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A PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (AIA) STUDY FOR A PROPOSED NEW SECURITY FENCE FOR THE BRYNTIRION ESTATE IN PRETORIA (TSHWANE), GAUTENG PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) report was done in accordance with Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). The aims with the AIA study was to determine whether any of the types and ranges of archaeological remains as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) do occur in the Project Area and, if so, to determine the level (or degree) of significance of these archaeological remains; and to make recommendations regarding the mitigation or the conservation of these remains if they are to be affected by the construction of the proposed new security fence.

The Phase I AIA survey for the corridors for the proposed new security fence for the Bryntirion Estate revealed the following types and ranges of heritage resources in the Project Area, namely:

- Buildings, terrace walls and other constructed features along the western and southern corridor of the proposed new security fence which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence. However, these heritage resources falls outside the scope of this Phase I AIA (see 5.2).
- A mule road which is part of the Jonson Redoubt (blockhouse) on top of Meintjieskop which dates from the Second Anglo Boer War (1899-1902). These remains have relevance for this report which only focuses on the security fence's possible impact on archaeological resources (see 5.3).

Any buildings, terrace walls or features are part of the Bryntirion Estate's built-environment which has no bearing on the scope of this report. Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) deals with the built-environment and focuses on structures which are older than sixty years which may be affected by development activities. The Bryntirion Estate's built-environment and the way it may be affected by the construction of the new security fence is addressed by professional architects who is working in close collaboration with the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) with regard to any buildings, structures or features which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence.

The proposed security fence's original alignment would have collided with the length of a mule road running up Meintjieskop to the Jonson Redoubt (a British blockhouse) located on the top of the ridge. However, the security fence was realigned and will now only impact on the eastern tip of this mule road.

The Jonson Redoubt was used in conjunction with other blockhouse such as East Ford (on Strubenskop) to protect the eastern entrance into Pretoria. Whilst most blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink, the Jonson Redoubt was built with stone. This implies that it took a long time to complete and that it was an expensive structure as most other blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink at the time.

The Jonson Redoubt is still in a relative good condition. A prominent mule road that runs from ground level westwards along Meintjieskop is linked with this blockhouse further to the west and higher up Meintjieskop. This road was probably used by the British to transport ammunition and provisions to the blockhouse. A part of the mule road near ground level was destroyed when a reservoir and a pump house was constructed near the foot of Meintjieskop in the past.

The construction of the security fence will have an impact on the tip of the mule road not withstanding the fact that it has been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road be destroyed by the fence. The significance of this structure therefore has to be determined and emphasised.

The mule road has high significance when considering criteria such as the following:

- Mule roads associated with blockhouses are in most instances partly destroyed along the lower foot slopes of the Magaliesberg and the Witwatersberge as development activities along the lower feet of mountains are common. Short stretches of mule roads therefore mostly survived higher up these mountains.
- It is unlikely that any intact mule road associated with any particular blockhouse still exist.
- The mule road is part of the Johson Redoubt and its destruction would diminish the meaning and significance of both these two historical structures.
- The Joson Redoubt (and its associated mule road) is one of a few blockhouses that still exists and which are in a relative good state of preservation.

- The Jonson Redoubt and mule road is part of a historical context which includes Meintjieskop, the possible presence of early indigenous people on this randje, the development of Pretoria (Tshwane), the Second Anglo Boer War and the historical governmental Bryntirion Estate.
- The destruction of heritage resources within the perimeters of the Bryntirion Estate would reflect negatively on government whose highest members live in this estate and who represents the roots, history and heritage of South Africa.

The security fence has already been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road is destroyed when the security fence is constructed. However, this realignment will still destroy the tip of the mule road which has to make way for the fence.

The destruction of the tip of the mule road can only occur after the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (Gauteng PHRA) has issued a permit which would authorise the destruction of this part of the mule road.

The mule road must also be demarcated (e. g with cautionary tape) so that it can be avoided and subsequently be protected during the construction of the security fence. The unaffected existence of the mule road must be also monitored and regularly reported upon during meetings of the construction team.

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

This document contains the report on the results of a Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) study done for a proposed new security fence for the Bryntirion Estate in Pretoria (Tshwane) in the Gauteng Province of South Africa.

Focused archaeological research has been conducted in the Gauteng Province for more than four decades. This research consists of surveys and of excavations of Stone Age and Iron Age sites as well as of the recording of rock art and historical sites in this area. The Gauteng Province has a rich heritage comprised of remains dating from the pre-historical and from the historical (or colonial) periods of South Africa. Pre-historical and historical remains in the Gauteng Province of South Africa form a record of the heritage of most groups living in South Africa today.

Various types and ranges of heritage resources that qualify as part of South Africa's 'national estate' (as outlined in the National Heritage Resources Act [No 25 of 1999]) occur in the Gauteng Province (see Box 1, next page).

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

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Art 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;
  - (v) historical graves and cemeteries; and
  - (vi) 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;
- 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

The Bryntirion Estate which is located in the heart of Pretoria (Tshwane) must be provided with a new security fence. Boleng Consulting, the company responsible for establishing the new security fence, commissioned the author to undertake a Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) study for the proposed new security fence. The aims with the Phase I AIA study were the following:

- to establish whether any archaeological remains of significance as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) do occur in or near the proposed new security fence, and, if so;
- to determine the level (or degree) of significance of these archaeological remains; and
- to make recommendations regarding the mitigation or the conservation of these remains if they are to be affected by the construction of the proposed new security fence.

#### 3 METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Method

This Phase I AIA was conducted by means of the following:

- A brief survey of literature on the history of the Bryntirion Estate was undertaken (see Part 4.3, 'Brief background to the Bryntirion Estate').
- Consulting archaeological data bases kept at institutions such as African Window, the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) (Cape Town [national] and Johannesburg [provincial]) to establish if any archaeological remains of significance do occur in or near the Project Area.
- The Project Area was surveyed on foot.
- The 1: 50 000 and 1: 250 000 maps were also used to study the project area.

# 3.2 Assumptions and limitations

It is possible that this Phase I AIA study may have missed archaeological remains in the Project Area as archaeological remains may occur in thick clumps of vegetation while others may lie below the surface of the earth and may only be exposed once development commences.

#### 3.3 Chance finds

If any heritage resources of significance is exposed during the construction project the South African Heritage Resources Authority (ASAPA) should be notified immediately, all construction activities must be seized and 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 (permits) from SAHRA to conduct the mitigation measures.

# 3.4 Maps and photographs

No detailed maps or any photographs have been used in this report for reasons of confidentiality and security.

# 3.5 Some remarks on terminology

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

#### Box 2: Some remarks on terminology

The <u>Archaeological Impact Assessment</u> (AIA) referred to in the title of this report refers to all archaeological remains as outlined in the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999).

<u>Heritage resources</u> (<u>cultural resources</u>) 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 Pretoria by the first Colonists who settled in this area during the early 1800'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 <u>archaeological remains</u> and <u>historical remains</u>, or between <u>historical remains</u> and remains from the <u>relatively recent past</u>. 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 '<u>Late Iron Age</u>' 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.

<u>Mining heritage sites</u> refer to old, abandoned mining activities, underground or on the surface, which may date from the prehistorical, historical or the relatively recent past.

The term 'project area' refers to the area where the developer wants to focus its development activities (refer to plan) while the peripheral area refers to the area which will not be affected by the proposed new development..

<u>Phase I studies</u> 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.

<u>Phase II studies</u> 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.

#### 4 THE PROJECT AREA

#### 4.1 Location

The Bryntirion Estate is located in the heart of Pretoria (Tshwane) in the Gauteng Province of South Africa. The estate is situated along the eastern end of Meintjieskop, and elongated hill which is part of the Witwatersberge running from east to west and parallel with the Magaliesberg which is located further to the north. The estate covers a considerable surface area and is demarcated by Soutpansbergweg in the north, Church Street in the south, Jenkins Road in the west and Francis Street in the east (2528CA Pretoria; 1: 50 000 topographical map).

# 4.2 The Project Area

The Project Area involves the length (boundaries) and width of the corridor which will be followed by the new security fence running along the northern, western, southern and eastern boundaries of the Bryntirion Estate. These boundaries (lengths) are the following:

- The <u>northern boundary</u> runs from the north-eastern corner of the estate towards the west. This stretch runs across level ground along the northern foot of Meintjieskop and then turns to the south when it reaches Jenkins Road. It gradually ascends the lower foot of Meintjieskop and then turns towards the west in order to run up the ridge along the southern shoulder of Jenkins Road. At the top of the ridge the fence bends towards the south. It runs for a short distance southwards and then turn towards the west running below the Jonson Reboubt to the north-western corner of the Project Area
- The <u>western boundary</u> runs from Meintjieskop southwards and eastwards following several turns and bends between the Bryntirion Estate and the neighbouring suburb. This boundary follows a developed piece of land as it

runs along established roads and border fences between various properties and residences.

- The <u>southern boundary</u> runs along the northern shoulder of Church Street from the west towards the east. This stretch runs without any significant bends or turns to Frances Road in the east. Here the fence turns northeastwards for a short distance before bending towards the north at the south-eastern corner of the estate..
- The <u>eastern boundary</u> runs from the south-eastern corner of the estate northwards up a gentle slope parallel with Frances Road. This stretch has one or two slight bends and runs northwards across Meintjieskop in order to descend down the northern slope of the kopje to end in the north-eastern corner of the estate.

The width of the security fence is an arbitrary assumption as it was determined by the possible affect the security fence as well as activities leading to the construction of the fence could have on any archaeological remains which may occur in or in close proximity of the corridor for the new fence where such remains could be affected during the construction, the future patrolling and maintenance of the fence.

## 4.3 Brief background to the Bryntirion Estate

Pretoria is spread out from the west to the east in the valleys between the Magaliesberg in the north and the Witwatersberge in the south. This picturesque mountain scenery is cross-cut by the Apies River flowing from the south to the north through poorte in both these mountain ranges.

As Pretoria's climate favoured the luxuriant growth of trees and flowers Pretoria was known as the 'city of roses' in the 1870's. In the course of time jacarandas replaced roses from their place of honour and became the 'jacaranda city'.

Pretoria's remarkable development can largely be contributed to the fact that it became the seat of government of the Union in 1910. Consequently, the magnificent Union Buildings were established on Meintjieskop along the eastern extension of the Witwatersberge. Numerous governmental and public buildings and structures had to be spread over the city to house the administrative activities of the Union government.

Bryntirion Estate was established close to the Union Buildings. This small suburb incorporates the luxurious official residences of former and present high dignitaries of government such as the State President, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and other ministers of cabinet.

The origins and a brief history of Bryntirion is set out in the *Yearbook of the Africana Society of Pretoria* (1993) and is directly quoted below:

'A Voortrekker named Gerhardus Stephanus Bronkhorst, once owned a farm on the southern slopes of a hill. It overlooked a valley teeming with game and covered with lush grass and a great variety of trees. It was one of three farms which later constituted Pretoria.

This farm, however was subdivided on several occasions, until eventually in 1889 a portion of about twenty-one morgen was bought by Mr. Robert John Pritchard. The place of his choice was a plateau which commanded a magnificent view across the shallow, wooded valley to the south, and the Bronberg range of hills beyond.

Pritchard was of Welsh descend and he named his small farm 'Bryn Tirion', a popular name in Wales for dwellings or farms with a fine view. 'Bryn' means hill, and 'Tirion' a beautiful view, so no more fitting a name could have been chosen for this lovely spot.

But Bryn Tirion was not destined to remain farmland, for John Pritchard sold it to Mrs. H.S. Johnston who in turn, sold it to the Transvaal Colonial Government in 1902. The government acquired another twelve morgen in small portions from time to time, finally bringing Bryn Tirion up to thirty-three morgen in 1907.

With the rapid growth of Pretoria in the early days of the present century, the inevitable problem of accommodation arose and, as there were insufficient homes for the senior Government officials in town, the idea of building Government homes for them was born. Bryntirion, as it now became known, with its crystal air and its fine view of young Pretoria, was chosen as the ideal site.

By 1904 thirteen dwellings and a caretaker's cottage had been completed, and an official residence for the Lieutenant Governor was built on an adjacent property. It became the official residence of all British Governor Generals and South African born Governor Generals for more than fifty years and was known as Government House. When the Union of South Africa was declared a Republic in 1961, Mr. Swart became the first President to occupy this sumptuous home.

It has been said by historian Gustav Preller, that the great Mzilikazi tarried on this very spot. His temporary huts dotted the plateau where the Presidency now stands, while those of his people were scattered along the side of the hill which later became Meintjieskop. Water for the stat was carried from the Apies River down in the valley, but at that time the river bore the name of Enzwabuhlungu, "that which hurts the feet".

During his sojourn on this hillside plateau, Mzilikazi's followers were building him a huge kraal north of the Magaliesberg, and to this he moved in 1826. His new stat commanded a fine view of the pyramids, the Crocodile River and Silkaatsnek, and he named it Hlahlandlela'.

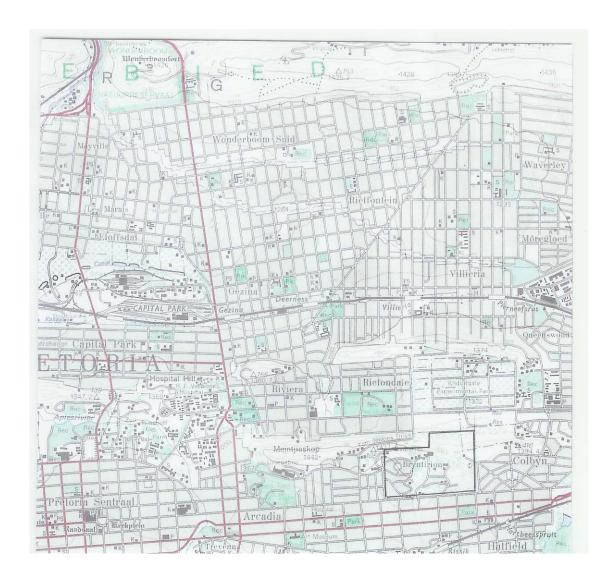


Figure 1- The Bryntirion Estate on Meintjieskop located between Soutpansbergweg in the north and Church Street in the south. (The security fence's location is only roughly indicated) (above).

#### 5 THE PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

# 5.1 Heritage resources in the Project Area

The Phase I AIA survey for the corridors for the security fence for the Bryntirion Estate 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, namely:

- Buildings, terrace walls and other constructed features along the western and southern corridor of the proposed new security fence which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence. However, these heritage resources falls outside the scope of this Phase I AIA (see 5.2, below).
- A mule road which is part of the Jonson Redoubt (blockhouse) on top of Meintjieskop which dates from the Second Anglo Boer War (1899-1902).
   These remains have relevance for this report which only focuses on the security fence's possible impact on archaeological resources (see 5.3, below)

## 5.2 Buildings, terrace walls and other constructed features

Any buildings, terrace walls or any other features are part of the Bryntirion Estate's built-environment which has no bearing on the scope of this report. Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) deals with the built-environment and focuses on structures which are older than sixty years which may be affected by development activities. The Bryntirion Estate's built-environment and the way it may be affected by the construction of the new security fence is addressed by professional architects who is working in close collaboration with the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) with

regard to any buildings, structures or features which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence.

#### 5.3 The mule road and associated Jonson Redoubt

The proposed security fence's original alignment would have collided with the length of a mule road running up Meintjieskop to the Jonson redoubt (a British blockhouse) located on the top of the ridge. However, the security fence was realigned and will no only impact on the eastern tip of this mule road.

## 5.3.1 Historical background

Britain thought at the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer 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 a 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 veld, 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. 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.

#### 5.3.2 Blockhouses in and outside Pretoria

Historical evidence for the construction of at least 100 blockhouses in Pretoria has been found. The remains of 28 of these blockhouses were discovered, while evidence for the destruction of at least at least 10 has been found in historical documents. The remaining blockhouses were probably destroyed during the expansion of the inner city and the subsequent development of outlying suburbs.

The blockhouses built in and near Pretoria can, for the sake of clarity, be divided into:

- the forts in Pretoria;
- the line of blockhouses on Daspoortrand;
- blockhouses on the Magaliesberg;
- blockhouses on the perimeters of Pretoria; and
- the line of blockhouses towards Rustenburg.

The Jonson Redoubt is part of the blockhouses that occur as a line on Daspoortrand which is part of the Witwatersberge to which Meintjieskop also belongs.

#### 5.3.2.1 The line of blockhouses on Daspoortrand

A line of blockhouses occurs on the Daspoortrand. Some of these are located to the west of the Daspoort Tunnel and some to the east of the tunnel. At least six to seven of the blockhouses (including the Wesfort Blockhouses) occur in the western part of the line and were called Daspoortrand West Blockhouses. At least five blockhouses were discovered further east on the Daspoortrand, namely Daspoort East 1, Daspoort Central (Eloff through-excavation), Daspoortrand East 2 (Pierneef), Johnson Redoubt (at Mahlamban Ndlofvu) and East Fort (Eastern Redoubt on Strubenkop).

#### 5.3.2.2 The Jonson Redoubt

The Jonson Redoubt was used in conjunction with other blockhouse such as East Ford (on Strubenskop) to protect the eastern entrance into Pretoria. Whilst most blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink, the Jonson Redoubt was built with stone. This implies that it took a long time to complete and that it was an expensive structure as most other blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink at the time.

The Jonson Redoubt is still in a relative good condition. A prominent mule road that runs from ground level westwards along Meintjieskop is linked with this blockhouse further towards the west, higher up Meintjieskop. This road was probably used by the British to transport ammunition and provisions to the blockhouse. A part of the mule road near ground level was destroyed when a reservoir and a pump house was constructed near the foot of Meintjieskop in the past.

# 5.4 The significance of the mule road

The Phase I AIA survey revealed the presence of buildings, terrace walls and other constructed features as well as a mule road which is part of the Jonson Redoubt (blockhouse) in the Project Area. Only the mule road has a bearing on this report.

The construction of the security fence will have an impact on the tip of the mule road not withstanding the fact that it has been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road be destroyed by the fence. The significance of this structure therefore has to be determined and emphasised.

The mule road has high significance when considering criteria such as the following:

- Mule roads associated with blockhouses are in most instances partly destroyed along the lower foot slopes of the Magaliesberg and the Witwatersberge as development activities are common along the lower feet of mountains. Short stretches of mule roads therefore mostly survived higher up these mountains.
- It is unlikely that any intact mule road associated with any particular blockhouse still exist.
- The mule road is part of the Johson Redoubt and its destruction would diminish the meaning and significance of both these two historical structures.
- The Joson Redoubt (and its associated mule road) is one of a few blockhouses that still exists and which are in a relative good state of preservation.
- The Jonson Redoubt and mule road is part of a historical context which includes Meintjieskop, the possible presence of early indigenous people on this randje, the development of Pretoria (Tshwane), the Second Anglo

- Boer War and the historical governmental Bryntirion Estate.
- The destruction of heritage resources within the perimeters of the Bryntirion Estate would reflect negatively on government whose highest members live in this estate and who represent the roots, history and heritage of South Africa.

# 5.5 Mitigating the mule road

The security fence has already been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road is destroyed when the security fence is constructed. However, this realignment will still destroy the tip of the mule road which has to make way for the fence.

The destruction of the tip of the mule road can only occur after the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (Gauteng PHRA) has issued a permit that would authorise the destruction of the tip of the mule road.

The mule road must also be demarcated (e. g with cautionary tape) so that it can be avoided and subsequently be protected during the construction of the security fence. The unaffected existence of the mule road must also be monitored and regularly reported upon during meetings of the construction team.

#### 6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) report was done in accordance with Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). The aims with the AIA study was to determine whether any of the types and ranges of archaeological remains as outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) do occur in the Project Area and, if so, to determine the level (or degree) of significance of these archaeological remains; and to make recommendations regarding the mitigation or the conservation of these remains if they are to be affected by the construction of the proposed new security fence.

The Phase I AIA survey for the corridors for the proposed new security fence for the Bryntirion Estate revealed the following types and ranges of heritage resources in the Project Area, namely:

- Buildings, terrace walls and other constructed features along the western and southern corridor of the proposed new security fence which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence. However, these heritage resources falls outside the scope of this Phase I AIA (see 5.2).
- A mule road which is part of the Jonson Redoubt (blockhouse) on top of Meintjieskop which dates from the Second Anglo Boer War (1899-1902).
   These remains have relevance for this report which only focuses on the security fence's possible impact on archaeological resources (see 5.3).

Any buildings, terrace walls or features are part of the Bryntirion Estate's built-environment which has no bearing on the scope of this report. Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) deals with the built-environment and focuses on structures which are older than sixty years which may be affected by development activities. The Bryntirion Estate's built-environment and the way it may be affected by the construction of the new

security fence is addressed by professional architects who is working in close collaboration with the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) with regard to any buildings, structures or features which may be affected by the construction of the new security fence.

The proposed security fence's original alignment would have collided with the length of a mule road running up Meintjieskop to the Jonson Redoubt (a British blockhouse) located on the top of the ridge. However, the security fence was realigned and will now only impact on the eastern tip of this mule road.

The Jonson Redoubt was used in conjunction with other blockhouse such as East Ford (on Strubenskop) to protect the eastern entrance into Pretoria. Whilst most blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink, the Jonson Redoubt was built with stone. This implies that it took a long time to complete and that it was an expensive structure as most other blockhouses were constructed with corrugated zink at the time.

The Jonson Redoubt is still in a relative good condition. A prominent mule road that runs from ground level westwards along Meintjieskop is linked with this blockhouse further to the west and higher up Meintjieskop. This road was probably used by the British to transport ammunition and provisions to the blockhouse. A part of the mule road near ground level was destroyed when a reservoir and a pump house was constructed near the foot of Meintjieskop in the past.

The construction of the security fence will have an impact on the tip of the mule road not withstanding the fact that it has been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road be destroyed by the fence. The significance of this structure therefore has to be determined and emphasised.

The mule road has high significance when considering criteria such as the following:

- Mule roads associated with blockhouses are in most instances partly
  destroyed along the lower foot slopes of the Magaliesberg and the
  Witwatersberge as development activities along the lower feet of
  mountains are common. Short stretches of mule roads therefore mostly
  survived higher up these mountains.
- It is unlikely that any intact mule road associated with any particular blockhouse still exist.
- The mule road is part of the Johson Redoubt and its destruction would diminish the meaning and significance of both these two historical structures.
- The Joson Redoubt (and its associated mule road) is one of a few blockhouses that still exists and which are in a relative good state of preservation.
- The Jonson Redoubt and mule road is part of a historical context which includes Meintjieskop, the possible presence of early indigenous people on this randje, the development of Pretoria (Tshwane), the Second Anglo Boer War and the historical governmental Bryntirion Estate.
- The destruction of heritage resources within the perimeters of the Bryntirion Estate would reflect negatively on government whose highest members live in this estate and who represents the roots, history and heritage of South Africa.

The security fence has already been realigned in order to avoid that the total length of the mule road is destroyed when the security fence is constructed. However, this realignment will still destroy the tip of the mule road which has to make way for the fence.

The destruction of the tip of the mule road can only occur after the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (Gauteng PHRA) has issued a permit which would authorise the destruction of this part of the mule road.

The mule road must also be demarcated (e. g with cautionary tape) so that it can be avoided and subsequently be protected during the construction of the security fence. The unaffected existence of the mule road must be also monitored and regularly reported upon during meetings of the construction team.

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