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Date/Datum

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10 January 2005

Mr K Kritzinger Plan-2-Survey Africa P O Box 3203 Nelspruit 1200

Dear Mr Kritzinger

## HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: MALELANE

As requested, we have investigated portion 40 of the farm Malelane Estate 140JU where the proposed development is to take place. The area is located directly north of the village of Malelane and extends to the southern bank of the Komati River (Fig. 1).

The scope of work consisted of conducting a Phase 1 archaeological survey of the site in accordance with the requirements of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). This included:

- Conducting a desk-top investigation of the area;
- A visit to the proposed development site.

## The objectives were to

- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development areas;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance.

Tools, cores and flakes dating to the Middle Stone Age were noticed on the surface. As they are found on the surface, they are out of their original context and therefore have little significance.

Similarly, a few pieces of pottery, probably dating to the Early Iron Age, were noticed. In the past, especially during the Iron Age, people followed rivers, settling on the fertile alluvial soil, building their village and planting crops. In many cases, such sites would later be covered by additional layers of soil deposited by the river. Unfortunately, in this particular case the whole study area have been impacted on by agricultural activities — planting of orchards, sugar cane and grass. This would have had a negative impact on the sites, not only destroying the sites, but also making it difficult to detect.

## NORTHERN FLAGSHIP INSTITUTION/NOORDELIKE VLAGSKIPINSTELLING

INCORPORATING/GEINKORPOREER

National Cultural History Museum/Nasionale Kultuurhistoriee Museum Transvaal Museum

National Museum of Military History/Nasionale Museum vir Militere Geskiedenis Pioneer/Pionier Museum - Kruger Museum - Tswaing Crater/Krater Museum - Sammy Marks Museum -Willem Prinsloo Agricultural/Landbou Museum It is therefore possible that, when construction starts, archaeological remains can be uncovered. We therefore recommend, from a heritage point of view, that the proposed development can continue and requests that if archaeological sites or graves are exposed during construction work, it should immediately be reported to a museum, preferably one at which an archaeologist is available, so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made

Yours sincerely

J van Schalkwyk

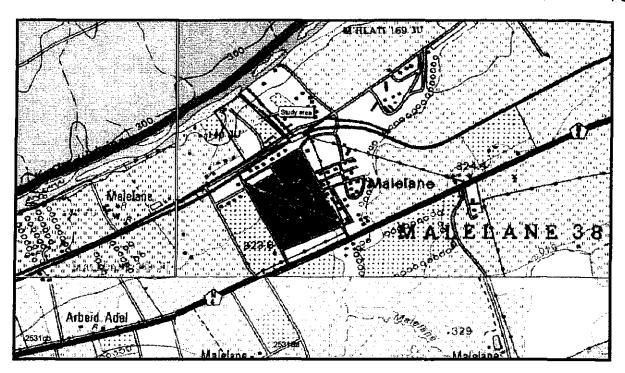


Figure 1, showing the location of the site in the Malelane area.