

**PHASE ONE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
OF THE PROPOSED DRAYCOTT ROADS  
UPGRADE, UTHUKELA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY,  
KWAZULU NATAL.**



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Frans received his MA (Archaeology) from the University of Stellenbosch and is presently a PhD candidate on social anthropology at Rhodes University. His PhD research topic deals with indigenous San perceptions and interactions with the rock art heritage of the Drakensberg.

Frans was employed as a junior research associate at the then University of Transkei, Botany Department in 1988-1990. Although attached to a Botany Department he conducted a palaeoecological study on the Iron Age of northern Transkei - this study formed the basis for his MA thesis in Archaeology. Frans left the University of Transkei to accept a junior lecturing position at the University of Stellenbosch in 1990. He taught mostly undergraduate courses on World Archaeology and research methodology during this period.

From 1991 – 2001 Frans was appointed as the head of the department of Historical Anthropology at the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg. His tasks included academic research and publication, display conceptualization, and curating the African ethnology collections of the Museum. He developed various displays at the Natal Museum on topics ranging from Zulu material culture, traditional healing, and indigenous classificatory systems. During this period Frans also developed a close association with the Departments of Fine Art, Psychology, and Cultural and Media Studies at the then University of Natal. He assisted many post-graduate students with projects relating to the cultural heritage of South Africa. He also taught post-graduate courses on qualitative research methodology to honours students at the Psychology Department,

University of Natal. During this period he served on the editorial boards of the *South African Journal of Field Archaeology* and *Natalia*.

Frans left the Natal Museum in 2001 when approached by a Swiss funding agency to assist an international NGO (Working Group for Indigenous Minorities) with the conceptualization of a San or Bushman museum near Cape Town. During this period he consulted extensively with various San groupings in South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. During this period he also made major research and conceptual contributions to the Kamberg and Didima Rock Art Centres in the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site.

Between 2003 and 2007 Frans was employed as the Cultural Resource Specialist for the Maloti Drakensberg Transfrontier Project – a bilateral conservation project funded through the World Bank. This project involved the facilitation with various stakeholders in order to produce a cultural heritage conservation and development strategy for the adjacent parts of Lesotho and South Africa. Frans was the facilitator for numerous heritage surveys and assessments during this project. This vast area included more than 2000 heritage sites. Many of these sites had to be assessed and heritage management plans designed for them. He had a major input in the drafting of the new Cultural Resource Management Plan for the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage site in 2007/2008. A highpoint of his career was the inclusion of Drakensberg San indigenous knowledge systems, with San collaboration, into the management plans of various rock art sites in this world heritage site. He also liaised with the tourism specialist with the drafting of a tourism business plan for the area.

During April 2008 Frans accepted employment at the environmental agency called Strategic Environmental Focus (SEF). His main task was to set-up and run the cultural heritage unit of this national company. During this period he also became an accredited heritage impact assessor and he is rated by both Amafa and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). He completed almost 50 heritage impact assessment reports nation-wide during an 18<sup>th</sup> month period.

Frans left SEF and started his own heritage consultancy called “Active Heritage cc” in July 2009. Although mostly active along the eastern seaboard his clients also include international companies such as Royal Dutch Shell through Golder Associates, and UNESCO. He has now completed almost 1000 heritage conservation and management reports for various clients since the inception of “Active Heritage cc”. Amongst these was a heritage study of the controversial fracking gas exploration of the Karoo Basin and various proposed mining developments in South Africa and proposed developments adjacent to various World Heritage sites. Apart from heritage impact assessments (HIA’s) Frans also assist the National Heritage Council (NHC) through Haley Sharpe Southern Africa’, with heritage site data capturing and analysis for the proposed National Liberation Route World Heritage Site and the national intangible heritage audit. In addition, he is has done background research and conceptualization of the proposed Dinosaur Interpretative Centre at Golden Gate National Park and the proposed Khoi and

San Interpretive Centre at Camdeboo, Eastern Cape Province. During 2009 he also produced the first draft dossier for the nomination of the Sehlabathebe National Park, Lesotho as a UNESCO inscribed World Heritage Site.

Frans was appointed as temporary lecturer in the department of Heritage and Tourism, UKZN in 2011. He is also a research affiliate at the School of Cultural and Media Studies in the same institution.

Frans's research interests include African Iron Age, paleoecology, rock art research, San ethnography, traditional healers in South Africa, and heritage conservation. Frans has produced more than forty publications on these topics in both popular and academic publications. He is frequently approached by local and international video and film productions in order to assist with research and conceptualization for programmes on African heritage and culture. He has also acted as presenter and specialist for local and international film productions on the rock art of southern Africa. Frans has a wide experience in the fields of museum and interpretive centre display and made a significant contribution to the conceptual planning of displays at the Natal Museum, Golden Horse Casino, Didima Rock Art Centre and !Khwa tu San Heritage Centre. Frans is also the co-founder and active member of "African Antiqua" a small tour company who conducts archaeological and cultural tours world-wide. He is a Thetha accredited cultural tour guide and he has conducted more than 50 tours to heritage sites since 1992.

#### **Declaration of Consultants independence**

Frans Prins is an independent consultant to Royal Haskoning DHV and has no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity, application or appeal in respect of which he was appointed other than fair remuneration for work performed in connection with the activity, application or appeal. There are no circumstances whatsoever that compromise the objectivity of this specialist performing such work.



**Frans Prins**

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**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| EIA             | Early Iron Age  |
| ESA             | Early Stone Age   |
| HISTORIC PERIOD | Since the arrival of the white settlers - c. AD 1820 in this part of the country  |
| IRON AGE        | Early Iron Age AD 200 - AD 1000<br>Late Iron Age AD 1000 - AD 1830  |
| LIA             | Late Iron Age   |
| LSA             | Late Stone Age  |
| MSA             | Middle Stone Age  |
| NEMA            | National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998 and associated regulations (2006)).                      |
| NHRA            | National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) and associated regulations (2000))                             |
| SAHRA           | South African Heritage Resources Agency   |
| STONE AGE       | Early Stone Age 2 000 000 - 250 000 BP<br>Middle Stone Age 250 000 - 25 000 BP<br>Late Stone Age 30 000 - until c. AD 200 |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A phase one heritage survey of the proposed Draycott Roads Upgrade, located in the Uthukela District Municipality KwaZulu-Natal, identified sixteen grave sites adjacent to the proposed road upgrade. These grave sites are all located within 50m from the road. The developer should maintain a buffer around all these grave sites. Should this not be possible then a Phase 2 Heritage Impact Assessment must be called for. This second phase will entail an intensive community consultation process and the possible exhumation and translocation of the relevant graves under the auspices of Amafa. It is important to note that all graves in KwaZulu-Natal, including those younger than 60 years, are protected by provincial heritage legislation.

No heritage sites occur on the remainder of the footprint. The area is also not part of any known cultural landscape. There is no archaeological reason why the proposed development may not proceed on the remainder of the footprint as planned. However, we would like to draw attention to the South African National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA), and the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 4 of 2008), which requires that operations that expose archaeological, or historical remains should cease immediately, pending evaluation by the provincial heritage agency.

## 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT

**Table 1. Background information**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Consultant:               | Frans Prins (Active Heritage cc) for Royal Haskoning DHV   |
| Type of development:      | The applicant, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport, proposes to upgrade the Draycott Roads near Estcourt.  |
| Rezoning or subdivision:  | Not applicable   |
| Terms of reference        | To carry out a Phase One Heritage Impact Assessment  |
| Legislative requirements: | The Heritage Impact Assessment was carried out in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and following the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) and the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act, 1997 (Act No. 4 of 2008) |

### 1.1. Details of the area surveyed:

The project area is situated near Loskop in the foothills of the Central Drakensberg (Fig 1). The GPS coordinates of the footprint are as follows:

North: 28° 58' 54.30" S and 29° 41' 34.44" E.

South: 28° 59' 58.69" S and 29° 40' 01.04" E.

The footprint consists of four interlinking dirt roads namely the D2283, L1346, L 1135, and the D449 (Fig 2). These are located within a communal area. Zulu homesteads are located adjacent to the proposed road upgrades. However, present demography of the area appears to be relatively recent as the area was initially used by European farmers until about the 1970's.



## 2 BACKGROUND TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF AREA

The greater Drakensberg area is well endowed with cultural heritage, including various wilderness areas within and outside the formal protected area network. Although most literature refers to this heritage mainly in terms of San rock art, the region also contains other categories of cultural heritage features representative of various cultures and time-periods. The cultural heritage of the Drakensberg is diverse and highly fragile. Cultural heritage, unlike natural heritage, is non-renewable and irreplaceable. Once damaged, it is gone forever. San rock paintings and associated Later Stone Age sites, as well as the palaeontology of the area, are unique and have global significance. The remaining categories, however, certainly have national, provincial, and regional significance. The area has had several different cultural groups associated with it, from the San to the southern Sotho, the Zulu-speaking and Xhosa-speaking groups, and, more recently, the Griqua and Anglo-Boer descendants. Each of these groups has its own unique cultural expressions and has related in various ways to the others. These differences are found in the building styles of homes, their way of life as they interact with their environment, traditional dress, and so on. In addition, there are a number of living heritage values associated with all of these groups, many of which are unknown or poorly recorded. The following section is a more detailed description of the various cultural heritage features.

### 2.1.1 The Early Stone Age

The occurrence of Early Stone Age tools such as hand axes in areas below the 1 800 m contour suggests that the first inhabitants of the area predated modern humans by at least 800 000 years. Sites belonging to this period in the Drakensberg are mostly characterised by a few surface scatters and individual stone tools – usually in the close vicinity of water. They were most probably manufactured by *Homo erectus*, a predecessor of modern humans.

### 2.1.2 The Middle Stone Age

Anatomically modern people (*Homo sapiens sapiens*) with a very different economic strategy and more sophisticated stone tool kits moved into the area about 200 000 years ago. Archaeological assemblages left behind by these people have been termed Middle Stone Age. Not only were these societies more effective hunters than their predecessors but Middle Stone Age sites elsewhere in southern Africa also provide convincing evidence for some of the earliest symbolic behaviour in the world. It was Middle Stone Age people from southern and eastern Africa who left the continent roughly between 80 000 – 60 000 years ago to populate the rest of the world. Middle Stone Age sites in the

Drakensberg region occur in both Lesotho and South Africa. Sites occur as surface scatters as well as deep cave deposits. Prime archaeological deposits, however, occur in the Eastern Cape and Free State sections of the region. Archaeological excavations at Strathalan Cave in the Eastern Cape Province indicate that the Middle Stone Age persisted in the Eastern Cape Drakensberg until around 22 000 years ago (Mitchell 2002).

### **2.1.3. The Later Stone Age**

The stone tool assemblages belonging to the immediate ancestors of the San or Bushmen have been termed Later Stone Age. Later Stone Age tools are generally much smaller but also more diversified than the earlier tool kits. It was during this period that the bow and arrow was used extensively, and societies exploited their environments distinctly more intensively and effectively. Literally hundreds of Later Stone Age sites prevail in the Drakensberg region. In addition, most of the rock art in the region was created by the San. The earliest evidence for Later Stone Age occupation of the Maloti Drakensberg comes from Sehonghong Cave in south eastern Lesotho and from Strathalan Cave in the Eastern Cape section of the region. Here a specific Later Stone Age period called the Robberg Industry has been dated to approximately 20 000 years ago. In contrast, evidence from Good Hope shelter 1 near the bottom of Sani Pass suggests that the earliest archaeological evidence for San people in the KwaZulu-Natal portion of the Drakensberg dates back to approximately 8 000 years ago. Whereas most parts of the Maloti Drakensberg were only seasonally occupied by San hunter gatherers for the larger part of the last 20 000 years, the situation started to change during the later part of the Holocene around 5 000 years ago. This was compounded by the arrival of immigrant black farmers in the region soon after 1600 AD and European colonialism around 1834 AD (Wright & Mazel 2007). During the historical period, the Maloti Drakensberg and adjacent mountainous areas became the last stronghold for various southern San groups such as the Baroa, //Xegwi, !Ga!ne, //Kx'au, and //Ku//ke. Their Later Stone Age way of life finally came to an end during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. San descendants still live in the area but for all practical purposes have assimilated with their more powerful neighbours. Many place names within the region still retained their original San pronunciations such as the Inxu, Sehonghong, Qomoqomong and Qhoasing rivers, and the Qeme, Qhuqhu, Qhalasi, and Qholaqhoe mountains. Approximately 1 300 Later Stone Age sites are known within the South African side of the Drakensberg.

#### **2.1.4. Rock Paintings**

The Maloti Drakensberg region is particularly well known for the occurrence of some of the finest and most complex prehistoric rock paintings in the world. Depictions of humans dominate, although finely executed animals such as eland and rhebuck are common. Some of the art is executed in various colours and in detailed precision that almost renders it a three dimensional aspect. Most researchers support the theory developed by Professor David Lewis-Williams and his colleagues that the figures represent trance induced visions during San religious rites (Lewis-Williams 2003). According to some researchers, the celebrated Rosetta Panel at Game Pass Shelter, situated approximately 6km from the study area, holds the key to our understanding of all San rock art in the sub-Saharan region of Africa. However, this interpretation is not supported by all rock art researchers. Notable deviations from this approach have been developed by Anne Solomon, and more recently by Thomas Dowson. The Maloti Drakensberg is also one of the areas with the highest density of prehistoric rock art in the world and certainly contains the highest concentration of prehistoric art south of the Sahara in Africa. Although the scientific dating of these paintings is still under researched, recent research suggests that the oldest paintings may date to approximately 4000 years ago (Wright & Mazel 2007). This is much older than previously thought. The chronological uniqueness of the art, however, is not so much in its antiquity as in the fact that the Maloti Drakensberg was the last area in Africa south of the Zambezi River where the San rock art tradition was still actively practised. Paintings at two sites in the southern portion of the region were created as recently as 1920 (Prins 2009). The communal areas of amaNgwane and amaZizi that is part of the greater Okhombe area contains approximately 300 rock painting sites. These are similar in style and context to the better known art of the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site.

#### **2.1.5. Iron Age Sites**

Around 2 000 years ago the southern African demographic landscape was transformed with the arrival of the first Bantu-speaking agriculturists in the sub-region. These subsistence farmers lived for the most part in the lower altitude, wooded areas of the eastern seaboard. Around 1250 AD certain agriculturists started occupying the higher altitude, grassland areas. Sites belonging to this period in KwaZulu-Natal are referred to as Moor Park settlements and they typically occupy hill tops with a low stone walling effect. Although none occur within the designated Maloti-Drakensberg project area, they can be found at the fringes, at an altitude of approximately 1 200-1 400 m. By 1600 AD, groups such as the amaZizi reached the foothills of the northern Drakensberg near

Winterton (Wright and Mazel 2007). Various splinter groups of the amaZizi left KwaZulu Natal and also settled in parts of Lesotho where, over time, they adopted a Sotho identity. The baPhuti of south eastern Lesotho are perhaps the best known of these early immigrants. By the early 1700s various other Sotho and Nguni-speaking groups moved into the area and established chieftaincies in those areas below the 1 800 m contour. Impressive Iron Age sites belonging to this period and built in typical Sotho-style occur near Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba in the Eastern Free State. Nguni-style sites of this period have also been found in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape parts of the Drakensberg. The expansion of the Zulu kingdom around 1818 had a major impact on Iron Age settlement in the region. Various chieftaincies were attacked, and their routed remnants typically traversed the Maloti Drakensberg region in search of better settlement elsewhere. Bandits often hid out in the mountains, and a number allegedly practised cannibalism. Perhaps the most significant development during this period was the founding of the Southern Sotho nation under King Moshoeshoe I. Various sites in Lesotho belong to this period – some of them, like Thaba Bosiu, are typically mountain strongholds. Almost 2 000 Iron-Age sites have been identified in the Maloti Drakensberg region, and most occur in altitudes lower than 1 800 m contour. Some sites belonging to the ancestors of the amaZizi, amaNgwane and amaNgwe, the present ethnic groups to live in the study area, have been recorded in the nearby Didima Nature Reserve in the south and near Bergville (Maggs 1987). In fact, there is evidence for Later Iron Age occupation in the foothills of the northern Drakensberg, in the near vicinity of the study area, from about 1400 AD (Huffman 2007).

Presently the study area is occupied by the amaNgwe people. Originally hailing from Swaziland the amaNgwe developed close kinship ties with their more numerous neighbours the amaHlubi in the foothills of the Central Drakensberg. It is not surprising that they aided the amaHlubi in 1974 during the Langalibalele campaign, an act that costed them dearly. More than 500 amaNgwe people were killed out of retribution by the Natal colonial authorities and their livestock confiscated. Eventually they allowed again to resettle in the Loskop /Injesuthi area by the colonial authorities.

#### **2.1.6. The Historical period**

The historical period spans the era of colonialism that started around 1830 AD when the first missionaries and Dutch immigrants arrived from the Cape Colony in the Maloti Drakensberg region. Sites associated with Voortrekker settlement of the area occur in the eastern Free State and the northern portion of KwaZulu-Natal near Winterton and

Bergville. For the most part, these were the places where laagers were formed (with very low archaeological visibility) and old farmsteads with associated grave yards. A particular site worth mentioning is Kerkenberg near Oliviershoek Pass, where Debora Retief painted the initials of her father on a rock before the trekkers descended into KwaZulu Natal. A small memorial to the Voortrekker leader Gerrit Maritz is situated to the immediate south west of the footprint as this area was once a Voortrekker farm. In Lesotho, the rebellion by Chief Moorosi and the resultant action by the Cape Colony government at the southern tip of the country left footprints of forts and associated graves at Moyeni Camp, Fort Hartley, Cutting Camp, and Mount Moorosi. The most important structure relating to the history of Bushman raids is most probably Fort Nottingham, in KwaZulu-Natal, which was built around 1852. Various historical mission stations founded in the mid to late 1800s such as those at Morija and St James in Lesotho and Emmaus, Reichenau, and Mariazell in South Africa, are still in active use. The Ongeluksnek Pass in the Eastern Cape is intimately associated with the epic trek of the Griqua people in 1861, led by Adam Kok. The area associated with the first native uprising against the British colonial government, by the celebrated Hlubi chief Langalibalele in 1873, is at Giants Castle Nature Reserve in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site. Various battle sites associated with the Basotho Wars between the Boer Republic of the Orange Free State and the Sotho Kingdom of Moshoeshe I are to be found in the eastern Free State and adjacent parts of Lesotho. Sites belonging to the period of the Anglo-Boer War (1898-1901) abound in the eastern Free State portion of the project area. These are typically areas where skirmishes took place or where ammunition was destroyed. A few rock engravings belonging to the Anglo-Boer War period have been documented from the Golden Gate Highland Park. However, thorough research is still required to ascertain the meaning and value of these engravings. Many historical sites can be categorised as belonging to the “built environment” as defined in heritage legislation. These are the physical remnants and traces of historical settlements that underpin the cultural value and meaning of the surrounding communities.

### **2.1.7. Graves**

There are various grave sites belonging to different periods and cultural associations in the Drakensberg region. Perhaps the most famous sites are those belonging to the southern Sotho royalty at Botha Bothe in Lesotho; the grave of Nkosi Langalibalele at Giants Castle; KwaZulu Natal graves associated with the royalty of the amaZizi and amaNgwane near Bergville, KwaZulu-Natal; the grave of Adam Kok at Matatiele,

Eastern Cape; and various graves in the Free State belonging to the Voortrekker and Anglo-Boer War periods. Interestingly, graves belonging to the prehistoric San inhabitants of the area are markedly absent or, as yet, have not been identified by researchers.

### **2.1.8. The Living Heritage**

The living heritage of the Drakensberg area is varied and as yet little understood. Yet preliminary investigations by the Maloti Drakensberg Project (Anderson 2007) indicate that certain areas, including sites in communal areas close to Underberg, are still frequented by local communities who afford them ritual or sacred significance. Such locales may include archaeological sites with a living heritage component or natural features such as mountains, forests, boulders, caves, pools, or waterfalls with cultural significance. Living heritage is not only site-specific but also relates to oral history, indigenous knowledge systems, and indigenous languages, practices, and beliefs. Oral history specifically is a rich resource that has been passed down the generations and provides diverse narratives and interpretations concerning places of historical significance. It also provides a window on community perspectives regarding heritage resources, including indigenous names for sites and plant and animal species – all of which are imbued with cultural meaning.

Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) constitute an integral component of local knowledge, at grass roots level, often associated with traditional methods of land management and use. In this regard, IKS can enhance conservation and sustainable management of cultural heritage to which communities may relate. Conservation should provide an enabling environment for communities to continue with the tradition of transmitting knowledge and skills and of safeguarding their cultural heritage. Traditional ceremonies still performed in the larger Drakensberg region include the *Bale* initiation schools among certain southern Sotho groups, the *amemulo* (coming of age) ceremonies among the amaNgwane, in the near vicinity of the study area, the *Nkubelwana* (planting of the first seed) among Zulu-speakers, rainmaking, and various ceremonies associated with the veneration of the ancestors. Six indigenous languages are still spoken in the area, including siBhaca, which was believed to be almost extinct. Two broad categories of site-specific living heritage sites have been identified:

- Sites of national significance of which nine have been identified in the SA portion of the MDTFCA. These include rock art sites, sandstone shelters without any archaeological remains but used extensively as pilgrimage sites, two sacred forests, and

three sacred mountains. All of these sites are frequented by indigenous groups as part of an annual pilgrimage.

- Sites of local significance include various pools, waterfalls, hot springs, kaolin and red ochre deposits, and boulders afforded special significance by traditional healers and sectarian Christian groupings. Seventeen such sites have been identified in the larger Drakensberg area.

#### Living Heritage – Wilderness

Areas least influenced by human activities are often said to be representative of a “pristine” landscape. Such areas are recognised by the IUCN. In the context of the Drakensberg, only the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site has any proclaimed wilderness areas, making up about 48% of the Park. In this regard, a specific wilderness management plan has been produced for the World Heritage site, with the express aim of retaining the integrity of these wilderness areas. In terms of the South African National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (no 57 of 2003), a wilderness area is defined as *“an area designated .....for the purpose of retaining an intrinsically wild appearance and character, or capable of being restored to such and which is undeveloped and roadless, without permanent improvements or human habitation”*.

In addition, wilderness can be considered as a value of a given area and in this regard can be defined as a *“...largely undeveloped and intrinsically wild character of the area in vast wilderness areas that provide outstanding opportunities to experience solitude and for spiritual renewal”* (EKZNW 2006). There are a number of stakeholders promoting the concept of wilderness, including the Wilderness Action Group and the Wilderness Foundation. From a cultural heritage perspective, the concept is more akin to a western inspired ideal than an academic reality. In this sense the concept of wilderness, as an area where visitors may experience and enjoy pristine nature removed from anthropogenic influence and pollution, is therefore a western expression of living heritage. The wilderness notion, however, finds expression also in the indigenous concepts of cultural landscapes which are usually natural areas with profound cultural significance.

#### **2.1.9. Palaeontology**

Given its nature, palaeontology should be a component of geology and biodiversity. Nevertheless, the present heritage legislation in South Africa also covers palaeontology.

In fact, the heritage management procedures relating to palaeontology are almost identical to those of archaeology. The palaeontological history of the Maloti Drakensberg area is fascinating as it tells the story of the super southern continent called Gondwanaland and its associated fauna and flora preserved today as fossils (McCarthy & Rubidge 2005). Fossils and footprints belonging to various periods from around 270 million years ago to around 180 million years ago have been recorded and collected in the geological layers beneath the basalts. These layers, amongst other interesting facts, provide evidence of the greatest mass extinction of species in the world around 251 million years ago towards the end of the Permian period. Some species survived this extinction as attested by abundant fossils of certain species such as *Lystrosaurus* found deep in the Triassic period layers. Many of these occurrences can be found within a 10km radius from the study area. Whereas the majority of fossilized remains in the area are *therapsids* (mammal-like reptiles, ancestors of most mammal species today), the Maloti Drakensberg also harbours evidence of some of the earliest dinosaurs in the world. Footprints belonging to these early dinosaurs appear in various localities in the Molteno formations of both Lesotho and South Africa.

The most celebrated palaeontological site occurs in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park. Here the earliest known dinosaur eggs in the world and a near intact embryo of an average sized dinosaur, i.e. *Massospondylus*, were located by scientists some thirty years ago. These early eggs, dated to almost 200 million years ago, are almost 100 million years older than other known dinosaur nest egg sites in the world. In adjacent Lesotho the Qomoqomong Dinosaur footprint and museum site has been developed for tourism purposes. The endemic turkey size dinosaur *Lesothosaurus* is known from various localities within Lesotho.

In 1999 geologist Bradley van Blommenstein discovered fossil deposits at Injesuthi approximately 15 km from the project area. Interest in the findings at the site led to an approach for guidance to world-renowned paleontologist Dr Bruce Rubidge of the Witwatersrand University. He studied the fossil find and confirmed it was of the Dicynodont period – a period that preceded the dinosaur era. He also declared that his findings led him to the belief that there were most likely further species of that period to be found in the area. It has been proposed to develop the area as a community tourism initiative.



## Summary

The cultural heritage of the greater Drakensberg region (including the Loskop area) is rich, diverse, and fragile. The area contains a high density of prehistoric rock art that parallels the well known Upper-Palaeolithic rock art of Western Europe in artistic execution and symbolism. In addition, it harbours a rich and diverse record of palaeontological fossils that, for the most part, pre-date the Jurassic period of popular imagination. The mountains are also the heartland of the *Difaqane* – a period of tribal turmoil that developed as a direct response to the expansion of the Zulu state of Shaka in the 1820s. Many Iron Age sites in the area belong to this period, including significant sites associated with the founding of the Basotho Kingdom under King Moshoeshoe I. It was also the area traversed by some of the most dramatic diasporas documented in southern African history, including the Great Trek of the Voortrekkers, The Griqua trek via Ongeluksnek, the wanderings of the amaHlubi, amaNgwane, amaZizi, and amaBhaca tribal entities, and the lesser-known but equally dramatic trek of the //Xegwi San in 1879 – the last rock artists of the region. Sites related to these historical events abound in the Drakensberg and are windows into a significant period of the history and culture of southern Africa. That some of these cultural expressions are still alive is witnessed by the occurrence of significant living heritage sites in the region. Most of these are used as sites of pilgrimage by visitors from South Africa, Lesotho, and even further abroad

## 3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE SURVEY

### 3.1 Methodology

A desktop study was conducted of the archaeological databases housed in the KwaZulu-Natal Museum. In addition, the available archaeological and heritage literature covering the greater Escourt and Loskop areas was consulted. The SAHRIS website was consulted for previous heritage surveys and heritage site data covering the project area. Various archaeological and CRM surveys have been conducted in the greater Eastcourt area in the past. These were conducted by archaeologists of the then Natal Museum as well as by heritage consulting companies such as eThembeni, Umlando, and Active Heritage cc. However, none of these surveys covered the actual footprint.

The consultant conducted a ground survey of the footprint on 30 October 2018. The survey was conducted by following acceptable archaeological survey methods. An area of 50m was surveyed on either side of the road. The consultant also asked local residents to assist with the identification of graves. Various grave sites were identified with their help. However, they were not aware of any other heritage sites on the footprint.

### **3.1.1 Guidance from Desktop Study**

- The desktop study indicates that Stone Age Sites of all periods and traditions occur in the greater Estcourt area.
- Middle Stone Age tools have been found in dongas and erosion gullies at various locales in the greater Drakensberg area including areas close to the project area. These sites are usually out of context and of little research value. Middle Stone Age deposits often occur in deep cave deposits throughout KwaZulu-Natal (including the Eastern Cape Drakensberg area and adjacent parts of Lesotho).
- Later Stone Age sites are more prolific in the foothills of the Drakensberg. These include rock art sites. Almost 1000 rock art sites occur on the greater Drakensberg area. The abundance of sandstone shelters and outcrops in the near vicinity of the project area do point to the potential occurrence of these sites in the area.
- Early Iron Age Sites typically occur along major river valleys below the 700 m contour in KwaZulu-Natal. It is very unusual to find sites above the 1000m contour. The project area is situated above the 700m contour far removed from a major river valley setting. It is therefore most unlikely to expect Early Iron Age sites at the project area.
- Later Iron Age sites may occur in the project area. These sites were occupied by the ancestors of the first Nguni-speaking agriculturists as well as their descendants who settled in KwaZulu-Natal. Many Later Iron Age sites are known from areas to the immediate east of the project area closer to Estcourt. These were built in stone and are still visible on aerial photographs.
- Historical buildings, structures and farmsteads do occur scattered throughout the greater Estcourt area. The project area was initially a European farm and it can be expected that historical era buildings and structures could occur at or near the project area. The old railway line, and associated infrastructure, that runs close to the project area is also a heritage feature as it is older than 60 year old.
- 'Living heritage sites' usually occur close to African settlements and it can be expected that some may occur in the project area.

### **3.2 Restrictions encountered during the survey**

#### **3.2.1 Visibility**

Visibility was good.

#### **3.2.2 Disturbance**

No disturbance of any potential heritage features was noted. However, soil erosion is evident in some areas adjacent to the road but no heritage sites occur at these locales.

### **3.3 Details of equipment used in the survey**

GPS: Garmin Etrek

Digital cameras: Canon Powershot A460

All readings were taken using the GPS. Accuracy was to a level of 5 m.

## **4 DESCRIPTION OF SITES AND MATERIAL OBSERVED**

### **4.1 Locational data**

Province: KwaZulu-Natal

Closest Towns: Escourt & Loskop

Municipality: uThukela Regional Municipality

### **4.2 Heritage sites identified**

The project area is situated to the immediate east of the proposed buffer zone of the Maloti Drakensberg World Heritage Site (Fig 3). Although many archaeological sites, especially rock art, occur in the Maloti Drakensberg World Heritage Site, none were recorded on the actual footprint. A rock art site occurs approximately 1km to the south east of the proposed development at S 28° 59' 48.03" E 29° 41' 40.62" (Fig 2) but is not threatened by the road upgrade. A historical period bridge occurs approximately 260m to the west of the proposed road upgrade at S 28° 58' 41.84" E 29° 40' 20.48" (Figs 4 & 28). This site is also not threatened by the proposed road upgrade and merits no further discussion. The area is also not part of any known Cultural Landscape.

Residents interviewed had no knowledge of any 'living heritage sites' in the near vicinity of the occur proposed road upgrade (Table 4).

However, sixteen grave sites (all younger than 60 years old) occur adjacent to the proposed road upgrade. All graves are protected by provincial heritage legislation in KwaZulu-Natal. All these grave sites are located within 50 m from the road. They are therefore threatened by the proposed road upgrade and mitigation applies (Table 3). The consultant also located a grave site that contains potential Later Iron Age stone walling (Figs 5 & 18). Mitigation also applies to this site. The context and associated mitigation measures of these grave sites are discussed in Table 3.

### **4.3 Dating the findings**

All the graves in the study area appear to be younger than 60 years old. However, all graves are protected by Provincial Heritage legislation.

#### 4.4 Field Rating

All the grave sites are rated as locally important (Local Grade 111) (Table 2).

**Table 2. Field rating and recommended grading of sites (SAHRA 2005).**

| Level                 | Details  | Action   |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| National (Grade I)    | The site is considered to be of National Significance      | Nominated to be declared by SAHRA                                  |
| Provincial (Grade II) | This site is considered to be of Provincial significance   | Nominated to be declared by Provincial Heritage Authority          |
| Local Grade IIIA      | This site is considered to be of HIGH significance locally | The site should be retained as a heritage site                     |
| Local Grade IIIB      | This site is considered to be of HIGH significance locally | The site should be mitigated, and part retained as a heritage site |
| Generally Protected A | High to medium significance                                | Mitigation necessary before destruction                            |
| Generally Protected B | Medium significance  | The site needs to be recorded before destruction                   |
| Generally Protected C | Low significance   | No further recording is required before destruction                |

**Table 3. Grave Sites situated within 50m from the proposed road upgrade.**

|   | Heritage site category      | Brief description  | Rating   | Mitigation  | GPS Co-ordinates                     |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Grave Site 1 (Figs 4 & 11). | Two graves situated adjacent to each other. Both are indicated by informal stone heaps. One grave is marked with a wooden cross. This grave site covers an area of approximately 10m x 4m. The grave site is situated approximately 20m from the proposed road upgrade. The graves are difficult to date but | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the graves to the existing road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated | S 28° 58' 40.63"<br>E 29° 40' 34.76" |

|   |                             |  |  |  |                                      |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
|   |                             | appears to be younger than 60 years old.   |  | to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1).   |                                      |
| 2 | Grave Site 2 (Figs 4 & 12). | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap. This grave site covers an area of approximately 2m x 1.5m. The grave site is situated approximately 20m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old.   | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1). | S 28° 58' 56.51"<br>E 29° 40' 26.91" |
| 3 | Grave Site 3 (Figs 4 & 13)  | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap. This grave site covers an area of approximately 1.8m x 1.5m. The grave site is situated approximately 30m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old. | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 5m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1). | S 28° 58' 57.66"<br>E 29° 40' 27.36" |
| 4 | Grave Site 4 (Figs 5 & 14)  | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap. This grave site covers an area of approximately 1.8m x 1.5m. The grave site is situated approximately 30m from the proposed road upgrade. The   | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 5m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the graves to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation  | S 28° 59' 11.71"<br>E 29° 40' 16.58" |

|   |                            |  |  |   |                                     |
|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
|   |                            | grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old.  |  | expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1).   |                                     |
| 5 | Grave Site 5 (Figs 5 & 15) | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap. This grave site covers an area of approximately 2m x 1.7m. The grave site is situated approximately 10m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old. | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 9.99"<br>E 29° 40' 28.49" |
| 6 | Grave Site 6 (Figs 5 & 16) | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap. This grave site covers an area of approximately 2m x 1.8m. The grave site is situated approximately 2m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old.  | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 1m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59.227<br>E 29° 40.488        |
| 7 | Grave Site 7 (Figs 5 & 17) | Two informal graves indicated by stone heaps. This grave site covers an area of approximately 12m x  | High Significance Locally (Local Grade                 | Maintain a 10m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road  | S 28° 59.298<br>E 29° 40.564        |

|   |                            |   |  |  |                                      |
|---|----------------------------|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
|   |                            | 4m. The grave site is situated approximately 20m from the proposed road upgrade adjacent to ta donga. The graves are difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old.   | 111B) (Table 2)  | Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1)   |                                      |
| 8 | Grave Site 8 (Figs 5 & 18) | A singular modern grave situated within as stone walled enclosure. The enclosure may actually be the remains of a Later Iron Age site. However, more investigation will be required to verify this potential identification. The grave covers an area of approximately 2m x 3m. | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 10m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 18.61"<br>E 29° 40' 35.12" |
| 9 | Grave Site 9 (Figs 6 & 19) | A stone circle indicating a possible grave. The grave covers an area of approximately 2m x 4m. It is younger than 60 years old. The grave is situated approximately 21 m from the side of the road.   | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 10m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 22.27"<br>E 29° 40' 51.46" |



|    |                             |  |  |  |                                      |
|----|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 10 | Grave Site 10 (Figs 6 & 20) | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap and a cross. This grave site covers an area of approximately 2m x 1.7m. The grave site is situated approximately 11m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old. | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 5m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1)  | S 28° 59' 26.21"<br>E 29° 40' 54.01" |
| 11 | Grave Site 11 (Figs 6 & 21) | Grave Site indicated by two informal stone heaps. This grave site covers an area of approximately 4m x 2.2m. The grave site is situated approximately 21m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old.          | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 10m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 23.82"<br>E 29° 41' 9.05"  |
| 12 | Grave Site 12 (Figs 6 & 22) | Single grave indicated by informal stone heap and a cross. This grave site covers an area of approximately 2m x 1.6m. The grave site is situated approximately 15m from the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be                            | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community   | S 28° 59' 20.77"<br>E 29° 41' 9.16"  |

|    |                             |  |  |   |                                     |
|----|-----------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
|    |                             | younger than 60 years old.   |  | consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1)  |                                     |
| 13 | Grave Site 13 (Figs 7 & 23) | Grave Site consisting of 3 separate graves situated directly adjacent to each other. Indicated by raised soil heaps. This grave site covers an area of approximately 12m x 2.2m. The grave site is situated approximately 11m from the side of the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 19.58"<br>E 29° 41' 9.47" |
| 14 | Grave Site 14 (Figs 7 & 24) | Grave Site consisting of 2 separate graves situated directly adjacent to each other. Indicated by raised stone heaps. This grave site covers an area of approximately 8m x 2.2m. The grave site is situated approximately 11m from the side of the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 2m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 59' 1.96"<br>E 29° 41' 28.01" |
| 15 | Grave Site 15 (Figs 7 & 25) | Grave Site consisting of 4 separate graves situated directly adjacent to each other in a row. Indicated by raised stone heaps. This grave site covers an area of   | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 10m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact   | S 28° 59' 1.96"<br>E 29° 41' 28.01" |

|    |                                 |  |  |   |                                      |
|----|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|    |                                 | approximately 14m x 2.2m. The grave site is situated approximately 20m from the side of the proposed road upgrade. The grave is difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old  |  | assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1)  |                                      |
| 16 | Grave Site 16 (Figs 8 & 26 -27) | Grave Site consisting of 3 separate graves clustered together.. Indicated by raised soil heaps demarcated by stone.. This grave site covers an area of approximately 14m x 3 m. The grave site is situated approximately 2m from the side of the proposed road upgrade. The graves difficult to date but appears to be younger than 60 years old | High Significance Locally (Local Grade 111B) (Table 2) | Maintain a 1m buffer zone around the grave site due to the proximity of the grave to the road. Alternatively motivate for a second phase heritage impact assessment, by a grave relocation expert. A comprehensive community consultation process will have to be initiated to arrange for potential grave exhumation and reburial (Appendix 1) | S 28° 58' 56.35"<br>E 29° 41' 31.92" |
| 17 | Old Bridge (Figs 4 & 28)        | Old Iron Bridge spanning local stream. The bridge is approximately 20m long. Appears to date back to the beginning of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century.  | High Significance (Local Grade 111A) (Table 2)         | The bridge is situated more than 250m from the proposed road upgrade. It is not threatened by the proposed development. There is no need for mitigation.  | S 28° 58' 41.84"<br>E 29° 40' 20.98" |
|    |                                 |  |  |   |                                      |

**Table 4. Evaluation and statement of significance (excluding grave sites).**

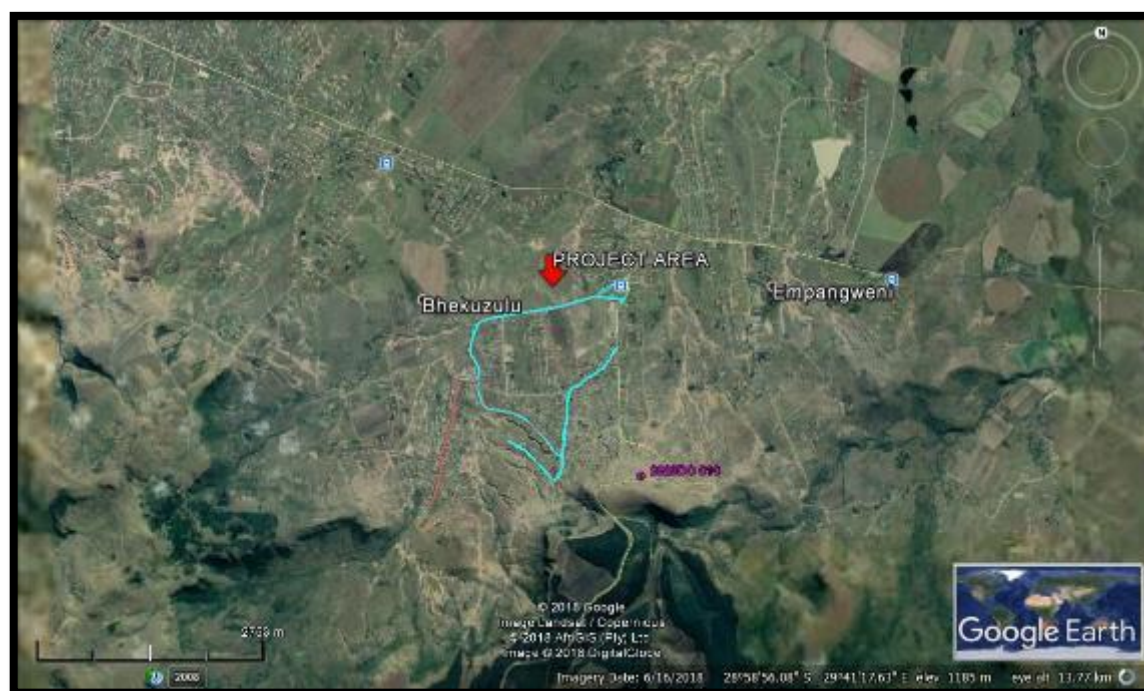
| Significance criteria in terms of Section 3(3) of the NHRA |  |               |
|--|--|---------------|
|  | <b>Significance</b>  | <b>Rating</b> |
| 1.   | <b>Historic and political significance</b> - The importance of the cultural heritage in the community or pattern of South Africa's history.                          | None.         |
| 2.   | <b>Scientific significance</b> – Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's cultural heritage.   | None.         |
| 3.   | <b>Research/scientific significance</b> – Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage.    | None          |
| 4.   | <b>Scientific significance</b> – Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's cultural places/objects.          | None          |
| 5.   | <b>Aesthetic significance</b> – Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.                               | None          |
| 6.   | <b>Scientific significance</b> – Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.                              | None          |
| 7.   | <b>Social significance</b> – Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.                  | None          |
| 8.   | <b>Historic significance</b> – Strong or special association with the life and work of a person, group or organization of importance in the history of South Africa. | None.         |
| 9.   | The significance of the site relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.   | None.         |

## 5 CONCLUSION

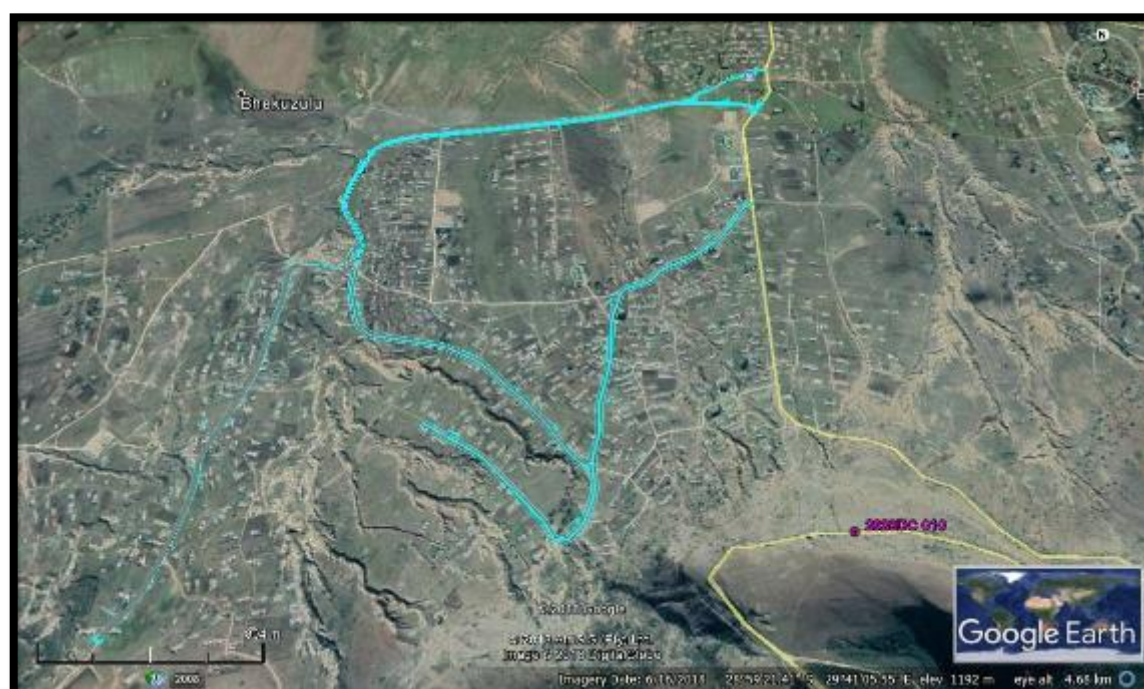
Sixteen heritage sites occur within 50m from the proposed road upgrade. These are all grave sites that appear to be younger than 60 years old. However, they are locally important and protected by provincial heritage legislation. No other categories of heritage sites, with the possible exception of a Later Iron Age stone walling structure, occur within 50m from the proposed road upgrade. The following recommendations must be adhered to:

- No grave site may be altered, disturbed or destroyed.
- A buffer zone must be strictly maintained around each grave site. Due to the proximity of some grave sites to the road the buffer zone may change depending the specific circumstances of each site (see Table 3).
- Should it not be possible to adhere to these mitigation specifications then the developer may request a Phase 2 Heritage Impact Assessment by a 'grave relocation expert'. The Phase 2 study will assess the feasibility of a grave exhumation and translocation exercise. The consultant will also apply for a grave exhumation permit from the Amafa, the provincial heritage authority (Appendix 1).
- It is important to take note of the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act that requires that any exposing of graves and archaeological and historical residues as well as fossil material should cease immediately pending an evaluation by the heritage authorities.

## 6 MAPS AND FIGURES

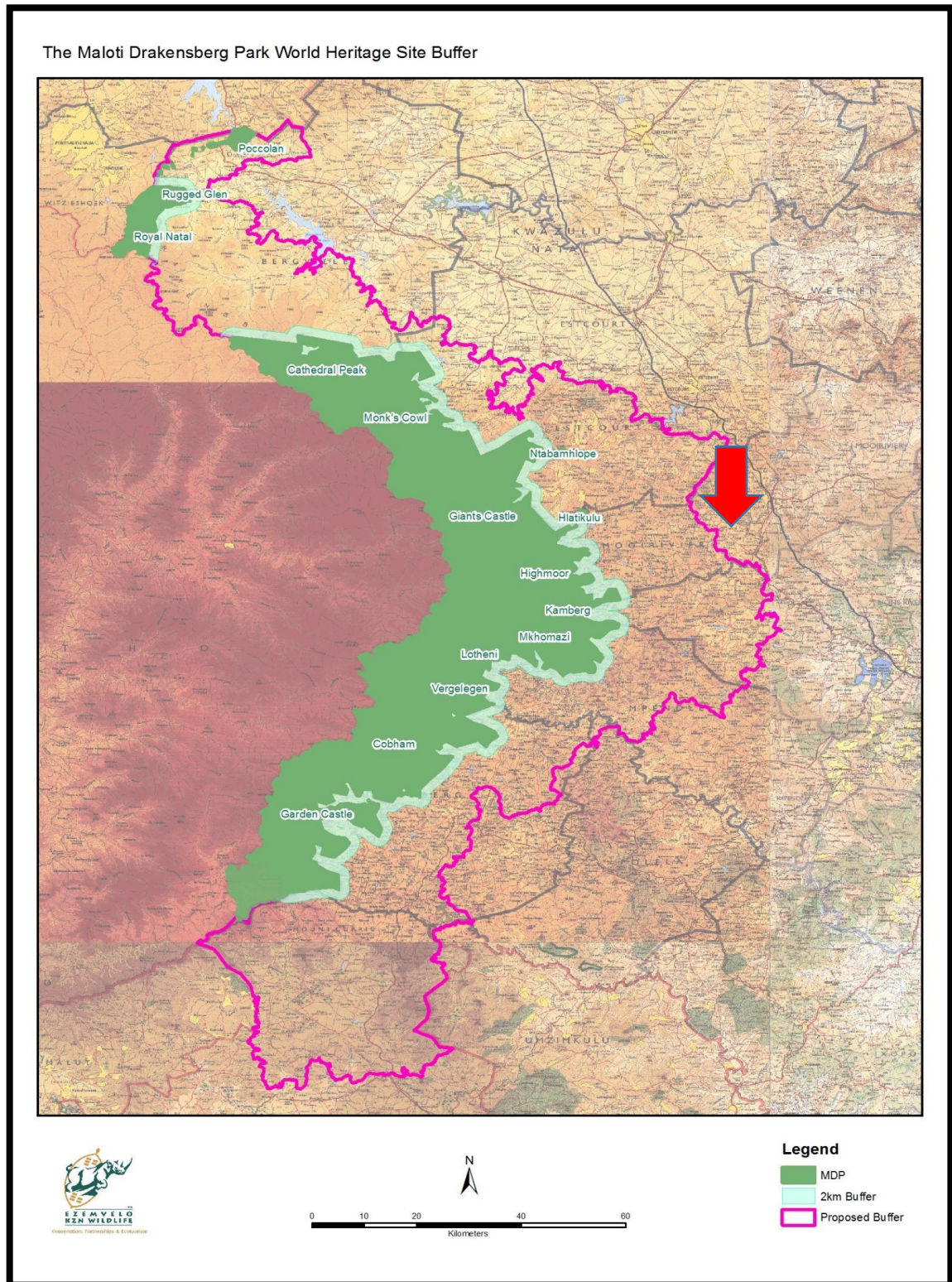


**Figure 1. Google earth Imagery showing the location of the Project Area near Estcourt, KZN.**



**Figure 2. Google Earth Imagery. Showing the location of the proposed Draycott Roads. The purple polygon in the south east indicates the only known heritage site in the area – a rock art site**



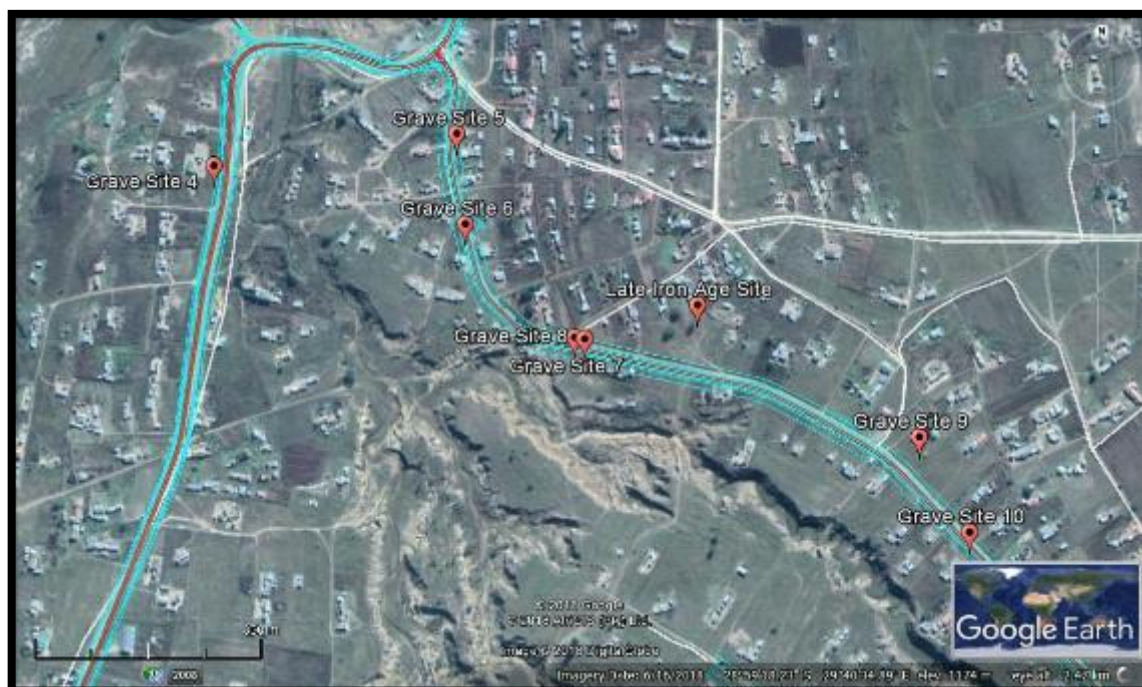


**Figure 3. Map showing the proposed buffer zone of the Maloti Drakensberg World Heritage Site. The project area is indicated by the red arrow (Source: Ezemvelo).**



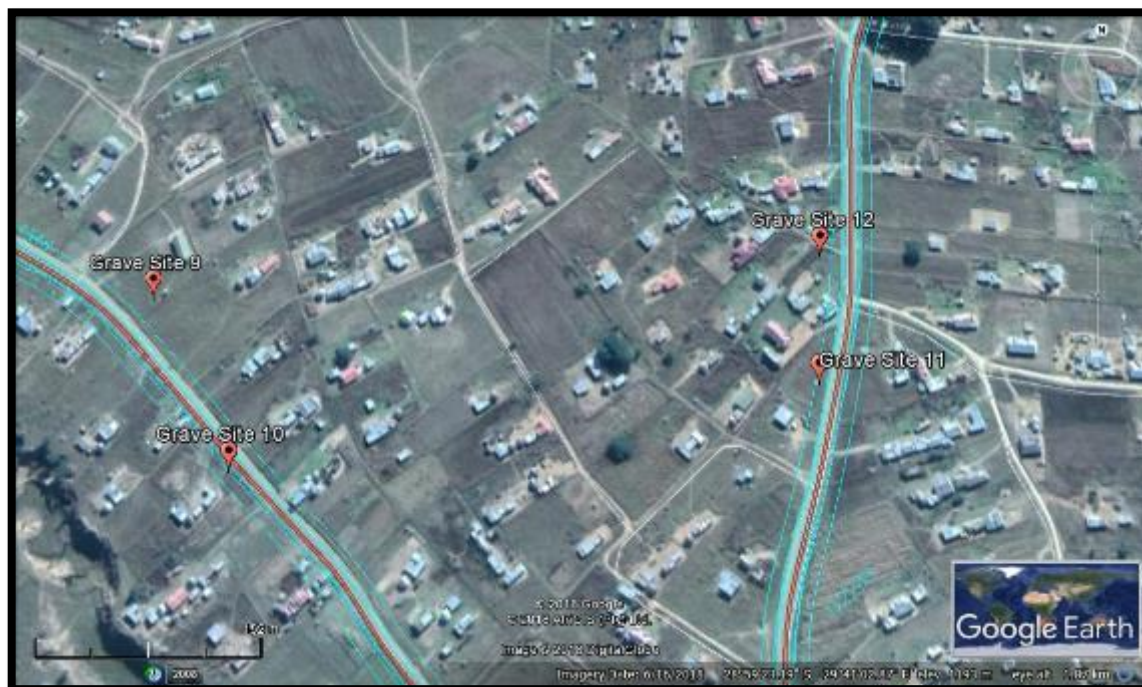


**Figure 4. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Sites 1 – 3 and the Old Bridge.**

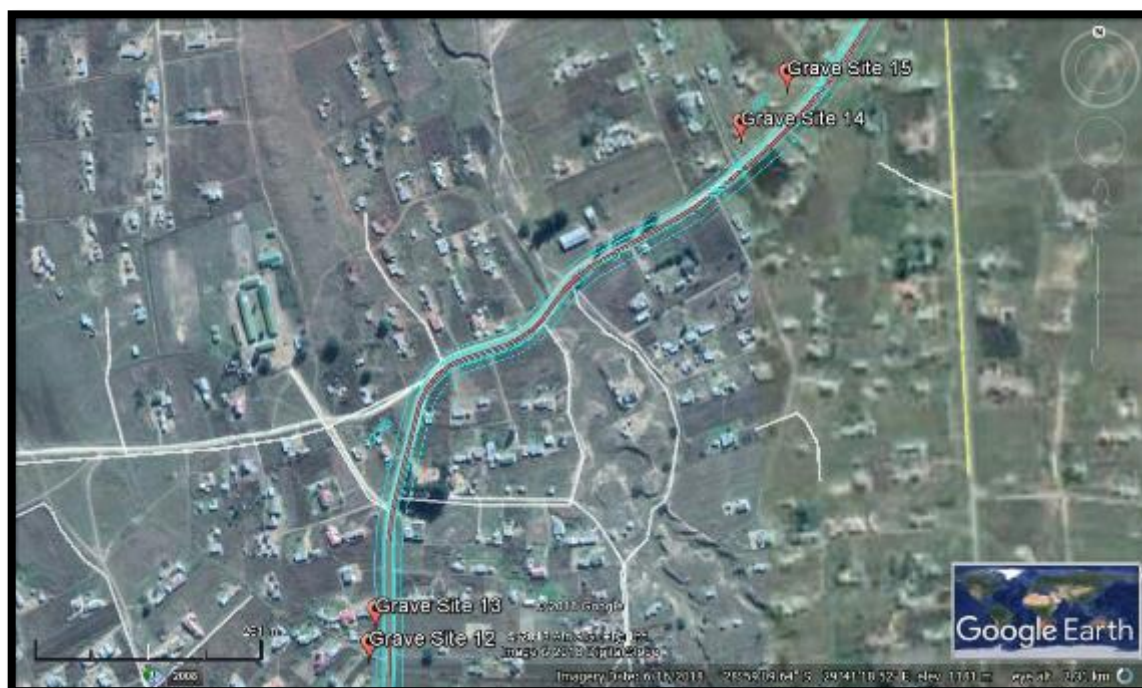


**Figure 5. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Sites 4 – 10.**

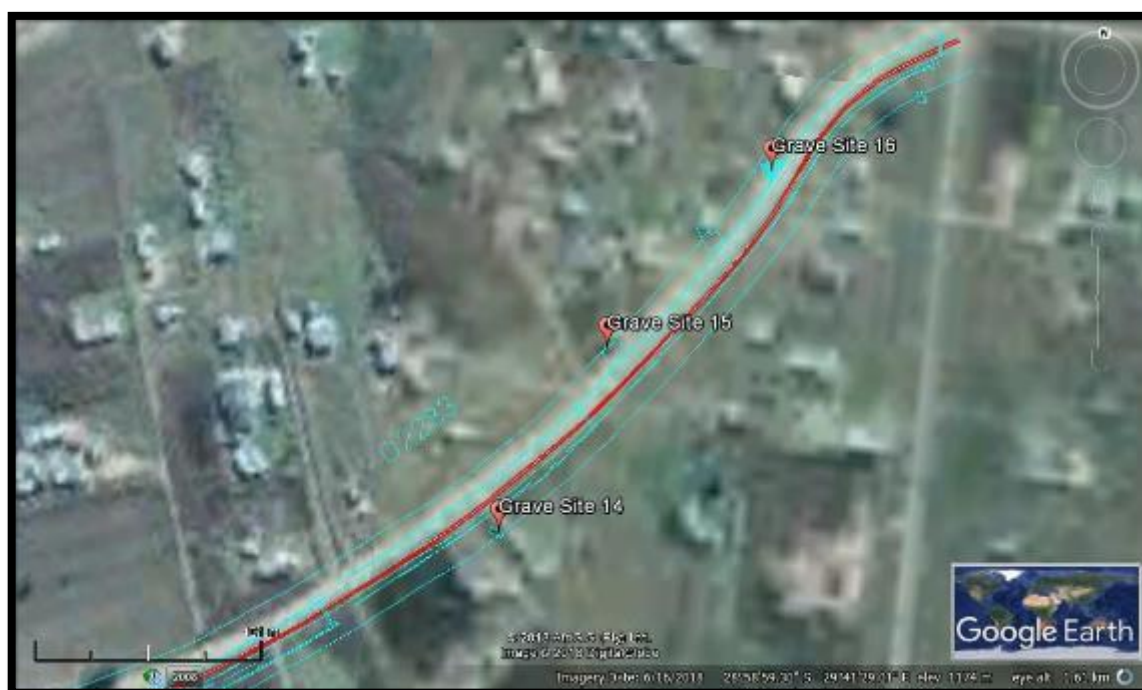




**Figure 6. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Sites 9 – 12.**



**Figure 7. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Sites 12 -15.**



**Figure 8. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Sites 14 – 16.**



**Figure 9. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of Grave Site 16 adjacent to the proposed road upgrade. This site, consisting of three graves, occurs within 1.5 m from the road upgrade. Mitigation is required.**





**Figure 10.** View over the project area. The Draycott Roads are situated in the foothills of the Central Drakensberg. The area is characterised by rural homesteads and small scale subsistence farming.



**Figure 11.** Grave Site 1 consists of two individual graves.





**Figure 12.** *Grave Site 2: situated directly adjacent to an occupied residential dwelling.*



**Figure 13.** *Grave Site 3.*





**Figure 14. Grave Site 4.**



**Figure 15. Grave Site 5**





**Figure 16. Grave Site 6**



**Figure 17. Grave Site 7**





**Figure 18. Grave Site 8**



**Figure 19. Grave Site 9.**





**Figure 20. Grave Site 10.**



**Figure 21. Grave Site 11.**





**Figure 22. Grave Site 12.**



**Figure 23. Grave Site 13.**



**Figure 24. Grave Site 14**



**Figure 25. Grave Site 15**





**Figure 26. Grave Site 16. Situated approximately 1.5m from the road edge.**



**Figure 27. Grave Site 16. View of all three individual graves comprising this Site.**



***Figure 28. Old iron bridge situated approximately 260m from the proposed road upgrade. No mitigation is required for this feature.***

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## APPENDIX 1

### RELOCATION OF GRAVES

Burial grounds and graves are dealt with in Article 36 of the NHR Act, no 25 of 1999. Below follows a broad summary of how to deal with grave in the event of proposed development.

- If the graves are younger than 60 years, an undertaker can be contracted to deal with the exhumation and reburial. This will include public participation, organising cemeteries, coffins, etc. They need permits and have their own requirements that must be adhered to.
- If the graves are older than 60 years old or of undetermined age, an archaeologist must be in attendance to assist with the exhumation and documentation of the graves. This is a requirement by law.

Once it has been decided to relocate particular graves, the following steps should be taken:

- Notices of the intention to relocate the graves need to be put up at the burial site for a period of 60 days. This should contain information where communities and family members can contact the developer/archaeologist/public-relations officer/undertaker. All information pertaining to the identification of the graves needs to be documented for the application of a SAHRA permit. The notices need to be in at least 3 languages, English, and two other languages. This is a requirement by law.
- Notices of the intention needs to be placed in at least two local newspapers and have the same information as the above point. This is a requirement by law.
- Local radio stations can also be used to try contact family members. This is not required by law, but is helpful in trying to contact family members.
- During this time (60 days) a suitable cemetery need to be identified close to the development area or otherwise one specified by the family of the deceased.
- An open day for family members should be arranged after the period of 60 days so that they can gather to discuss the way forward, and to sort out any problems. The developer needs to take the families requirements into account. This is a requirement by law.
- Once the 60 days has passed and all the information from the family members have been received, a permit can be requested from SAHRA. This is a requirement by law.
- Once the permit has been received, the graves may be exhumed and relocated.

- All headstones must be relocated with the graves as well as any items found in the grave.