# A SURVEY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PWV 6 ROAD, SOUTH OF PRETORIA

For:

# PLAN ASSOCIATES

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Survey conducted and report prepared by the:

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REPORT: 2000KH09

Date of survey: December 2000 Date of report: January 2001

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# **SUMMARY**

## A survey of cultural resources for the PWV 6 Road, south of Pretoria

The aim of the survey was to locate, identify, evaluate and document sites, objects and structures of cultural importance found within the boundaries of the area in which the proposed development is to take place.

Based on what was found and its evaluation, it is recommended that the proposed development can continue, but the following should be noted:

- It is recommended that the site to the east (Appendix 2, no. 4) be investigated and if it relates to the War, it should be documented in full before the development takes place. This investigation in all probability will consist a further field survey as well as an archival investigation.
- The developers should be notified that archaeological sites might be exposed during the construction work. If anything is noticed, it should be reported immediately to a museum, preferably one at which an archaeologist is available, so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

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# A SURVEY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PWV 6 ROAD, SOUTH OF PRETORIA

# 1. AIMS OF THE SURVEY

The National Cultural History Museum was requested by **Plan Associates** to survey an area through which it is proposed to build a new road. The aim of the survey was to locate, identify, evaluate and document sites, objects and structures of cultural importance found within the boundaries of the area that is to be developed.

#### 2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The **Terms of Reference** for the study were to:

- 2.1 Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature located in the area of the proposed development.
- 2.2 Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their historical, social, religious, aesthetic and scientific value.
- 2.3 Determine the possible impacts on the known and potential cultural resources in the area of interest.
- 2.4 Develop mitigation or control measures for impact minimization and cultural resources preservation.
- 2.5 Develop procedures to be implemented if previously unidentified cultural resources are uncovered during the construction.

## 3. **DEFINITIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

The following aspects have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

- **Cultural resources** are all nonphysical and physical human-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences that are associated with human activity. These include all sites, structures and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development.
- The **significance** of the sites and artifacts are determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness,

condition of preservation and research potential. It must be kept in mind that the various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and that the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these.

- Sites regarded as having low significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium to high significance require further mitigation.
- The latitude and longitude of archaeological sites are to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public.

#### 4. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are mainly dealt within two acts. These are the South Africa Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989).

## 4.1 South African Heritage Resources Act

## Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (c) trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

## 4.2 Environmental Conservation Act

This act states that a survey and an evaluation of cultural resources should be undertaken in areas where development, which will change the face of the environment, is to be made. The impact of the development on the cultural resources should also be determined and proposals to mitigate this impact is to be formulated.

#### 5. METHODOLOGY

#### 5.1 Preliminary investigation

#### 5.1.1 Survey of the literature

A survey of the relevant literature was conducted with the aim of reviewing the previous research done and determining the potential of the area. In this regard, various anthropological, archaeological and historical sources were consulted - see the list of references below.

#### 5.1.2 Data bases

The **Archaeological Data Recording Centre** (ADRC), housed at the National Cultural History Museum, Pretoria, was consulted. The **Environmental Potential Atlas** was also consulted.

## 5.1.3 Other sources

The topocadastral and other maps were also studied - see the list of references below.

#### 5.2 Field survey

The field survey was done according to generally accepted archaeological practices, and was aimed at locating all possible sites, objects and structures. As the area that had to be investigated follows a definite route, it was easy to survey by walking over the length of the route. Special attention was given to outcrops, cliffs were inspected for rock shelters, while stream beds and unnatural topographical occurrences such as trenches, holes and clusters of trees were investigated.

#### 5.3 Documentation

All sites, objects and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Coordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the **Global Positioning System** (GPS)<sup>1</sup> and plotted on a map. This information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

## 6. **DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA**

The area that was surveyed is located on the farm Doornkloof 391JR, in the Pretoria district of Gauteng and is indicated on the map in Figure 1. The area is south of the suburb known as Pierrie van Ryneveld and east of the village of Irene.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> According to the manufacturer a certain deviation may be expected for each reading. Care was, however, taken to obtain as accurate a reading as possible, and then correlate it with reference to the physical environment before plotting it on the map.

The area is not pristine and for large parts it has been impacted upon by agricultural and potential urban developments. The result of this is that cultural resources that might have occurred in this area could have been destroyed.