Specialist Report Heritage Impact Assessment

Kornavlei Prospecting, near Komaggas, Northern Cape

Compiled for Site Plan Consulting PO Box 3405 Cape Town 8000

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Executive Summary

The proposed prospecting area, bordering the Komaggas River, adjacent to and immediately west of the town of Komaggas, was surveyed. There are stock posts on the property, some currently occupied. No archaeological sites were located in the area.

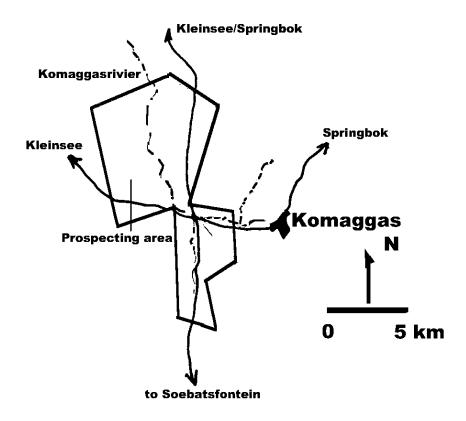
Brief

The brief was to assess the potential impact of prospecting on heritage resources in a demarked area along the Komaggas Valley, part of farm Komaggas 200, west of the town of the same name (S 29°47.57': E 17°29.38').

Proposed Prospecting areaArea

The area is at the foot of the escarpment and on the edge of the coastal platform. The Komaggas River and its feeding streams drain this area.

In the southern section of the prospecting area, south of the Komaggas-Kleinsee De Beers Road, the hills and slopes of this tributary valley have little soil cover and a cover of deep red sands mantles the valley floor. A number of stock posts are present in the valley floor and against the slopes of the Brandberg hills to the west. The sand cover mitigates against archaeological visibility in the valley floor and no occurrences were noted in traverses across the adjoining slopes where visibility was higher.



The Komaggas River bisects the larger section of the prospecting area north of the De Beers Road. To the east are the dissected slopes leading from the foot of the escarpment to the valley, which have reasonable archaeological visibility. The valley is moderately incised but alleviated and visibility is low. To the east the terrain rises to level of the coastal platform and cover sands make archaeological visibility low. The location of currently or recently occupied stock posts is on the eastern margin and slopes of the valley. No archaeological sites were located in any of these terrain types.

Conclusions

This survey of the heritage resources in the proposed prospecting area did not reveal any archaeological sites that may be impacted by prospecting activities. There are stock posts in the area representing the traditional land use and these should be avoided.