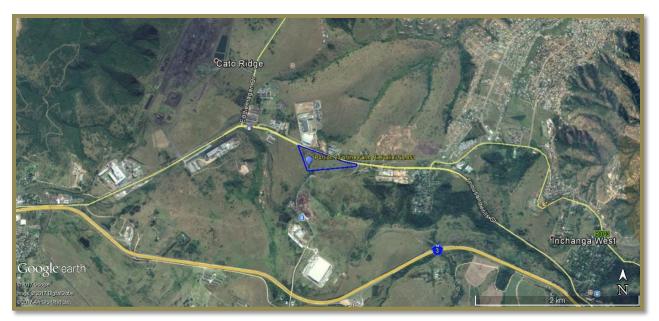
Figure 3 Portion 23 of the Farm Rietvallei No.851 showing plough disturbance vehicle-tracks. (See kml. loaded to SAHRIS).

# **Palaeontology**

The underlying lithology is Natal Group Sandstone which is not considered fossil bearing <sup>2</sup>

No heritage resources of any significance were observed on the site.

<sup>2</sup> Groenewald. G. 2012. Unpublished Palaeotechnical Report for Amafa KwaZulu-Natali.. Pietermaritzburg.



**Figure 3** Portion 23 of the Farm Rietvallei No.851- Located at 29.728247° S; 30.627774° E, within the Cato Ridge Logistic Hub, an actively developing commercial and industrial zone.

# Recommendations

On the basis of this heritage scoping assessment, we request that Amafa allow the development process to proceed with no further heritage resource mitigation.

In this regard, please can you notify us timeously via the loaded SAHRIS case file as to the decision of Amafa.

Yours sincerely

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Len van Schalkwyk

Principle Investigator.