

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON
PORTIONS A AND B OF THE FARM SIMS 462, KGALAGADI
DISTRICT, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to determine if any heritage sites occurred in sections A and B of the farm Sims 462, located on the western periphery of the town of Kathu, in the Kagalagadi district of the Northern Cape. All of this 15 property was found to be underlain by Tertiary - aged calcrete with a generally very thin covering of orange – brown sand, in and on which no artefacts, palaeontological bone or graves were seen. It is considered that the property has no heritage significance and that its development would have no impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern Cape.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The ongoing expansion of the Sishen Iron Ore mine, preparations for a new drymine by Assmang and the consequent increase in associated services needed to a huge demand for housing in Kathu. Portions A and B of the farm 462 lies on the western border of the town, on the intersection of the roads to Sishen Iron Ore mine and Dibeng, and it thus well – situated to meet the need. The present study was requested by M. Geldenhuys of the Environmental Impact Studies, acting on behalf of the landowner, the Magara Municipality.

LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Fieldwork in the vicinity has been largely centred on localities at or near Kathu, which is located a few kilometres away (Fig. 1) on the Dibeng road (Beaumont & Morris 1990).

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The 15 ha area that was examined lies on the western outskirts of the town of Kathu in the Kgalagadi district of the Northern Cape (Fig. 2). The property is almost extensively covered by swarthak or black thorn (*Acacia mellifera*) and is bounded on the 1:50 000 map 2723CA Kathu as shown in Fig. 1. Over an hour was spent walking over its full extent in the late afternoon of Thursday 25 May 1990.

SUPERFICIAL GEOLOGY

The entire property was seen to have bedrock of Tertiary aged Kalahari Group granite with a flat weathered surface, over which is a generally very thin (< 5 cm) coating of orange – brown superficial sand.

HERITAGE FINDINGS

Random search over the entire extent of the property produced no
facts, palaeontological bones or graves of any age, but I did see an old
and adjacent flooring, both less than 50 years old.

CONCLUSIONS

The area is bereft of any heritage sites and its use for urban development will
therefore have no impact on the archaeological resources of the Northern

REFERENCES

Simont, P. and Morris, D. (1990) *Guide to archaeological sites in the
Western Cape*. McGregor Museum, Kimberley.

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.

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FIG. 1.

