

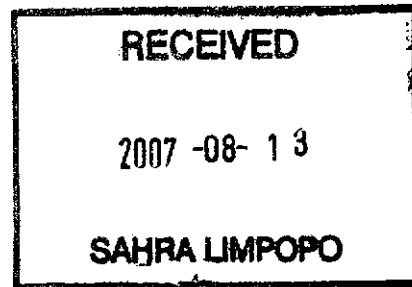
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Heritage Impact Assessment

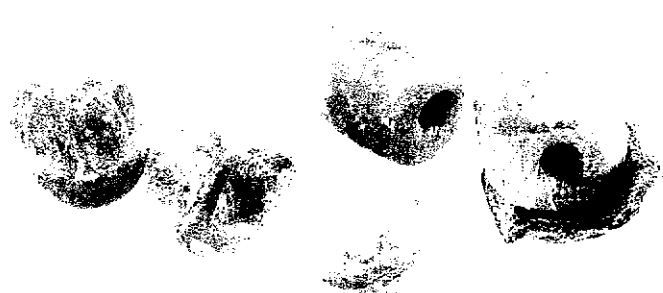
Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed
Malamulele shopping complex and high school,
Malamulele area, Limpopo Province.



PREPARED BY:
Archaeo-Info Northern Province

PREPARED FOR:
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August 07



Credit Sheet

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Disclaimer; Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the investigation of study areas, it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study. AINP and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result of such oversights.

SIGNED OFF BY: MATHOHO N. ERIC



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Management Summary

Site name and location: Malamulele shopping complex and high school Development at Malamulele area in the Limpopo Province

Magisterial district: Vhembe District Municipality

Developer: Masingita Group of developers

Consultant: AINP, PO Box 7296, Thohoyandou, 0950, South Africa

Date development was mooted: April 2007.

Date of Report: 03August 2007.

Proposed date of commencement of development: October 2007.

Findings:

No site-specific actions or any further heritage mitigation measures are recommended as no heritage resource sites or finds of any value or significance were identified in the indicated study area. The proposed development of the Malamulele shopping complex and High School in the area of Malamulele can continue from a heritage point of view.

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Heritage Impact Assessment

Shopping centre and Malamulele high school. Malamulele area, Vhembe district, in the Limpopo province.

Introduction

Archaeo-Info Northern Province (AINP) was contracted by PP Environmental consultants to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) on the proposed development of a shopping centre and Malamulele high School in the Malamulele area, under Thulamela local municipality, in the Limpopo Province.

This HIA forms part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as required by chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) 107 of 1998, the Minerals & Petroleum Resources Development Act, 28 of 2002 and the Development Facilitation Act (DFA), 67 of 1995. The HIA is performed in accordance with section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), 25 of 1999 and is intended for submission to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

Qualified personnel from AINP conducted the assessment. The team comprised a Principal Investigator with a minimum of an Honours degree in an applicable science as well as at least five years of field experience in heritage management assisted by a fieldworker with at least a BA degree in an applicable science. All of our employees are also registered members of the Association of South African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA).

A member of AINP performed the assessment on 03 August 2007

The extent of the proposed development sites was determined as well as the extent of the areas to be affected by secondary activities (access route) during the development. The sites were plotted using a Global Positioning System (GPS) and photographed digitally. The sites were surveyed on foot.

All results will be relayed in this report, firstly outlining the methodology used and then the results and recommendations for the identified resources.

Proposed Project

Masingita group of developers has proposed to develop and construct a shopping complex at the current existing Malamulele high school site. The proposed project entails dismantling of the existing malamulele high school and at its current site construction of a shopping complex and the new Malamulele high school will be constructed at its new site eastern side of Malamulele (CBD). The project entail the development of a shopping complex and on the new site the proposed development will entail construction of several blocks of class rooms, ablution blocks, admin blocks and the linking access road. The purpose of this study was to determine if the proposed areas was suitable for the development of a shopping area and a high school from a heritage point of view.

After researching the National Archive records as well as the SAHRA records it was determined that no previous archaeological or historical studies have been performed in the demarcated study area.

The project was tabled during September 2007 and the developer intends to commence construction as soon as possible after receipt of the ROD from the Department of Environmental Affairs

Project Area

Proposed area for the shopping complex (existing Malamulele high school)

Site co-ordinates

22° 59' 59" 25 S

30° 41' 33" 71 E

Proposed area for Malamulele high school (new site co-ordinates)

22° 59' 47" 40 S

30° 42' 14" 59 E

The proposed area for the development of a shopping centre is the current site occupied by Malamulele high school and is located inside Malamulele town on the right hand side of the only main access road through Malamulele CBD. The other proposed area is situated east of Malamulele town and is characterised by a plain open area currently used as subsistence agricultural ploughed field with existing soccer field. The proposed site falls under Vhembe district municipality in the Limpopo Province. Good cloudy weather conditions were experienced during the field investigations.

Methodology

Inventory

The area was surveyed using standard archaeological surveying methods. The area was surveyed using directional parameters supplied by the GPS and surveyed by foot. This technique has proven to result in the maximum coverage of an area.

Standard archaeological documentation formats were employed in the description of sites. Using standard site documentation forms as comparable medium, it enabled the surveyors to evaluate the relative importance of sites found. Furthermore GPS (Global Positioning System) readings of all finds and sites were taken. This information was then plotted using a *eTrex Legend* GPS (WGS 84- datum).

Indicators such as surface find, plant growth anomalies, local information and topography were used in identifying sites of possible archaeological importance. Test probes were done at intervals to determine sub-surface occurrence of archaeological material. The importance of sites was assessed by comparisons with published information as well as comparative collections. All sites or possible sites found were classified using a hierarchical system wherein sites are assessed using a scale of zero to four according to their importance. These categories are as follows;

Degree of significance	Justification	Score
Exceptional significance	Rare or outstanding, high degree of intactness. Can be interpreted easily.	4
High significance	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	3
Moderate significance	Altered or modified elements. Element with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance.	2
Little significance	Alterations detract from significance. One of many. Alterations detract from significance.	1
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	0

Table 1. Site significance

Site Evaluation

The following information was accessed in the evaluation of possible sites. Evaluative testing, surface collecting, direct consultation and documentary research. In the event of a site being identified the testing procedure will include unit sampling or selection, test frequencies, unit dimensions, mapping, recording and data recovery. Surface collection will encompass sampling design, recording and the process of collection.

The sites will be evaluated as to their significance according to their ranking in the significance table listed above. Where necessary, professional expertise will be sought.

The investigation of sites for heritage components should not only look at the material remains that are found on sites, but there should also be looked at the intangible aspects of cultural importance for the local communities. Furthermore there should also be looked at the possibility of culturally important areas being found in the study area. These could include graves, places of power or initiation schools and any other area that is seen as culturally sensitive to the local communities.

Resource Inventory

This section will contain the results of the heritage site inventory. Any identified sites will be indicated on the accompanying map plotted using the Arc View Geographic Information System (GIS).

Proposed shopping centre and Malamulele high school

There is no evidence of prehistoric activities or heritage related features or finds noticed, structures, middens or any other remains identified. After intensive investigations, no sites or finds of any heritage potential identified. The proposed site for shopping complex is predominately utilised as high school and the new demarcated site for new school is currently a subsistence ploughed fields.

Resource Evaluation

Proposed shopping centre and Malamulele high school

No heritage resources, or remains of any heritage resource, were identified within the indicated study area.

Impact Identification and Assessment

Proposed shopping centre and Malamulele high school

No impacts on cultural resources are anticipated as no resources were identified in the study area.

Resource Management Recommendation

Proposed shopping centre and Malamulele high school

The site proposed for the development of a shopping complex and high school is located within and on the eastern side of Malamulele town, in the Limpopo Province and there was no evidence of prehistoric activities identified in the indicated study area.

- No site-specific actions or any further heritage mitigation measures are recommended as no heritage resource sites or finds of any value or significance were identified in the indicated study area.
- The proposed development of a proposed shopping complex and a high school in this area can continue from a heritage point of view.

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APPENDIX A

PHOTOGRAPHS

MALAMULELE HIGH SCHOOL, MALAMULELE SHOPPING COMPLEX AND HIGH SCHOOL.



Photo 1. This existing school will be dismantled and a new shopping complex will be constructed in the area.



Photo 2. View of the school from the eastern side.

MALAMULELE HIGH SCHOOL
MAMULELE SHOPPING COMPLEX AND HIGH SCHOOL.



Photo 3. The proposed area is characterised by subsistence ploughing fields.



Photo 4. View of the proposed new site where new Malamulele high school would be constructed.

MALAMULELE HIGH SCHOOL
MAMULELE SHOPPING COMPLEX AND HIGH SCHOOL.

APPENDIX B

Location Map

MALAMULELE HIGH SCHOOL, MALAMULELE SHOPPING COMPLEX AND HIGH SCHOOL.

