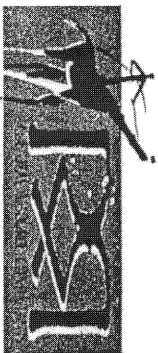


9/2/234/004 DF

9-2-234-0004-200104 09-RRCRC

Tel: (015) 293 7075
Cell: 083 293 3166
E-mail: hr19@pixie.co.za



PO Box 1600
PIETERSBURG
0 7 0 0

Sue Posnik & Associates

P. O. Box 2504

TZANEEN

0850

9 April 2001

PROPOSED TZANEEN EXTENTION 60
ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

BACKGROUND

Section 26 of the Environmental Conservation Act (No. 73 of 1989) includes both the *natural and man-made* environments for which an EIA is required to satisfy the requirements of the regulation of Sections 21 & 22 respectively (see the *integrated environmental management guidelines*). The provisions of the above mentioned legislation in respect of the man-made environment is now also contained in Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999), and extended to include developments for which an EIA is not required in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act.

SAHRA, in close cooperation with the Southern African Archaeological Association, the professional body of archaeologists, has accepted criteria for minimum standards to which people who undertake *culture resource management* (CRM) work must comply, as is the case with any other profession. It is from this perspective that SAHRA does not regard Mr. Jurgen Wiff as a suitably qualified person to undertake CRM work in terms of its legislation.

I understood that the Record of Decision (ROD) by Environmental Affairs is being held up by this predicament, and I thus undertook to inspect the Proposed Tzaneen Extension 60 site in order to clarify these concerns. A full survey and report is not intended.

PROPOSED TZANEEN EXTENTION 60

I inspected the proposed site on Sunday 8th April 2001. The site is covered with dense vegetation with the result that ground visibility is poor. It is clear that most, if not the entire area, had been ploughed in the recent past.

Using standard archaeological methods of observation, I discovered Iron Age archaeological remains at latitude & longitude co-ordinates: S23°50'24.3" E30°08'35". The remains consisted of pottery fragments and burnt hut debris. As none of the

Proprietor: HM Roodt

Nat.Dip.(Fine Arts), Technikon Pretoria ; Nat.Higher Dip.(Post School Education), Technikon Witwatersrand ;

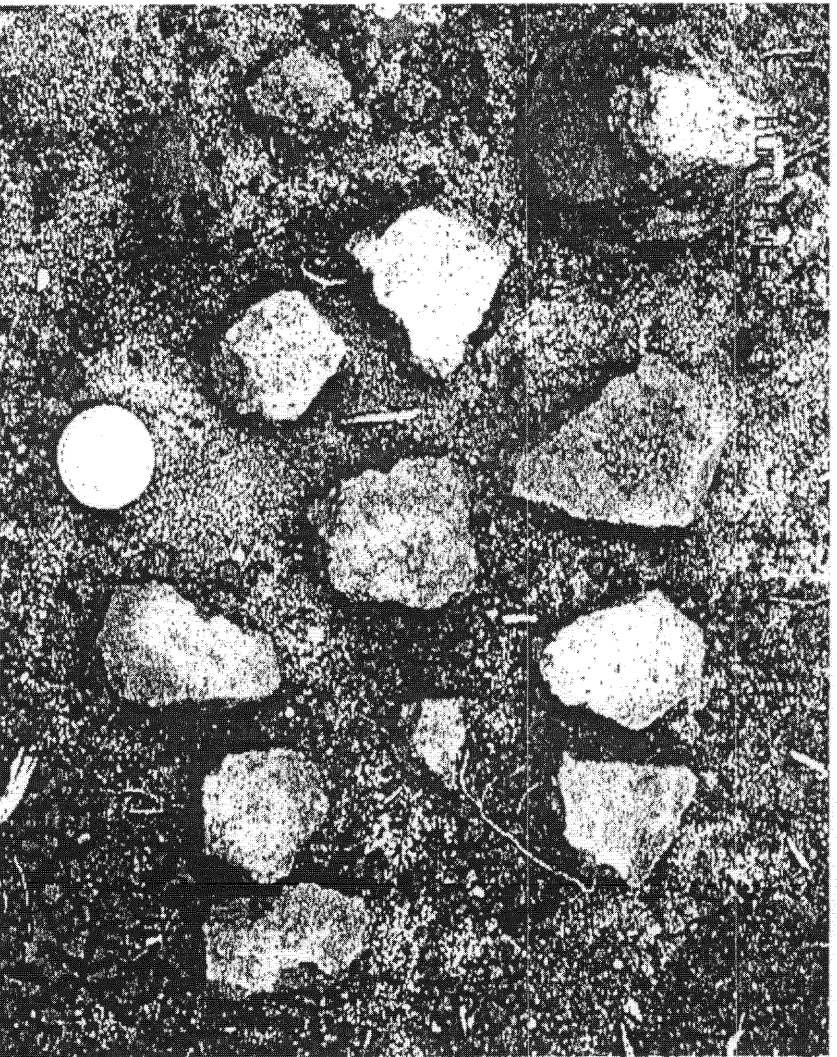
BA, UNISA ;

BA (Hons) Archaeology, UP ;

SM

potsherds were decorated it was not possible to identify the cultural context of the material. Bearing in mind that the area where the archaeological remains were found is currently being worked by hoe cultivation and that it had previously probably been ploughed mechanically as well, it may be assumed that the material had been exposed to the surface by the ploughing action. This would probably mean that the material belongs to the Early Iron Age phase and that much of it may still be *in situ* under ground.

The Izaneen area is renowned for the earliest Iron Age tradition south of the Limpopo river; the Silver Leaves / Mariola Tradition dating to approximately 300AD. In view of this the find may be quite significant.



Pottery fragments and burnt dogha from field (Scale: 50 cent piece)

Proprietor: HM Roodt

- ☐ Nat:Dip (Fine Arts), Technikon Pretoria
- ☐ Nat:Higher Dip (Post School Education), Technikon Witwatersrand
- ☐ BA, UNISA
- ☐ BA (Hons) Archaeology, UP

CONCLUSION

SAHRA will have to determine what cultural resource management measures it would require at the site. I do not regard the discovery of such significance that development should be halted. I would recommend that:

1. Terrain layout, streets and services etc., be done and that initial clearing be undertaken.
2. Once the initial clearing has been completed, an archaeologist be commissioned to evaluate the archaeological remains at which occasion cultural resource management measures be mitigated between SAHRA and the developer. It is likely that provision would have to be made for a phase 2 archaeological assessment or excavation.



FRANS ROODT (BA Hons, MA Archaeology, Post Grad. Dipl. Museology, UP)
For: R & R Cultural Resource Consultants

Proprietor: HM Roodt

Nat. Dip. (Fine Arts), Technikon Pretoria ; Nat. Higher Dip. (Post School Education), Technikon Witwatersrand ;
BA, UNISA ;
BA (Hons) Archaeology, UP ;