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Our Ref/Ons Verw

Your Ref/U Verw

Contact/Kontak

Date/Datum

2006KH103

28 August 2006

Mr D Nel
P O Box 383
Thabazimbi
0380

Dear Mr Nel

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PORTION 6 AAPIESKRAAL

As requested, we have investigated the site for the proposed development on Portion 6 of the farm Aapieskraal 337KQ, in the Thabazimbi district of Limpopo Province. The site is located approximately 20 kilometres southeast of the town of Thabazimbi, on both sides of the R511, which is the main road between Brits and Thabazimbi. It centres around the following coordinates: S 24.79352; E 27.45509 (see Fig. 1).

The scope of work consisted of conducting a Phase 1 archaeological survey of the site in accordance with the requirements of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). This included:

- Conducting a desk-top investigation of the area;
- A visit to the proposed development site.

The objectives were to

- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development areas;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance.

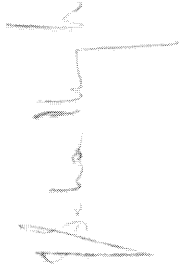
The geology is made up of granite, overlain by turf soil and the original vegetation is classified as Mixed Bushveld. Sections of this have been changed due to agricultural activities, especially in the vicinity of the river. Other sections are used as grazing for cattle. The area is very flat and no features (e.g. hills or rock shelters) that usually drew people to settle in its vicinity, occurs in the study area. No settlement too place near the river as it usually floods the plains on both sides of the river, making settlement in this area impossible.

NORTHERN FLAGSHIP INSTITUTION/NOORDELIKE VLASKIPINSTELLING INCORPORATING/GEINKORPOREER

National Cultural History Museum/Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese Museum
Transvaal Museum
National Museum of Military History/Nasionale Museum vir Militêre Geskiedenis
Pioneer/Pionier Museum - Kruger Museum - Tswaing Crater/Krater Museum - Sammy Marks Museum -
Willem Prinsloo Agricultural/Landbou Museum

We have found no obvious features, sites or artefacts of cultural significance that would be impacted on by the proposed development. We therefore recommend, from a heritage point of view, that the proposed development can continue and request that if archaeological sites or graves are exposed during construction work, it should immediately be reported to a museum, preferably one at which an archaeologist is available, so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J van Schalkwyk', written in a cursive style.

J van Schalkwyk
Principal Investigator

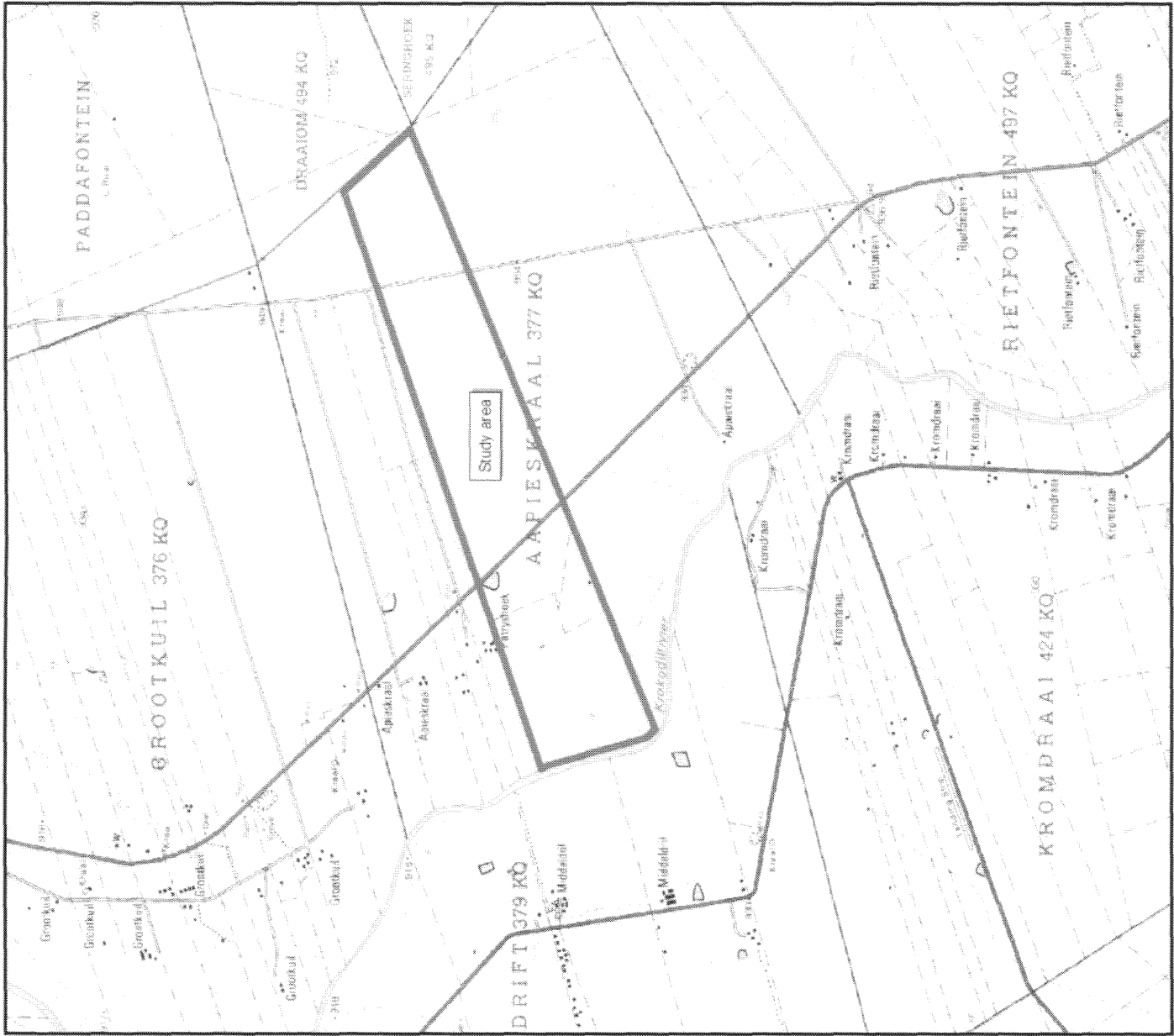


Figure 1. Showing the location of the study area. (Map, courtesy of the Government Printer.)