

McGregor Museum

Department of Archaeology



CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR KEMO DUMP

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Summary

Mr. MJ Raath appointed the McGregor Museum to write a cultural heritage resources management plan for the proposed mining area at the 'Kemo-Dump' (National Site Number 2824DB039) on the remainders of Erf 5024, Erf 6376, and Erf 5058. This site lies within an open piece of municipal land adjacent to Floors Township, behind the Kemo Motel and alongside Madeliefie Street. The historical significance of the area was discovered during the phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the ash heap carried out in 2005, with limited Phase 2 follow-up evaluation commencing the following year.

The objectives for the remaining Kemo Dump area:

- To preserve the significance and authenticity of the remaining 30%
- To monitor the remaining portion to identify and understand any issues that threaten site significance
- To provide management to retain the heritage value of the remaining portion and to develop measures and to address any threats identified.
- To balance opportunities for research, education, and tourism without compromising the integrity of the site.
- To provide appropriate infrastructure and management support for the above activities.

Purpose of the CMP

South Africa has a unique and non-renewable archaeological and historical heritage. All sites and resources embodying this heritage are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999).

This Conservation Management Plan for the so called “Kemo Dump” is an instrument for managing and taking precautions to ensure the safety of the site and its contents as well as that of visitors. The purpose of a management plan is to identify what is currently understood about a place, what is significant about that place and what the issues facing the place are. From this understanding, a conservation management plan then sets out policies to guide the long-term management and conservation of the place and proposes actions and management measures to help deliver a sustainable future for the place.

This is a dynamic document that would be revised as new issues arise and new solutions are found for addressing them.

Interventions at the ‘Kemo Dump’ should be minimal and reversible and the integrity of the place should be sustained as far as possible. A permit is required for any disturbance at the site, including the erection of noticeboards.

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The Management Plan for the portion of the Kemo Dump should be revised at least every five years. In the present period of development and conservation it is expected to be revised at least annually.

The 'Kemo Dump' is located at 28°43'35.40"S 24°45'41.45"E northwest from the Civic Centre.

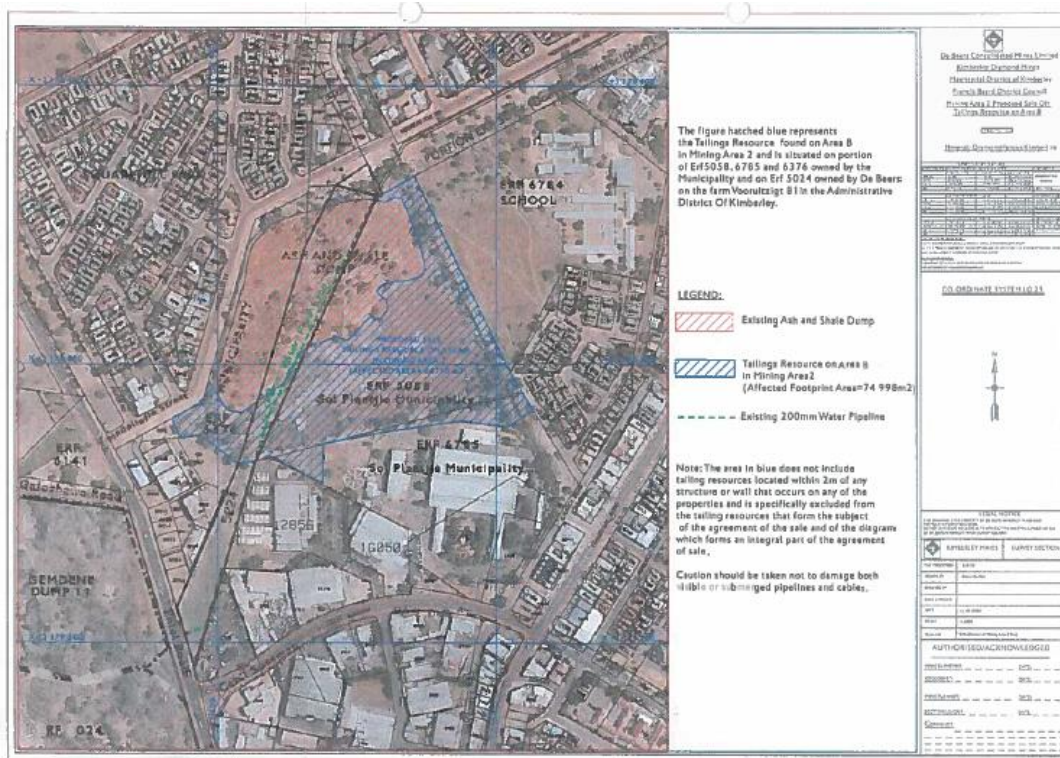


Figure 1. Topographic map showing ash and shale dump locality (Mr. Raath)



Figure 2: Geographical location of development (Google Earth-AfriGIS 2017)

Archaeologically, not much is recorded in the area, but historical records show that during the establishment of The Bureau of Archaeology in 1935, it was noted that the many rock outcrops indurated by shale in the Kimberley area made it archaeologically fruitful for habitation. There were signs that the area had been influenced by earlier settlements, as evidenced by the copious quantities of tools gathered, which were indicative of Early, middle, and late Stone Age occupation.

Kimberley is the oldest and largest city in the Northern Cape. The Kimberley Mine, originally known as the New Rush or Colesberg Kopje, was discovered on July 16, 1871, on the farm of Johannes Nicholas De Beer. This discovery gradually led to a rapid influx of diamond diggings to the dry diggings at New Rush, Dutoitspan, Bultfontein, and Old De Beers and the establishment of the five major mines (Kimberley, De Beers, Dutoitspan, Bultfontein, and Wesselton) as well as smaller, short-lived mines such as the Belgravia and Otto's Kopje Mines. Political stakes were heightened by the competing claims of the governments of the time over the diamond fields: the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, the Orange Free State Republics, and Griqualand under Nikolaas Waterboer. The Free State Boers wanted the area because it lay inside the natural borders created by the Orange and Vaal Rivers. The British Governor of Natal, Lord Keate, mediated and awarded the territory to Waterboer. Individual claim holders in the mines joined to form ever-larger companies until, ultimately, at Kimberley Mine, the companies of Rhodes and Barnato amalgamated in March 1888 and gave birth to the De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. This move was orchestrated by Cecil John Rhodes, Alfred Beit, Barney Barnato, and Charles Rudd. These men were quite controversial businessmen who ultimately controlled the diamond industry and used it as political leverage. Rhodes became Prime Minister of the Cape Colony and used his newfound political influence to advance the British imperial project, which culminated in the colonization of Bechuanaland (now Botswana), Northern and Southern Rhodesia (Zambia and Zimbabwe, respectively), and Nyasaland (Malawi). De Beers has survived to this day as the largest diamond company in the world (although it has sold its Kimberley assets), and its maxim is: A diamond is forever!

inspires the ever-lucrative international diamond market. The Big Hole, located in the center of the city, is the footprint of one of the five kimberlite pipes mined in the late 19th century. It has been preserved as a tourist attraction that epitomizes the "rush" and the lasting impact of minerals in the history of South Africa and the Southern African region. Several battles took place in the vicinity of Kimberley, with the Boers having laid siege to Kimberley in 1899–1900 during the Anglo-Boer War, trapping more than 50 000 inhabitants. The Battle of Magersfontein, 25 kilometers southwest of the town, was fought on December 11, 1899. The Boers won that round in what became known as Britain's 'Black Week, during which Scotland's Highland Brigade suffered the worst casualties. A battlefield museum (a satellite of the McGregor Museum) opened there in 1971. Diamond diggings have thus been established as the main bookmark in Kimberley and have been fundamental in shaping the course of the region's history. The diggings began in 1871 and ended in 1914.

1.2 Ownership and responsibility for the site

During the late 1800s, tailing resources were dumped on the area by De Beers Mining Company Ltd. Records indicate that during the 1890s, the deeds were registered in the De Beers Company name, declaring these tailings dumps as movable assets. During the 19th and 20th centuries, the area on which the tailings lie was used as a refuse dumping site and declared as such.

In 1957, the site was registered as a municipal refuse dump.

In August 2004, the remains of De Beers's tailings were bought by Mr. Raath. In the year 2004, a meeting was held with the interested parties surrounding the site, and it consisted of:

- Kimberley varsprodukte
- A Walters Scrapyard
- NC Panelbeaters
- Local community representative group

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Legal status

The site is currently registered as a Provincial Heritage site. The 'dump west and south of line A-A (as indicated on the schematic map) is known as an archaeological site (National Site Number 2824DB039) that is of high significance. This is the remaining 30% and should in no way be mined or cleared away.

Servitudes & Restrictions: Current Land Use

The land on which the site is situated has been used as a dumping site and is surrounded by a residential area with various small businesses. The remaining portion of the Kemo dump will be set aside as a servitude for conservation, education, and research purposes. The surrounds are currently being mined by artisanal miners.

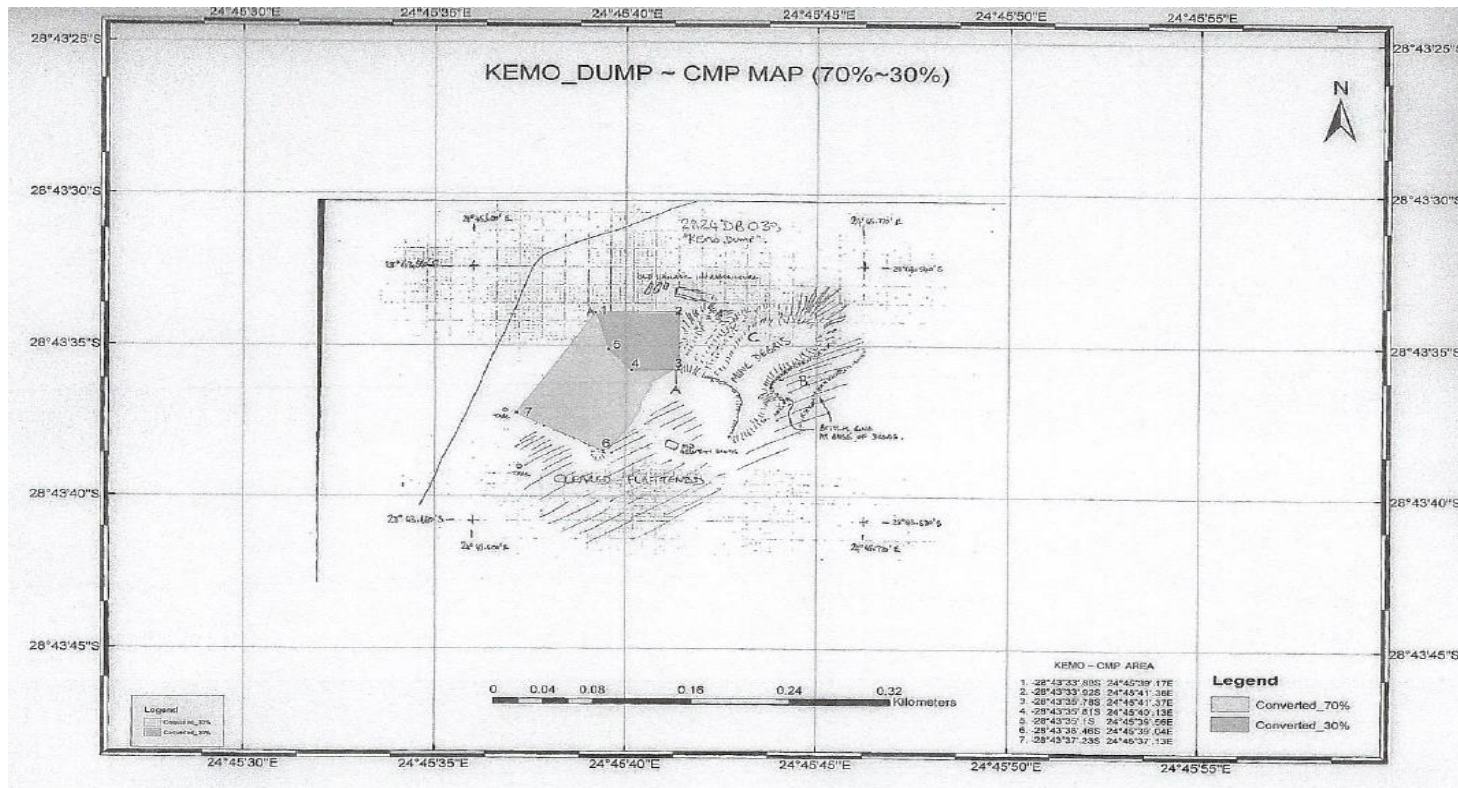


Figure 3: Sectional drawing Map illustrating the proposed mining and preservation area.

1.3 Statement of the site significance

The historic dumps in the Kimberley area are heritage features, with a small suite of them in the vicinity of the Big Hole having been singled out for preservation as part of the historic industrial and mining landscape of the early Kimberley. The Kemo Dump is one such relic and consists of a historic midden containing ash and a wealth of cultural material, which is stratified in large measure. The site illustrates the deep history of the region in a context that also includes South Africa's earliest diamond diggings. It is one of a few that has not been destroyed by development or mining.

Scientific significance

The material excavated from Phase 2 assessment is currently being scientifically studied to recreate or reflect the landscape or environment of the early 19th–20th century Kimberley in the surrounding area, and this investigation will be fruitful for future research purposes.

Tourist and Educational Value

Once information about the site becomes available, it is envisioned that it will attract a fairly large number of local visitors. A register will be maintained at the site and archived at the McGregor Museum. It is on account of the intrinsic interest of the site and its potential to contribute to tourism and educational uses that the site will be developed and opened to the public. Steps will be taken to secure the site, protecting the ash midden.

1.4 The objectives for the remaining Kemo Dump area:

- To preserve the significance and authenticity of the remaining 30%
- To monitor the remaining portion to identify and understand any issues that threaten site significance
- To provide management to retain the heritage value of the remaining portion and to develop measures and to address any threats identified.
- To balance opportunities for research, education, and tourism without compromising the integrity of the site.
- To provide appropriate infrastructure and management support for the above activities.

1.5 Objectives for opening the site to the public.

The promotion of heritage, cultural tourism, and ecotourism is a national priority in South Africa, supported by the National Heritage Resources Act as well as by policy papers on Arts, culture, and Heritage, the Environment, and Tourism.

The focus on heritage tourism is expanding, with major hubs developing around The Big Hole, McGregor Museum, and Wildebeest Kuil. These would complement the development of the Kemo Dump Heritage Park. Opportunities to link with other tourism and development products must be embraced. Because the site illustrates the deep history of the region in a context that also includes South Africa's earliest diamond diggings, it is a valuable educational and tourism resource.

1.6 Potential impacts on the ‘Kemo Dump’ when opening it up to the public.

On-going activities impacting on the site include:

Threats to maintaining the heritage value and integrity of the site include various uses unrelated to heritage that lead to littering, unlawful mining activity, and vandalism. All these activities have been noted at the site currently.

Part II RESEARCH AT REMAINING PORTION OF THE KEMO DUMP

2.1 Objectives of research

2.2 Previous and ongoing research activities

2.3 Recording and research of the remaining portion

2.3 Legislation permits and access for bona fide researchers.

2.1 Objectives of recording and research.

The objectives of the research provide an evolving account of the site in all its many facets. This serves as the basis for ongoing intellectual engagements with the site, for interpretations, for public archaeology, and for site management and monitoring. Building up and sustaining visitor interest in the site contributes to the tourist flow in the Northern Cape.

2.2 Previous and ongoing research activities

No previous archaeological research has been undertaken.

2.3 Recording and research of the remaining portion

- To encourage research into all aspects of the remaining portion-social and historically
- Compile any written or other accounts referring to the ‘Kemo Dump’ or it’s associated history in context.

2.4 Legislation permits and access for bona fide researchers.

Objectives

This policy is intended to facilitate and manage access to the site and information. Collections relating to Kemo dump are housed at the McGregor Museum and are subject to the Museum’s Collections Access Policy.

Legislation

Provisions of the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999, and the regulations and guidelines established by SAHRA apply, as well as any heritage legislation that may be enacted and promulgated in the Northern Cape Province.

Permits/permissions.

Where necessary, permits or other permissions would need to be sought, following appropriate channels (SAHRA, PHRA, etc), and with the initial point of access and advice for prospective researchers at Wonderwerk Cave being the McGregor Museum.

Access and activities

Access to the site and to information will be arranged, and some material may be made available/accessible for educational purposes. Formal application must be made via the McGregor Museum, who will determine (with due consultation where appropriate) such conditions or limitations as may be necessary. It is recommended that prospective researchers/users discuss with the Museum their proposed projects relating to the site. Application should be made to the McGregor Museum concerning Kemo dump collections/documentation housed there. A written proposal should be submitted. It may be deemed necessary to have a museum staff member in attendance during any given research activity at the site. No activity should have an impact on the site in any way without a detailed written motivation having been submitted and a permit obtained to allow this to occur. Full records must be lodged with the McGregor Museum, in addition to any similar requirements by the appropriate heritage authority.

Excavation

SAHRA permit requirements would apply, with approval first from the McGregor Museum.

Conflict of interest

The Museum will seek to ensure that any given project/s will not be compromised by acceptance of new project applications which potentially overlap existing ones. Researchers would be consulted where necessary and the drawing up of research agreements between relevant parties to regulate these processes would be encouraged.

Report, publications, and site information

The Museum and SAHRA should be provided with a copy of all reports and/or publications generated by research on the site or the materials in question.

Part III SITE MANAGEMENT

3.1 Objectives of site management

3.2 Management structure

3.3 Safety and disaster management

3.4 Description of infrastructure and features within the site

3.1 Objectives of site management

The objectives of site management are to conserve the significance of the remaining portion of the Kemo dump in the long term by understanding and controlling the impacts of visitors and researchers and other impacts including development within or near the proposed heritage park, as well as natural processes having a negative impact. Management is exercised by Mr Mel Raath with operational agency effectively delegated to the McGregor Museum, while a service provider is employed at the site for daily running tasks. One of the principal instruments of management will be this management plan, which should be implemented and monitored/revised by way of regular meetings or other appropriate means.

3.2 Management structure

Mr Raath and associates will decide on policy, future development plans, and oversees finances relating to the site, administered by the McGregor Museum. Day to day running of the site is contracted out to a Service Provider whose performance is monitored.

3.3 Safety and disaster management

An Emergency/Disaster and Safety Plan will be drafted once plans for CMP is approved.

3.4 Description of infrastructure and features within the site

The site has the potential to be presented as a richly textured historical and natural landscape. The site should engage and challenge possible visitor preconceptions/ expectations with respect to Kimberley's history, etc.

Description of Site Management spheres

Two principal management spheres exist:

- a) The park with focus on the physical fabric including the road and fixed assets (buildings, fences, gates, etc).
- b) Conservation and access issues relative to research, tourism, education, maintenance – and including the dump itself, the facilities, and natural resources such as vegetation and fauna.

Fencing/barriers and gateways

Storm garden fencing erected around the proposed heritage park will be subject to discussions on best practice for controlling human and animal access while limiting the visual impacts on the remaining site. A gate will be placed in the structure which will be the main access point for visitors, kept locked when visitors are not within the area.

Display area

The display area has illustrations, display cases and texts introducing the site and the cultural and natural history of the area. Display maintenance is by Mr Raath administered by the McGregor Museum.

3.4.1 Conservation and access issues

The following conservation and access issues are recognised:

Plans for the remaining portion must maximise conservation requirements and, as far as possible, stabilise natural processes, relative to demands for access (for research, community needs, tourist visitation, educational uses, etc), and so manage and sustain the integrity of the 30%.

All permit and EIA requirements are to be adhered to. No alterations or additions to facilities within the area may happen without SAHRA approval.

Explanatory panels/brochures/commentary

Information boards may be developed for mounting on barriers. It is noted that legislation provides for all text to be approved by SAHRA/PHRA.

Monitoring programmes

Monitoring programmes and equipment are needed to understand conditions for safety and conservation purposes.

Part IV. PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPERTY

4.1 Ownership

4.2 Legal protection

4.3 Financial resources

4.1 Ownership

Management structures

Management of the site is exercised by Mr Raath and colleagues they decide on policy, future development plans, and oversees finances relating to the site, administered by the McGregor Museum.

Day to day running of the site is contracted out to a Service Provider whose performance is monitored.

4.2 Legal Protection

All archaeological sites are automatically protected by the National Heritage Resources Act.

4.3 Financial resources

Financial resources will be discussed upon approval of CMP.

Part V POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES RELATED TO THE PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION OF THE SITE

5.1 Objectives for visitor experience and interpretation

5.2 The site as Heritage Site

5.3 Community involvement and poverty alleviation

5.4 Visitor reactions and statistics

5.5 Target markets

5.6 Educational uses

5.1 Objectives for visitor experience and interpretation

To develop a public heritage experience which is attractive to both domestic and international audiences, contributing to local economic growth by way of winning, competitive strategies, addressing industry transformation.

5.2 The site as Heritage Site

The promotion of heritage, cultural tourism and ecotourism is a national priority in South Africa, supported by the National Heritage Resources Act as well as by policy papers on Arts, Culture and Heritage, the Environment, and Tourism. Promotion needs to be in line with SAHRA archaeological Guidelines, Repository Guidelines and Site Management Guidelines

Opportunities to link with other products, must be embraced.

5.3 Community involvement and poverty alleviation

The promotion of community involvement in tourism development, as well as the advancement of Black Economic Empowerment, especially via the tourism industry, is a national priority in South Africa. This will be a consideration in future employment and training strategies.

A degree of linguistic dexterity in a guide (and at least good spoken English, Setswana, and Afrikaans) is critical.

Opportunities must be taken up to engage a wider community.

5.4 Visitor reactions and statistics

Will be implemented.

5.5 Target markets

The proposed heritage park would appeal to a wide range of target markets, most notably local excursionists (Kimberley and surrounds), holiday-making families, school and educational groups, tour groups and tourist guides, travel trade, safari operators, and academics.

5.6 Educational uses

The site is a major (but largely unrealised) resource for educational purposes.

Part VI MONITORING

6.1 Key Indicators for Measuring State of Conservation

6.2 Visitor evaluation

6.1 Key Indicators for Measuring State of Conservation

Monitoring policies, programmes and indicators are to be developed around the following:

General:

Ecological sensitivities and habitat protection

Alien invasives, weeds, shrub growth (fire-breaks)

Erosion, retention of topsoil

Fencing of the proposed park

Monitoring visitor experience:

Cleanliness, aesthetic considerations

Viewing opportunities – excavated sections

Interpretive, educational material, storyboards, pamphlets.

6.2 Visitor evaluation

The visitors book provides an opportunity for analysis.

Part VII DOCUMENTATION

7.1 Photographs, slides, image inventory

7.2 Excavations and collections

7.3 Address where records and archives are held

7.4 Bibliography

7.1 Photographs, Slides, Image Inventory

Institutions and individuals possessing important collections of images include:

McGregor Museum Archaeology Department

7.2 Excavations and collections

Institution	Accession	Date	Description
McGregor Museum	8060	2006	All excavations from the Kemo dump are catalogued under this number.

7.3 Address where records and archives are held

McGregor Museum

5-7 Atlas Road, Herlear

Kimberley

8300

Tel 053-8392700

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