Cultural Heritage Survey of the Proposed New Ventilation Shaft Phase 3 Project, Bafokeng Rasimone Platinum Mine, North West Province



For SRK Consulting (Pty) Ltd PO Box 55291 Northlands 2116 Tel: 011 441 1111 Fax: 011 8808086

By
Francois P Coetzee
Department of Anthropology & Archaeology
University of South Africa
PO Box 392
Pretoria
0003

Tel: (012) 429 6297 Fax: (012) 429 6091 coetzfp@unisa.ac.za



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Executive Summary

This report contains a comparative heritage impact assessment investigation in accordance with the provisions of Sections 38(1) and 38(3) of the *National Heritage Resources Act* (Act no 25 of 1999). This report focuses on the results from a cultural heritage survey that was conducted for the proposed ventilation shaft (Shaft 3) for the BRPM. The survey area is located south of the Pilanesberg on the farm Stylsdrift 90 JQ, North West Province.

Stone Age settlement

No Stone Age tools were noted and no manufacturing or basecamp site was identified.

Iron Age settlements

No Iron Age artefacts, structures, features or settlements were identified during the survey.

Graves

No graves were recorded

Historical structures

No historical structures or remains were recorded

Recommendations

No further action is required.

However, also note the following:

It should be kept in mind that archaeological deposits usually occur below ground level. Should archaeological artefacts or skeletal material be revealed in the area during development activities, such activities should be halted, and a university or museum notified in order for an investigation and evaluation of the find(s) to take place (*cf.* NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 36 (6)).

Definitions and abbreviations

Midden: Refuse that accumulates in a concentrated heap.

Stone Age: An archaeological term used to define a period of stone tool use and

manufacture

Iron Age: An archaeological term used to define a period associated with domesticated

livestock and grains, metal working and ceramic manufacture

NHRA: National Heritage Resources Act (Act no 25 of 1999)

SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources Agency

HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment

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1. Introduction

The aim of this cultural heritage survey is to record and document cultural heritage remains consisting of visible archaeological and historical artefacts, structures (including graves) and settlements of cultural significance. The survey focussed on two proposed alternatives for the new ventilation shaft for BRPM located on the eastern periphery of Robega (Chaneng), south of Pilanesberg, North West Province. The heritage survey was requested by SRK Consulting (Pty) Ltd on behalf of the client, BRPM.

2. Objectives

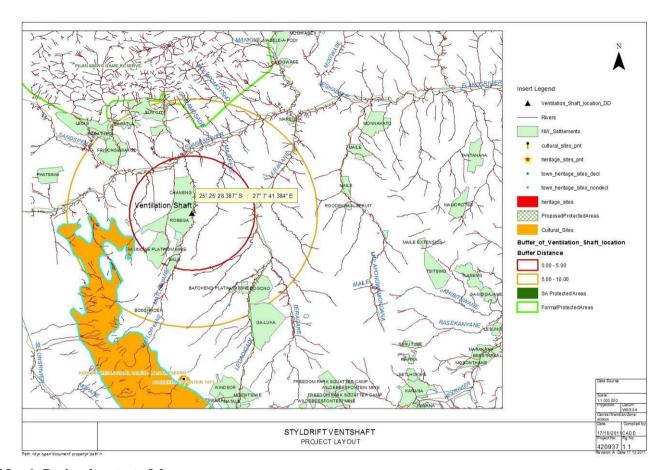
The terms of reference of this survey are as follows:

- Provide a detailed description of known archaeological and historical artefacts, structures (including graves), features and settlements
- Estimate the level of significance/importance of the these remains within the study area
- Assess any possible impact on the archaeological and historical remains within the area emanating from the proposed development activities
- Propose possible mitigation measures which will limit or prevent any impact provided that such action is necessitated by the development

3. Study Area

The survey area is located on the farm Stylsdrift 90 JQ and situated on the eastern periphery of Robega and just west of the Matlopyane River. Regionally it is situated south of Pilanesberg in North West Province (See Map 1).

The survey area is characterised by formal settlements which consist of houses, roads, fences, power lines and other associated infrastructure developments (see Map 2).



Map 1: Regional context of the survey area



Map 2: Detail map of position of two proposed alternative sites



Figure 1: A house foundation visible on the aerial map (Google Earth)



Figure 2: Occupied house in the region of the survey area



Figure 3: House that will be affected by Alternative 2



Figure 4: House that will be affected by Alternative 1



Figure 5: House that will be affected by Alternative 1



Figure 6: House that will be affected by Alternative 1

4. Proposed Project Activities

The project forms part of the Bafokeng Rasimore Platinum Mine (RBPM) which consists of the construction of a proposed ventilation shaft (Shaft 3) and all associated infrastructure.

5. Legal Framework

- Archaeological remains can be defined as human-made objects, which reflect past ways of life, deposited on or in the ground.
- Heritage resources have lasting value in their own right and provide evidence of the origins of South African society and they are valuable, finite, non-renewable and irreplaceable.
- All archaeological remains, features, structures and artefacts older than 100 years and historic structures older than 60 years are protected by the relevant legislation, in this case the **National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999, Section 34 & 35)**. The Act makes an archaeological impact assessment as part of an EIA and EMPR mandatory (see **Section 38**). No archaeological artefact, assemblage or settlement (site) may be moved or destroyed without the necessary approval from the **South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)**. Full cognisance is taken of this Act in making recommendations in this report.
- Cognisance will also be taken of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No 28 of 2002) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) when making any recommendations.
- Human remains older than 60 are protected by the **NHRA**, with reference to **Section 36**. Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected by the **Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)**.

- Mitigation guidelines (The significance of the site):

Rating the **significance** of the impact on a historical or archaeological site is linked to the significance of the site itself. 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 (also see Table 1).

Significance Rating	Action
Not protected	1. None
Low	2a. Recording and documentation (Phase 1) of site adequate;
	no further action required
	2b. Controlled sampling (shovel test pits, auguring),
	mapping and documentation (Phase 2 investigation); permit
	required for sampling and destruction
Medium	3. Excavation of representative sample, C ¹⁴ dating, mapping
	and documentation (Phase 2 investigation); permit required
	for sampling and destruction
	[including 2a & 2b]
High	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
	4b. Graves: Locate demonstrable descendants through social
	consulting; obtain permits from applicable legislation,
	ordinances and regional by-laws; exhumation and
	reinterment
	[including 2a, 2b & 3]

Table 1: Rating the significance of sites

- With reference to the evaluation of sites, the certainty of prediction is definite, unless stated otherwise.
- The guidelines as provided by the **NHRA** (**Act No. 25 of 1999**) in Section 3, with special reference to subsection 3, and the Australian ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Charter (also known as the Burra Charter) are used when determining the cultural significance or other special value of archaeological or historical sites.
- It should be kept in mind that archaeological deposits usually occur below ground level. Should archaeological artefacts or skeletal material be revealed in the area during development activities, such activities should be halted, and a university or museum notified in order for an investigation and evaluation of the find(s) to take place (cf. NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 36 (6)).

- Architectural significance:

- Does the site contain any important examples of a building type?
- Are any of the buildings important examples of a style or period?
- Do any of the buildings contain fine details and or reflect fine workmanship?
- Are any of the buildings the work of a major architect or builder?

- Are the buildings important examples of an industrial, technological or engineering development?
- What is the integrity of the buildings?
- Are the buildings still utilised?
- Has the buildings been altered and are these alterations sympathetic to the original intent of the design?

- Spatial significance of architecture:

- Is the site or any of the buildings a landmark in the city or town?
- Does the plant contribute to the character of the neighbourhood/region?
- Do the buildings contribute to the character of the street or square?
- Is the place or building part of an important group of buildings?

- Architecture: Levels of significance are:

- Protect
- Highly significant
- Possible significance
- Least significance
- No significance

- Architecture: Levels of protection are:

Retain and protect	Considered to be of high significance. The building or structure can be used as part of the development but must be suitably protected. Should not include major structural alterations. If the building is older than 60 years a modification permit is required from SAHRA.
Retain and re-use	Considered to be of moderate significance. The building or structure can be altered to be accommodated within the development plans. Structural alterations can be included. If the building is older than 60 years a modification permit is required from SAHRA.
Alter and re-use	Considered to be of low significance. The building or structure can be structurally altered or destruction can be considered following further documentation. If the building is older than 60 years a modification/destruction permit is required from SAHRA.
Can be demolished	Considered to be of negligible significance and can be demolished. If the building is older than 60 years a destruction permit is required from SAHRA.

Table 2: Level of protection of buildings/structures

- A copy of this report will be lodged with the **SAHRA** as stipulated by the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 38 (especially subsection 4).
- Note that the final decision for the approval of permits, or the removal or destruction of sites, structures and artefacts identified in this report, rests with the SAHRA (or relevant PHRA).

6. Study Approach/Methods

Regional maps and other geographical information were supplied by SRK Consulting. Updated shapefiles were used to locate specific areas that are earmarked for expanded or new developments. As such Google images and topographic maps were used to indicate the survey area and to plot heritage sites. The survey area is localised on the 1:50 000 topographic map 2527AC.

The survey area was accessed by a network of dirt roads. Specific areas were surveyed on foot using intensive pedestrian survey techniques.

6.1 Review of information/data

Additional information on the cultural heritage of the area was sourced from the following records:

- National Mapping Project by SAHRA (which lists heritage impact assessment reports submitted for South Africa)
- Maps and information documents supplied by the client
- Local inhabitants of the area were interviewed. People living in the affected houses were consulted with regard to possible graves and known old buildings, structures and significant events.

6.2 Site visit

The site investigation took place on 18 January 2012.

6.3 Impact assessment

The criteria used to describe heritage resources and to provide a significance rating of recorded sites are listed in the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999) specifically Section 7(7) and Section 38). SAHRA also published various regulations including: Minimum standards: Archaeological and palaeontological components of impact assessment reports in 2006.

Please note that no alternatives have been proposed in terms of the project proposal.

6.4 Assumptions, uncertainties and gaps in knowledge

Although most areas were fenced, no severe physical restrictions were encountered. The subterranean nature of cultural remains this report should not be construed as a record of all archaeological and historic sites in the area.

7. Description of Cultural Heritage Sites

No archaeological, historical or palaeontological features were recorded.

8. Assessment of Impacts

None

9. Management (Mitigation) Measures

None

10. Recommendations and Conclusions

Stone Age settlement

No Stone Age tools were noted and no manufacturing or basecamp site was identified.

Iron Age settlements

No Iron Age artefacts, structures, features or settlements were identified during the survey.

Graves

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Historical structures

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Recommendations

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However, also note the following:

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Addendum 1: Archaeological Sequence

The table provides a general overview of the chronological sequence of the archaeological periods in South Africa.

PERIOD	APPROXIMATE DATE
Early Stone Age	More than c. 2 million years ago - c. 250 000 years ago
Middle Stone Age	c. 250 000 years ago – c. 25 000 years ago
Later Stone Age (Includes San Rock Art)	c. 25 000 years ago - c. AD 200 (up to historic times in certain areas)
Early Iron Age	c. AD 400 - c. AD 1025
Late Iron Age (Stonewalled sites)	c. AD 1025 - c. AD 1830 (c. AD 1640 - c. AD 1830)

Archaeological Context

Stone Age Sequence

Concentrations of Early Stone Age (ESA) sites are usually present on the flood-plains of perennial rivers and may date to over 2 million years ago. These ESA open sites may contain scatters of stone tools and manufacturing debris and secondly, large concentrated deposits ranging from pebble tool choppers to core tools such as handaxes and cleavers. The earliest hominins who made these stone tools, probably not always actively hunted, instead relying on the opportunistic scavenging of meat from carnivore fill sites.

Middle Stone Age (MSA) sites also occur on flood plains, but are also associated with caves and rock shelters (overhangs). Sites usually consist of large concentrations of knapped stone flakes such as scrapers, points and blades and associated manufacturing debris. Tools may have been hafted but organic materials, such as those used in hafting, seldom preserve. Limited drive-hunting activities are also associated with this period.

Sites dating to the Later Stone Age (LSA) are better preserved in rock shelters, although open sites with scatters of mainly stone tools can occur. Well-protected deposits in shelters allow for stable conditions that result in the preservation of organic materials such as wood, bone, hearths, ostrich eggshell beads and even bedding material. By using San (Bushman) ethnographic data a better understanding of this period is possible. South African rock art is also associated with the LSA.

Iron Age Sequence

In the northern regions of South Africa at least three settlement phases have been distinguished for early prehistoric agropastoralist settlements during the **Early Iron Age** (EIA). Diagnostic pottery assemblages can be used to infer group identities and to trace movements across the landscape. The first phase of the Early Iron Age, known as **Happy Rest** (named after the site where the ceramics were first identified), is representative of the Western Stream of migrations, and dates to AD 400 - AD 600. The second phase of **Diamant** is dated to AD 600 - AD 900 and was first recognized at the eponymous site of Diamant in the western Waterberg. The third phase, characterised by herringbone-decorated pottery of the **Eiland** tradition, is regarded as the final expression of the Early Iron Age (EIA) and occurs over large parts of the North West Province, Northern Province, Gauteng and Mpumalanga. This phase has been dated to about AD 900 - AD 1200. These sites are usually located on low-lying spurs close to water.

The **Late Iron Age** (LIA) settlements are characterised by stone-walled enclosures situated on defensive hilltops c. AD 1640 - AD 1830). This occupation phase has been linked to the arrival of ancestral Northern Sotho, Tswana and Ndebele (Nguni–speakers) in the northern regions of South Africa with associated sites dating between the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries AD. The terminal LIA is represented by late 18th/early 19th century settlements with multichrome Moloko pottery commonly attributed to the Sotho-Tswana. These settlements can in many instances be correlated with oral traditions on population movements during which African farming communities sought refuge in mountainous regions during the processes of disruption in the northern interior of South Africa, resulting from the so-called *difaqane* (or *mfecane*).

Ethno-historical Context

Pilanesberg is an eroded circular volcanic intrusion into the low-lying Bushveld Complex. The result is a mountainous region which stands in stark contrast to the surrounding open plains, creating a unique enclave for occupation and utilisation. Rivers flowing from the centre to the periphery of Pilanesberg exacerbated by extensive surface movement caused by dykes and faults have resulted in valleys which provide accessible pathways into the centre of the structure. Access to Pilanesberg was controlled by positioning extensive settlements at the periphery of Pilanesberg near the entrance to these pathway-like valleys.

According to oral tradition the Bakgatla baga Kgafela separated from the Mosetlha at Momusweng near the Hammanskraal district (north-east of Pretoria) around AD 1700. As one of five Bakgatla groups, this separation heralded in a period of independence and extensive sojourn for the Kgafela people. The Kgafela settled at various locales on their north-western journey towards the Crocodile (Odi) River and eventually arrived in the Pilanesberg area between AD 1700 and AD 1750. Chief Pilane, ruler of the Kgafela people (after whom the Pilanesberg Mountains was named) reigned between AD 1825 and 1859.

However, on their arrival in the region the Batlhako were already settled in the area and ruled the territory between the Crocodile River and Pilanesberg. Oral history links several stonewalled settlements, at Pilwe mountain south-east of Pilanesberg, with earlier Batlhako occupation.

Further to the south the Bafokeng ruled over the region north of Rustenburg with the northern border demarcated by the Elands River (south of the Pilanesberg).

Another group that settled in the area is the Batlokwa, who lived more towards the south west of Pilanesberg Mountains. The Batlokwa are, according to their own tradition, yet another offshoot of the Bakgatla (Legassick 1978:104; Schapera 1952:10). As discussed above Tabane and Mathulare had five sons, namely: Diale (or Liale), Khetsi (Kgetsi), Matsibolo, Khoali (Khoadi or Kgwadi) and Mosia. Of relevance to this discussion is Kgwadi (the fourth son) who separated from the main group, then ruled by Matlaisane (who became the Bakgatla baga Motšha) with his followers (in circa AD 1570) who eventually constituted the Batlokwa (See 2.1.1). Moreover, David-Frederic Ellenberger relates that the Batlokwa also eventually split into two separate sections. Kgwadi remained in the north but Molatodi (Molatudi), the son of Molefe (reigned five generations after Kgwadi), seceded in circa AD 1690 and moved to the south (Wakkerstroom). Molatodi's southern Batlokwa split again during his grandson, Tsotetsi's reign as a group under Motonosi (great grandson of Molefe) seceded in circa AD 1735. Kgosi Tsotetsi's morafe became known as the Batlokwa Bamokgalong (senior in status) and kgosi Motonosi's morafe as the Batlokwa Bamokotleng (Bamokgotlong; junior in status, they became the Mantatisi of Sekonyela). A third independent division was known as the Malakeng (Makalakeng) (Breutz 1989:380; Ellenberger 1912:40). Although D.F. Ellenberger dealt exclusively with the southern Batlokwa, an account of the northern section under Kgwadi was later recorded by his son Vivien Ellenberger (1939) and subsequently also by Paul-Lenert Breutz (1989). This account is of direct relevance to the settlement sequence of the Pilanesberg District.

As stated, Molefe reigned five generations after Kgwadi in *circa* AD 1670. Although not supported by Ellenberger (1939:199 (Genealogical Table)), Breutz (1989:377-380) lists Morare as Molefe's father who settled at Ramoriana (Nkgagolwe, on the farm Waterval 267) near the Dwarsberg Mountains. This is significant as the area will remain under Batlokwa influence until today. The Batlokwa then moved to the Matlapeng (Matlapynsberg) Mountains where Morare was buried at Moreteletse (on the farm Syferfontein) west of Pilanesberg. Molefe succeeded and moved first to Mabodi Masweu (White) Mountains and then to Tlôkwe (Thete, Ditsopotla, also Potchefstroom) on the Mooi River, where he died. Initiated by the secession of various sections, as discussed above, the Batlokwa started to disperse first in a northern and southern division and secondly, into various smaller groups. Ultimately it seems that Tswaane (Tswane, son of Sebedi (Sebili) son of Molefe) emerged as leader (*circa* AD 1720) of the northern Batlokwa who remained in North West Province (Ellenberger 1939:166, 170; Breutz 1989:383).

According to Ellenberger (1939:170) Tswane was succeeded by Marakadu (ruled from *circa* AD 1730), although Breutz (1989:383) inserts another two rulers between Tswane and Marakadu, namely Kgawadi and Molefe (who probably settled at Nkwe). It is during Marakadu's reign that the antbear (*thakadu*) was accepted as the new totem of the northern Batlokwa. After Marakadu's death, his son Mosima Tsele (ruled from *circa* AD 1740) trekked north of the Magaliesberg Mountains, probably along the Crocodile River and settled at Bôte (near Houwater, Pilanesberg District) near Phokeng (Rustenburg District) where he died.

Interestingly, Breutz (1989:383) presents Mosima Tsele as two individuals, namely Mosima

(who settled at Dite) and Tsele (Tsela) who ruled at Mankwe (cited as being situated on the farm Zwaarverdiend 234JP adjoining Selons Location to the east which is on th farm Grootwagendrift 233JP, south of Pilwe Mountain). An alternative version has it that kgosi Mosima Tsile settled on the farm Houwater (in Pilanesbreg) and later at Bopitiko on the farm Doornhoek 910JQ, near the Elands (Kgetleng) River. Monageng (ruled from circa AD 1750) and Matlhabane (Matlabane) (ruled from circa AD 1760) reigned successively at Mankwe. During Matlhabane's reign a dispute arose with the Bafokeng (of Patsa) which prompted Matlhabane to cross the Elands River and settle on its western bank at Itlhôlanôga (possibly located on the western bank of the Leitlholenoga River on the farm Doornhoek 910JQ) in circa AD 1770, in the southern periphery of Pilanesberg, where he died. He was succeeded by Mokgwa a Matlhabane (ruled from circa AD 1770), who also died there. His son Taukobong (Taukubong) started his rule at Mankwe River (a tributary of the Elands River where the Bakgatla baga Kgafêla presently reside) sometime during AD 1780, and later moved his capital further south-west to Maruping at Pilwe Mountain (on the farms Zwartkoppies 212JP and Zwaarverdiend 234JP, eleven kilometres from Mankwe River), south-west of Pilanesberg. Taukubung also fought and defeated the Batlhako ba Leêma near Pilwe Mountain (Breutz 1953:198,201; Ellenberger 1939:166,170).

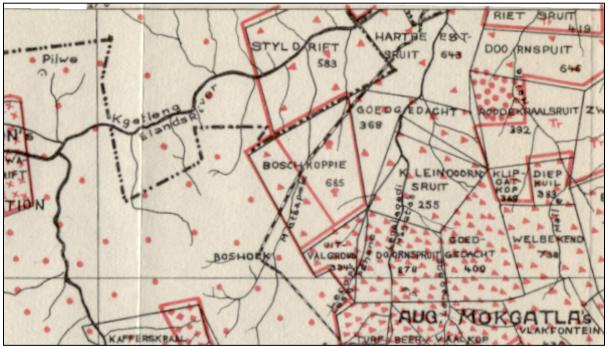
Taukubung had four sons, namely Makaba, Molefe, Thekiso and Mokgatle. Makaba was betrothed to Nkae, a Bahurutshe royal, but died before the marriage could be effected. Molefe fathered heirs in the name of Makaba, called Bogatsu, Phiri and Semêla. After Taukubung's death a succession dispute arose, sometime after AD 1800, between Thekiso and Mokgatle, which prompted Molefe to break away and act as regent until Bogatsu came of age. This section later became known as the Batlokwa ba Bogatsu. Bogatsu ruled from circa AD 1810 and settled west of Pilwe ('Piloe') mountain at Marothodi (on the farm Vlakfontein 207JP), where he died in circa AD 1815 (alternatively between circa AD 1815 to AD 1820). During his reign the Batlokwa, with the aid of the Kgafêla, fought and defeated the Bafokeng under Moseletsane (Moseletsana). The Batlokwa ba Bogatsu later split into the Batlokwa ba Gaberone, Batlokwa ba Sedumedi and Batlokwa ba Kgosi. Bogatsu's brother Phiri settled south of Pilwe Mountain after a dispute with Molefe. His other brother Semêla later took his people to live among the Bakgatla at Odi I. Kgosi settled at Tshwene-Tshwene and later at Ga-Molatedi. Note that when Bogatsu succeeded Molefe he retained his own morafe and after his bout with Phiri moved to Kolontwane (further east along the Elands River, on the farm Grootfontein) (Breutz 1953:199,202,363; 1989:384,385; Ellenberger 1939:166,172,173; Schapera 1952:20; TNAD 1968:40).

During the reign of Bogatsu's son Kgosi (ruled from *circa* AD 1820) the Batlokwa, while still living at Marothodi, were attacked and defeated by the Bakwena Modimosana Bammatau. Kgosi was killed during the battle in *circa* AD 1823, which resulted in a succession dispute between his four sons. Leshage (Kgosi's son from a junior house) seceded in *circa* AD 1823 with a following, but as a result of fights with Sebestwane of the Bafokeng, were chased as far north as Serowe in Botswana where they stole cattle from the Bamangwato, who retaliated by defeating them and recapturing their cattle. The remaining division under Bashe (Bashwe; another of Kgosi's son from a junior house) (acting ruler from *circa* AD 1825) first re-occupied Marothodi but later relocated to Letlhakeng (on the farm Putsfontein, west of Mabieskraal and north of Matlapeng (Matlapynsberg) Mountains) where he was killed by Mzilikazi in AD 1835. Matlapeng (the rightful successor of Kgosi) came of age and moved from Letlhakeng to rule at Motlhatseng (on the farm Rietfontein on the western periphery of the Matlapeng Mountains), where his sons Gaborone and Sedumendi

(from the first house), were born (Breutz 1989:385; Ellenberger 1939:166,174,176,178,179). It is significant that the Matlapeng Mountains feature prominently in Batlokwa oral traditions as *kgosi* Morare (an earlier ruler) was buried at Moreteletse, an erstwhile Batlokwa capital, south of the Matlapeng Mountains.

The above discussion clearly highlights the movement and role of various Batlokwa *merafe* in the southern, south-western and western reaches of the Pilanesberg. However, their close association through kinship and social interconnectedness with the Bakgatla baga Kgafêla seems only to surface during periods of conflict. This thread of association continued throughout the 19th century as the Batlokwa, during the reign of Matlapeng, assisted the Kgafêla during their war with the Bakwena in *circa* AD 1875 (Schapera 1942:12).

The areas to the southwest of Pilanesberg, such as Pilwe and the Matlapeng Mountains, were not only extensively occupied by the Batlokwa, but were also inhabited by two Batlhako *merafe* (as stated above) who settled and controlled the area before the arrival of both the Bakgatla and Batlokwa.



Map 3: Areas occupied by the Bafokeng people in the 1930s (red triangles)