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Our Ref/Ons Verw

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Contact/Kontak

Date/Datum

2006H005

16 January 2006

Mr D Joubert
Djawena cc
P O Box 15283
SINOVILLE
0129

Dear Mr Joubert

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: NGOVE

As requested, we have investigated the area of the proposed development at Ngove village. The site is located on a small hill to the south of Ngove village, which is located south of Giyane in Limpopo Province (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.

The geology of the study areas is made up of lava, with gneiss occurring in the western edge of the development. The original vegetation is classified as Mixed Lowveld Bushveld, but this has been degraded due to drought and overgrazing.

Three elements of cultural significance were identified on the site:

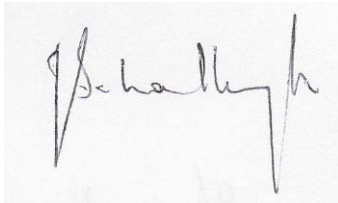
- A “peace pole”, one of a number that was erected all over the country in recent times. This site is clearly visible and would not be impacted on by the development.

NORTHERN FLAGSHIP INSTITUTION/NOORDELIKE VLAGSKIPINSTELLING
INCORPORATING/GEINKORPOREER
National Cultural History Museum/Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese 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

- Some rudimentary stone walling occur on a small plateau on the eastern edge of the hill. In all probability, this has to do with initiation. It is recommended that this site is mapped by an archaeologist before development takes place.
- According to local spokespersons, there are some oral traditions that can be linked to the hill in general, and possibly the stone walling specifically. It is therefore recommended that these traditions are documented by an anthropologist before development takes place.

Furthermore, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'J van Schalkwyk'.

J van Schalkwyk
Principal Investigator

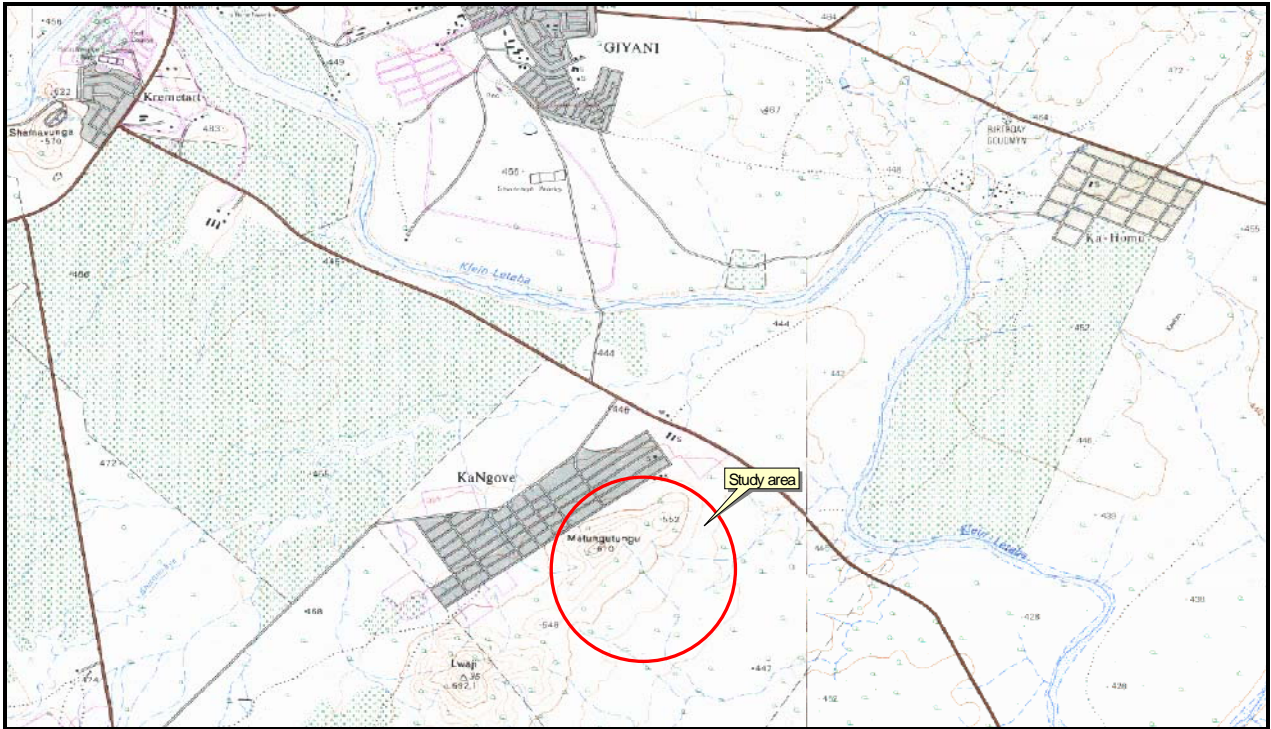


Fig. 1. Location of the area that was surveyed (Map, courtesy of the Government Printer).