

9-2-269-0001-20010701-A1



ARCHAEO - info

Archaeological Contract Work and Tourism Development

* filed under:

LEVUVHU RIVER GOVERNMENT WATER SCHEME

**THE PROPOSED RESERVOIRS AND
BULK WATER PIPELINES, NORTHERN PROVINCE
NR 2, NR 5, NR 6 AND NR 7 RESERVOIRS
PIPELINES: NANDONI DAM TO THE EAST; NANDONI DAM
TO ALBASINI DAM AND ALBASINI
DAM TO VLEYFONTEIN**

**ZONE 2-MALAMULELE WATER SUPPLY SCHEME
ZONE 3- MALAMULELE WEST WATER SUPPLY SCHEME
ZONE 4- THOHOYANDOU WATER SUPPLY SCHEME**

**CONSOLIDATED
ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT**

JULY 2001

BACKGROUND

The contents of this report have been incorporated into the scoping report for the proposed reservoirs and bulk water pipelines for zones 2, 3 and 4 of the Levuvhu River Government Water Scheme.

This consolidated report was compiled in order to present, in one document, the Archaeological and Cultural aspects identified on the project for the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA).

The submission of this report together with the scoping report to SAHRA complies with the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act. No 25 of 1999.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. SITE DESCRIPTIONS..... | 2 |
| 1.1 XIKUNDU LOOP..... | 2 |
| 1.1.1 <i>XLP 001</i> | 2 |
| 1.2 NR6 AND NR7 RESERVOIRS LRWSS..... | 2 |
| 1.2.1 <i>NR6 Reservoir</i> | 2 |
| 1.2.2 <i>NR7 reservoir</i> | 3 |
| 1.3 EASTERN PIPELINES PART 1..... | 3 |
| 1.3.1 <i>NEP 001</i> | 4 |
| 1.3.2 <i>NEP 002</i> | 4 |
| 1.4 EASTERN PIPELINES PART 2..... | 5 |
| 1.4.1 <i>NEP 003</i> | 5 |
| 1.5 NR2 AND NR5 RESERVOIRS..... | 5 |
| 1.5.1 <i>NR2 reservoir</i> | 5 |
| 1.5.2 <i>NR5 reservoir</i> | 6 |
| 2. INTERPRETATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... | 6 |
| 2.1 XIKUNDU LOOP..... | 6 |
| 2.1.1 <i>XLP 001</i> | 6 |
| 2.2 NR6 AND NR7 RESERVOIRS LRWSS..... | 7 |
| 2.2.1 <i>NR7 Reservoir</i> | 7 |
| 2.3 EASTERN PIPELINE PART 1..... | 8 |
| 2.3.1 <i>NEP 001</i> | 8 |
| 2.3.2 <i>NEP 002</i> | 8 |
| 2.4 EASTERN PIPELINE PART 2..... | 8 |
| 2.4.1 <i>NEP 003</i> | 9 |
| 2.5 NR2 AND NR5 RESERVOIRS..... | 9 |
| 2.5.1 <i>NR2 reservoir</i> | 9 |
| 2.5.2 <i>NR5 reservoir</i> | 9 |

1. Site Descriptions

1.1 XIKUNDU LOOP

The results of the survey and the descriptions of the sites will be discussed in the following section. The sites were attributed a reference code that consisted of an abbreviation of the development (ie. Xikundu Loop Pipeline - XLP) and a numerical indicator. A GPS (Global Positioning System) co-ordinate was given for each site as well as a short description.

1.1.1 XLP 001 (Refer to fig 3a)

GPS 22° 50' 07" S

30° 51' 41" E

Description

A cluster of 12 graves, three with cemented dressings (1 headstone) and nine with oval packed stone dressings and some with wooden and plastic crosses on were found approximately 8 metres from the dirt road towards the village of Saselemani (photo 1). The graveyard belongs to the families Mahlanele and Marthanele and all the graves found within the graveyard will probably belong to one of these families. The formal tombstone found on one of the graves had the inscription "*Khombo Andrea Marthanele*". The graveyard is still being looked after which indicates that the family is most probably still living in the village of Saselemani or some other village in close proximity to the graveyard. Ceremonial sacrificial artefacts such as broken pots and other containers were also still present on the surface of the graves.

1.2 NR6 and NR7 Reservoirs LRGWSS (Refer to fig 3c)

1.2.1 NR6 Reservoir

The proposed site for the development of the NR6 reservoir lies within the *Musanda* of the local chief of the area. The construction of the existing reservoir

was performed without consulting the local inhabitants as to its placement. This approach has led to negative feelings under the local people as to the sensitivity of the construction team. A local informant (one of the wives of the local chief) indicated that there were several graves within the proposed area for construction. However, due to suspicion concerning our motives she was not willing to indicate their specific location without the chief being present. It is imperative that the social consultant on the project is involved with the locals and that they indicate to them exactly how the construction of the reservoir will be performed and that their needs will always be a priority.

There were also found a few stone terraces for agricultural purposes, on the southern side of the proposed hill (photo 1). These stone terraces however is not very old (approximately 30 years) and are not protected under the heritage resources act. Some recent potsherds were also found scattered around the area, these were all however of recent origin and they do not constitute an archaeological site.

1.2.2 NR7 reservoir (Refer to fig 3c)

As with the NR2 reservoir the proposed area for the NR7 reservoir was badly damaged by the construction of the existing reservoir (photo 2). Nothing of archaeological value was found. The area on the top of the hill where the existing reservoir is located was also investigated (photo 3) but nothing of cultural or archaeological value was found. From interviews with locals it was also clear that no graves were present in the study area.

1.2 EASTERN PIPELINES PART 1

All sites were discussed in the following section. Sites were attributed a reference code which consisted of an abbreviation (i.e. Nandoni Eastern Pipelines - NEP) and a numerical indicators which was attributed randomly. G.P.S. (Global

Positioning System) coordinates were given for each site as well as a short description.

1.3.1 NEP 001 (Refer to fig 3c)

G.P.S. 22° 58' 46" S

30° 36' 53" E

Description:

This site was situated approximately 700m south of the Luvuvhu river and approximately 20 m west of the Mutoti/Mavambe road. The site comprised of a series of stone wall enclosures forming an elongated complex on a ridge coming from the Mahebe river. The site measured approximately 30 m in width and 120 m in length. There is a possibility of graves in this area, but it was impossible to identify any due to the dense bush and lush grass.

This site was also identified and described by Mr. Hanisch in his P.A.I.A. for D.W.A.F. and it was referred to as Mut26. Mr. Hanisch did perform mitigationary work on Mut26, but to what extent this work was done, is still unknown because his report is still outstanding. Hanisch excavated a stone wall complex closer to the Mahebe river and his opinion was that it extended to the elongated site on top of the ridge. The permit for any excavations/alternations on Mut26 is still in Mr. Hanisch's name.

1.3.2 NEP 002 (Refer to fig 3c)

G.P.S. 23° 00' 20" S

30° 39' 02" E

Description:

Two graves were identified in Mavambe village north of the ridge where the proposed NR5 reservoir will be constructed. According to informants some of the stands in the village do have graves and there were more graves alongside the above-mentioned ridge. These graves, however, were not identified because the informants did not know to which family they belonged.

1.3 EASTERN PIPELINES PART 2

All sites were discussed in the following section. Sites were attributed a reference code which consisted of an abbreviation (i.e. Nandoni Eastern Pipelines - NEP) and a numerical indicators which was attributed randomly. G.P.S. (Global Positioning System) co-ordinates were given for each site as well as a short description. Sites NEP 001 & NEP 002 have already been discussed in the report titled "*Nandoni Eastern Pipelines - Part 1*".

1.4.1 NEP 003 (Refer to fig 3a)

GPS 22° 50' 07" S

30° 51' 41" E

Description

A cluster of 12 graves, three with cemented dressings (1 headstone) and nine with oval packed stone dressings and some with wooden and plastic crosses on were found approximately 8 metres from the dirt road towards the village of Saselemani. The graveyard belongs to the families Mahlanele and Marhanele and all the graves found within the graveyard will probably belong to one of these families. The formal tombstone found on one of the graves had the inscription "*Khombo Andrea Marhanele*". The graveyard is still being looked after which indicates that the family is most probably still living in the village of Saselemani or some other village in close proximity to the graveyard. Ceremonial sacrificial artefacts such as broken pots and other containers were also still present on the surface of the graves.

1.5 NR2 and NR5 reservoirs (Refer to fig 3c)

1.5.1 NR2 reservoir

The construction of the existing reservoirs and the development of the Malamulele Municipal grounds in the urban Malamulele area destroyed all

archaeological evidence (if any were present). Nothing of archaeological value was found.

1.5.2 NR5 reservoir (Refer to fig 3c)

As with the NR2 reservoir the proposed area for the NR5 reservoir was badly damaged by the construction of the existing reservoir. The footpath and road to the school also could have had an affect on the possible archaeological evidence, but nothing of archaeological value was found. From the interviews with locals it was also clear that no graves were present in the study area.

2. Interpretations and Recommendations

2.1 XIKUNDU LOOP

Recommendations will be given for each of the sites as outlined in the section on site descriptions. Interpretations will be provided where applicable. Each of the sites were attributed a category as described in the section on methodology and descriptions of the work to be performed will be given.

2.1.1 XLP 001

Category 6

The route indicated to AINP personnel closely followed the dirt road towards Saselemani on the eastern side. The western perimeter of the graveyard is approximately 5 metres from the area indicated for the pipeline route. It is recommended that the engineers on the project should indicate the graveyard on the maps used for construction and take note of its proximity to the construction area. Provided the construction does not come closer than the indicated 5 metres from the western perimeter of the graveyard (this includes any construction vehicles) the graveyard should not be in danger of damage. The construction of the pipeline should also not inhibit access to the graveyard by the concerned family during construction of the pipeline. It is also recommended that the social

consultant on the project should identify the family concerned and brief them beforehand on the nature and extent of the construction that will be performed. The social consultant should indicate to the family that the construction will in no way endanger their family graveyard and that they will still have access to the graveyard at all times.

2.2

NR6 AND NR7 RESERVOIRS LRGWSS

Through the involvement of the senior members of the village the location of the graves on the proposed site should be determined. These should then be plotted and if possible avoided by the construction. The graves are located approximately 70 metres southeast from the existing reservoir in thick grass growth, although their specific location is still unknown. A dense growth of older trees and scrubs to the east of the existing reservoir indicates the Tsiendenu (royal graveyard) of the local chief. This graveyard is approximately 80 metres from the existing reservoir on a east, southeast heading. Particular care should be taken in the handling of the Tsiendenu as it is of great cultural and social importance to the local people.

From an archaeological point of view it is recommended that the reservoir be placed as far from the graves and the Tsiendenu as possible. This will mitigate any unnecessary clashes with the local authorities as well as any negative feeling about the reservoir. For the rest there are no sites of any archaeological value on the proposed site.

2.2.1 NR7 Reservoir

Nothing of archaeological value was found and no further archaeological work is recommended.

2.3 EASTERN PIPELINE PART 1

Recommendations were given for each of the sites as outlined in the site descriptions. Each of the sites were attributed a category as described in the section on methodology and descriptions of the work to be done were given.

2.3.1 NEP 001

Category 5

The proposed pipeline will most probably miss the stone wall complex situated on the ridge. If this is not possible, Archaeo-Info should be contacted to make arrangements with Mr. Hanisch as this site falls within the parameters of his permit as issued by the National Monuments Council (N.M.C). These arrangements will entail a discussion on the site, enquire from Mr. Hanisch what mitigationary work was completed and a decision on how to handle the site within the requirements of the N.M.C.

2.3.2 NEP 002

Category 6

The handling of graves is the same as in the other projects of the Luvuvhu River Government Water Scheme. The graves should be marked with "danger tape". If graves are in the way of the proposed pipelines, it is recommended that the route of the pipeline should be adjusted to pass these graves. If it is not possible, arrangements should be made to move the graves according to the Grave Policy as approved by the Project Steering Committee and subject to the stipulations of the National Legislation.

2.4 EASTERN PIPELINE PART 2

Recommendations were given for each of the sites as outlined in the site descriptions. Each of the sites were attributed a category as described in the section on methodology and descriptions of the work to be done were given.

2.4.1 NEP 003**Category 6**

The route indicated to AINP personnel closely followed the dirt road towards Saselemani on the eastern side. The western perimeter of the graveyard is approximately 5 metres from the area indicated for the pipeline route. It is recommended that the engineers on the project should indicate the graveyard on the maps used for construction and take note of its proximity to the construction area. Provided the construction does not come closer than the indicated 5 metres from the western perimeter of the graveyard (this includes any construction vehicles) the graveyard should not be in danger of damage. The construction of the pipeline should also not inhibit access to the graveyard by the concerned family during construction of the pipeline. It is also recommended that the social consultant on the project should identify the family concerned and brief them beforehand on the nature and extent of the construction that will be performed. The social consultant should indicate to the family that the construction will in no way endanger their family graveyard and that they will still have access to the graveyard at all times.

2.5 NR2 and NR5 reservoirs**2.5.1 NR2 reservoir**

Nothing of archaeological value was found and no further archaeological work is recommended.

2.5.2 NR5 reservoir

Nothing of archaeological value was found and no further archaeological work is recommended.

ADDENDUM A

Consolidated table of areas and archaeological sites

| Site, pipeline name | Amount of sites | Category of site |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Xikundu loop | 1 | 6 |
| NR 6 Reservoir | 1 | 6 |
| NR 7 Reservoir | 0 | - |
| Eastern pipeline part 1 | 2 | 5 & 6 |
| Eastern pipeline part 2 | 1 | 6 |
| NR 2 Reservoir | 0 | - |
| NR 5 Reservoir | 0 | - |

LEGEND

- SUPPLY ZONES, NAMED AS SHOWN
- COMMUNITIES, NAMED AS SHOWN
- EXISTING PUMPING MAIN
- EXISTING GRAVITY LINE
- PROPOSED GRAVITY LINE
- PROPOSED PUMPING MAIN
- PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT WORKS, NAMED AS SHOWN
- EXISTING WATER TREATMENT WORKS, NAMED AS SHOWN
- PROPOSED RESERVOIR, NAMED AS SHOWN WITH CAPACITY AND FULL SUPPLY LEVEL
- EXISTING RESERVOIR
- PROPOSED VILLAGE RESERVOIR
- PROPOSED PUMP STATION
- EXISTING PUMP STATION
- EXISTING WEIR
- EXISTING WEIR
- EXISTING WEIR
- FLOW DIRECTION

KEY TO DRAWING SEQUENCE



