

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON A
PLANNED EXTENSION OF THE RAASWATER TOWNSHIP, SIYANDA
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

Peter B Beaumont

v/o Archaeology Department
McGregor Museum
PO Box 316
8300 Kimberley
Tel 053 - 842 0986 or 053 - 839 2700
Fax 053 - 842 1433
e-mail se@museumsnc.co.za

CONSULTANT

Ms Marquerite Geldenhuis

MEG Environmental Impact Studies

Tweedelaan 13
Oosterville
8801 Upington
Tel 054 - 332 2781
Fax 054 - 332 2781
e-mail megois@intekom.co.za

20 August 2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to establish if any heritage sites were present in a proposed extension of the Raaswater Township, Siyanda District Municipality, Northern Cape. This 6.8 ha property consisted of flat ground on which Precambrian schist bedrock forms the surface or is thinly overlain by quartz rubble in a matrix of gritty beige sand. On it I found no stone artefacts, fossil bones or early graves. 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

Vastly expanding vineyards along the Orange River in the Kanoneiland vicinity provide job opportunities that call, in turn, for further housing. This study was requested by M Geldenhuys of MEG Environmental Impact Studies, acting in conjunction with Macroplan Town and Regional Planners based in Upington.

LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Rather few 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 6.8 ha area that was examined lies just west of the Louisvale – Keimoes road, about 20 km south – west of Upington and 2 km west of the Orange River (Figs 1 & 2). It comprises a virtually flat bit of ground that is sparsely covered by grass and shrubs (Fig 3). I spent 30 minutes walking over its full extent, with centre – point co-ordinates of 28° 35' 15" S, 21° 11' 31" E, and an elevation of 753 m, on Wednesday 2 August 2006.

SUPERFICIAL GEOLOGY

The sediment sequence was seen to be bedrock of Precambrian schist, with quartz veins, on the surface or thinly covered by quartz rubble in a matrix of gritty beige sand.

HERITAGE FINDINGS

My random search of the property produced no artefacts, nor were any palaeontological bones or early graves to be seen.

CONCLUSIONS

The investigated ground produced no heritage material and its use for housing will therefore have no 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.

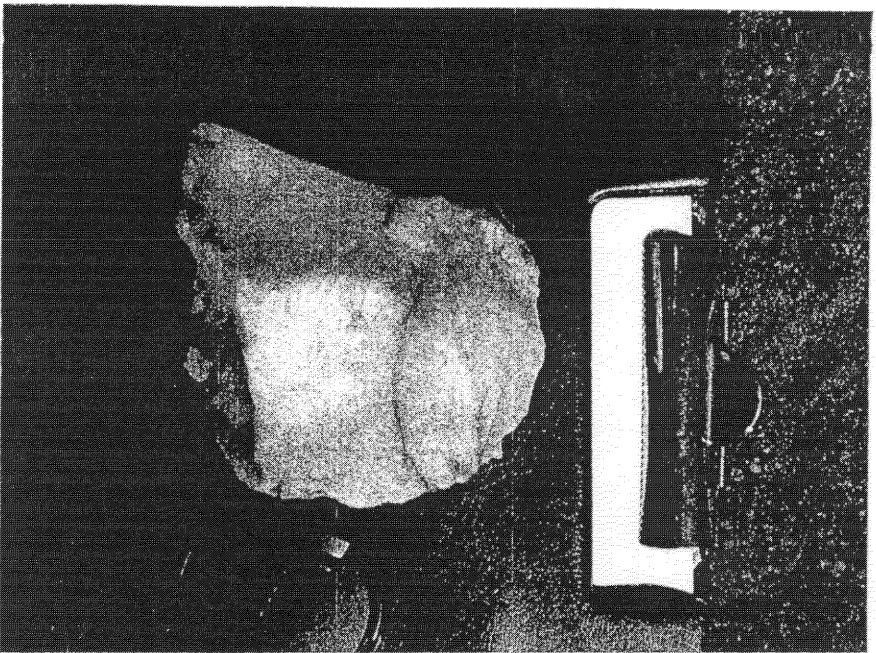


FIG 3. CORE, NBST POSSIBLY ESA.

