

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**FORT BROWN HOUSING PROJECT,
(PORTION OF) FLETCHERS OUTSPAN 104,
ALBANY DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE,
SOUTH AFRICA**

DATE: 2009-09-21



REPORT TO:

FRANK MERRYWEATHER (Merryweather Environmental)

Tel: 043 738 5150; Fax: 043 738 5045; Postal Address: P.O. Box 68, Cintsa East, 5275;

E-mail: merryweatherenvironmental@iafrica.com

Dr. ANTONIETA JERARDINO (South African Heritage Resources Agency – SAHRA, APM Unit)

Tel: 021 462 4505; Fax: 021 462 4509; Postal Address: P.O. Box 4637, Cape Town, 8000;

E-mail: ajerardino@sahra.org.za

THANDUXOLO LUNGILE (South African heritage Resources Agency – SAHRA, Eastern Cape)

Tel: 043 722 1740/2/6; Fax: 043 722 1749; Postal Address: P.O. Box 759, East London, 5200;

E-mail: tlungile@ec.sahra.org.za

PREPARED BY:

KAREN VAN RYNEVELD (ArchaeoMaps Archaeological Consultancy)

Tel: 051 446 0148 / 084 871 1064; Fax: N/A; Postal Address: P.O. Box 28530, Danhof, 9310;

E-mail: ArchaeoMaps.karen@iburst.co.za / kvanryneveld@gmail.com

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**FORT BROWN HOUSING PROJECT,
(PORTION OF) FLETCHERS OUTSPAN 104,
ALBANY DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE,
SOUTH AFRICA**

CONTENTS

1) TERMS OF REFERENCE 3
1.1) Development Location, Details & Impact 3
2) THE PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT 11
2.1) Archaeological Legislative Compliance 11
2.2) Methodology 11
2.3) Coverage and Gap Analysis 12
2.4) Phase 1 AIA Assessment findings 12
2.5) Conclusion and Recommendations 17
3) REFERENCES CITED 18

APPENDIX A:
Schematic Outline of the Pre-Historic and Historic Periods

APPENDIX B:
Extracts from the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999)

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Eastern Cape, South Africa	3
Figure 2: The Fort Brown Residential Development, to be located along the R67 between Fort Beaufort and Grahamstown.....	4
Figure 3: The proposed Fort Brown residential development area, a portion of Fletchers Outspan 104 in relation to the Fort Brown Police Station, located on the adjacent property Farm 103	4
Figure 4: Proposed spatial layout of the Fort Brown Residential Development.....	5
Figure 5: General view of the Fort Brown Police Station with the Historic period gun tower and adjacent walls incorporated in the development	8
Figure 6: Close-up of the Fort Brown gun tower and the remaining walls	8
Figure 7: The Historic Monuments plaque still visible on the Fort walls.....	8
Figure 8: The entrance room of the Fort Brown gun tower	9
Figure 9: The Fort Brown magazine room with the wooden staircase leading to the entrance room	9
Figure 10: View from the top of the gun tower over the sports field and the Community Center with the development area proper in the background.....	9
Figure 11: General view of the top of the gun tower with a later addition staircase leading down to the entrance room	10
Figure 12: The Community Center located on Farm 103.....	10
Figure 13: The Fort Brown Primary School located on Farm 103	10
Figure 14: The Fort Brown Residential Development area (red 1-7), located on a portion of Fletchers Outspan 104	12
Figure 15: General view of the eastern part of the proposed Fort Brown Residential Development area, portion of Fletchers Outspan 104	13
Figure 16: General view of the proposed development area towards the north.....	13
Figure 17: General view of the proposed development area towards the south east	14
Figure 18: General view of the south eastern part of the development area	14
Figure 19: View of the existing cattle farming infrastructure located immediately south of the proposed development area	14
Figure 20: Inspection of animal burrows yielded no sign of a sub-surface anthropic component	15
Figure 21: General view of the access road running across the central part of the development area	15
Figure 22: Contemporary development on the proposed development area: A brick and cement dam and through.....	15
Figure 23: Contemporary development on the proposed development area: Two short brick and cement staircases.....	16
Figure 24: A contemporary metal dump located in the central eastern part of the proposed development area.....	16
Figure 25: A contemporary small informal dump site associated with the above metal dump.....	16

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: SAHRA archaeological and cultural heritage site significance assessment and mitigation recommendations	11
Table 2: Phase 1 AIA assessment findings – co-ordinate details.....	17

1) TERMS OF REFERENCE

Merryweather Environmental has been appointed by *Ninham Shand* on behalf of the *Makana Municipality* to prepare the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed Fort Brown Residential Development, to be located on an approximate 70ha portion of *Fletchers Outspan 104* in the Albany District of the Eastern Cape. *ArchaeoMaps Archaeological Consultancy* has been appointed by *Merryweather Environmental* to conduct the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) as specialist sub-section to the EIA.

1.1) Development Location, Details & Impact

The proposed approximate 70ha Fort Brown Residential Development will be located on a portion of *Fletchers Outspan 104*, situated along the R67, approximately 50km south of Fort Beaufort and 30km north of Grahamstown in the Albany District of the Eastern Cape. The proposed development will comprise of more or less 300 residential units with public facilities including business plots, a clinic, arts and crafts centre, 2 chreches, a cultural village and information centre. Associated linear development will comprise of access roads, water and sewerage, telecommunication etc. The development aims to house the community to whom the land was transferred in 2003/2004, primarily employed in the gaming and tourism industry on nearby farms.

In addition to the proposed development, existing infrastructure on the neighboring property (Farm 103 – the Fort Brown Police Station) including a community centre, sports field and the Fort Brown primary school will greatly increase the significance of the development in terms of proximity thereto, referring specifically, but not only, to the location of the Fort Brown primary school, at present already primarily serving the community to be housed through the proposed development.

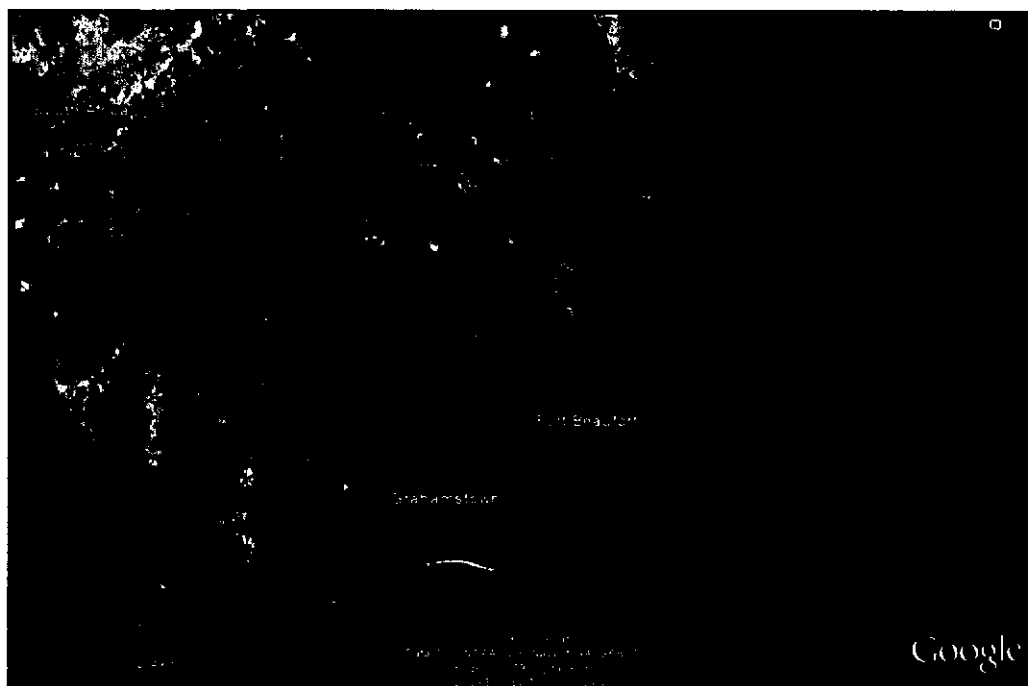


Figure 1: Eastern Cape, South Africa

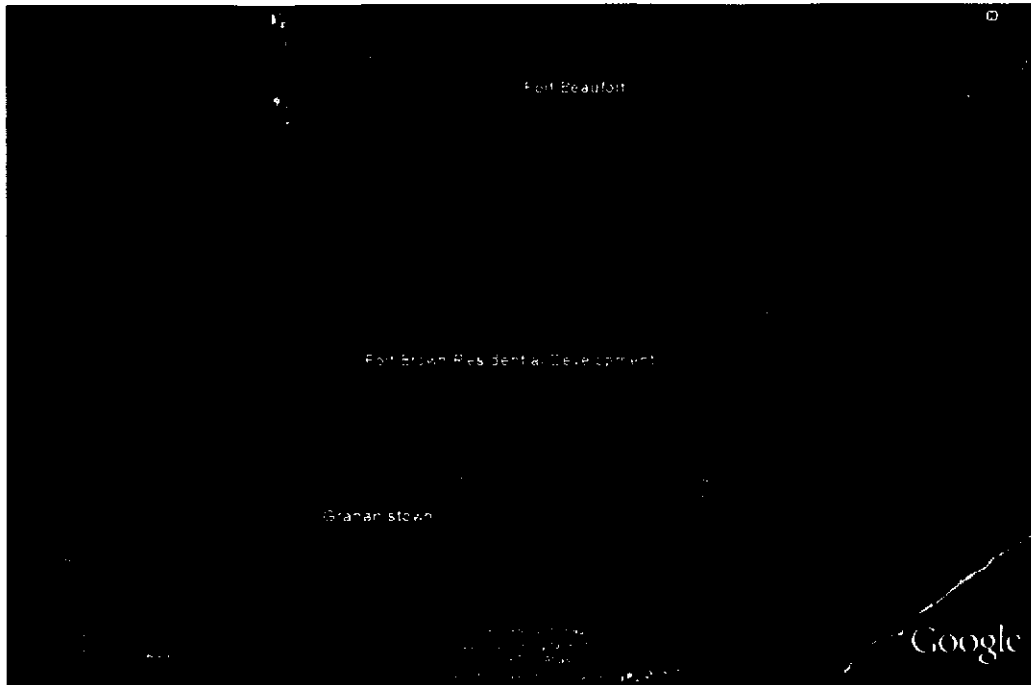


Figure 2: The Fort Brown Residential Development, to be located along the R67 between Fort Beaufort and Grahamstown

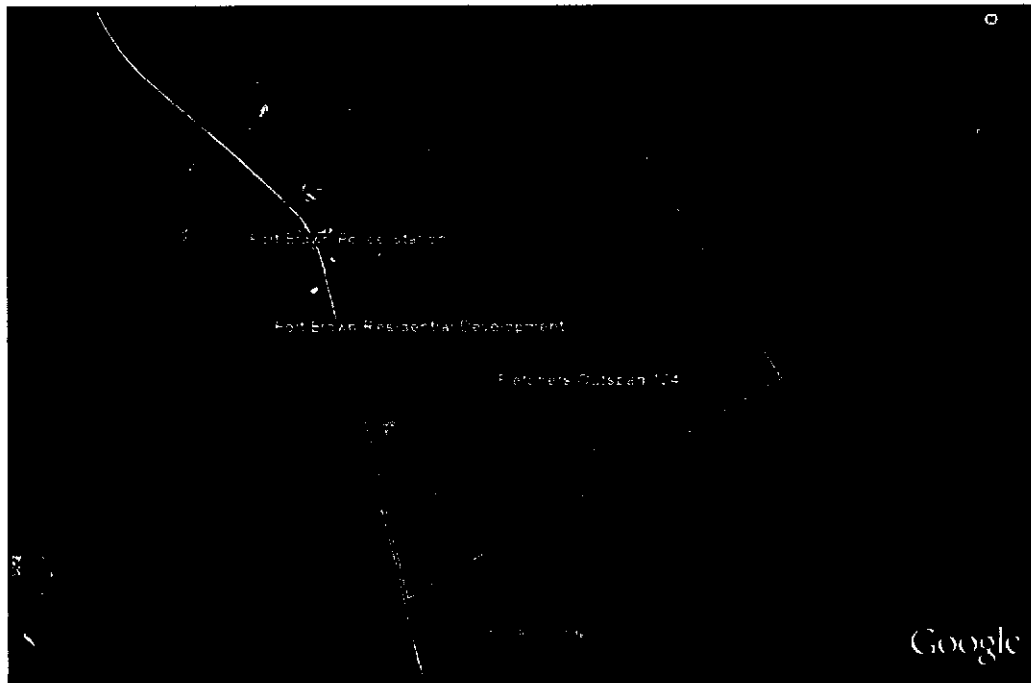


Figure 3: The proposed Fort Brown Residential Development area, a portion of Fletcher's Outspan 104 in relation to the Fort Brown Police Station, located on the adjacent property Farm 103

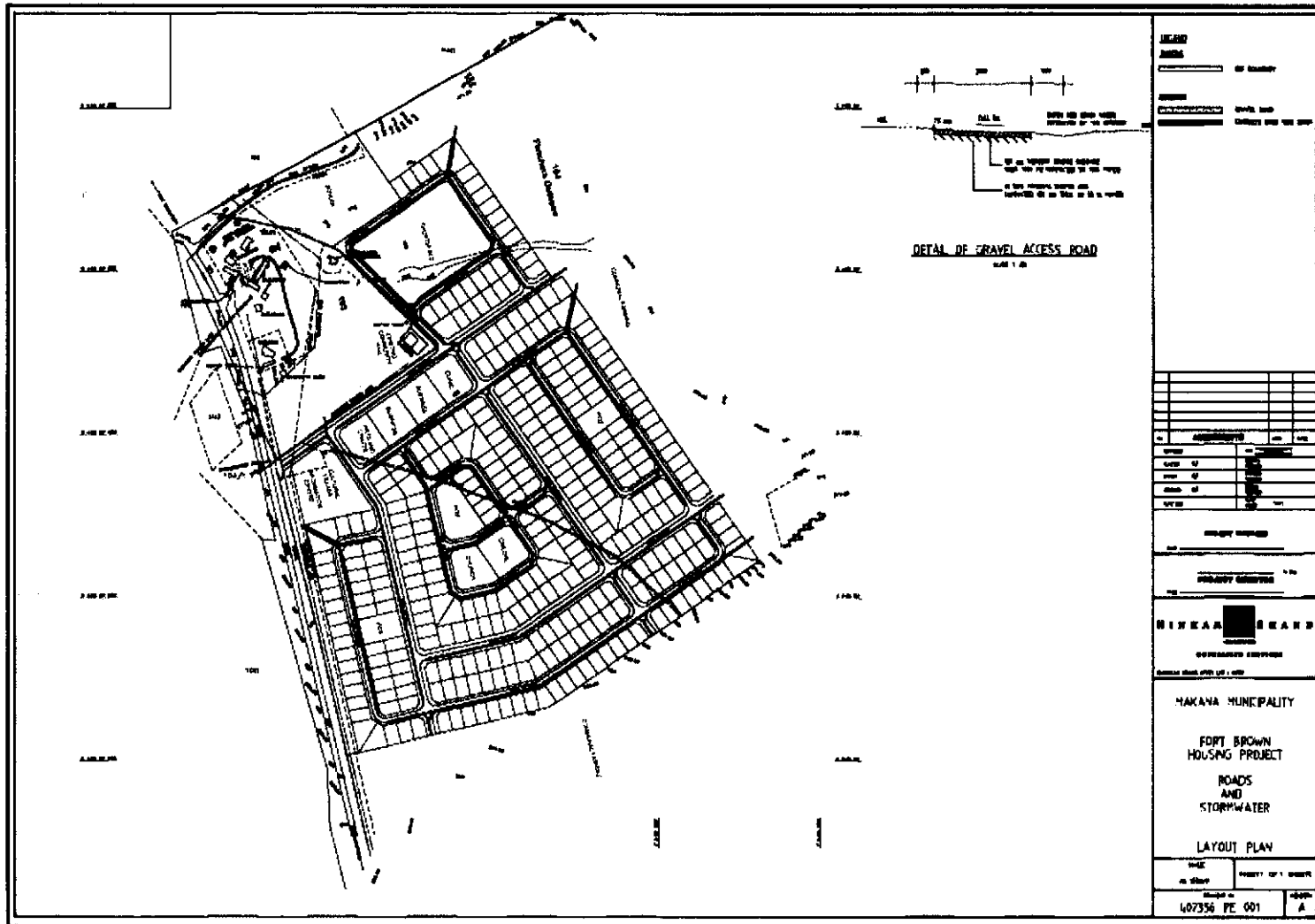


Figure 4: Proposed spatial layout of the Fort Brown Residential Development

Due to proximity of the Fort Brown Police Station to the proposed Fort Brown Residential Development area, existing development and heritage resources, particularly Fort Brown, a declared Provincial Heritage Resource, located on the Farm 103 Fort Brown Police Station property deserves further introduction:

○ **Fort Brown (1835):**

Introduction:

Three powerful nations played a vital part in the formation of the early South African cultural landscape; the British, the Xhosa and the Afrikaner. It was in the Eastern Cape that they first made contact more than 200 years ago. Economic needs of the Xhosa and European settlers were primarily pastoral, and at first there was no need for conflict; it seemed as though there was enough land and some to spare. With time however conflicting demands coupled with ignorance about the others' culture, together with differing attitudes towards land ownership, spiritual beliefs and civilization paved the way for rising conflict (Milton 1983).

The first *Frontier War* broke out in 1779, marking the first formal Xhosa attempt to preserve their traditional customs and way of life. The struggle was to increase in intensity when the British arrived on the scene and continued for 100 years – hence the designation as *Fronteir Country*. A total of nine *Fronteir Wars* were fought between 1779 – 1878, now referred to at the First to the Ninth *Fronteir Wars* respectively. Some have other appellations; such as the *War of the Axe* (7th), the *War of Nxele* or *Makana* (4th), *Hintsa's War* (6th) and the *War of Mlanjeni* (8th) (Milton 1983).

The *Fronteir Wars* were fought in the following order:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 1. <i>First Fronteir War</i> | 1779-1781 | |
| 2. <i>Second Fronteir War</i> | 1793 | |
| 3. <i>Third Fronteir War</i> | 1799-1802 | |
| 4. <i>Fourth Fronteir War</i> | 1811-1812 | |
| 5. <i>Fifth Fronteir War</i> | 1818-1819 | (<i>War of Nxele</i> or <i>Makana</i>) |
| 6. <i>Sixth Fronteir War</i> | 1834-1835 | (<i>Hintsa's War</i>) |
| 7. <i>Seventh Fronteir War</i> | 1846-1847 | (<i>War of the Axe</i>) |
| 8. <i>Eighth Fronteir War</i> | 1850-1853 | (<i>War of Mlanjeni</i>) |
| 9. <i>Ninth Fronteir War</i> | 1877-1878 | |

Periods between the wars were only relatively peaceful and characterized by many minor skirmishes, murders and stock thefts which in turn resulted in the building of forts, garrisons, military posts and signal towers. Military Villages were established, such as Woburn, Auckland, Ely, Juanasberg, Kempt and Fredericksburg. A number of farmsteads were fortified, including Septon Manor, Barville Park and Heatherton Towers (Milton 1983).

Fort Brown:

Fort Brown, a military post along the Fish River, was established in 1817 as part of Lord Charles Somerset's plan to protect the frontier of the Cape Colony. On the instructions of Sir Benjamin d'Urban, Somerset's successor, the fort was converted in 1835 into one of the largest strongholds along the Fish River; a high stone wall enclosed the living quarters and stables, and in one corner a 3.5m high gun tower was built. A stone stairway in the gun tower led up to a room with loopholes to fire from, while a three pounder mountain gun, which could be swiveled, was mounted on the roof. The powder magazine was built underneath the floor of the gun tower. (Olivier & Olivier 2001) From here a tunnel run underneath

the now R67 tarmac road to the Fish River (Pers Comm.: Fort Brown Police Staff). The fort is believed to have been built by Andrew Geddes Bain, replacing the former small 1817 fort known as Hermanuskraal. It was probably named after Lt. Brown of the 75th Regiment, who was in command there during the war (<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com>).

The bridge over the Fish River at Fort Brown was built by William Jervois of the British Army and completed in 1848. Jervois eventually became Deputy-Director of fortifications of the British Army (<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com>)

The fort was manned until 1861 (Olivier & Olivier 2001) and was later used as a police post. Today the gun tower is incorporated as part of the contemporary Fort Brown Police Station development.

In 1838 the gun tower and adjacent walls was proclaimed a Historical Monument (<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com>). With heritage legislation in South Africa having been replaced by the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999, the site now receives formal heritage protection as a *Provincial Heritage Resource*.

Fort Brown, situated at S33°07'47.2"; E26°37'02.6" in the north western quadrant of Farm 103, is today managed as part of the Fort Brown Police Station. The gun tower and related walls are remarkably well preserved and located in close proximity to the very contemporary Fort Brown Police Station infrastructure. Conservation of the resource is managed by the police. The site is open for visitation, free of charge and accompanied by police staff as guides. Visitation is extended to the total of the gun tower including the roof platform, the entrance level floor and the magazine room, excluding the tunnel leading underneath the R67. A visitor's book is kept by the police; indicating visitor numbers of approximately 3 visitors/month. Low visitor numbers highlights the importance of the police station development on the property particularly relating to the police's commitment to the incredible upkeep and conservation of the site.

Other infrastructure on the Fort Brown Police Station (Farm 103) property:

Other infrastructure situated on the Fort Brown Provincial Heritage Site property (Farm 103) comprise of:

1. A Community Center (located at S33°07'49.8"; E26°37'10.7" in the south eastern extremity of Farm 103);
2. A sports field (located at S33°07'48.9"; E26°37'07.3" in the central southern part of Farm 103); and
3. The Fort Brown Primary School, with extensions thereto under construction (located at S33°07'45.2"; E26°37'06.7" in the north eastern quadrant of Farm 103).

(All 3 developments are at present managed by the Fort Brown police / the Department of Public Works but primarily used by the community intended to be housed through the Fort Brown Residential Development).

The Fort Brown Provincial Heritage Resource is an exquisite example of how secondary development at heritage sites, particularly in areas of low tourist impact, can contribute to site conservation and the management of Provincial Heritage Resources as an important part of South Africa's National Estate.



Figure 5: General view of the Fort Brown Police Station with the Historic Period gun tower and adjacent walls incorporated in the development

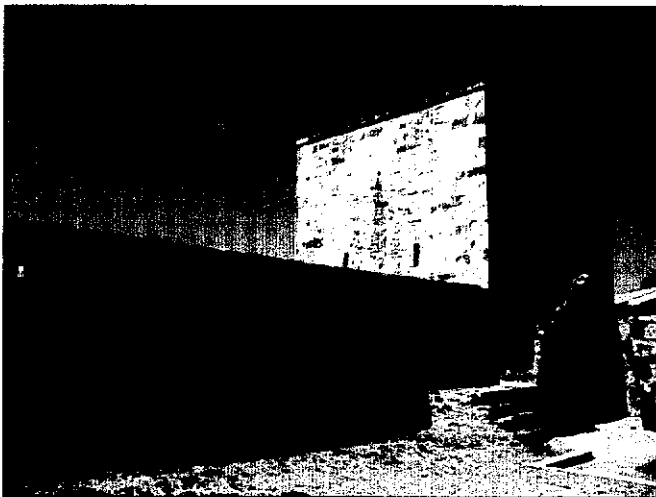


Figure 6: Close-up of the Fort Brown gun tower and the remaining walls



Figure 7: The Historic Monuments plaque still visible on the fort walls

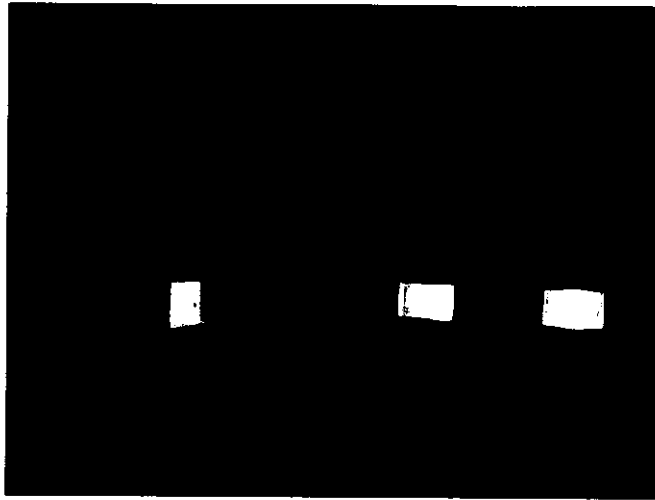


Figure 8: The entrance room of the Fort Brown gun tower

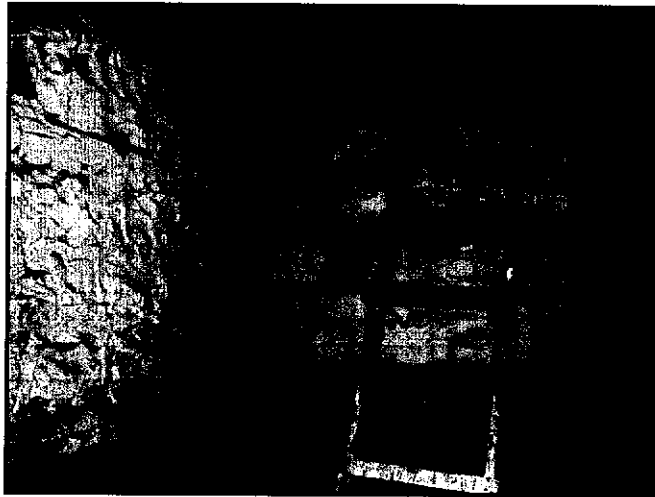


Figure 9: The Fort Brown magazine room with the wooden staircase leading to the entrance room



Figure 10: View from the top of the gun tower over the sports field and the Community Center with the development area proper in the background

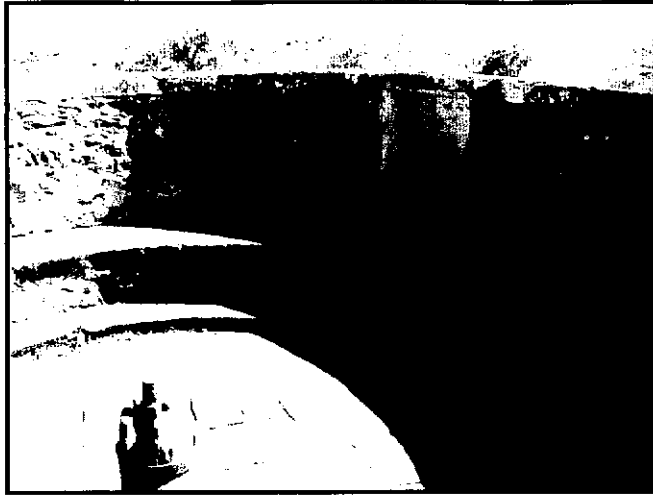


Figure 11: General view of the top of the gun tower with a later addition staircase leading down to the entrance room

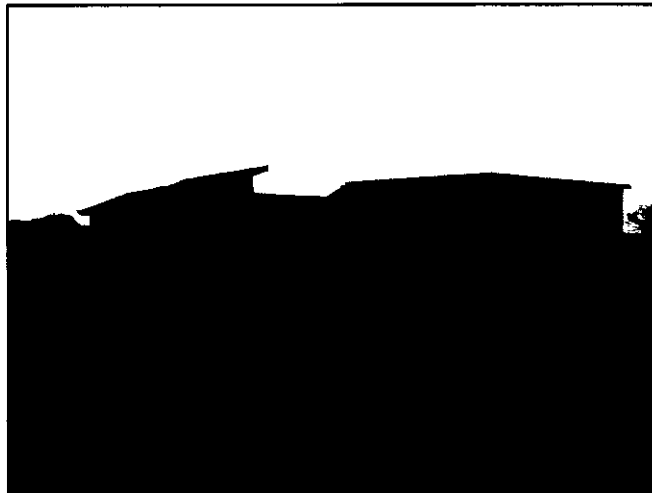


Figure 12: The Community Center located on Farm 103



Figure 13: The Fort Brown Primary School located on Farm 103

2) THE PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.1) *Archaeological Legislative Compliance*

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was requested by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) mandatory responsible for the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No 25 of 1999 (NHRA 1999).

The Phase 1 AIA was requested as specialist sub-section to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in compliance with requirements of the National Environmental Management Act, No 107 of 1998 (NEMA 1998) and associated regulations (2006), and the NHRA 1999 and associated regulations (2000).

The Phase 1 AIA aimed to locate, identify and assess the significance of cultural heritage resources, inclusive of archaeological deposits / sites, built structures older than 60 years, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict and cultural landscapes or views as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999, that may be affected by the proposed development. Palaeontological deposits / sites as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999, are not included as subject to this report.

2.2) *Methodology*

The Phase 1 AIA was conducted over a 1 day period (2009-09-16) by one archaeologist. The assessment was done by foot and limited to a Phase 1 surface survey; no excavation or sub-surface testing was done. GPS co-ordinates were taken with a Garmin GPSmap 60CSx GPS (Datum: WGS84). Photographic documentation was done with a Casio EX-S10 camera. A combination of Garmap and Google Earth software was used in the display of spatial information.

SITE SIGNIFICANCE	FIELD RATING	GRADE	RECOMMENDED MITIGATION
High Significance	National Significance	Grade 1	Site conservation / Site development
High Significance	Provincial Significance	Grade 2	Site conservation / Site development
High Significance	Local Significance	Grade 3A / 3B	Site conservation or extensive mitigation prior to development / destruction
High / Medium Significance	Generally Protected A	-	Site conservation or mitigation prior to development / destruction
Medium Significance	Generally Protected B	-	Site conservation or mitigation / test excavation / systematic sampling / monitoring prior to or during development / destruction
Low Significance	Generally Protected C	-	On-site sampling, monitoring or no archaeological mitigation required prior to or during development / destruction

Table 1: SAHRA archaeological and cultural heritage site significance assessment and mitigation recommendations

Archaeological and cultural heritage site significance assessment and associated mitigation recommendations were done according to the system prescribed by SAHRA (2007).

2.3) Coverage and Gap Analysis

The Phase 1 AIA covered the total of the proposed approximate 70ha Fort Brown Residential Development area. General surface visibility can be described as good. The proposed development area is accessible via the R67 tarmac road.

2.4) Phase 1 AIA Assessment findings

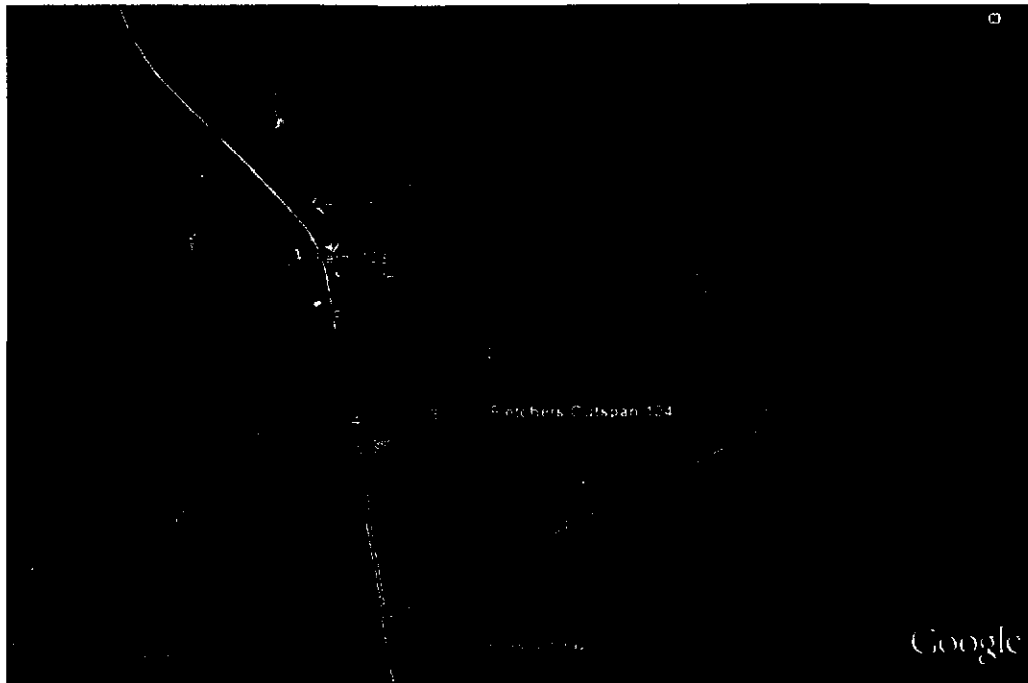


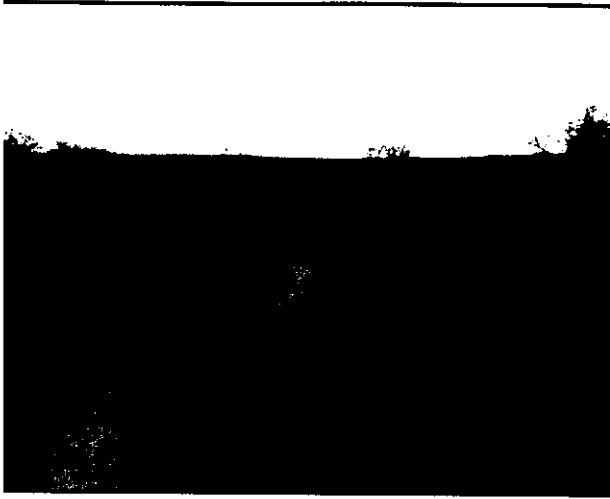
Figure 14: The Fort Brown Residential Development area (red 1-7), located on a portion of Fletcher's Outspan 104

No archaeological or cultural heritage resources, as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999, were identified during the Phase 1 AIA assessment of the proposed approximate 70ha Fort Brown Residential Development area.

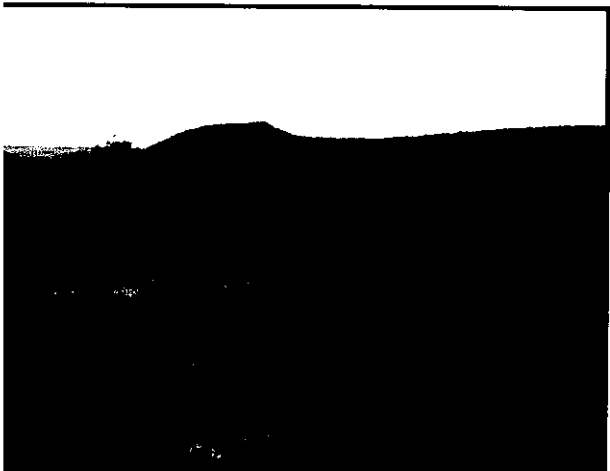
Despite varying vegetation cover general surface visibility across the proposed development area can be described as good. No surface archaeological resources were encountered during the assessment. Sub-surface inspection, limited to a number of shallow streambeds, in general not in excess of 1m in depth, as well as a number of animal burrows across the development area yielded no cultural remains; surface anthropic sterility thus seems to be echoed by sub-surface deposits.

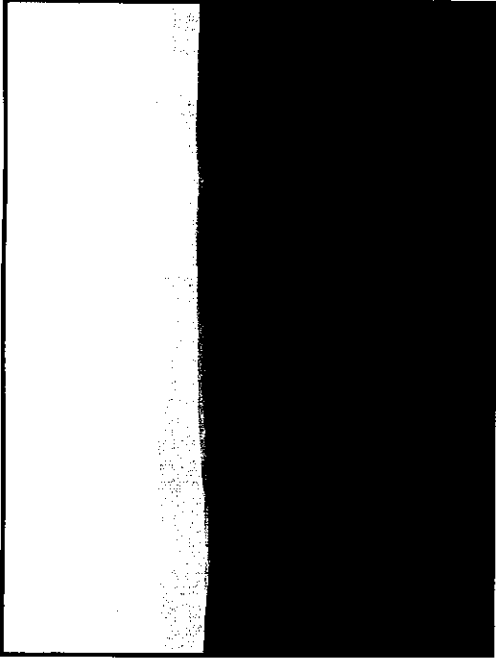
A single gravel road runs across the central part of the proposed development area. The road comprises as a shallow scraped road, at intervals rehabilitated by gravel, primarily sourced from shallow outcrops on the property but without significant impact in terms of a formal quarry pit. Small gravel deposits are thus present at low intervals across the area; in no case did inspection of these yield lithic artefacts.

cultural activity was evident, primarily in the central to central western part of the site. The site comprised of a brick and cement dam and water trough, a rusted metal dump (primarily contemporary glass) and associated dump (primarily contemporary glass) as well as two short sections of fence. None of the remains constituted significant contemporary cultural heritage. The removal of these sites in lieu of the development is not subject to SAHRA application.

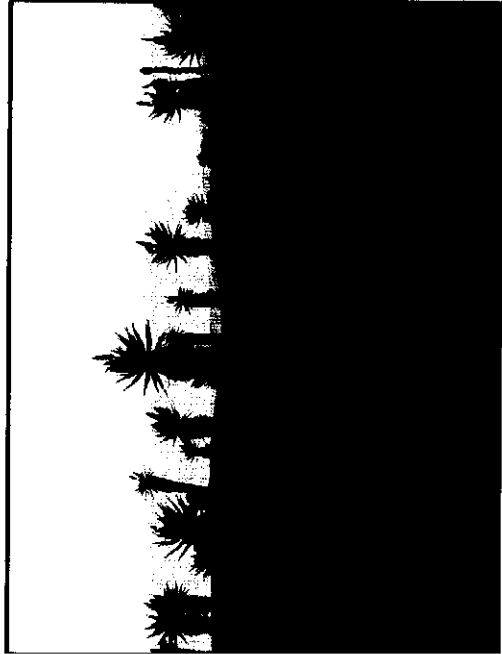


of the eastern part of the proposed Fort Brown Residential Development area, portion of Fletcher's Outspan 104

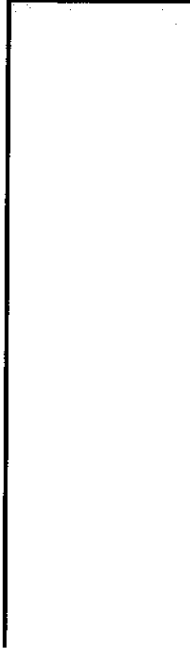


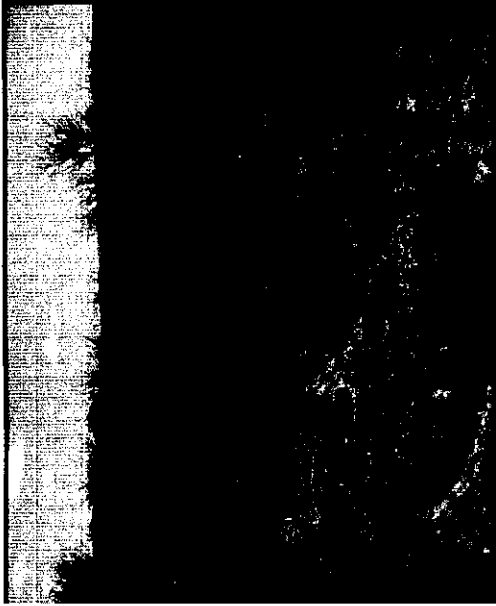


General view of the proposed development area towards the south east

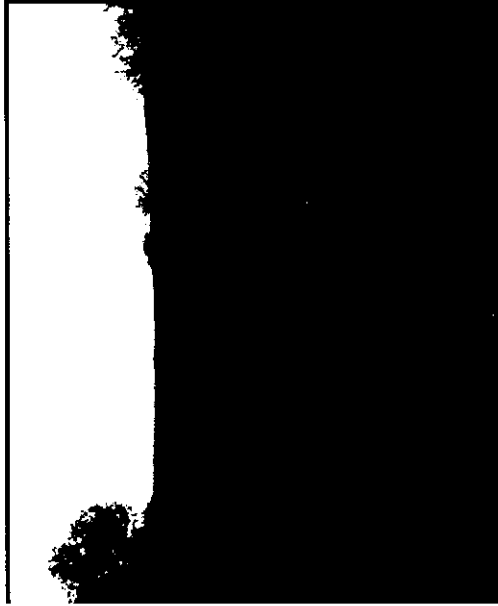


18: General view of the south eastern part of the development area



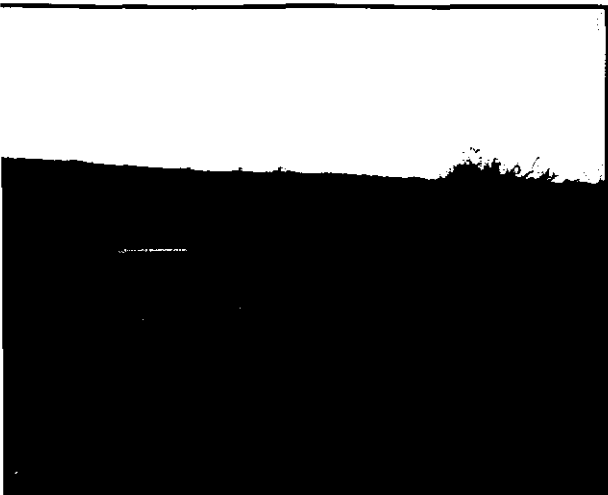


of animal burrows yielded no sign of a sub-surface anthropic component



r of the access road running across the central part of the development area





development on the proposed development area: Two short brick and cement staircases



metal dump located in the central eastern part of the proposed development area



Assessment and Recommendations

Heritage or cultural heritage resources, as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999, were proposed approximate 70ha Fort Brown Residential Development area, to be situated on a portion of Fletcher's Outspan 104 in the Albany District of the Eastern Cape.

The Fort Brown Residential Development will however be located in close proximity to the environmentally protected Fort Brown Provincial Heritage Resource, located on the adjacent Outspan 03, commonly referred to as the Fort Brown Police Station. The Fort Brown Provincial Heritage Resource as well as a number of other contemporary developments not directly forming part of the site are managed and maintained by the Fort Brown police. Management of the Fort Brown Provincial Heritage Resource will remain the responsibility of the police and no impact on the site is expected from the proposed residential development.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that, with reference to cultural heritage compliance as per the requirements of the NHRA 1999, the proposed approximate 70ha Fort Brown Residential Development, (portion of) Fletcher's Outspan 104, Albany District, Eastern Cape proceeds as applied for.



PORTION OF FLETCHERS OUTSPAN 104, ALBANY DISTRICT, EASTERN CAPE



A	-	-	S33°07'39.7"; E26°37'13.3"	DEVELOPMENT TO PROCEED AS APPLIED FOR
	-	-	S33°07'58.2"; E26°37'25.8"	
	-	-	S33°08'05.6"; E26°37'18.5"	
	-	-	S33°08'06.9"; E26°37'07.9"	
	-	-	S33°07'54.5"; E26°37'04.4"	
	-	-	S33°07'50.0"; E26°37'11.3"	
	-	-	S33°07'42.2"; E26°37'07.9"	

cultural heritage resources as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999 will directly be affected by the proposed development.

CITED

web.com

mental. 2009. *Proposed Fort Brown Housing Project. Environmental Assessment Document (BID)*. Unpublished report.

Years of War – A History of Frontier Wars (1702-1878). Juta & Co: Cape Town.

101. *Touring in South Africa*. Struik Publishers: Cape Town.

nt. (No. 107) of 1998. *National Environmental Management Act*.

nt. (No. 25) of 1999. *National Heritage Resources Act*.

Resources Agency. 2007. *Minimum standards for the archaeological and heritage assessments*. Unpublished guidelines.