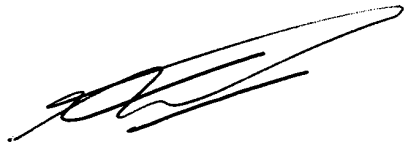


HOTAZEL MANGANESE MINES

WESSELS MINE
ON SECTION OF THE FARMS
WESSELS 227, DIBIAGHOMO 226 AND DIKGATHLONG 268

MAMATWAN MINE
ON SECTION OF THE FARMS
GOOLD 329 AND MAMATWAN 331

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT



Wouter Fourie
BA (Hon) Archaeology (UP)



Jaco van der Walt
BA (Hon) Archaeology (WITS)

Reference: HMM-001

Compiled by: Wouter Fourie &
Jaco vd Walt

Date: 12 September 2005



Matakoma Heritage Consultants (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 431

Paardekraal, 1752

Tel: +27 11 954 6871

Fax: +27 11 954 3568

E-mail: info@matakoma.co.za

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As we know from legislation the surveying, capturing and management of heritage resources is an integral part of the greater management plan laid down for any major development or historic existing operation. With the proclamation of the National Heritage Resources Act 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) this process has been laid down clearly. This legislation aims to underpin the existing legislation, which only addresses this issue at a glance, and gives guidance to developers and existing industries to the management of their Heritage Resources.

The importance of working with and following the guidelines laid down by the South African Heritage Resources Agency cannot be stressed enough.

The following outline the findings of the report:

No sites of cultural significance were found during the survey conducted on the Wessels and Mamatwan Mine Lease areas. Initial indications from the archival research are that the areas in question were known as the 'bad lands' with no inhabitants up to the early part of the 20th century.

The absence of surface water close to the survey areas can also explain the area being void of habitation.

Refer to Section 9 for proposed management guidelines.

Index

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY	5
3. WORKING WITH LEGISLATION	6
4.1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	6
5. SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE	8
6. ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS	8
7. LEGAL AND POLICY REQUIREMENTS	8
8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION	11
9. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES	11
10. LIST OF PREPARES	14
11. REFERENCES	15

Annexure

Annexure A – Legislation extracts

Annexure B – Map of sites

Annexure C - Watching Brief Outline

1. INTRODUCTION

Matakoma Consultants was contracted by BHP Billiton to conduct a Heritage Assessment for their existing Hotazel Manganese Mines of Wessels and Mamatwan at Hotazel in the Northern Cape Province. The study forms part of the Environmental Management Program currently being updated for these two mines

The aim of the study is to identify all heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within local, provincial, and national context. From this we aim to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resource in a responsible manner to protect, preserve, and develop the heritage resources within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

The report outlines the approach and methodology utilised before and during the survey, which includes in Phase 1: Archival research, information collection from various sources and public consultations – this section will be provided at a later stage with other extensions to the Hotazel Manganese Mines survey; Phase 2: Physical surveying of the area on foot and vehicle; and Phase 3: Reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey, no sites of heritage value were identified. The section under Recommendations provide broad management guidelines for the discovery of cultural heritage sites or objects for inclusion into the Management Program.

This report must also be submitted to SAHRA's provincial office for scrutiny.

2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study is to extensively cover all available data to compile a background history of the area. This was done by means of the following phases.

2.1 Phase 1

The first phase comprised of a desktop study with the aim of gathering data to compile a background history of the area in a five-kilometre radius. This desktop study covered the following:

2.1.1 Archival research

Utilising data stored in the National as well as Transvaal Archives for information gathering. The aim is to compile a data list of archaeological sites, historical sites, graves, architecture, oral history, and ethnographical information on the inhabitants of the area.

This section will be included in the report covering the extended survey areas of the Hotazel Manganese Mines.

2.2 Physical Surveying

Due to the nature of cultural remains that occur below surface, a physical walk through of the study area was conducted.

Aerial photographs and 1:50 000 maps of the area were consulted and literature of the area were studied before undertaking the survey. The purpose of this was to identify topographical areas of possible historic and pre-historic activity. The existing mining lease areas were surveyed over five days, by means of vehicle and extensive surveys on foot by archaeologists. All sites discovered inside the mining lease areas were plotted on 1:50 000 maps, and their GPS co-ordinates noted. 35mm photographs on digital film were taken of all the sites found.

Due to the vastness of the area of 920 hectares, most of the time was dedicated to the surveying of the undisturbed area of the two Mines. This entailed some 450 hectares at Wessels Mine and 50 hectares for Mamatwan Mine.

The undisturbed area was surveyed by means of 100 meter transects. These were walked by two field surveyors, covering some 150 hectares per day. Time was also taken to evaluate current and historic drilling activities occurring in the mining lease area. No stone age artefacts or fossils were present in the fine matrix of the drill core fragments.

During the survey numerous local inhabitants were consulted on the presence of graves and old settlements in the survey area. However no indications of the presence of these were given.

3. WORKING WITH LEGISLATION

It is very important that cultural resources be evaluated according to the National Heritage Recourse Act. In the absence of any Cultural Resources, please refer to Section 8 for Management Guidelines.

4.1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

This chapter describes the evaluation criteria used for the sites listed below.

The significance of archaeological sites was based on five main criteria:

- **site integrity** (i.e. primary vs. secondary context),
- **amount of deposit, range of features** (e.g., stonewalling, stone tools and enclosures),
- **uniqueness** and
- **potential** to answer present research questions.

4.2 Evaluation

4.2.1 Significance

The significance rating scale is as follows:

HIGH: Impacts of a substantial order. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and/or remedial activity would be feasible but difficult, expensive, time-consuming or some combination of these.

In the case of positive impacts, other means of achieving this benefit would be feasible, but these would be more difficult, expensive, time-consuming or some combination of these.

MODERATE: Impact would be real but not substantial within the bounds of those, which could occur. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and/or remedial activity would be both feasible and fairly easily possible. In the case of positive impacts, other means of achieving these benefits would be about equal, cost and effort.

LOW: Impact would be of low order and with little effect. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation and/or remedial activity would be either easily achieved or little would be required, or both. In case of positive impacts, alternative means of achieving this benefit would likely be easier, cheaper, more effective, less time-consuming, or some combination of these.

VERY LOW: Impact would be negligible. In the case of negative impacts, almost no mitigation and/or remedial activity would be needed, and any minor steps, which might be needed, would be easy, cheap and simple. In the case of positive impacts, alternative means would be almost all likely to be better, in one or a number of ways, than this means of achieving the benefit.

NO EFFECT: There would be no impact at all - not even a very low impact on the system or any of its parts.

5. SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following section outlines the sites identified in the development area, and evaluates them according to the evaluation criteria of the National Heritage Resources Act.

No sites of Cultural Significance were found within the mining lease areas of Wessels and Mamatwan Mines.

6. ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Due to the nature of cultural remains that occur, in most cases, below surface, the possibility remains that some cultural remains may not have been discovered during the survey. Although Matakoma Heritage Consultants surveyed the area as thorough as possible, it is incumbent upon the developer to inform the relevant heritage agency should further cultural remains be unearthed or laid open during the process of development.

7. LEGAL AND POLICY REQUIREMENTS

In areas where there has not yet been a systematic survey to identify conservation worthy places, a permit is required to alter or demolish any structure older than 60 years. This will apply until a survey has been done and identified heritage resources are formally protected.

Archaeological and palaeontological sites, materials, and meteorites are the source of our understanding of the evolution of the earth, life on earth and the history of people. In the new legislation, permits are required to damage, destroy, alter or disturb them. People who already possess material are required to register it.

The management of heritage resources are integrated with environmental resources and this means that before development takes place heritage resources are assessed and, if necessary, rescued.

In addition to the formal protection of culturally significant graves, all graves, which are older than 60 years and are not in a cemetery (such as ancestral graves in rural

areas), are protected. The legislation protects the interests of communities that have interest in the graves: they may be consulted before any disturbance takes place.

The graves of victims of conflict and those associated with the liberation struggle will be identified, cared for, protected and memorials erected in their honour.

Anyone who intends to undertake a development must notify the heritage resource authority and if there is reason to believe that heritage resources will be affected, an impact assessment report must be compiled at the developer's cost. Thus developers will be able to proceed without uncertainty about whether work will have to be stopped if a heritage resource is discovered.

According to the National Heritage Act (Act 25 of 1999 section 32) it is stated that:

An object or collection of objects, or a type of object or a list of objects, whether specific or generic, that is part of the national estate and the export of which SAHRA deems it necessary to control, may be declared a heritage object, including –

- objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
- visual art objects;
- military objects;
- numismatic objects;
- objects of cultural and historical significance;
- objects to which oral traditions are attached and which are associated with living heritage;
- objects of scientific or technological interest;
- books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic material, film or video or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 (xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996), or in a provincial law pertaining to records or archives; and
- any other prescribed category.

If it is necessary to refer to any of the above-mentioned objects, the National Heritage Act (Act 25 of 1999 Sections 31-38) are included in Appendix 2.

Under the new National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999), provisions are made that deal with, and offer protection, to all historic and pre-historic cultural remains, including graves and human remains.

- Graves younger than 60 years fall under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the Office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning or in some cases the MEC for Housing and Welfare. Authorisation for exhumation and reinterment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. In order to handle and transport human remains the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).
- Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA). The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36(5) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in the category located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority will also require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years over and above SAHRA authorisation. If the grave is not situated inside a formal cemetery but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws set by the cemetery authority must be adhered to.

Refer to **Annexure A** for further information on legislation.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

*A map of the surveyed areas are provided in **Annexure B**.*

No sites of cultural significance were found during the survey conducted on the Wessels and Mamatwan Mine Lease areas. Initial indications from the archival research are that the areas in question were known as the 'bad lands' with no inhabitants up to the early part of the 20th century.

The absence of surface water close to the survey areas can also explain the area being void of habitation.

9. MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1. The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) states that, '
any person who intends to undertake a development categorised as-
 - (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 50m in length;*
 - (c) any development or other activity which will change the character of a site-*
 - (i) exceeding 5 000m² in extent; or*
 - (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 000m² 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.

In the event that an area previously not included in an archaeological or cultural resources survey, is to be disturbed. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) needs to be contacted. An enquiry must be lodged with them into the necessity for a Heritage Impact Assessment.

2. In the event that a heritage assessment is required it is advisable to utilise a qualified heritage practitioner preferably registered with the Cultural Resources Management Section (CRM) of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA). *Refer to subsection 8.*

This survey and evaluation must include:

- (a) The identification and mapping of all heritage resources in the area affected;
 - (b) an assessment of the significance of such resources in terms of the heritage assessment criteria set out in section 6 (2) or prescribed under section 7 of the National Cultural Resources Act;
 - (c) an assessment of the impact of the development on such heritage resources;
 - (d) an evaluation of the impact of the development on heritage resources relative to the sustainable social and economic benefits to be derived from the development;
 - (e) the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources;
 - (f) if heritage resources will be adversely affected by the proposed development, the consideration of alternatives; and
 - (g) plans for mitigation of any adverse effects during and after the completion of the proposed development.
3. It is advisable that an information section on cultural resources be included in the SHEQ training given to contractors and mine employees involved in

surface earthmoving activities and prospecting drilling. This sections must include basic information on:

- a. Heritage
- b. Graves;
- c. Archaeological finds; and
- d. Historical Structures;

This module must be tailor made to include all possible finds that could be expected in that area of construction.

4. In the event that a possible find is discovered during construction, all activities must be halted in the area of the discovery and a qualified archaeologist contacted.
5. The archaeologist needs to evaluate the finds on site and make recommendations towards possible mitigation measures.
6. If mitigation is necessary, an application for a rescue permit must be lodged with SAHRA.
7. After mitigation an application must be lodged with SAHRA for a destruction permit. This application must be supported by the mitigation report generated during the rescue excavation. Only after the permit is issue may such a site be destroyed.
8. If during the initial survey sites of cultural significance is discovered, it will be necessary to develop a management plan for the preservation, documentation or destruction of such site. Such a program must include a watching brief, timeframe and agreed upon schedule of actions between the company and the archaeologist.
9. In the event that human remain are uncovered or previously unknown graves are discovered a qualified archaeologist needs to be contacted and an evaluation of the finds made.
10. If the remains are to be exhumed and relocated, the relocation procedures as accepted by SAHRA needs to followed. This includes an extensive social consultation process

Refer to **Annexure C** for an outline of the proposed archaeological watching brief that is recommended for this project.

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal program of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

The purpose of a watching brief is:

- To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works
- To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.
- A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

Matakoma Heritage Consultants can be contacted on the way forward in this regard.

10. LIST OF PREPARES

Wouter Fourie, BA (Hon) Archaeology (UP)

Jaco van der Walt, BA (Hon) Archaeology (WITS)

11. REFERENCES

11.1 Archaeological Papers

EVERS, T.M. Sotho Tswana and Moloko Settlement Patterns and the Bantu Cattle Pattern.

HUFFMAN, T.N. 2002. Gautrain Archaeological Assessment. Archaeological Resource Management. WITS

KLEIN, R.G. 1984. Southern African Prehistory and Paleoenvironments. A.A. Balkema.

11.2 Cultural Heritage Papers:

FISHER, R.C. 1997. Architecture an Overview. South African Arts, Culture and Heritage Calendar, 1997. Department of Arts, Culture, Science, and Technology.

ANNEXURE A

Legislation extracts

[36]36 Burial grounds and graves

(1) Where it is not the responsibility of any other authority, SAHRA must conserve and generally care for burial grounds and graves protected in terms of this section, and it may make such arrangements for their conservation as it sees fit.

(2) SAHRA must identify and record the graves of victims of conflict and any other graves which it deems to be of cultural significance and may erect memorials associated with the grave referred to in subsection (1), and must maintain such memorials.

(3) (a) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority-

(a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or 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, 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 equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

(4) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for the destruction or damage of any burial ground or grave referred to in subsection (3) (a) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has made satisfactory arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such graves, at the cost of the applicant and in accordance with any regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority.

(5) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for any activity under subsection (3) (b) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has, in accordance with regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority-

(a) made a concerted effort to contact and consult communities and individuals who by tradition have an interest in such grave or burial ground; and

(b) reached agreements with such communities and individuals regarding the future of such grave or burial ground.

(6) Subject to the provision of any other law, any person who in the course of development or any other activity discovers the location of a grave, the existence of which was previously unknown, must immediately cease such activity and report the discovery to the responsible heritage resources authority which must, in co-operation with the South African Police Service and in accordance with regulations of the responsible heritage resources authority-

(a) carry out an investigation for the purpose of obtaining information on whether or not such grave is protected in terms of this Act or is of significance to any community; and

(b) if such grave is protected or is of significance, assist any person who or community which is a direct descendant to make arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such grave or, in the absence of such person or community, make any such arrangements as it deems fit.

(7) (a) SAHRA must, over a period of five years from the commencement of this Act, submit to the Minister for his or her approval lists of graves and burial grounds of persons connected with the liberation struggle and who died in exile or as a result of the action of State security forces or agents provocateur and which, after a process of public consultation, it believes should be included among those protected under this section.

(b) The Minister must publish such lists as he or she approves in the Gazette.

(8) Subject to section 56 (2), SAHRA has the power, with respect to the graves of victims of conflict outside the Republic, to perform any function of a provincial heritage resources authority in terms of this section.

(9) SAHRA must assist other State Departments in identifying graves in a foreign country of victims of conflict connected with the liberation struggle and, following negotiations with the next of kin, or relevant authorities, it may re-inter the remains of that person in a prominent place in the capital of the Republic.

[37]37 Public monuments and memorials

Public monuments and memorials must, without the need to publish a notice to this effect, be protected in the same manner as places which are entered in a heritage register referred to in section 30.

[38]38 Heritage resources management

(1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorised as-

(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 50m in length;

(c) any development or other activity which will change the character of a site-

(i) exceeding 5 000m² in extent; or

(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 000m² 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.

(2) The responsible heritage resources authority must, within 14 days of receipt of a notification in terms of subsection (1)-

(a) if there is reason to believe that heritage resources will be affected by such development, notify the person who intends to undertake the development to submit an impact assessment report. Such report must be compiled at the cost of the person proposing the development, by a person or persons approved by the responsible heritage resources authority with relevant qualifications and experience and professional standing in heritage resources management; or

(b) notify the person concerned that this section does not apply.

(3) The responsible heritage resources authority must specify the information to be provided in a report required in terms of subsection (2) (a): Provided that the following must be included:

- (a) The identification and mapping of all heritage resources in the area affected;
- (b) an assessment of the significance of such resources in terms of the heritage assessment criteria set out in section 6 (2) or prescribed under section 7;
- (c) an assessment of the impact of the development on such heritage resources;
- (d) an evaluation of the impact of the development on heritage resources relative to the sustainable social and economic benefits to be derived from the development;

(e) the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources;

(f) if heritage resources will be adversely affected by the proposed development, the consideration of alternatives; and

(g) plans for mitigation of any adverse effects during and after the completion of the proposed development.

(4) The report must be considered timeously by the responsible heritage resources authority which must, after consultation with the person proposing the development, decide-

(a) whether or not the development may proceed;

(b) any limitations or conditions to be applied to the development;

(c) what general protections in terms of this Act apply, and what formal protections may be applied, to such heritage resources;

(d) whether compensatory action is required in respect of any heritage resources damaged or destroyed as a result of the development; and

(e) whether the appointment of specialists is required as a condition of approval of the proposal.

(5) A provincial heritage resources authority shall not make any decision under subsection (4) with respect to any development which impacts on a heritage resource protected at national level unless it has consulted SAHRA.

(6) The applicant may appeal against the decision of the provincial heritage resources authority to the MEC, who-

(a) must consider the views of both parties; and

(b) may at his or her discretion-

(i) appoint a committee to undertake an independent review of the impact assessment report and the decision of the responsible heritage authority; and

(ii) consult SAHRA; and

(c) must uphold, amend or overturn such decision.

(7) The provisions of this section do not apply to a development described in subsection (1) affecting any heritage resource formally protected by SAHRA unless the authority concerned decides otherwise.

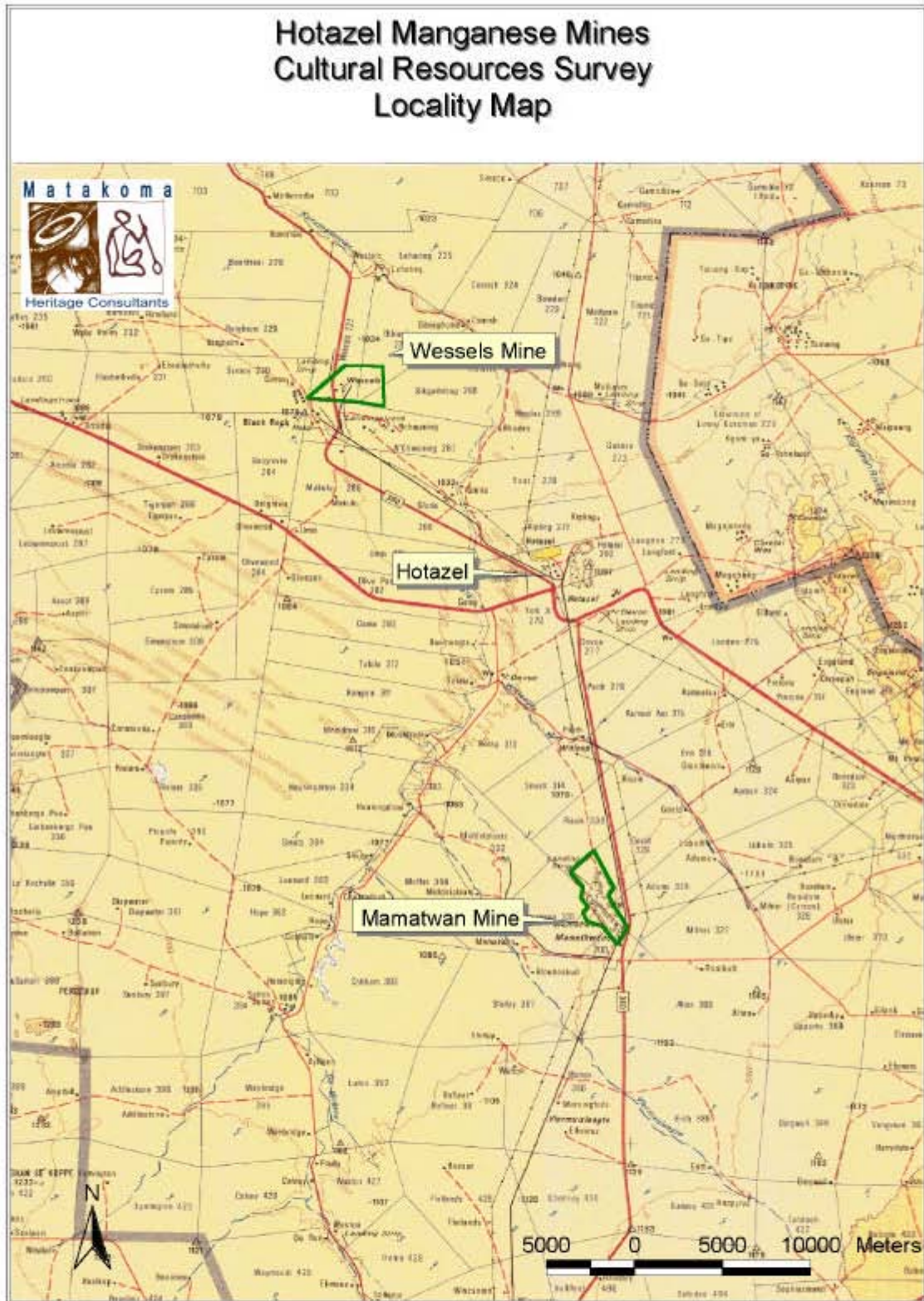
(8) The provisions of this section do not apply to a development as described in subsection (1) if an evaluation of the impact of such development on heritage resources is required in terms of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act 73 of 1989), or the integrated environmental management guidelines issued by the Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism, or the Minerals Act, 1991 (Act 50 of 1991), or any other legislation: Provided that the consenting authority must ensure that the evaluation fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority in terms of subsection (3), and any comments and recommendations of the relevant heritage resources authority with regard to such development have been taken into account prior to the granting of the consent.

(9) The provincial heritage resources authority, with the approval of the MEC, may, by notice in the Provincial Gazette, exempt from the requirements of this section any place specified in the notice.

(10) Any person who has complied with the decision of a provincial heritage resources authority in subsection (4) or of the MEC in terms of subsection (6) or other requirements referred to in subsection (8), must be exempted from compliance with all other protections in terms of this Part, but any existing heritage agreements made in terms of section 42 must continue to apply.

ANNEXURE B

Map of study areas



ANNEXURE C

OUTLINE GUIDE FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

STANDARD AND GUIDANCE - for an Archaeological Watching Brief

1. DEFINITION OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposit may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

This definition does not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains in situ.

2. PURPOSE OF A WATCHING BRIEF

The purpose of a watching brief is:

- To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works
- To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.
- A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.
- An archaeologist shall only undertake a watching brief, which is governed by a written and agreed specification or project design prepared in advance of work commencing.
- The specification or project design must identify the objectives, scope, geographical area, and means of dissemination of the results of the

watching brief, and incorporate a method statement and work programme. The specification or project design should conform to the brief/project outline if one has been set, and must in any case be approved in advance by the planning archaeologist or curator.

The specification or project design should contain, as a minimum, the following elements:

- Non-technical summary
- Site location (including map) and descriptions
- Context of the project
- Geological and topographical background
- Archaeological and historical background
- General and specific aims of fieldwork
- Reference to relevant legislation
- Field methodology
- Collection and disposal strategy for artefacts and ecofacts
- Arrangement for immediate conservation of artefacts
- Post-fieldwork methodology
- Report preparation (method)
- Publication and dissemination proposals
- Copyright
- Archive deposition
- Timetable
- Staffing
- Health & safety considerations
- Monitoring procedures
- Contingency arrangements (if appropriate)

3. FIELDWORK

3.1 All relevant parties must agree to the specification and/or project design before work commences. All work must conform to the agreed specification or project design. All relevant parties must agree to any variations in writing.

3.2 Sufficient and appropriate resources (staff, equipment, accommodation etc) must be used to enable the project to achieve its aims, the desired quality and timetable, and comply with all statutory requirements. Any contingency

elements must be clearly identified and justified. It is the role of the archaeologist undertaking the work to define appropriate staff levels.

3.3 All techniques used must comply with relevant legislation and be demonstrably fit for the defined purpose(s).

3.4 All staff, including subcontractors, must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles, and employed in line with relevant legislation and IFA by-laws (see Appendix 6). The site director and/or manager should preferably be a Principal Inspector with the Cultural Resources Management Section of the South African Association of Archaeologists (CRM Section of SA3).

3.5 All staff, including subcontractors, must be fully briefed and aware of the work required under the specification, and must understand the aims and methodologies of the project. All equipment must be suitable for the purpose and in sound condition and comply with Health and Safety regulations and recommendations.

3.6 Sufficient and appropriate resources (staff, equipment, accommodation etc) must be used to enable the project to achieve its aims, the desired quality and timetable, and to comply with all statutory requirements. Any contingency elements must be clearly identified and justified. It is the role of the archaeologist undertaking the work to define appropriate staff levels.

3.7 Full and proper records (written, graphic, electronic and photographic as appropriate) should be made for all work, using pro forma record forms and sheets as applicable. Digital records created, as part of the project should comply with specified data standards. An archaeologist must ensure that digital information, paper and photographic records should be stored in a secure and appropriate environment, and be regularly copied or backed up, and copies stored in a separate location.

3.8 Artefact and environmental data collection and discard policies, strategies and techniques must be fit for the defined purpose, and understood by all staff and subcontractors

3.9 Health and Safety regulations and requirements cannot be ignored no matter how imperative the need to record archaeological information; hence Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork must do so under a defined Health and Safety Policy.

3.10 Archaeologists undertaking fieldwork must observe safe working practices; the Health and Safety arrangements must be agreed and understood by all relevant parties before work commences

3.11 Archaeologists must liaise closely with the principal contractor and comply with specified site rules. Archaeologists are advised to note the onerous responsibilities of the role of planning supervisor.

3.12 The archaeologist undertaking a watching brief must ensure that he or she has adequate insurance policies, public and employer's liability and some relevant form of civil liability indemnity or professional indemnity.

3.13 On arrival on site, the archaeologist should report to the site manager or other identified representative of the principal contractors or developers, and conform to their arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site.

3.14 Where the archaeologist has by instruction or agreement the power to suspend development work, he or she shall, in exercising such power, follow procedures previously agreed with the other contractors on the site. Within the constraints of the nature of the archaeological resource, the archaeologist shall not cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors.

3.15 An archaeologist should keep a record of the date, time and duration of all visits, the number of staff concerned and any actions taken.

4. POST-FIELDWORK ANALYSES AND REPORTS

4.1 Suitably qualified and experienced staff, who must be apprised of the project design before commencing work, and who should understand the work required of them, must carry out all assessment and analytical work.

4.2 The level of recording and analysis of artefacts and ecofacts should be appropriate to the aims and purpose of the project.

4.3 All data generated as a result of assessment and/or analysis should be included in the project archive.

4.4 All reports must address the aims and purposes of the project design and/or specification.

4.5 All reports should be written in a clear, concise and logical style; technical terms should be explained if the report is for a non-archaeological audience. Consideration should be given during the preparation of the report to the requirements of public inquiries and courts of law if appropriate.

4.6 Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the report must be submitted to the appropriate Provincial Heritage Resources Agency (PHRA) within six months of completion of report.

- 4.7 As a minimum, a site summary or data structure report should be submitted to the appropriate PHRA.

5. MONITORING

- 5.1 All work must be monitored by the archaeological contractor undertaking the project, and if appropriate by the PHRA, the Cultural Resources Management Section of the South African Association of Archaeologists (CRM Section of SA3), or their nominated representatives. The guidance below is directed in general at monitors from outside the organisation undertaking the work, but many of the points apply equally to internal monitors or managers.
- 5.2 A monitor should be suitably experienced and qualified, or have access to appropriate specialist advice.
- 5.3 Monitoring must be undertaken against the written specification and/or project design.
- 5.4 Monitors, where not representing the commissioning body, should bear in mind the need for flexibility, within the stated parameters, in contractual matters such as staff numbers, budgets or timetable.
- 5.5 All monitoring visits must be documented, and agreed by each party.
- 5.6 Non-compliance with the agreed specification or project design must be pointed out by the monitor to the archaeologist undertaking the work, and their client if appropriate, at the earliest opportunity.
- 5.7 Monitors should be aware of their professional and moral duties regarding Health and Safety, in particular reporting and advising against bad and unsafe practice.
- 5.8 All monitoring arrangements must be agreed at the outset of the project; the archaeologist undertaking fieldwork must inform the planning archaeologist or other monitor of the commencement of work with reasonable notice.
- 5.9 Although monitors may choose to visit at any time, they should normally inform the archaeologist undertaking the work of any intended visits in advance. Monitors must respect reasonable requests from the client commissioning the work to attend only at prearranged times and, if necessary, in the company of the client's representative.
- 5.10 Any costs for monitoring to be charged by the planning archaeologist or other monitor must be agreed in writing at the outset of the project.

6. REPORT CONTENTS

The specific requirements of any report will necessarily vary according to the scope of works, the nature of the results or other factors. However, the following sections will occur in most

Non-technical summary

This should outline in plain, non-technical language the principal reason for the work, its objectives and main results. It should include reference to authorship and commissioning body.

Introductory statements

These could include acknowledgements, circumstances of the project such as planning background, the archaeological background, an outline nature of work, the site description (including size, geology and topography, location), when the project was undertaken and by whom.

Aims and objectives

These should reflect or reiterate the aims set out in the project design or specification.

Methodology

The methods used, including the detail of any variation to the agreed project design or specification should be set out carefully, and explained as appropriate. These should be set out as a series of summary statements, organised clearly in relation to the methods used, and describing structural data, associated finds and/or environmental data recovered. Descriptive material should be clearly separated from interpretative statements. Technical terminology (including dating or period references) should be explained where necessary if the report is aimed at a largely non-archaeological audience. The results should be amplified where necessary by the use of drawings and photographs; and by supporting data contained in appendices (below).

Conclusions

It is appropriate to include a section, which sums up and interprets the results and puts them into context (local, national or otherwise). Other elements should include a confidence rating on techniques used, or on limitations imposed by particular factors (eg weather or problems of access).

Archive location

The final destination of the archive (records and finds) should be noted in the report.

Appendices

These should contain essential technical and supporting detail, including for example lists of artefacts and contexts or details of measurements, gazetteers etc. It may also be appropriate to include the project design or specification for ease of reference.

Illustrations

Most reports will need the inclusion of one or more illustrations for clarity; as a minimum a location plan should be included. Any plans or sections should be clearly numbered and easily referenced to the National Grid and related to the specified area.

References and bibliography

A list of all sources used should be appended to the report.

Other

Contents list, disclaimers.

7. REFERENCES

The Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2001. STANDARD AND GUIDANCE - for an archaeological watching brief. United Kingdom