

**A LETTER OF EXEMPTION FOR ERF 1SIMBITHI
ECO-ESTATE**

FOR LINDSAY NAPIER

DATE: 16 JANUARY 2021

By Gavin Anderson

**Umlando: Archaeological Surveys and Heritage
Management**

PO Box 10153, Meerensee, 3901

Phone: 035-7531785 Cell: 0836585362

umlando@gmail.com



Abbreviations

| | |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| HP | Historical Period |
| IIA | Indeterminate Iron Age |
| LIA | Late Iron Age |
| EIA | Early Iron Age |
| ISA | Indeterminate Stone Age |
| ESA | Early Stone Age |
| MSA | Middle Stone Age |
| LSA | Late Stone Age |
| HIA | Heritage Impact Assessment |
| PIA | Palaeontological Impact Assessment |

INTRODUCTION

Umlando was requested to make a comment about the archaeology of Erf 1 in the Simbithi Eco-Estate. Gavin Anderson undertook the original survey and excavations of the Simbithi Eco-Estate in 2003 and 2004, under the KZN Museum Institute for Cultural Resources Management.

Erf 1 (fig. 1 - 3) was not surveyed as the vegetation was extremely dense and the specific plot was not in the footprint. Several archaeological sites were recorded on the surrounding hills, and a few were excavated in 2004.

Erf 1 has been landscaped and transformed since it was originally built some 80 years ago (fig. 4). This would have damaged any archaeological sites that occurred there. Any remains of a site, if it occurred there, will be fragmentary and now of low significance.

If any development locates shell middens, or 19th century middens, then KZNARI will need to be informed. Umlando can also assist by making immediate comments via pictures of the middens.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA

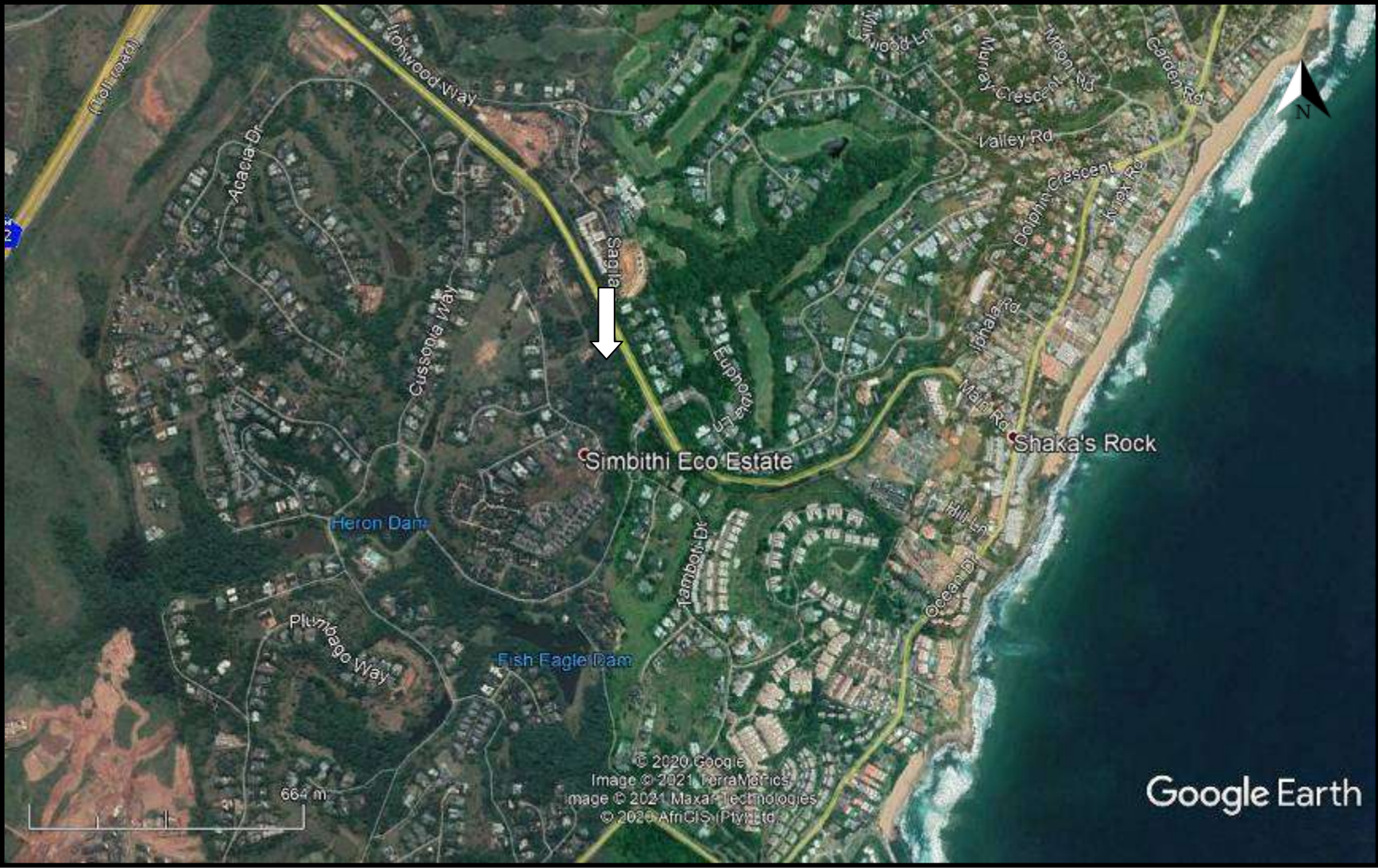


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA

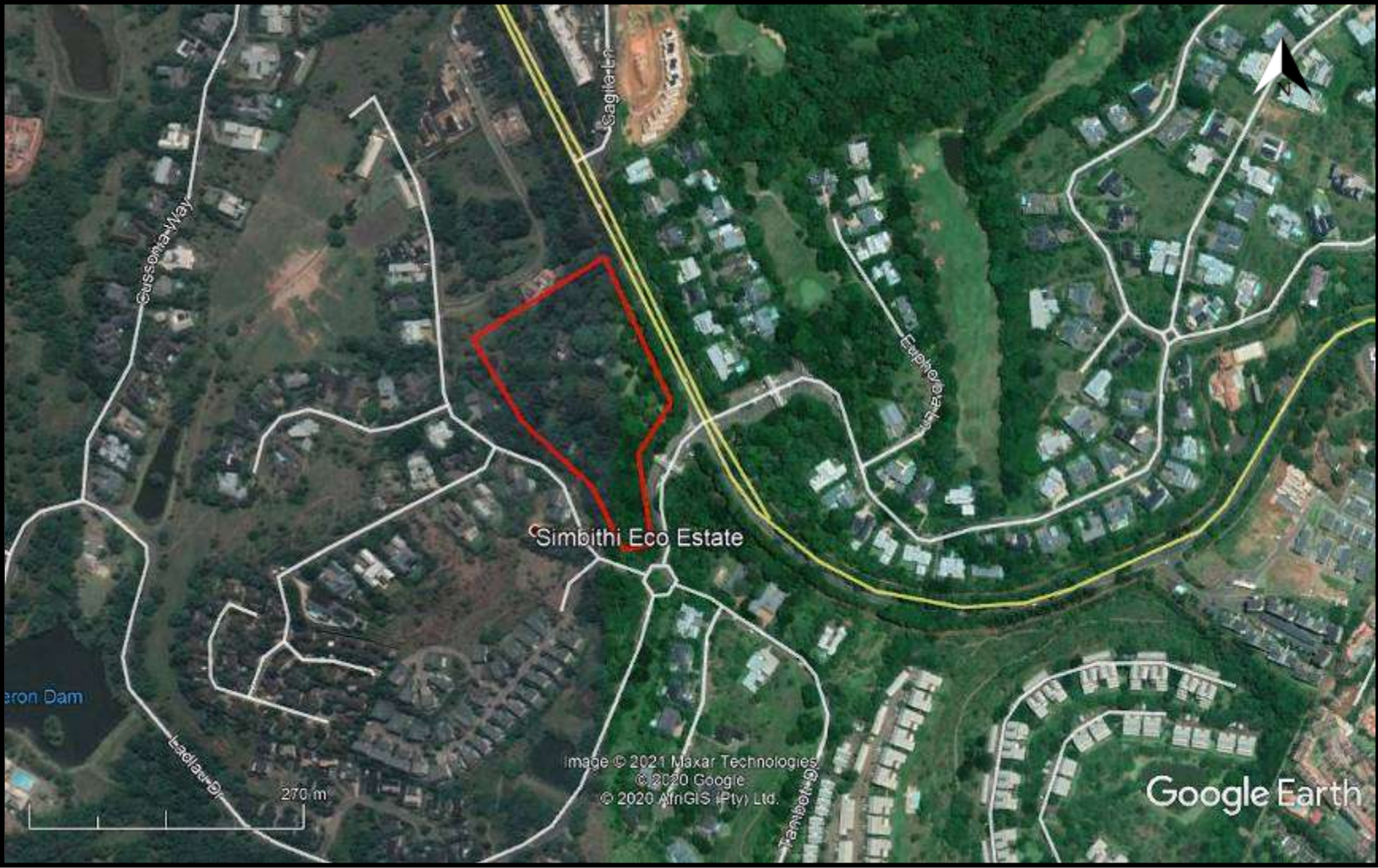


FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW OF THE EASTERN STUDY AREA (1996)

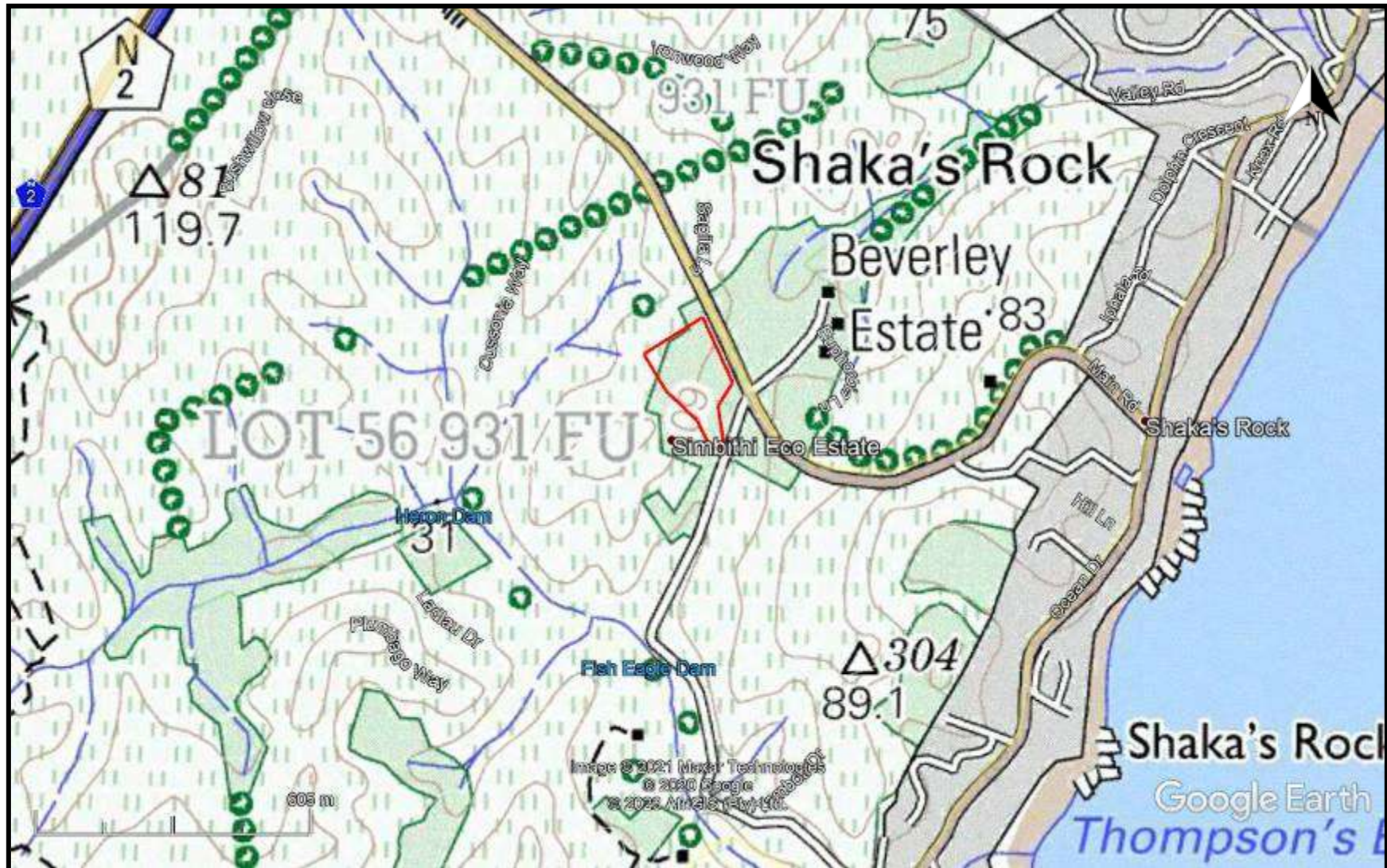


FIG. 4; SCENIC VIEWS OF THE SITE



The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The archaeological database indicates that there are archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 5). These sites include all types of Stone Age and Iron Age sites. No sites occur in the study area. The high density of development in the area has resulted in any archaeological sites being destroyed; however the more significant ones were excavated (Anderson 2004). It is unlikely that there will be intact sites in Erf 1

No national monuments, battlefields, or historical cemeteries are known to occur in the study area.

The 1937 (fig. 6) aerial photograph clearly shows buildings in the study area. However, the 1942 topographical map (fig. 7) indicate that the houses do not exist. Either this is a cartographer error or the original house was demolished and rebuilt later. The house does not exist on the 200 topographical map either (fig. 3) so I will suggest a cartographer error.

The study area is of high palaeontological sensitivity. As with the rest of the coastal areas, and other PIAs, the building is unlikely to have affected fossil bearing layers.

The study area has been landscaped and rebuilt for 90 years. This would have demolished any archaeological site. There is a chance of historical middens associated with the house in the footprint. If any of these are uncovered during any further landscaping, then they can be assessed. These need to be reported to KZNARI.

I recommend that no further HIA mitigation is undertaken.

FIG. 5: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES NEAR THE STUDY AREA

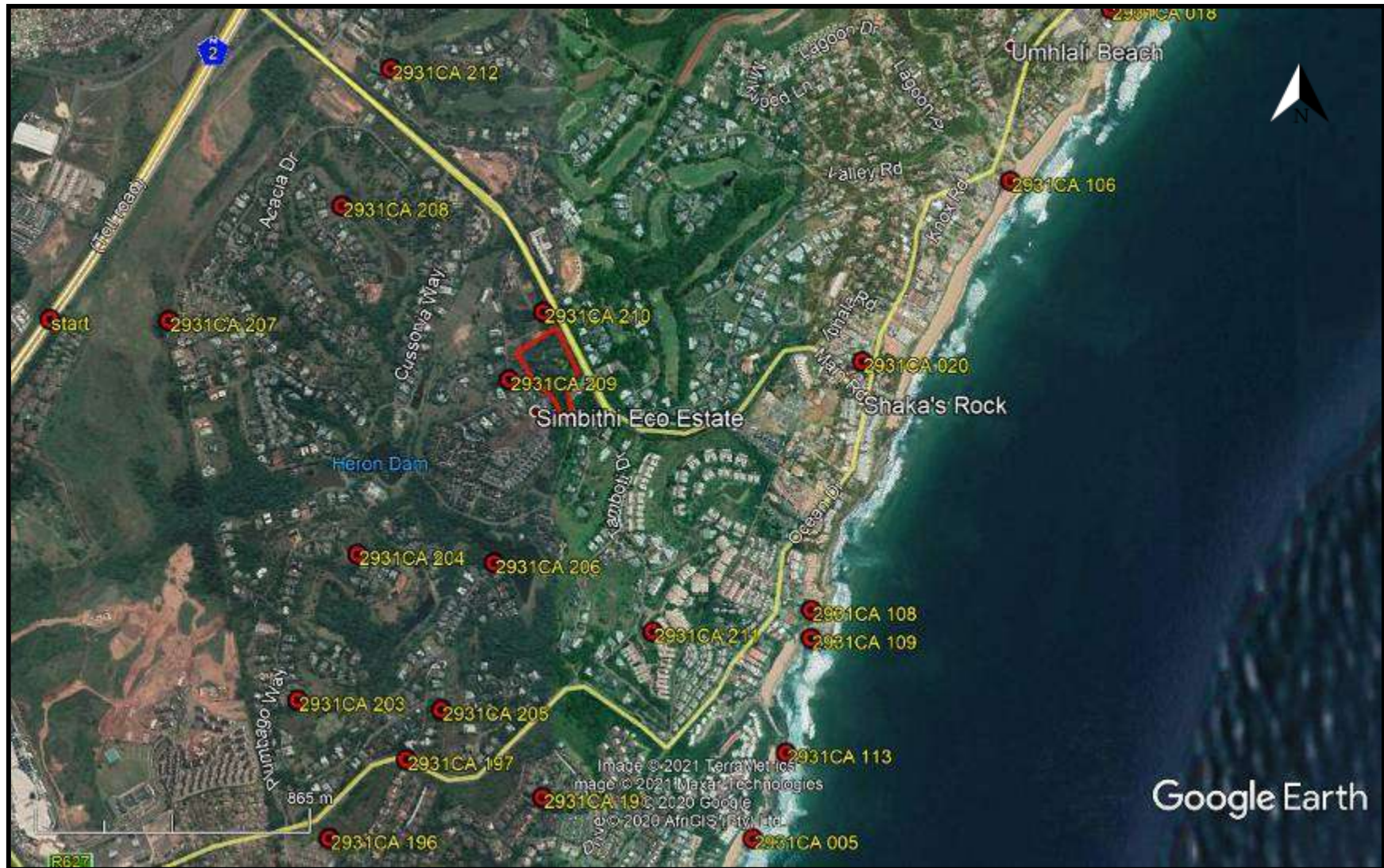


FIG. 6: STUDY AREA IN 1937



FIG. 7: STUDY AREA IN 1942

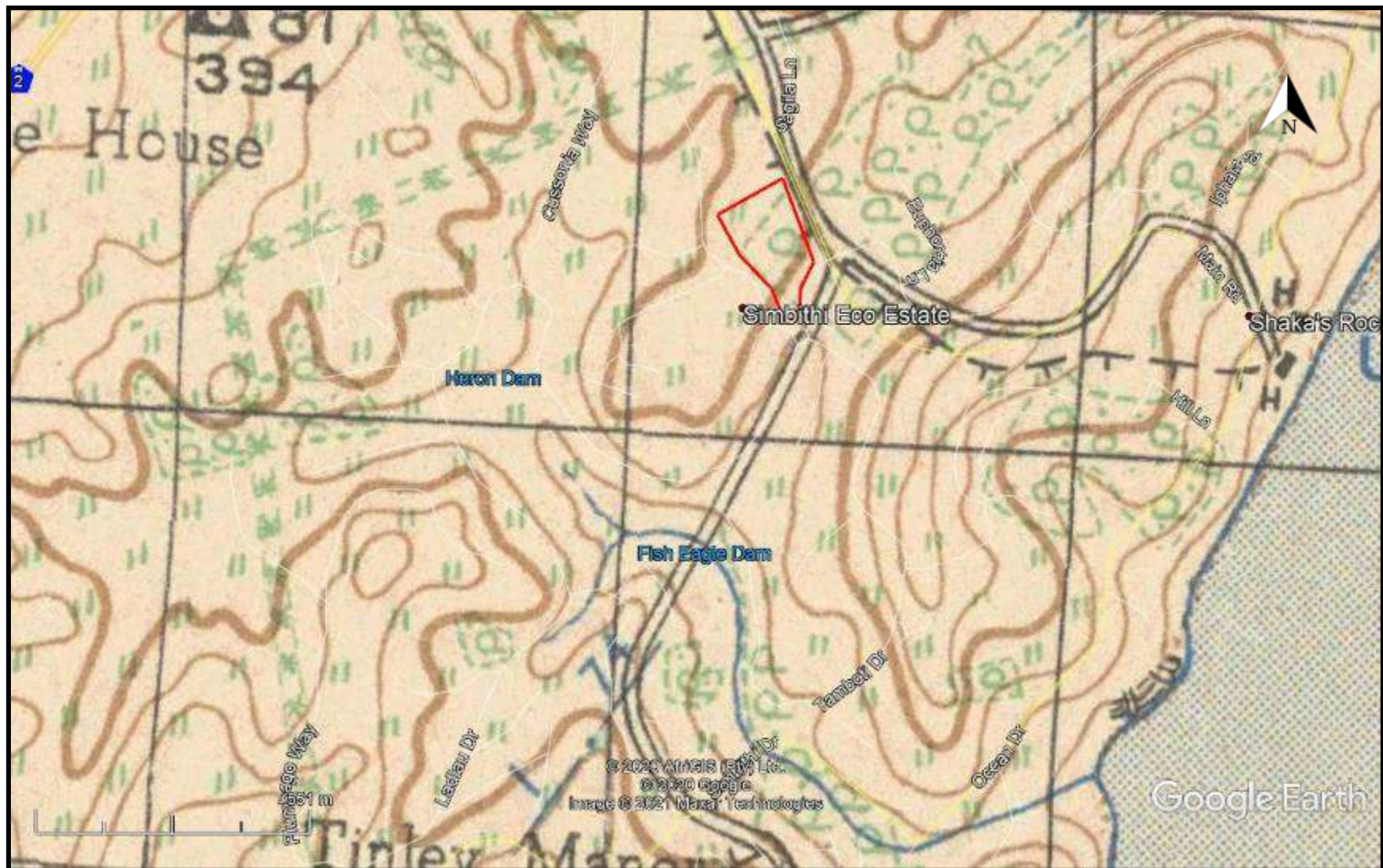


FIG 8: PALAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAP



| COLOUR | SENSITIVITY | REQUIRED ACTION |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| RED | VERY HIGH | field assessment and protocol for finds is required |
| ORANGE/YELLOW | HIGH | desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely |
| GREEN | MODERATE | desktop study is required |
| BLUE | LOW | no palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required |
| GREY | INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO | no palaeontological studies are required |
| WHITE/CLEAR | UNKNOWN | these areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map. |

REFERENCES

2931CA Verulam 1942, 2000

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Anderson, G. 2003. Archaeological Survey for the Beverly Farm Development. For Guy Nicholson.

Anderson, G. 2004. Archaeological excavations at Simbithi Eco-Estate. For Guy Nicholson.

EXPERIENCE OF THE HERITAGE CONSULTANT

Gavin Anderson has a M. Phil (in archaeology and social psychology) degree from the University of Cape Town. Gavin has been working as a professional archaeologist and heritage impact assessor since 1995. He joined the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Southern Africa in 1998 when it was formed. Gavin is rated as a Principle Investigator with expertise status in Rock Art, Stone Age and Iron Age studies. In addition to this, he was worked on both West and East Coast shell middens, Anglo-Boer War sites, and Historical Period sites.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Gavin Anderson, declare that I am an independent specialist consultant and have no financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development, nor the developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from fair remuneration for work performed in the delivery of heritage assessment services. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of my performing such work.



Gavin Anderson
Archaeologist/Heritage Impact Assessor