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Prepared for:  
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**A PHASE I HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY FOR THE  
PROPOSED NEW PWV 3 ROAD RUNNING ACROSS  
PAMPOENNEK NEAR THE HARTEBEESSPOORTDAM IN THE  
MAGALIESBERG IN THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCE OF SOUTH  
AFRICA**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) study for the proposed new PWV3 road running across Pampoennek near the Hartebeespoort Dam in the Magaliesberg in the North-West Province was done according to Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). The aims with the Phase I HIA study were the following:

- To establish whether any of the types and ranges of heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) (Box 1) do occur in the proposed new PWV3 corridor (Project Area) and, if so, to determine the nature, the extent and the significance of these remains.
- To determine whether such remains will be affected by the construction of the proposed new road and, if so, to evaluate what appropriate mitigation measures could be taken to reduce the impact of the development on such heritage resources.
- To propose management measures for those heritage resources that may be affected by the proposed new road.

The Phase I HIA study for the proposed Project Area revealed the following types and ranges of heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) in the project area:

- Remains of at least one blockhouse and a second defensive type of stone structure. These structures can be associated with the defensive function which Pampoennek and other necks (poorte) in the Magaliesberg used to have during the South African War (1899-1902).

These remains were geo-referenced and mapped (Figure 5, Table 1).

### The significance of the heritage resources

The significance of these remains was established and mitigation measures are proposed as these remains will be affected (destroyed) as a result of the construction of the new road.

### *The blockhouse and defensive type of remains*

The remains of the blockhouse and defensive type of structure qualify as historical remains which are older than sixty years. These structures therefore are protected by

Sections 34 and 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). Other criteria which emphasise the significance of these remains are the following:

- The defensive remains are part of a cultural (military) landscape as defensive structures and battles associated with the South African War (1899-1902) occurred along the Magaliesberg.
- These remains are highly threatened as linear developments through the Magaliesberg mostly utilise the necks (poorte) in the mountain where these remains are concentrated.
- The blockhouses and military fortifications in the Magaliesberg reflect a unique part of the ZAR's history and the military history of South Africa, etc..

The significance of these remains therefore has been indicated as HIGH (Table 1).

#### Mitigating the heritage resources

The blockhouse and defensive type of remains will be affected (destroyed) by the road construction project. Consequently, the following mitigation measures have to be applied to these remains.

#### *The blockhouse and defensive type of remains*

Historical structures may not be affected (demolished, renovated, altered) by any development project *prior* to their investigation by an archaeologist accredited with the Southern African Association for Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA). The archaeologist has to acquire a permit from the North West Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (NW PHRA) before any of these historical structures may be affected. The permit would authorise alterations (such as to demolish) these remains as a result of the road construction project. The blockhouse and defensive type of remains must be documented before they are destroyed and a report outlining the results of any literature research and fieldwork must be made available to the NW PHRA.

If any heritage resources of significance are exposed during the road construction project the NW PHRA should be notified immediately and all development activities must be stopped. An archaeologist accredited with ASAPA should be notified in order to determine appropriate mitigation measures for the discovered finds. This may include obtaining the necessary authorisation and permits from SAHRA to conduct mitigation measures on any uncovered heritage resources or human remains.

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

The South African National Roads Agency Ltd (SANRA) intends to develop the PWV3 road running through Pampoennek in the Magaliesberg near the Hartebeespoort Dam in the North-West Province of South Africa. This document contains the report on the results of a Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) study which was done in accordance with Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) for the proposed new PWV3 corridor (hereafter referred to as the Project Area).

The proposed new PWV3 road is located in the Central Bankveld which is situated, ecologically speaking, between the Bushveld to the north and the Highveld to the south. The Central Bankveld is rich in heritage resources incorporating all the types and ranges ('national estate') as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) (see Box 1).

### **Box 1 : Types and ranges of heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).**

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Section 3) outlines the following types and ranges of heritage resources that qualify as part of the national estate, namely:

- (a) places, buildings structures and equipment of cultural significance;
  - (b) places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
  - (c) historical settlements and townscapes;
  - (d) landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
  - (e) geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
  - (f) archaeological and paleontological sites;
  - (g) graves and burial grounds including:
    - (i) ancestral graves;
    - (ii) royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
    - (iii) graves of victims of conflict
    - (iv) graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
  - (h) historical graves and cemeteries; and
  - (iv) other human remains which are not covered by in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No 65 of 1983)
  - (h) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa:
    - (i) moveable objects, including -
      - (i) objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and paleontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
      - (ii) objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
      - (iii) ethnographic art and objects;
      - (iv) military objects;
      - (v) objects of decorative or fine art;
      - (vi) objects of scientific or technological interest; and
      - (vii) books, records, documents, photographs, positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1(xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No 43 of 1996).
- The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Art 3) also distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as part of the national estate if they have cultural significance or other special value .... These criteria are the following:
- (a) its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
  - (b) its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
  - (c) its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
  - (d) its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects
  - (e) its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
  - (f) its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
  - (g) its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
  - (h) its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;
  - (i) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa

## 2 AIMS WITH THIS REPORT

SANRA intends to develop the proposed new PWV3 road running through Pampoennek near the Hartbeespoort Dam in the North-West Province of South Africa. The proposed new road development project may have an impact on heritage resources that may occur in the Project Area. Jafferes and Green, who is responsible for compiling the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report for the new road, therefore commissioned the author to undertake a Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) study for the proposed new PWV3 corridor (Project Area) with the following aims:

- To establish whether any of the types and ranges of heritage resources (the 'national estate', see Box 1) as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) occur within the proposed Project Area and, if so
  - to determine the significance of these heritage resources; and
  - to make recommendations regarding the mitigation or the conservation of these heritage resources if they are to be affected by the development project.

### **3 THE PWV3 CORRIDOR (PROJECT AREA)**

#### **3.1 Location**

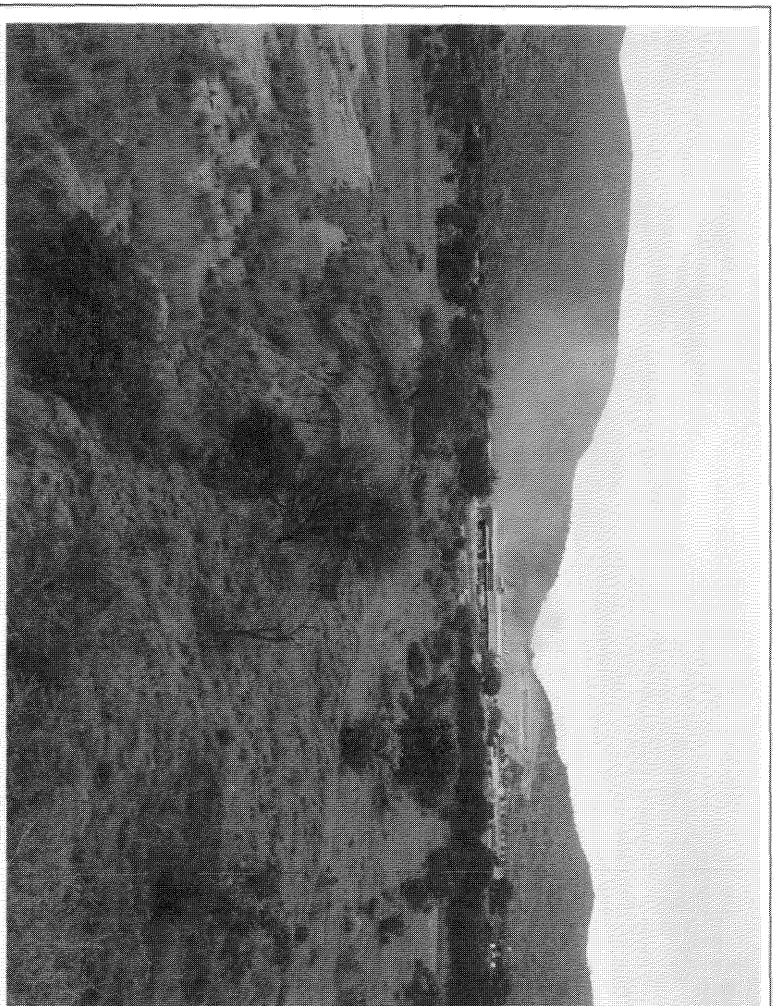
The proposed new PWV3 corridor (Project Area) runs from the junction between the N4 and Road 123-1 on De Rust 478JQ northwards through Pampoennek, a neck (poort) in the Magaliesberg, bending north-westwards running down the northern slope of the Magaliesberg crossing Road P2-4 and the farm Zandfontein 447JQ before joining the existing N4 running to Rustenburg. The Project Area involves parts of the farms De Rust 478JQ and Zandfontein 447JQ which is located on the flats between the Magaliesberg in the south and the series of notie kopjes running from Pretoria (east) to Marikana (west) further to the north (Figures 1, 2 & 5) (Brits 2527DB; 1:50 000).

#### **3.2 The nature of the project area**

The proposed new PWV3 road will cross the Magaliesberg which is part of the protected Magaliesberg Nature Area. The Magaliesberg is renowned for its rich and diverse range of heritage resources whilst the Magaliesberg itself represents a unique natural heritage resource. The proposed new road lies in the Magalies Valley near the Hartebeespoort Dam. The natural significance of this area arises from its geological history: the Bushveld Igneous complex gave birth to the Magaliesberg and the Witwatersberge more than 2 000 million years ago. The Magalies Valley lies between these two mountain ranges, and it is traversed by the Crocodile River. This remarkable geological event resulted in the unique floral, faunal and human record that today characterizes the natural and cultural heritage of Hartebeespoort.

Pampoennek is one of several necks (poorte) in the Magaliesberg which runs uninterrupted from Pretoria in the east to Rustenburg in the west. These necks were the result of faults in the Magaliesberg. Since earliest times, the *poorte* have served as gateways for animals migrating between the warm bushveld savannah in the north to the cooler grassy plains of the Highveld to the south. The animals were followed by nomadic and mobile hunter

gatherers through *poorte* such as Pampoennek, Silkaatsnek and Kommandonek, close to the Hartebeespoort Dam.



**Figure 1- View from the north on the proposed new PWV3 road which will run through Pampoennek (to the back of the silica quarry) in the Magaliesberg (above).**

### **3.3 In a cultural landscape**

The Project Area and the Magaliesberg in particular, considered from a pre-historical and historical perspective, is part of the archaeological sensitive Central Bankveld which is an eco-zone situated between the bushveld savannah further to the north and the grass veld of the Highveld further to the south. The project area has been occupied by the earliest hunter-gather ancestors of humans whilst the first farmers settled here south of the Limpopo River. The fertility of the region was exploited by societies who established the first large towns in South Africa. These Late Iron Age Tswana chiefdoms were

followed by the first white colonists who settled along the fertile banks of the Crocodile River.

It is necessary that the archaeological and historical significance of this cultural landscape be briefly outlined before the results of the Phase 1 HIA study are discussed (see Part 5, 'Contextualising the Project Area' and Part 8, 'Select Bibliography').



**Figure 2- View from the Project Area in Pamponnek to the Hartbeespoort Dam and the Witwatersberge in the south (above).**

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Methods**

This Phase I HIA study was conducted by means of consulting heritage data bases; doing a survey with a vehicle while selected spots in the project area were surveyed on foot; studying maps of the project area; and by reviewing some literature relating to the pre-historical and historical context of the Magaliesberg and Central Bankveld.

- Heritage data bases kept at the African Window and the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) (Cape Town [national] and Mafekeng [provincial]) were consulted to establish whether any heritage resources of significance occur in or near the Project Area.
- The proposed Project Area was surveyed with a vehicle while selected spots which the archaeologist deemed necessary to investigate were surveyed on foot.
- The 1: 50 000 and 1: 250 000 maps on which the Project Area appears, were studied.
- All the heritage resources that were found in the Project Area were geo-referenced using a GPS instrument and they were thereafter mapped in Arch View.
- A brief review of some literature relating to the pre-historical and historical context of the Magaliesberg and Central Bankveld were undertaken in order to contextualise the proposed new Project Area (See Part 9, 'Select Bibliography').

### **4.2 Assumptions and limitations**

It is possible that this Phase I HIA study may have missed heritage resources in the proposed Project Area as heritage resources may be hidden in thick clumps of vegetation. Others may lie below the surface of the earth and may only be exposed once development (such as the construction of the new road) commences.



If any heritage resources of significance are exposed during the road construction project the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) should be notified immediately and all development activities must be stopped. An archaeologist accredited with the Association for Southern African Professional Archaeologist (ASAPA) should be notify in order to determine appropriate mitigation measures for the discovered finds. This may include obtaining the necessary authorisation and permits from SAHRA to conduct mitigation measures on any uncovered heritage resources or human remains.

#### **4.3 Some remarks on terminology**

Terminology that may be used in this report is outlined in Box 2 (below, next page).

## Box 2. Terminologies that may be used in this report.

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) referred to in the title of this report includes a survey of heritage resources as outlined in the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) (See Box 1).

Heritage resources (cultural resources) include all human-made phenomena and intangible products that are the result of the human mind. Natural, technological or industrial features may also be part of heritage resources, as places that have made an outstanding contribution to the cultures, traditions and lifestyles of the people or groups of people of South Africa.

The term pre-historical refers to the time before any historical documents were written or any written language developed in a particular area or region of the world. The historical period and historical remains refer, for the project area, to the first appearance or use of 'modern' Western writing brought to the Hartbeespoort area and the Magaliesberg by the first Colonists who settled in this area during the late 1830's.

The term 'relatively recent past' refers to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Remains from this period are not necessarily older than sixty years and therefore may not qualify as archaeological or historical remains. Some of these remains, however, may be close to sixty years of age and may, in the near future, qualify as heritage resources.

It is not always possible, based on observations alone, to distinguish clearly between archaeological remains and historical remains, or between historical remains and remains from the relatively recent past. Although certain criteria may help to make this distinction possible, these criteria are not always present, or when they are present, they are not always clear enough to interpret with great accuracy. Criteria such as square floor plans (a historical feature) may serve as a guideline. However, circular and square floors may occur together on the same site.

The term 'sensitive remains' is sometimes used to distinguish graves and cemeteries as well as ideologically significant features such as holy mountains, initiation sites or other sacred places. Graves in particular are not necessarily heritage resources if they date from the recent past and do not have head stones that are older than sixty years. The distinction between 'formal' and 'informal' graves in most instances also refers to graveyards that were used by colonists and by indigenous people. This distinction may be important as different cultural groups may uphold different traditions and values with regard to their ancestors. These values have to be recognised and honoured whenever graveyards are exhumed and relocated.

The term 'Stone Age' refers to the prehistoric past although Late Stone Age peoples lived in South Africa well into the historical period. The Stone Age is divided into an Earlier Stone Age (3 million years to 150 000 thousand years ago) the Middle Stone Age (150 000 years to 40 000 years ago) and the Late Stone Age (40 000 years to 200 years ago).

The term 'Late Iron Age' refers to the period between the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the 19<sup>th</sup> century and can therefore include the historical period.

Mining heritage sites refer to old, abandoned mining activities, underground or on the surface, which may date from the pre-historical, historical or the relatively recent past.

The term "project area" refers to the critical area where the developer wants to focus its development activities. The peripheral area is the area(s) where no impact will occur as a result of the development.

Phase I studies refer to surveys using various sources of data in order to establish the presence of all possible types of heritage resources in any given area.

Phase II studies include in-depth cultural heritage studies such as archaeological mapping, excavating and sometimes laboratory work. Phase II work may include the documenting of rock art, engraving or historical sites and dwellings, the sampling of archaeological sites or shipwrecks, extended excavations of archaeological sites, the exhumation of bodies and the relocation of graveyards, etc. Phase II work may require the input of specialists and requires the co-operation and approval of SAHRA

## 5 CONTEXTUALISING THE PROJECT AREA

### 5.1 Pre-historical and historical background

It is important to contextualise the pre-historical and historical background of a Project Area in order to comprehend the identity, meaning and significance of heritage resources that may occur in association with the project area.

The 'national estate' as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) is well represented in the Magaliesberg. This includes both natural and cultural heritage resources, tangible and intangible heritage resources, and living heritage (see Box 1).

The Bushveld Igneous complex gave rise to the Magaliesberg and the Witwatersberge more than 2 000 million years ago. The Magalies Valley (known as the Moot) lies between these mountain ranges; and the Bankeveld and its characteristic series of norite hills run parallel to the north of the Magaliesberg. The Magaliesberg is traversed by the Apies (*Pebane*), the Crocodile (*Oor*) and the Hex (*Mutsukubje*) rivers which all flow to the north. The Sterkstroom (*Gwathle*) and Waterval (*Thabane*) rivers' catchments are also in the Magaliesberg.

Human history is closely linked to the mountain and its natural resources, which include an abundance of surface water, edible wild plants and fruit, animals and insects that can be used as food and as a supply of other resources. The various necks (*poorte*) in the Magaliesberg, the result of faults, run uninterrupted from Pretoria in the east, to Rustenburg in the west. Since earliest times, these necks served as gateways for animals migrating between the warm bushveld savannah in the north to the cooler grassy plains on the Highveld to the south. Later, when the first humans lived in this area, nomadic Stone Age hunters followed migrating game through these necks. Vaguely recognisable low stone walls in the necks in the Magaliesberg also still reflect a human presence in the mountain from the earliest times, built by people waiting for game to hunt or an enemy to defend themselves, or using the

necks as lookout points to look out beyond the Magaliesberg. Commemorative stone cairns (*isivivam*) found at Magatatsnek, Hornsnek and other places in the Magaliesberg accumulated when travellers, for as many years as humans passed along those routes, added stones to these heaps in the belief that this act would ensure them safe passage when they crossed the mountain.

The cultural historical significance of the Magaliesberg can be traced back to the Early Stone Age, which began three million years ago, when *Australopithecinae*, humans' earliest ancestors, roamed the dolomite area to the south of the Magaliesberg. Here, in what is today called the Cradle of Humankind, one of South Africa's seven World Heritage Sites, some of the earliest evidence for the origins of human life was found in the Sterkfontein, Swartkrans and Kromdraai caves.

*Australopithecus* was succeeded by the Acheulians, who spread remarkably quickly from Africa across the world. The Acheulians adapted successfully to various climates and environments hundreds of thousands of years ago. Large numbers of characteristic Acheulian hand axes and cleavers, stylistically similar across the world and manufactured by *Homo Erectus*, have been found at Wonderboompoort in the Magaliesberg.

The predecessors to modern humans, *homo sapiens*, lived in the Magaliesberg during the Middle Stone Age, approximately two hundred thousand years ago. Middle Stone Age tools were found in the Kruger Cave and near Silkaatsnek. Middle Stone Age hunters-gatherers lived in open sites and in caves. They knew how to make and control fire and used bows and arrows to hunt. They also gathered a wide range of foods from the veldt.

More than twenty thousand years ago, Middle Stone Age people were joined by Late Stone Age hunter-gatherers that either lived near small streams in the Magalies Valley or occupied caves on the slopes of the Magaliesberg. They manufactured microlithic stone tools and ate plant foods, including marula fruit. Rock shelters and caves were used as temporary dwellings and as

religious sites where the people left rock paintings on the faces of walls. The Kruger Cave as well as the Jubilee and Xanada shelters was occupied by these people, whose ways of life were very similar to the historically known San people.

Rock paintings sites occur at Jubilee Shelter and in the Kruger Cave near Olifantsnek. More of these sites will probably be discovered. Many exquisite rock engravings have been found on diabase rock along the south-facing slopes of the Magaliesberg, for example, at Maanhaarand and Avondale. Most of these engravings depict animal figures in such detail that individual species can be identified without any difficulty.

Rock engravings and paintings reflect much of the way Late Stone Age people thought. However, some engravings on smaller moveable rocks have been illegally removed from the Magaliesberg in the past. Consequently, a collection of engravings was removed from the mountain to the Rock Art Museum at the Johannesburg Zoo in the 1960s. Here they can be viewed by the public and they can be conserved.

From AD300 to AD500, mixed farming and pottery manufacture were practised near Broederstrroom along the lower slopes of the Witwatersberge, south of the Magaliesberg. These Early Iron Age communities kept small livestock and possibly cattle as well. These farmers were the first humans to occupy large and semi-permanent villages near the Magaliesberg. They smelted iron ores, and they lived in what was believed to have been hemispherical mud houses in villages built using a circular ground plan. Such remains have also been found at Derdepoot, further to the east along the Magaliesberg.

During the Late Iron Age and in the historical period (AD1650 to AD1880), Tswana tribes such as the Fokeng and Tlôkwa (Rustenburg), the Kwena Mógôpa, the Kgatla of Motšha and the Mmakau and the Kwena of Mogaale (Madibeng and Hartebeespoort) lived to the north of the Magaliesberg. The Bapô, who originated from among the Nguni in Kwa Zulu/Natal, lived at

Thhògòkgolo (Wolhuterskop), near the northern foot of the Magaliesberg, where they intermarried with local baTswana to become known as the Kwena Mogale. The Magaliesberg's name is derived from the name of one of their ancestral chiefs, Mogale.

Numerous stone walled sites, probably occupied by Sotho-Tswana and Ndebele clans during the Late Iron Age and historical period, occur along the slopes of the Magaliesberg. These settlements are visible on aerial photographs but most have not been studied or recorded in any detail as yet.

Closer to Rustenburg, two baTswana chiefdoms (*merafe*) arose early in the seventeenth century. The Kwena Modimosana Mmatau and Ramanaméla chiefdoms occupied the capitals (*metse*) Molokwane and Bòitsémagano respectively. These *metse* lay to the west of the Magaliesberg. These Late Iron Age peoples practised mixed farming. The populations of these capitals numbered thousands of individuals occupying the largest cities in Southern Africa at the time. The Mmataua was ruled by Kgasoane, probably for fifty years or longer. The name 'Cashan', which is used for the Magaliesberg near Rustenburg, is a corruption of the name of this formidable *kgosi* (King) whose influence must have stretched far and wide. The Modimosana chiefdoms were destroyed during the *difaqane* in the early nineteenth century.

Conflicts and disputes between some baTswana clans near the Magaliesberg in the early nineteenth century were followed by the *difaqane* (AD1827-AD1832) when the Ndebele of Mzilikazi arrived in the Bankeveld. Many Tswana clans were subjugated by the Ndebele, who established at least three military kraals (*amakhanda*) near the Magaliesberg, at Silkaatsnek (derived from Mzilikazi's name), at Wonderboompoort and in the foothills of the Magaliesberg near Rustenburg. It is said that the Ndebele ruler had many of his foes and disloyal tribal members executed by having them thrown from the krantzies at Silkaatsnek. The ruins of Mzilikazi's villages (*imiziz*) and military kraals (*amakhanda*) can still be seen in the Magaliesberg.

The first travellers to visit the Magaliesberg during the early decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were traders, missionaries, scientists and adventurers such as Robert Schoon and William McLuckie (1829), Robert Moffat (1829), Andrew Smith (1835) and Cornwallis Harris (1836). Charles Bell and Cornwallis Harris left paintings of the Magaliesberg. They also illustrated animals and plants from the region and left depictions of the local population which serve a record of the cultural history and lifestyles of Late Iron Age peoples near and in the Magaliesberg. They depicted the wretched living conditions of refugees, victims of the *difagane*, living in massive fig trees (*Ficus Ingens*) along the Magaliesberg between Boshhoek and Rustenburg during the 1830s.

The first Voortrekkers settled near the Magaliesberg during the 1840s. Voortrekker leaders such as Gert Kruger moved into the Moot and established the farm Hekpoort, now a small town in the area. Casper Kruger occupied farms on the southern slope of the Magaliesberg near Olfantsnek. Paul Kruger owned Waterkloof and later Boekenhoutfontein, and Andries Potgieter settled on Buffelshoek on the southern slopes of the Magaliesburg near Rustenburg. Johan Schoeman occupied Schoemansrust along to the Crocodile River, now in Hartebeespoort. Andries Pretorius acquired the farm 'Grootplaas', now called De Rust, which is partly flooded by the Hartebeespoort Dam.

Remains of Voortrekker houses with outbuildings, sheds, schools, cemeteries, cattle enclosures in stone, smithies and remains of mills can be found along the Magaliesberg from Boshhoek in the north to Hartebeespoort in the south.

A potential battle in a civil war between different factions among the Voortrekkers was waged off near the Magaliesberg in 1864. The opposing factions confronted each other in one of the necks in the Magaliesberg. The neck subsequently came to be called Kommandonek.

The Magaliesberg became an important battlefield during the South African War (1899-1902). The British used the mountain as a natural barrier against which mobile Boer commandoes could be driven and trapped, and the Boer

commandoes, who knew the terrain well, used the mountainous terrain to ambush the British. The British defensive system included blockhouses and redoubts which were established along the Magaliesberg and the Witwatersberg.

Battles between Boer and Brit in the Magaliesberg during 1900 included the two battles of Silkaatsnek for control of the Rustenburg/Pretoria road; a battle at Olifantsnek for control of the Krugersdorp/Rustenburg road; the battle at Nooitgedacht, where the Boers defeated a large British column, and a battle at Buffelspoort, where the Boers destroyed a British supply convoy. General Beyers's escape route between Wolhuterskop and Kommandonek, across the Magaliesberg, can also be traced on maps of the area.

The first Boer cannons manufactured and used in Rustenburg during the South African War (1899-1902) came from Bokfontein, to the north of the Magaliesberg. Graveyards for British and Boer soldiers, battlefields, memorials and monuments are therefore scattered all along the Magaliesberg.

The Hartebeespoort Dam (1921-1923), the Olifantsnek Dam (1932) and Buffelspoort Dam (1933) were constructed during the Depression, mostly using poor white labour. Two cemeteries close to the Magaliesberg are filled with children's graves, which attest to the hardships and poor living conditions the dam builders and their families endured. The Department of Water Affairs' engineering quarters and a residential suburb, railway lines and bridges across the Crocodile and Skeerpoort rivers can also still be seen there today.

With the legal separation of whites and Africans, various 'native reserves' or 'homeland states' were established in South Africa. One of these, Bophuthatswana, extended to the northern tip of the Magaliesburg near Rustenburg. Since the dismantling of apartheid from 1994, these 'homelands' were reintegrated into the nine new provinces of the country.



Ever since Carl Mauch arrived in Rustenburg and discovered chrome along the Hex river in 1865, a good deal of prospecting was done near the Magaliesberg. Minor copper and silver finds were reported. Chrome was commercially mined on De Kroon from 1921, north of the Magaliesberg. By 1925, several mines were in operation. After Hans Merensky had discovered platinum in the Steelpoort area in 1924, he followed the Merensky Reef around the perimeter of the Bushveld complex as far as Rustenburg. Today, major mining houses exploit the Reef for its platinum and other by-products.

The Magaliesberg's beautiful scenery and its tranquility has been a great source of inspiration for artists, sculptors, writers and other creative people for many decades. Many of these artists have made the Magaliesberg their home and continue to contribute to the dynamic, holistic and comprehensive heritage which characterizes the Magaliesberg and draw local and foreign tourists into the area.

## **5.2 Defensive structure in the Magaliesberg dating from the South Africa War (1899-1902)**

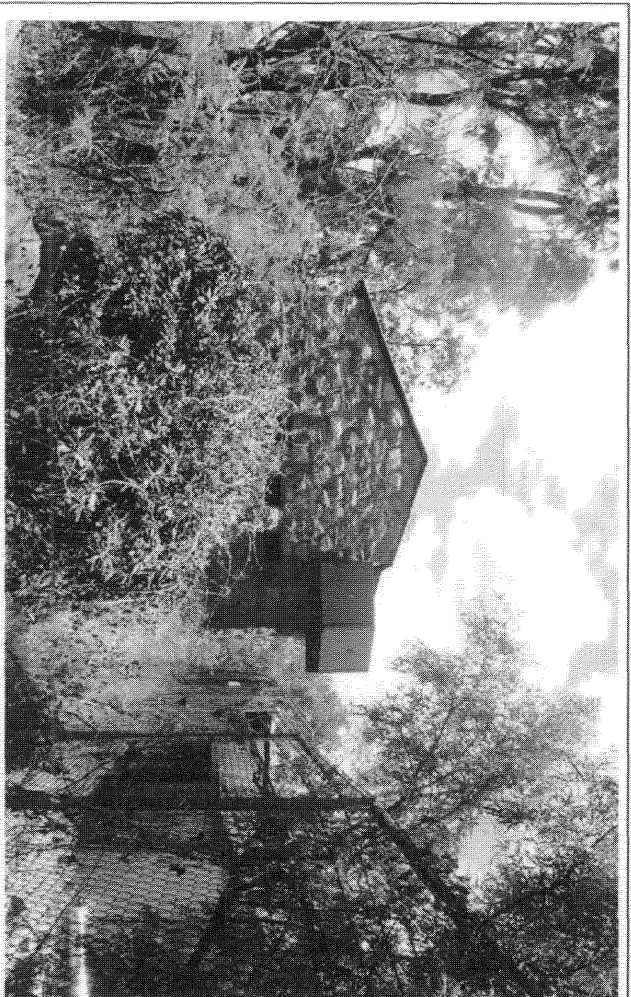
Britain thought at the outbreak of the South African War on 11 October 1899 that the British would triumph over the Boer commandos by December of that year. However, the war between the experienced British forces with their superior equipment, forces that outnumbered the Boers, dragged on until May 1902. The British eventually won the war due to changed strategies, which included the use of mobile artillery, moveable and more efficient machine guns, the destruction of farms, the implementation of the concentration camp system and the construction of fortifications using blockhouses and barbed wire.

The main purpose of the blockhouse system was to defend railway lines and to limit the movement of Boer commandos. The blockhouse system can be divided into lines of blockhouses established along railway lines and lines of blockhouses established in the open veldt, usually on higher vantage points such as randjes, ridges or on high mountain ranges such as the Magaliesberg. Approximately 39 lines of blockhouses were established from AD1900 in the

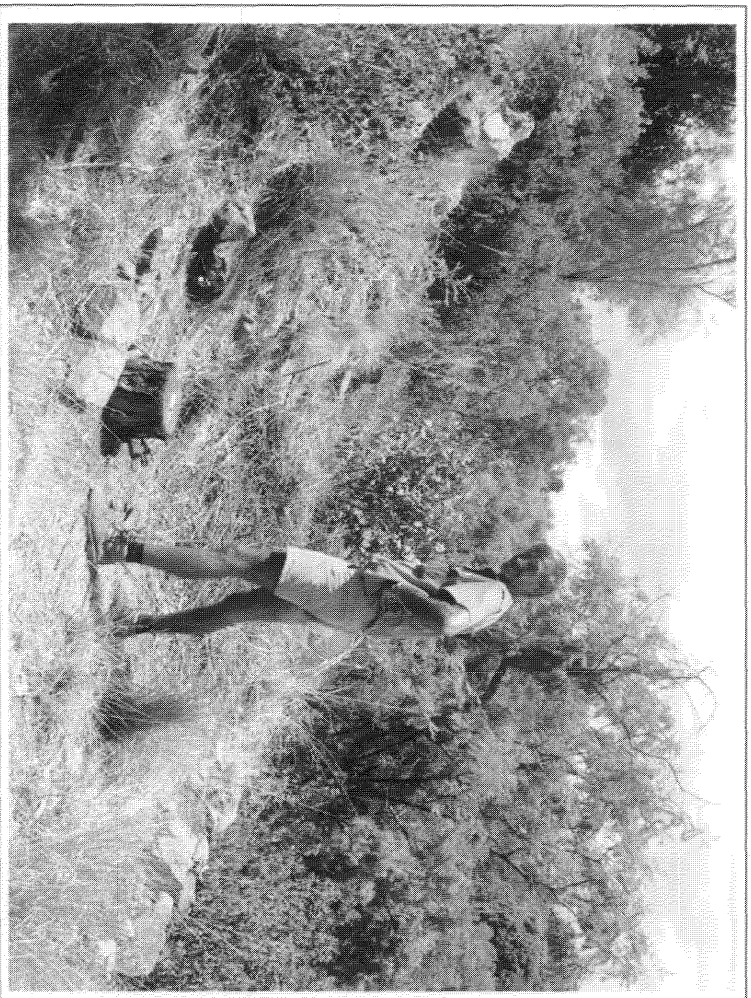
Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR). These lines comprised a total of 8 000 blockhouses built over a distance of 3 700 kilometres. Approximately 50 000 soldiers supported by 12 000 labourers built and maintained these structures.

Two main types of blockhouses were used, namely blockhouses built with corrugated iron sheets and blockhouses built of stone. The former had various ground plans that ranged from square to circular, pentagonal or octagonal. Fewer blockhouses were built with stone and they sometimes had two or three levels, equipped with shooting holes. Blockhouses may have additional structures associated with them, such as horse stables, kitchens (messes) and roads paved with stones to be used by mules to carry burdens to and from the blockhouses.

Blockhouses amongst others include a line which was constructed in and near necks (poorte) such as Silkaatsnek, Kommandonek and Pampoennek in the larger project area.



**Figure 3- The Johnson redoubt (blockhouse) in Pretoria (Tshwane) is one of the blockhouses which were constructed in the Magaliesberg during the South African War (1899-1902). This blockhouse was renovated and is currently in an excellent condition (above).**



**Figure 4- A man standing on a mule road (partly covered with bush) which occurs in conjunction with a blockhouse in the Magaliesberg. Note edge of road as represented by a line of stones (above).**

## **6 THE PHASE I HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY**

### **6.1 Types and ranges of heritage resources**

The Phase I HIA study for the proposed Project Area revealed the following types and ranges of heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) in the project area:

- Remains of at least one blockhouse and a second defensive type of stone structure. These structures are associated with the defensive function which Pampoennek and other necks (poorte) in the Magaliesberg used to have during the South African War (1899-1902).

These remains were geo-referenced and mapped (Figure 5, Table 1).

The significance of these remains was established and mitigation measures are proposed as these remains will be affected (destroyed) as a result of the construction of the new road.

The remains observed in Pampoennek is now briefly discussed and illuminated with photographs.

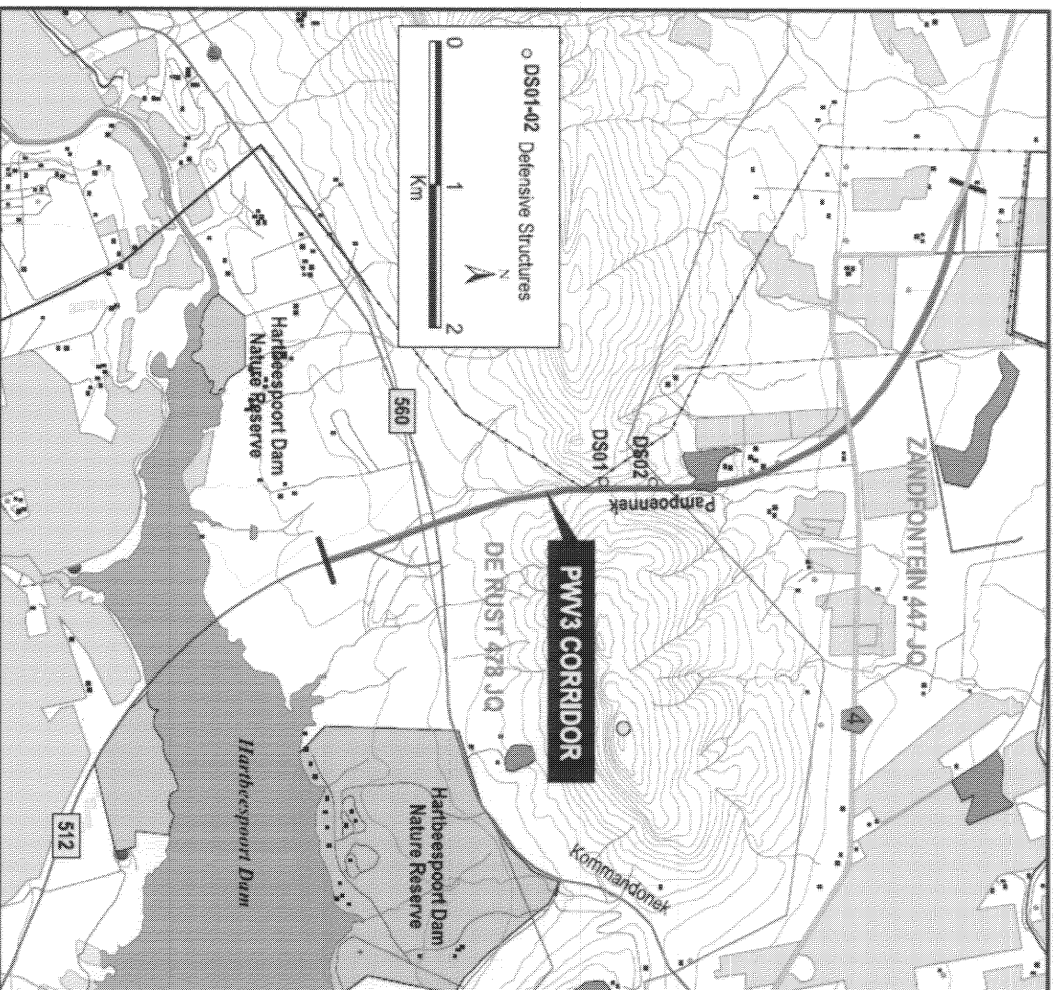


Figure 5- The proposed new PWV3 corridor (Project Area) running through Pamoennek near the Hartheespoort Dam in the Magaliesberg in the North-West Province.

Note the presence of a blockhouse and remains of what seems like a bulky, defensive-type of wall in the neck (above).

### 6.1.1 Defensive structures in Pampoennek

According to a report which was compiled in 1902, five corrugated iron blockhouses were constructed in Pampoennek (which is indicated as 'Pampoenkraal' in the report). It is highly unlikely that all of these structures were preserved during the last century. Some of these structures were probably located on a high altitude in the krantzies of Pampoennek , far above where the proposed PWV3 road will be constructed. If any of these remains still occur they need not be affected by the road construction project.

The following remains were observed and recorded in the Project Area:

- A short stretch of what seems like a circular-shaped stone wall which may represent part of the stone foundation of a circular blockhouse. The upper part of this structure was constructed with corrugated zinc as pieces of this material lay around (DS01).
- A heavy, bulky structure which may have served as a short defensive type of wall. This structure is located down the northern slope of the neck (DS02).

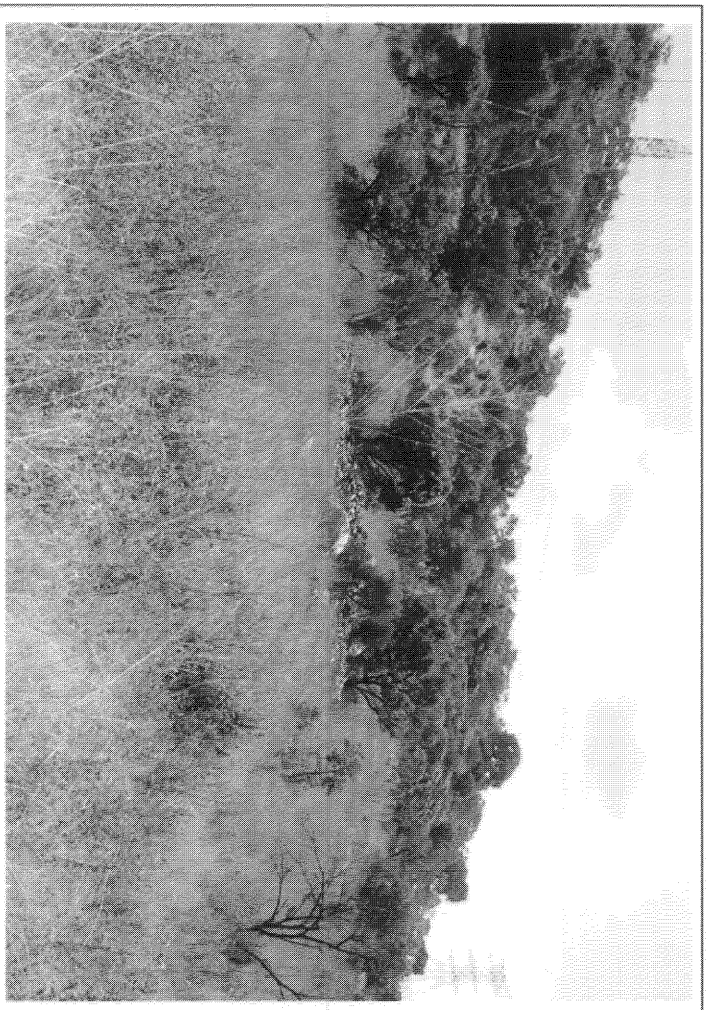
|      | <b>DEFENSIVE STRUCTURES IN PAMPOENNEK</b>           | <b>COORDINATES</b>        | <b>SIGNIFICANCE</b> |
|------|---|---------------------------|---------------------|
| DS01 | Part of circular-shaped structure                   | 25° 44. 121'; 27° 47.683' | HIGH                |
| DS02 | Short, heavy wall with possible defensive function. | 25° 43.921'; 27° 47.689'  | HIGH                |

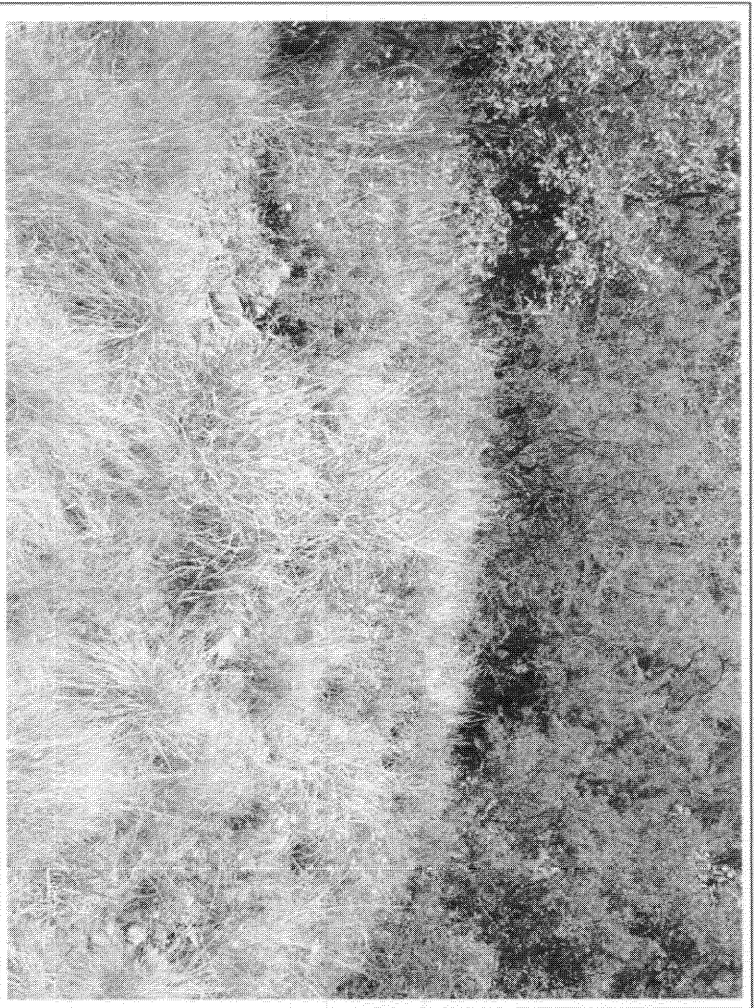
**Table 1 - Coordinates for a possible blockhouse and possible defensive-like remains in the Project Area (above).**





**Figures 6 & 7 - Part of a half-circular wall which could be the remains of a foundation for a blockhouse constructed in Pampoennek. The upper part of the structure was constructed with corrugated zink (above and below).**





**Figure 8- A short, bulky stone wall which may have served a defensive purpose lower down the northern slope of the Magaliesberg (below).**



## **7 THE SIGNIFICANCE, POSSIBLE IMPACT ON AND MITIGATION OF THE HERITAGE RESOURCES**

The Phase I HIA study for the proposed PWV3 corridor (Project Area) revealed the presence of a possible block house and defensive type of remains in the Project Area.

### **7.1 The significance of the heritage resources**

The significance of the block house and defensive type of remains must be determined as they will be affected (destroyed) by the proposed road construction project.

#### **7.1.1 The blockhouse and defensive type of remains**

The remains of the blockhouse and defensive type of structure qualify as historical remains which are older than sixty years. These structures therefore are protected by Sections 34 and 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). Other criteria which emphasise the significance of these remains are the following:

- The defensive remains are part of a cultural (military) landscape as defensive structures and battles associated with the South African War (1899-1902) occurred along the Magaliesberg.
- These remains are highly threatened as linear developments through the Magaliesberg mostly utilise the necks (poorte) in the mountain where these remains are concentrated.
- The blockhouses and military fortifications in the Magaliesberg reflect a unique part of the ZAR's history and the military history of South Africa, etc..

The significance of these remains therefore has been indicated as HIGH (Table 1).

## 7.2 Mitigating the heritage resources

The blockhouse and defensive type of remains will be affected (destroyed) by the road construction project. Consequently, the following mitigation measures have to be applied to these remains.

### 7.2.1 The blockhouse and defensive type of remains

*F.1.1  
see sketch*

Historical structures may not be affected (demolished, renovated, altered) by any development project *prior* to their investigation by an archaeologist accredited with the Southern African Association for Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA). The archaeologist has to acquire a permit from the North West Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (NW PHRA) before any of these historical structures may be affected. The permit would authorise alterations (such as demolishing) these remains as a result of the road construction project. The blockhouse and defensive type of remains must be documented before they are destroyed and a report outlining the results of any literature research and fieldwork must be made available to the NW PHRA.

## 8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Phase I HIA study for the proposed Project Area revealed the following types and ranges of heritage resources as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) in the project area:

- Remains of at least one blockhouse and a second defensive type of stone structure. These structures are associated with the defensive function which Pampoennek and other necks (poorte) in the Magaliesberg used to have during the South African War (1899-1902).

These remains were geo-referenced and mapped (Figure 5, Table 1).

The significance of these remains was established and mitigation measures are proposed as these remains will be affected (destroyed) as a result of the construction of the new road.

The remains of the blockhouse and defensive type of structure qualify as historical remains which are older than sixty years. These structures therefore are protected by Sections 34 and 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). Other criteria which emphasise the significance of these remains are the following:

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*Shawls .....*

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