

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESMENT
PROPOSED TELKOM TERMINAL SITE
KOTZESRUS
GARIES DISTRICT
NORTHERN CAPE**

Prepared for

DIANE ERASMUS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

By

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Executive summary

Relatively large numbers of Later Stone Age tools were located during an assessment of the proposed Telkom terminal site at Kotzesrus, Garies, in the Northern Cape.

The proposed project involves establishing a system of repeater sites on high points in the landscape which connect to terminal sites that are located in development nodes.

The stone tools were located mainly in the proposed road alignment on the east-facing side of the rocky slope leading up to the terminal site marker. A handful of tools were also found scattered about close to the marker. A few tools were found among a series of granite boulders overlooking the site.

The archaeological remains located at Kotzesrus have been given a low significance and conservation rating.

The impact of the proposed Telkom project on archaeological remains at Kotzesrus is considered to be low to negligible.

With regard to the proposed construction of the Telkom terminal site at Kotzesrus, the following archaeological recommendations are made.

- No archaeological mitigation is required.
- No further detailed studies are required.
- A training programme should be developed in order to sensitise Telkom staff, contractors and sub-contractors to the importance of archaeological sites.
- A questionnaire should be developed to enable Telkom staff, contractors, and sub-contractors to screen future terminal and repeater sites for archaeological remains.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the South African Heritage Resources Agency Plans Committee.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

Diane Erasmus Environmental Services has requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake an archaeological assessment of the Telkom Radio Networking site at Kotzesrus (reference no. 1EO1) in the Garies District of the Northern Cape.

The proposed project involves establishing a system of repeater sites on high points in the landscape, which connect to terminal sites that are located in development nodes.

The aim of the study is to locate archaeological remains that may be negatively impacted by the construction and implementation of the radio networking site and to propose measures to mitigate against the impact.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were:

1. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance;
2. to identify any sites of archaeological significance;
3. to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites;
4. to assess the status and significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
5. to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist.

3. RESULTS OF THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

One terminal site was visited and assessed for its archaeological significance.

Kotzesrus (site reference no. 1EO1)

Relatively large numbers of Later Stone Age¹ (LSA) tools including unmodified flakes, chunks and cores in fine grained vein and pebble quartz were located during the field study. The majority of tools were located in the proposed road alignment on the steep east-facing rocky slope leading up to the terminal site marker. A handful of flakes and cores were also found scattered about in the vicinity of the proposed marker. A few flakes and chunks, as well as one retouched silcrete flake, was found scattered among an outcropping of large granite boulders overlooking the site.

¹ A term referring to the last 20 000 years of precolonial history in southern Africa.

Significance of finds: **medium-low**

Conservation rating: **low**

Suggested mitigation: **none required**

4. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the Telkom Kotzesrus terminal site on significant archaeological remains is considered to be low to negligible.

5. CRITERIA USED IN THE EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

The criteria used in the evaluating the importance of the archaeological remains at Kotzesrus includes the following:

- the state of preservation of the site;
- the range and density of cultural material present on the site;
- the type of site; for example cave, shell midden, open air site;
- the approximate age of the site;
- rarity of occurrence; and
- regional, national and international importance

6. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

No significant archaeological remains were located during a study of the Telkom Radio Networking Systems Project at Kotzesrus, Garies, in the Northern Cape.

The receiving environment is not considered to be archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable or threatened

7. LEGISLATION

Archaeological sites are protected under the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999). The Act came into effect on 01 April 2000, and replaces the National Monuments Act (No. 28 of 1969).

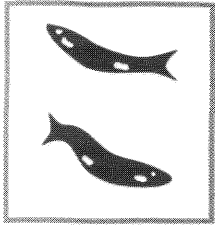
It is an offence to destroy, damage, excavate, alter, or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object, without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed construction of the Telkom terminal site at Kotzesrus in the Garies district of the Northern Cape, the following archaeological recommendations are made.

1. No archaeological mitigation is required.
2. No further detailed studies are required.
- 3 A training programme should be developed in order to sensitise Telkom staff, contractors and sub-contractors to the importance of archaeological sites.
4. A questionnaire should be developed to enable Telkom staff, contractors, and sub-contractors to screen future terminal and repeater sites for archaeological remains.

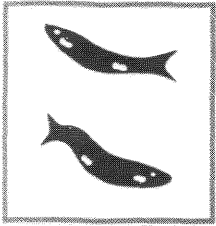
The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the South African Heritage Resources Agency Plans Committee.



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COST ESTIMATE
VISUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, TELKOM SITES,
SUTHERLAND AND GARIES, NORTHERN CAPE

1. Consultation: 20 hrs @ R 190.00 p/hr	=	R 3 800.00
2. Report: 2 hrs @ R 190.00 p/hr	=	380.00
3. Administrative costs (5%)	=	209.00
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TOTAL	=	R 4 389.00
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COST ESTIMATE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY
TELKOM RADIO NETWORKING SITES, SUTHERLAND

1. Consultation		
a) Fieldwork: 4 days @ R 1520.00 p/day	=	R 6 080.00
b) Report: 2 days @ R 1520.00 p/day	=	3 040.00
2. Accommodation: 3 days @ R 250.00 p/day	=	750.00
3. Reimbursables		
a) Film	=	50.00
4. Administrative costs: (2.5%)	=	249.25
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TOTAL	=	R 10 219.25
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5. Contingency		
a) extra day fieldwork	=	1 520.00
b) Accommodation	=	250.00
GRAND TOTAL	=	R 11 989.25



Figure 1. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Brandekraal (site reference no. 1GO2).



Figure 2. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Brandekraal (site reference no. 1GO2).

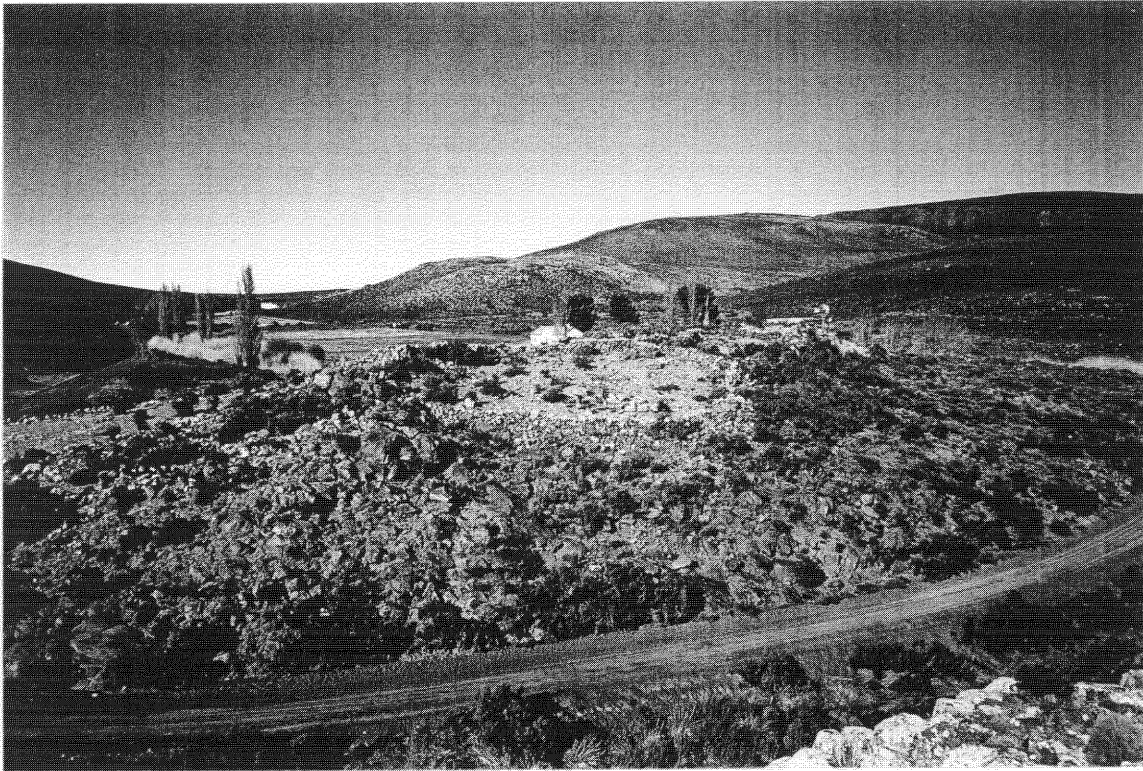


Figure 3. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2).

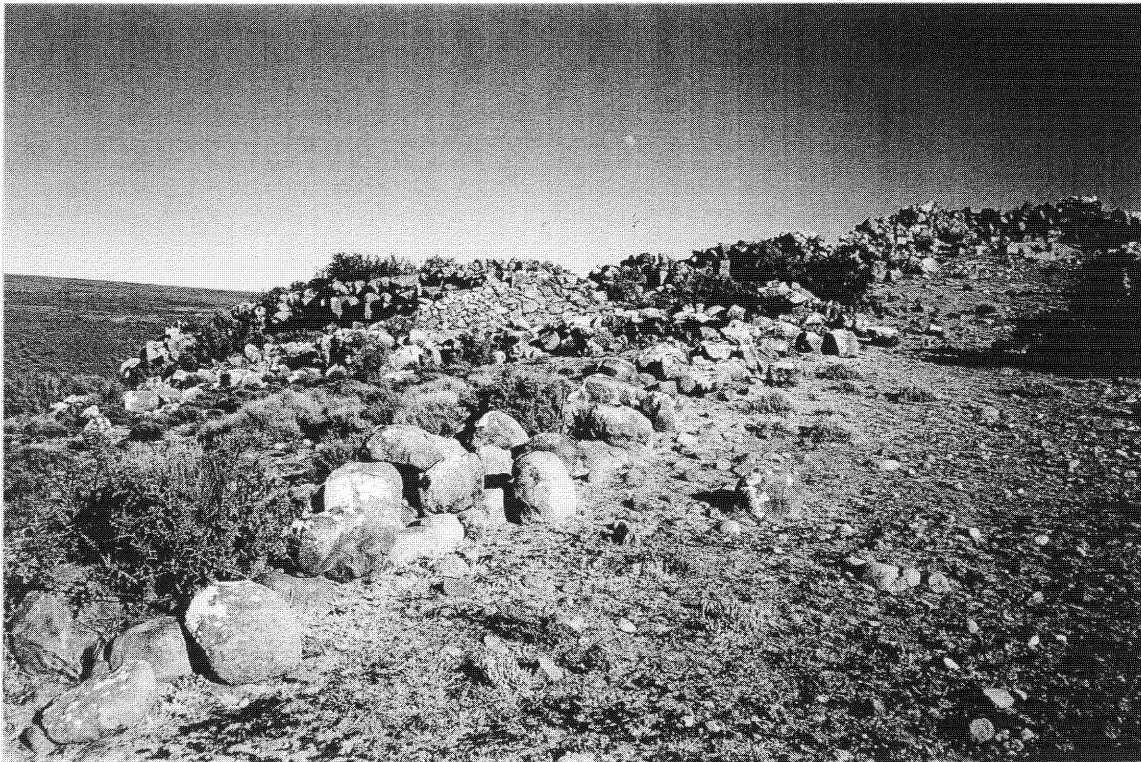


Figure 4. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2).



Figure 5. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2).



Figure 6. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2). Arrow indicates hut floors.



Figure 7. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2).



Figure 8. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Modderfontein (site reference no. 1SO2).

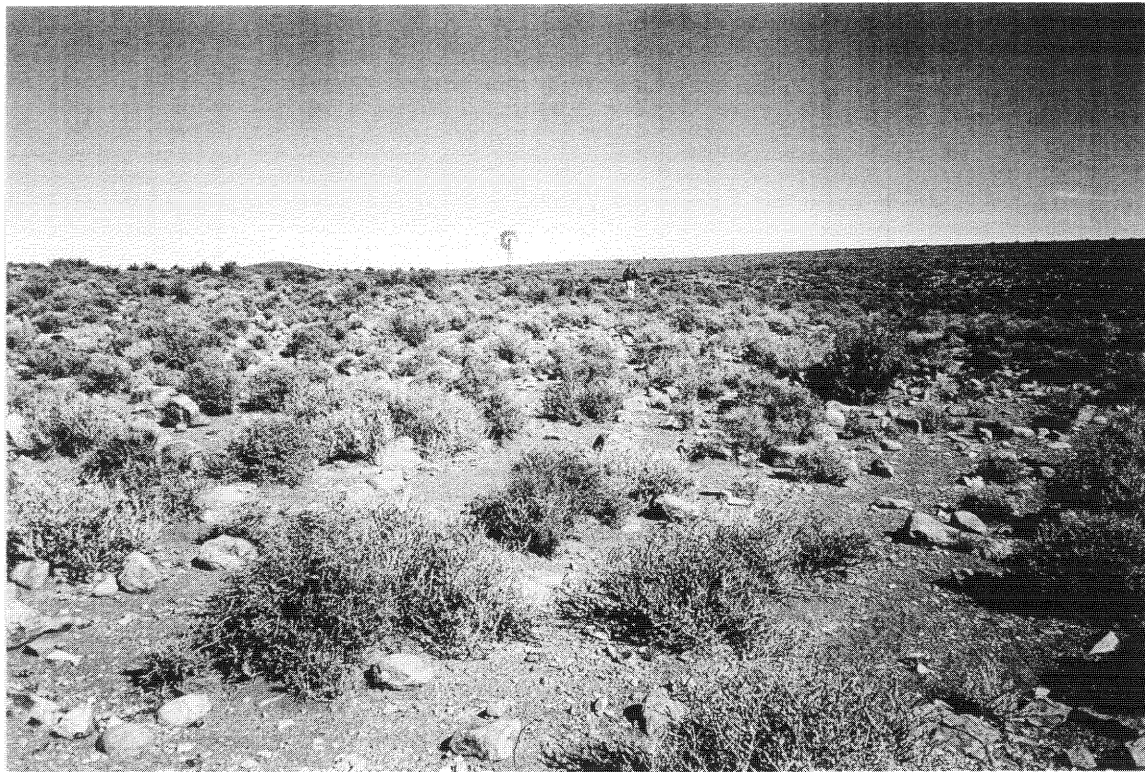


Figure 9. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Fonteinplaas (site reference no. 1SO2). Arrow indicates location of terminal site.



Figure 10. Archaeological study, Telkom Radio Networking Systems, Sutherland: Fonteinplaas (site reference no. 1SO2). Collection of artefacts, including stone flakes, scrapers, pottery, anvil, cores, natural backed knives and ostrich eggshell, from a site 50m from the terminal site location.