

2011

Dumicol Consulting

45 Hawkes Nest

Elands Rock Natural Estate

Paul Kruger Street

South Crest

1449

dumicolconsulting@gmail.com



HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A CEMETERY ON PORTION 53 VLAKFONTEIN FARM 546 IQ IN VAAL

PREPARED FOR:

AKME DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

REPORT AUTHOR

MUNYADZIWA MAGOMA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dumicol Consulting was appointed by AKME Development Agency to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (the identification and assessment of cultural resources) on Portion 53 Vlakfontein Farm 546 IQ in Vaal. The proposal has undergone quite a few revisions to arrive at what is now considered an environmentally and visually suitable development.

- ❖ No archaeological material was recovered during an archaeological scoping assessment of the footprint of the proposed development.
- ❖ There is an old building on site which is less than 60 years.
- ❖ There are no cemeteries or graves on the property

If human remains are uncovered during development, earth moving activities in the vicinity should be stopped immediately and SAHRA should be notified.

GLOSSARY

Archaeological material remains resulting from human activities, which are in a state of disuse and are in, or on, land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains, and artificial features and structures.

Cultural Heritage Resources same as Heritage Resources as defined and used in the South African Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999). Refer to physical cultural properties such as archaeological and palaeontological sites; historic and prehistoric places, buildings, structures and material remains; cultural sites such as places of ritual or religious importance and their associated materials; burial sites or *graves* and their associated materials; geological or natural features of cultural importance or scientific significance. Cultural Heritage Resources also include intangible resources such as religion practices, ritual ceremonies, oral histories, memories and indigenous knowledge.

Cultural Significance the complexities of what makes a place, materials or intangible resources of value to society or part of, customarily assessed in terms of aesthetic, historical, scientific/research and social values.

Excavation principal method of extracting data in archaeology, involving systematic recovery of archaeological remains and their context by removing soil and any other material covering them.

Grave a place of interment (variably referred to as burial), including the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place. A grave may occur in isolation or in association with others where upon it is referred to as being situated in a cemetery.

Historic material remains resulting from human activities, which are younger than 100 years, but no longer in use, including artefacts, human remains and artificial features and structures.

***In Situ* material, material** culture and surrounding deposits in their original location and context, for example an archaeological site that has not been disturbed by farming.

Material culture buildings, structure, features, tools and other artefacts that constitute the remains from past societies.

Site a distinct spatial cluster of artefacts, structures, organic and environmental remains, as residues of past human activity

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	6
1.1	Project Need.....	6
1.2	Project Location	6
2	HERITAGE LEGISLATION AND TERMINOLOGY.....	7
3	TERMS OF REFERENCE.....	15
4	DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	16
5	Background to the Vaal Area.....	20
5.1	The History of Vereeniging.....	20
5.1.1	The First Bridge over the Vaal River.....	22
5.1.2	Turmoil at Sharpeville.....	25
6	SURVEY METHODS.....	26
6.1	Limitations.....	26
6.2	Degrees of Significance	27
6.2.1	Significance Rating of Sites.....	27
6.3	FINDINGS.....	29
7	ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS ON IDENTIFIED HERITAGE QUALITIES.....	32
7.1	Preferred Development Proposal.....	32
8	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	32
9	References.....	34

1 INTRODUCTION

Dumicol Consulting was asked by AKME Development Agency to conduct a heritage assessment of Portion 53 Vlakfontein farm 546 IQ in Vaal as part of a Basic Assessment of the property to be submitted to the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The proposed development activity is the establishment of a cemetery on an area of 14.2964 hectares.

1.1 Project Need

Vaal area is facing challenges on the availability burial places since most of the cemeteries have reached capacity notably the Evaton cemetery, hence the need to establish another cemetery within the area. The development also contributes to employment opportunities during the planning, construction and operational phases, thereby increasing the household income for that community.

1.2 Project Location

The project is located along R82 road Johannesburg. The coordinates are as follows:

Southings: 26°33'09.34"

Eastings: 27°56'18.10

Below is a map showing the exact location of the study area.

LOCALITY PLAN



Figure 1: Location of Study Area

2 HERITAGE LEGISLATION AND TERMINOLOGY

Several Acts exist for the protection and preservation of both cultural and natural resources, these include the National Environment Management Act, No. 107 of 1998; Mineral Amendment Act, No 103 of 1993; Tourism Act, No. 72 of 1993; Cultural Institution Act, No. 119 of 1998 and the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, Section 38 (1) of this Act requires the conduction of Heritage Impact Assessment in case of:

- a) *the construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;*
- b) *the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50 m in length; and*
- c) *any development or other activity which will change the character of an area of land, or water -*
 - (i) *exceeding 5 000 m² in extent;*
 - (ii) *involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or*
 - (iii) *involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or*
 - (iv) *the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial Heritage Resources Authority;*
- d) *the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m² in extent; or*
- e) *any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a Provincial*

Heritage Resources Authority, must at the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development. Section 3 of the national heritage resource Act (25 of 1999) lists a wide range of national resources that qualify as part of South Africa national estate. When conducting a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) the following heritage resources had to be identified:

- 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 natural features of cultural significance*
- e) *Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance*
- f) *Archaeological and paleontological sites*

g) *Graves and burial grounds including-*

- (i) *ancestral graves*
- (ii) *royal graves and graves of traditional leaders*
- (iii) *graves of victims of conflict*
- (iv) *graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette*
- (v) *historical graves and cemeteries; and*
- (vi) *other human remains which are not covered by in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983)*

h) *Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa*

- (i) *moveable objects, including –*
- (ii) *objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and paleontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens*

- (iii) *objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage (iii) ethnographic art and objects*
- (iv) *military objects*
- (v) *objects of decorative or fine art*
- (vi) *objects of scientific or technological interest; and*
- (vii) *books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996). Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999) also distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate if they have cultural significance or other special value ...'. These criteria are the following:*
 - a) *Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history*
 - b) *Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
 - c) *Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
 - d) *Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects*
 - e) *Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group*
 - f) *Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period*

- g) *Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*
- h) *Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and*
- i) *Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.*

Other sections of the Act with relevance are the following:

Section 34(1) *No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.*

Section 35(4) *No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:*

- ❖ *destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite*

Section 36 (3) *No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority:*

- ❖ *destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or*
- ❖ *bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in detection or recovery of metals.*

According to the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999, the following definitions are relevant:

(1) **“archaeological”** means—

- a) *material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;*

- b) *rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;*
- c) *wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and*
- d) *features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found;*

(2) **“conservation”**, in relation to heritage resources, includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance;

(3) **“cultural significance”** means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual,

- (iii) ethnographic art and objects*
- (iv) military objects*
- (v) objects of decorative or fine art*
- (vi) objects of scientific or technological interest; and*
- (vii) books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).*

Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999) also distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate if they have cultural significance or other special value ...'. These criteria are the following:

- a) Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history*
- b) Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
- c) Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage*
- d) Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects*
- e) Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group*
- f) Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period*
- g) Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*

- h) *Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and*
- i) *Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.*

Other sections of the Act with relevance are the following:

Section 34(1) *No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.*

Section 35(4) *No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:*

- ❖ *destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite*

Section 36 (3) *No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority:*

- ❖ *destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or*
- ❖ *bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in detection or recovery of metals.*

According to the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999, the following definitions are relevant:

(1) **“archaeological”** means—

- (a) *material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;*

- (b) *rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;*
- (c) *wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and*
- (d) *features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found;*
- (2) *“**conservation**”, in relation to heritage resources, includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance;*
- (3) *“**cultural significance**” means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual,*

3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference provided by the client for archaeology and cultural heritage are as follows:

- Describe the general archaeological and cultural heritage background of the area under consideration.
- Inspect the proposed site for any archaeological remains or points of significance from a Heritage perspective.
- Identify and assess the significance of the likely impacts of the proposed project and alternatives on archaeology and cultural heritage.

- Make recommendations on the protection and maintenance of any significant cultural heritage or archaeological site that may occur on site.
- Identify practicable mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts on the archaeological resources and indicate how these can be incorporated into the construction and management of the proposed project.
- Provide guidance for the requirement of any permits from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed area is covered by grass and a few shrubs and indigenous trees. The only structure that is present on site a dilapidated building which is at the centre of the study area. It is within a residential area. There are no rock outcrops on site, the soil type found on site is mostly sand. No wild animals or alien plant species can be found on the proposed site.



Picture 1: Durawall panels on site



Picture 2: An old building on site



Picture 3: The site comprise of grass



Picture 4: A gravel road bordering the study area and the residential area



Picture 5: Running grass on Site

5 Background to the Vaal Area

The town of Vanderbijlpark is situated near the border of the Gauteng and Free State Provinces. This pleasantly presented town is located along the Vaal River and has numerous parks, beautiful gardens and recreational areas. Vanderbijlpark is considered to be a classic example of an industrial town within a modern society.

5.1 *The History of Vereeniging*

When the impis of Mosilikatze, in retreat from Chaka, passed through the southern Transvaal, leaving a ghastly trail of death and desolation in their wake, a native woman with her infant son fled to the secret shelter of one of the many caves for which the Gatsrand is famous. The mother died; the infant survived,

tended, according to legend, like the founders of the Eternal City, by animals, but more likely by fugitive natives.

As the trekboers were settling in the neighbourhood one of them adopted the child. As a young man he became the trusted "armour bearer" of Paul Kruger, then also a young man, whom he accompanied on the many forays both against natives and white factions struggling for supremacy. The native, Wildebeest by name, settled on an elevated sandstone plateau on the banks of the Klip River, about a mile above its confluence with the Vaal. When late in the year 1891 I came to Vereeniging not yet known under that name and opened a quarry for building stone at this spot, Wildebeest was then a lively old man. He told me that when he was young the whole country swarmed with game of every kind, lions, eland, wildebeest, blesbok, and springbok. Wildebeest was without doubt the first permanent resident in historic times of Vereeniging.

In these words, Dr. T. N. Leslie, the town's first mayor, introduced his own story of Vereeniging over thirty years ago. He arrived in the village in 1891, two years after President Paul Kruger had proclaimed the township, and a year before the first erven of land were offered for sale in Johannesburg. It is this latter date, 1892, that Vereeniging recognises as the year in which the town was founded; and now more than 75 years later the once small village stands as a major centre of the Republic's steel and engineering industries.

However, Vereeniging's story really began in 1878, the year in which the vast coal deposits of the area were discovered. These deposits extend about six miles north of the town, and south 20 miles across the Vaal River. Varying in width from four to ten miles the known deposits occur over a total area of 200 square miles and at the rate at which coal is being brought to the surface the field has an estimated life of 400 years. It is to George William Stow, the intrepid geologist who discovered these coalfields, and to Senator

Samuel Marks, the millionaire entrepreneur, who made the discovery commercially viable, that Vereeniging owes its existence.

5.1.1 The First Bridge over the Vaal River

When President Reitz succeeded President Brand of the Orange Free State in 1889, he and Kruger had discussed a closer political alliance between the two Republics. They had appointed a commission of enquiry to establish the most suitable place for a bridge across the Vaal. Both Potchefstroom in the Transvaal and Venterskroon in the Free State had petitioned for the erection of a bridge over the river which separated the two villages; but, by January, 1890 the commission had "decided" that the best place for a bridge would be the coal mines at Viljoen's Drift, because various transport roads or tracks came together there, 'omdat die paaie zig daar vereenig', on the way to the Rand. By May that year, Kruger had persuaded his Volksraad that the Vaal River crossing should be connected by rail with the south, and as soon as possible. The persistent drought of the times by the end of 1889 had stripped the veld of grazing, and it is said that about 1,000 ox-wagons were stranded at the Vaal drifts because of the scarcity of fodder on the routes leading from the river.

The ever-deepening shafts of the goldmines increased the demand for heavier machinery and the strain placed on primitive methods of ox-wagon transportation became unbearable.

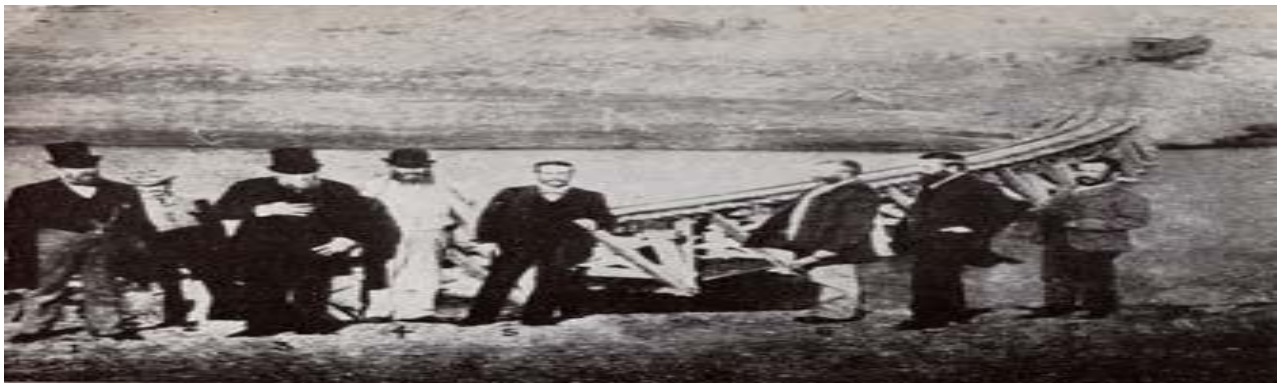
On July 21, 1891 the N.Z.A.S.M. (Nederlands Zuid Afrikaans Spoorweg Maatschappij - the Netherlands South African Railways Company), began the masonry work for the bridge that would support the first railway to reach the Rand from Cape Town at the coast. The railway company, however, was unable to raise the money to complete the bridge and when the rail from Bloemfontein, laid at a rate of two miles a day, had reached the southern bank of the Vaal, a temporary wooden bridge was erected a short distance

from the site of the pylons of the steel bridge, about 100 yards upstream from the present road bridge. It was intended that trains should cross into the Transvaal immediately and the temporary measure obviated the difficulties ox-wagons had encountered in fording the drift further downstream when heavily laden with machinery for the goldmines.

The N.Z.A.S.M. had been empowered by the Transvaal Government to expropriate the land over which the line was to be laid to Elandsfontein where it would join the line to Johannesburg. The route chosen took the railway line through Donald McKay's properties to the north-west of the village, and although he was paid no compensation, he was given the right to flag down any train passing through his property, and once aboard to travel free-of-charge anywhere on the N.Z.A.S.M. system. On May 21, 1892 all was ready for the first train from the south to cross to the Transvaal, or almost ready as it transpired. A report of the historical event, published in the Transvaal Advertiser two days later reads: "An unfortunate delay in connection with the opening of the railway had occurred. The engineers on the Transvaal side had made an error of about three feet in the levels between the temporary bridge and the station, and on laying the rails two days ago, this was found out, subsequently the rails had to be removed and three feet deeper excavated, and the gangs working without cessation until the last minute before the train came over"

President Kruger arrived from Pretoria accompanied by Jan Eloff, who gave his name to Eloff Street in Johannesburg. With them was Johannes Meyer, the district's Volksraad member. It was after him that Meyerton was named. His christian name is perpetuated also in the name of Johannesburg. The old President was escorted by a detachment of Staatsartillerie, which however, because of time and distance, was unable to bring from Pretoria field pieces to fire the customary salute. Sammy Marks was determined that both Presidents should be suitably honoured and he organised a group of miners to explode dynamite

in twenty one bottles at the prescribed intervals in imitation of the more orthodox twenty one gun salute. With the Free State's President Reitz and his party aboard, the beflagged and decorated train steamed slowly across into the Transvaal to the formal opening ceremony held near the approach to the present road bridge. The Transvaal Advertiser recorded: "There was much decoration and ceremony. The Transvaal flag flew from one of the coal mine's chimneys, but a pole specially erected for the Union Jack had no flag as none could be found nor was there a flag of the Free State, as the delegates had forgotten to bring theirs.



Picture 6: President Kruger and President Reitz meet to open the temporary railway bridge over the Vaal river in 1892. From the left: President Reitz, Dr. Smuts, President Kruger, A D Wolmarans, Jan Eloff, Sammy Marks, Mat Spence and Ed Burke



Picture 7: The funeral train, crossing the Vaal River bridge at Vereeniging, carried President Kruger's remains back to the Transvaal after the Anglo-Boer War



Picture 8: The first hotel built in Vereeniging ... photographed in 1894.

5.1.2 Turmoil at Sharpeville

In South Africa the pattern of events had been predicted by the white man who had long since ceased to think as a European. Many Afrikaans speaking South Africans stem from families which have resided in the Cape of Good Hope for 300 years, and South Africans of English extraction have among them forebears who came to this country over 140 years ago. Both belong to Africa. Certainly, the white man jealously guarded what he had built - a nation that was his; and between him and the African who wished to usurp authority over his state, there was no ground for compromise.

Events in Vereeniging were to highlight the ferment of the time and the name Sharpeville, Vereeniging's African (Bantu) township, was to focus world attention on the struggle in South Africa. Situated two miles west of the central area of Vereeniging, Sharpeville was named at the request of the residents themselves in honour of Mayor John Lillie Sharpe. Sharpe was a man renowned for his interest in the welfare of the Bantu and it was his efforts that led to the resettlement of Bantu workers in the township.



Picture 9: Scene of the Sharpeville Riot where Pan-Africanists led 69 Bantu residents to their deaths in 1961.

A skirmish developed between a Bantu demonstrator and a colonel and a sergeant of the Security force in which both policemen were pushed back into the yard. Bantu surged through the gate and under the pressure of the crowd, the security fence was bent back. Simultaneously, stones rained down on the police. Two shots were fired from the crowd, and although no order to fire was given to the police, in the deafening din the word 'shoot!' was heard by someone, then the whole line started to fire. For ten to thirty seconds shots were fired and the crowd fled ,and 169 Bantu People were killed.

6 SURVEY METHODS

A site visit of the property was conducted by an archaeologist and a general heritage practitioner. The property, its features and setting, and neighbouring buildings were surveyed and photographed. The views both from the property and towards it from the opposite side of the site were also photographed.

6.1 Limitations

There were no limitations to the survey. The property is not covered in dense vegetation hence it made it possible to examine the soil surface fairly closely.

6.2 Degrees of Significance

This category requires a broad, but detailed knowledge of the various disciplines that might be involved. Large sites, for example, may not be very important, but a small site, on the other hand, may have great significance as it is unique for the region.

6.2.1 Significance Rating of Sites

- (i) High (ii) Medium (iii) Low

This category relates to the actual artefact or site in terms of its actual value as it is found today, and refers more specifically to the condition that the item is in. For example, an archaeological site may be the only one of its kind in the region, thus its regional significance is high, but there is heavy erosion of the greater part of the site, therefore its significance rating would be medium to low. Generally speaking, the following are guidelines for the nature of the mitigation that must take place as Phase 2 of the project.

High

- ❖ This is a do not touch situation, alternative must be sought for the project, examples would be natural and cultural landscapes like the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site, or the house in which John Langalibalele live in.
- ❖ Certain sites, or features may be exceptionally important, but do not warrant leaving entirely alone. In such cases, detailed mapping of the site and all its features is imperative, as is the collection of diagnostic artefactual material on the surface of the site. Extensive excavations must be done to retrieve as much information as possible before destruction. Such excavations might cover more than half the site and would be mandatory; it would also be advisable to negotiate with the client to see what mutual agreement in writing could be reached, whereby part of the site is left for future research.

Medium

- ❖ Sites of medium significance require detailed mapping of all the features and the collection of diagnostic artefactual material from the surface of the site. A series of test trenches and test pits should be excavated to retrieve basic information before destruction.

Low

- ❖ These sites require minimum or no mitigation. Minimum mitigation recommended could be a collection of all surface materials and/ or detailed site mapping and documentation. No excavations would be considered to be necessary.

In all the above scenarios permits will be required from the National Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) as per the relevant law, namely the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) destruction of any heritage site may only take place when a permit has been issued by SAHRA or its provincial equivalent should this exist. The following table is used to grade:

Table 1: Grading and rating systems of identified heritage resources in terms of National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999).

LEVEL	SIGNIFICANCE	POSSIBLE ACTION
❖ National (Grade I)	❖ Site of National Value	❖ Nominated to be declared by SAHRA
❖ Provincial (Grade II)	❖ Site of Provincial Value	
❖ Local Grade (IIIA)	❖ Site of High Value Locally	❖ Nominated to be declared by PHRA
❖ Local Grade (IIIB)	❖ Site of High Value Locally	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ General protected Area A ❖ General Protected Area B ❖ General Protected Area C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Site of High to Medium Value ❖ Medium Value ❖ Low Value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Retained as Heritage ❖ Mitigated and Part Retained as Heritage ❖ Mitigation Necessary before Destruction ❖ Recording Before Destruction ❖ No Action Required Before Destruction
--	---	---

6.3 FINDINGS

Although there area is prone to archaeological material, as reveled from the desktop study, there was no Stone or Iron Age materials (or any sign of heritage significance) that were recorded in any part of the proposed footprint that we were able to search. The following rating applies to the proposed site.

Duration of Impact: Permanent

Heritage Significance: Low

Mitigation: C

Archaeological Research potential: N/A

Archaeological Educational potential: N/A

Oral history: Medium



Figure 2: An overview of a structure and association foundation. This dilapidated structure is without roof and in a general good state of repair (or completion). Elements of original joinery are still intact. Adaptive reuse of the structure is possible and encouraged. This structure appears to be a recent phenomenon and as such is not protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act no 25 of 1999), however it will have been protected by legislator if over 60 years of age.



Figure 3: Panels of a Durawall dumped on Site



Figure 4: View of the area from the east of the proposed area, showing the manifestation of abundant grass.

7 ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS ON IDENTIFIED HERITAGE QUALITIES

7.1 Preferred Development Proposal

The current designs have the potential to work with the existing slope and terrain.

Archaeological Impacts

CRITERIA	IMPACT	
	CONSTRUCTION	
	With Mitigation	Without Mitigation
Extent	Local	Local
Duration	Permanent	Permanent
Intensity	Very Low	Very Low
Significance	Improbable	Improbable
Confidence	High	High
Impact Status	Neutral	Neutral

8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The aim of this heritage assessment was to flag initial concerns and identify constraints to the proposed development, as defined by potential impacts to heritage resources. It is also possible that human remains

may be uncovered in unmarked graves although this seems unlikely in view of the history of the property; that is its previous primary use for agricultural purposes. If human remains are uncovered during development, earth moving activities in the vicinity should be stopped immediately and SAHRA should be notified.

9 References

- Hamilton, C. (Ed.). 1995. *The Mfecane Aftermath*. Johannesburg: Witwatersrand University Press.
- Huffman, T.N. 2007. *Handbook to the Iron Age. The Archaeology of Pre-Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa*. Scottsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.
- Legassik, M. 1969 .The Sotho-Tswana peoples before 1800. In Thompson, L. (ed.). 1969. *African Societies in Southern Africa: Historical Studies*.86-125.
- Maggs, T.M. 1976. *Iron Age Communities of the Southern Highveld*. (Occasional Publications, 2). Pietermaritzburg: Natal Museum.
- Mason, R.J. 1986. *Origins of Black People of Johannesburg and the Southern Western Central Transvaal AD 350-1880*. (Occasional Paper 16). Johannesburg: University of the Witwatersrand Archaeological Research Unit.
- Pistorius, J.C.C. 1992. *Molokwane: an Iron Age BaKwena Village*. Johannesburg: Perskor Printers.