## **HERITAGE OPTIONS ANALYSIS**

# PROPOSED LOW COST HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE VICINITY OF VAAL MARINA, GAUTENG PROVINCE.





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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Professional Grave Solutions* was appointed by *Enkanyini Projects* to undertake a Heritage Options Analysis for the proposed Low Cost Housing Development in the vicinity of Vaal Marina, Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province. The project proponent is the Sedibeng District Municipality.

Six areas had been proposed as options for the abovementioned development (refer Annexure A Locality Plan). These six options were all assessed by way of walkthroughs and desktop studies. A total of five heritage sites were identified at Option 1 and a further five at Option 2. No heritage sites were found at Options 3, 4, 5 or 6.

The result of the study is the classification of the six options from the highest heritage impact (in other words the least favourable site for the development in terms of heritage) to lowest heritage impact (the most favourable site for the development in terms of heritage:

- Option 2 (the option with the highest heritage impact)
- Option 1 (the option with the second highest heritage impact)
- Options 3, 4, 5 & 6 (no heritage impact)

It is the opinion of the author of this report that in terms of heritage, Options 3, 4, 5 and 6 would have the least impact on the heritage fabric of the area and would therefore be best suited for the development. However, this conclusion is base on heritage alone. Once all the findings from the other assessments are compared, the decision might be made for Options 1 or 2 to be developed. Proposed mitigation measures for such a outcome were made. This said it is very important that once a option has been chosen a heritage impact assessment report will still have to compiled for that specifc site.

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#### 1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

*Professional Grave Solutions* was appointed by *Enkanyini Projects* to undertake a Heritage Options Analysis for the proposed Low Cost Housing Development in the vicinity of Vaal Marina, Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province. The project proponent is the Sedibeng District Municipality.

#### 2. DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

# 2.1 Study Area

The study area for the project consists of six possible sites of which one will be chosen for the proposed low income housing development.

## Option 1

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.87217 S	26.871933 S	26.87378 S	26.873097 S
28.24435 E	28.252005 E	28.25034 E	28.243855E

Option1 is located on the farm Boschkop 482-IR and is situated directly west of the Mamelo Informal Settlement and north-east of Vaal Marina. Its boundaries are defined by a non-perennial stream to the west, a mountain to the north, the Mamelo Informal Settlement to the east and the road between Vaal Marina and Mamelo to the south. The site is located on slightly sloping land and comprises grassland with pockets of trees and shrubs.

#### Option 2

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.85592 S	26.85592 S	26.86008 S	26.86008 S
28.22506 E	28.22991 E	28.22991 E	28.22506 E

Option 2 is located on the farm Koppiesfontein 478-IR and is situated directly west of the road between Vaal Marina and the R54. The site is located on a gently sloping landscape with a non-perennial stream crossing east-by-west across it. In the north-eastern corner a low rocky ridge is located which is covered with trees and shrubs. The remainder of the site comprises open grassland.



Plate 1 General view of the eastern section of Option 1



Plate 2 Another view of Option 1 with Vaal Marina and the Vaal Dam in the back.

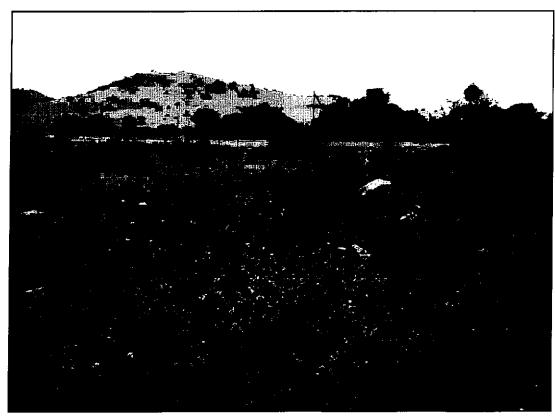


Plate 3 View of a section of Option 2. The road between Vaal Marina and the R54 is visible in the back.

#### Option 3

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.85597 S	26.85599 S	26.86009 S	26.86009 S
28.23092 E	28.23521 E	28.23521 E	28.23071 E

Option 3 is located on the farm Koppiesfontein 487-IR and is directly east of the road between Vaal Marina and the R54 Villiers-Vereeniging road.

The site is located on a sloping landscape with a non-perennial stream crossing east-by-west across the site. Cattle handling enclosures and a windmill with cement dam are situated in the centre of the site, while a man-made earth dam is located on its western boundary. In terms of vegetation the site is comprised of open grassland.

#### Option 4

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.84561 S	26.84782 5	26.84942 S	26.85022 S
28.22058 E	28.22539 E	28.22546 E	28.21968 E

Option 4 is located on the farm Stryfontein 477-IR and is directly south of the R54 between Villiers and Vereeniging. It is trapezoid in shape with the narrowest end toward the east. The southern boundary is defined by a fence that is located on the border between the farms Stryfontein 477-IR and Koppiesfontein 478-IR.

The site is located on a topographically flat piece of land. The only exception to this is a low hill situated on its western boundary. In terms of vegetation the site comprises open grassland with some trees and shrubs on the hill.

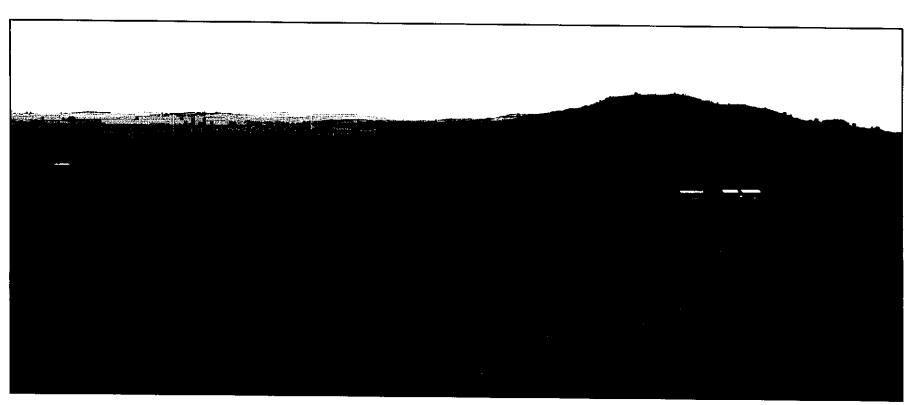


Plate 4 General view of Option 3



Plate 5 View across Option 4. The photograph was taken in a western direction, and the hill located on the site's western end is visible in the back.

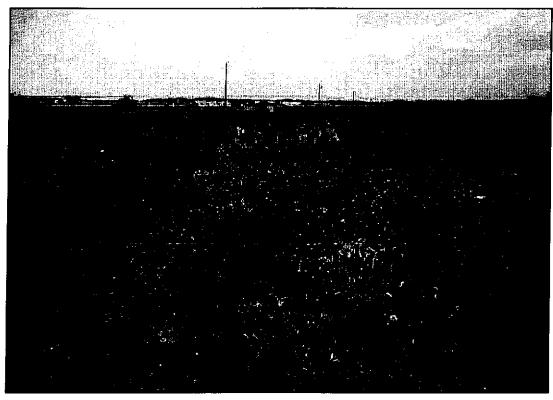


Plate 6 Another view of Option 4.

# Option 5

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.84448 S	26.84448 S	26.84807 S	26.84864 S
28.24212 E	28.24697 E	28.24658 E	28.24212 E

Option 5 is located on the farm Boschkop 482-IR and is situated directly north of the R54 between Villiers and Vereeniging. It is also directly east of a mountain known as 'Bezuidenhoutsberg'. The farmstead on the farm defines the eastern boundary.

The site is located on slightly sloping land. In terms of vegetation it comprises open grassland without any trees or shrubs.

#### Option 6

North-Western	North-Eastern	South-Eastern	South-Western
26.84852 S	26.84841 S	26.85487 S	26.85428 S
28.24571 E	28.25053 E	28.25171 E	28. 24615 E

Option 6 is located on the farm Boschkop 482-IR and is situated directly south of the R54 between Villiers and Vereeniging. It has a fence on its eastern end.

The site is located on slightly sloping land with a low ridge on its south-western corner. An earth dam is located in the north-eastern section of the site, while another earth dam is located in the south-eastern corner. A non-perennial stream runs west by east to the south of the southern boundary. A windmill with dam is located near the north-western corner.

In terms of vegetation the site comprises open grassland with very little trees and shrubs. Some trees and shrubs are found on the low ridge.

## 2.2 Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises the construction of a low cost housing development containing approximately 350 individual houses.

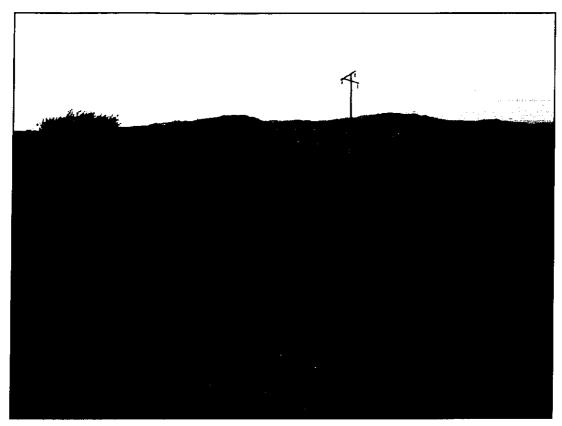


Plate 7 General view of Option 5. The farmstead is visible on the right.

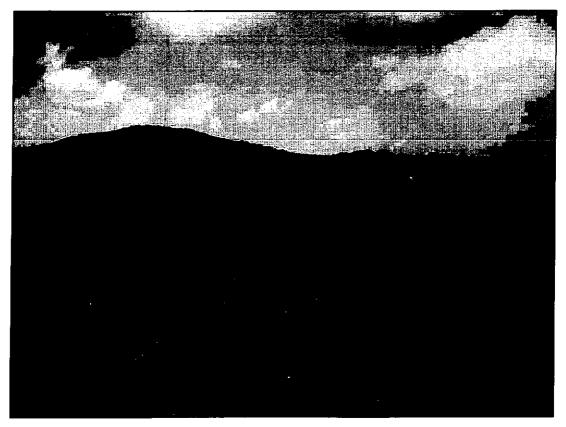


Plate 8 View of Option 6 with the hill known as Bakenkop visible on the left.

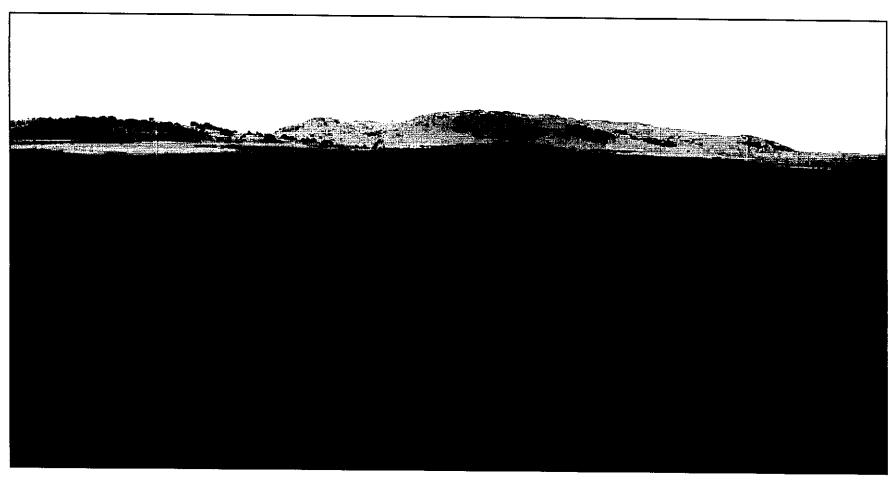


Plate 9 General view of Option 6

#### 3. METHODOLOGY

## 3.1 Desktop Study

The primary aim of the desktop study is to compile as much available information as possible on the heritage resources of the six development options. Such a study also helps in providing historical context for any sites that are located. The desktop investigation focussed on the study of archival documents and maps. The following institutions were visited to compile data:

· National Archives, Pretoria

#### 3.2 Field Surveys

The field surveys were undertaken on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2009. It consisted of a walkthrough of each of the development options to identify and assess any heritage resources situated there. Location data was captured with a Garmin MAP60CS handheld GPS receiver, loaded with a Garmap South Africa Topographic & Recreation v1.00 base map only when accuracy greater than 6m was indicated by the instrument. Photographs were taken with a Canon Powershot A550 digital camera.

# 3.3 Aspects regarding Visibility and Constraints

Not subtracting in any way from the comprehensiveness of the fieldwork undertaken, it is necessary to realise that the heritage resources located during the fieldwork do not necessarily represent all the heritage resources located there. This may be due to various reasons, including the subterranean nature of some archaeological sites and dense vegetation cover. As such, should any heritage features and/or objects not included in the present inventory be located or observed, a heritage specialist must immediately be contacted. Such observed or located heritage features and/or objects may not be disturbed or removed in any way until such time that the heritage specialist has been able to make an assessment as to the significance of the site (or material) in question. This is true for graves and cemeteries as well.

#### 4. FINDINGS

# 4.1 Desktop Study Findings

## 4.1.1 Cartographic findings

## 4.1.1.1 'Heidelberg' Sheet of the Major Jackson Series, April 1903

**Figure 1** below depicts an enlarged section of the 'Heidelberg' sheet of the Major Jackson Map Series (National Archives, Maps, 2/179). This series was compiled and drawn in the Surveyor-General's Office in Pretoria during the South African War under the direction of Major H.M. Jackson of the Royal Engineers. The specific sheet's surveys were undertaken during July 1902. The sheet was drawn and photo-lithographed by the Mapping Section of the Field Intelligence Department during July 1902. The map was revised on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 1903.

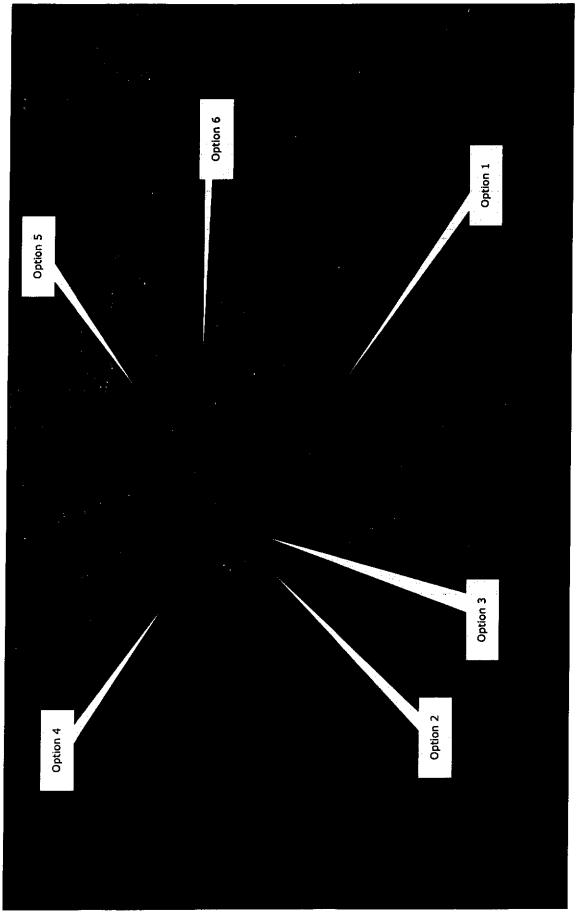
On the depicted sheet the approximate positions of the six development options have been plotted. The following observations can be made:

• Apart from Options 1, 2 and 3 no heritage sites or features are depicted within the study area. On the map it is indicated that a road passes either through or very close to all three these options. The road associated with Option 2 appears to start within this development option from where it leads in a north-eastern direction toward the farmstead on Witkleifontein.

## 4.1.1.2 2628CC Topographical Map, First Edition,

**Figure 3** depicts an enlarged section of the first edition of the 2628CC 1:50 000 topographical sheet. It was based on aerial photography done in 1952 and 1957. The actual surveys were undertaken in 1954. The map was drawn by the Trigonometrical Survey Office in 1959.

No heritage sites or features are shown within or in close proximity to any of the six options.



Enlarged section of the Heidelberg sheet of the Major Jackson Series. The sheet is dated to April 1903.

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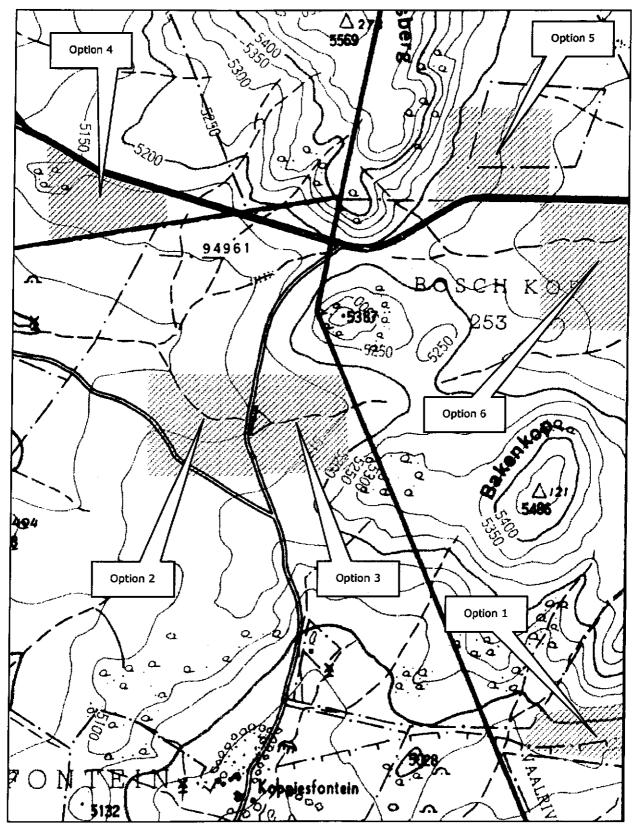


Figure 2 First Edition of the 2628CC Topographical Map dated to 1954. The approximate positions and boundaries of the six options are shown.

# 4.1.2 Chronology of the area's history

DATE	DESCRIPTION
1450 - 1650	This period is associated with a Late Iron group referred to as the Ntsuanatsatsi facies of the Urewe Tradition (Huffman, 2007).
1700 - 1820	During the early Historic Period the Ntsuanatsatsi south of the Vaal River developed into the Makgwareng facies (Huffman, 2007).
c. 1800s	A Tswana group known as the Khudu settled along the Vaal River (and especially in the vicinity of the confluence of the Vaal and Suikerboschrand Rivers) during this time (Bergh, 1999).
1823 - 1827	The Khumalo Ndebele of Mzilikazi settled in the central reaches of the Vaal River in the vicinity of Heidelberg after leaving present-day KwaZulu-Natal (www.mk.org.za).
October 1834	A group of Griqua hunters under the leadership of Pieter David were hunting near the confluence of the Vaal and Wilge Rivers when they were attacked here by Mzilikazi's Khumalo Ndebele (also known as Matabeles) (Bergh, 1999).
February 1836	Voortrekker Karl Trichardt, son of Louis Trichardt, moved with his party to the confluence of the Wilge and Vaal Rivers and stayed on the western bank of the Wilge River for a while before crossing over the Vaal River. They subsequently met up with the party under Hans van Rensburg at Elandspruit, south of present-day Heidelberg (d'Assonville, 2002).
29 December 1880	Prisoners-of-war Captains Elliott and R.H. Lambert were fired on by their Boer escort while crossing the Lies Drift. The result was that Captain Elliot was killed. This event made headlines worldwide and a case of murder was opened in the high court of the Transvaal Republic (d'Assonville, 2002; Green, 1966).
1899 – 1902	Although no evidence for battles or skirmishes in the vicinity of the study areas during the South African War could be found, d'Assonville (2002) refers to the fact that the Boer farms from the area were burnt down by British soldiers and that the women and children were taken to concentration camps. He relates that the farmstead on the farm Zandfontein (at the time directly opposite the Vaal River from the farm Koppiesfontein) was burnt down in July 1901 and the women and children taken to Vredefortweg and Heildbron Camps. It is interesting to note that the forced movement of women and children to the concentration camps were not race or gender exclusive. During the war the black families staying on the farms were also taken to the concentration camps.
1934 - 1938	The construction of the Vaal Dam was undertaken as a joint venture between Rand Water and the then Department of Irrigation. Construction commenced in 1934 and the aim of the dam was to address the rapidly increasing need for water by the exploding

population of the Witwatersrand. The dam wall was completed in 1938 with a wall height of 54.2 m above the lowest foundation and a full supply capacity of 994 million  $m^3$ . In the early 1950s the wall was raised to 60.3m resulting in a capacity of 2 188 million  $m^3$ . In 1985 the wall was raised to a height of 63.4m above the lowest foundation. This increased the capacity of the dam to 2 536 million  $m^3$  (www.dwaf.gov.za).

## 4.1.3 The Late Iron Age

As mentioned above the presence of both the Ntsuanatsatsi and Makgwareng facies is recorded for the wider landscape.

#### 4.1.3.1 Ntsuanatsatsi

The Late Iron Age group referred to as the Ntsuanatsatsi facies of the Urewe tradition was associated with the Fokeng. The name Ntsuanatsatsi is derived from Ntsuanatsatsi Hill located between Vrede and Frankfort in the Free State where the earliest examples of this facies were located. The Fokeng also associates this hill as their place of origin.

The Ntsuanatsatsi later moved north across the Vaal River into the Balfour, Suikerboschrand, Klipriviersberg and Vredefort areas. This movement was likely due to the fact that climatic conditions in the Free State became too severe

The pottery is characterised by the predominance of comb stamping and finger pinching as decoration techniques. The necks of these pottery vessels bear broad bands of stamping and stamped arcades are also characteristic.

The way of settlement has been classified as Type N or Group I and comprise a few cattle enclosures in the centre with an enclosing wall in which a number of smaller enclosures may be incorporated. Alternatively the settlement layout may comprise an enclosing wall with a small circular enclosure in the centre thereby giving the settlement the appearance of a 'fried egg' (Huffman, 2007).

#### 4.1.3.2 Makgwareng

During the early Historic Period the Ntsuanatsatsi south of the Vaal River developed into the Makgwareng facies.

Although still associated with the Fokeng, the pottery of this group is characterised by the predominance of comb-stamped triangles, finger pinching and rim notching.

The settlement pattern of this group is known as Type V which is named after Vegkop near Heilbron. Type V settlements comprise cattle enclosures surrounded by beehive houses and grain bins without the presence of an enclosing wall. This settlement type is also associated with the first appearance of corbelled huts (Huffman, 2007).

An example of a Type V site from the wider landscape is the site Wildebeestfontein (5 km east of Kinross, Mpumalanga) that was excavated by M.O.V. Taylor. The site was located on a domed hill surrounded by flat plateaus. The work undertaken here has revealed a stonewalled site associated with the post-difaqane Iron Age. It comprised circular shallow depressions around which a line of small stones interposed by big stones were packed. The site contained archaeological deposits and ceramics (Van der Walt, 2008).

## 4.1.4 Hermanus Stephanus Lombard and the death of Captain Elliot

During the First Boer War (1880-1881) Hermanus Stephanus Lombard was a farmer who stayed on the farm Koppiesfontein (present number 478-IR).

Late in the afternoon on Tuesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 1880 two British officers, Captains Elliott and R.H. Lambert, arrived at his front door. Captain Elliot of the 94<sup>th</sup> Regiment had been the only unwounded officer at the Battle of Bronkhorstspruit (20 December 1880) and was taken prisoner by the Boer forces under Kommandant Frans Joubert. Captain R.H. Lambert of the Royal Scots Fusiliers was taken prisoner on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1800 between Heidelberg and Pretoria. The officers were taken to Heidelberg where General Piet Joubert gave them the option of leaving the Transvaal on the condition that they do so as soon as possible and that they never return to take up arms against the Boer republic.

The two officers were accompanied to Pistorius' Pont (near present-day Vereeniging) which they reached early on the morning of 28 December 1880. They refused to cross over the river as they could not take their carriage with them on the small boat. Upon their refusal to cross over the river their guard returned to Heidelberg to report back to

the authorities. The officers subsequently decided to travel along the northern bank of the Vaal River with the carriage and horses to find a suitable spot to cross over the river. Late on the afternoon of the same day they arrived at the farmstead of Hermanus Stephanus Lombard at Koppiesfontein. Lombard gave the officers a meal and also fixed their carriage for them. The officers requested directions to Standerton, and not knowing who they were Lombard willingly provided them with directions to that town. It was evident that at this stage the officers had decided to join up with the British forces in Standerton.

On Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 1880 the officers were arrested by a Boer commando under the leadership of Kommandant Roelf Nieuwenhuizen and Veldkornet Adriaan van Niekerk. Accompanied by these Boer officers and seven armed men the two officers arrived back at Koppiesfontein on the afternoon of 29 December 1880. The Boers requested Lombard to take them to the closest drift crossing over the river so that the British officers could be forced to cross into the Free State. Lombard took the men to Lies Drift<sup>1</sup>, approximately three kilometres from his farmstead.

When the party arrived at the crossing the light was already fading and the British officers pleaded to be allowed to cross over the river the following day. Kommandant Nieuwenhuizen was adamant that they had to cross at once. When Hermanus Lombard saw that the British officers were not skilled in handling the carriage and horses he volunteered to take them across and swim back through the river. The commandant stated that Lombard did not have permission to enter the Free State and again indicated to the British officers that they had no choice but to cross over the river. They reluctantly moved the carriage forward but only travelled a few meters when it stopped and Captain Lambert shouted that he was going to turn the carriage around. Nieuwenhuizen gave the order to shoot. Lombard later stated that when the order was given to fire he simply pointed his rifle into the air and fired a shot. Although Captain Lambert managed to jump into the water and escaped to the Free State side, Captain Elliot was killed.

After the shooting Hermanus Stephanus Lombard was peppered with questions from neighbours and acquaintances about the events of that fateful afternoon. With neither Kommandant Nieuwenhuizen nor the remainder of the commando present to verify his innocence, he began to fear that he was going to be charged with the murder of Captain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lies Drift is located underneath the Vaal Dam. Although the details of its exact location are not presently available, it is believed to be situated between RAU Island and the point where the boundary between the farms Koppiesfontein and Stryfontein meets the waters of the Vaal Dam.

Elliot. As a result he took his rifle and ammunition and fled to the farthest reaches of the Kalahari Desert in present-day Botswana.

Meanwhile, there was an international outcry when the world came to know about the shooting of Captain Elliot. The event also caused considerable embarrassment to the Transvaal Republic. As such the Transvaal Government promised the British authorities that the persons responsible for Captain Elliot's death would be brought to justice. The trial commenced on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July 1881. The problem the court immediately faced was that most of the men which formed part of the group who fired on the British officers had fled the country. Only Kommandant Nieuwenhuizen and one P.J. Deysel could be located and brought to the court. With most of the witnesses called to testify not actually present at the murder itself the testimony relied heavily on Captain Lambert's evidence. Hollard, acting for the defence, was able to prove that Lambert's testimony was not always true. As a result it came as no surprise when the two accused were acquitted.

Lombard spent a large part of his life in present-day Botswana where he was a hunter and trader. He only returned to the Vaal River after the establishment of the Union of South Africa (in 1910). Still believing that he will be seen as a murderer, he vowed that he would never be taken alive. He was constantly on the move between Heidelberg and Frankfort in his carriage and never again led a normal life as he lived in constant fear of being caught. He died at the age of 94 in 1931 near a drift over the Vaal River in the vicinity of Villiers. Hermanus Stephanus Lombard lies buried in a cemetery on the farm Lepelkop 2 on the Free State side of the Vaal Dam (Van der Walt, 2008).

Interestingly, the story of Hermanus Stephanus Lombard and the event of 29 December 1880 have become quite well known in that the Afrikaans author Eugene Marais wrote about it in his *Sketse uit die lewe van mens en dier* while the South African journalist and author Lawrence George Green wrote a section about Lombard in his book *Thunder on the Blaauwberg*. The shooting of Captain Elliot was also used by the English author Rider Haggard as the theme for his book *Jess*.

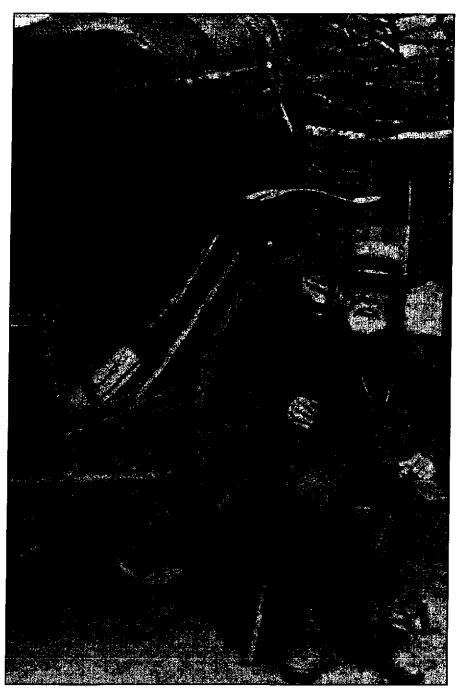


Figure 3 This photograph of Hermanus Stephanus Lombard was published in Lawrence Green's *Thunder on the Blaauwberg* (Green, 1966).

## 4.1.5 Short Historic overview of Vaal Marina and Mamelo

#### 4.1.5.1 Vaal Marina

On 16 September 1971 an application was made by Mr. Arnold Fredrich Aab on behalf of *Ferco Investments (Pty) Ltd* to obtain permission for the establishment of a town titled Vaal Marina on the Remaining Portion of the farm Koppiesfontein 478-IR and Portion 6 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Boschkop 482-IR. The aim of the township establishment was to meet the increasing demand for recreational and holiday facilities in South Africa at the time.

The proposed township development contained a total of 763 stands which were comprised of:

- 717 special residential stands
- · 9 special stands
- · 6 general residential stands
- 1 business stand
- 30 green open spaces (GMO, 2/508, 3)

Vaal Marina was officially approved as a township on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 1976 (CDB, 7182, PB4/2/2/4/43).

#### 4.1.5.2 Mamelo

Although it is not exactly known when Mamelo was established, the 1976 2628CD topographical sheet depicts the start of the settlement. This suggests that it was established more or less at the same time as Vaal Marina. Mamelo is a Sesotho word meaning "attention" (www.sesotho.web.za).

# 4.2 Survey Findings

## 4.2.1 Option 1

#### 4.2.1.1 Site 1

#### 4.2.1.1.1 Coordinates

S 26.87258

E 28.24494

## 4.2.1.1.2 General Site Description

The site consists of a rectangular stone concentration roughly orientated along the East-West axis. It has what appears to be an upright stone on its western end. The site is overgrown and is located directly adjacent to a cabbage tree.

Due to the orientation of the stone concentration as well as the upright stone on the western end, the site can be defined as a possible grave.

Until such time that the presence of a grave here has been proven or disproven, the site must be considered a grave.

#### 4.2.1.1.3 Current Protection Status

Graves and burial grounds fall under various legislative protections, depending on factors such as where the graves are located as well as their age. Such legislation may include the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999, the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), the Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983, the Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980) as well as any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws that may be in place.

#### 4.2.1.1.4 Site Significance

Until such time that the presence of a grave here has been confirmed or disproved, the site must be viewed as containing a grave. All graves have high level of emotional and religious significance. The site must be deemed to be of **High Significance** until such time that the existence of a grave here has been established.

#### 4.2.1.1.5 Mitigation

The stone concentration must be investigated by way of reconnaissance excavation. The excavations will result in one of two outcomes, namely that evidence (i.e. skeletal material, coffin remains etc.) for the existence of a grave is found, or alternatively that no such evidence is found. If no evidence for a grave is found, the site can be destroyed. However, should it be found, the excavation pit must be backfilled upon which a standard grave relocation process must take place. Such a relocation process must always be inclusive of a detailed social consultation process, must be respectful to the deceased and must be undertaken in cognisance of all the relevant legislation.



Plate 10 General view of Site 1. As the site is overgrown the possible grave can not be seen.

#### 4.2.1.2 Site 2

#### 4.2.1.2.1 Coordinates

S 26.87309

E 28.24558

## 4.2.1.2.2 General Site Description

The site consists of a poorly preserved rectangular stone structure measuring  $3m \times 3m$ . A small number of glass fragments were observed on the surface of the site.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, it is believed to be between 60 and 100 years old.

#### 4.2.1.2.3 Current Protection Status

The site likely comprises historic structures older than 60 years. All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

## 4.2.1.2.4 Site Significance

The site is older than 60 years but is poorly preserved. It has No Significance.

# 4.2.1.2.5 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are required.

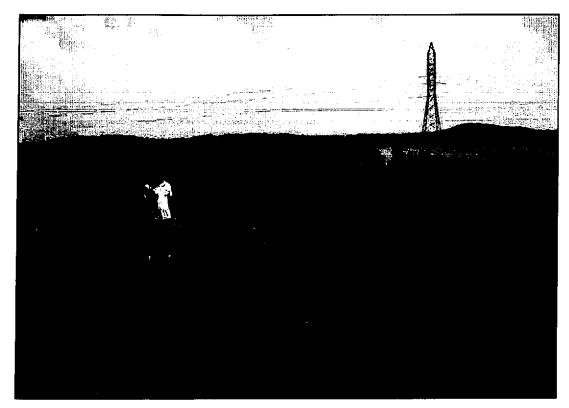


Plate 11 General view of Site 2. The structure is located between the person on the left and the bush on the right.



Plate 12 Closer view of stone structure at Site 2.

#### 4.2.1.3 Site 3

#### 4.2.1.3.1 Coordinates

Waypoint A S 26.87236

E 28.24811

Waypoint B S 26.87254

E 28.24761

## 4.2.1.3.2 General Site Description

The site consists of three separate stone structures located between waypoint A in the east and B in the west. As a result the site stretches over a distance of approximately 60 meters.

The easternmost of the structures is the most elaborate and comprises a three-roomed structure 25m in length and 10m wide. It is in the shape of a T with one room in the middle and two rooms attached to its sides. The central room is  $9m \times 10m$  in extent while the two adjacent rooms are both  $4m \times 8m$  in extent.

The remaining two structures comprise rectangular structures  $4m \times 10m$  and  $7m \times 10m$  in extent.

All three structures have reasonably poor preserved low stone foundations. While some fragments of glass and metal were observed on the surface of these sites, no deposits or concentrations could be found.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, a small fragment from a porcelain dish or saucer was observed on the surface of the site and was dated by Ms. Corine Meyer of the African Window Museum to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is therefore believed that the site is between 60 and 100 years old.

## 4.2.1.3.3 Current Protection Status

The site likely comprises historic structures older than 60 years. All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

# 4.2.1.3.4 Site Significance

Although the site is older than 60 years it is poorly preserved. The site is deemed to be of **Low Significance**.

# 4.2.1.3.5 Mitigation

The National Heritage Resources Act states that structures older than 60 years may not be altered or demolished without a permit from the relevant heritage authority. The following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Measured drawing of a site layout plan.
- Measured drawing of the individual structures.
- Photographic recording
- Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
- Submission of the report to SAHRA with the permit application to have the site destroyed.



Plate 13 General view of the easternmost structure at Site 3. On the extreme left the Mamelo Informal Settlement can be seen while the Vaal Dam is visible on the right.



Plate 14 Section of walling from Site 3.



Plate 15 This artefact was observed on the surface of the site. It contains sections of the moulded well, foot rim and base of a white glazed hard paste porcelain dish or saucer and dates from the early twentieth century (Meyer, Pers. Comm.).

#### 4.2.1.4 Site 4

#### 4.2.1.4.1 Coordinates

S 26.87251

E 28.24712

# 4.2.1.4.2 General Site Description

The site consists of a poorly preserved rectangular stone structure. The structure is 4m x 7m in extent. No artefacts could be observed on the surface of the site.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, it is believed to be between 60 and 100 years old.

#### 4.2.1.4.3 Current Protection Status

The site likely comprises a historic structure older than 60 years. All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

# 4.2.1.4.4 Site Significance

Even though the site is older than 60 years it is poorly preserved and of **No Significance**.

# 4.2.1.4.5 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are required.

## 4.2.1.5 Site 5

#### 4.2.1.5.1 Coordinates

S 26.87255

E 28.24653

# 4.2.1.5.2 General Site Description

The site consists of a poorly preserved rectangular stone structure. The structure is 4m x 9m in extent. No artefacts could be observed on the surface of the site.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, it is believed to be between 60 and 100 years old.

#### 4.2.1.5.3 Current Protection Status

The site likely comprises a historic structure older than 60 years. All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

# 4.2.1.5.4 Site Significance

Even though the site is older than 60 years it is poorly preserved and of **No Significance**.

# 4.2.1.5.5 Mitigation

No mitigation measures are required.



Plate 16 General view of Site 5.



Plate 17 Another view of Site 5.

#### 4.2.2 Option 2

#### 4.2.2.1 Site 6

#### 4.2.2.1.1 Coordinates

Waypoint A S 26.85517

E 28.22960

Waypoint B S 26.85571

E 28.22947

# 4.2.2.1.2 General Site Description

Site 6 is located along the foot and lower slope of a low ridge and stretches between waypoint A in the north and waypoint B in the south. As a result it stretches over a distance of approximately 60 meters.

The site consists of a number of small stone circles along the higher slope, a long straight stone wall which follows the foot of the ridge and a few rectangular enclosures attached to its sides. A number of historic artifacts in the form of glass bottle fragments and metal pieces were observed on the surface of the site. In limited sections of the site the presence of archaeological deposits seems likely.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, two glass fragments (see Plate 19 below) were dated to between the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The site as a whole can certainly be considered as older than 60 years while sections of it are older than 100 years as well.

Site 6 appears to be a multi-component site which is comprised of poorly preserved Late Iron features in the form of small stone enclosures on the ridge and historical structures at the foot of the ridge. It seems highly plausible that the site started off as a Late Iron Age stonewalled site with stonewall enclosures on and along the ridge. During the historic period the stonewalling at the foot of the ridge was robbed and modified and used in the construction of the rectangular enclosures and walls.

The historic component of Site 6 appears to be associated with Sites 7, 9 and 10 and it can be suggested that these sites may have been an old farmstead. In such a scenario the present site would have been where the cattle would have been kept.

#### 4.2.2.1.3 Current Protection Status

All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority. Archaeological sites are protected by Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act and are defined as man-made features and artefacts older than 100 years. Archaeological sites may not be destroyed or disturbed without a permit.

## 4.2.2.1.4 Site Significance

The preservation of the site is poor. However, combined with the other associated sites it could contain some information on the life of early white farmers in the area during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The site is therefore of **Moderate Significance**.

## 4.2.2.1.5 Mitigation

- The layout must be documented by surveying and drawing of a Site Layout Plan.
- This will be followed by limited test excavations. This is aimed at documenting, recovering and recording enough data for future research from the site.
- Compilation of a report containing all the research and findings of the study.
- Submission of this report with the archaeological permit application would allow the site to be destroyed.



Plate 18 General view of Site 6. The photograph was taken in a northern direction.



Plate 19 One of the rectangular structures at the foot of the ridge.

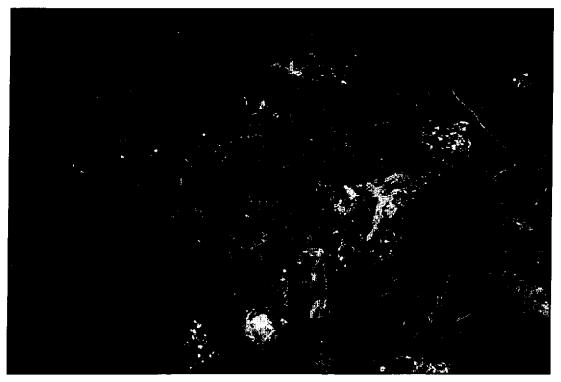
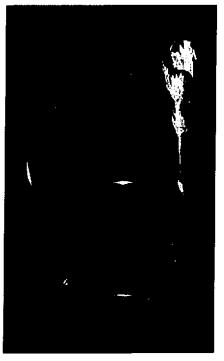


Plate 20 Section of walling from the foot of the ridge. This wall is 0.7m wide.



Plate 21 One of the circular enclosures from the higher slopes of the ridge. This enclosure is approximately 1.5m wide. These enclosures may represent the poorly preserved remains of a Late Iron Age component at the site.



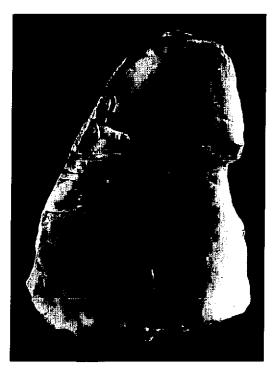


Plate 22 Two glass fragments observed on the surface of the site. The fragment on the left (18mm wide at its widest point) is a stopper finish of a mould blown wine, spirits or beer bottle. The fragment on the right (21mm at its widest point) is a down-tooled lip of a bottle that contained carbonated beverages or ginger beer. Both artefacts date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries (Meyer, Pers. Comm.).

#### 4.2.2.2 Site 7

### 4.2.2.2.1 Coordinates

S 26.85674

E 28.22921

## 4.2.2.2.2 General Site Description

Site 7 is located approximately 120m south of Site 6. It is comprised of a rectangular stone structure associated with a circular stone enclosure. While the rectangular structure is  $6m \times 4m$  in extent, the circular structure is approximately 4m in width.

The rectangular structure is associated with a cabbage tree.

A small number of glass and porcelain fragments were observed on the surface of the site, without any evidence for an archaeological deposit.

Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, it can certainly be considered as older than 60 years. The possibility also exists that the site is older than 100 years as well.

The site appears to be associated with Sites 6, 9 and 10 and as such it can be suggested that these sites may have been an old farmstead. The presence of a fragment from a dinner plate or serving dish suggests a residential character for the site. As such it may have been a second farmhouse or dwelling on the farmstead.

#### 4.2.2.3 Current Protection Status

All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit from the relevant heritage authority. Archaeological sites are protected by Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act and are defined as man-made features and artefacts older than 100 years. Archaeological sites may not be destroyed or disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

## 4.2.2.4 Site Significance

While the site is certainly older than 60 years and possibly older than 100 years, it consists of two poorly preserved structures that are not associated with any archaeological deposit or concentration of artefacts. As such the site is considered to be of **Low Significance**.

## 4.2.2.2.5 Mitigation

The following mitigation measures are proposed:

- Measured drawing of a site layout plan.
- Measured drawing of the individual structures.
- · Photographic recording
- Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
- Submission of the report to SAHRA with the permit application to have the site destroyed.

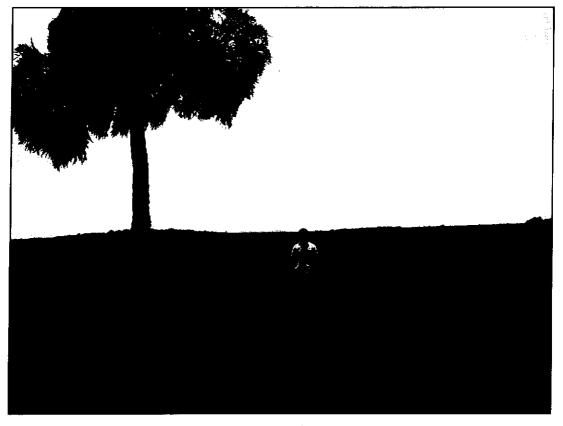


Plate 23 General view of Site 7.

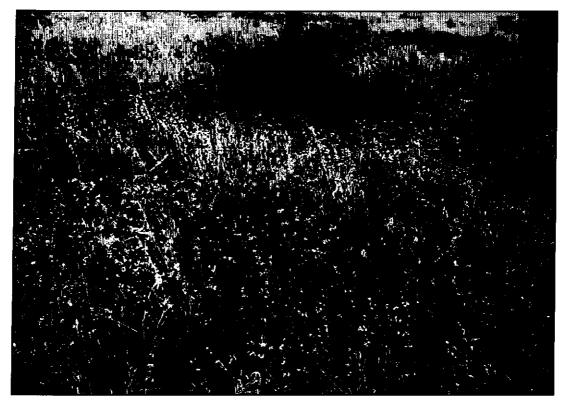


Plate 24 General view of the rectangular structure from Site 7. The red dotted line indicates the approximate outline of structure's wall.



Plate 25 Possible entrance to the rectangular structure from Site 7.



Plate 26 The circular structure from Site 7.

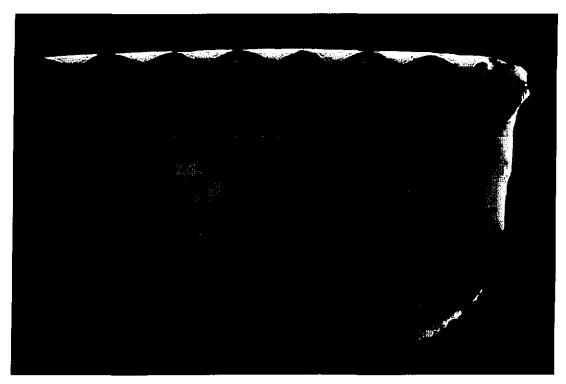


Plate 27 This ceramic shard is from a dinner plate or small serving dish. It has a decorated rim of ironstone with black under glaze transfer printed chevron patterns. It dates from the late Victorian or early Edwardian periods (c.1890 – 1905) (Meyer, Pers. Comm.). It is 23 mm at its widest point.

### 4.2.2.3 Site 8

#### 4.2.2.3.1 Coordinates

S 26.85952

E 28.22719

## 4.2.2.3.2 General Site Description

Site 8 is located to the west of Site 7 and is situated directly north of a low ridge. It is comprised of a single circular stone enclosure approximately 5m in width. No artifacts or archaeological deposits were observed. Although no cultural material or deposits exist to substantiate this suggestion, the site appears to be a single Late Iron Age stone enclosure. As such it can be considered as older than 100 years.

#### 4.2.2.3.3 Current Protection Status

Archaeological sites are protected by Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act and are defined as man-made features and artefacts older than 100 years. Archaeological sites may not be destroyed or disturbed without a permit.

### 4.2.2.3.4 Site Significance

While the site appears to be older than 100 years, it consists of one poorly preserved structure without any archaeological deposit visible. As such it is of **Low Significance**.

## 4.2.2.3.5 Mitigation

Although no evidence for archaeological deposits could be observed, the dense grass cover on site may have barred them from view. As such the first step would be to visit the site during winter when the grass cover is less dense to ensure that no archaeological deposits exist. Should they be found, limited archaeological test excavation coupled with the mitigation measures outlined below would be required. If no deposits are found, the following mitigation measures would suffice:

- · Measured drawing of a site layout plan.
- · Photographic recording
- Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
- Submission of report to SAHRA with the permit application to have it destroyed.

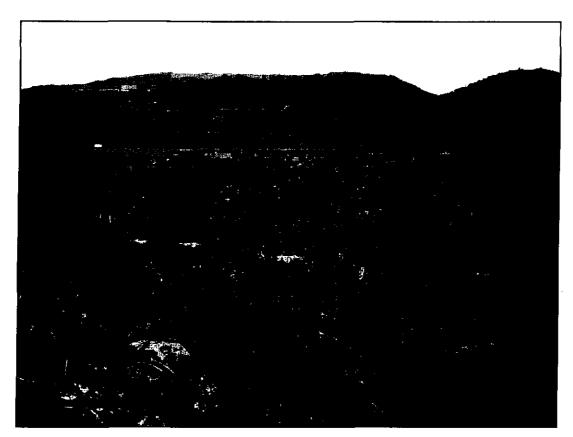


Plate 28 General view of Site 8.



Plate 29 General view of Site 8 with the low ridge visible in the back.

# **4.2.2.4.5** Mitigation

The following mitigation measures are proposed:

- Measured drawing of a site layout plan.
- Photographic recording
- Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
- Submission of report to SAHRA with the permit application to have it destroyed.



Plate 30 General view of Site 9.

#### 4.2.2.5 Site 10

#### 4.2.2.5.1 Coordinates

S 26.85516

E 28.22745

### 4.2.2.5.2 General Site Description

Site 10 is located just outside the northern boundary of the study area and is situated 200m west of Site 6. It is comprised of a single rectangular stone foundation (8m x 5m). A number of artifacts were observed on the surface of the site, including a drawer or cupboard knob as well as an iron nail. Although no definite information with regards to the age of the structure could be found, it can certainly be considered as older than 60 years, and possibly older than 100 as well. The site appears to be associated with Sites 6, 7 and 9 and as such it can be suggested that these sites may have been an old farmstead. The presence of the furniture knob suggests a residential character for the site and as such it may have been the main farmhouse or dwelling on the farmstead.

#### 4.2.2.5.3 Current Protection Status

All structures older than 60 years are protected by Section 34(1) of National Heritage Resources Act and may not be demolished or altered without a permit. Archaeological sites are protected by Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act and are defined as man-made features and artefacts older than 100 years. Archaeological sites may not be destroyed or disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage authority.

### 4.2.2.5.4 Site Significance

While the site is certainly older than 60 years and possibly older than 100 years, it consists of one poorly preserved structure which is not associated with any archaeological deposit or concentration of artefacts. As such it is considered to be of **Low Significance**.

# 4.2.2.5.5 Mitigation

- · Measured drawing of a site layout plan.
- Photographic recording
- Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
- Submission of report to SAHRA with the permit application to have it destroyed.



Plate 31 General view of Site 10.



Plate 32 Close-up view of one of the structure's corners.

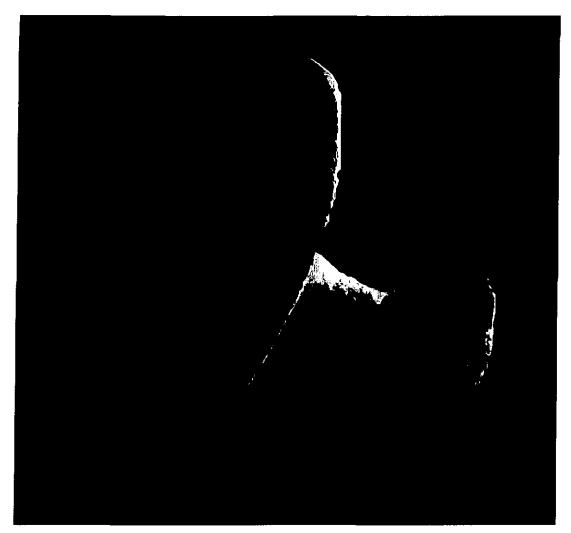


Plate 33 This metal artefact was observed on the surface of Site 10. It has been interpreted as a knob used in furniture such as on a drawer or cupboard.



Plate 34 This iron bolt was observed on the surface of Site 10.

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

*Professional Grave Solutions* was appointed by *Enkanyini Projects* to undertake a Heritage Options Analysis for the proposed Low Cost Housing Development in the vicinity of Vaal Marina, Sedibeng District Municipality, Gauteng Province. The project proponent is the Sedibeng District Municipality.

Six areas had been proposed as options for the abovementioned development (refer Annexure A Locality Plan). These six options were all assessed by way of walkthroughs and desktop studies. A total of five heritage sites were identified at Option 1 and a further five at Option 2. No heritage sites were found at Options 3, 4, 5 or 6.

The result of the study is the classification of the six options from the highest heritage impact (in other words the least favourable site for the development in terms of heritage) to lowest heritage impact (the most favourable site for the development in terms of heritage:

- Option 2 (the option with the highest heritage impact)
- Option 1 (the option with the second highest heritage impact)
- Options 3, 4, 5 & 6 (no heritage impact)

It is the opinion of the author of this report that in terms of heritage, Options 3, 4, 5 and 6 would have the least impact on the heritage fabric of the area and would therefore be best suited for the development. However, this conclusion is base on heritage alone. Once all the findings from the other assessments are compared, the decision might be made for Options 1 or 2 to be developed. Proposed mitigation measures for such a outcome were made. This said it is very important that once a option has been chosen a heritage impact assessment report will still have to compiled for that specifc site.

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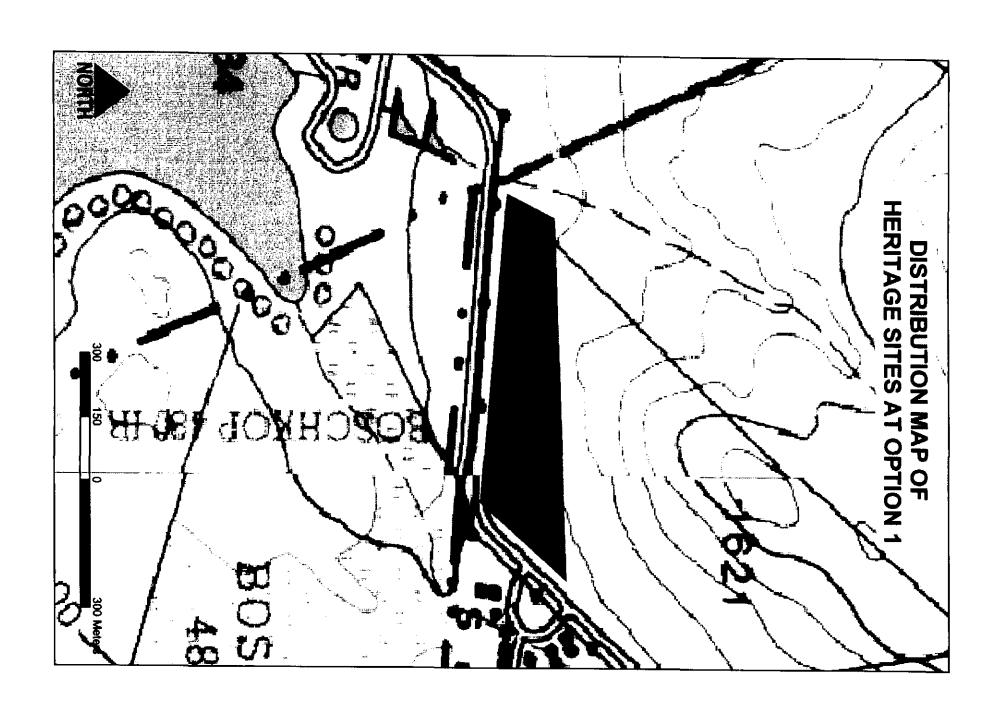
at the African Window Museum on 3 on the identification of ceramic and glass

# **ANNEXURE A - LOCALITY PLAN**

The map herewith depicted is a slightly modified version of a locality plan obtained from *Enkanyini Projects*.

0 Vereeniging road to the CBD main Villiers road cov 6 建 2 3 Mamelo Informal Vaal Marina Settlement Coogle

ANNEXURE B - SITE DISTRIBUTION MAPS



ANNEXURE C - LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

#### LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

South Africa has a number of legislative measures in place aimed at protecting its heritage resources. Of these the most important is the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.

### 1. National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999

The promulgation of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 brings the conservation and management of heritage resources in South Africa on par with international trends and standards.

Section 38 (3) of the act provides an outline of ideally what should be included in a heritage report. The act states:

- "(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."

Replacing the old National Monuments Act 28 of 1969, the Heritage Resources Act offers general protection for a number of heritage related features and objects (see below).

**Structures** are defined by the Heritage Resources Act as "...any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated with it." In section 34 of the Act the general protection for structures is stipulated. It is important to note that only structures older than 60 years are protected. Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act reads as follows: "No person may alter or demolish any structure or

part of a structure <u>which is older than 60 years without a permit</u> issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority."

The second general protection offered by the Heritage Resources Act which is of relevance for this project, is the protection of **archaeological sites and objects** (as well as paleontological sites and meteorites). Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act states that:

"No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority-

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (c) trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites."

In order to understand exactly what is protected, it is important to look at the definition of the concept "archaeological" set out in section 2(ii) of the Heritage Act:

- "(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;..."

The third important general protection offered by the Heritage Resources Act that is of importance here, is the protection of **graves and burial grounds**. Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act states that:

"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."

Of importance as well is section 36 (5), which relates to the conditions under which permits will be issued by the relevant heritage authority should any action described in section 36 (3), be taken. Section 36(5) reads that:

"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."

This section of the Act refers to graves and burial grounds which are older than 60 years and situated outside of a formal cemetery administered by a local authority.

Section 36 (6) of the act refers to instances where previously unknown graves are uncovered during development and other activities.

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

### 2. Other Legislation

In terms of graves, other legislative measures which may be of relevance include the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), the Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983, the Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980) as well as any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws that may be in place.