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Date/Datum

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14 October 2005

Mr D Joubert Djawena cc P O Box 15283 SINOVILLE 0129

Dear Mr Joubert

## HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: MUKUMBANE AREA

As requested, we have investigated two small areas in the Thathe forrest reserve in the Thohoyandou district of Limpopo Province. The sites are located to the west of the village of Mukumbane on the banks of the Tshirova River (Fig. 1). Both sites are very small, each covering approximately 3 hectares in extent.

The scope of work consisted of conducting a Phase 1 archaeological survey of the site in accordance with the requirements of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). This included:

- Conducting a desk-top investigation of the area;
- A visit to the proposed development site.

The objectives were to

- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development areas;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance.

The geology of the study areas is made up of arenite and the original vegetation is classified as Soutpansberg Arid Mountain Bushveld. However, large sections of the study areas have been impacted on by forestry activities, destroying the original vegetation and any possible heritage sites that might have occurred here.

We have found no obvious features, sites or artefacts of cultural significance that would be impacted on by the proposed development. We therefore recommend, from a heritage point of view, that the proposed development can continue and requests that if archaeological sites or graves are exposed during

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Willem Prinsloo Agricultural/Landbou Museum

construction work, it should immediately be reported to a museum, preferably one at which an archaeologist is available, so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

Yours sincerely

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J van Schalkwyk Principal Investigator

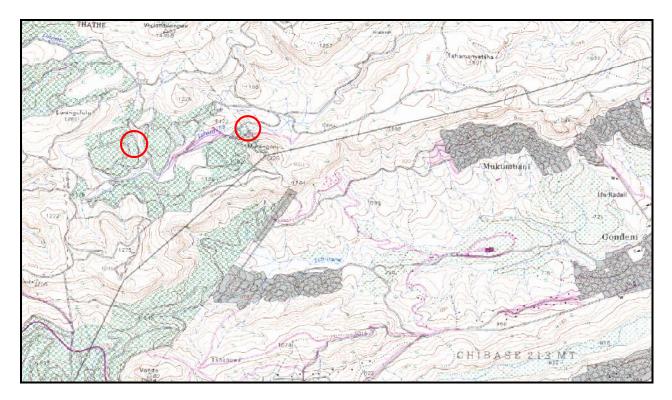


Fig. 1. Location of the two areas that were surveyed.