

ENVIRONAMICS: SECTION 24G APPLICATION ON THE FARM ZUURBERG 244, LADISMITH REGION, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

**Archaeological Impact Assessment** 

An EOH Company





Prepared for: **ENVIRONAMICS** 

Prepared by: Exigo Sustainability



An EOH Company

 Email
 info@exigo3.com

 Tel
 +27 012 751 2160

 Fax
 +27 086 607 2406

The Village Office Park (Block E), 309 Glenwood Road, Faerie Glen, Pretoria, 0043 Postnet Suite 74, Private Bag X07, Arcadia, 0007

Innovation in Sustainability

www.exigo3.com

# ENVIRONAMICS: HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR A SECTION 24G APPLICATION ON THE FARM ZUURBERG 244, LADISMITH REGION, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

# Conducted on behalf of:

**ENVIRONAMICS** 

# Compiled by:

Nelius Kruger (BA, BA Hons. Archaeology Pret.)

# Reviewed by:

Marelie Griesel (ENVIRONAMICS)

# **Document History**

Document Version 1 (Draft) - 25 October 2018



An EOH Company

Email info@exigo3.com
Tel +27 012 751 2160
Fax +27 086 607 2406

The Village Office Park (Block E), 309 Glenwood Road, Faerie Glen, Pretoria, 0043 Postnet Suite 74, Private Bag X07, Arcadia, 0007

Innovation in Sustainability

www.exigo3.com

# **DECLARATION**

I, Nelius Le Roux Kruger, declare that -

- I act as the independent specialist;
- I am conducting any work and activity relating to the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the client;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have the required expertise in conducting the specialist report and I will comply with legislation, including the relevant Heritage Legislation (National Heritage Resources Act no. 25 of 1999, Human Tissue Act 65 of 1983 as amended, Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance no. 7 of 1925, Excavations Ordinance no. 12 of 1980), the Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment (SAHRA, AMAFA and the CRM section of ASAPA), regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I have not, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- All the particulars furnished by me in this declaration are true and correct.

Signature of specialist

Company: Exigo Sustainability

Date: 25 October 2018

Although Exigo Sustainability exercises due care and diligence in rendering services and preparing documents, Exigo Sustainability accepts no liability, and the client, by receiving this document, indemnifies Exigo Sustainability and its directors, managers, agents and employees against all actions, claims, demands, losses, liabilities, costs, damages and expenses arising from or in connection with services rendered, directly or indirectly by Exigo Sustainability and by the use of the information contained in this document.

This document contains confidential and proprietary information equally shared between Exigo Sustainability and ENVIRONAMICS, and is protected by copyright in favour of these companies and may not be reproduced, or used without the written consent of these companies, which has been obtained beforehand. This document is prepared exclusively for ENVIRONAMICS and is subject to all confidentiality, copyright and trade secrets, rules, intellectual property law and practices of South Africa. Exigo Sustainability promotes the conservation of sensitive archaeological and heritage resources and therefore uncompromisingly adheres to relevant Heritage Legislation (National Heritage Resources Act no. 25 of 1999, Human Tissue Act 65 of 1983 as amended, Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance no. 7 of 1925, Excavations Ordinance no. 12 of 1980). In order to ensure best practices and ethics in the examination, conservation and mitigation of archaeological and heritage resources, Exigo Sustainability follows the Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment as set out by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and the CRM section of the Association for South African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA).



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report details the results of an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) study subject to an Environmental Basic Assessment (BA) and Section 24G Rectification process for the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project on a portion of the Farm Zuurberg 244 in the Kannaland Municipality, Western Cape Province. The project entails the proposed clearing of two areas (BA applications) as well as the NEMA authorisation for an existing dam and cleared agricultural lands (24G application) on the abovementioned property. This study investigated potential impacts on greenfields demarcated for the planned site clearing as well as a prediction of possible past impacts emanating from the construction of the existing dam and the clearing of the field. The latter was achieved by the investigation of heritage signatures and potential site distribution and occurrence in the immediate surroundings in order to ultimately predict and assess the level of impact that the developments might have had on the heritage landscape at the time of construction. This was done by means of a study of background information on the area's archaeology, site inspection observations and a detailed aerial survey of the impacted areas, both before and after construction on the dams was completed. The AIA report includes background information on the area's archaeology, its representation in Southern Africa, and the history of the larger area under investigation, survey methodology and results as well as heritage legislation and conservation policies. A copy of the report will be supplied to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and recommendations contained in this document will be reviewed.

Project Title	Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project	
General Project Location	S33.556483° E21.124969°	
1:50 000 Map Sheet	3321CA	
Farm Portion / Parcel	Farm Zuurberg 244	
Magisterial District / Municipal Area	Kannaland Municipality	
Province	Western Cape Province	

The history of Western Cape is reflected in a rich archaeological landscape. The province is well known for its contribution to Stone Age research and various South African archaeological cultures have derived their names from cave sites along the south and east coast. Significantly, the intensive utilization of marine resources by San hunter-gatherers (dating from as old as 6 000 years ago), Khoi pastoralists and KhoiSan (dating from the past 1 800 years in the region), manifests in the archaeological record through hundreds of shell middens (large piles of marine shell) dating to the terminal Pleistocene and Holocene that litter coastal areas along the Western Cape. In addition. European farmers farmers, settling in the area since the 17th century, divided up the landscape into a number of farms, which even today form the framework for agricultural, residential and other forms of development. Similarly, portions of the project area have been transformed as a result of historical crop farming and rural settlement but rock outcrops, mountain slopes and summits remain pristine. A study of aerial photos taken prior to the construction of the dam indicates that some areas currently covered by constructed dams and cleared lands, have already been transformed for farming prior to development on the farm. During the site assessment, heritage receptors were noted in areas demarcated for site clearing and zones surrounding the exiting dam.



The following general recommendations are made based on general observations in the project area:

- A low-density scatter of Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Later Stone Age (LSA) material was found on a small rise in an area demarcated for site clearing for agricultural fields. The MSA lithics, which occur on the surface of deep sands, include formal tools such as broken points, scrapers and blades. The transformed nature of the local landscape has resulted in a loss of primary context and as such, the scientific value of the artefacts has largely been lost. However, it is recommended that any development activities be monitored in order to avoid the destruction of previously undetected Stone Age occurrences.
- A Colonial Period occupation site with a clayed-up building and a midden was recorded in an area demarcated for site clearing for agricultural fields. The site is probably older than 60 years and a protected heritage resource but the dwelling does not display unique architectural characteristics as these kinds of buildings occur frequently around farmsteads in the region and the site is of moderate-low significance. However, a destruction permit should be obtained prior to any alteration to the dwelling or destruction of the site
- Considering the localised nature of heritage remains, the general monitoring of the development progress of the two new dams by an ECO is recommended for all stages of the project. Should any subsurface palaeontological, archaeological or historical material, or burials be exposed during construction activities, all activities should be suspended and the archaeological specialist should be notified immediately
- It is essential that cognisance be taken of the larger archaeological landscape of the area in order to avoid the destruction of previously undetected heritage sites. It should be stated that the possibility of undetected archaeological remains occurring elsewhere in the project area should not be excluded. Burials and historically significant structures dating to the Colonial Period occur on farms in the area and these resources should be avoided during all phases of construction and development, including the operational phases of the development.
- Since the intrinsic heritage and social value of graves and cemeteries are highly significant, these resources require special management measures. Should human remains be discovered at any stage, these should be reported to the Heritage Specialist and relevant authorities (SAHRA) and development activities should be suspended until the site has been inspected by the Specialist. The Specialist will advise on further management actions and possible relocation of human remains in accordance with the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended), the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), the National Heritage Resources Act (Act no. 25 of 1999) and any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws pertaining to human remains. A full social consultation process should occur in conjunction with the mitigation of cemeteries and burials.

Cognisant of known site distribution patterns in this section of the Western Cape Province, and based on general onsite observations and off-site assessments as well as the fact that the locations of the dam and the cleared field had, to a certain extent been transformed prior to the establishment thereof, the author of this report is of the opinion that the clearing of field for the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project will have no significant impact on heritage resources. In addition, it is assumed that the construction of the dam and clearing of fields in the recent past, had a minimal (if any) impact on the heritage landscape.





Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

This report details the methodology, limitations and recommendations relevant to these heritage areas, as well as areas of proposed development. It should be noted that recommendations and possible mitigation measures are valid for the duration of the development process, and mitigation measures might have to be implemented on additional features of heritage importance not detected during this Phase 1 assessment (e.g. uncovered during the construction process).





Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

# **NOTATIONS AND TERMS/TERMINOLOGY**

Absolute dating: Absolute dating provides specific dates or range of dates expressed in years.

**Archaeological record:** The archaeological record minimally includes all the material remains documented by archaeologists. More comprehensive definitions also include the record of culture history and everything written about the past by archaeologists.

Artefact: Entities whose characteristics result or partially result from human activity. The shape and other characteristics of the artefact are not altered by removal of the surroundings in which they are discovered. In the Southern African context examples of artefacts include potsherds, iron objects, stone tools, beads and hut remains.

Assemblage: A group of artefacts recurring together at a particular time and place, and representing the sum of human activities.

**Context:** An artefact's context usually consists of its immediate *matrix*, its *provenience* and its *association* with other artefacts. When found in *primary context*, the original artefact or structure was undisturbed by natural or human factors until excavation and if in *secondary context*, disturbance or displacement by later ecological action or human activities occurred.

Cultural Heritage Resource: The broad generic term Cultural Heritage Resources refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

Cultural landscape: A cultural landscape refers to a distinctive geographic area with cultural significance.

**Cultural Resource Management (CRM):** A system of measures for safeguarding the archaeological heritage of a given area, generally applied within the framework of legislation designed to safeguard the past.

Feature: Non-portable artefacts, in other words artefacts that cannot be removed from their surroundings without destroying or altering their original form. Hearths, roads, and storage pits are examples of archaeological features

**Impact:** A description of the effect of an aspect of the development on a specified component of the biophysical, social or economic environment within a defined time and space.

Lithic: Stone tools or waste from stone tool manufacturing found on archaeological sites.

Matrix: The material in which an artefact is situated (sediments such as sand, ashy soil, mud, water, etcetera). The matrix may be of natural origin or human-made.

Midden: Refuse that accumulates in a concentrated heap.

Microlith: A small stone tool, typically knapped of flint or chert, usually about three centimetres long or less.

Monolith: A geological feature such as a large rock, consisting of a single massive stone or rock, or a single piece of rock placed as, or within, a monument or site.

**Phase 1 CRM Assessment:** An Impact Assessment which identifies archaeological and heritage sites, assesses their significance and comments on the impact of a given development on the sites. Recommendations for site mitigation or conservation are also made during this phase.

Phase 2 CRM Study: In-depth studies which could include major archaeological excavations, detailed site surveys and mapping / plans of sites, including historical / architectural structures and features. Alternatively, the sampling of sites by collecting material, small test pit excavations or auger sampling is required. Mitigation / Rescue involves planning the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (in terms of a permit) at sites that may be lost as a result of a given development.

Phase 3 CRM Measure: A Heritage Site Management Plan (for heritage conservation), is required in rare cases where the site is so important that development will not be allowed and sometimes developers are encouraged to enhance the value of the sites retained on their properties with appropriate interpretive material or displays

**Provenience:** Provenience is the three-dimensional (horizontal and vertical) position in which artefacts are found. Fundamental to ascertaining the provenience of an artefact is *association*, the co-occurrence of an artefact with other archaeological remains; and *superposition*, the principle whereby artefacts in lower levels of a matrix were deposited before the artefacts found in the layers above them, and are therefore older.

**Random Sampling**: A probabilistic sampling strategy whereby randomly selected sample blocks in an area are surveyed. These are fixed by drawing coordinates of the sample blocks from a table of random numbers.

Scoping Assessment: The process of determining the spatial and temporal boundaries (i.e. extent) and key issues to be addressed in an impact assessment. The main purpose is to focus the impact assessment on a manageable number of important questions on which decision making is expected to focus and to ensure that only key issues and reasonable alternatives are examined. The outcome of the scoping process is a Scoping Report that includes issues raised during the scoping process, appropriate responses and, where required, terms of reference for specialist involvement.

Site (Archaeological): A distinct spatial clustering of artefacts, features, structures, and organic and environmental remains, as the residue of human activity. These include surface sites, caves and rock shelters, larger open-air sites, sealed sites (deposits) and river deposits. Common functions of archaeological sites include living or habitation sites, kill sites, ceremonial sites, burial sites, trading, quarry, and art sites,

Stratigraphy: This principle examines and describes the observable layers of sediments and the arrangement of strata in deposits

Systematic Sampling: A probabilistic sampling strategy whereby a grid of sample blocks is set up over the survey area and each of these blocks is equally spaced and searched.

**Trigger:** A particular characteristic of either the receiving environment or the proposed project which indicates that there is likely to be an *issue* and/or potentially significant *impact* associated with that proposed development that may require specialist input. Legal requirements of existing and future legislation may also trigger the need for specialist involvement.



ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description	
ASAPA	Association for South African Professional Archaeologists	
AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment	
BA	Basic Assessment	
ВР	Before Present	
BCE	Before Common Era	
CRM	Culture Resources Management	
EIA	Early Iron Age (also Early Farmer Period)	
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	
EFP	Early Farmer Period (also Early Iron Age)	
ESA	Earlier Stone Age	
GIS	Geographic Information Systems	
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment	
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites	
K2/Map	K2/Mapungubwe Period	
LFP	Later Farmer Period (also Later Iron Age)	
LIA	Later Iron Age (also Later Farmer Period)	
LSA	Later Stone Age	
MIA	Middle Iron Age (also Early later Farmer Period)	
MSA	Middle Stone Age	
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act No.25 of 1999, Section 35	
PHRA	Provincial Heritage Resources Authorities	
S24G	Section 24G Application	
SAFA	Society for Africanist Archaeologists	
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Association	
YCE	Years before Common Era (Present)	



ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

E)	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY			
1	BACKGR	OUND	11	
	1.1 Sco	PE AND MOTIVATION	11	
	1.2 Pro	JECT DIRECTION	11	
	1.3 Pro	JECT BRIEF	11	
	1.4 TERI	MS OF REFERENCE	13	
	1.5 CRN	M: LEGISLATION, CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT	13	
	1.5.1	Legislation regarding archaeology and heritage sites		
	1.5.2	Background to HIA and AIA Studies		
2	2 REGIONAL CONTEXT		16	
		a Location		
	2.2 ARE	A DESCRIPTION: RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT	16	
	2.3 SITE	DESCRIPTION	16	
3	METHO	O OF ENQUIRY	19	
	3.1 Sou	IRCES OF INFORMATION	19	
	3.1.1	Desktop Study		
	3.1.2	Aerial Survey		
	3.1.3	Mapping of sites		
	3.1.4	Field Survey		
	3.1.5	General Public Liaison		
	3.2 LIMI	ITATIONS	21	
	3.2.1	Access	21	
	3.2.2	Visibility	21	
	3.2.3	Limitations and Constraints	26	
	3.3 IMP	ACT ASSESSMENT	26	
4	ARCHAE	O-HISTORICAL CONTEXT	27	
	4.1 THE	ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA	27	
	4.2 THE	WESTERN CAPE AND LADYSMITH LANDSCAPE: SPECIFIC THEMES.		
	4.2.1	Early History and the Stone Ages	27	
	4.2.2	Pastoralism and the last 2000 years	28	
	4.2.3	Later History	28	
5	RESULTS	S: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY	30	
		STONE AGE		
	5.2 Hist	FORICAL / COLONIAL PERIOD AND RECENT TIMES	31	
6	RESULTS	S: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT RATING	34	
	6.1 Рот	ENTIAL IMPACTS AND SIGNIFICANCE RATINGS		
	6.1.1	General assessment of impacts on resources		
	6.1.2	Direct impact rating		
	6.2 MAI	NAGEMENT ACTIONS	35	
7	RECOM	MENDATIONS	37	
8	GENERA	L COMMENTS AND CONDITIONS	38	
9	BIBLIOG	RAPHY	39	





Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

10	ADDENDUM 1: HERITAGE LEGISLATION BACKGROUND	41
10.1	CRM: LEGISLATION, CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT	41
10.	1.1 Legislation regarding archaeology and heritage sites	41
10.	1.2 Background to HIA and AIA Studies	42
10.2	ASSESSING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HERITAGE RESOURCES	44
- CATE	GORIES OF SIGNIFICANCE	44
11	ADDENDUM 2: CONVENTIONS USED TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HERITAGE	46
11.1	SITE SIGNIFICANCE MATRIX	46
11.2	IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	47
11.3	DIRECT IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	48
11.4	MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION ACTIONS	49





Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1: Aerial map indicating the respective locations of the existing dams and site clearing, and new clearing areas planned as part of the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project	12
Figure 2-1: 1:50 00 Map representation of the location of the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project (sheet	12
3321CA).	17
Figure 2-2: Aerial map providing a regional context for the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project	
	10
Figure 3-1: Historical aerial image dating to 1942 (left) and 2018 (right) indicating the project components within the historical landscape. Note that many of the sites indicate transformation as a result of what seems to be crop farming at	
this time.	
Figure 3-2: Historical topographic maps dating to 1964 (left) and 1984 (right) indicating the general project components	
within the historical landscape. Note the general absence of man-made features besides for farmstead buildings and	
cultivated farmland along the Groot River.	21
Figure 3-3: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification	
Figure 3-4: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the 524G rectification	
Figure 3-4. View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the 524G rectification	
Figure 3-6: View of general surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields	
Figure 3-7: View of general surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields. The newly constructed dam is	23
visible in the background.	22
Figure 3-8: View of a rock outcrop at the site proposed for new agricultural fields	
Figure 3-9: View of a rock outcrop along a small rise at the site proposed for new agricultural fields	23 24
Figure 3-10: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification	
Figure 3-11: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification	
Figure 3-12: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification	
Figure 3-13: View of surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.	
Figure 3-14: View of surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.	
Figure 3-15: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification	
Figure 4-1: Typical ESA handaxe (left) and cleaver (center). To the right is a MSA scraper (right, top), point (right, middle)	
and blade (right, bottom).	
Figure 4-2: Title deed of the farm Zuurberg dating to 1912.	
Figure 4-3: Title deed of the farm Zuurberg dating to 1832.	
Figure 5-1: MSA tools on quartzite noted in the project area.	
Figure 5-2: LSA scarpers located on the surface in the project area	
Figure 5-3: A broken blade (left), a point (centre) a d a core tool from the MSA located in the project area	51
Figure 5-4: A Historical Period dwelling, probably a workers house in the project area	
Figure 5-5: Midden containing Historical Period glass in the project area	
Figure 5-6: Aerial image indicating the location of heritage occurrences and landscape features discussed in the text	



# 1 BACKGROUND

# 1.1 Scope and Motivation

Exigo Sustainability was commissioned by ENVIRONAMICS for an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) study subject to an Environmental Basic Assessment (BA) process for the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project in the Western Cape Province. The rationale of this AIA is to determine the presence of heritage resources such as archaeological and historical sites and features, graves and places of religious and cultural significance in an area identified for site clearing; to consider the impact of the proposed project on such heritage resources, and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the cultural resources management measures that may be required at affected sites / features. In addition, the study predicts and assesses the level of impact that the construction of an existing dam and site clearance might have had on the heritage landscape at the time of construction by means of a desktop assessment, site inspection observations and a detailed aerial survey.

# 1.2 Project Direction

Exigo Sustainability's expertise ensures that all projects be conducted to the highest international ethical and professional standards. As archaeological specialist for Exigo Sustainability, Mr Neels Kruger acted as field director for the project; responsible for the assimilation of all information, the compilation of the final consolidated AIA report and recommendations in terms of heritage resources on the demarcated project areas. Mr Kruger is an accredited archaeologist and Culture Resources Management (CRM) practitioner with the Association of South African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA), a member of the Society for Africanist Archaeologists (SAFA) and the Pan African Archaeological Association (PAA) as well as a Master's Degree candidate in archaeology at the University of Pretoria.

# 1.3 Project Brief

The author was contracted to undertake a heritage assessment of proposed activities related to the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project on a portion of the farm Zuurberg in the Western Cape Province. The project entails the proposed clearing of two areas (BA applications) as well as the NEMA authorisation for an existing dam and cleared agricultural lands (24G application) on the abovementioned property. This study investigated potential impacts on greenfields demarcated for the planned site clearing as well as a prediction of possible past impacts emanating from the construction of the existing dam and the clearing of the field(see Figure 1-1).



ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project

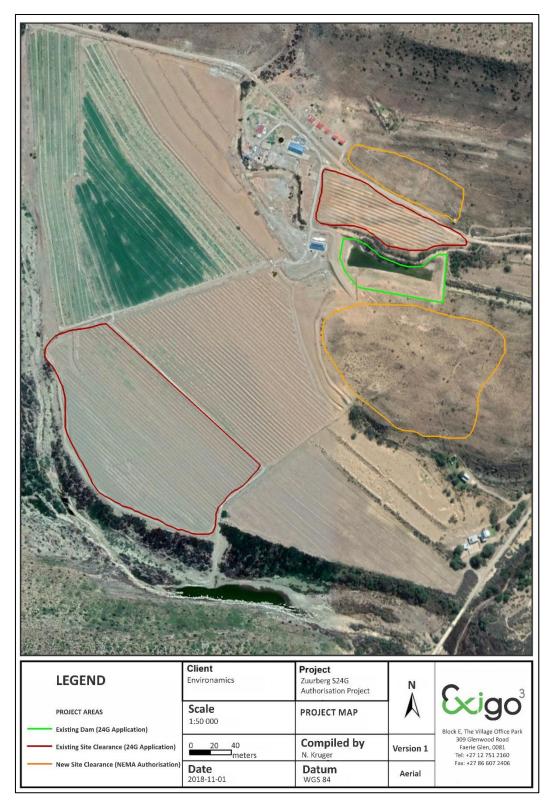


Figure 1-1: Aerial map indicating the respective locations of the existing dams and site clearing, and new clearing areas planned as part of the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project



# 1.4 Terms of Reference

Heritage specialist input into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process is essential to ensure that, through the management of change, developments still conserve our heritage resources. It is also a legal requirement for certain development categories which may have an impact on heritage resources. Thus, EIAs should always include an assessment of heritage resources. The heritage component of the EIA is provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, (Act 107 of 1998) and endorsed by section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA - Act 25 of 1999). In addition, the NHRA protects all structures and features older than 60 years, archaeological sites and material and graves as well as burial sites. The objective of this legislation is to ensure that developers implement measures to limit the potentially negative effects that the development could have on heritage resources. Based hereon, this project functioned according to the following terms of reference for heritage specialist input:

- Provide a detailed description of all archaeological artefacts, structures (including graves) and settlements which may be affected, if any.
- Assess the nature and degree of significance of such resources within the area.
- Establish heritage informants/constraints to guide the development process through establishing thresholds of impact significance;
- Assess and rate any possible impact on the archaeological and historical remains within the area emanating from the proposed development activities.
- Propose possible heritage management measures provided that such action is necessitated by the development.
- Liaise and consult with the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)

# 1.5 CRM: Legislation, Conservation and Heritage Management

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

# 1.5.1 Legislation regarding archaeology and heritage sites

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and its provincial offices aim to conserve and control the management, research, alteration and destruction of cultural resources of South Africa. It is therefore vitally important to adhere to heritage resource legislation at all times.

# a. National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999, section 35

According to the National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999 (section 35) the following features are protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts



Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

# In addition, the national estate includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Archaeological and paleontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

With regards to activities and work on archaeological and heritage sites this Act states that:

"No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority." (34. [1] 1999:58)

# and

"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. (35. [4] 1999:58)."

# and

"No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources agency-



Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

- (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;
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals (36. [3] 1999:60)."

# b. Human Tissue Act of 1983 and Ordinance on the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies of 1925

Graves and burial grounds are commonly divided into the following subsets:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

Graves 60 years or older are heritage resources and fall under the jurisdiction of both the National Heritage Resources Act and the Human Tissues Act of 1983. However, graves younger than 60 years are specifically protected by the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980) as well as any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws. Such burial places also fall under the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the Provincial Health Departments.

# c. National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999, section 35

This act (Act 107 of 1998) states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made. Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

# 1.5.2 Background to HIA and AIA Studies

South Africa's unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage sites are 'generally' protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, section 35) and may not be disturbed at all without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. Heritage sites are frequently threatened by development projects and both the environmental and heritage legislation require impact assessments (HIAs & AIAs) that identify all heritage resources in areas to be developed. Particularly, these assessments are required to make recommendations for protection or mitigation of the impact of the sites. HIAs and AIAs should be done by qualified professionals with adequate knowledge to (a) identify all heritage resources including archaeological and palaeontological sites that might occur in areas of developed and (b) make recommendations for protection or mitigation of the impact on the sites.

A detailed guideline of statutory terms and requirements is supplied in Addendum 1.



# 2 REGIONAL CONTEXT

# 2.1 Area Location

The proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project occurs on Farm Zuurberg 244in the Kannaland Municipality, Western Cape Province. The area is situated approximately 15km south-west of Ladismith and 60km north of Heidelberg. The study areas appear on 1:50000 map sheet 3321CA (see Figure 2-1) and coordinates for the project area are as follows:

S33.556483° E21.124969°

# 2.2 Area Description: Receiving Environment

The farm Zuurberg is situated in a series of fertile, irrigated valleys, at an elevation of 550 m above sea level, at the southern base of the Swartberg. Infrastructure such as farmsteads, gravel roads, dams and agricultural fields occur in the landscape. To the north is the Towerkop Nature Reserve which is managed by CapeNature. The villages of Amalienstein and Zoar lie in the region while the Karoo town of Laingsburg lies some 50km north of the project area in the Karoo.

# 2.3 Site Description

The landscape on the farm Zuurberg is generally open land with undulating rolling hills in places. The current land-use of the farm is intensive crop cultivation and neighbouring farms are being used for crop farming and tourism. As such, large portions of land along the Groot River have been converted into crop fields but natural riparian vegetation remain relatively intact in places. Existing infrastructure on the properties comprises offices, farmsteads and workers buildings.



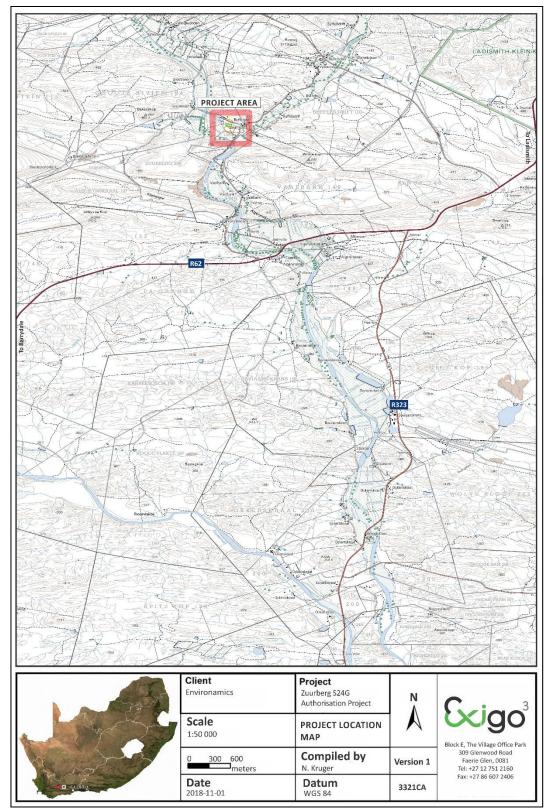


Figure 2-1: 1:50 00 Map representation of the location of the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project (sheet 3321CA).



ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project

Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

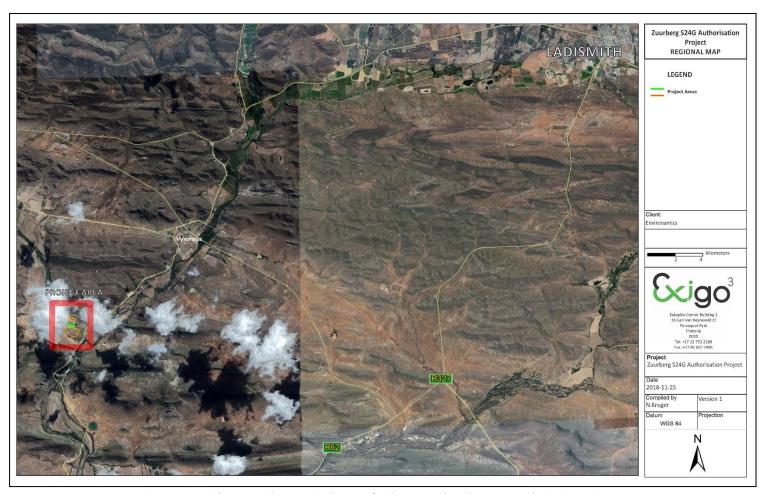


Figure 2-2: Aerial map providing a regional context for the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project.

### **METHOD OF ENQUIRY** 3

**ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project** 

### 3.1 **Sources of Information**

Data from detailed desktop, aerial and field studies were employed in order to sample surface areas systematically and to ensure a high probability of heritage site recording. Since the dam and a cultivation field subject to this study have already been established and impact has, in essence already occurred, this assessment attempted to identify heritage signatures and site distribution in the immediate surroundings in order to ultimately predict and assess the level of impact that the development might have had on the heritage landscape at the time of construction. This was done by means of a detailed desktop and aerial study and a site inspection.

## 3.1.1 **Desktop Study**

The larger landscape of Ladismith has been well documented in terms of its archaeology and history. A desktop study was prepared in order to contextualize the proposed project within a larger historical milieu. Numerous academic papers and research articles supplied a historical context for the proposed project and archival sources, aerial photographs, historical maps and local histories were used to create a baseline of the landscape's heritage. In addition, the study drew on available unpublished Heritage Assessment reports to give a comprehensive representation of known sites in the study area.

## 3.1.2 **Aerial Survey**

Aerial photography is often employed to locate and study archaeological sites, particularly where larger scale area surveys are performed. This method was applied to assist the foot and automotive site surveys where depressions, variation in vegetation, soil marks and landmarks were examined. Specific attention was given to shadow sites (shadows of walls or earthworks which are visible early or late in the day), crop mark sites (crop mark sites are visible because disturbances beneath crops cause variations in their height, vigour and type) and soil marks (e.g. differently coloured or textured soil (soil marks) might indicate ploughed-out burial mounds). Attention was also given to moisture differences, as prolonged dampening of soil as a result of precipitation frequently occurs over walls or embankments. In addition, historical aerial photos obtained during the archival search were scrutinized and features that were regarded as important in terms of heritage value were identified and if they were located within the boundaries of the project area they were physically visited in an effort to determine whether they still exist and in order to assess their current condition and significance. By superimposing high frequency aerial photographs with images generated with Google Earth as well as historical aerial imagery, potential sensitive areas were subsequently identified, georeferenced and transferred to a handheld GPS device. These areas served as referenced points from where further vehicular and pedestrian surveys were carried out. From the aerial survey (historical and more recent aerial imagery) it is evident that most of the areas investigated for the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project area were transformed over the past decades by human activity relating to agriculture and farming settlement (see Figure 3-1).

## 3.1.3 Mapping of sites

Merging data generated during the desktop study and the aerial survey, sites and areas of possible heritage potential were plotted on historical and more recent 1:50 000 topographic maps of the larger area using ArcGIS 9.3. These maps were then superimposed on high definition aerial representations in order to graphically demonstrate the geographical locations and distribution of potentially sensitive landscapes (see Figure 3-2).





# 3.1.4 Field Survey

Archaeological survey implies the systematic procedure of the identification of archaeological sites. An archaeological survey of the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project area was conducted in August 2018. Since the dam and cleared agricultural fields have already been established, the site inspections at these locations attempted to identify the localities and spatial distribution of heritage receptors in areas adjacent to the dams. For the planned new site clearance areas, a systematic field survey in accordance with standard archaeological practice by which heritage resources are observed and documented, was carried out. The process encompassed a systematic field survey in accordance with standard archaeological practice by which heritage resources are observed and documented. In order to sample surface areas systematically and to ensure a high probability of site recording, the proposed project area was systematically surveyed on foot and motor vehicle. GPS reference points identified during the aerial survey were also visited and random spot checks were made (see detail in previous section). Using a Garmin E-trex Legend GPS objects and structures of archaeological / heritage value were recorded and photographed with a Canon 450D Digital camera. Real time aerial orientation, by means of a mobile Google Earth application was also employed to investigate possible disturbed areas during the survey.



Figure 3-1: Historical aerial image dating to 1942 (left) and 2018 (right) indicating the project components within the historical landscape. Note that many of the sites indicate transformation as a result of what seems to be crop farming at this time.

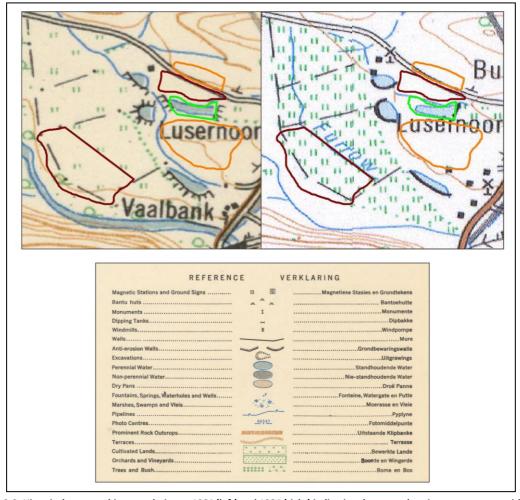


Figure 3-2: Historical topographic maps dating to 1964 (left) and 1984 (right) indicating the general project components within the historical landscape. Note the general absence of man-made features besides for farmstead buildings and cultivated farmland along the Groot River.

# 3.1.5 General Public Liaison

Consultation with a supervisor on the property who is familiar with the area in question did not identify any heritage receptors in the project area.

# 3.2 Limitations

# 3.2.1 Access

The study area is accessed via a regional road connecting to the R62 to Ladismith and a number of farm service roads provide access to Zuurberg . Access control is applied to the survey areas but no restrictions were encountered during the site visit in terms of access.

# 3.2.2 Visibility

The surrounding vegetation in the study area is mostly comprised out of mixed grasslands and scattered trees. Generally, much of the landscape has been transformed by agriculture but areas vegetated with grasses and shrubs vegetation occur in places. Visibility did not prove to be a constraint at the time of the AIA survey ( 2018) as much of the project area have been transformed (see Figures 3-3 to 3-13). In single cases during the survey sub-surface inspection was possible. Where applied, this revealed no archaeological deposits.





Figure 3-3: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification.



Figure 3-4: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification



Figure 3-5: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification.





Figure 3-6: View of general surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.



Figure 3-7: View of general surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields. The newly constructed dam is visible in the background.



Figure 3-8: View of a rock outcrop at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.





Figure 3-9: View of a rock outcrop along a small rise at the site proposed for new agricultural fields .



Figure 3-10: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly constructed dam subject to the S24G rectification.



Figure 3-11: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification.





Figure 3-12: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification.



Figure 3-13: View of surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.



Figure 3-14: View of surroundings at the site proposed for new agricultural fields.





Figure 3-15: View of general surroundings at the site of the newly cleared fields subject to the S24G rectification.

# 3.2.3 Limitations and Constraints

The foot site surveys for the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project Project AIA primarily focused around areas tentatively identified as sensitive and of high heritage probability (i.e. those noted during the aerial survey) as well as areas of high human settlement catchment. No notable constraints were encountered during the site survey. It should be noted that, even though it might be assumed that survey findings are representative of the heritage landscape of the project area for the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project, it should be stated that the possibility exists that individual sites could be missed due to the localised nature of some heritage remains as well as the possible presence of sub-surface archaeology. Therefore, maintaining due cognisance of the integrity and accuracy of the archaeological survey, it should be stated that the heritage resources identified during the study do not necessarily represent all the heritage resources present in the project area. The subterranean nature of some archaeological sites, dense vegetation cover and visibility constraints sometimes distort heritage representations and any additional heritage resources located during consequent development phases must be reported to the Heritage Resources Authority or an archaeological specialist.

# 3.3 Impact Assessment

For consistency among specialists, impact assessment ratings by Exigo Specialist are generally done using the Plomp<sup>1</sup> impact assessment matrix scale supplied by Exigo. According to this matrix scale, each heritage receptor in the study area is given an impact assessment. A cumulative assessment for the proposed project is also included.

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Plomp, H.,2004

# 4 ARCHAEO-HISTORICAL CONTEXT

# 4.1 The archaeology of Southern Africa

Archaeology in Southern Africa is typically divided into two main fields of study, the **Stone Age** and the **Iron Age** or **Farmer Period**. The following table provides a concise outline of the chronological sequence of periods, events, cultural groups and material expressions in Southern African pre-history and history.

Table 1 Chronological Periods across Southern Africa

Period	Epoch	Associated cultural groups	Typical Material Expressions
Early Stone Age 2.5m – 250 000 YCE	Pleistocene	Early Hominins: Australopithecines Homo habilis Homo erectus	Typically large stone tools such as hand axes, choppers and cleavers.
Middle Stone Age 250 000 – 25 000 YCE	Pleistocene	First <i>Homo sapiens</i> species	Typically smaller stone tools such as scrapers, blades and points.
Late Stone Age 20 000 BC – present	Pleistocene / Holocene	Homo sapiens sapiens including San people	Typically small to minute stone tools such as arrow heads, points and bladelets.
Early Iron Age / Early Farmer Period 300 – 900 AD	Holocene	First Bantu-speaking groups	Typically distinct ceramics, bead ware, iron objects, grinding stones.
Middle Iron Age (Mapungubwe / K2) / early Later Farmer Period 900 – 1350 AD	Holocene	Bantu-speaking groups, ancestors of present-day groups	Typically distinct ceramics, bead ware and iron / gold / copper objects, trade goods and grinding stones.
Late Iron Age / Later Farmer Period 1400 AD -1850 AD	Holocene	Various Bantu-speaking groups including Venda, Thonga, Sotho-Tswana and Zulu	Distinct ceramics, grinding stones, iron objects, trade objects, remains of iron smelting activities including iron smelting furnace, iron slag and residue as well as iron ore.
Historical / Colonial Period ±1850 AD – present	Holocene	Various Bantu-speaking groups as well as European farmers, settlers and explorers	Remains of historical structures e.g. homesteads, missionary schools etc. as well as, glass, porcelain, metal and ceramics.

# 4.2 The Western Cape and Ladysmith Landscape: Specific Themes.

# 4.2.1 Early History and the Stone Ages

Archaeological research in the southern Cape region has focused strongly on rock shelters containing Stone Age occupation deposits. Examples are Boomplaas, near Oudtshoorn (Deacon 1979; Deacon et al. 1976, 1978; Von Den Driesch & Deacon 1985), and Montagu Cave, located a short distance east of Montagu (Keller 1970, 1973). The mountains of the southern Cape region are known for the rock art they contain (Rust & Van der Poll 2011). According to Wurz (2006), several rock art sites have been recorded in Seweweekspoort. Orton (2014) reported three rock art sites some 5-7 km west of the northern end of Seweweekspoort with one of these rock shelters also containing stone artefacts and pottery. Elsewhere in the broader region others have reported archaeological sites ranging from rock shelters with deposits and/or rock paintings to open scatters of artefacts (e.g. Halket 2002, 2006; Kaplan 2005; Orton 2009).



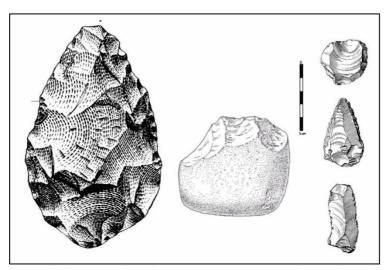


Figure 4-1: Typical ESA handaxe (left) and cleaver (center). To the right is a MSA scraper (right, top), point (right, middle) and blade (right, bottom).

# 4.2.2 Pastoralism and the last 2000 years

Until 2000 years ago, hunter-gatherer communities traded, exchanged goods, encountered and interacted with other hunter-gatherer communities. From about 2000 years ago the social dynamics of the Southern African landscape started changing with the immigration of two 'other' groups of people, different in physique, political, economic and social systems, beliefs and rituals. One of these groups, the Khoekhoe pastoralists or herders entered Southern Africa with domestic animals, namely fat-tailed sheep and goats, travelling through the south towards the coast. They also introduced thin-walled pottery common in the interior and along the coastal regions of Southern Africa. Their economic systems were directed by the accumulation of wealth in domestic stock numbers and their political make-up was more hierarchical than that of the hunter-gatherers.

# 4.2.3 Later History

The Historical period in Southern Africa encompass the course of Europe's discovery of South Africa and the spreading of European settlements along the East Coast and subsequently into the interior. In addition, the formation stages of this period are marked by the large scale movements of various Bantu-speaking groups in the interior of South Africa, which profoundly influenced the course of European settlement. Finally, the final retreat of the San and Khoekhoen groups into their present-day living areas also occurred in the Historical period in Southern Africa. Historical archaeology, although not researched, abounds in the region. There are large numbers of ruined historical structures that are likely to be greater than 100 years of age and hence classified as archaeology (personal observation). Formal surveys such as those conducted by Halkett (2002) support this observation but such work is scarce in the area. More generally, the region has been used for the last few centuries by colonial farmers and continues to be dominated by farming activities today with many small stock farms present in the region. Historical buildings abound in the area (Fransen 2004) and the villages of Zoar and Amalienstein, although containing few especially important individual buildings, are significant as villages for their general history. Zoar (founded 1817) is far older than Amalienstein (founded 1853), Ladismith (founded 1851) and Calitzdorp (founded 1845). Zoar was originally run by the South African (Dutch Reformed) Missionary Society before being taken over by the Lutheran Berlin Missionary Society in 1837. Because of difficulties related to the locals not accepting some Lutheran customs, the South African Missionary Society resumed control of Zoar from 1856 until 1867 and then again from 1888 with the Lutherans once more in charge during the intervening years. In 1853 the Berlin Missionary Society had founded Amalienstein as a Lutheran Mission. It continues to function under their leadership, while Zoar continues as a Dutch Reformed congregation (Fransen 2006).



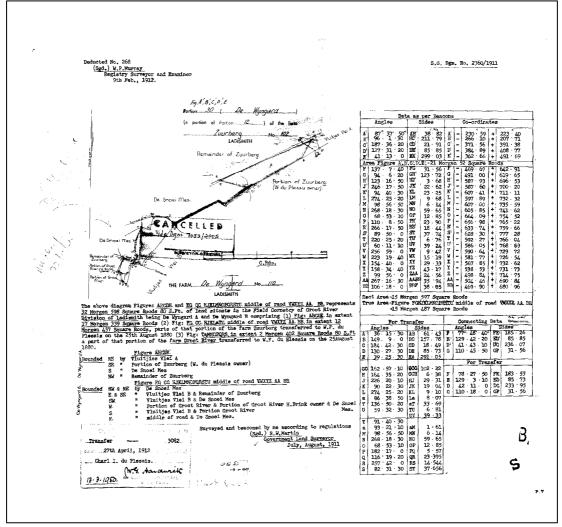


Figure 4-2: Title deed of the farm Zuurberg dating to 1912.

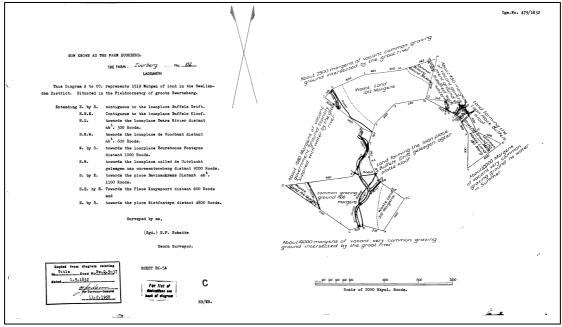


Figure 4-3: Title deed of the farm Zuurberg dating to 1832.

# 5 RESULTS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

An analysis of historical aerial imagery and archive maps of areas subject to this assessment suggests that the project area seems to have been subjected to agricultural activities during the past centuries potentially sterilising the area of heritage remains. This inference was confirmed during an archaeological site assessment where it was noted that much of the project area had been transformed by agriculture. However, a Historical Period dwelling and a scatter of Stone Age archaeological material was noted in more pristine areas in the project area. The density of the scatter was arbitrarily estimated by placing a one-meter drawing frame, sub-divided into quadrants, on a randomly-selected area displaying higher amounts of surface lithics. By plotting the counts of all lithic elements present in the 1x1 metre square relative density per m² was established and rated on a scale of low (<10), medium (10-20) and high (>20). This method has been adapted as expedient and non-invasive sampling technique that is particularly useful in value assessment of lithic occurrences during Phase 1 AIA's (see Van Der Ryst 2012).

# 5.1 The Stone Age

A small number of Middle Stone Age and Later Stone Age lithics were noted on a small rise decorated for future agricultural lands (\$33.557011° E21.126018°). Preliminary examinations of some of the lithics, which includes chunks, utilised flakes and single formal tools such as scrapers, blades and points indicate that a number of flakes display facetted platforms, characteristic of the MSA. Use wear and marks are visible on some formal tools. The raw material used in the production of the lithics is mostly fine grained hornfels and quartzite. It is not possible to assign an age estimate without an in-depth analysis of a more representative sample. At this stage it would be prudent to say that these open-air collections probably represent a palimpsest of visits by prehistoric groups up to the MSA. No evidence of any factory or workshop site, or the result of any human settlement was identified. A number of the tools are also abraded or weathered suggesting that they have lain on the surface for many years. The stone implements documented during the study comprise isolated occurrences that are spread thinly and unevenly over the surrounding landscape. Generally, the occurrences are lacking in context as no organic remains such as bone, pottery or ostrich eggshell was found. The fairly small numbers and isolated context in which they were found means that the archaeological remains in the Study Area have been rated as having low archaeological significance.



Figure 5-1: MSA tools on quartzite noted in the project area.





Figure 5-2: LSA scarpers located on the surface in the project area



Figure 5-3: A broken blade (left), a point (centre) a d a core tool from the MSA located in the project area.

# 5.2 Historical / Colonial Period and recent times

A number of Colonial Period farmsteads occur around the project area and on the farm Zuurberg. A Colonial Period occupation site was documented in the project area along the eastern periphery of an area demarcated for clearing for future agricultural fields (\$33.555014° E21.127859°). At the site the following were noted:

- A plastered up rectangular building, measuring approximately 3m x 8m constructed in a n architectural style common to workers quarters in the region occur here.
- At middens containing material culture such as glass fragments and glass objects, ceramic (porcelain), rusted metal as well as faunal remains.

Generally, the site might be associated with the later phases of settlement of the farm, which was proclaimed in 1832 since material culture such as bottle fragments and porcelain clearly indicate a late Colonial Period provenience. Since the site is, according to indications, older than 60 years it is a protected heritage resource. However, the dwelling does not display unique architectural characteristics as these kinds of buildings occur frequently around farmsteads in the region and the site is of moderate-low significance.





Figure 5-4: A Historical Period dwelling, probably a workers house in the project area



Figure 5-5: Midden containing Historical Period glass in the project area





Figure 5-6: Aerial image indicating the location of heritage occurrences and landscape features discussed in the text



# 6 RESULTS: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT RATING

# 6.1 Potential Impacts and Significance Ratings<sup>2</sup>

The following section provides a background to the identification and assessment of possible impacts and alternatives, as well as a range of risk situations and scenarios commonly associated with heritage resources management. A guideline for the rating of impacts and recommendation of management actions for areas of heritage potential within the study area is supplied in Section 10.2 of the Addendum.

# 6.1.1 General assessment of impacts on resources

Generally, the value and significance of archaeological and other heritage sites might be impacted on by any activity that would result immediately or in the future in the destruction, damage, excavation, alteration, removal or collection from its original position, any archaeological material or object (as indicated in the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999)). Thus, the destructive impacts that are possible in terms of heritage resources would tend to be direct, once-off events occurring during the initial construction period. However, in the long run, the proximity of operations in any given area could result in secondary indirect impacts. The EIA process therefore specifies impact assessment criteria which can be utilised from the perspective of a heritage specialist study which elucidates the overall extent of impacts.

# 6.1.2 Direct impact rating

Direct or primary effects on heritage resources occur at the same time and in the same space as the activity, e.g. loss of historical fabric through demolition work. Indirect effects or secondary effects on heritage resources occur later in time or at a different place from the causal activity, or as a result of a complex pathway, e.g. restriction of access to a heritage resource resulting in the gradual erosion of its significance, which is dependent on ritual patterns of access (refer to Section 10.3 in the Addendum for an outline of the relationship between the significance of a heritage context, the intensity of development and the significance of heritage impacts to be expected).

The following table summarizes impacts to the Historical Period dwelling in the project area:

NATURE OF IMPACT: Impact could involve displacement or destruction of Historical Period statures and material along in the project area footprint. Without mitigation With mitigation **EXTENT** Local Local **DURATION** Permanent Permanent **MAGINITUDE** Minor Minor **PROBABILITY Probable** Very improbable **SIGNIFICANCE** Moderate-Low Low **STATUS** Neutral Negative **REVERSIBILITY** Non-reversible Non-reversible **IRREPLACEABLE** LOSS OF Yes No **RESOURCES? CAN IMPACTS BE MITIGATED?** Yes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Based on: W inter, S. & Baumann, N. 2005. Guideline for involving heritage specialists in EIA processes: Edition 1.



MITIGATION: Site monitoring by ECO, destruction permitting (if site is impacted on).

**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:** No cumulative impact is anticipated.

**RESIDUAL IMPACTS:** n/a

The following table summarizes impacts to Stone Age material in the project area:

<b>NATURE OF IMPACT:</b> Impact could involve displacement or destruction of Stone Age material along in the project area footprint.			
	Without mitigation	With mitigation	
EXTENT	Local	Local	
DURATION	Permanent	Permanent	
MAGINITUDE	Minor	Minor	
PROBABILITY	Probable	Very improbable	
SIGNIFICANCE	Low	Low	
STATUS	Negative	Neutral	
REVERSIBILITY	Non-reversible	Non-reversible	
IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES?	F Yes No		
CAN IMPACTS BE MITIGATED?	Yes		
MITIGATION: Site monitoring by ECO.			
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS: No cumulative impact is anticipated.			
RESIDUAL IMPACTS: n/a			

Cognisant of known site distribution patterns in this section of the Western Cape Province, and based on general on-site observations and off-site assessments as well as the fact that the locations of the dam and the cleared field had, to a certain extent been transformed prior to the establishment thereof, the author of this report is of the opinion that the clearing of field for the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project will have no significant impact on heritage resources. In addition, it is assumed that the construction of the dam and clearing of fields in the recent past, had a minimal (if any) impact on the heritage landscape.

## 6.2 **Management actions**

Recommendations for relevant heritage resources management actions are vital to the conservation of heritage resources. A general guideline for recommended management actions is included in Section 10.4 of the Addendum.

OBJECTIVE: prevent unnecessary disturbance and/or destruction of previously undetected heritage receptors.

No specific action in terms of mitigation is required for the Stone Age occurrences in the Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project. However, the following general procedure is required for the site:

Innovation in Sustainability



**ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project** 

PROJECT COMPONENT/S	All phases of construction and operation.		
POTENTIAL IMPACT	Damage/destruction of sites.		
ACTIVITY RISK/SOURCE	Digging foundations and trenches into sensitive deposits that are not visible at the surface.		
MITIGATION: TARGET/OBJECTIVE	To locate previously undetected heritage remains / graves as soon as possible after disturbance so as to maximize the chances of successful rescue/mitigation work.		
MITIGATION: ACTION/CONTROL		RESPONSIBILITY	TIMEFRAME
Fixed Mitigation Procedure (required)			
<b>Site Monitoring:</b> Regular examination of trenches and excavations.		ECO	Monitor as frequently as practically possible.
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	Archaeological sites are discovered and mitigated with the minimum amount of unnecessary disturbance.		
MONITORING	Successful location of sites by person/s monitoring.		

# For of a Colonial Period dwelling the following are required in terms of heritage management and mitigation:

PROJECT COMPONENT/S	All phases of construction and energian		
•	All phases of construction and operation.		
POTENTIAL IMPACT	Damage/destruction of sites.		
ACTIVITY RISK/SOURCE	Digging foundations and trenches into sensitive deposits that are not visible at the surface.		
MITIGATION: TARGET/OBJECTIVE	To locate previously undetected heritage remains / graves as soon as possible after disturbance so as to maximize the chances of successful rescue/mitigation work.		
MITIGATION: ACTION/CONTROL		RESPONSIBILITY	TIMEFRAME
Fixed Mitigation Procedure (re	quired)		
Site Monitoring:	Site Monitoring:		Monitor as
Regular examination of trenches and excavations in order to detect and preserve previously undocumented heritage receptors.		ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER	frequently as practically possible.
Destruction Permitting:			
If site will be impacted on, application should be made for a destruction permit from the Built Environment Unit of SAHRA.			
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	Archaeological sites are discovered and mitigated with the minimum amount of unnecessary disturbance.		
MONITORING	Successful location of sites by person/s monitoring.		



# **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The history of Western Cape is reflected in a rich archaeological landscape. The province is well known for its contribution to Stone Age research and various South African archaeological cultures have derived their names from cave sites along the south and east coast. Significantly, the intensive utilization of marine resources by San hunter-gatherers (dating from as old as 6 000 years ago), Khoi pastoralists and KhoiSan (dating from the past 1 800 years in the region), manifests in the archaeological record through hundreds of shell middens (large piles of marine shell) dating to the terminal Pleistocene and Holocene that litter coastal areas along the Western Cape. In addition. European farmers farmers, settling in the area since the 17th century, divided up the landscape into a number of farms, which even today form the framework for agricultural, residential and other forms of development. Similarly, portions of the project area have been transformed as a result of historical crop farming and rural settlement but rock outcrops, mountain slopes and summits remain pristine. A study of aerial photos taken prior to the construction of the dam indicates that some areas currently covered by constructed dams and cleared lands, have already been transformed for farming prior to development on the farm. During the site assessment, heritage receptors were noted in areas demarcated for site clearing and zones surrounding the exiting dam. The following general recommendations are made based on general observations in the project area.

- A low-density scatter of Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Later Stone Age (LSA) material was found on a small rise in an area demarcated for site clearing for agricultural fields. The MSA lithics, which occur on the surface of deep sands, include formal tools such as broken points, scrapers and blades. The transformed nature of the local landscape has resulted in a loss of primary context and as such, the scientific value of the artefacts has largely been lost. However, it is recommended that any development activities be monitored in order to avoid the destruction of previously undetected Stone Age occurrences.
- A Colonial Period occupation site with a clayed-up building and a midden was recorded in an area demarcated for site clearing for agricultural fields. The site is probably older than 60 years and a protected heritage resource but the dwelling does not display unique architectural characteristics as these kinds of buildings occur frequently around farmsteads in the region and the site is of moderate-low significance. However, a destruction permit should be obtained prior to any alteration to the dwelling or destruction of the site
- Considering the localised nature of heritage remains, the general monitoring of the development progress of the two new dams by an ECO is recommended for all stages of the project. Should any subsurface palaeontological, archaeological or historical material, or burials be exposed during construction activities, all activities should be suspended and the archaeological specialist should be notified immediately
- It is essential that cognisance be taken of the larger archaeological landscape of the area in order to avoid the destruction of previously undetected heritage sites. It should be stated that the possibility of undetected archaeological remains occurring elsewhere in the project area should not be excluded. Burials and historically significant structures dating to the Colonial Period occur on farms in the area and these resources should be avoided during all phases of construction and development, including the operational phases of the development.
  - Since the intrinsic heritage and social value of graves and cemeteries are highly significant, these resources require special management measures. Should human remains be discovered at any stage, these should be reported to the Heritage Specialist and relevant authorities (SAHRA) and development activities should be suspended until the site has been inspected by the Specialist. The Specialist will advise on further management actions and possible relocation of human remains in accordance with the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended), the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), the National Heritage Resources Act (Act no. 25



of 1999) and any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws pertaining to human remains. A full social consultation process should occur in conjunction with the mitigation of cemeteries and burials.

In addition to these site-specific recommendations, careful cognizance should be taken of the following:

- As Palaeontological remains occur where bedrock has been exposed, all geological features should be regarded as sensitive.
- Water sources such as drainage lines, fountains and pans would often have attracted human activity in the past. As Stone Age material the larger landscape should be regarded as potentially sensitive in terms of possible subsurface deposits.

# 8 GENERAL COMMENTS AND CONDITIONS

This AIA report serves to confirm the extent and significance of the heritage landscape of the proposed Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project area. The larger heritage horizon encompasses rich and diverse archaeological landscapes and cognisance should be taken of heritage resources and archaeological material that might be present in surface and sub-surface deposits. If, during construction, any possible archaeological material culture discoveries are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find. Such material culture might include:

- Formal Earlier Stone Age stone tools.
- Formal MSA stone tools.
- Formal LSA stone tools.
- Potsherds
- Iron objects.
- Beads made from ostrich eggshell and glass.
- Ash middens and cattle dung deposits and accumulations.
- Faunal remains.
- Human remains/graves.
- Stone walling or any sub-surface structures.
- Historical glass, tin or ceramics.
- Fossils.

If such site were to be encountered or impacted by any proposed developments, recommendations contained in this report, as well as endorsement of mitigation measures as set out by AMAFA, SAHRA, the National Resources Act and the CRM section of ASAPA will be required.

It must be emphasised that the conclusions and recommendations expressed in this archaeological heritage sensitivity investigation are based on the visibility of archaeological sites/features and may not therefore, represent the area's complete archaeological legacy. Many sites/features may be covered by soil and vegetation and might only be located during sub-surface investigations. If subsurface archaeological deposits, artefacts or skeletal material were to be recovered in the area during construction activities, all activities should be suspended and the archaeological specialist should be notified immediately (cf. NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 36 (6)). It must also be clear that Archaeological Specialist Reports will be assessed by the relevant heritage resources authority (SAHRA).

9

**ENVIRONAMICS: Zuurberg S24G Authorisation Project** 

# 9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Acocks, J.P.H. 1988. Veld types of South Africa (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Memoirs of the Botanical Survey of South Africa 57: 1-146

Burman, J. 1981. The Little Karoo. Human & Rousseau. Cape Town, Pretoria, Johannesburg.

Deacon, H.J. 1979. Excavations at Boomplaas Cave - A Sequence through the Upper Pleistocene and Holocene in South Africa. World Archaeology 10: 241-257.

Deacon, H.J., Deacon, J. & Brooker, M. 1976. Four Painted Stones from Boomplaas Cave, Oudtshoorn District. South African Archaeological Bulletin 31: 141-145.

Deacon, H.J., Deacon, J., Brooker, M. & Wilson, M.L. 1978. The Evidence for Herding at Boomplaas Cave in the Southern Cape, South Africa. South African Archaeological Bulletin 33: 39-65.

Fransen, H. 2004. The old buildings of the Cape. Johannnesburg & Cape Town: Jonathan Ball Publishers.

Fransen, H. 2006. Old towns and villages of the Cape. Johannnesburg & Cape Town: Jonathan Ball Publishers.

Halkett, D. 2002. An initial scoping study of the Sanbona Wildlife Reserve, Barrydale. Unpublished report prepared for Earthworks. University of Cape Town: Archaeology Contacts Office.

Halkett, D. 2006. A re-evaluation of proposed mitigation of the site GMK 1, Gamka Wilderness Reserve, Little Karroo. Unpublished report prepared for Withers Environmental Consultants. University of Cape Town: Archaeology Contracts Office.

Heritage Western Cape. 2016. Grading: purpose and management implications. Document produced by Heritage Western Cape. 16 March 2016.

Kaplan, J. 2005. Phase 1 archaeological impact assessment proposed Gamka Private Wilderness Reserve Calitzdorp. Unpublished report prepared for Withers Environmental Consultants. Riebeek West: Agency for Cultural Resources Management.

Kaplan, J. 2005. Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Survey proposed construction of a new 66 KV overhead powerline between Montagu substation and Barrydale Western Cape Province. Unpublished report prepared for Eskom Land Development. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Keller, C.M. 1970. C14 dates: Montagu Cave. South African Archaeological Bulletin 25: 47. Keller, C.M. 1973. Montagu Cave in prehistory. University of California Anthropology Records 28: 1-150.

Orton, J, 2009. Examination and assessment of archaeological material on a portion of the farm Derde Heuwel 210 alongside the R62, Montagu Magisterial District, Western Cape. Unpublished report prepared for SHE Cape Environmental. University of Cape Town: Archaeology Contracts Office.

Rust, R. & Van der Poll, J. 2011. Water, stone and Legend: rock art of the Klein Karoo. Cape Town: Struik Travel & Heritage.

UNESCO. 2017. Cape floral region protected areas. Accessed online on 26th February 2017 at <a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1007/">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1007/</a>.

Von Den Driesch, A. & Deacon, H.J. 1985. Sheep Remains from Boomplaas Cave, South Africa. South African Archaeological Bulletin 40: 39-44.

Tusenius, M.L. 2012. Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed extension of a borrow pit on Plattekloof (Bellair 13), Barrydale area, Cape Winelands District, Western Cape. Unpublished report prepared for Vidamemoria Heritage Consultants. Natura Viva cc.

Wurz, S. 2006. PHASE 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for Slandnedo, Boschluyskloof, Laingsburg District, Western Cape. Unpublished report prepared for TPS Consulting Town and Regional Planners. Styellenbosch: ProActive Archaeology.

Human Tissue Act and Ordinance 7 of 1925, Government Gazette, Cape Town

National Resource Act No.25 of 1999, Government Gazette, Cape Town

SAHRA, 2005. Minimum Standards for the Archaeological and the Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports, Draft version 1.4.

www.sahra.org.za/sahris

Accessed 2018-12-01

http://csq.dla.gov.za/index.html

Accessed 2018-12-01





# 10 ADDENDUM 1: HERITAGE LEGISLATION BACKGROUND

#### 10.1 CRM: Legislation, Conservation and Heritage Management

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

# 10.1.1 Legislation regarding archaeology and heritage sites

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and their provincial offices aim to conserve and control the management, research, alteration and destruction of cultural resources of South Africa. It is therefore vitally important to adhere to heritage resource legislation at all times.

# d. National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999, section 35

According to the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 a historical site is any identifiable building or part thereof, marker, milestone, gravestone, landmark or tell older than 60 years. This clause is commonly known as the "60-years clause". Buildings are amongst the most enduring features of human occupation, and this definition therefore includes all buildings older than 60 years, modern architecture as well as ruins, fortifications and Iron Age settlements. "Tell" refers to the evidence of human existence which is no longer above ground level, such as building foundations and buried remains of settlements (including artefacts).

The Act identifies heritage objects as:

- objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa including archaeological and palaeontological objects, meteorites and rare geological specimens
- visual art objects
- military objects
- numismatic objects
- objects of cultural and historical significance
- objects to which oral traditions are attached and which are associated with living heritage
- objects of scientific or technological interest
- any other prescribed category

With regards to activities and work on archaeological and heritage sites this Act states that:

"No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority." (34. [1] 1999:58)

and

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

- (d) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (e) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;

- (f) 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
- (g) 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. (35. [4] 1999:58)."

and

"No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources agency-

- (h) 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;
- (i) 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;
- (j) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) and excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals (36. [3] 1999:60)."

# e. Human Tissue Act of 1983 and Ordinance on the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies of 1925

Graves 60 years or older are heritage resources and fall under the jurisdiction of both the National Heritage Resources Act and the Human Tissues Act of 1983. However, graves younger than 60 years are specifically protected by the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and the Ordinance on the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies (Ordinance 7 of 1925) as well as any local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws. Such burial places also fall under the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the Provincial Health Departments. Approval for the exhumation and re-burial must be obtained from the relevant Provincial MEC as well as the relevant Local Authorities.

# 10.1.2 Background to HIA and AIA Studies

South Africa's unique and non-renewable archaeological and palaeontological heritage sites are 'generally' protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, section 35) and may not be disturbed at all without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. Heritage sites are frequently threatened by development projects and both the environmental and heritage legislation require impact assessments (HIAs & AIAs) that identify all heritage resources in areas to be developed. Particularly, these assessments are required to make recommendations for protection or mitigation of the impact of the sites. HIAs and AIAs should be done by qualified professionals with adequate knowledge to (a) identify all heritage resources including archaeological and palaeontological sites that might occur in areas of developed and (b) make recommendations for protection or mitigation of the impact on the sites.

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999, section 38) provides guidelines for Cultural Resources Management and prospective developments:

**"38.** (1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a

# development categorised as:

- (a) the construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;
- (b) the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length;
- (c) any development or other activity which will change the character of a site:
  - (i) exceeding 5 000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent; or
  - (ii) involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; or
  - (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
  - (iv) the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority;
- (d) the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000  $m^2$  in extent; or
- (e) any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority,

must at the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development."

#### And:

"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:

- (k) The identification and mapping of all heritage resources in the area affected;
- (I) 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;
- (m) an assessment of the impact of the development on such heritage resources;
- (n) 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;
- (o) the results of consultation with communities affected by the proposed development and other interested parties regarding the impact of the development on heritage resources;
- (p) if heritage resources will be adversely affected by the proposed development, the consideration of alternatives; and
- (q) plans for mitigation of any adverse effects during and after the completion of the proposed development (38. [3] 1999:64)."

Consequently, section 35 of the Act requires Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) or Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIAs) to be done for such developments in order for all heritage resources, that is, all places or objects of aesthetics, architectural, historic, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance to be 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. Heritage resources management and conservation

## 10.2 Assessing the Significance of Heritage Resources

Archaeological sites, as previously defined in the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) are places in the landscape where people have lived in the past – generally more than 60 years ago – and have left traces of their presence behind. In South Africa, archaeological sites include hominid fossil sites, places where people of the Earlier, Middle and Later Stone Age lived in open sites, river gravels, rock shelters and caves, Iron Age sites, graves, and a variety of historical sites and structures in rural areas, towns and cities. Palaeontological sites are those with fossil remains of plants and animals where people were not involved in the accumulation of the deposits. The basic principle of cultural heritage conservation is that archaeological and other heritage sites are valuable, scarce and *non-renewable*. Many such sites are unfortunately lost on a daily basis through development for housing, roads and infrastructure and once archaeological sites are damaged, they cannot be re-created as site integrity and authenticity is permanently lost. Archaeological sites have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the history of the region and of our country and continent. By preserving links with our past, we may not be able to revive lost cultural traditions, but it enables us to appreciate the role they have played in the history of our country.

# - Categories of significance

Rating the significance of archaeological sites, and consequently grading the potential impact on the resources is linked to the significance of the site itself. The significance of an archaeological site is based on the amount of deposit, the integrity of the context, the kind of deposit and the potential to help answer present research questions. Historical structures are defined by Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, while other historical and cultural significant sites, places and features, are generally determined by community preferences. The guidelines as provided by the NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999) in Section 3, with special reference to subsection 3 are used when determining the cultural significance or other special value of archaeological or historical sites. In addition, ICOMOS (the Australian Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites) highlights four cultural attributes, which are valuable to any given culture:

# - Aesthetic value:

Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. Such criteria include consideration of the form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric, the general atmosphere associated with the place and its uses and also the aesthetic values commonly assessed in the analysis of landscapes and townscape.

# - Historic value:

Historic value encompasses the history of aesthetics, science and society and therefore to a large extent underlies all of the attributes discussed here. Usually a place has historical value because of some kind of influence by an event, person, phase or activity.

# - Scientific value:

The scientific or research value of a place will depend upon the importance of the data involved, on its rarity, quality and on the degree to which the place may contribute further substantial information.

# - Social value:

Social value includes the qualities for which a place has become a focus of spiritual, political, national or other cultural sentiment to a certain group.



It is important for heritage specialist input in the EIA process to take into account the heritage management structure set up by the NHR Act. It makes provision for a 3-tier system of management including the South Africa Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) at a national level, Provincial Heritage Resources Authorities (PHRAs) at a provincial and the local authority. The Act makes provision for two types or forms of protection of heritage resources; i.e. formally protected and generally protected sites:

# Formally protected sites:

- Grade 1 or national heritage sites, which are managed by SAHRA
- Grade 2 or provincial heritage sites, which are managed by the provincial HRA (MP-PHRA).
- Grade 3 or local heritage sites.

# **Generally protected sites:**

- Human burials older than 60 years.
- Archaeological and palaeontological sites.
- Shipwrecks and associated remains older than 60 years.
- Structures older than 60 years.

With reference to the evaluation of sites, the certainty of prediction is definite, unless stated otherwise and if the significance of the site is rated high, the significance of the impact will also result in a high rating. The same rule applies if the significance rating of the site is low. The significance of archaeological sites is generally

ranked into the following categories.

Significance	Rating Action
No significance: sites that do not require mitigation.	None
Low significance: sites, which may require mitigation.	2a. Recording and documentation (Phase 1) of site; no further action required 2b. Controlled sampling (shovel test pits, augering), mapping and documentation (Phase 2 investigation); permit required for sampling and destruction
Medium significance: sites, which require mitigation.	3. Excavation of representative sample, C14 dating, mapping and documentation (Phase 2 investigation); permit required for sampling and destruction [including 2a & 2b]
High significance: sites, where disturbance should be avoided.	4a. Nomination for listing on Heritage Register (National, Provincial or Local) (Phase 2 & 3 investigation); site management plan; permit required if utilised for education or tourism
High significance: Graves and burial places	4b. Locate demonstrable descendants through social consulting; obtain permits from applicable legislation, ordinances and regional by-laws; exhumation and reinterment [including 2a, 2b & 3]

Furthermore, the significance of archaeological sites was based on six main criteria:

- Site integrity (i.e. primary vs. secondary context),
- Amount of deposit, range of features (e.g., stonewalling, stone tools and enclosures),
- Density of scatter (dispersed scatter),
- Social value,
- Uniqueness, and
- Potential to answer current and future research questions.

A fundamental aspect in assessing the significance and protection status of a heritage resource is often



whether or not the sustainable social and economic benefits of a proposed development outweigh the conservation issues at stake. When, for whatever reason the protection of a heritage site is not deemed necessary or practical, its research potential must be assessed and mitigated in order to gain data / information, which would otherwise be lost

#### 11 ADDENDUM 2: CONVENTIONS USED TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HERITAGE

# 11.1 Site Significance Matrix

According to the NHRA, Section 2(vi) the **significance** of heritage sites and artefacts is determined by it aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technical value in relation to the uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. It must be kept in mind that the various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and that the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these. The following matrix is used for assessing the significance of each identified site/feature.

2. SITE EVALUATION				
2.1 Heritage Value (NHRA, section 2 [3])	High	Med	lium	Low
It has importance to the community or pattern of South Africa's history or pre-colonial				
history.				
It possesses unique, uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or				
cultural heritage.				
It has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage.				
It is of importance in demonstrating the principle characteristics of a particular class of South				
Africa's natural or cultural places or objects.				
It has importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a particular community or cultural group.				
It has importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a				
particular period.				
It has marked or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons (sense of place).				
It has strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of				
importance in the history of South Africa.				
It has significance through contributing towards the promotion of a local sociocultural				
identity and can be developed as a tourist destination.				
It has significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.				
It has importance to the wider understanding of temporal changes within cultural				
landscapes, settlement patterns and human occupation.				
2.2 Field Register Rating				
National/Grade 1 [should be registered, retained]				
Provincial/Grade 2 [should be registered, retained]				
Local/Grade 3A [should be registered, mitigation not advised]				
Local/Grade 3B [High significance; mitigation, partly retained]				
Generally Protected A [High/Medium significance, mitigation]				
Generally protected B [Medium significance, to be recorded]				
Generally Protected C [Low significance, no further action]				
2.3 Sphere of Significance		Medium	Low	
International				
National				
Provincial				



Local		
Specific community		

# 11.2 Impact Assessment Criteria

The following table provides a guideline for the rating of impacts and recommendation of management actions for sites of heritage potential.

## Significance of the heritage resource

This is a statement of the nature and degree of significance of the heritage resource being affected by the activity. From a heritage management perspective it is useful to distinguish between whether the significance is embedded in the physical fabric or in associations with events or persons or in the experience of a place; i.e. its visual and non-visual qualities. This statement is a primary informant to the nature and degree of significance of an impact and thus needs to be thoroughly considered. Consideration needs to be given to the significance of a heritage resource at different scales (i.e. sitespecific, local, regional, national or international) and the relationship between the heritage resource, its setting and its associations.

#### Nature of the impact

This is an assessment of the nature of the impact of the activity on a heritage resource, with some indication of its positive and/or negative effect/s. It is strongly informed by the statement of resource significance. In other words, the nature of the impact may be historical, aesthetic, social, scientific, linguistic or architectural, intrinsic, associational or contextual (visual or non-visual). In many cases, the nature of the impact will include more than one value.

#### Extent

Here it should be indicated whether the impact will be experienced:

- On a site scale, i.e. extend only as far as the activity;
- Within the immediate context of a heritage resource;
- On a local scale, e.g. town or suburb
- On a metropolitan or regional scale; or
- On a national/international scale.

## Duration

Here it should be indicated whether the lifespan of the impact will be:

- Short term, (needs to be defined in context)
- Medium term, (needs to be defined in context)
- Long term where the impact will persist indefinitely, possibly beyond the operational life of the activity, either because of natural processes or

by human intervention; or

- Permanent where mitigation either by natural process or by human intervention will not occur in such a way or in such a time span that the

impact can be considered transient.

Of relevance to the duration of an impact are the following considerations:

- Reversibility of the impact; and
- Renewability of the heritage resource.

## Intensity

Here it should be established whether the impact should be indicated as:

- Low, where the impact affects the resource in such a way that its heritage value is not affected;
- Medium, where the affected resource is altered but its heritage value continues to exist albeit in a modified way; and
- High, where heritage value is altered to the extent that it will temporarily or permanently be damaged or destroyed.

# **Probability**

This should describe the likelihood of the impact actually occurring indicated as:

- Improbable, where the possibility of the impact to materialize is very low either because of design or historic experience;
- Probable, where there is a distinct possibility that the impact will occur;
- Highly probable, where it is most likely that the impact will occur; or
- Definite, where the impact will definitely occur regardless of any mitigation measures

#### Confidence

This should relate to the level of confidence that the specialist has in establishing the nature and degree of impacts. It relates to the level and reliability of information, the nature and degree of consultation with I&AP's and the dynamic of the broader socio-political context.

- High, where the information is comprehensive and accurate, where there has been a high degree of consultation and the socio-political

context is relatively stable.

- Medium, where the information is sufficient but is based mainly on secondary sources, where there has been a limited targeted consultation
  - and socio-political context is fluid.
  - Low, where the information is poor, a high degree of contestation is evident and there is a state of socio-political flux.

#### **Impact Significance**

The significance of impacts can be determined through a synthesis of the aspects produced in terms of the nature and degree of heritage significance and the nature, duration, intensity, extent, probability and confidence of impacts and can be described as:

- Low; where it would have a negligible effect on heritage and on the decision
- Medium, where it would have a moderate effect on heritage and should influence the decision.
- High, where it would have, or there would be a high risk of, a big effect on heritage. Impacts of high significance should have a major

influence on the decision;

- Very high, where it would have, or there would be high risk of, an irreversible and possibly irreplaceable negative impact on heritage. Impacts

of very high significance should be a central factor in decision-making.

#### 11.3 Direct Impact Assessment Criteria

The following table provides an outline of the relationship between the significance of a heritage context, the intensity of development and the significance of heritage impacts to be expected

	TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT			
HERITAGE CONTEXT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D
CONTEXT 1 High heritage Value	Moderate heritage impact expected	High heritage impact expected	Very high heritage impact expected	Very high heritage impact expected
CONTEXT 2 Medium to high heritage value	Minimal heritage impact expected	Moderate heritage impact expected	High heritage impact expected	Very high heritage impact expected
CONTEXT 3 Medium to low heritage value	Little or no heritage impact expected	Minimal heritage impact expected	Moderate heritage impact expected	High heritage impact expected
CONTEXT 4 Low to no heritage value	Little or no heritage impact expected	Little or no heritage impact expected	Minimal heritage value expected	Moderate heritage impact expected

NOTE: A DEFAULT "LITTLE OR NO HERITAGE IMPACT EXPECTED" VALUE APPLIES WHERE A HERITAGE RESOURCE OCCURS

OUTSIDE THE IMPACT ZONE OF THE DEVELOPMENT.		
HERITAGE CONTEXTS	CATEGORIES OF DEVELOPMENT	
Context 1:  Of high intrinsic, associational and contextual heritage value within a national, provincial and local context, i.e. formally declared or potential Grade 1, 2 or 3A heritage resources	Category A: Minimal intensity development  No rezoning involved; within existing use rights.  No subdivision involved.  Upgrading of existing infrastructure within existing envelopes	
Context 2:  Of moderate to high intrinsic, associational and contextual value within a local context, i.e. potential Grade 3B heritage resources.	Minor internal changes to existing structures     New building footprints limited to less than     1000m2.	
Context 3:	Category B: Low-key intensity development - Spot rezoning with no change to overall zoning of a site.	



Of medium to low intrinsic, associational or contextual heritage value within a national, provincial and local context, i.e. potential Grade 3C heritage resources

#### Context 4:

Of little or no intrinsic, associational or contextual heritage value due to disturbed, degraded conditions or extent of irreversible damage.

- Linear development less than 100m
- Building footprints between 1000m2-2000m2
- Minor changes to external envelop of existing structures (less than 25%)
- Minor changes in relation to bulk and height of immediately adjacent structures (less than 25%).

#### Category C: Moderate intensity development

- Rezoning of a site between 5000m2-10 000m2.
- Linear development between 100m and 300m.
- Building footprints between 2000m2 and 5000m2
- Substantial changes to external envelop of existing structures (more than 50%)
- Substantial increase in bulk and height in relation to immediately adjacent buildings (more than 50%)

#### Category D: High intensity development

- Rezoning of a site in excess of 10 000m2
- Linear development in excess of 300m.
- Any development changing the character of a site exceeding 5000m2 or involving the subdivision of a site into three or more erven.
- Substantial increase in bulk and height in relation to immediately adjacent buildings (more than 100%)

# 11.4 Management and Mitigation Actions

The following table provides a guideline of relevant heritage resources management actions is vital to the conservation of heritage resources.

## No further action / Monitoring

Where no heritage resources have been documented, heritage resources occur well outside the impact zone of any development or the primary context of the surroundings at a development footprint has been largely destroyed or altered, no further immediate action is required. Site monitoring during development, by an ECO or the heritage specialist are often added to this recommendation in order to ensure that no undetected heritage\remains are destroyed.

## **Avoidance**

This is appropriate where any type of development occurs within a formally protected or significant or sensitive heritage context and is likely to have a high negative impact. Mitigation is not acceptable or not possible. This measure often includes the change / alteration of development planning and therefore impact zones in order not to impact on resources.

## Mitigation

This is appropriate where development occurs in a context of heritage significance and where the impact is such that it can be mitigated to a degree of medium to low significance, e.g. the high to medium impact of a development on an archaeological site could be mitigated through sampling/excavation of the remains. Not all negative impacts can be mitigated.

## Compensation

Compensation is generally not an appropriate heritage management action. The main function of management actions should be to conserve the resource for the benefit of future generations. Once lost it cannot be renewed. The circumstances around the potential public or heritage benefits would need to be exceptional to warrant this type of action, especially in the case of where the impact was high.

## Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is considered in heritage management terms as a intervention typically involving the adding of a new heritage layer to enable a new sustainable use. It is not appropriate when the process necessitates the removal of previous historical layers, i.e. restoration of a building or place to the previous state/period. It is an appropriate heritage management action in the following cases:

- The heritage resource is degraded or in the process of degradation and would benefit from rehabilitation.
- Where rehabilitation implies appropriate conservation interventions, i.e. adaptive reuse, repair and maintenance, consolidation and minimal

loss of historical fabric.

- Where the rehabilitation process will not result in a negative impact on the intrinsic value of the resource.

# **Enhancement**





Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

Enhancement is appropriate where the overall heritage significance and its public appreciation value are improved. It does not imply creation of a condition that might never have occurred during the evolution of a place, e.g. the tendency to sanitize the past. This management action might result from the removal of previous layers where these layers are culturally of low significance and detract from the significance of the resource. It would be appropriate in a range of heritage contexts and applicable to a range of resources. In the case of formally protected or significant resources, appropriate enhancement action should be encouraged. Care should, however, be taken to ensure that the process does not have a negative impact on the character and context of the resource. It would thus have to be carefully monitored