

2008-01-17

**REPORT TO:**

**PIET DE BIE (Phethogo Consulting)**

Tel: 051 448 3906/7/8; Fax: 051 448 6728; Postal address: P.O. Box 43284, Heuwelsig, 9332;  
E-mail: piet@phethogo.co.za

**ANDREW SALOMON (South African Heritage Resources Agency / SAHRA)**

Tel: 021 462 4505; Fax: 021 462 4509; Postal address: P.O. Box 4637, Cape Town, 8000;  
E-mail: asalomon@sahra.org.za

**GABRIEL TLHAPI (South African heritage Resources Agency / SAHRA - Free State)**

Tel: 051 448 4139; Fax: 051 448 2536; Postal address: P.O. Box 9743, Bloemfontein, 9300;  
E-mail: gtlhapi@fs.sahra.org.za

**PREPARED BY:**

**KAREN VAN RYNEVELD (ArchaeoMaps)**

Tel: 084 871 1064; Fax: N/A; Postal address: P.O. Box 28530, Danhof, 9310;  
E-mail: kvanryneveld@gmail.com

---

**ADDENDUM TO THE 'PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: EXTENSION TO MAHLATSWETSA TOWNSHIP, EXCELSIOR, FREE STATE, SOUTH AFRICA' (KAREN VAN RYNEVELD, 2007-11-17)**

---

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The abovementioned Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was conducted to assess a proposed extension to the Mahlatswetsa Township, Excelsior, Free State. The development was proposed by the Mantsopa Municipality and intended to comprise of 342 stands located on 27.41ha. No archaeological or cultural heritage resources were, as indicated in the report, identified during assessment of the development area. Report recommendations suggested that development proceeds without the developer having to comply with further archaeological or cultural heritage compliance requirements. Recommendations were approved in the SAHRA 'Review Comment - Archaeological Impact Assessment' (2007-11-18).

In the interim the Mantsopa Municipality identified the need to further extend the township proposal; to increase the total proposed development to 455 stands to be located on 44.34ha; implying an additional 113 stands, or 17ha proposed for development. Development focus of the new extension is centred on a number of residential stands and a large cemetery to be located east and south-east of the former Extension to Mahlatswetsa Township development area.

Terms of Reference for the project is, besides the proposed dimension of the development as explained above, similar to that described in the abovementioned report.

**2. DEVELOPMENT LOCATION & IMPACT**

The proposed development will be located immediately east and south-east of the formerly assessed area, on the Remainder of the Farm Dorp Gronden of Excelsior No 358, Excelsior, Free State, South Africa (1:50,000 map ref. - 2827CC). Access to the development area is via an existing tarmac road system (R703 & A167).

Development will impact on the 17ha area to an estimated sub-surface level of approximately 1.5m deep. Development impact on the affected area will be total; resulting in the loss of all surface and sub-surface heritage sites / features that may be present within the proposed development area.

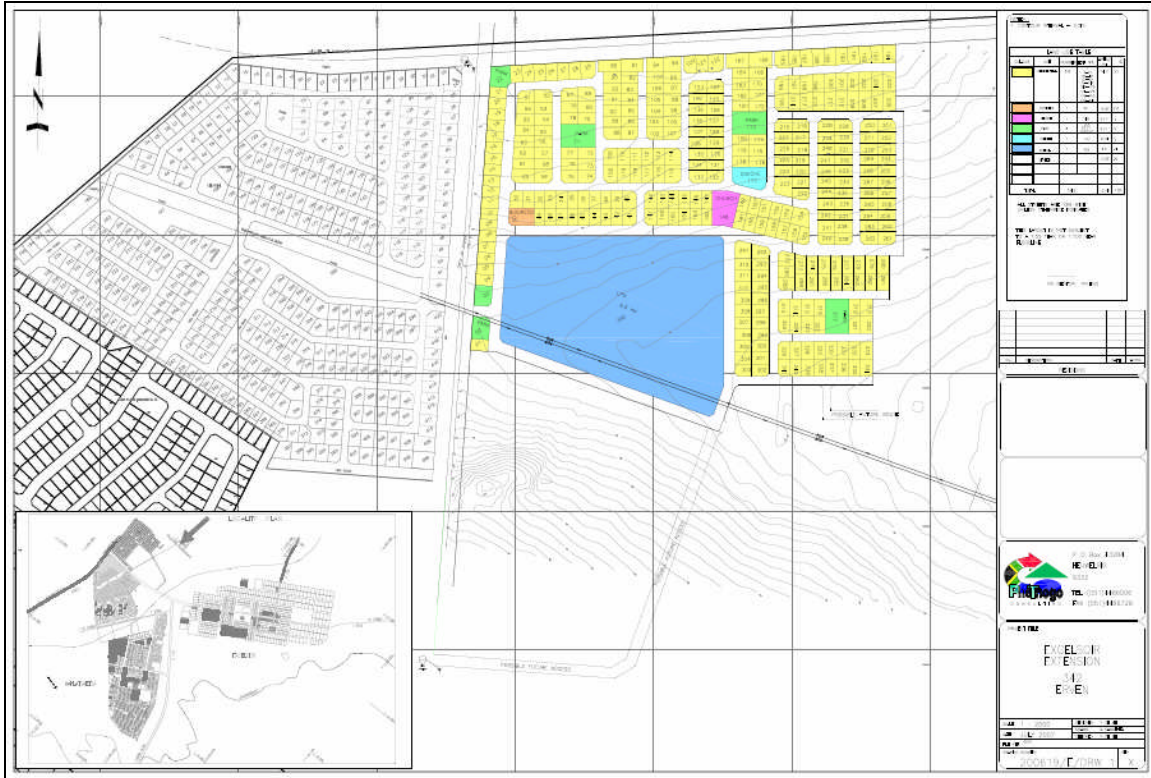


Figure 1: The formerly proposed 27.41ha Extension to Mahlatswetsa Township development.



Figure 2: The new proposed approximate 17ha extension to the former proposal to be concentrated east and south-east of the former development area

### 3. THE PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) was conducted on 2008-03-15 by one archaeologist. The assessment covered the proposed 17ha extension area and immediate surrounds. Assessment methodology was similar to that described in the 'Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment: Extension to Mahlatswetsa Township, Excelsior, Free State, South Africa' report.

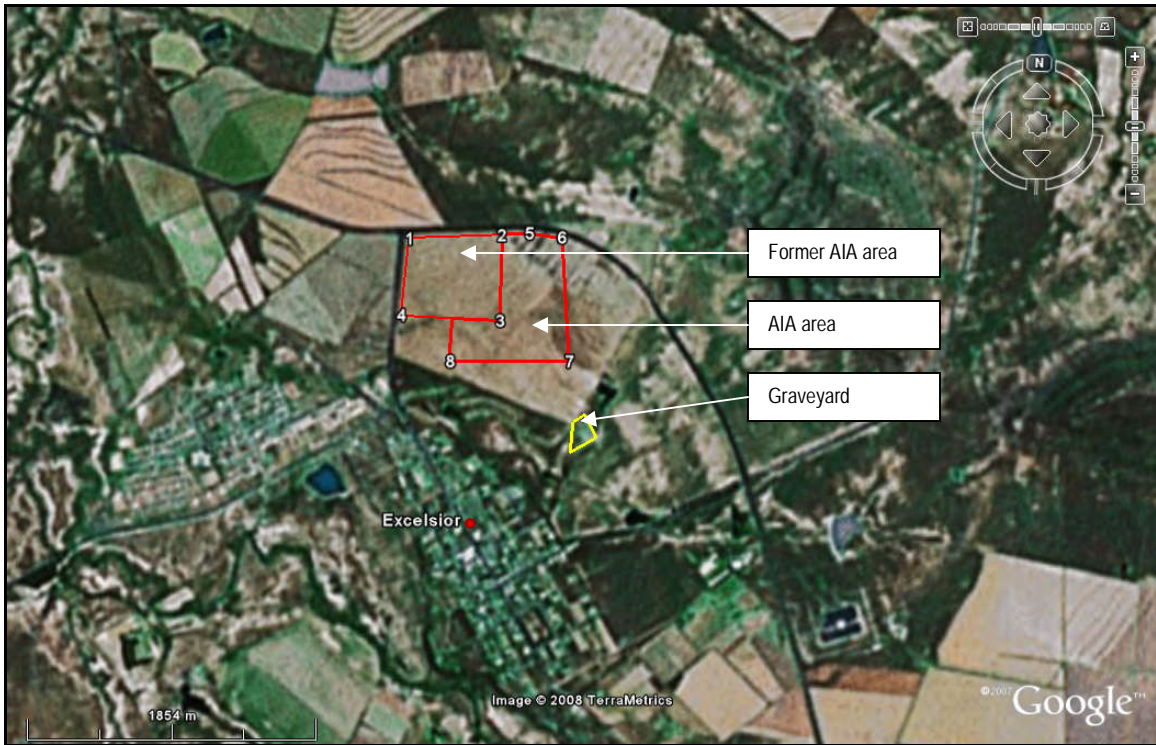


Figure 3: Phase 1 AIA assessment area & findings



Figure 3: General view of the proposed development area towards Excelsior



Figure 4: General view of the proposed development area towards the R703

#### • PHASE 1 AIA ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

One Stone Age artefact was discovered in a track on the assessment area. The core tool may be representative of the Middle Stone Age (MSA), although Period identification is not preferable on single finds. No other artefacts were found in association with the tool. The artefact, in obvious secondary context, is interpreted as a *chance find* and does not denote a 'site' as defined and protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (NHRA 1999). Based on shallow section inspection of the former AIA area, no associated sub-surface anthropic member is expected.

☞ The *chance find* does not denote a 'site' as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999. A SAHRA *Site Significance* assessment is thus irrelevant. It is recommended that the find-place be destroyed during the



course of development without the developer having to comply with further archaeological and cultural heritage compliance requirements.



**Figure 5:** The Stone Age artefact discovered in a track on the assessment area

A formal contemporary graveyard is located approximately 380m south of the proposed development area (Figure 3 - yellow outline). The site will not be impacted on, but does signify cultural sensitivity of the general area.

- ✘ The graveyard, located on the neighbouring property, will not be impacted on by the proposed development; a SAHRA *Site Significance* assessment is thus irrelevant. (Proximity of the graveyard to the proposed development area is merely indicative of sensitivity at the time of construction.)



**Figure 6:** The formal contemporary graveyard, located on the neighbouring property

#### • CONCLUSION

Assessment of the approximate 17ha proposed extension (and immediate surrounds) of the greater 'Extension to Mahlatswetsa Township' development, Excelsior, Free State, yielded no 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.

Access to the development area is via an existing tarmac road system. Continued use of the roads will not impact on any cultural heritage resources as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999.

<i>MC</i>	<i>SITE</i>	<i>CO-ORDINATES</i>	<i>TYPE</i>	<i>PERIOD</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>IMPACT</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>
<b>FORMER AIA 'EXTENSION TO MAHLATSWETA TOWNSHIP' DEVELOPMENT AREA</b>							
1	N/A	S28°55'18.1"; E27°03'19.4"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
2	N/A	S28°55'16.8"; E27°03'41.4"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
3	N/A	S28°55'34.6"; E27°03'41.5"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
4	N/A	S28°55'33.9"; E27°03'18.0"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
<b>PROPOSED NEW EXTENSION TO 'EXTENSION TO MAHLATSWETA TOWNSHIP' DEVELOPMENT AREA</b>							
5	N/A	S28°55'16.3"; E27°03'48.0"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
6	N/A	S28°55'17.0"; E27°03'55.7"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
7	N/A	S28°55'42.7"; E27°03'58.1"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
8	N/A	S28°55'43.2"; E27°03'29.9"	N/A	-	-	-	N/A
<b>GRAVEYARD (LOCATED ON THE NEIGHBOURING PROPERTY)</b>							
G1	-	S28°55'55.1"; E27°03'59.5"	-	-	-	-	-
G2	-	S28°55'53.6"; E27°04'02.2"	-	-	-	-	-
G3	-	S28°55'58.2"; E27°04'04.9"	-	-	-	-	-
G4	-	S28°56'01.5"; E27°03'58.9"	-	-	-	-	-

**Figure 1:** Development & AIA assessment co-ordinates

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The proposed 17ha extension to the greater 'Extension to Mahlatsweta Township' development, Excelsior, Free State, will not impact on any identified cultural heritage resources as defined and protected by the NHRA 1999.

- It is recommended that, with reference to cultural heritage compliance, the extended development proceeds as applied for.

(Should any sub-surface cultural heritage resources be encountered during the course of development the developer should immediately cease operation in the immediate vicinity and report the find to SAHRA /CRM archaeologist.)

