



AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

2001/077745/23

DR. UDO S KÜSEL

Tel: (012) 567 6046
Cell: 082 498 0673
E-mail: udo@nconnect.co.za

P.O. Box 652
Magalieskruin
0150

A. PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(a) BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PROJECT:

THE PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT IS PART OF AN APPLICATION TO ESKOM FOR THE LOCATION OF AN ELECTRICAL CABLE ON ONE OF THEIR SERVITUDES ON CITY OF JOHANNESBURG LAND - DIEPSLOOT CEMETERY PORTION 1 OF THE FARM DIEPSLOOT 388-JR GAUTENG PROVINCE

(b) REPORT COMPILED BY

Dr Udo S Küsel

P.O. Box 652, Magalieskruin, 0150. Tel: (012) 567 6046; Cell: 082 498 0673

E-mail: udo@nconnect.co.za

(c) DEVELOPER AND CONSULTANT INFORMATION

Project Developer:

Eris Property Group, Att: Bruce Krog, Tel: 011 775 1318, Mobile 082 850 6896, E-mail: bkrog@eris.ci.za

Consultant:

LEAP; Dr. Gwen Theron, PO Box 13185, Hatfield, 0028

Tel: 012 344 3582; Email: gwen.theron@leapenviro.co.za

(d) DATE OF REPORT: 7 April 2020

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the study

African Heritage Consultants CC has been appointed by LEAP Landscape Architect and Environmental Planner to conduct a Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Resources Impact assessment.

Brief description of the development project

This report contains a comprehensive heritage impact assessment investigation in accordance with the provisions of Sections 38(1) and 38(3) of the *National Heritage Resources Act* (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA). The focus of the report is on the survey results of a cultural heritage survey as requested by Eris Property Group.

The site Diepsloot –West was visited and inspected on foot and by vehicle. The site was recorded and photographed. Visibility was good. The site has been previously cleared which could have destroyed any possible heritage sites.

No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found along the proposed route of the power cable. There is no objection to the proposed development from a cultural heritage resources point of view.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

C. TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
A. Title Page	01
B. Executive Summary	02
C. Table of Contents	03
D. Background Information on the Project	04
E. Background to the Archaeological History	07
F. Description of the Property or Affected Environment	08
G. Description of sites	10
H. Description of the Artefacts, Faunal, Botanical or other Finds and Features	12
I. Clear Description of Burial Grounds and Graves	12
J. Field Rating	13
K. Statement of Significance (Heritage Value)	13
L. Recommendations and Conclusion	13
M. Bibliography	13
• Declaration of independence and information on the author	14

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT

(a) Whether the report is part of a scoping report/EIA/HIA or not

The report is part of an application to Eskom for the location of an electrical cable one of their servitudes and on City of Johannesburg land.

(b) Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc).

Installation of an underground electrical distribution cable for Eskom

(c) Whether re-zoning and/or subdivision of land is involved.

No

(d) Developer and consultant and owner and name and contact details;

Project applicant and owner:

Owner: City of Johannesburg

Project applicant: Eskom for the use of their Servitudes

Consultant:

Eris Property Group, Tel: 011 775 1318; Cell: 082 850 6896;
E-mail: bkrog@eris.co.za

(e) Terms of reference

To conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment to assess if there is any material of cultural or heritage value under the footprint of the proposed development

The broad generic term Cultural Heritage Resources refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

(f) Legislative requirements of Act 25 of 1999.

PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT,
ACT NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Paleontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or objects, which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

Legislative framework

National Heritage Resource Act (NHRA)

The National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999) is the primary legislative act dealing with the conservation and management of heritage resources. In brief the Act aims to promote good management of the national estate, and to enable and encourage communities to nurture and conserve their legacy so that this may be bequeathed to future generations.

The NHRA clearly defines the national estate and sets out principles for the management of heritage resources, determines the constitution, powers, functions and duties of heritage authorities and provides a framework for the enforcement of the Act. All sites, heritage resources and archaeological remains are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) Act No. 25 of 1999:

- All archaeological remains, artefactual features and structures older than 100 years and historical structures older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999, section 35). No archaeological artefact, assemblage or settlement (site) may be moved or destroyed without the necessary approval from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

- Human remains older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act Section 36. Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected by the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended).

The following sections of the South African Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) must be noted:

In terms of section 3 (1 & 2) of the NHRA, heritage resources of South Africa that are of cultural significance or other special value for the present community and for future generations and are considered part of the national estate and fall within the sphere of operations of heritage resources authorities include:

- (a) places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
- (b) places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
- (c) historical settlements and townscapes;
- (d) landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
- (e) geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
- (f) archaeological and palaeontological sites;
- (g) graves and burial grounds, including —
 - (i) ancestral graves;
 - (ii) royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
 - (iii) graves of victims of conflict;
 - (iv) graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
 - (v) historical graves and cemeteries; and
 - (vi) other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
- (h) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa;
- (i) movable objects, including—
 - (i) objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
 - (ii) objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (iii) ethnographic art and objects;
 - (iv) military objects;
 - (v) objects of decorative or fine art;
 - (vi) objects of scientific or technological interest; and
 - (vii) books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 (xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).

- (3) Without limiting the generality of subsections (1) and (2), a place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of —

- (a) its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- (b) its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's 30 natural or cultural heritage;
- (c) its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- (d) its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- (e) its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- (f) its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- (g) its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- (h) its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and
- (i) Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

Note that all sites and artefacts associated with the Anglo Boer War are sensitive. It is critical that this information be relayed to visitors, tour operators and private landowners. This message also needs to be reinforced through appropriate signage. From a tourism development and visitor management perspective there are a number of activities that can potentially trigger the need for a permit application or the submission of a Heritage Management Plan to the South African Heritage Resource Agency.

E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA.

A consultation of the SAHRIS data base has demonstrated that the area, which is mostly intensively developed, does not contain many significant heritage resources. A very low density of Stone Age lithics has been recorded. There are Later Iron Age (LIA) sites, including graves, and historic settlements from African farmer occupation, but these are not abundant. On account of the intensive former agricultural and in particularly current industrial and housing development it is likely that most prehistoric remains have been destroyed or are buried below the current surface whereas historic structures have been either demolished or much altered. The most abundant and significant heritage features within the Diepsloot area are formal cemeteries and formal as well as unmarked graves.

During an AIA for the Diepsloot pipeline Huffman and Schoeman (2001) recorded a cemetery at Knopjeslaagte (2528 CC). In a subsequent survey Huffman (2009) noted a single MSA flake in a disturbed context. As to the extensive African cemetery of some 87 graves (from S25°55'42.2 & E28 02 32.7 to 44.1S 32.6) previously recorded in 2001, he recommended that it should be fenced.

Teichert (2006) undertook a rescue excavation of a Late Iron Age burial that was disturbed when a trench was dug by the landowner of the property to build a house on an already disturbed archaeological site at Rietfontein 532 JQ, Portion 16, at approximately 25.8874S, 27.95239E in the Diepsloot District (Permit ID 638, 80/06/05/013/51).

Coetzee (2008), in a cultural heritage survey of the proposed township development of Tanganani Extension 7 on the farm Diepsloot 388JR, documented a mud-stone multi-room house and no other heritage resources.

No sites, features or objects that are of cultural heritage significance were found in a survey of the proposed Diepsloot waste buyback centre (Van Schalkwyk 2011a), the Diepsloot sewer pipeline (Van Schalkwyk 2011b), in an HIA for the proposed Diepsloot reservoir (Van Schalkwyk 2012) or in another heritage assessment for the proposed Diepsloot East power line and new substation (Van Schalkwyk 2013).

In an investigation for the proposed subdivision of Portion 34 of the farm Rietfontein 532 JQ, PGS (2009) recorded structures less than 60 years old and a recent grave that was deemed to be of significance. It was recommended that a fence should be erected around the grave.

Digby Wells (2012) was appointed for a heritage statement for the Eskom transmission division - Roodepoort strengthening project in support of the basic assessment report (BAR). Historical structures, a number of cemeteries and burial sites, LIA sites and lithic scatters were identified.

Bokomoso Environmental (2013) conducted an assessment for the proposed development of Nooitgedacht 534 JQ Ptn 366 (25° 59'50"12"S; 27° 55'10"38"E). It was recorded that '[t]he proposed development site has no significant heritage resources' (Bokomoso Environmental 2013:70).

F. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY OR AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

(a) Detail of area surveyed

Portion 1 of the Farm Diepsloot 388-JR within the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality Coordinates: S25° 56' 56.70" & E28° 00' 46.04"

(b) Location of Maps:

Diepsloot 388-JR City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality

An Underground electrical cable for Eskom will run through a cemetery in Eskom's servitude.

Location map: 1/50 000 2528CC Centurion

Figure 1. Excerpt of the 1:50 000 2528 CC Centurion Map.

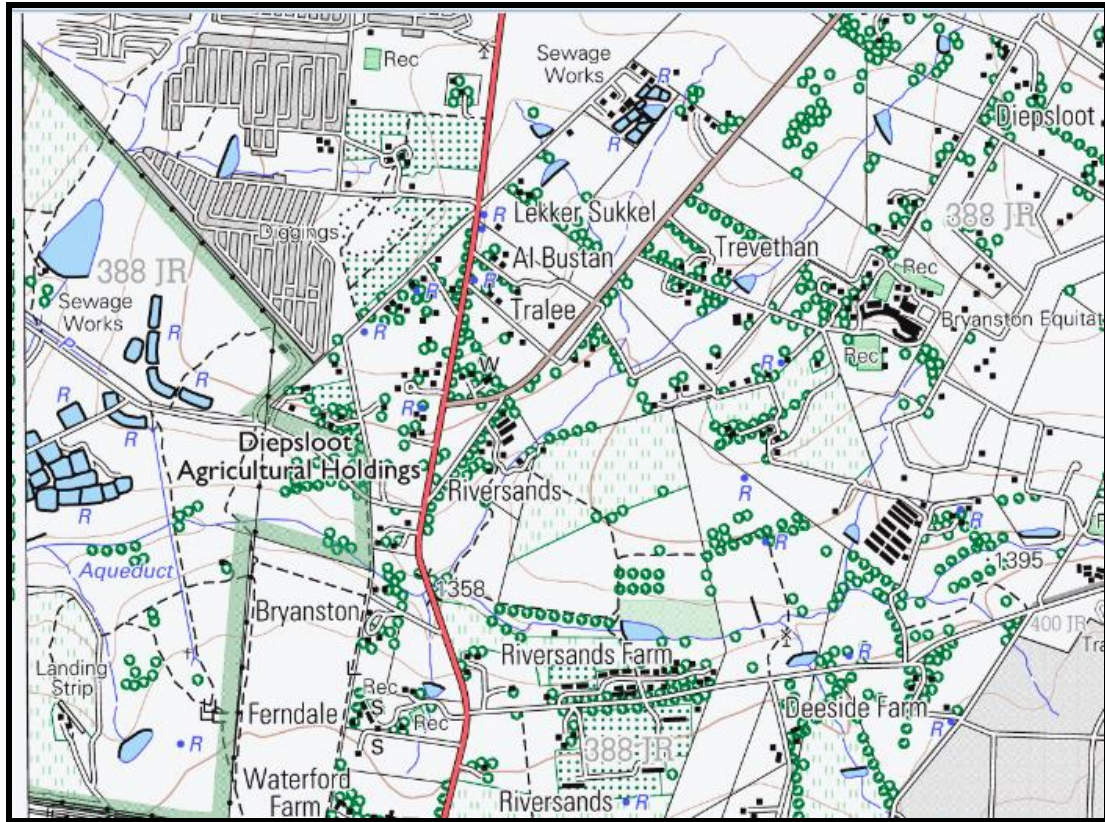
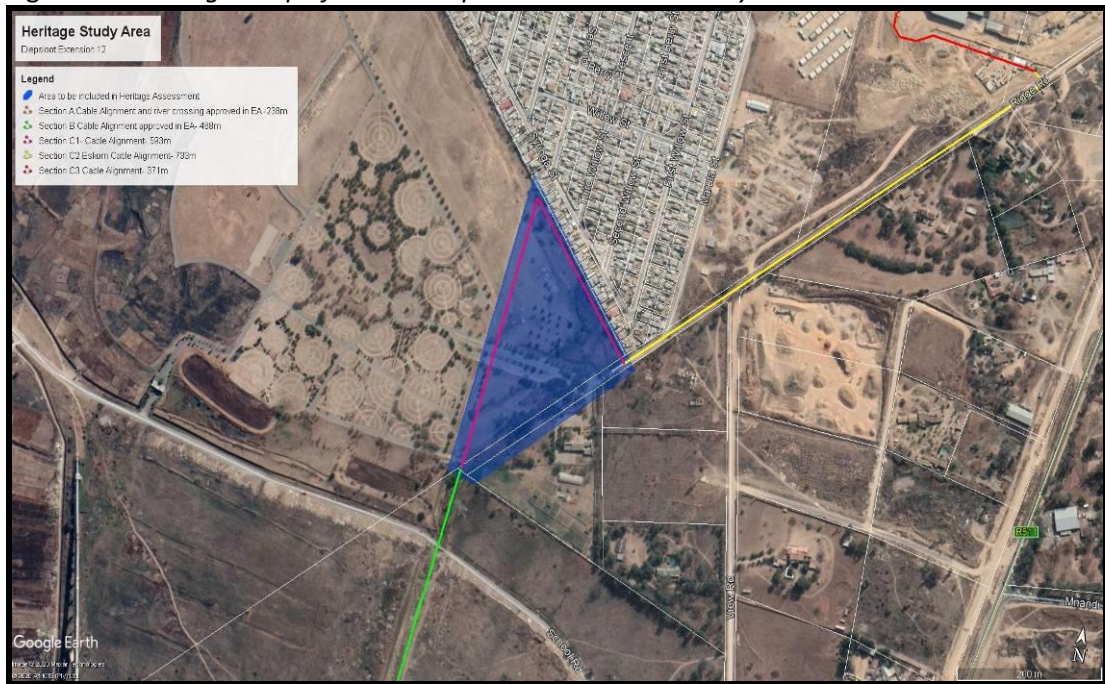


Figure 2. Google map of the development area indicated by red line.



(b) Description of methodology

The purpose of this Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is to satisfy the requirements of section 38(8), and therefore section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). Prior to conducting the site assessment a desktop survey of existing literature on the wider region was conducted to assess the heritage context. These included published research articles, unpublished reports and other online information. The SAHRIS data base was also accessed for previous heritage reports that relate to the general region of the survey.

The relevant 1:50 000 topographical maps were sourced, and consulted for pointers to possible heritage resources. Historical imagery and maps were also systematically scrutinised to identify potential sites, areas of disturbance and vegetation anomalies and for any evidence of structural remains, likely areas for archaeological features or to identify potential sites, areas of disturbance and vegetation anomalies.

The survey was conducted at Diepsloot West for Eskom to install a power cable on the eastern border of a cemetery.

The site was visited and inspected on foot and by vehicle. Visibility was good as most of the area was previously cleared. The site was recorded and photographed.

G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES IDENTIFIED AND MAPPED

The proposed power cable route for Eskom will run from S25°57'02.38" & E28°00'39.34" next to the Eskom power lines on the eastern boarder of the cemetery Infrastructure in a northern direction. The route of the power cable running from south to north crosses a double tar road.





From here it reaches the township boarder with its concrete wall at $S25^{\circ}56'51.35''$ & $E28^{\circ}00'40.72''$. This area was cleaned in the past. Illegal dumping takes place all along the concrete wall. The cable route will run parallel to the wall to $S25^{\circ}56'56.70''$ & $E28^{\circ}60'46.04''$ – see photograph.

The route of the proposed power cable has previously been cleaned as part of the cemetery and wall development – see photograph. This cleaning of the site would have destroyed any heritage sites.





The route of the proposed power cable has previously been cleaned as part of the cemetery development. This cleaning of the site would have destroyed any heritage sites.

H. DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTEFACTS, FAUNA, BOTANICAL OR OTHER FINDS AND FEATURES

None

I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES

At present the only graves in the cemetery are in the far western section of the cemetery more than a hundred metres from the proposed development – see photograph.



J. FIELD RATING

Not applicable

K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Heritage value)

Not applicable

L. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found along the proposed route of the power cable. There is no objection to the proposed development from a cultural heritage resources point of view.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

M. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bokomoso Environmental 2013. Final basic assessment report for the proposed development of Nooitgedacht 534 JQ Ptn 366.

Coetzee, FP. 2008. Cultural Heritage Survey of the proposed township development (Tanganani Ext 7) on Portion 119 (portion of Portion 2) of the farm Diepsloot 388JR, Gauteng. MSA Environmental, Legal & Mining Services

Huffman, T.N. 2009. Portion 115 of Knopjeslaagte: Heritage Assessment a Phase I report prepared for Seaton Thompson and Associates.

Huffman, TN & Schoeman, MH. 2001. Archaeological Assessment of the Diepsloot Pipeline, Gauteng. A Phase-1 report submitted to Bohlweki Environmental.

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Van Schalkwyk, J. 2013b. Basic cultural heritage assessment for the proposed Diepsloot East power line and new substation, Gauteng Province. Prepared for Envirolution Consulting. eclaration of independence and information on the author

Declaration of independence and information on the author

I Udo Siegwalt Küsel, declare that as independent cultural heritage specialist I have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development project, application or appeal in respect of which I was appointed other than fair remuneration for work performed in connection with the activity or application.



Dr U.S. Küsel

African Heritage Consultants CC

P.O. Box 652 MAGALIESKRUIJN 0150

Tel: (012) 567 6046; Fax: 086 594 9721; Cell: 082 498 0673

E-mail: udo@nconnect.co.za

Accredited Professional Archaeologist for the SADC Region Member No. 068

Principal Investigator Iron Age

Principal Investigator Colonial Period

Principal Investigator Industrial Archaeology

Field Director Stone Age

BA Archaeology, Anthropology and Indigenous Law, University of Pretoria 1966

MA Archaeology, University of Pretoria 1975

D. Phil, University of Pretoria 1988

Post-Graduate Diploma in Museum and Heritage Studies

The author

Dr Udo Küsel has more than fifty years of experience in heritage planning, development and management. From a strategic planning perspective, he was involved in the planning and the declaration of the Robben Island Museum as a National Cultural Institution. He also served as President of the South African Museums Association as well as the South African Cultural History Association.

In 2001, he established African Heritage Consultants CC and has undertaken more than 1500 Heritage Impact Assessments and compiled numerous heritage management plans. As consultant he has been involved in the development of the

Dzata Museum in Venda, the Tšate Site Museum in Sekhukhune and Thomo Cultural Village near Giyani to name a few.

He also served as a part-time lecturer in Museum and Heritage Studies at Pretoria University for 30 years. Recently he trained 30 unemployed people in Sekhukhune to undertake the recording of the recording of the heritage of the area. He supervised the project for three years and recorded 200 heritage sites in the area with the aim to develop the heritage resources of the region.