

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON A
PLANNED EXTENSION FLANKING RONDONSTRAAT, //KHARA
HAIS MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to establish if any heritage sites were present on a proposed urban development flanking Rondonstraat, //Khara Hais Municipality, Northern Cape. Within this terrain Precambrian schists were covered by calcrete, overlain in turn by a thin zone of pebbles, in a matrix of coarse brown sand, on and in which there were occasional undiagnostic MSA or earlier artefacts, but no sites, fossil bones or early graves were seen. It is consequently considered that this ground has no significant heritage potential and that its development will have no impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern Cape.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Upington is a thriving city with a burgeoning population and a resultant huge demand for township and other housing. This study was requested by M Geldenhuis of MEG Environmental Impact Studies, acting in conjunction with Macroplan Town and Regional Planners based there.

LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Rather few Stone Age sites are known in the near vicinity of Upington, with one of these being the recently-located Victoria West occurrence on the farm Droogehout 422, about 30 km WNW of it, on the N 10 to Nakop.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The 34 ha that was examined lies on the eastern side of the Oosterville suburb, situated some 3 km east of the Upington town centre and 2 km north of the Orange River (Figs 1 & 2). It was covered by grass and shrubs, slopes to the east, where there is a largish transecting drainage gully running southwards to the river (Fig 3). I spent some 2.5 hrs walking over its full extent, which has W-edge co-ordinates of 28° 26' 11" S, 21° 16' 19" E, and an elevation there of 817 m, on Tuesday 1 August 2006.

SUPERFICIAL GEOLOGY

The sediment sequence was seen to be bedrock of Precambrian schist, overlain, where exposed, by a calcrete surface, on which was a thin zone of rounded pebbles – cobbles, mainly of brown jasper, covered by 0 – 20 cm of coarse brown sand. The clasts show rounding due to fluvial abrasion and, in terms of a c. 30 m height above the present river, are probably Older Gravel remnants, like those seen at Karos and elsewhere.

HERITAGE FINDINGS

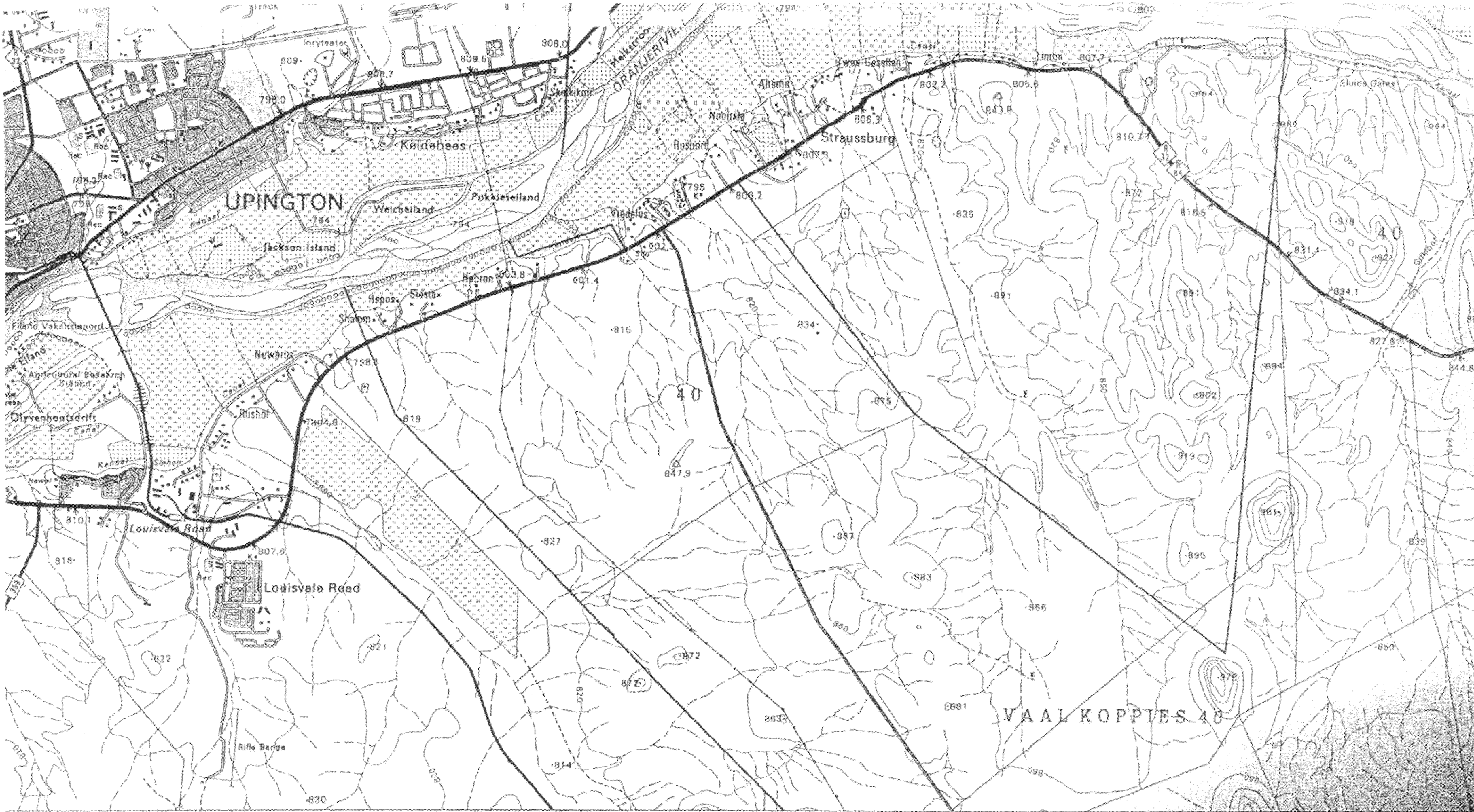
My random search of this property revealed a low density of gravel remnant – linked lithics that lacked formal tools and were largely based on brown jasper. Some of the flakes had faceted platforms and a high proportion showed cortex dorsals, which may indicate an ESA age or primary reduction at a raw material source. Most of the artefacts were fresh and many of them were slightly glazed, perhaps as a result of protracted surface exposure. No actual sites, palaeontological bones or early graves were seen.

CONCLUSIONS

The investigated terrain was bereft of any significant heritage material and its use for housing will therefore have no perceptible impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern Cape.

NOTES

- A copy of the locality maps and all appended Figures must accompany this - report to SAHRA.
- Applications to SAHRA will not be processed unless accompanied by payment of R150 per application. SAHRA banking details are: ABSA, Branch Code: 312109; Current Account no.: 360 680 606.



5'

20'

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FIG 1.
 2821 AD Upington (Cat)

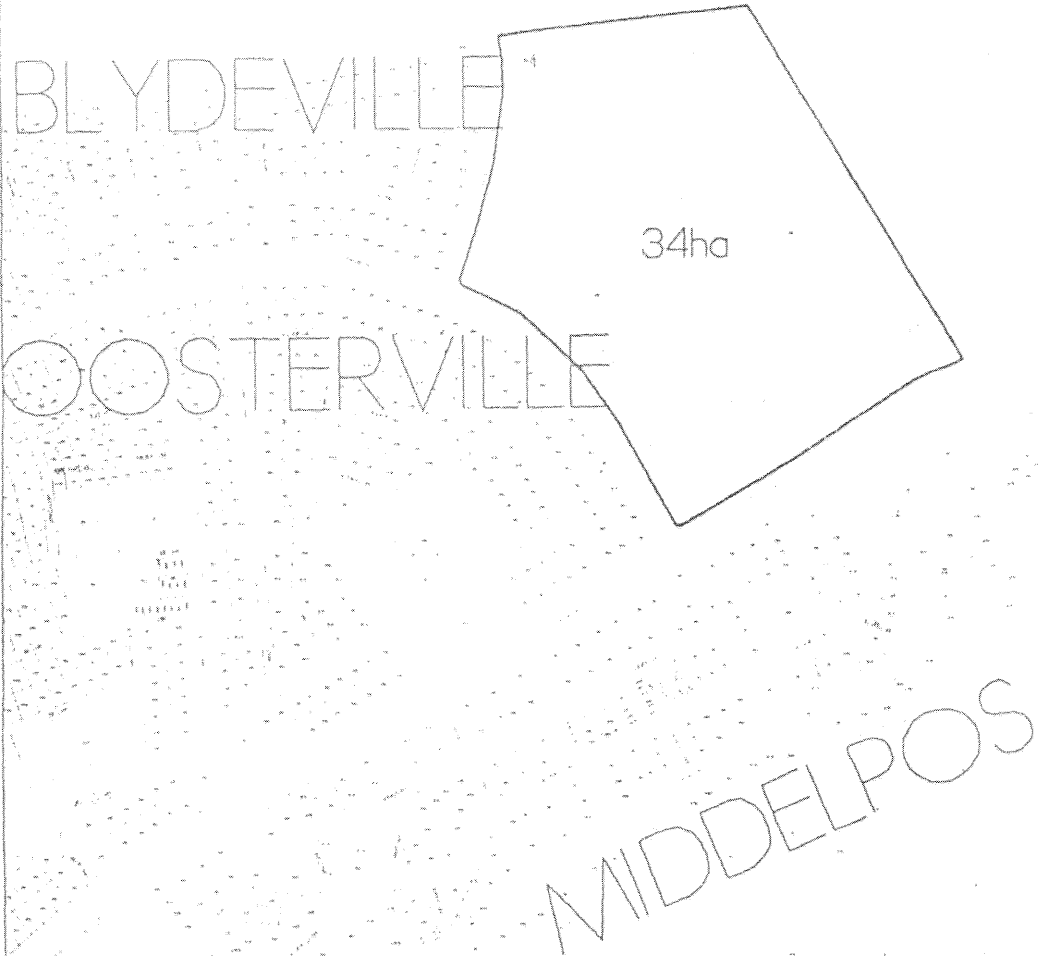
Gemiddelde magnetiese deklinasie 18°48' Wes
 van Ware Noord (Jan, 1992). Gemiddelde jaarlikse
 verandering 1" Ooswaarts (1987-1990).

Hoogtes is in Meter en gemiddelde seewaterstand
 Heights are in metres above mean sea level

VERKLARING

REFERENCE

Fig 2



Figuur 2
Liggingsplan - Plaaslik

Aansoekgebied 

MACROPLAN
Stads- & Streekbeplanners
Town & Regional Planners



Spatial Designs
Land Use Specialists



G O B E T L A

U/KH/BV/02

1:1000	1:1000
1:5000	1:5000
1:10000	1:10000
1:20000	1:20000
1:50000	1:50000
1:100000	1:100000

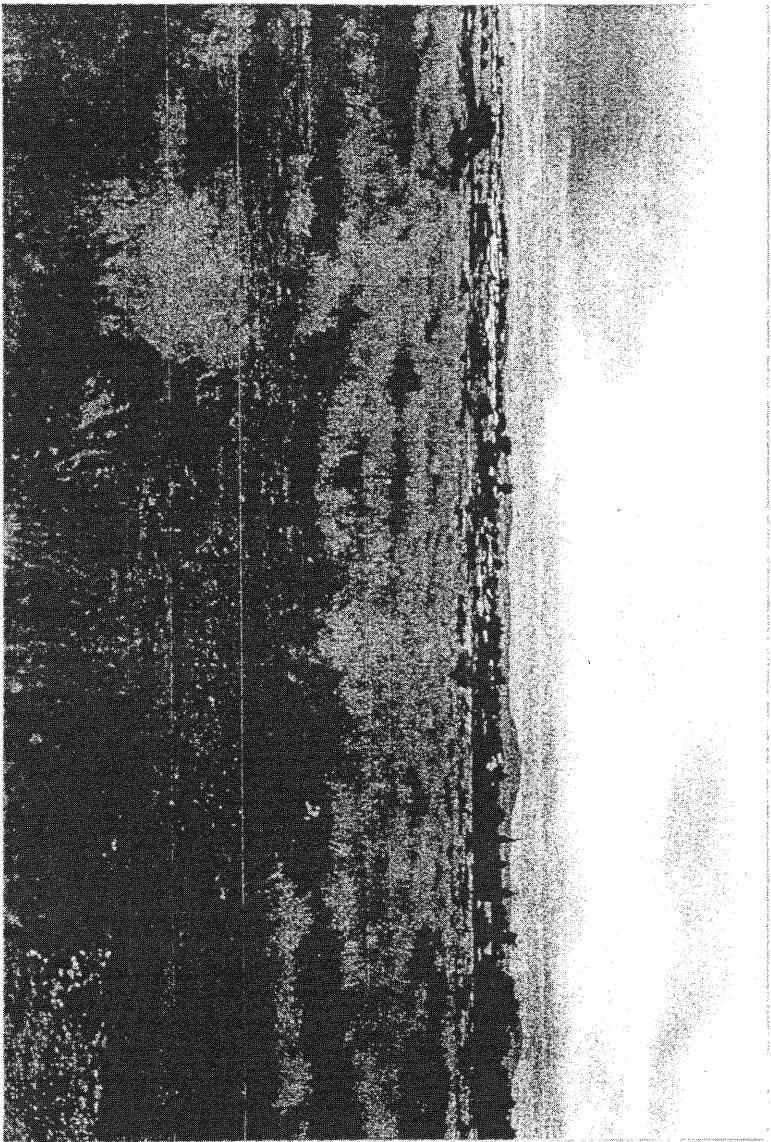


FIG 3