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**REPORT ON A BASELINE GRAVE SITE ASSESSMENT FOR THE
EXHUMATION AND RELOCATION OF GRAVES TO BE IMPACTED BY THE
MAFUBE LIFEEX PROJECT (ANGLO-AMERICAN THERMAL COAL),
SITUATED ON VARIOUS FARMS NEAR
MIDDELBURG, MPUMALANGA**

For:

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REPORT: APAC015/05

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SUMMARY

APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING cc was appointed by Mafube Coal (Anglo-American Thermal Coal) to undertake a Baseline Grave Site Assessment for their Mafube LifeEx Project. The grave sites were mostly identified during earlier work by Pistorius in 2012 for Mafube (Phase 1 HIA), while a number were identified subsequently to his study. The aim was to document the sites and graves in more detail in order to facilitate their eventual exhumation and relocation. The graves are located on various farms in the Mafube Coal Mining Rights area, namely Springboklaagte 416JS and Nooitgedacht 417JS, near Arnot in the Middelburg Area of Mpumalanga.

This document is the result of Pelsers' field assessment conducted during the end of January 2015, with the aims of determining the exact number of graves involved, as well as determining the way forward in terms of the processes to be followed.

A number of recommendations are put forward at the end of this report in terms of the exhumation and relocation of the impacted graves.

CONTENTS

	page
SUMMARY	3
CONTENTS.....	4
1. INTRODUCTION	5
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
3. LEGALISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	5
4. METHODOLOGY	8
5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA.....	8
6. DISCUSSION.....	11
7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	37
8. REFERENCES	38
9. APPENDIX A.....	39
10. APPENIDX B	40
11. APPENDIX C.....	41
12. APPENDIX D.....	42
13. APPENDIX E	43

1. INTRODUCTION

APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING cc was appointed by Mafube Coal (Anglo-American Thermal Coal) to undertake a Baseline Grave Site Assessment for their Mafube LifeEx Project. The grave sites were mostly identified during earlier work by Pistorius in 2012 for Mafube (Phase 1 HIA), while a number were identified subsequently to his study. The aim was to document the sites and graves in more detail in order to facilitate their eventual exhumation and relocation. The graves are located on various farms in the Mafube Coal Mining Rights area, namely Springboklaagte 416JS and Nooitgedacht 417JS, near Arnot in the Middelburg Area of Mpumalanga.

Fieldwork was conducted during the last week of January 2015. The client indicated the boundaries of the area to be assessed, while also providing information on the previous work conducted here. The assessment focused on this area and the relevant sites identified.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the Project are:

1. to conduct a Baseline Assessment of all the grave sites located in the Mafube Coal LifeEx Project area, and to determine which sites and how many graves will be impacted upon by Coal Mining operations in the area
2. to provide a way forward in terms of the exhumation & relocation of the impacted graves,

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

3.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act the following is 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
- 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 or scientific or technological value.

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. Sites of Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds**
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development on these possible heritage resources. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of the Act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The Act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- 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 that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- 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

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of 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 or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

3.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act 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.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 *Survey of literature*

A previous Phase 1 HIA Report (done by Dr. Julius Pistorius) for the area was used for background information.

4.2 *Field survey*

The sites under discussion and recorded during the 2012 survey were visited and data collected through both physical observation and photographically. This information is contained in this document. A number of sites not recorded during the 2012 study was also documented and is included here

4.3 *Oral histories*

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography. **Full social consultation will be undertaken as part of the grave relocation process in order to identify descendants and to obtain consent for the exhumation & relocation.**

4.4 *Documentation*

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities are determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information is added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The study area is located on various portions of the farms Springboklaagte 416 & Nootgedacht 417 JS, near Arnot in the Middelburg district in Mpumalanga. There are a total

of 17 graves sites located here, as well as a number of homesteads and related structures, that will eventually be impacted to differing degrees by the Mafube Coal LifeEx Project.

During the assessment visibility was made difficult by very dense vegetation (grass and others) cover, while a few of the sites could not be accessed due to unresolved issues between the landowners and Mafube Coal. However, most sites were accessed and documented.

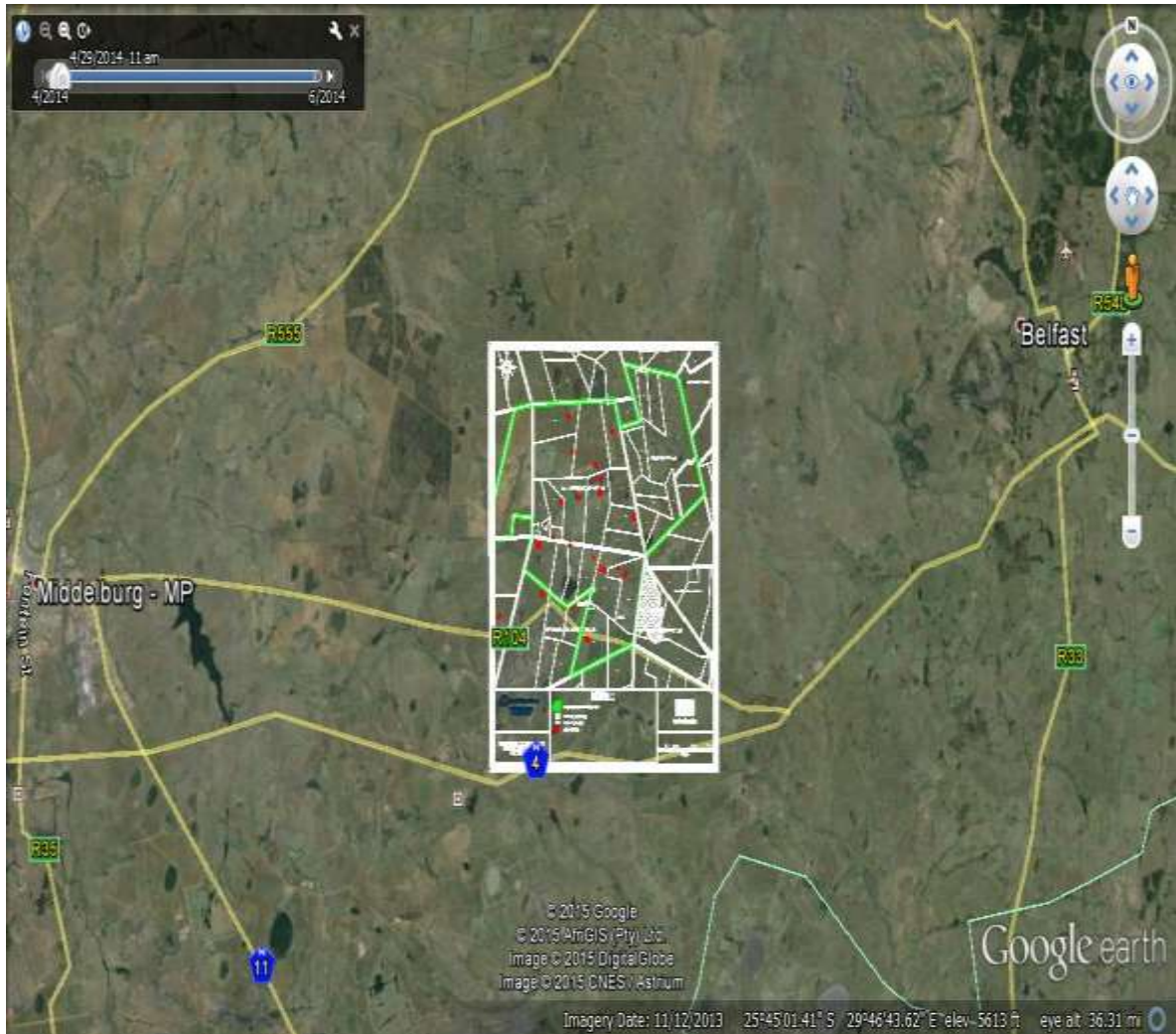


Figure 1: Location of Study Area. The red dots show the location of grave sites. Google Earth 2015 (image provided by Mafube Coal).

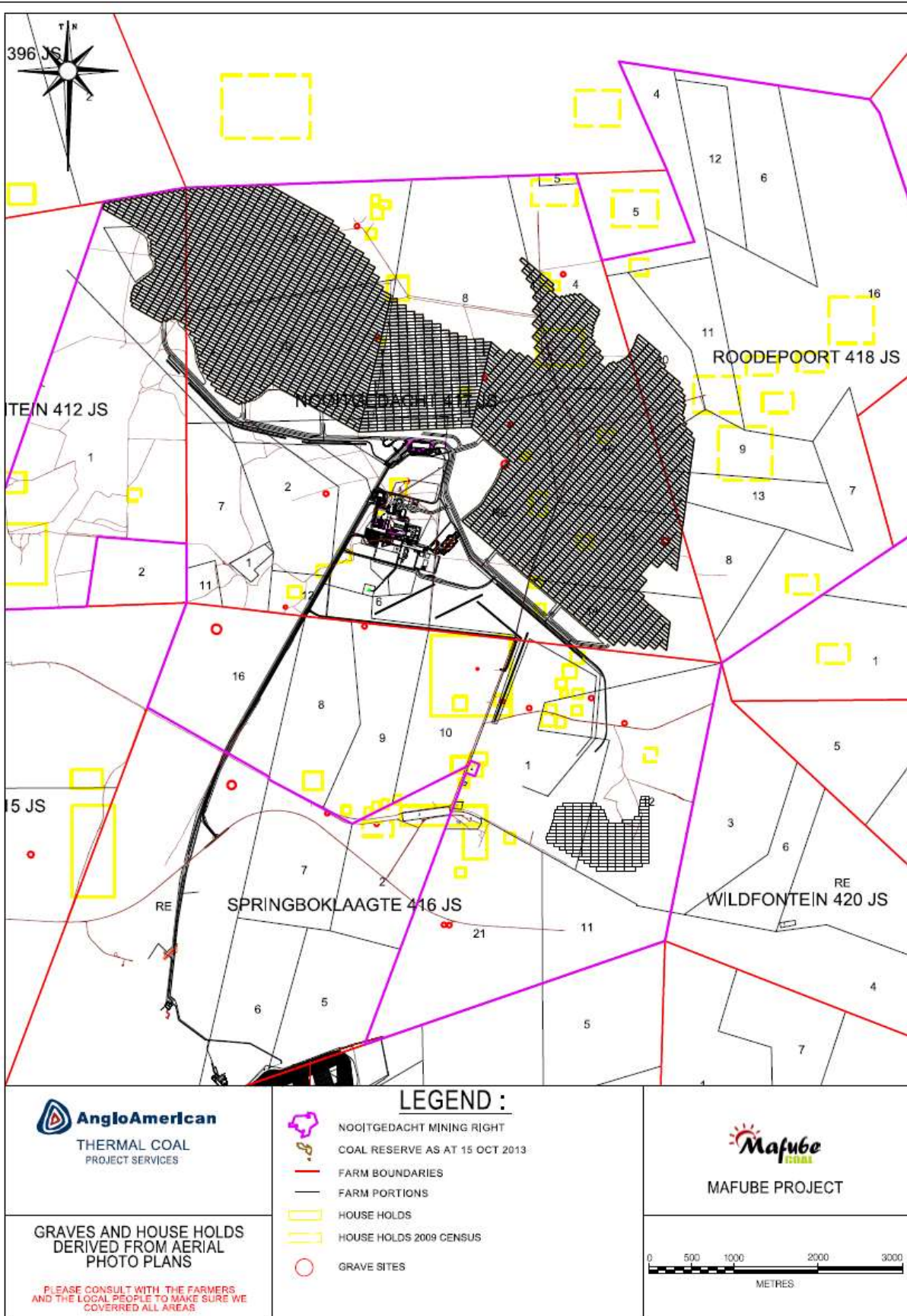


Figure 2: Map of study area and Mining activities. Provided by Mafube Coal.

6. DISCUSSION

The results of the January 2015 assessment will be discussed here, in relation to the results of Pistorius's earlier May 2012 Phase 1 HIA for the Mafube Project

Site GY01

The graveyard is located next to a blue gum lot and contains in excess of 100 graves, most stone packed without any headstones. At least ten graves are fitted with granite headstones while a number of graves are demarcated with cement strips and fitted with cement headstones which are painted blue. Inscriptions on some of the copper plates on these headstones read as follow:

- *'In loving memory of Joyce Mathibula, Born 19 Past 19 RIP'*
- *'In memory of Boy Mathibula, Born 19 Past 19 RIP'*
- *'In memory of Johannes Mathibula, B P RIP'*
- *'In memory of David Mathibula, B P RIP'*

Inscriptions on some of the other headstones read as follows:

- *'Lala Ngokuthula Mama Mali Annie *8-5-1940, †7-7-1997'*
- *'Jabulani Mahlangu Lala Ngoxolo Mfowethu'*
- *'Boy Bhuda Oorl 15-2-1975'*
- *'John Bhuda Oorl 20-4-1983'*

There are three graves outside of the demarcated cemetery. One is fitted with a signboard with the following inscription:

- *'Elizabeth Kiki Skosana Born 10-3-1974 Died 26-11-2006 May your soul rest in peace'*

A few other legible inscriptions on some of the graves were identified during the 2015 assessment, providing dates of death between the 1940's and 2014. It is therefore clear that there are both graves that are older than and younger than 60 years of age, with many of the unmarked ones possibly older than 60 years as well.

GPS: S25 43.639 E29 46.107



Figure 3: View of Site GY01.



Figure 4: The grave of one Charli Bhuda who died in 1951.



Figure 5: The most recent grave at GY01, dating to 2014.

Site GY02

The site is located directly to the south of an old aircraft shed. It contains approximately 5 stone packed graves with no headstones. According to the 2012 Pistorius report members of the Masomboia family were buried in the graveyard. The age of the graves is not known, and it is assumed that they are older than 60 years of age.



Figure 6: The location of Site GY02. Note the sheds.



**Figure 7: One of the stone packed graves on GY02.
The grass cover made visibility difficult.**

GPS: S25 44.002 E29 46.682

Site GY03

The site could not be located during the 2015 assessment, as there seems to have been a problem with the GPS coordinates. The information contained in the 2012 report is therefore used here.

The site is located in the open veld some distance from the old aircraft shed where GY02 is situated. It contains at least less than twenty five graves with all, except one, stone packed. A granite headstone on one of the graves has the following inscription:

· *'Charlie Sibanjane Died 1954'*

There are no photos for the site

GPS: S25 44.025 E29 46.879

Site GY04

This graveyard is located next to the railway line running to the south of the Mafube Project Area, and according to the Pistorius report is therefore outside the study area. GY04 contains approximately 40 graves, with most packed with stones or bricks. Inscriptions on those with cement and granite headstones read as follow:

- *'Rose Sibanyone Wasela 28-3-1940 Wabhubha 6-11-1972'*
- *'Lina Sibanyone 4-2-1964, 23-5-67'*
- *'Mashiyane Emma Basikele Owasihuya, 1958, Lala ngoxolo mama Uyohlala Ukhunjulwa. Njalo Umyeni Wakho Nezingana'*
- *'Mothy F †12-10-1972'*
- *'Lala ngoxolo yithi izizukulwana Nezizane Mtshweni'*
- *'Luca Sibanyone ?date unreadable'*
- *'Adam Maloyi 1801-08.29 & 1865-04-11'*
- *'Thandeka Agrinet 2001-10-28 & 2003-03-22'*

The graves therefore date between the mid 1860's (although this date can be disputed) and 2003, with most of the unknown graves probably dating to between the late 1940's and early 2000's.

GPS: S25 46.705 E29 45.754



Figure 8: Site GY04.



Figure 9: The grave of Luka Sibanyoni.

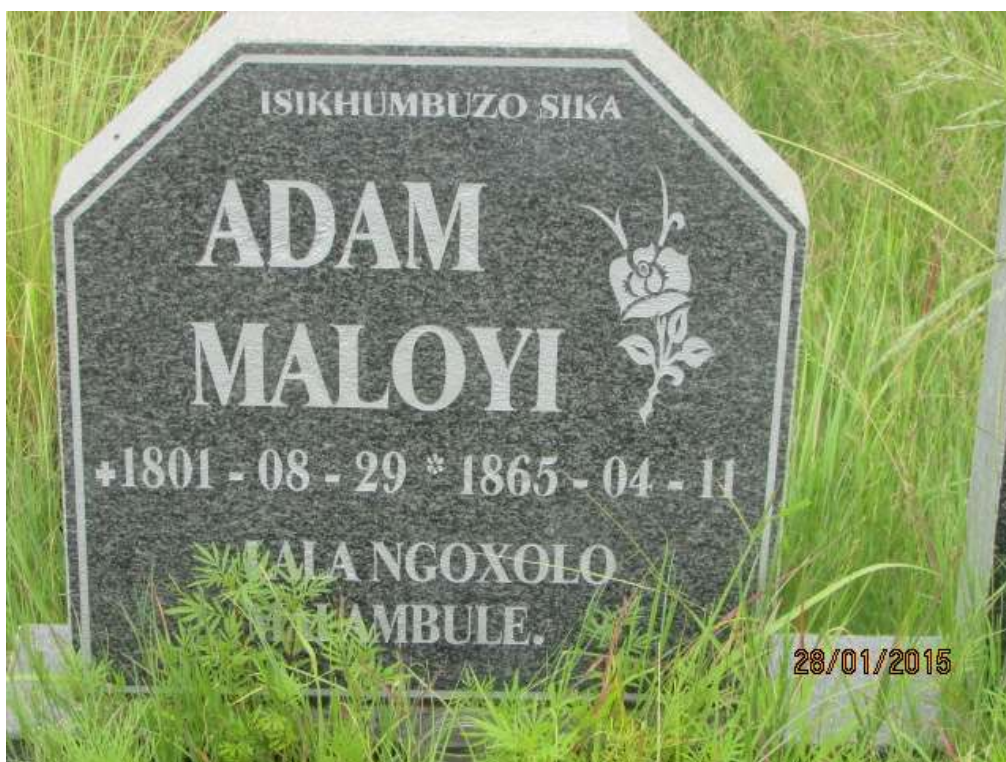


Figure 10: The grave of Adam Maloyi. Note the dates of birth & death. This could possibly be disputed.

Site GY05

The site contains approximately 30 graves, with most of them stone packed and without headstones with legible inscriptions. There is however a number with headstones on which the inscriptions can be read. These include:

- *'Mbalekwa Swartland Skhosana'*
- *'Sombhana Skhosana'*
- *Nokhundla Skhosana. Ndana'*
- *Skhosana Stuurman Sosphenge, *1924-4-15, †1992-1-2, Theas 5:18'*
- *Lala Ngoxolo Nokabela, George Skhosana, Born 1917-10-17, Died 2001-12-09, Amahubo 23'*
- *'George Mlingo. Born in 1939. Died 2004*
- *'Emmah Hlophani Skhosana. Born in 1942. Died 1992*

It seems that most of the graves could be younger than 60 years of age, although the unknown ones should currently be considered as older. The Skhosana family is represented by most of the graves. Grass cover during the 2015 assessment made visibility difficult and many of the graves could not be photographed in detail.

GPS: S25 46.116 E29 47.841



Figure 11: The grave of George Skosana.



Figure 12: The grave of Emmah Hlophani Skhosana.



Figure 13: One of the stone packed graves on GY05.

Site GY06

GY06 is located directly to the south of the dirt road running eastwards towards Roodepoort 418. It contains approximately 20 graves. Most of the graves are stone packed, although there are 5 graves with cement headstones and inscriptions that are very difficult to read. What was possible to determine is that members of the Mhlopo family are buried here, including Solomon, Azar Mhlopo, Liesbet Mhlopo and Martha Mhlopo. The dates of birth and death could not be determined, and at this stage all the graves on GY06 are categorized as being older than 60 years of age.

GPS: S25 46.144 E29 47.861



Figure 14: Site GY06.



Figure 15: One of the identifiable graves on the site.



Figure 16: The grave of Solomon Mhlopo.

Site GY07

The site is located near Eskom power lines and contains approximately 40 graves. The graves are mostly stone packed, although there are also some with more formal dressings and headstones. The Mahlangu, Sibande, Msiza and Mahlangu families are represented, with the oldest date of death that could be identified being 1971 and the most recent 2012.

GPS: S25 45.629 E29 48.185



Figure 17: Site GY07.



Figure 18: The grave of Sophie Mahlangu.



Figure 19: The grave of Rose Shokie.



Figure 20: The most recent grave on GY07.

Site GY08

GY08 is located near homesteads and contains approximately 30 graves. Most of the graves are edged with bricks and cement, while a number are fitted with cement and granite head stones. Inscriptions on some of these headstones read as follow:

- *‘Lala Ngoxolo baba Lucas Frans Zimu 1893 21-9-1943 Yithina abantwana Bakho’*
- *‘Mahlangu Sponono Anna *1937-03-11 †2001-12-17 Uzohlala Usezhlweni, Zethu’*
- *‘Sarah Mahlangu *28-11-1964, †4-7-1984, Erected by mother’*

Other dates of death that could be identified are 1966 and the most recent one 2010. Mainly the Mahlangu family are represented, although members of the the Zimu and Masimula families are also buried on GY08.

GPS: S25 45.944 E29 47.610



Figure 21: Site GY08.



Figure 22: The grave of Lucas Masimula who died in 1966.



Figure 23: The grave of Lucas Frans Zimu who died in 1943.



Figure 24: One of the Mahlangu family graves. Date of death 2010.

Site GY09

This graveyard is also located under one of Eskom's Pylons, and close to some existing homesteads. There are 8 stone packed graves here, with none having any headstones. The age of the graves is unknown, while the identities of the deceased at this stage have not been determined as well.

GPS: S25 45.623 E29 47.511



Figure 25: One of the stone packed graves on GY09.

Site GY10

GY10 is located behind an old barn, homestead and abandoned shop. There are between 20 and 25 graves situated here, but dense grass cover and building rubble on the site made visibility and identification difficult. Only one of the graves has a formal dressing (edged with a cement strip) and is fitted with a headstone broken in half. No inscription was discernible and the age of the grave and the identity of the deceased individual is therefore unknown.

GPS: S25 45.966 E29 46.975



Figure 26: Site GY10.

Site GY11

This is one of three grave sites related to the Botha family, although there are also members of other families buried here. It contains 11 graves including a number of historical graves that date from the nineteenth century. There are also 3 other stone packed and unknown graves outside of the formal family graveyard located here. Inscriptions on some of the head stones read as follows:

- *‘Hier rust ons liefdezoon Christoffel Jacobus Botha Geb 19 Junie 1906 Ovl 14 Maart 1923 Ouers R.R. en M.S. Botha, Gezang 182 vers 1’*
- *‘Hier rust ons geliefde zoontjie Johannes Hendrik Botha Geb 29 Mei 1910 en is overleden 1 Julie 1913. Wij willen zwijgen want de Here zeg laat den kinderen tot mij komen want der zulke is de koningkryt der hemelen Ouder R.R. en M.S. Botha’*
- *‘In liefdevolle herinnering aan ons enigste liefling (Marie) Maria Susanna van Rooyen Geb 21 Jan 1929 Oorl 21 Des 1936. Laat die kindertjies na my kom want aan hulle behoort die kongkryk van God. Jou nooitvergetene Danie en Moedsie’*
- *‘Christoffel Jacobus Botha Geb 13 Aug 1847 Overl 18 Jan 1887. Vooruit gegaan maar niet vergeten. Op gericht door zijn zoon C.J. Botha en M.C. Botha’*

The site will not be impacted by the mining operations and Mafube Coal has undertaken to fence the site in, clean it and manage it properly.

GPS: S25 46.013 E29 47.163



Figure 27: Site GY11 – Botha family graveyard.

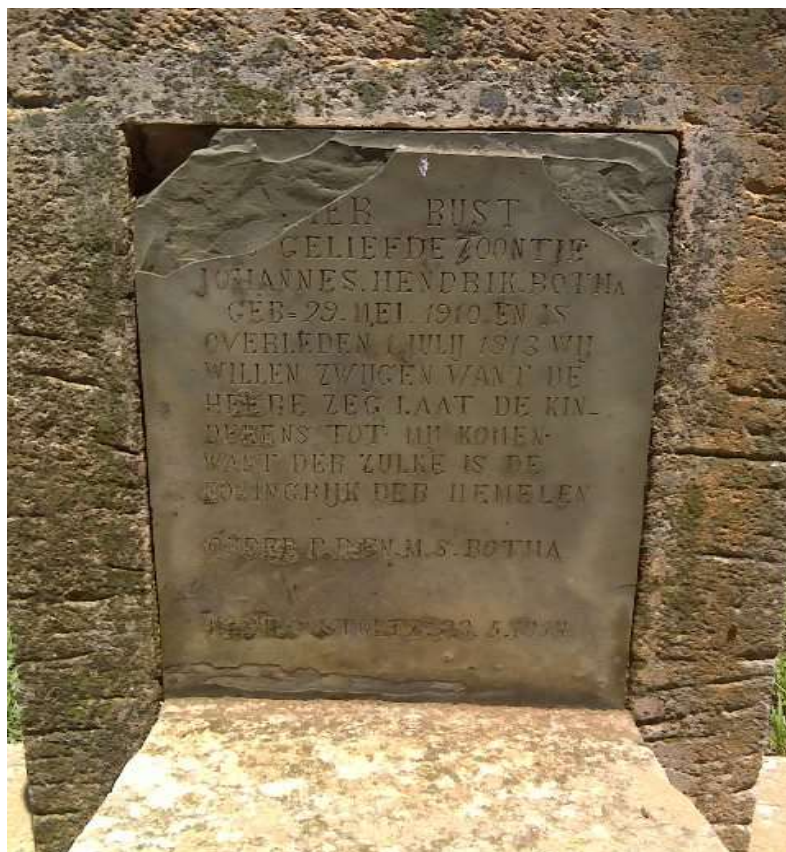


Figure 28: One of the historical graves located here.



Figure 29: One of the unknown graves located just outside the formal graveyard at GY11.

Site GY12

GY12 contains approximately 30 graves, most of which are stone packed. Due to very dense vegetation visibility during the assessment was very difficult and there might be more graves. A few graves are fitted with cement headstones. It seems that mainly the Nkabinde family is represented. Inscriptions on these headstones read as follows:

- *‘Bathabile Sarah Nkabinde Wazalwa Mklala, 29-4-1905 Walala mhlala 14-6-1980’*
- *‘Miss Maboya Nkabinde 19-5-1795 born 18-10-1945 died. Lala ngothando nenejabuto’*
- *‘Lithethwa Mr Kleinbooi Nkabinde *6-7-1858, †4-3-1978’*
- *‘Fuduka Kabini 1980’*

The ages of some of the individuals buried here can certainly be disputed. Miss Maboya Nkabinde (based on the headstone inscription) was apparently born in 1795 and died in 1945 (at age 150), while Mr.Kleinbooi Nkabinde was aged 120 years when he passed away in 1978.

GPS: S25 44.938 E29 48.126



Figure 29: Site GY12. Note the dense grass cover.



Figure 30: The grave of Miss Maboya Nkabinde who was apparently born in 1795 and died in 1945.

Site GY13

This graveyard contains approximately 20 graves which are located in a clump of trees in the middle of a maize field. Most of the graves are stone packed and once again dense vegetation during the assessment made visibility and identification difficult. At least two are newly decorated with granite tombstones and edges. The following inscriptions appear on these two headstones:

- *‘Tshikumbuzo Sika Sindani. Botshiwe Emma Born 1905-04-31 Died 1995-07-10 Siyohlala Sikukhumbula Njalo lala Ngoxolo’*
- *‘Sindani Titimani Swartland Born 1911-07-02 Died 1992-08-27’*

GPS: S25 45.007 E29 48.121



Figure 31: One of the identifiable graves at GY13.

Site GY14

GY014 contains approximately 23 graves and is located near the main dirt road that runs through the Mafube Project Area. Most of the graves are covered with stones. Some of the graves are edged with cement bricks or with stones. The site could not be accessed during the

2015 assessment due to unresolved issues between the owner and Mafube Coal and no photos could be taken. An inscription on one of the graves reads as follows:

· *Masombula Maporro *1910-10-16 † 1992-12-12 lala ngo xolo'*

GPS: S25 44.927 E29 47.328

Site GY15

This historical graveyard is demarcated with a brick wall and contains a number of historical graves as well as a commemorative stone for Commandant Gideon Scheepers who was fusilladed by the British during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). The site is located outside the Mafube Coal Project Area, and will not be impacted. It was therefore not assessed during the 2015 study.

Inscriptions on some of the tombstones are the following:

· *'Hier rust ons moeder Sophia Charlotta van der Merwe Geb Papenfus 19de Dec 1825 te Graaff Reinett CC, Overleden de 9de Mei 1909. Stille rusplaats van Gods dood en denk aan u met zoete vreugd en ? ... verdriet en nooden rustplaats na den stryd deur deugdens Gez 189 Vers 24'*

· *'Hier rust ons lief dogtertjie Judith du Pessis Geb 12-9-1926 Ovl 25-12-1926. Tot ons weer sien in hemels vaderland'*

· *'Ter gedachtenis aan Kmd Gideon Jacobus Scheepers. Die onvergeetlike boereheld gebore distrik Middelburg 9 April 1878. Gefussileer op Graaf Reinet 18 Januarie 1902. Sy lewe was beminlik sy stryd dapper sy dood onverdiend*

GPS: S25 44.379 E29 48.705

Site GY16

This is a second graveyard associated with the Botha family in the area, although the Coetzee family is also represented. Dense grass cover made visibility difficult, but there are between 10 and 15 graves located here. The graves date to between 1910 for the oldest to 1994 for the most recent that could be identified from headstone inscriptions.

GPS: S25 46 31.10 E29 45 03.80



Figure 32: Site GY16.



Figure 33: The oldest grave at the site dating to 1910.

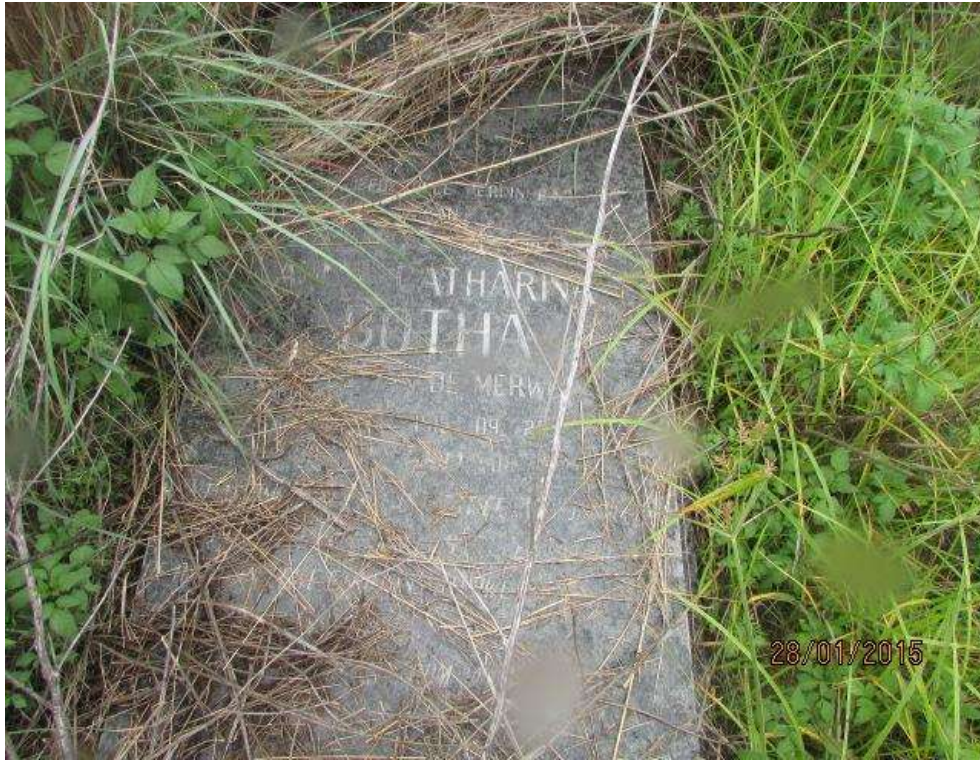


Figure 34: The grave of Anna Catharina Botha dating to 1994.

Site GY17

This site was discovered by Mafube Coal officials and was not visited during the 2015 assessment. It is the third graveyard associated with the Botha family and there are about 6 graves located here. No photos are available.

GPS: S25 45 22.36 E29 45 26.09

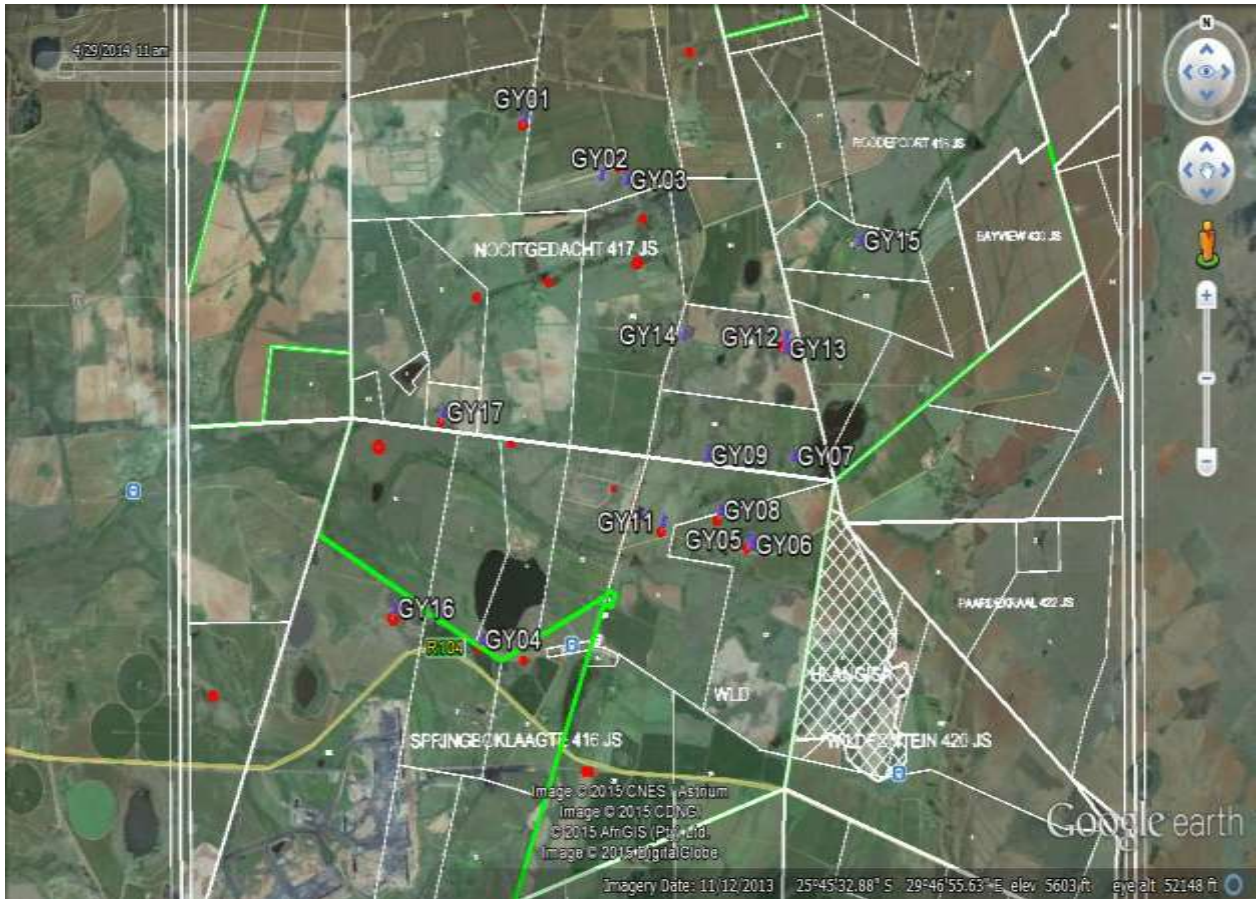


Figure 35: View of site distribution. Grave sites assessed in January 2015.

The following sites (based on the Mine Area map – See Figure 2) are viewed as Priority Sites i.t.o exhumation and relocation (Phase 1) in the very near future, although this still needs to be finally confirmed:

GY01; GY02; GY03; GY04; GY08; GY09; GY10 – These sites represent approximately 229 graves

The following sites are viewed as non-Priority, although they might have to be exhumed and relocated during a possible Phase 2 process:

GY05; GY06; GY07; GY12; GY13 & GY14 – These sites represent around 163 graves

The following sites will not be impacted by the mining activities:

GY11; GY15; GY16 & GY17 – These sites represent around 29 graves

Approximately 429 graves are represented in total at the 17 grave sites. The largest percentage of these is unknown in terms of their ages and the identity of the deceased individuals buried here (with no headstones and only stone packed, or with headstones with illegible inscriptions). However, a fair number can be identified through the inscriptions on their formal headstones. The graves date to between the early 1900's (with 1910 being the oldest), through to very recent times (2014). A large number of families are represented by the graves including the following:

Botha; Coetzee; Van Rooyen; Maporro; Sindani; Nkabinde; Zimu; Mahlangu; Masimula; Msiza; Shokie; Mhlopo; Skhosana; Maloyi; Mlingo; Sibanyoni; Masomboia; Mathibela & Bhuda.

In terms of the physical exhumation and relocation, detailed public consultation will have to be undertaken in order to first identify the unknown graves, as well as to obtain consent for the exhumation and relocation process. This will have to be undertaken prior to the application for the various permits from SAHRA, COGTA and the Provincial Health Department and local Municipalities.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the Baseline Grave Assessment for the Mafube Coal LifeEx Project, located on various portions of the farms Springboklaagte 416 & Nooitgedacht 417 JS, situated close to Arnot in the Middelburg district of Mpumalanga, was conducted successfully. Previous work in the area (a Phase 1 HIA for Mafube by Pistorius) in 2012 identified 15 grave sites that had to be assessed in more detail during the current study, with the aim of determining the number of graves present on these sites, their ages and identities, as well as to determine which of these sites are to be exhumed and relocated as a result of their being impacted by the mining activities.

Besides the 15 known sites, 2 other sites (both belonging to the Botha family) were also recorded, bringing the total to 17 sites. A total of approximately 421 graves are represented, dating to between 1910 and 2014. Although the largest number is unknown in terms of their age and the identities of the deceased, many families could be identified from the headstones and inscriptions on them.

At this stage a total of 229 graves from 7 sites are deemed to be Priority sites (w.o.w sites that have to be exhumed and relocated as part of a Phase 1 Exhumation & Relocation process), while a further 163 from 6 other sites are earmarked for a Phase 2 process. A total of 29 graves from the other 4 sites will not be impacted by the mining activities and can be kept undisturbed.

In terms of the exhumation and relocation of the graves from the so-called Priority sites the way forward is as follows:

1. Social consultation: Consultation with local inhabitants and community members/leaders will have to be conducted, while newspaper advertisements and announcements on the radio should form part of the process to locate descendants and family members of the deceased in order to obtain consent for the removals
2. Archaeologist & Undertaker: An archaeologist & undertaker needs to be appointed to assist with the social consultation process, as well as the obtaining of the required permits from the COGTA and the Provincial Health Department, SAP and local and other cemeteries
3. Once social consultation has been concluded permit application needs to be completed. As soon as the required permits have been obtained the physical work can be undertaken.

8. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS:

Site: Means a large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: Means a permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: Means a coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Means an Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B

DEFINITIONS/STATEMENTS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

- Historic value:** Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.
- Aesthetic value:** Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.
- Scientific value:** Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period
- Social value:** Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
- Rarity:** Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.
- Representivity:** Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

1. Cultural significance:

- Low: A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.
- Medium: Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.
- High: Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.

2. Heritage significance:

- Grade I: Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance.
- Grade II: Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate.
- Grade III: Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation.

3. Field ratings:

- National Grade I significance: Should be managed as part of the national estate.
- Provincial Grade II significance: Should be managed as part of the provincial estate.
- Local Grade IIIA: Should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance).
- Local Grade IIIB: Should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance).
- General protection A (IV A): Site should be mitigated before destruction (high/ medium significance).
- General protection B (IV B): Site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance).
- General protection C (IV C): Phase 1 is seen as a sufficient recording of the existing structure and it may therefore be demolished of (low significance).

APPENDIX D

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:

1. Formal protection:

Formal protection is applicable to the following:

- National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – grades I and II
- Protected areas – which is described as an area surrounding a heritage site
- Provisional protection – described as protection for a maximum period of two years
- Heritage registers – listings of grades II and III
- Heritage areas – areas which include more than one heritage site
- Heritage objects – heritage objects include inter alia archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic and books.

2. General protection:

General protection is applicable to:

- Objects protected by the laws of foreign states
- Structures – older than 60 years
- Archaeology, paleontology and meteorites
- Burial grounds and graves
- Public monuments and memorials

APPENDIX E

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

- Phase 1: Pre-assessment or scoping phase – the establishment of the scope of the project and the terms of reference.
- Phase 2: Baseline assessment – the establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
- Phase 3: Assessment of potential impacts – the identification of sites, assessment of their significance, commenting on the potential impact of the proposed development and recommending mitigation measures or the conservation thereof.
- Phase 4: Letter of recommendation for exemption –submitted in the event that no likelihood exists that any sites will be impacted upon.
- Phase 5: Mitigation or rescue – planning the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
- Phase 6: Compilation of and implementation of a management plan – in rare cases where sites are regarded as of high importance such that development cannot be permitted unconditionally.