



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural  
Resource Consultants  
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**A REPORT ON THE HERITAGE ASSESSMENT RELATED TO THE BEESHOEK  
MINE VILLAGE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

For:

***Assmang Beeshoek Mine***

**REPORT: AE1185**

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## SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was appointed by the Assmang Beeshoek Mine to conduct a heritage assessment of the mine village at the Beeshoek Mine. This is at Beeshoek in the Northern Cape Province.

The mine is planning to open a new opencast pit, which will include the area where the village is situated. Most of the village will therefore have to be demolished. The aim of the study therefore was to assess the different buildings in the village and to propose mitigation measures in this regard.

Most of the buildings relate to the period after 1960-1970 and therefore have no particular heritage value. Some of the buildings however date back to the 1930's and therefore may be of heritage value. Many of these have been changed through the years resulting in a loss of heritage significance. A few buildings dating from the 1930's therefore do have heritage significance. The report indicates appropriate measures for the preservation of some of these. This includes mitigation measures.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

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## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The terms of reference for the study were to:

1. Do a heritage assessment according to generally accepted HIA practices endorsed by SAHRA and ASAPA.
2. Identify all buildings and structures of heritage significance (cultural heritage sites) located on the property (see Appendix A).
3. Assess the significance of the buildings in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B).
4. Documenting heritage buildings by photographs.
5. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources.
6. Review applicable legislative requirements.

## **3. CONDITIONS & ASSUMPTIONS**

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity (Appendix A). These include all sites, structures and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development. Graves and cemeteries are included in this.
2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. The various aspects are

not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these aspects.

3. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix B).
4. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation.

#### **4. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

##### **4.1 The National Heritage Resources Act**

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

The national estate (see Appendix D) includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m<sup>2</sup> or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m<sup>2</sup>
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

### **Structures**

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

### **Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites**

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

### **Human remains**

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- b. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)**.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

## **4.2 The National Environmental Management Act**

This act (Act 107 of 1998) states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made.



Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

## **5. METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Survey of literature**

A survey of literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

### **5.2 Field assessment**

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at assessing all buildings and structures of cultural significance in the area of proposed development.

### **5.3 Documentation**

All buildings and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the heritage profession.

### **5.4 Evaluation of Heritage buildings**

The evaluation of heritage buildings is done by using the following criteria:

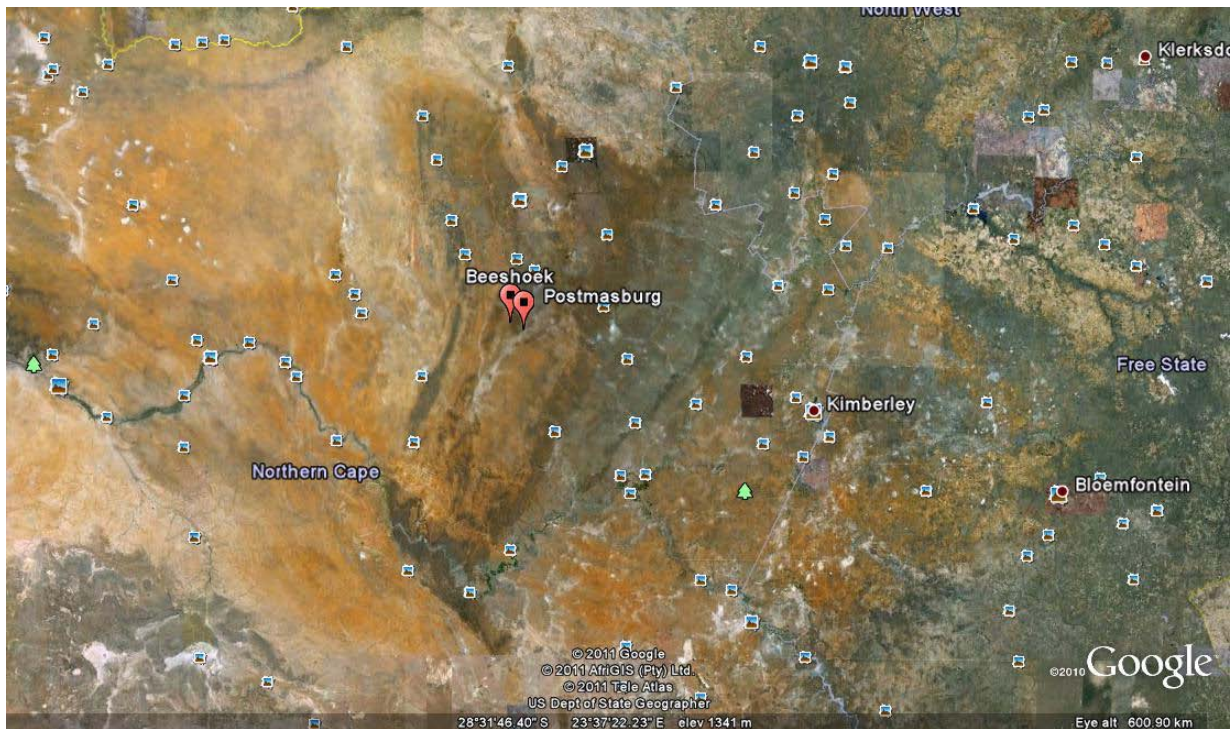
- The unique nature of a building
- The integrity of the buildings
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context
- The location of the buildings in relation to other buildings
- The preservation condition of the buildings
- Uniqueness of the buildings

## **6. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA**

The Assmang Beeshoek Mine is situated close to the town of Postmasburg. This is in the Northern Cape Province (Figure 1-3).

The Beeshoek village consists of two sections. The one lies to the south-west of the R385 road and dates to the era after 1970. Subsequently this section was not investigated. The second section lies to the north-east of the R385 road and was investigated. It consists of more than 80 buildings (Figure 4). These mostly date back to two different periods in time. Firstly buildings built from 1929 to the 1930's and secondly buildings erected during and after the 1970's.

The first mentioned relates back to the beginning of the mine. The latter are linked to a period of extension of the mine and its activities.



**Figure 1** Google image indicating the location of Beeshoek in the Northern Cape.



**Figure 2** Google image indicating the location of Beeshoek in relation to Postmasburg.



**Figure 3** Google image of the Beeshoek village. The area investigated lies between the road and the railway line.



**Figure 4** Plan of the investigated part of the Beeshoek Mine Village.

## **7. DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 The Postmasburg Manganese Fields and the Beeshoek Mine**

The Griqua town of Blinkklip was established in 1882. It originally was a mission station. In 1892 it was renamed Postmasburg and became the centre of a magisterial district (Snyman 2000: 6). Another town, Olifantshoek, was established in the 1880s. The region remained sparsely populated until the advent of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, when cattle farming became popular (De Jong 2010: 36). The farm Beesthoek was measured out in 1882, and the first owner was one Thomas Green (Snyman 2000: 6).

Prospecting started in the Postmasburg area during 1882 and manganese was discovered here during 1886 (Snyman 2000: 6, 13). Henry George Brown, who was commissioned in 1888 by the government of British Bechuanaland to erect the first government buildings in Kuruman, became interested in the iron ores that were known from the Klipfontein Hills. While prospecting there in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, he became the first person to identify manganese in what is today known as the Eastern Belt of the Postmasburg Manganese Field.

Captain Thomas Shone, who arrived in Postmasburg in 1919 to join the diggers following the discovery of diamonds at the town, discovered the manganese ores in the Western Belt during 1922-1924 (De Jong 2010: 38).

In 1925 Shone and partners founded the Union Manganese Mines and Minerals Limited in order to secure mineral rights and exploit the ores. Prior to the discoveries by Brown and Shone, manganese was only mined in South Africa on a very small scale west of the present town of Magaliesburg and in the Western Cape. In 1926, Guido Sacco bought the farm and formed The Gloucester Manganese Mines (Postmasburg) Limited. The land was held for future development, as reasonable transportation facilities were not available at that time (De Jong 2010: 38; Snyman 2000: 20).

Following the founding of their manganese mining company, Shone and his partners attempted to entice overseas investments but met with little success, because too little was known about the economic viability of the deposits. The government then sent Dr AL Hall of the Geological Survey to conduct a detailed geological survey of the Postmasburg manganese deposits (Figure 5). He was the first person to map them along the entire length of the Gamagara Hills and to classify them scientifically as ferruginous manganese ores that were suited for the production of low-grade ferromanganese. His report (1926) was optimistic about the viability of the deposits but stated that lack of proper transport facilities would be a concern (De Jong 2010: 39; Snyman 2000: 21-23).

Shone's company established small prospect workings all along the Gamagara Hills on farms such as Beeshoek, Paling, Doornfontein and Magoloring. In 1926 a Postmasburg attorney, AJ Bester, started taking up options on the farms in the Klipfontein Hills and established a second mining company, South African Manganese Limited, the forerunner of SAMANCOR. Two years later Guido Sacco formed a third company, Gloucester Manganese Mines (Postmasburg) Limited. The land was held for future development, as reasonable transportation facilities were not available at that time (De Jong 2010: 39; Snyman 2000: 24).

The presence of manganese deposits in the Klipfontein Hills and observations made from prospecting trenches showed that the manganese ore bodies in the Western Belt were perhaps more irregular in shape than predicted by Hall. This resulted in the Geological Survey commissioning Dr Louis Nel to undertake a second survey in 1927-1929 to map the entire manganese field in detail. His results, published in 1929, laid the foundation for much of the present-day knowledge of the geology of the Postmasburg manganese field (De Jong 2010: 39; Snyman 2000: 24-25).

Mining by Union Manganese and South African Manganese started in earnest in 1927 in the Postmasburg field. Lack of proper transport facilities and the application of obsolete mining methods (everything was done by hand on a small scale) hampered progress. Manganese ores were collected from the open pits through a system of coco-pans and loaded on wagons

(later trucks) that went to the Koopmansfontein railway station, about 100 km away (De Jong 2010: 40).

The situation showed promises of being improved when the British Swiss International Corporation Limited provided capital for the construction of a railway line from Koopmansfontein to Postmasburg and Beeshoek in return for certain manganese mineral rights. A new joint company, The Manganese Corporation Limited, was formed and an agreement reached with the Minister of Railways and Harbours. The extended line to Beeshoek was opened in June 1930 and development of the ore bodies at Beeshoek, Doornfontein and Paling could take place. For this purpose a narrow-gauge railway line was laid (De Jong 2010: 40; Snyman 2000: 29, 36).



Figure 5 The Postmasburg manganese fields (Snyman 2000: 22).

However, the September 1929 crash on the New York Stock Exchange, followed by the Great Depression, brought all manganese mining operations to a halt, rendering the newly constructed Koopmansfontein / Beeshoek railway line dormant (De Jong 2010: 41). Mining at Beeshoek almost ceased during this time. However, during 1932 production increased again (Snyman 2000: 39-41).

May 1930 saw the launch of Ore & Metal Company Limited to import and export mineral concentrates, including manganese. The African Mining and Trust Company Limited were formed in December 1931 to acquire mineral rights and explore mineral deposits. In exchange for shares in African Mining and Trust, the founders transferred their entire Ore & Metal shareholding to the new company, while Guido Sacco transferred his Gloucester Manganese Mines shares. Thus, Ore & Metal and Gloucester Manganese Mines became subsidiaries of African Mining and Trust, now a wholly owned subsidiary of Assore Limited (previously The Associated Ore & Metal Corporation Limited), which was formed in 1950 (De Jong 2010: 41; Snyman 2000: 40).

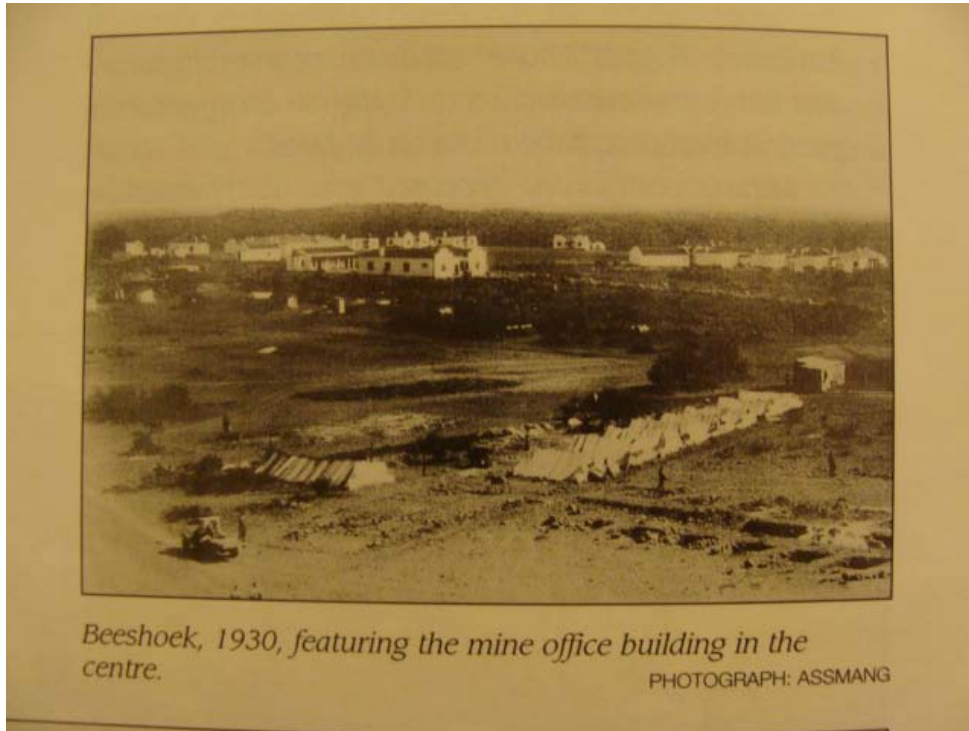
During 1934 the South African Railways re-opened the railway line and extended it to Gloucester. In 1935 The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited ("Assmang") was formed. Anglovaal acquired all the mineral leases of the Manganese Corporation and these were ceded to Assmang, as were the shares of the Gloucester Manganese Mines Limited held by African Mining and Trust in exchange for shares in Assmang. The first shipment of manganese ore left Durban harbour in March 1936 and other shipments continued uninterruptedly (De Jong 2010: 41; Snyman 2000: 46-47).

The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited changed its name to Assmang on 30 May 2001. It was reorganised into three divisions: Manganese, Chrome and Iron Ore (De Jong 2010: 41).

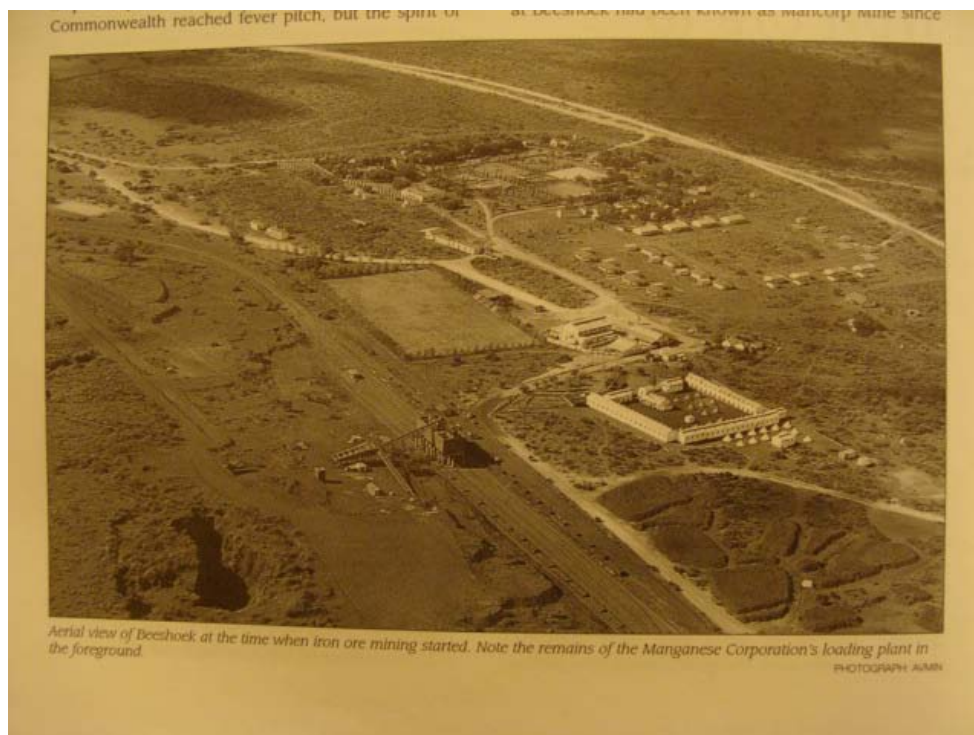
When the Beeshoek mine started in 1929, there were no houses on the property. The first six houses here were completed in 1930. A photograph from this time also shows the mine office building and tents (Figure 6). A guest house was also opened during this year. During 1930 a loading plant and crusher were also added to the mine infrastructure. During 1931 a compound was also erected for the black workers on the mine (Snyman 2000: 32-35).

Most of the buildings in the village were only erected thirty years later (Figure 7). This was after iron ore became important in the Northern Cape. The developments here had come so quickly that it was mostly pre-fabricated buildings (Snyman 2000: 35, 118, 121). During the 1980's more developments took place (Figure 8).

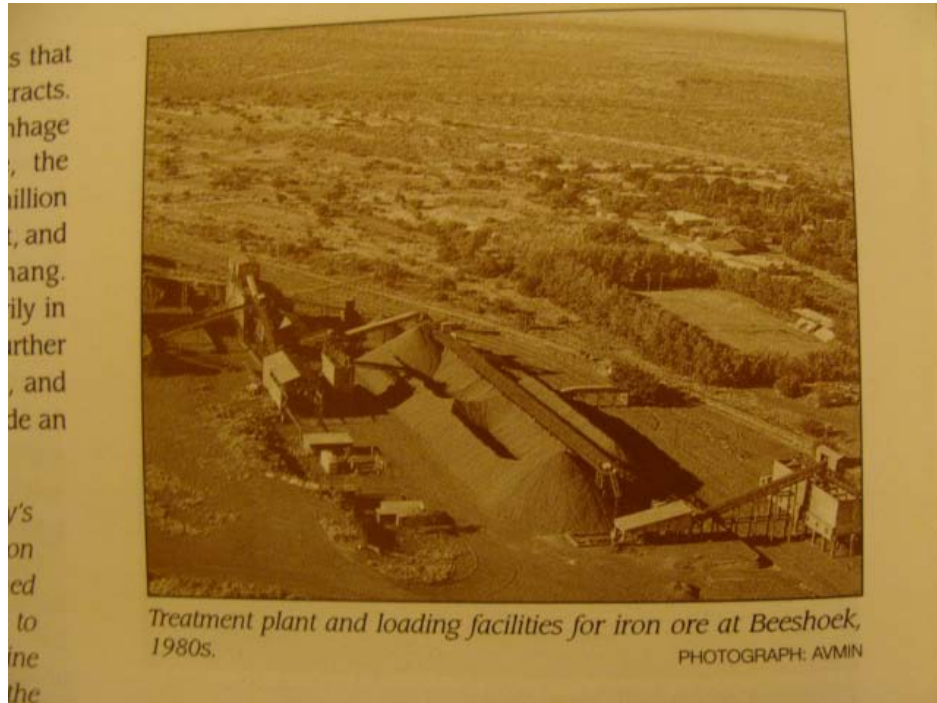




**Figure 6** Beeshoek in 1930 (Snyman 2000: 34).



**Figure 7** Beeshoek during the 1960's (Snyman 2000: 118).



**Figure 8** Treatment plant as Beeshoek during the 1980's (Snyman 200: 252).

## 7.2 Discussion of the buildings at the Beeshoek mine village

### House no 1

The house was built during the 1960's – 1970's (Figure 9). The heritage significance is low.



**Figure 9** House no 1.

Garages between house no 1 and 2

These date from the 1930's (Figure 10). Due to changes made thereto and it not being very unique it is given a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 10** Garages between houses no 1 and 2.

House no 2

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 11). It has however been changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 11** House no 2.

House no 3

The house was also built during the 1930's (Figure 12). A lean-to was added on one side. It is not a very unique building from the time and therefore receives a rating of medium.



**Figure 12 House no 3.**

House no 4

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 13). It has however been changed by the addition of an extension on one side and by replacing original windows. It thus is not very unique and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 13 House no 4.**

House no 5

The house was also built during the 1930's (Figure 14). Addition to the house was made on both sides. It is not a very unique building from the time and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 14 House no 5.**

Garages between house no 5 and 6

The building dates to the 1940's (Figure 15). It has however been changed and is not unique. It therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 15 Garages between houses no 5 and 6.**

House no 6

The house was also built during the 1930's (Figure 16). Limited changes have been made to the building. Therefore it receives a rating of medium to high.



**Figure 16 House no 6.**

House no 7

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 17). Very few changes have been made to it through the years. Although it is not very unique, it is a good example of the architecture of the area. It therefore receives a rating of medium.



**Figure 17 House no 7.**

House no 8

This is a pre-fabricated house made from asbestos and dating to the 1960's (Figure 18). It is not unique and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 18 House no 8.**

House no 9

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 19). It has however been changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 19 House no 9.**

Geology building

The building was erected during the 1960's – 1970's (Figure 20). It has now specific uniqueness and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 20** Geology building.

House no 10

The house was also built during the 1930's (Figure 21). Very few changes were made to it and it is an exceptional example of the architecture within this context. It therefore receives a rating of medium to high.



**Figure 21** House no 10.



House no 11

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 22). Very few changes have been made to it throughout the years. It is an excellent example of the architecture within this context although it is not very unique on a broader scale. Unfortunately the house has been neglected and is in a bad condition. It therefore receives a rating of medium to high.



**Figure 22 House no 11.**

House no 12

The house was also built during the 1930's (Figure 23). Many changes have been made to it including the addition wings on each side of the house. It therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 23 House no 12.**

Garages between house no 12 and 13

The building also dates to the 1930's (Figure 24). It has however been changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 24** Garages between houses no 12 and 13.

House no 13

The house was built during the 1960's – 1970's (Figure 25). It has no particular architectural significance and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 25** House no 13.

House no 14

The house was built during the 1960's – 1970's (Figure 26). It has no particular architectural significance and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 26 House no 14.**

House no 19

The house was built during the 1930's (Figure 27). It has not had many changes and is an excellent example of the architecture within the context of the mine village. It therefore receives a rating of medium to high.



**Figure 27 House no 19.**

House no 15 – 64 (excluding no 19)

These are all pre-fabricated houses built from asbestos, with two exceptions being no 48 and 49 where face bricks were added around the asbestos walls. These all date to the 1970's, but three different examples were found (Figure 28-36), but some have additions. These houses all receive a rating of low.



**Figure 28** House no 20 is also used as post office.



**Figure 29** House no 21, an example of the first type.



**Figure 30** Pre-fabricated garage at one of the houses.



**Figure 31** House no 28.



**Figure 32** House no 31.



**Figure 33** House no 58, an example of the second type.



**Figure 34 Streetscape.**



**Figure 35 House no 64, an example of the third type.**



**Figure 36 Streetscape.**

*Technical services building*

The building was built during the 1930's (Figure 37-38). It used to be the guest house at the mine. It has however been changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 37 The technical services building when it was opened as a guest house in 1930 (Snyman 2000: 33).**





**Figure 38** The technical services building.

*Outbuilding behind technical services building*

The building was also built during the 1930's (Figure 39). It was however extended later on. It is not a very unique building from the time and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 39** Outbuilding behind the technical services building. Note the later extension on the left hand side.

Two small outbuildings behind the technical services building

The first was probably built during the 1960's (Figure 40) whereas the second seem much older (Figure 41). It has no specific architectural uniqueness and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



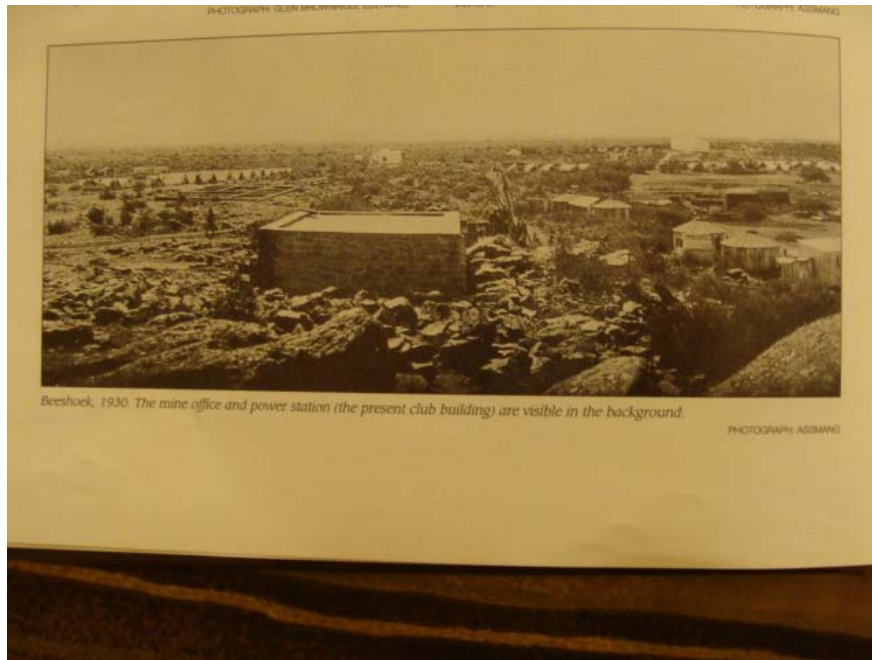
**Figure 40** Small outbuilding behind technical services building probably dating to the 1960's.



**Figure 41** Another, but older, outbuilding behind the technical services building.

## Dam

The dam was also built during the 1930's (Figure 42-43). Today it serves as surveying station. It is not a very unique structure from the time and therefore receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 42** The dam in 1930 (Snyman 2000: 34).



**Figure 43** The dam today.

Buildings between dam and railway line

Between the railway line and the dam a number of building are situated (Figure 44). These all date to the 1960's – 1970's and are not very unique. It therefore receives a rating of low.

Many other buildings, dating to the 1960's and 1970's are found in the village. As these also have no distinctive architectural features, it has a low rating and was therefore not documented.



**Figure 44** Area with buildings between railway line and dam.

Security building

The building dates to the 1930's (Figure 45). It was however changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 45** The security building.

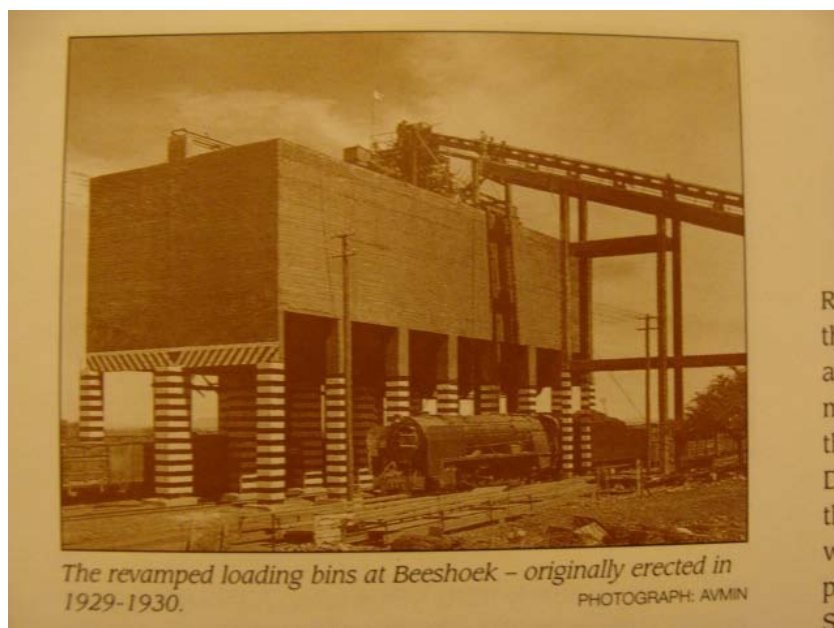
Loading bins

Two loading bins are found next to the railway line. The first (Figure 46-48) was built in 1929 - 1930. It has not been changed much and shows the date 1935, which is the date when ASSMANG came into being. It receives a rating of high.

The second (Figure 49) is much younger (probably the 1960's). It receives a rating of low.



**Figure 46** The loading bin dating from 1929/30 (ASSMANG Beeshoek collection).



**Figure 47** Revamped loading bin erected in 1929-1930 (Snyman 2000: 121).



**Figure 48** The 1929/30 loading bin.



**Figure 49** The second loading bin.

### Oppikoppi restaurant

The restaurant was also built during the 1970's (Figure 50). It is not a very unique building and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 50** Oppikoppi restaurant.

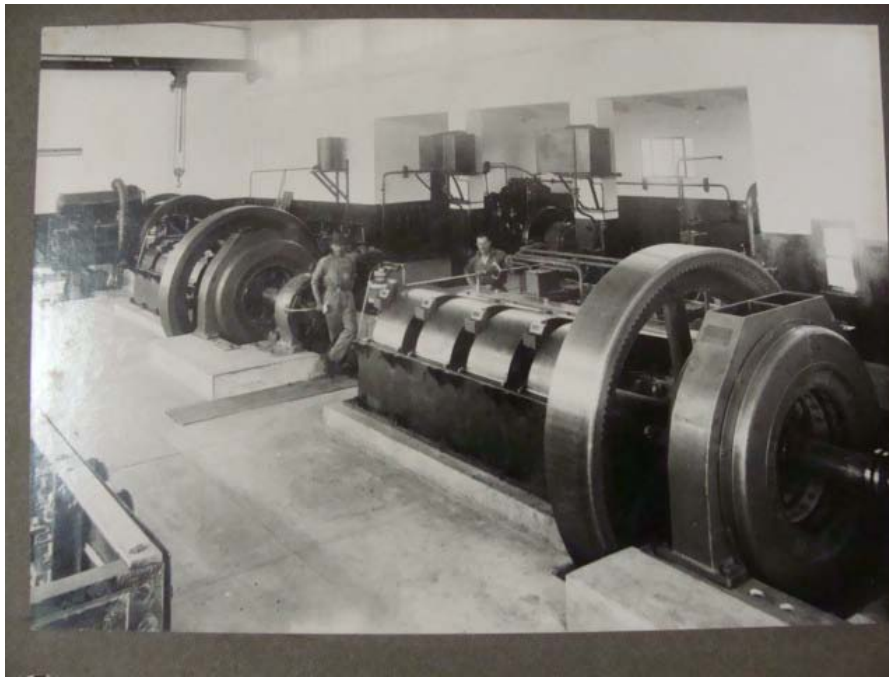
### The Recreation Club

The building was erected in 1929 and was the original power station for the mine (Figure 51-55). Although it was changed to the recreation club, the building still shows many original characteristics. The main addition was a new entrance in the front. It has had many functions, starting off as a building housing a transformer, later an in-house swimming pool and finally the club house (Personal communication: Mr. J Kleynhans). It currently also houses displays on the rugby legacy of the Beeshoek/Assmang Rugby Club over the years, as well as the role played by Mr. Jumbo Harris at the club and the mine.

It is the single most important building on the mine from a heritage perspective and is one of very few examples of an industrial building with ART Deco elements and features. It therefore receives a rating of high.

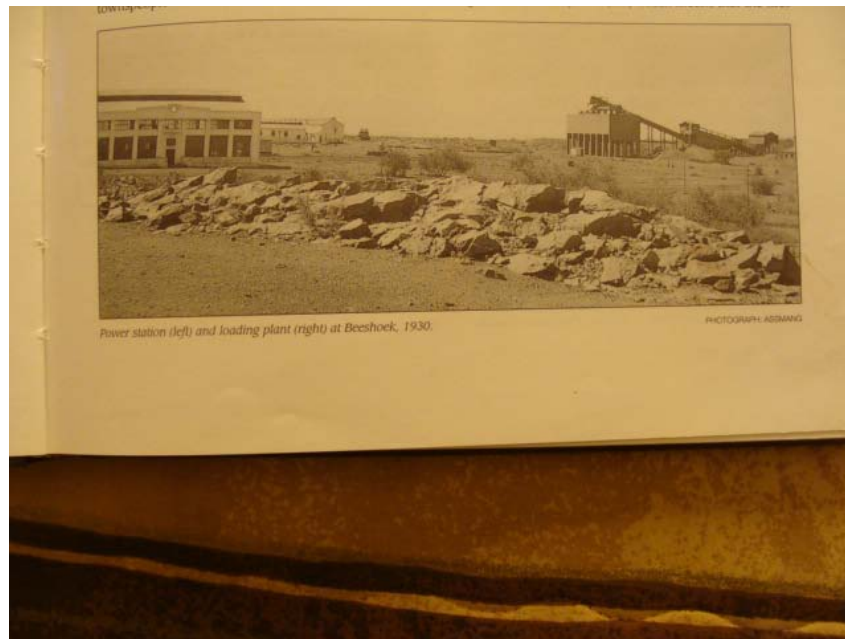


**Figure 51** The power station with workshops to its left during the 1930's  
(ASSMANG Beeshoek collection)



**Figure 52** Inside of the power station (ASSMANG Beeshoek collection).





**Figure 53** The power station with the loading bin to its right in 1930 (Snyman 2000: 35).



**Figure 54** The recreation club.





**Figure 57** The pavilion at the Jumbo Harris sports field.

*Emergency services buildings*

This is industrial buildings which was erected during the 1930's – 1940's (Figure 58-59). It has however been changed to a large extent and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 58** First laboratory and assaying office at Beeshoek in 1930 (Snyman 2000: 39).



**Figure 59** The emergency services buildings.

*HR building*

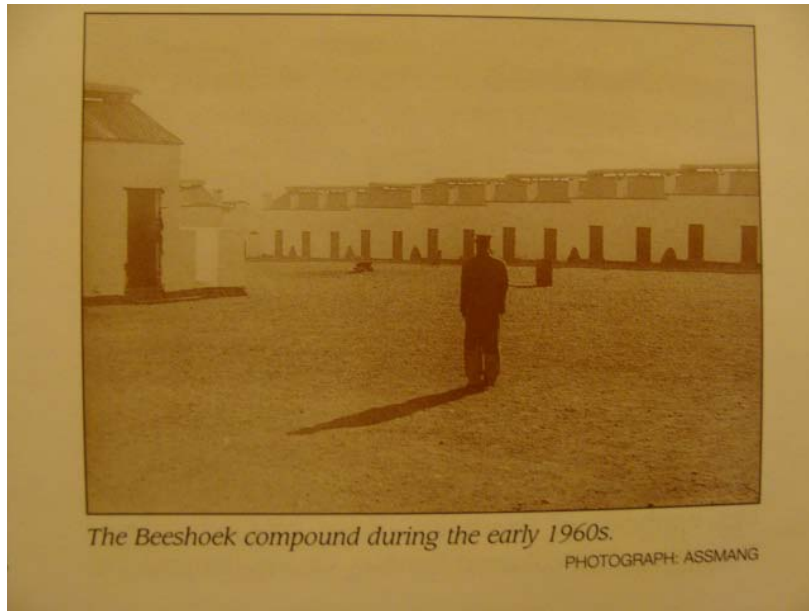
The building was built during the 1950's (Figure 60). It has no particular unique architectural characteristics and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 60** HR building.

*Compound*

The compound was built in 1931. During the 1960's it was revamped and a wing was added (Figure 61-63). Unfortunately it was changed to such an extent that it receives a rating of medium to low.



**Figure 61** The compound during the 1960's (Snyman 2000: 129).



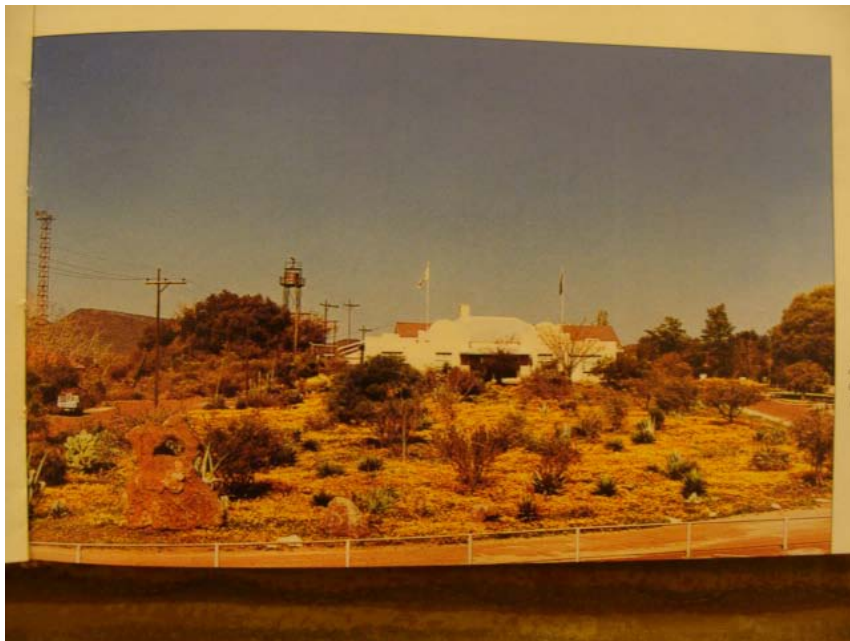
**Figure 62** Outside wall of the compound.



**Figure 63** Revamped inside of the compound.

*Main office building*

The building dates to the 1930's (Figure 64-65). It has however been changed to a very large extent and therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 64** The main office building in 1986 (Snyman 2000: 138).



**Figure 65** The main office building.

Recreation area

In the center of the village a recreation area was developed. It consists of a swimming pool, bowling green, green house and other features (Figure 66-69). These mostly date to after the 1950's and are not unique. It therefore receives a rating of low.



**Figure 66** Recreation area.



**Figure 67** Garden feature in recreation area.



**Figure 68** Swimming pool.





**Figure 69 Green house.**

*Historical movable objects*

Various movable objects dating from the earlier history of the mine are displayed throughout the village. This include locomotives, coco pans, a compressor etc. (Figure 70-74). These are given a rating of high.



**Figure 70 Steam engine.**



**Figure 71 Locomotive.**



**Figure 72 Coco pans.**



**Figure 73 Compressor.**



**Figure 74 Engines.**

## **8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In conclusion it can be stated that the heritage assessment of the Beeshoek mine village was conducted successfully. The final recommendations are as follows:

- The following buildings are regarded as having a low cultural significance – house no 1, 8, 13, 14, 15-64, garages between house 5 and 6, geological building, buildings between dam and railway line, security building, Oppikoppi restaurant, emergency services building, HR building, main office building, more recent loading bin and the recreation area.
- Any of these may be demolished during future developments. The Oppikoppi restaurant is most likely not to be influenced by the mining development.
- These building may all be demolishes and this report is largely seen as ample mitigation. However, in order to preserve specific information about an ere rapidly being demolished, it is recommended that the following building be document in detail – house no 21, 58 and 64 as examples of the three types of pre-fabricated buildings at Beeshoek.
- The following buildings are regarded as having a medium to low cultural significance – garages between house 1 and 2 and those between houses 12 and 13, house no 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, technical building, outbuilding behind the technical building, two small outbuildings behind the technical building, dam and the compound.
- Due to the state of these and since it has no particular architectural significance no further mitigation is necessary. Any of these may be demolished during future developments.
- The following buildings are regarded as having a medium cultural significance – house no 3 and 7.
- Both may be demolished during future developments. This report is seen as ample mitigation as there are better examples that should be documented or preserved.
- The following buildings are regarded as having a medium to high cultural significance – house no 4, 10, 11 and 19 and the Jumbo Harris sports field.
- Unfortunately it would be impossible to preserve house no 4, 10 and 11. They may therefore be demolished, but first they should be documented in detail as examples of this type of dwelling during the 1930's.
- It also is not possible to preserve the sports field. However the importance thereof does not lie in its architectural qualities, but the history linked to Jumbo Harris and others. It should therefore be commemorated by preserving photographs and other information in the recreation club. The name Jumbo Harris should specifically be commemorated.
- Fortunately house no 19 falls outside of the area of planned mining development. It should therefore be preserved as an example of this time period it this area. The house may be used for a purpose linked to the recreation club, such as a guest house,

offices or conference facility. It may however not be changed without the approval of the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (PHRA).

- The following buildings and features are regarded as having a high cultural significance – the loading bin dating to the 1930's, the recreation club and the historical movable objects.
- These should be preserved at all cost. The loading bin is outside of the area to be affected by the future development. If any possible change to the building should be needed, permission should be obtained from the Northern Cape PHRA.
- The historical movable objects should be moved to the recreation club and house no 19 where it should be displayed and preserved.
- The recreation club may be utilized as such. Should any possible changes be needed, permission should be obtained from the Northern Cape PHRA.
- Permission to demolish any of the buildings older than 60 year (in any of the stated categories) needs to be obtained from the Northern Cape PHRA. This report may suffice, but clarity should be received from the PHRA.

## 9. REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A

### Definition of terms:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

## APPENDIX B

### Definition of significance:

- Historic value: Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.
- Aesthetic value: Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.
- Scientific value: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period
- Social value: Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- Rarity: Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.
- Representivity: Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.



## APPENDIX C

### **Cultural significance:**

- Low                      A building without any heritage value.
- Medium to Low        A building with some heritage value, but of which the value have decreased due to different factors such as the state of the building and changes made thereto.
- Medium                A building with heritage value.
- Medium to High      A building with heritage value, but which have been negatively affected by various factors such as changes, uniqueness etc.
- High                    A building, site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness.

### **Heritage significance:**

- Grade I                Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance
- Grade II              Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate
- Grade III             Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

## APPENDIX D

### Protection of heritage resources:

#### - Formal protection

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – grade I and II

Protected areas - an area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – for a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – listing grades II and III

Heritage areas – areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

#### - General protection

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states

Structures – older than 60 years

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Burial grounds and graves

Public monuments and memorials