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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN THE
PROPOSED ROAD RESERVE FOR THE K90/K157
INTERCHANGE, KEMPTON PARK

SURVEY DONE AND REPORT COMPILED JULY 2002

Naude & Associates
PO Box 584
La Montagne
0184
Tel: 083 447 2232

879
10328

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Introduction

The researchers were informed by the client regarding the proposed development to be undertaken and the extent of the area to be surveyed. The K90/K157 interchange ie proposed

Brief

The identification and assessment of archaeological resources in the study area

Aims of the Survey

The aims of the archaeological survey in the proposed area of development were:

- (a) to locate, identify, interpret and record all sites, features and objects of cultural (archaeological & historical) importance in the area of the proposed development
- (b) to evaluate all possible sites in terms of their historical, archaeological and scientific research value, and
- (c) to recommend any possible mitigatory measures, should any sites in the area be negatively impacted upon by the proposed development

Description of the Area

The study area is indicated on the map supplied by the client (See map Appendix A). The survey was executed within the boundaries of the proposed road reserves and beyond these reserves to determine whether any linear or larger features occurred that may extend into or cross over the proposed road reserves.

The area that had to be surveyed lies between Rietfontein 336 IR (North), Witkopie 64 IR (South), Rietfontein 31 IR (East) and the SAA Property (West). The topography of the area is basically flat, although there are patches of Bluegum trees. The surveyed areas surrounding the proposed development are almost completely covered by housing. Large sections have been ploughed in the recent past, while there are also refuse middens and rubbish dumps in some parts.

Methodology

The methodology employed by the researchers complies to standard archaeological practise, and the total area was covered by walking over it by foot and driving through it where access was possible. Sites, features and objects that are identified are usually recorded by giving a description of the physical features, doing a preliminary interpretation, taking a latitude and longitude (GPS) reading and taking photographs of any physical evidence.

Results of the Survey

During the survey no sites, features or objects of any archaeological importance were identified. A fairly extensive refuse midden is located in the area, but it is of recent origin and of no historical or archaeological importance. It consists of an excavated hole about 25m in diameter, filled with all sorts of building rubble and garden refuse.

However, it should be noted that archaeological sites, features or artifacts are very often located underground and therefore not visible on the surface, and their possible existence can therefore not be totally excluded. No graveyards or individual graves were found in the study area.

It was assumed that the search for physical evidence in the study area was the main focus of the study as they are the only landscape aspects that can be managed and preserved. The deeds survey cannot add value to the significance of the property if there is no physical evidence that relates to a particular historical event.

The most significant manmade feature impacted upon is the old farmstead (see point 1 on the map - Appendix A). It consists of a single homestead dating to the late 1940s and several steel frame sheds and shelters for fodder, and farming implements. None of the buildings were of architectural significance or associated with any significant historical event. The buildings were inspected individually on foot. All the buildings and structures are of recent origin and if any old building (older than 60 years) exist it has been renovated and modernised to such an extent that none of the distinguishing architectural period characteristics have survived. Windows and doors have been replaced with contemporary commercial steel frames and if any building had any architectural embellishment, it was removed during the renovation.

Three dwellings that may have been older than 60 years were identified outside the proposed road reserves (see points 2, 3 and 4 on the map - Appendix A) but they are not directly threatened by the proposed road. The residents will remain in these dwellings. One of the dwellings has lozenge shaped windows - which is characteristic of the Art Deco architectural style dating to the late 1920s to 1930. The only threat to

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these dwellings is an increase in crime and possible threat of vandalism during construction. They are not threatened by blasting during construction.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The area has been extensively disturbed, mainly through building activity and small scale farming, during recent times. Any possible sites of archaeological importance would therefore have been either completely destroyed or badly damaged.

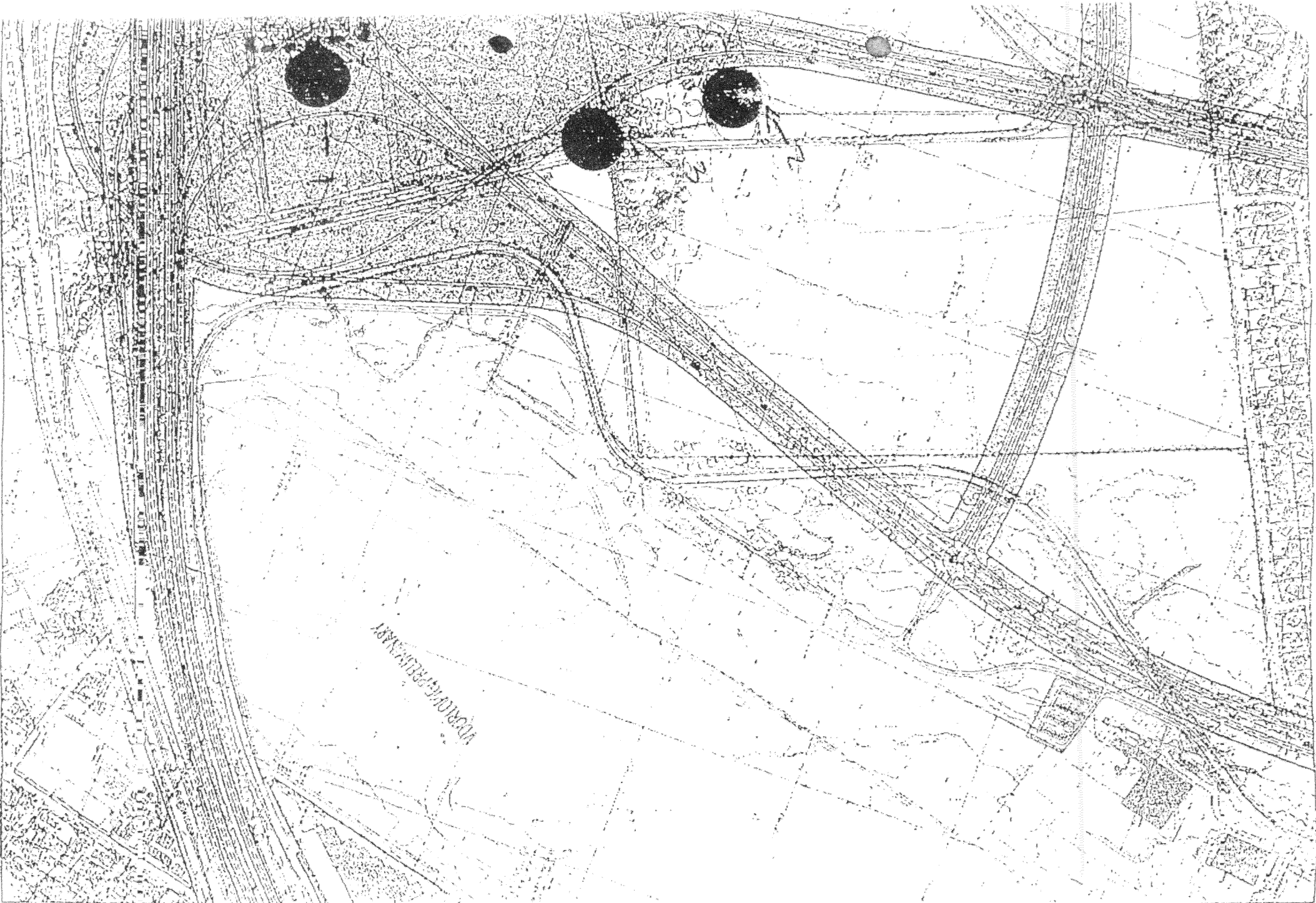
The geology of the area is also not suitable for stone tool manufacture, and it is highly unlikely that Stone Age hunter-gatherers would have utilized the area. No evidence of Iron Age settlement in the area was found.

The following is recommended:

- (a) the proposed development of the K90/K157 Interchange can commence
- (b) that, if any cultural remains (artifacts, features and sites) are uncovered during any phase of the development (during excavation or topsoil removal), qualified archaeologists should be called in to do detailed investigations of such finds
- (c) The contemporary dwelling and farm buildings may be demolished

Acknowledgements

Archaeological work was done by Frank Teichert and Anton Peiser (National Cultural History Museum, Pretoria). Cultural history work was done by Mauritz Naude.





PROPOSED K90/K157/R21
ACCESS INTERCHANGE
CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT
Scale = 1:12,500

MM 4 JEN VICE

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Methodology

DM : SAHRA JHB

PHONE NO. : 011 482 8196

Oct. 21 2002 09:18AM F

5-OCT-2002 13:06 FROM:FOCI: ENVIRONMENTAL C 012-997-0346

TO:0114828196

P:7





PROPOSED K90/K157/R21
ACCESS INTERCHANGE
CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT
Scale = 1:12,000