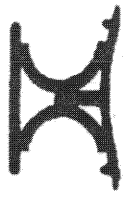


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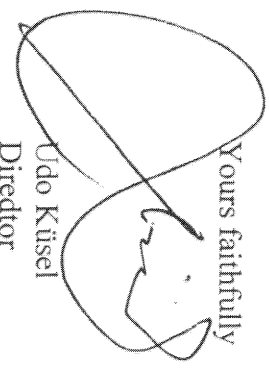
Dear Sir

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT OF NEW
POWERLINE AT TWICKENHAM SUBSTATION
STELLPOORT DISTRICT**

Attached please find the above report. As you will see from my recommendation the power line will have to be rerouted to avoid the archaeological site.

I hope you will find the report in order.

Yours faithfully



Udo Küsel
Direktor



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CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT OF 14.7 KM 132KV LINE FOR TWICKENHAM SUBSTATION PROJECT WTL 207

1. DEFINITION

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE ACT, Act. NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years
- Archaeological sites and objects
- Palaeontological sites
- Meteorites
- Ship wrecks
- Burial grounds
- Graves of victims of conflict
- Public monuments and memorials
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette
- Any other places or object which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance

- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

3. METHODOLOGY

The route of the proposed power line was visited and visually inspected with the surveyor of Eskom.

Dr. J. van Schalkwyk at the Northern Flagship Institute was visited, because he is at present excavating archaeological sites in the area. The report and recommendations were discussed with him. Material, which had been excavated in the area, was also inspected.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Route from the substation to bend (1).

This route runs through an area, which had been ploughed extensively over a long period and consists of a deep layer of clay soil. No archaeological material was found on this route.

4.2 Route from bend (2),(3) and (4)

The area consists of rocky granite outcrop forming a small hill. The area on the hill and east of the hill is densely populated. Many of the houses date back to the late 1940's and 1950's, but have been altered. Foundations of demolished houses are visible. The area contains the following important archaeological and historic phenomena.

4.2.1 Iron Age settlement.

The hill is part of a possible late Iron Age site associated with Sotho settlements. From the inspection of the hill it is clear that there was an older settlement under the present occupation level (see photograph 1).

4.2.2 Communal grinding stone.

At GIS localities S24.49374 E30.07310 and S24.49099 E30.07187 are two large granite rocks used as communal grinding stones. This practice is found throughout Sekhukhuni land. The individual grinding holes are deep, which indicate that these stones have been used over a long time, two hundred years or more. Communal grinding stones had the advantage that a group of women could gossip while grinding (see photograph 2).

4.2.3 Musical gong.

Musical gongs occur throughout Southern Africa, but are scarce. The musical gong consists of a stone or slab balanced on three or more stones on a large rock. The gong has a beautiful clear sound when struck with another stone. By striking the gong on different spots different notes can be produced. Through continuous use, the places for specific notes have been chipped away and are clearly visible on the gong. Musical gongs date back as far as the Stone Age period. This specific one probably dates back to the Iron Age. Dr J. van Schalkwyk has found a concentration of seven musical gongs near the site of the proposed Twickenham substation (see photograph 3).

4.2.4 Stone walls.

Stonewalls associated with Late Iron Age settlements occur throughout the rocky outcrop and hill. It is difficult to distinguish between original and later stone walls. The main concentration of stonewalls stretches from locality S24.49337 E 30.87303 to the main site at S24.48925 E 30.07093 (see photograph 4).

4.2.5 Buildings.

Though the line does not cross directly over a building there are a number of buildings near the proposed route. The settlement itself might be sixty years and older. Some of the buildings might fall within the jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) (see photograph 5).

4.3 Route from bend (4) to (5).

This area was used extensively for ploughing. No archaeological or historical material was found here. At bend (5) there are three paved areas, consisting of cobbled stones neatly placed one next to the other. What the functions of the paved areas were and when they were constructed are not known. The areas are 4 X 1 m. 5 X 1 m and 3 X 1 m large. The GIS locality is S24.48924 E30.06589 (see photograph 6).

4.4 Route from bend (5) to (6).

This route runs across grain fields and no archaeological or historical material was found.

4.5 Route from bend (6), (7) and (8).

This route runs partially across ploughed fields and partially through a settlement. A number of potshards and stone tools were found, but no site. The area has been altered over many years and the modern settlement could be on top of an older settlement.

4.6 Route from bend (9) to (10).
This area crosses ploughed fields. A few Stone Age flakes were found but no important site.

4.7 Route from bend (10 to (11).
The line runs along an existing power line and across old fields. These fields have not been used for a number of years. No sites were found on the route.

4.8 Route from bend (11), (12) and (13).
The power line crosses ploughed fields. No sites were found.

4.9 Route from bend (13) to (14).
This area has been used for settlement purposes. The mine had resettled the people and only foundations of their former homes are still visible. The area is rich in pottery, most of which dates from modern times. There is a possibility that there might be a much older settlement layer under the late settlement. Dr J van Schalkwyk, who works in the area, agrees with this premise.

4.10 Route from bend (14) to (15) at Twickenham substation.
Here the line crosses an eroded area with only a few stone tools visible. No sites exist along this route as the whole top layer had been eroded.

5. CONCLUSION

This part of Sekhukune land had been occupied by Pedi people especially during the 19th century. The capital at Mosega is some five kilometres from the proposed power line. It is obvious that the areas at the foothills of mountains would have been used for settlement, as deep clay soil is not good for building purposes.

Higher lying areas should be avoided as far as possible with the construction of the new power lines.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

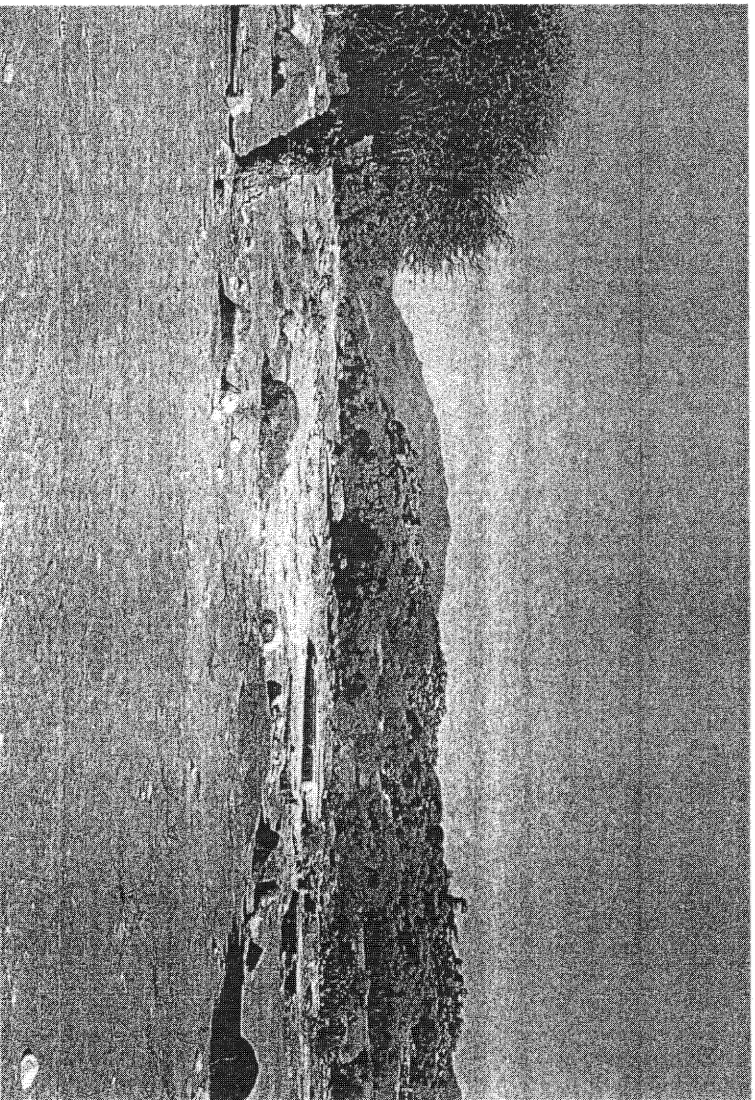
- a. The proposed new power line from bend (1) to (5) be rerouted because it runs through a historic and archaeological area. The new power line route should either follow the first proposed route or should run from the substation in a northwesterly direction south west of the archaeological site and join the new section between bend (5) and (6). I have provisionally inspected this route and it seems to be a safe option.

- b. If the new recommended route is surveyed, it will save time and money if an archaeologist could be present to avoid any sensitive areas.
- c. An archaeologist should be present during the construction of the lines between bend (13) and (14) to determine if possible archaeological material might be present in this area.

7. REFERENCES

- Bergh, J.S., *Geskiedenisallas van Suid Afrika*. Die vier noordelike provinsies 1999 kaart 4.6
- Wangeman, H.T. *Drawings of two mission journeys to South Africa*. National Cultural History Museum catalogue, 1992. Compiled by R. Botha, pp. 50-51.
- Van Schalkwyk, J.A., Archaeologist N.F.J Pretoria. Personal discussion.

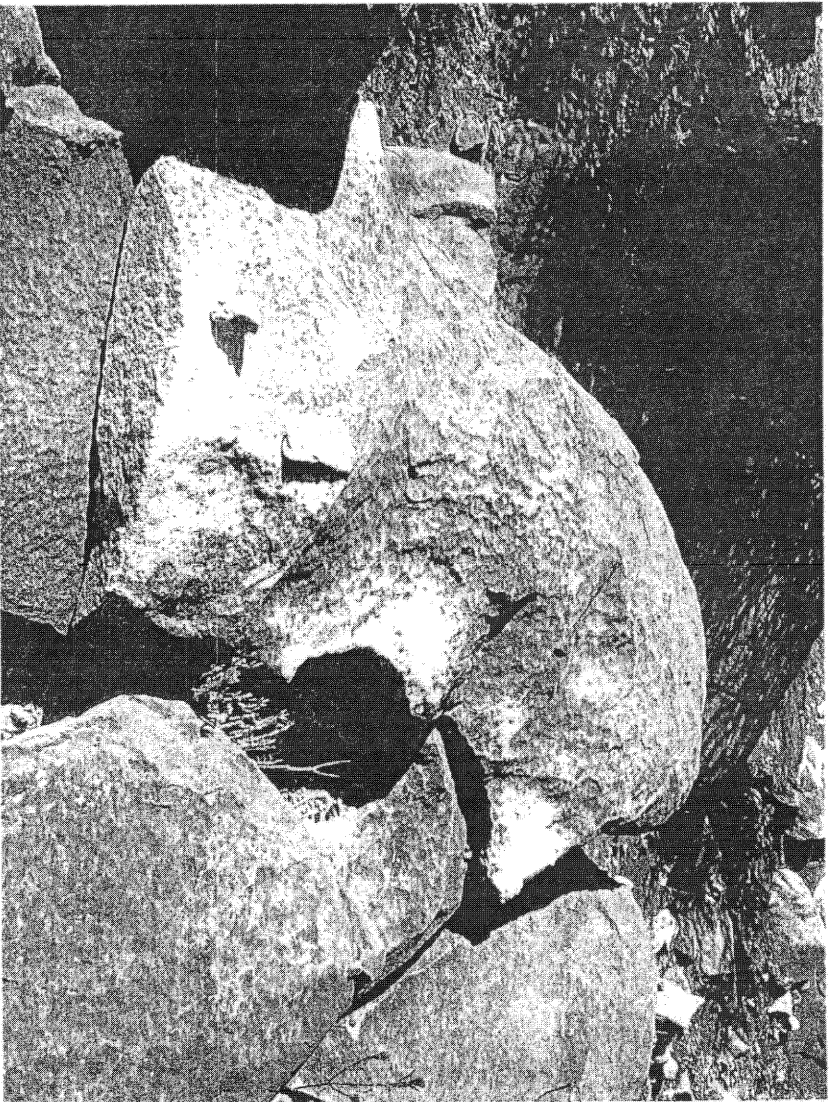
PHOTOGRAPH



No. 1 Main Iron Age site. In the background the foundations of a later building can be seen.



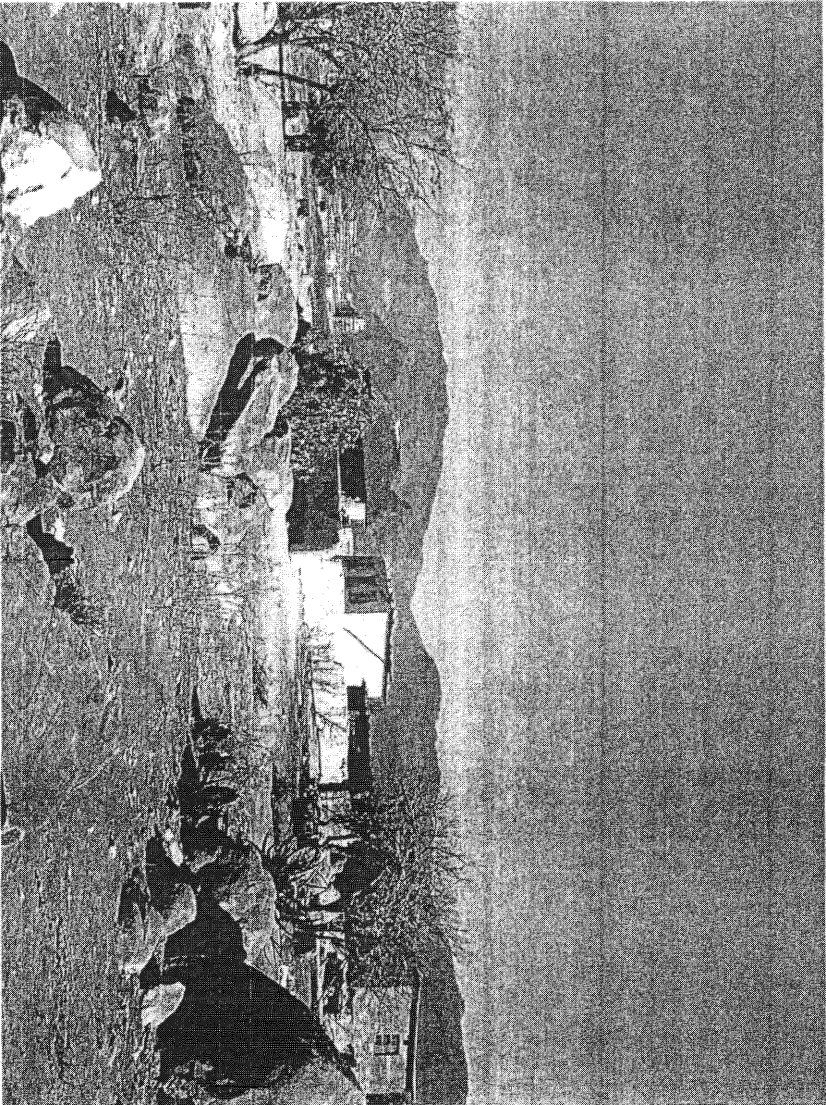
No. 2 A communal grinding stone with six depressions for grinding.



No. 3 Musical gong with depressions visible where the stone has been hit to produce musical notes.



No. 4 Late Iron Age stonewalls.



No. 5 One of the houses near the proposed power line route.



No. 6 One of the paved areas.