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## **FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED BORROW PIT SITES AND R385 ROAD UPGRADING BETWEEN DOUGLAS & CAMPBELL, NORTHERN CAPE**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Five borrow pits were investigated along the R385 gravel road between Douglas and Campbell, Northern Cape.

Two graveyards were the only cultural and historical finds along the road.

No other archaeological and cultural remains occurred on the surface.

I recommend that the planning of the upgrading of the road may proceed.

### **INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION**

#### **INVESTIGATION**

Five borrow pit sites for the removal of road-building material for the upgrading of the R385 road between Douglas and Campbell were visited on 19 February 2007. Manie van Wyk from Spatial Solutions Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, accompanied me on the site visit.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical material and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

## LOCALITY

Five borrow pits were investigated along the R385 gravel road between Douglas and Campbell, Northern Cape (Map 1).

The borrow pits are all existing sites which will be extended.

No stone flakes or other cultural material was found at any of the sites.

The whole area is bush and grass covered (Fig.2) and scatters of calcrete appear on the surface (Fig.3).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken:

**BP 1** Km26 (78.0km)      29°00'42"S 023°45'41"E      Altitude 1017m (Figs.1&2).

**BP 2** Km22,8              28°59'47"S 023°45'38"E      Altitude 1028m (Fig.3)

**BP 3** Km18,7 (84km)      28°57'10"S 023°45'30"E      Altitude 1053m (Figs.4&5).

**BP 4** Km9,4 (92km)      28°52'44"S 023°45'30"E      Altitude 1102m (Figs.6&7).

**BP 5** Km3,2 (99km)      28°49'32"S 023°44'12"E      Altitude 1151m (Figs.8&9).

CEMETERY 1              28°49'27"S 023°44'12"E      Altitude 1151m (Fig.10).

CEMETERY 2              28°49'23"S 023°44'07"E      Altitude 1155m (Fig.11).

## RESULTS

Two graveyards represented the only cultural and historical finds along the road.

Cemetery 1 is an elaborate feature with many graves (Fig.10), while Cemetery 2 contains about 20 graves (Fig.11).

Both the graveyards are fenced and protected.

No other archaeological and cultural remains occurred on the surface.

**IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The extension of the borrow pits and the upgrading of the R385 road between Douglas and Campbell will have no impact on any cultural, archaeological and historical remains on the surface.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the borrow pits and I recommend that the work may proceed.

**MITIGATION**

Concerning the areas for the proposed extensions, no mitigation measures will be required.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I thank Manie van Wyk from Spatial Solutions Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for accompanying me to the site.

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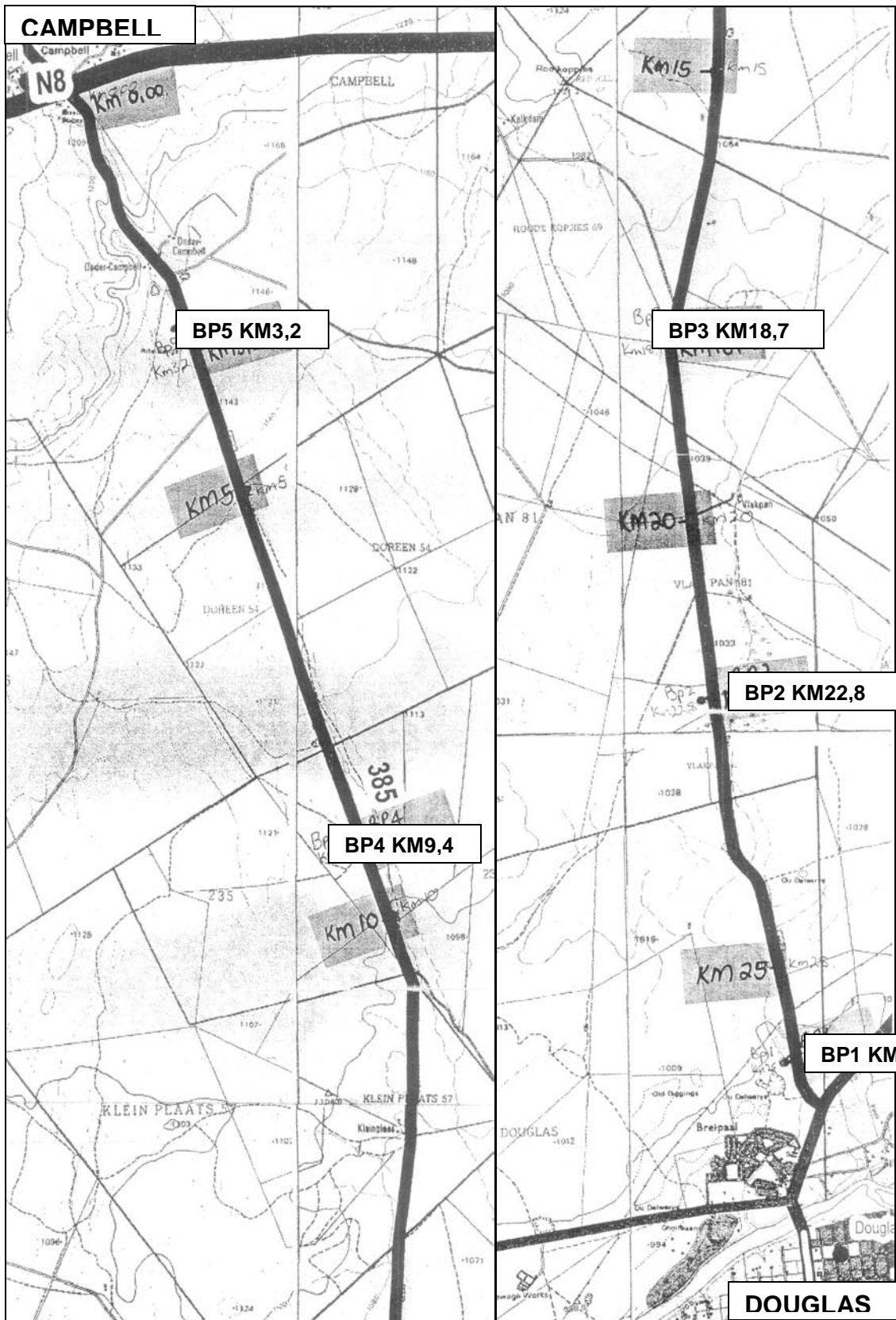
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**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS**

Map 1 The R385 road between Douglas & Campbell, Northern Cape.



Fig.1 BP 1 Existing borrow pit at Km 78,0 on the R385 road.



Map 2 Locality of the borrow pits along the R385 road from Campbell to Douglas.





Fig.2 BP 1 Showing stone and bush cover on surface.



Fig.3 BP 2.



Fig.4 BP 3.



Fig.5 BP 3.





Fig.6 BP 4.



Fig.7 BP 4.



Fig.8 BP 5.



Fig.9 BP 5.



Fig.10 Cemetery 1.



Fig.11 Cemetery 2.