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CK 2006/014630/23

VAT NO.: 4360226270

APAC019/81

2019-08-01

To: Mr. Andrew Salomon

South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) 111 Harrington Street P.O.Box 4637 CAPE TOWN 8001

RE: REQUEST FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE EXCEMPTION: MTN CELL MAST (THE GREEN GABLES) – PORTION 12 OF LOT 93 OF EDENBURG TOWNSHIP, GAUTENG

APelser Archaeological Consulting cc (APAC cc) was appointed by Smit & Fisher Planning (Pty) Ltd to undertake a desktop based cultural heritage assessment for the new MTN Cell Mast (The Green Gables) located on Portion 12 of Lot (Erf) 93 of Edenburg Township in Gauteng. Exemption from a full HIA was to be requested based on the information obtained through the desktop research. The 30m tall Monopole-type mast with an 8m x 8m base is situated on Erf 93 of the original farm Edenburg 626.

A physical field visit did not form part of the study, and images of the site location, as well as Site & Location Maps were provided to the Heritage Specialist by the Client. It is clear from these that the study site is on an open Erf surrounded by urban settlement and development and that it has been disturbed and changed in nature from the original natural landscape to what it is today.

General Background

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in basically into three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

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A number of MSA and Later Stone Age sites are known to occur in the larger geographical area, the closest ones including Stone Age sites at Melvillekoppies, Linksfield, Primrose, the Glenferness Stone Age site, a site called Pietkloof and a site on Zevenfontein (Berg 1999:4).

There are no known Stone Age sites in the study area. If any Stone Age artefacts are to be found in the area then it would more than likely be single, out of context, stone tools. Urbanization over the last 150 years or so would have destroyed any evidence if indeed it did exist.

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artefacts. In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases (Bergh 1999: 96-98), namely:

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Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.
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Huffman (2007: xiii) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

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Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.
Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.
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There are no known Iron Age sites in the study area. If any did exist here in the past it would most likely have been disturbed extensively or completely destroyed during the recent past through extensive urban developments. Late Iron Age sites are however known in the large geographical area at sites such as Melvillekoppies and Bruma (Berg 1999: 7). Huffman's research indicates that Later Iron Age occupation of the larger geographical area occurred in areas such as Klipriviersberg and Linksfield (Huffman 2007: 171).

The historical age started with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. The first Europeans to move through and into the area were the groups of Cornwallis Harris (1836) and David Livingstone in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 13). These groups were closely followed by the Voortrekkers after 1844 (Bergh 1999: 14).

Edenburg is a suburb of Johannesburg, South Africa. It is located in Region E. The name is a source of confusion, as the whole area is known not as Edenburg but as Rivonia. The road from Johannesburg to the south is named Rivonia Road. Edenburg has one large extension, and there are up to 25 small Extensions named 'Rivonia Extension lying to the north. The name change took place many years ago, but was never made official in the Land Register. Edenburg took its name from the farm by that name owned by one Koos Roux (www.wikipedia.org).

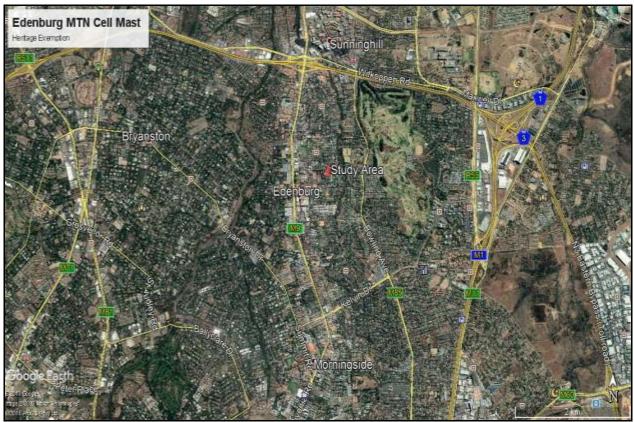


Figure 1: General location of study area (Google Earth 2019).

Site Specific Information

From the various Surveyor General Diagrams and General Plan Sheets the following information could be obtained. Lot/Erf 93 of the farm Edenburg 626 (from a 1907 map – Document 104C7L01) was surveyed in February & March 1904 and was then located in the District of Pretoria, Ward of Witwatersrand, Transvaal Colony. A 1979 SG Diagram 2207/79 (Document 104C9C01) show that Portion 12 of Lot/Erf was surveyed in January & February 165 and again in February 1979. No historical sites or features are shown on these maps however.

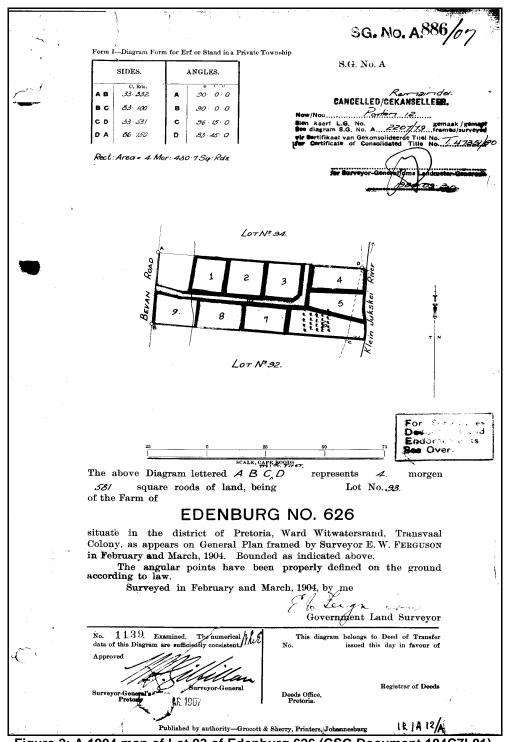


Figure 2: A 1904 map of Lot 93 of Edenburg 626 (CSG Document 104C7L01).

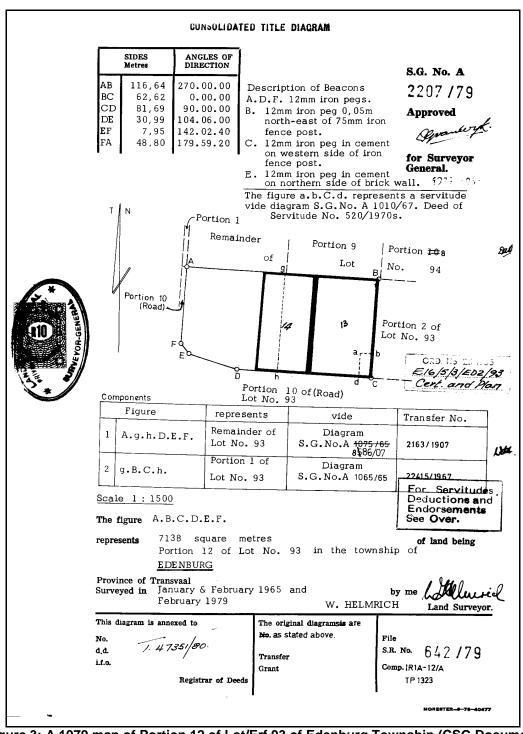


Figure 3: A 1979 map of Portion 12 of Lot/Erf 93 of Edenburg Township (CSG Document 104C9C01).

The site photographs provided by the client to APAC indicates that the land parcel is a flat and relatively open space, located in between urban settlement and development and that it has already been heavily disturbed in the past as a result. No structures or sites will be impacted by the development and the footprint area (a 8m x 8m base) is relatively small as well. A brick-wall enclosure to match the existing wall on the property will be erected around the Mast area as well.



Figure 4: Closer view of new MTN Cell Mast Location (Google Earth 2019).

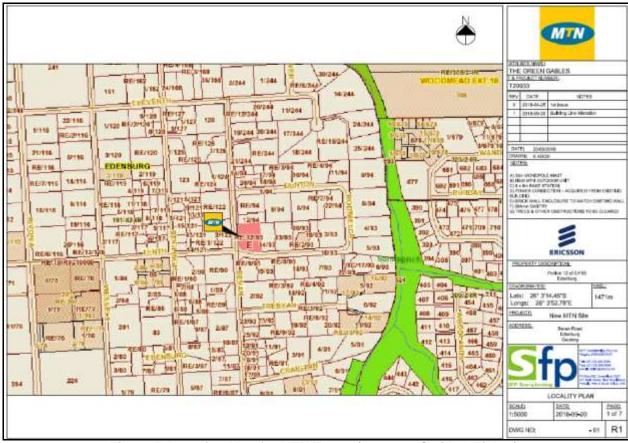


Figure 5: Location Map for MTN Tower (courtesy Smith & Fisher).

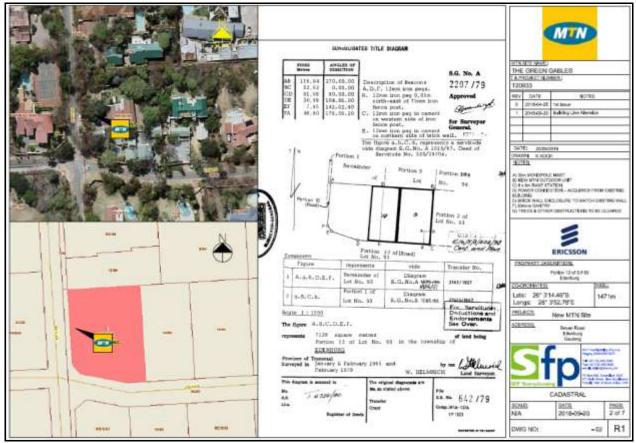


Figure 6: Cadastral Map for new Edenburg MTN Cell Mast (courtesy Smith & Fisher).

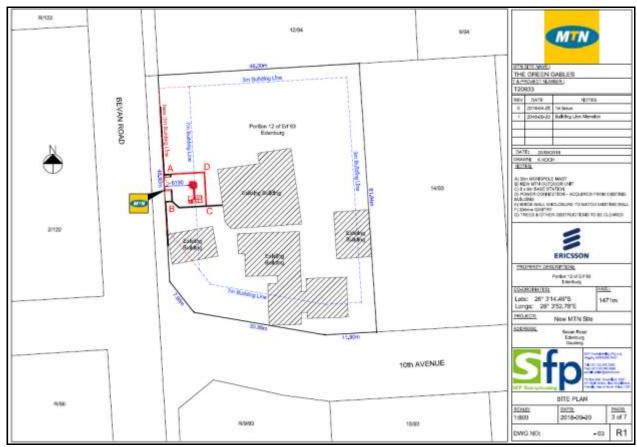


Figure 7: Site Plan (courtesy Smith & Fisher).



Figure 8: Site Photos (courtesy Smith & Fisher).

Conclusions & Recommendations

In conclusion it can be stated that the possibility of any archaeological and/or historical sites, features or material being disturbed by the development of the proposed mast is highly unlikely. It is therefore recommended that the proposed development be allowed to continue.

Finally it is requested that Exemption from a full Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) be granted to the applicants.

The subterranean nature of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) resources should however always be taken into consideration. Should any previously unknown or invisible sites, features or material be uncovered during any development actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way forward. This could include previously unknown and unmarked graves.

Should there be any questions or comments on the contents of this document please contact the author as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Anton Pelser

References

- 1. General location and Closer views of study area and site location: Google Earth 2019
- 2. Site Location Maps and Plans: Courtesy Smith & Fisher Planning (Pty) Ltd.
- 3. SG Diagrams & General Plan Sheets: Documents 104C7L01 & 104C9C01 (provided by Smith & Fisher Planning (Pty) Ltd.
- 4. www.wikipedia.org.
- 5. Bergh, J.S. (red.). 1999. **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies**. Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.
- 6. Huffman, T.N. 2007. Handbook to the Iron Age: The Archaeology of Pre-Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa. Scotsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.
- 7. Lombard, M., L. Wadley, J. Deacon, S. Wurz, I. Parsons, M. Mohapi, J. Swart & P. Mitchell. 2012. **South African and Lesotho Stone Age Sequence Updated (I)**. South African Archaeological Bulletin 67 (195): 120–144, 2012.