

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON PORTION  
4 OF THE FARM SLYPKLIP NORTH 32, FRANCES BAARD DISTRICT  
MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this study was to establish if any occurrences of archaeological or other heritage significance were present on Portion 4 of the farm Slypklip North 32, Frances Baard District Municipality, Northern Cape Province. A 2 hour – long foot survey by two produced half a dozen undiagnostic artefacts randomly scattered over the 305 ha extent of the property, but no actual sites, palaeontological bones or early graves were seen. It is consequently considered that this ground has no heritage significance and that the proposed geological prospecting there will have no impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern Cape.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This study is part of an EIA that is being prepared by Itumeleng Lute for an Australian mining company and with the permission of the property owner, Dawie Meads.

## **LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

The property lies only about 10 km south of Windsorton, where many Acheulean and later sites were investigated by Goodwin and van Riet Lowe in the 1920's – 40's (e.g. Söhnge *et al.* 1937). Also in the broad vicinity are pecked engravings near Koppie Enkel and a Fauresmith site, of which the McGregor Museum has a sample, from near Riverton Station.

## **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

Portion 4 (Fruit Farm) of Slypklip North 32 flanks the there north – south flowing Vaal River, about 40 km due north of Kimberley in the Frances Baard District Municipality of the Northern Cape (Figs. 1 & 2). The property, with midpoint co-ordinates of about 28° 23' 29" S, 24° 42' 59" E, comprises cultivated fields next to the river followed by natural veld sloping up slowly to low koppies on its eastern edge (Fig. 3). After discussions with nearby farmer Nico Botha, about two hours was spent walking over the full east – west extent of the terrain with Itumeleng Lute on the morning of Wednesday 18 October 2006.

## **SUPERFICIAL GEOLOGY**

The low hilltops on (but mainly beyond) the eastern edge of the property are capped by shallow (up to 2 m deep) Older Gravel (or Rooikoppie) deposits pocked by many small hand - dug pits that probably date to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In that vicinity there was also a broad and recent machine – made trench of unknown purpose and with abutting stone pits that is taken to show that much or all of bedrock there is Precambrian andesite. Occasional pebbles in the upper fields probably derive from the Rooikoppie deposits, but a far greater number in a zone up to ca. 300 m from the

river reflects rehabilitation of ground dug for underlying Younger Gravels some years back. A steep riverbank exposure showed up to 4 m of deep grey overbank silts of the sort that ends the Vaal sedimentary history and which, although still undated, is almost certainly of Holocene age.

## **HERITAGE FINDINGS**

Most of the six recovered artefacts are undiagnostic but a convergent point of hornfels and one or two of the others are probably Fauresmith (Fig. 4). Nowhere did we see a site, fossil bones or graves of any age.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The inspected property showed a near total lack of stone artefact surface and no sign of any sites. My conclusion is therefore that the proposed prospecting will have no impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern Cape.

## **REFERENCES**

Söhnge P.G., Visser D.J.L. and van Riet Lowe C. (1937). The geology and archaeology of the Vaal River basin. *S. Afr. Geol. Survey Memos.* **35** (1 & 2), 1 - 134.

## **NOTES**

- A copy of the locality map and all other 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.

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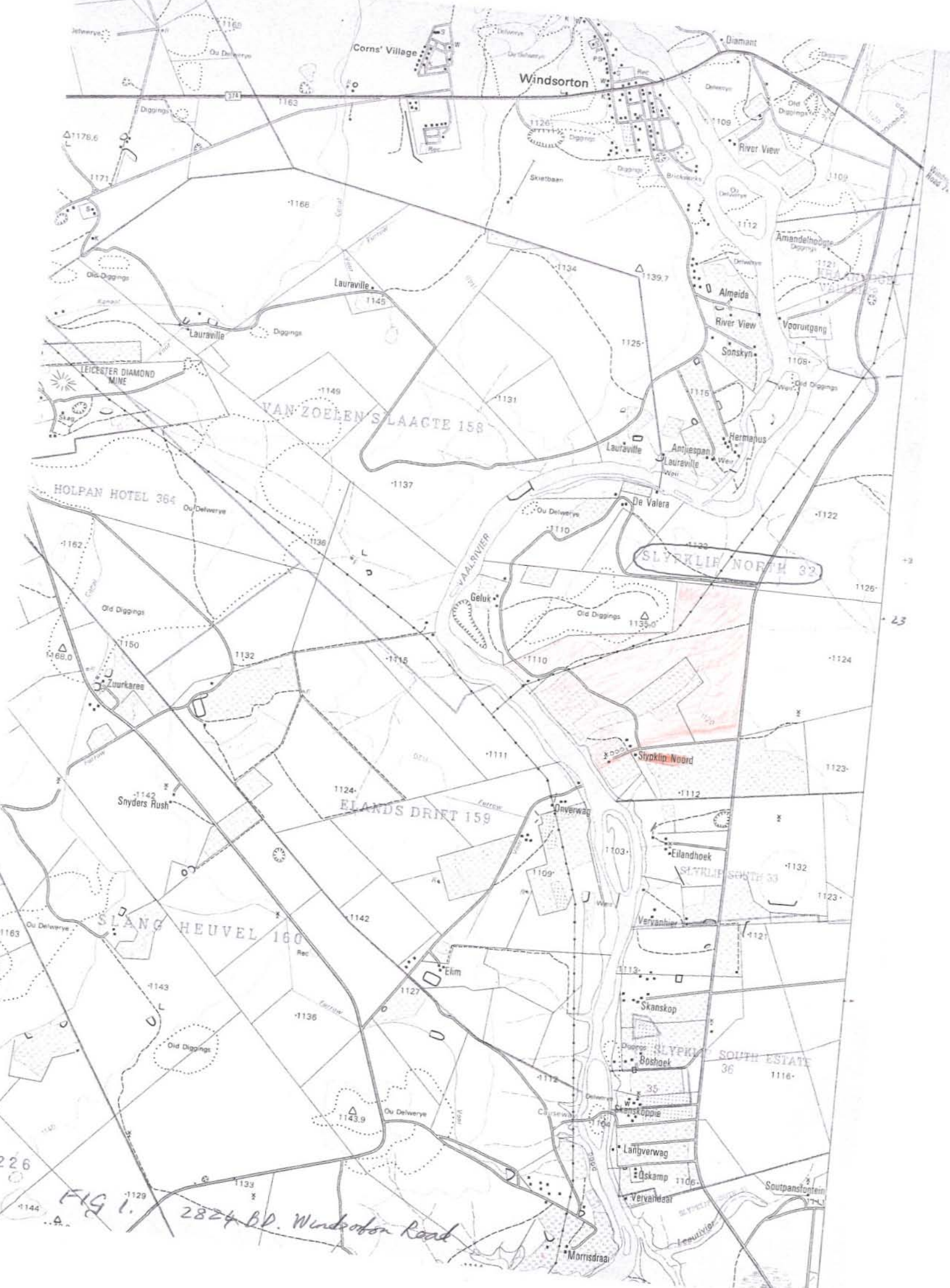


FIG 1.  
2824 B.D. Windsorton Road



X 3141000

PORTION 16  
FARM  
32

PORTION  
GELU  
32

B

A

VAAAL RIVER

OF

Fig 2

Y 27000

PORTION 1  
SLIPKLIP NORTH  
32

D

E

X 3141000

5

C

PORTION 4  
FRUIT FARM  
32

G

PORTION 6  
RIVERSIDE  
32

PORTION 3  
FAIRVIEW  
32

OF

200





Fig 3. View of lower half of Portion 4, Slyphlip North 32



Fig 4. The four better artifacts that were found.