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**FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE  
ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED BORROW PIT SITES ALONG  
THE N1 MAIN ROAD BETWEEN GARIEPDAM &  
SPRINGFONTEIN, FREE STATE**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Four borrow pits and two climbing lanes were investigated along the N1 main road between Gariepdam and Springfontein, Free State.

The quarries will be extensions of existing borrow pits and contain no cultural or historic material.

I recommend that the proposed developments and planning of the sites may proceed.

**INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION**

**INVESTIGATION**

Four borrow pit sites and two climbing lanes earmarked for the upgrading of the N1 main road between Gariep Dam and Springfontein, were visited on 25 October 2006. Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants took me to the sites.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical material and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

## LOCALITY

Four borrow pits and two climbing lanes were investigated on the N1 main road between Gariep Dam and Springfontein, Free State (Map 1).

GPS coordinates (Cape scale) are given below:

**BP 1** is located near the Donkerpoort railway station at Km12 on the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein (Map 2). The site contains an existing quarry with boulders and sandy soil (Fig.1&2).

30°31'29"S 025°31'48"E Altitude 1358m.

**BP 2 & BP 2.2** Two existing borrow pits at Km24W on the farm Boschrand (Map 3) along the N1 main road between Gariep Dam and Springfontein. The borrow pits are being dug into an elaborate dolerite dyke (Figs.3&4).

30°23'36"S 025°38'25"E Altitude 1471m.

30°23'33"S 025°38'19"E Altitude 1472m.

**BP3** is located at Km 25.8E on the farm Boschrand (Map 4) along the N1. The site consist of an existing borrow pit (Fig.5).

30°26'36"S 025°37'19"E Altitude 1407m.

Km 36,3 Cutting (Fig.6)

30°24'01"S 025°40'17"E Altitude 1470m.

**BP4** is located at Km 36.5W on the farm Elstow along the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein. The quarry consists of an existing borrow pit (Map 5). The area has a sparse grass cover on red sandy soil with fine mountain gravel (Fig.7).

30°31'29"S 025°31'48"E Altitude 1358m.

Km 39,0 Cutting (Figs.8&9).

30°20'42"S 025°41'39"E Altitude 1486m.

**RESULTS**

No stone flakes or any other cultural or historical material was found at the site.

**IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The proposed developments along the N1 will have no effect on any cultural or historical material.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the borrow pits and I recommend that the work may proceed.

**MITIGATION**

Concerning the areas for the proposed developments, mitigation measures will not be required.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I thank Dr Johan du Preez from MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for taking me to the site.

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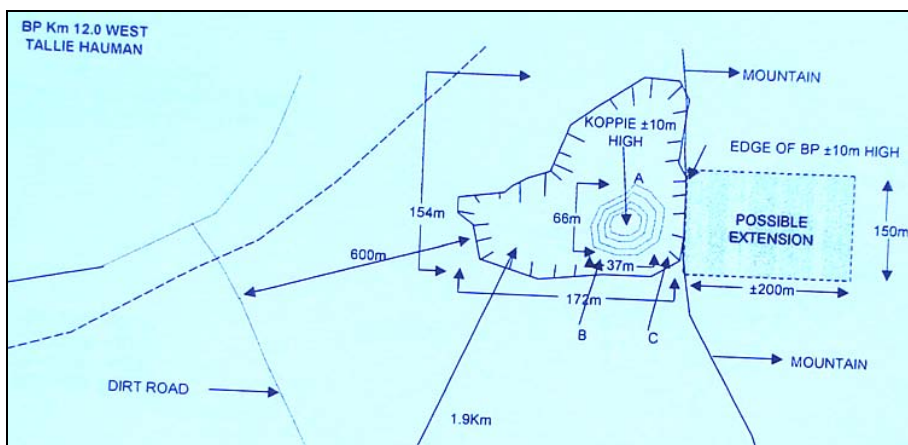
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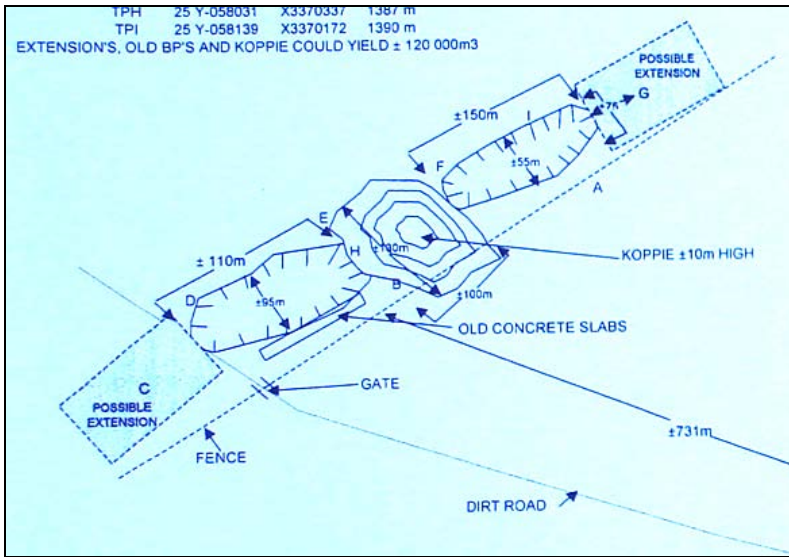
## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



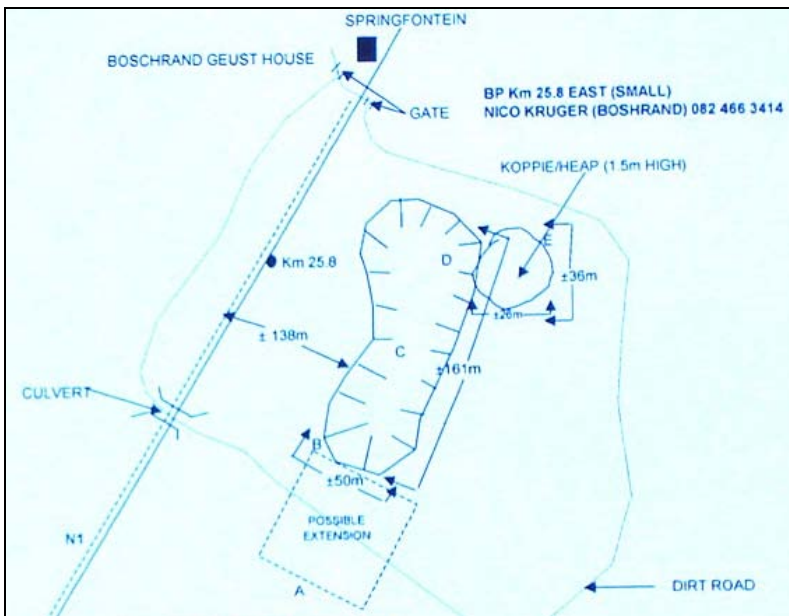
Map 1 The N1 main road between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.



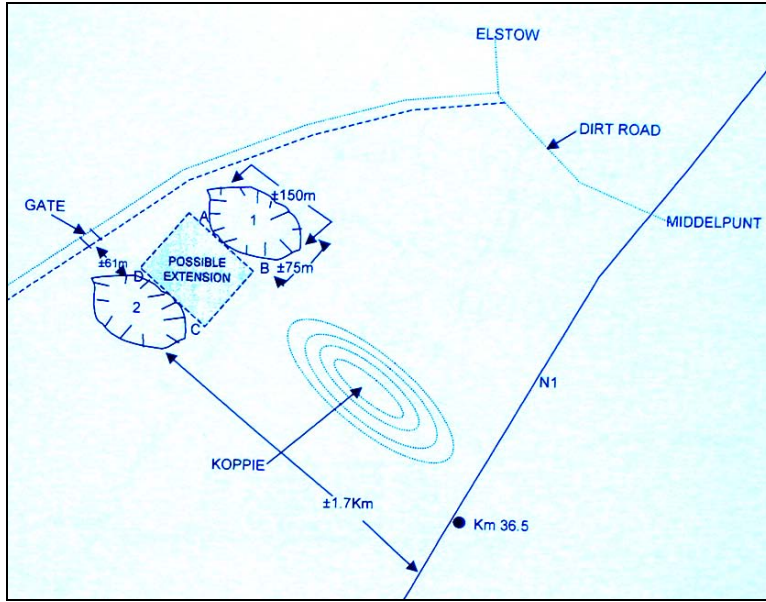
Map 2 Layout of BP1 at Km 12.0W along the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.



Map 3 Layout of BP2 & BP2.2 at Km 24.0W Boschrاند.



Map 4 Layout of BP3 at Km 25.8E Boschrاند.



Map 5 Layout of BP4 at Km 36.5W Elstow.



Fig.1 BP1 at Km 12.0W on the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.





Fig.2 BP1 at Km 12.0W on the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.



Fig.3 Existing borrow pit BP2 at Km 24.0W on the farm Boschrand.





Fig.4 Existing borrow pit BP2.2 at Km 24.0W at the farm Boschrand.



Fig.5 Existing borrow pit BP3 at Km 26.8W at the farm Boschrand.



Fig.6 Road cutting at Km 36,3 on the N1 from Gariep Dam to Springfontein.



Fig.7 Existing borrow pit BP4 at Km 36.5W on the farm Elstow.



Fig.8 Road cutting at Km 39,0 on the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.



Fig.9 Road cutting at Km 39,0 on the N1 between Gariep Dam and Springfontein.