



## **AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC**

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### **A. PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

#### **(a) BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PROJECT:**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW ROAD AND SITE ON THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 1 OF THE FARM DIEPSLOOT 388JR AND ON A PORTION OF RIVERSIDE VIEW X 9, CITY OF JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY GAUTENG PROVINCE**

#### **(b) REPORT COMPILED BY**

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#### **(c) DEVELOPER AND CONSULTANT INFORMATION**

##### **Project applicant:**

Valumax Northern Farms (Pty) Ltd

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##### **Consultant:**

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#### **(d) DATE OF REPORT**

**7 Mei 2015**

## **B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The proposed development site is mainly Highveld grassland and weeds on old maize fields on the eastern side of the river. On the western side of the Jukskei River the area is also mainly old maize fields.

The route of the road and the development site on remainder of Portion 1 Diepsloot was inspected on foot and by vehicle.

The proposed development site east of the Jukskei River at present is used as a scrambler obstacle course. Most of the area was ploughed in the past and now is covered by Highveld grassland and weeds. The new road will cross this area from east to west.

On the western side of the Jukskei River is the Steyn City Estate where the proposed new road will continue through old maize fields.

No important Cultural Resources or graves could be found on or near the proposed route of the new road.

There is no objection to the construction of the proposed new road as well as the township development on the remainder of Portion 1 of the Farm Diepsloot 388 JR from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view as no important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves were found

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

### **Declaration:**

I Dr. Udo S. Küsel declare that I don't have any financial or personal interest in the proposed development, nor its developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from the provision of heritage assessment and management services



Dr. Udo S. Küsel D. Phil  
Heritage Consultant  
7 May 2015

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## **D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT**

### **(a) Whether the report is part of a scoping report/EIA/HIA or not**

*A Basic Assessment procedure is being undertaken as part of the application for Environmental Authority.*

### **(b) Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc).**

*Construction of a road and a new residential development*

### **(c) Whether re-zoning and/or subdivision of land is involved.**

*Yes and also a road reserve will be registered*

### **(d) Developer and consultant and owner and name and contact details;**

#### **Project applicant:**

Valumax Northern Farms (Pty) Ltd  
Mr. Helgardt Slabbert,  
33 Ballyclare Drive, Ballywoods Office Park, Bryanston.  
P.O. Box 78772, Sandton, 2146  
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### **(e) Terms of reference**

To conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment to assess if there is any material of cultural or heritage value under the footprint of the proposed development

### **(f) Legislative requirements of Act 25 of 1999.**

PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT,  
ACT NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Paleontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or objects, which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

## **E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA.**

### **Archaeological context for Diepsloot**

A consultation of the SAHRIS data base has demonstrated that the area, which is mostly intensively developed, does not contain many significant heritage resources. A very low density of Stone Age lithics has been recorded. There are Later Iron Age (LIA) sites, including graves, and historic settlements from African farmer occupation, but these are not abundant. On account of the intensive former agricultural and in particularly current industrial and housing development it is likely that most prehistoric remains have been destroyed or are buried below the current surface whereas historic structures have been either demolished or much altered. The most abundant and significant heritage features within the Diepsloot area are formal cemeteries and formal as well as unmarked graves.

During an AIA for the Diepsloot pipeline Huffman and Schoeman (2001) recorded a cemetery at Knopjeslaagte (2528 CC6. In a subsequent survey Huffman (2009) noted a single MSA flake in a disturbed context. As to the extensive African cemetery of some 87 graves (from 25 55 42.2S 28 02 32.7E to 44.1S 32.6E) previously recorded in 2001, he recommended that it should be fenced.

Teichert (2006) undertook a rescue excavation of a Late Iron Age burial that was disturbed when a trench was dug by the landowner of the property to build a house on an already disturbed archaeological site at Rietfontein 532 JQ, Portion 16, at approximately 25.8874S, 27.95239E in the Diepsloot District (Permit ID 638, 80/06/05/013/51).

Coetzee (2008), in a cultural heritage survey of the proposed township development of Tanganani Extension 7 on the farm Diepsloot 388JR, documented a mud-stone multi-room house and no other heritage resources.

No sites, features or objects that are of cultural heritage significance were found in a survey of the proposed Diepsloot waste buyback centre (Van Schalkwyk 2011a), the Diepsloot sewer pipeline (Van Schalkwyk 2011b), in an HIA for the proposed Diepsloot reservoir (Van Schalkwyk 2012) or in another heritage assessment for the proposed Diepsloot East power line and new substation (Van Schalkwyk 2013).

In an investigation for the proposed subdivision of Portion 34 of the farm Rietfontein 532 JQ, PGS (2009) recorded structures less than 60 years old and a recent grave that was deemed to be of significance. It was recommended that a fence should be erected around the grave.

Digby Wells (2012) was appointed for a heritage statement for the Eskom transmission division - Roodepoort strengthening project in support of the basic assessment report (BAR). Historical structures, a number of cemeteries and burial sites, LIA sites and lithic scatters were identified.

Bokomoso Environmental (2013) conducted an assessment for the proposed development of Nooitgedacht 534 JQ Ptn 366 (25° 59'50"12"S; 27° 55'10"38"). It was recorded that '[t]he proposed development site has no significant heritage resources' (Bokomoso Environmental 2013:70).

## **F. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY OR AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

### **(a) Detail of area surveyed**

- (i) Location Province: Gauteng Province
- (ii) City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality
- (iii) Location maps: Centurion 2528CC
- (iv) Site map: Attached see pages: 12 - 14

### **(b) Description of methodology**

All literature on the area was researched. The Archaeological database of the National Cultural History Museum was consulted. On the eastern side of the Jukskei River the Highveld grass was very tall giving bad visibility. On the western side of the Jukskei River visibility was better as most of the area was old maize fields.

## **G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES IDENTIFIED AND MAPPED**

This impact assessment consists of two parts. Firstly the proposed new road from Porcupine Park Road up to Steyns City Estate and Golf Course as well as the area known as Remainder of Portion 1 Farm Diepsloot for township development - see map on page 14.

The proposed new road from Porcupine Park Road was inspected from just east of the scrambler optical course at S25° 57' 41.11" & E28° 00' 07.54" in a westerly direction

up to die Jukskei River. This section of the road runs mainly through dense Highveld grassland and weeds and past the scrambler obstacle course (Miller Moore Racing) at S25° 57' 28.83" & E27° 59' 57.18. From this point it runs downhill to the Jukskei River at S25° 57' 52.50" & E27° 59' 23.21". It also passes a number of small dirt roads used for scrambler field racing. A high security wall of the new Golf Course then blocked the route near the river see photograph.



Scrambler Obstacle Course



Wall around the Estate and  
Golf Course

The area know as Remainder of Portion 1 Farm Diepsloot 388 JR consists also of Highveld grass and weeds as nearly the whole area was ploughed in the past. This would have destroyed any potential Heritage Sites. In this area a new township will be developed.

At S25° 57' 38.9" & E27° 59' 31.4" is a patch of exotic trees which is an indication of a possible early farm workers settlement. The site was inspected but no remains were found as the area was bulldozed – see photographs.



Highveld grassland and  
wheat



Highveld grassland and weeds  
on the route

At S25° 57' 38.9" & E27° 59' 31.4" is a patch of exotic trees which is an indication of a possible early farm workers settlement. The site was inspected but no remains were found as the area was bulldozed – see photographs.



Exotic trees at possible  
farm workers settlement



The second part is the proposed new road that will cross Steyn City Estate and end at Runnymede Avenue.

We traveled west to Runnymede Avenue but here the road was again blocked by a very high security wall of the new Steyn City Estate and Golf Course. Eventually we gained access into the Estate and followed the route from the Security wall at Runnymede Avenue down to the river up to the security wall that had blocked our route on the section east of the Jukskei River.

This section of the route runs mainly through old maize fields. Ploughing over a long period of time would have destroyed any possible heritage sites – see photograph.



Jukskei River crossing and security wall on horizon



Dirt road to river on the proposed route



Proposed route of the new road



Entrance to Steyn City

No important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves could be found near or on the proposed route of the new road.

#### **H. DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTEFACTS, FAUNA, BOTANICAL OR OTHER FINDS AND FEATURES**

None

#### **I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES**

None

#### **J. FIELD RATING**

Not applicable

#### **K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Heritage value)**

Not applicable

#### **L. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION**

There is no objection to the construction of the proposed new road as well as the township development on the remainder of Portion 1 of the Farm Diepsloot 388 JR from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view as no important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves were found

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

## **M. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Bokomoso Environmental. 2013. Final basic assessment report for the proposed development of Nooitgedacht 534 JQ Ptn 366.

Coetzee, FP. 2008. Cultural Heritage Survey of the proposed township development (Tanganani Ext 7) on Portion 119 (portion of Portion 2) of the farm Diepsloot 388JR, Gauteng. MSA Environmental, Legal & Mining Services.

Huffman, T.N. 2009. Portion 115 of Knopjeslaagte: Heritage Assessment. A Phase I report prepared for Seaton Thompson and Associates.

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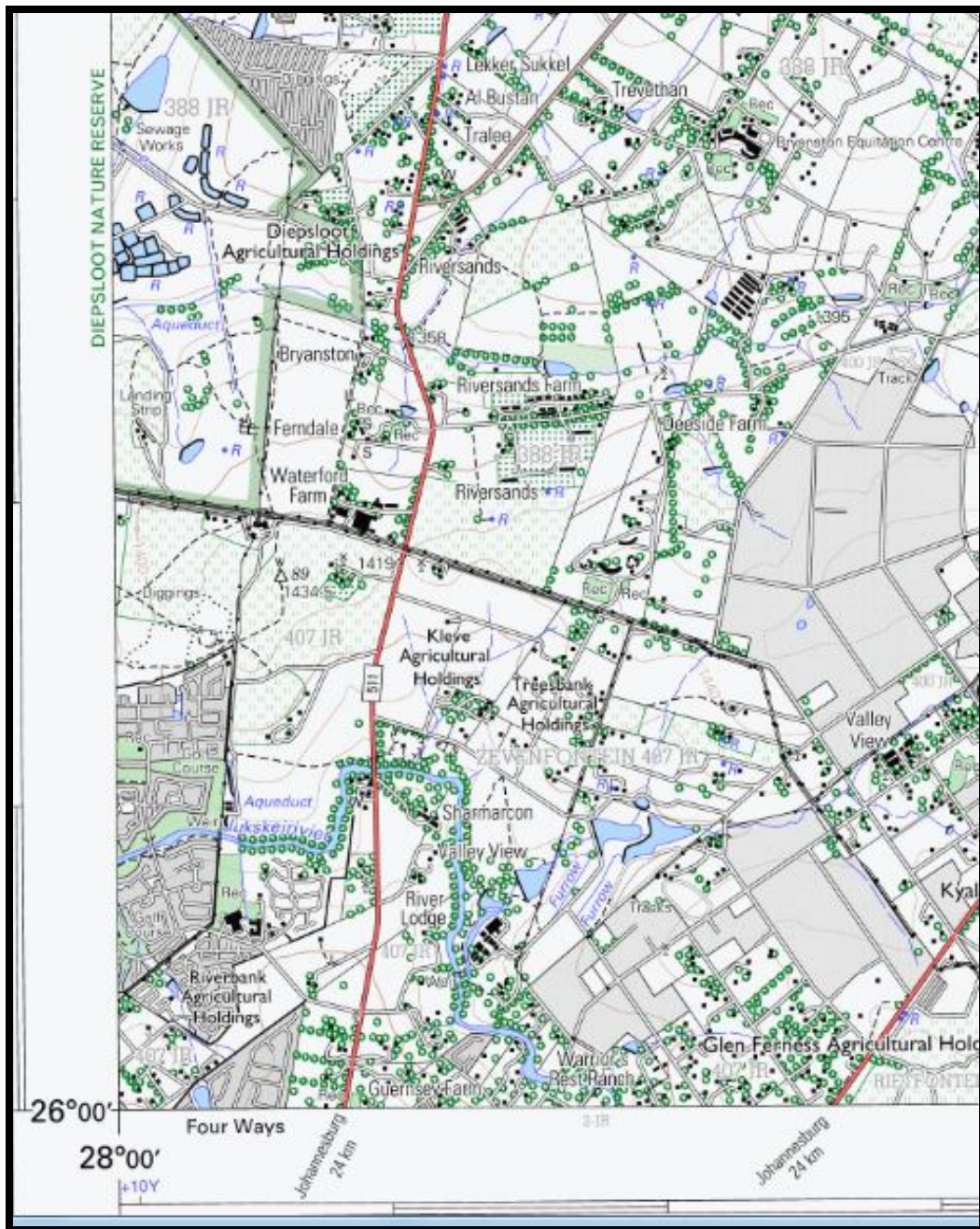
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Van Schalkwyk, J. 2013b. Basic cultural heritage assessment for the proposed Diepsloot East power line and new substation, Gauteng Province. Prepared for Envirolution Consulting.

## **N. APPENDIX**

- Maps pages 12 – 15



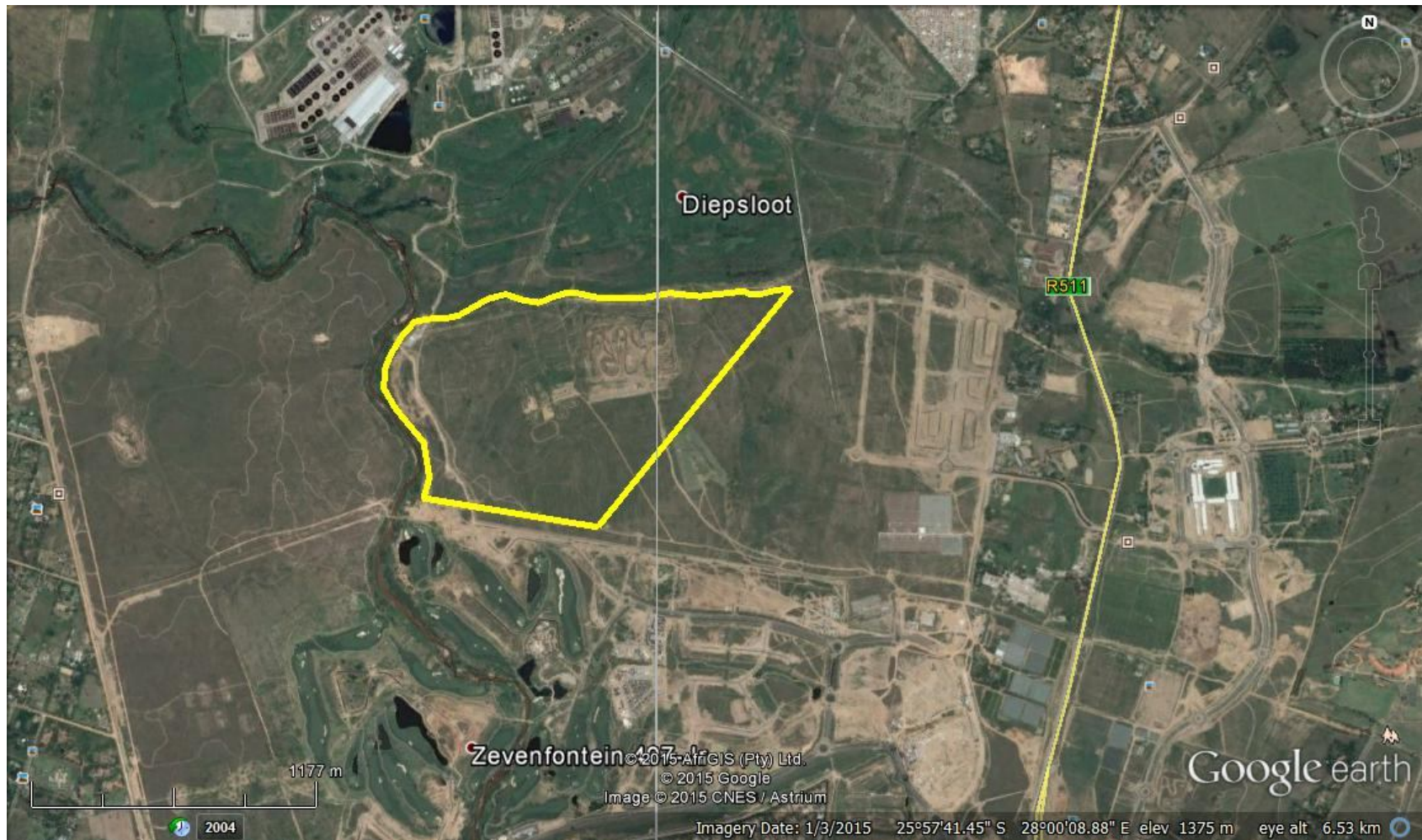
Locality Map 2528 CC Centurion





#### Locality Map of Porcupine Park Avenue

- Yellow line indicated new Road.
- Red line indicates location of Riverside View X28, which has already received Environmental Authorisation



**Locality map of the Remainder of Portion 1 of the Farm Diepsloot 388 JR**





Google Map of area