

A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION (WITH CONDITIONS) FOR THE EXEMPTION OF A FULL PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BULK DRAINAGE FOR THE MAYFIELD PHASE 2 HOUSING PROJECT, GRAHAMSTOWN, MAKANA MUNICIPALITY, CACADU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

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PROJECT INFORMATION

The type of development

The proposed development will include the construction of two outfall sewers to be constructed between the residential areas of Hoogenoeg and Ghost Town.

The Developer

Makana Municipality
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The Consultant

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Terms of Reference

The original proposal was to conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed bulk drainage for the Mayfield Phase 2 housing project, Grahamstown, Makana Municipality, Cacadu District Municipality, Eastern Cape, to describe and evaluate the importance of possible archaeological heritage sites, the potential impact of the development and to make recommendations to minimize possible damage to these sites.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Map

1:50 000: 3225 BC Grahamstown

Location data

The proposed bulk drainage for the Mayfield Phase 2 housing project, Grahamstown, Makana Municipality, Cacadu District Municipality, Eastern Cape, consist of a western and eastern pipeline (Maps 1-3). The Western outfall sewer is approximately 1400m long and the pipeline traverses between the residential areas of Hoogenoeg and Ghost Town through open ground between the two areas. The Eastern outfall sewer is approximately 700m long and the

pipeline traverses between the residential areas of Mary Waters, Joza and Xolani through open ground with informal settlements along the route of the sewer. GPS readings were taken at the top of the western pipeline at 33.17.234S; 26.31.999E, and at the top of the eastern pipeline at 33.17.052S; 26.32.824E.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Methodology

The investigation was conducted on foot and spot checks were conducted from a vehicle. The western and eastern pipelines follow drainage channels which transverse through residential areas. Both pipelines run through highly disturbed areas covered with grass and dense alien and fynbos vegetation along the western route (Figs 1-4). No archaeological sites or materials were found. In general, it is unlikely that any archaeological heritage remains of any value will be found *in situ* or of any contextual value will be exposed during the mining activities.



Figs 1-2. Down hill views of the western pipeline route.



Figs 3-4. Up hill views of the western pipeline route. Note the dense vegetation and general disturbance of the area.



Figs 5-6. A general view of the start of eastern pipeline route and a down hill view.



Figs 6-7. A general down hill view of the eastern pipeline route and a view of where the pipeline ends. Note the degree of disturbance to the area.

Conditions

Although it is unlikely that any archaeological heritage remains of any value will be found *in situ* or of any contextual value, there is always a possibility that human remains and/or other archaeological and historical material may be uncovered during the development. Such material must be reported to the nearest museum, archaeologist or to the South African Heritage Resources Agency if exposed, so that a systematic and professional investigation can be undertaken. Sufficient time should be allowed to remove/collect such material (See Appendix A for a list of possible archaeological sites that maybe found in the area).

Letter of recommendation

It is recommended that the proposed bulk drainage for the Mayfield Phase 2 housing project, Grahamstown, Makana Municipality, Cacadu District Municipality, Eastern Cape, is exempted from a full Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment. The proposed area for development is of low cultural sensitivity and it is believed that it is unlikely that any archaeological heritage remains will be found on the property. The proposed development may proceed as planned.

Note: This letter of recommendation **only** exempts the proposed development from a full Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment, but **not** for other heritage impact assessments.

It must also be clear that this letter of recommendation for exemption of a full Phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment will be assessed by the relevant heritage resources authority. The final decision rests with the heritage resources authority, which should give a permit or a formal letter of permission for the destruction of any cultural sites.

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999, section 35) requires a full Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in order that all heritage resources, that is, all places or objects of aesthetics, architectural, historic, scientific, social, spiritual linguistic or technological value or significance are protected. Thus any assessment should make provision for the protection of all these heritage components, including archaeology, shipwrecks, battlefields, graves, and structures older than 60 years, living heritage, historical settlements, landscapes, geological sites, palaeontological sites and objects.

GENERAL REMARKS AND CONDITIONS

It must be emphasised that this letter of recommendation for exemption of a full Phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment is based on the visibility of archaeological sites/material and may not therefore, reflect the true state of affairs. Sites and material may be covered by soil and vegetation and will only be located once this has been removed. In the unlikely event of such finds being uncovered, (during any phase of construction work), archaeologists must be informed immediately so that they can investigate the importance of the sites and excavate or collect material before it is destroyed (see attached list of possible archaeological sites and material). The *onus* is on the developer to ensure that this agreement is honoured in accordance with the National Heritage Act No. 25 of 1999.

APPENDIX A: IDENTIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL FROM INLAND AREAS: guidelines and procedures for developers

1. Human Skeletal material

Human remains, whether the complete remains of an individual buried during the past, or scattered human remains resulting from disturbance of the grave, should be reported. In general human remains are buried in a flexed position on their side, but are also found buried in a sitting position with a flat stone capping. Developers are requested to be on alert for the possibility of uncovering such remains.

2. Freshwater mussel middens

Freshwater mussels are found in the muddy banks of rivers and streams and were collected by people in the past as a food resource. Freshwater mussel shell middens are accumulations of mussel shell and are usually found close to rivers and streams. These shell middens frequently contain stone tools, pottery, bone, and occasionally human remains. Shell middens may be of various sizes and depths, but an accumulation which exceeds 1 m² in extent, should be reported to an archaeologist.

3. Large stone cairns

They come in different forms and sizes, but are easy to identify. The most common are roughly circular stone walls (mostly collapsed) and may represent stock enclosures, remains of wind breaks or cooking shelters. Others consist of large piles of stones of different sizes and heights and are known as *isisivane*. They are usually near river and mountain crossings. Their purpose and meaning is not fully understood, however, some are thought to represent burial cairns while others may have symbolic value.

4. Stone artefacts

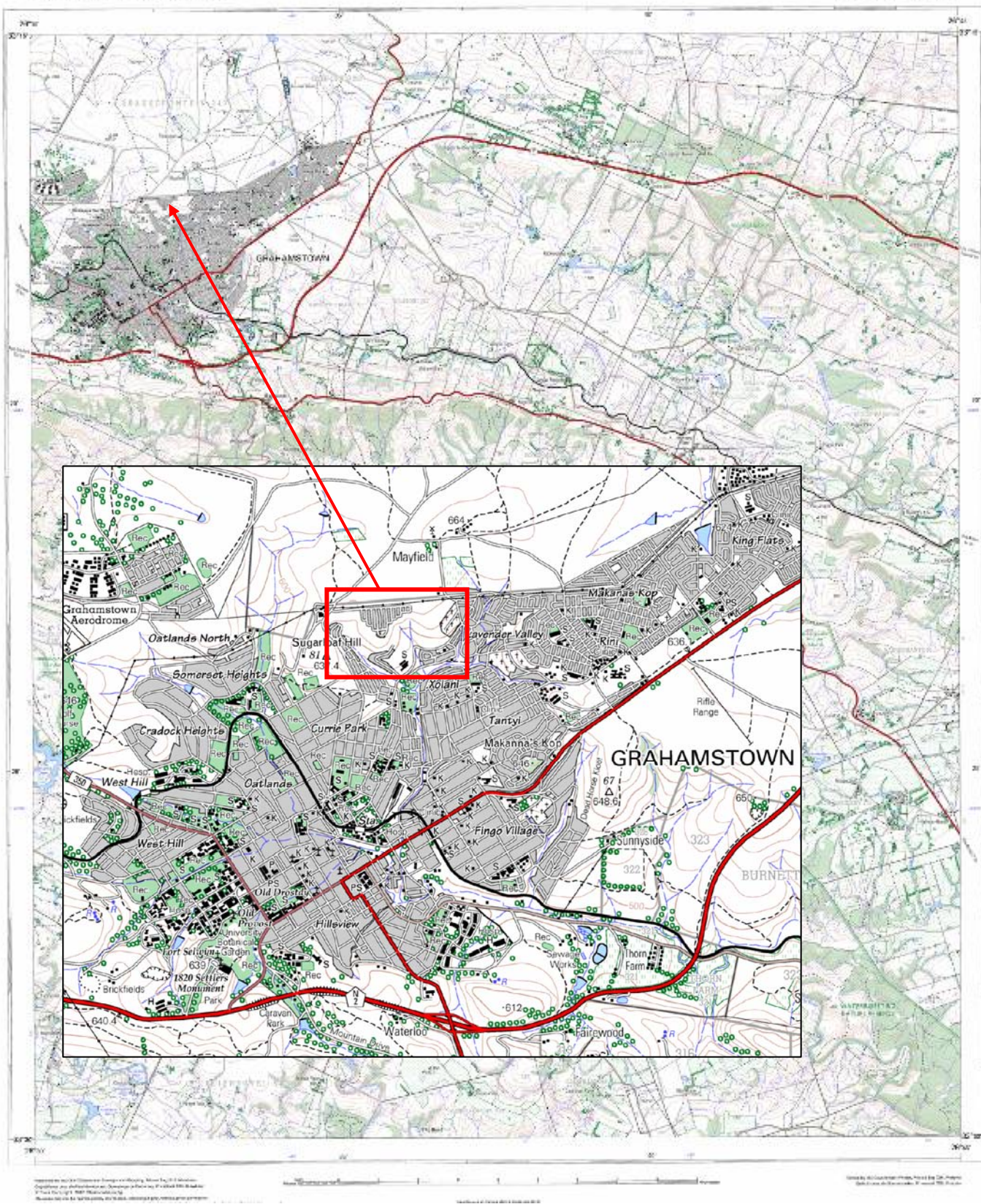
These are difficult for the layman to identify. However, large accumulations of flaked stones which do not appear to have been distributed naturally should be reported. If the stone tools are associated with bone remains, development should be halted immediately and archaeologists notified.

5. Fossil bone

Fossil bones may be found embedded in geological deposits. Any concentrations of bones, whether fossilized or not, should be reported.

5. Historical artefacts or features

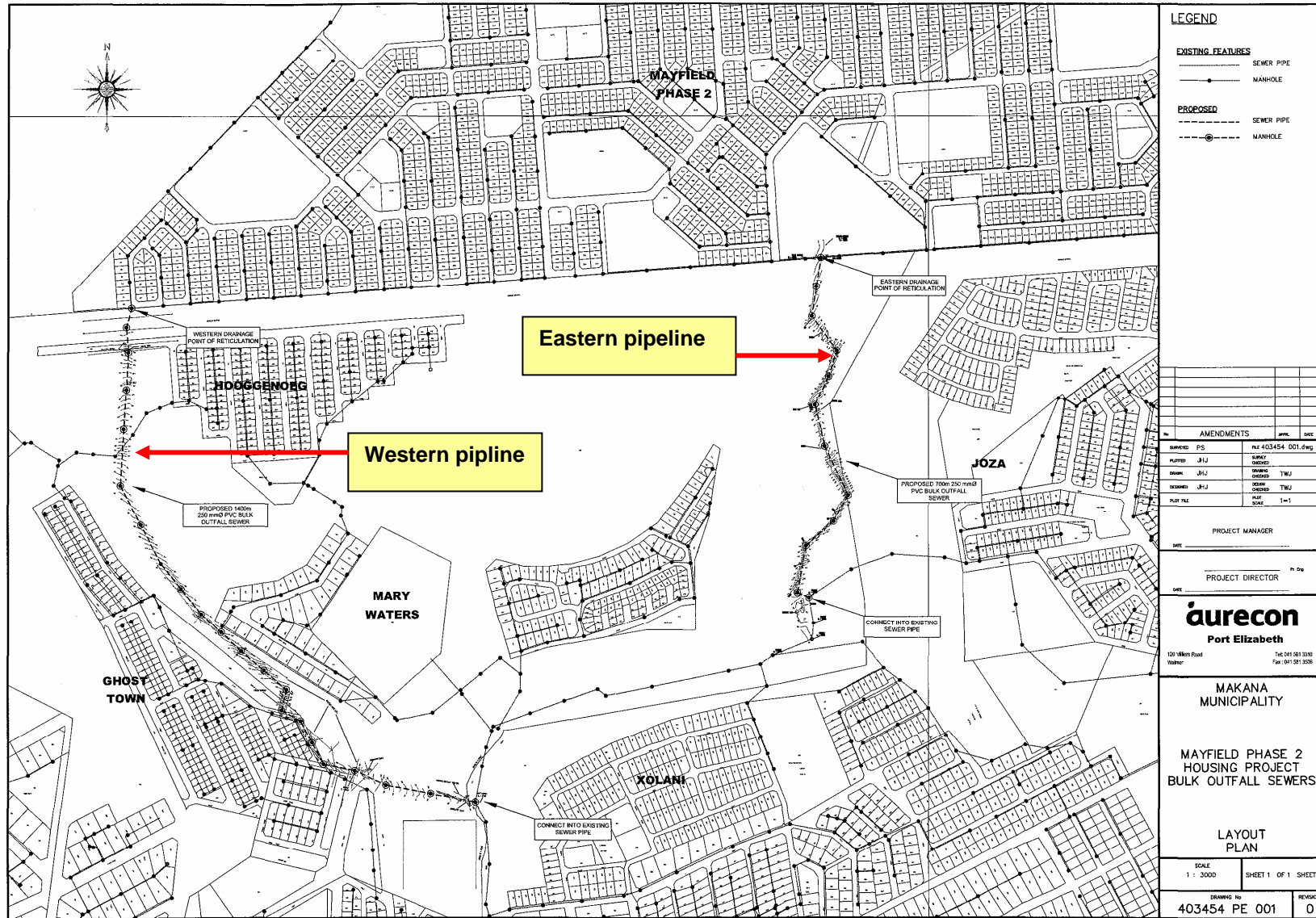
These are easy to identify and include foundations of buildings or other construction features and items from domestic and military activities.



Map 1. 1:50 000 maps indicating the location of the proposed pipeline development.



Map 2. Aerial photographs indicating the location of the pipeline development.



Map 3. Layout plan indicating the locations of the proposed pipeline developments (map courtesy Aurecon).