

**HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED  
HORSESHOE, ERF 258, CEMETERY SITE, KOKSTAD,  
KZN**

**FOR BIZYCON (PTY) LTD**

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*Executive summary*

*The Greater Kokstad Municipality has identified Erf 238 Horseshoe as a possible site for a new cemetery. The current cemetery is nearly at full capacity. Initially five sites were proposed, and then Erf 258 was considered a priority site.*

*Erf 258 Horseshoe, or previously Kranz Fontein, is located 2km northeast of Koksatd CBD. The study area is 73.5ha in extent, and accessed through Bhongweni Township. The site is an open plot of unused ploughed farmland surrounded on three sides by the Mzintlava River*

*In addition to the cemetery infrastructures, approximately 4.6km of road will need to be upgraded and/or made for access to the site.*

*Umlando undertook the heritage survey for the proposed Erf 258 Horseshoe cemetery. The area has been used for agricultural activity since at least the 1940s, and has been terraced. This activity would have removed any features. No heritage artefacts nor features were noted during the survey.*

*The PIA sensitivity map had some of the area as being sensitive; however, the geotechnical results indicated the area is ~1m of clay soils lying on top of weathered dolerite. Any excavations at the cemetery will thus not affect potential fossiliferous layers.*

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## 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

The Greater Kokstad Municipality has identified Erf 238 Horseshoe as a possible site for a new cemetery. The current cemetery is nearly at full capacity. Initially five sites were proposed, and then Erf 258 was considered a priority site.

Erf 258 Horseshoe, or previously Kranz Fontein, is located 2km northeast of Kokstad CBD. The study area is 73.5ha in extent, and accessed through Bhongweni Township. The site is an open plot of unused ploughed farmland surrounded on three sides by the Mzintlava River

In addition to the cemetery infrastructures, approximately 4.6km of road will need to be upgraded and/or made for access to the site.

Bizycon (Pty) Ltd contracted Umlando to undertake the heritage survey of the proposed cemetery.

The location of the proposed cemetery is shown in figures 1 – 4.



FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED CEMETERY





FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED CEMETERY

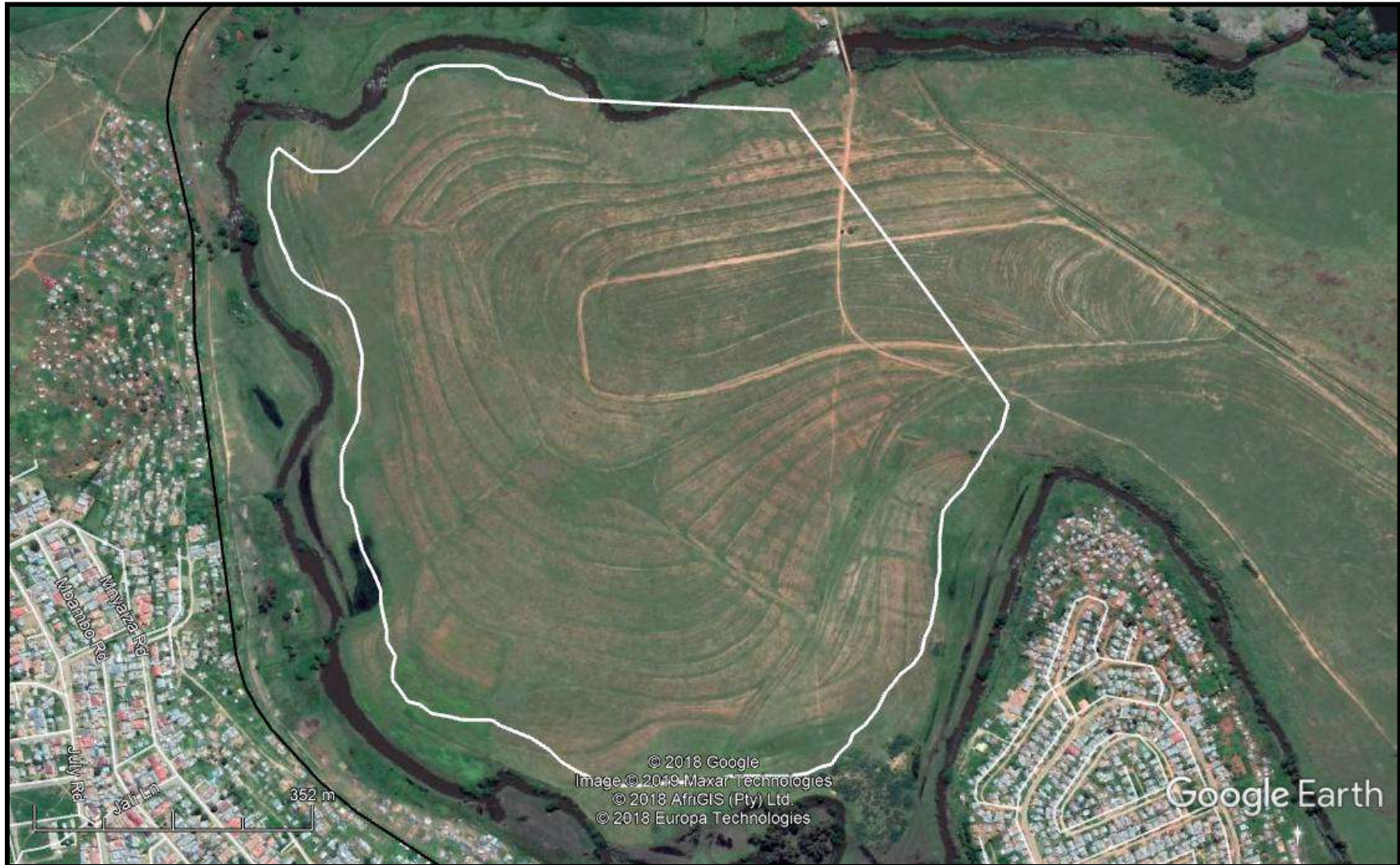




FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE PROPOSED

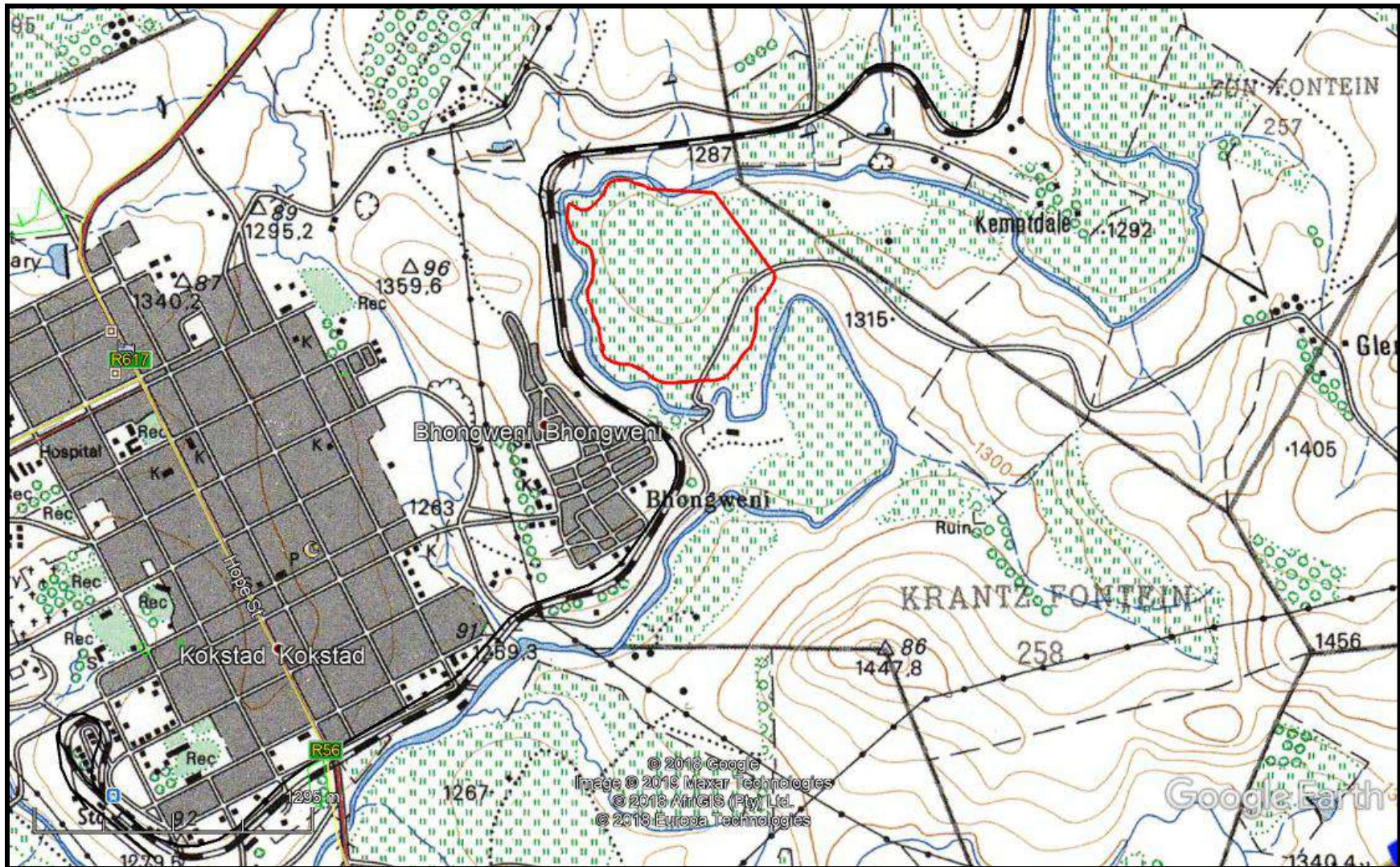




FIG. 4: SCENIC VIEWS OF THE STUDY AREA



**KWAZULU NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ACT 05, 2018**

“General protection: Structures.—

- No structure which is, or which may reasonably be expected to be older than 60 years, may be demolished, altered or added to without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Where the Council does not grant approval, the Council must consider special protection in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- The Council may, by notice in the *Gazette*, exempt—
- A defined geographical area; or
- defined categories of sites within a defined geographical area, from the provisions of subsection where the Council is satisfied that heritage resources falling in the defined geographical area or category have been identified and are adequately protected in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- A notice referred to in subsection (2) may, by notice in the *Gazette*, be amended or withdrawn by the Council.

General protection: Graves of victims of conflict.—No person may damage, alter, exhume, or remove from its original position—

- the grave of a victim of conflict;
- a cemetery made up of such graves; or
- any part of a cemetery containing such graves, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- General protection: Traditional burial places.—
- No grave—
- not otherwise protected by this Act; and
- not located in a formal cemetery managed or administered by a local authority, may be damaged, altered, exhumed, removed from its original

position, or otherwise disturbed without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

The Council may only issue written approval once the Council is satisfied that—

- the applicant has made a concerted effort to consult with communities and individuals who by tradition may have an interest in the grave; and
- the applicant and the relevant communities or individuals have reached agreement regarding the grave.

General protection: Battlefield sites, archaeological sites, rock art sites, palaeontological sites, historic fortifications, meteorite or meteorite impact sites.—

- No person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter, write or draw upon, or otherwise disturb any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Upon discovery of archaeological or palaeontological material or a meteorite by any person, all activity or operations in the general vicinity of such material or meteorite must cease forthwith and a person who made the discovery must submit a written report to the Council without delay.
- The Council may, after consultation with an owner or controlling authority, by way of written notice served on the owner or controlling authority, prohibit any activity considered by the Council to be inappropriate within 50 metres of a rock art site.
- No person may exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb, damage, destroy, own or collect any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- No person may bring any equipment which assists in the detection of metals and archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, or



- excavation equipment onto any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, or meteorite impact site, or use similar detection or excavation equipment for the recovery of meteorites, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- The ownership of any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site, on discovery, vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.”

## METHOD

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps. The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the database that has been collated by Umlando. This databases contains archaeological site locations and basic information from several provinces (information from Umlando surveys and some colleagues), most of the national and provincial monuments and battlefields in Southern Africa (<http://www.vuvuzela.com/googleearth/monuments.html>) and cemeteries in southern Africa (information supplied by the Genealogical Society of Southern Africa). We use 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:50 000 topographical and 1937 aerial photographs where available, to assist in general location and dating of buildings and/or graves. The database is in Google Earth format and thus used as a quick reference when undertaking desktop studies. Where required we would consult with a local data recording centre, however these tend to be fragmented between different institutions and areas and thus difficult to access at times. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

The survey results will define the significance of each recorded site, as well as a management plan.

All sites are grouped according to low, medium, and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips, and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone, and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features.

### **Defining significance**

Heritage sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

These criteria are:

**1. State of preservation of:**

- 1.1. Organic remains:
  - 1.1.1. Faunal
  - 1.1.2. Botanical
- 1.2. Rock art
- 1.3. Walling
- 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit
- 1.5. Features:
  - 1.5.1. Ash Features
  - 1.5.2. Graves

- 1.5.3. Middens
- 1.5.4. Cattle byres
- 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

**2. Spatial arrangements:**

- 2.1. Internal housing arrangements
- 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns
- 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

**3. Features of the site:**

- 3.1. Are there any unusual, unique or rare artefacts or images at the site?
- 3.2. Is it a type site?
- 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artefact?

**4. Research:**

- 4.1. Providing information on current research projects
- 4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

**5. Inter- and intra-site variability**

- 5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?
- 5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

**6. Archaeological Experience:**

6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

**7. Educational:**

- 7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?
- 7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?
- 7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.



## **8. Other Heritage Significance:**

- 8.1. Palaeontological sites
- 8.2. Historical buildings
- 8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.5. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

## **RESULTS**

### **DESKTOP STUDY**

The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. No HIAs have been undertaken in the study area, however, Anderson (2012) undertook a survey for the proposed new landfill adjacent to the property (fig. 5).

The Surveyor General map indicates the farm Kranz Fontein was first surveyed in 1878 (fig. 6). There was an existing road, to Kokstad, through the middle of the farm, and crossing the Mzintlava River. This road was still in use in the 1980s (fig. 3).

The 1944 (fig. 7) and 1963 (fig. 8) indicate that the property has been under cultivation for many decades, and that there are no built features.

### **PALAEONTOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY**

The palaeontological sensitivity map on SAHRIS indicates that middle of the site is oh very high sensitivity (fig. 9). However, the Geotechnical report (Syncline 2019:4) indicates that “the area underlain by Beaufort Group – Adelaide Formation mudstone bedrock, is characterised by moderate brown, clayey SAND to sandy silty CLAY (colluvium) and orange brown to reddish brown, moderately clayey sandy SILT (residual). Karoo-age dolerite intrudes the mudstone bedrock in the form of sills, predominantly along the eastern portion of the study area. Bedrock occurs at depths typically less than 1.0 metre below EGL across the study area.”

Fig. 10 shows the soil profile of the study area.

This means that possible palaeontological bearing formations will not be affected. This concurs with Bamford (2016) who undertook a PIA on nearby properties, and stated that it will be highly unlikely for fossilised remains to occur. No further PIA is required.

FIG. 5: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES IN THE GENERAL AREA

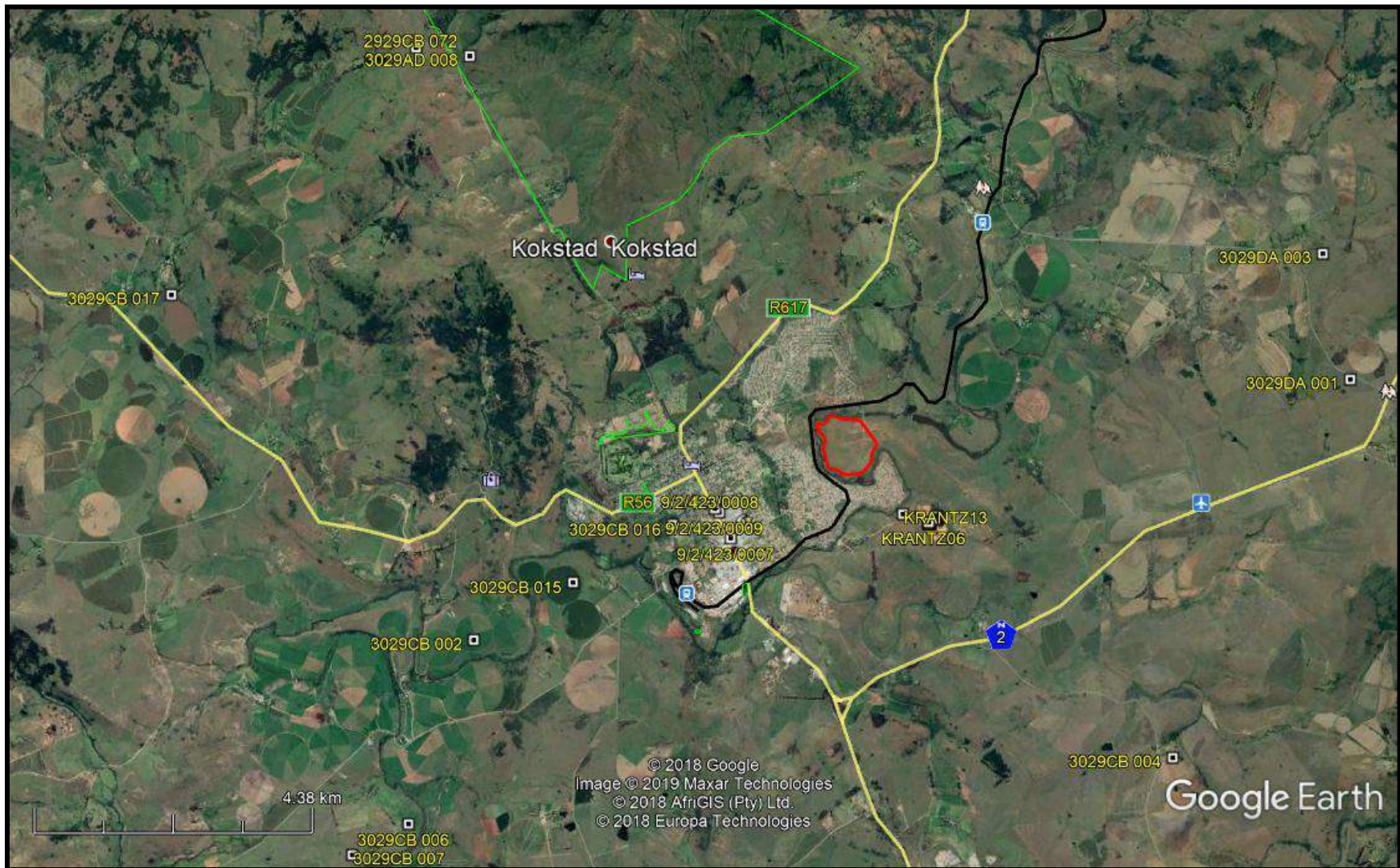




FIG. 6: SG PLAN FOR KRANTZ FONTEIN (1878)

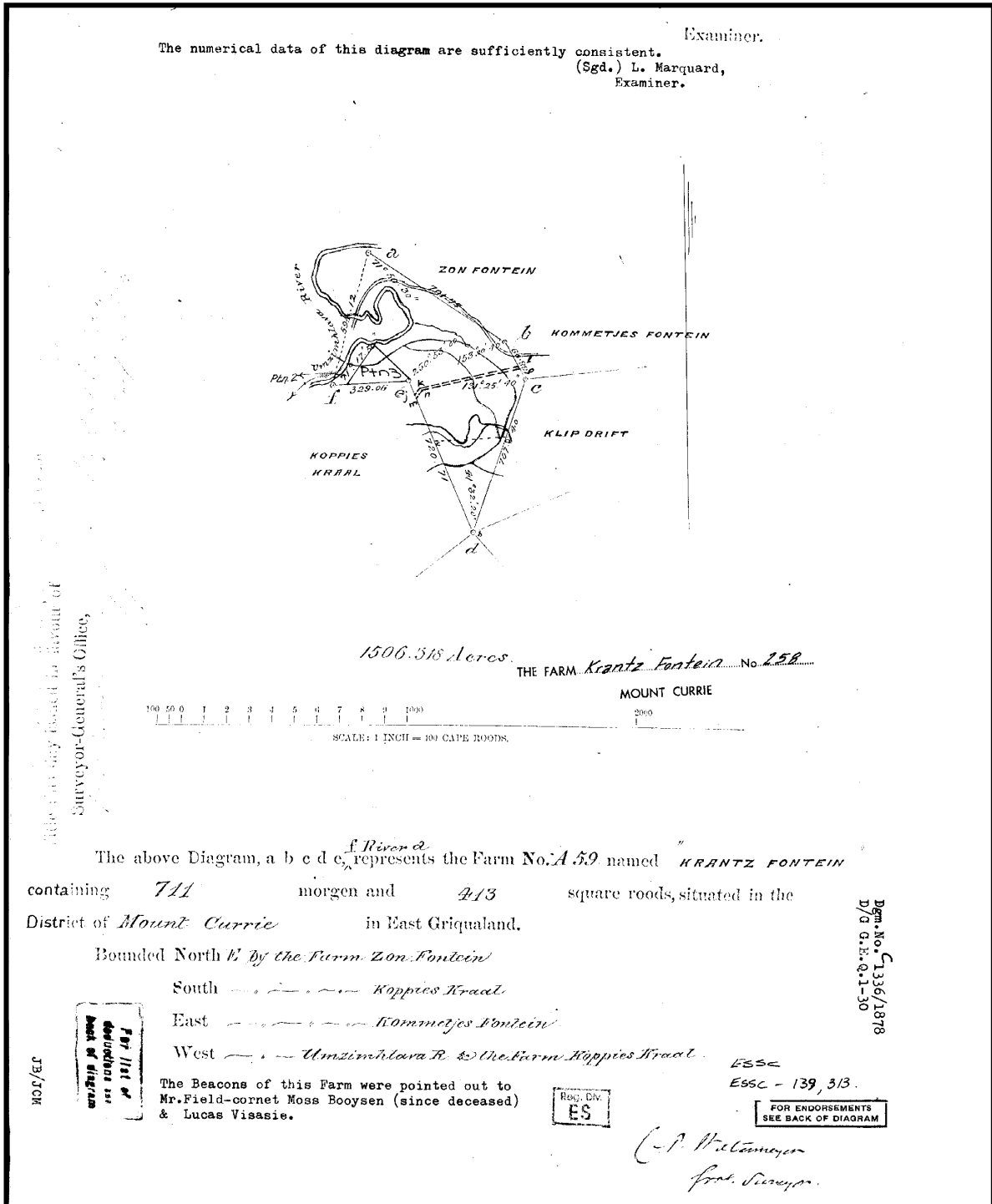
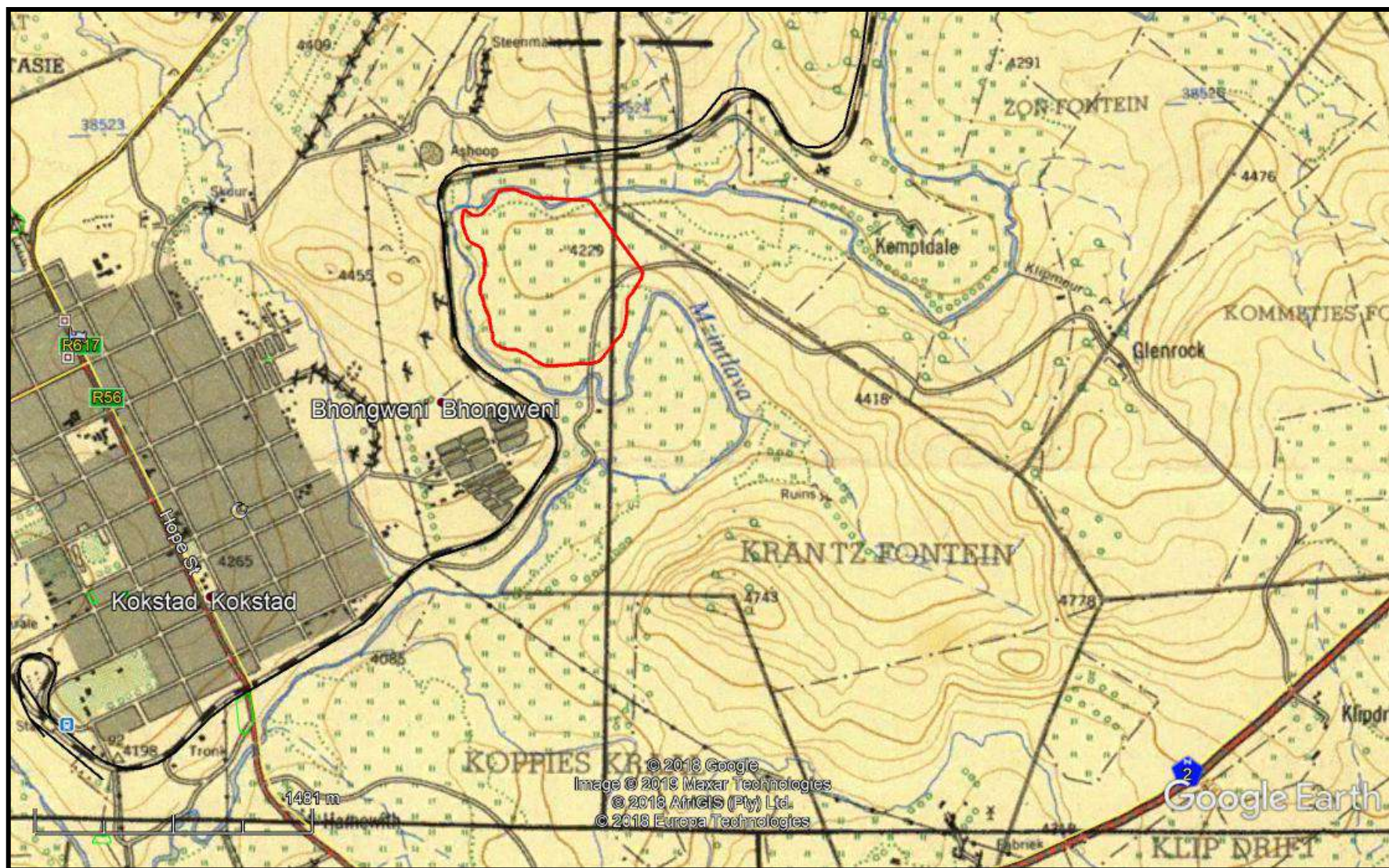


FIG. 7: AERIAL MAP OF TEH STUDY AREA IN 1944



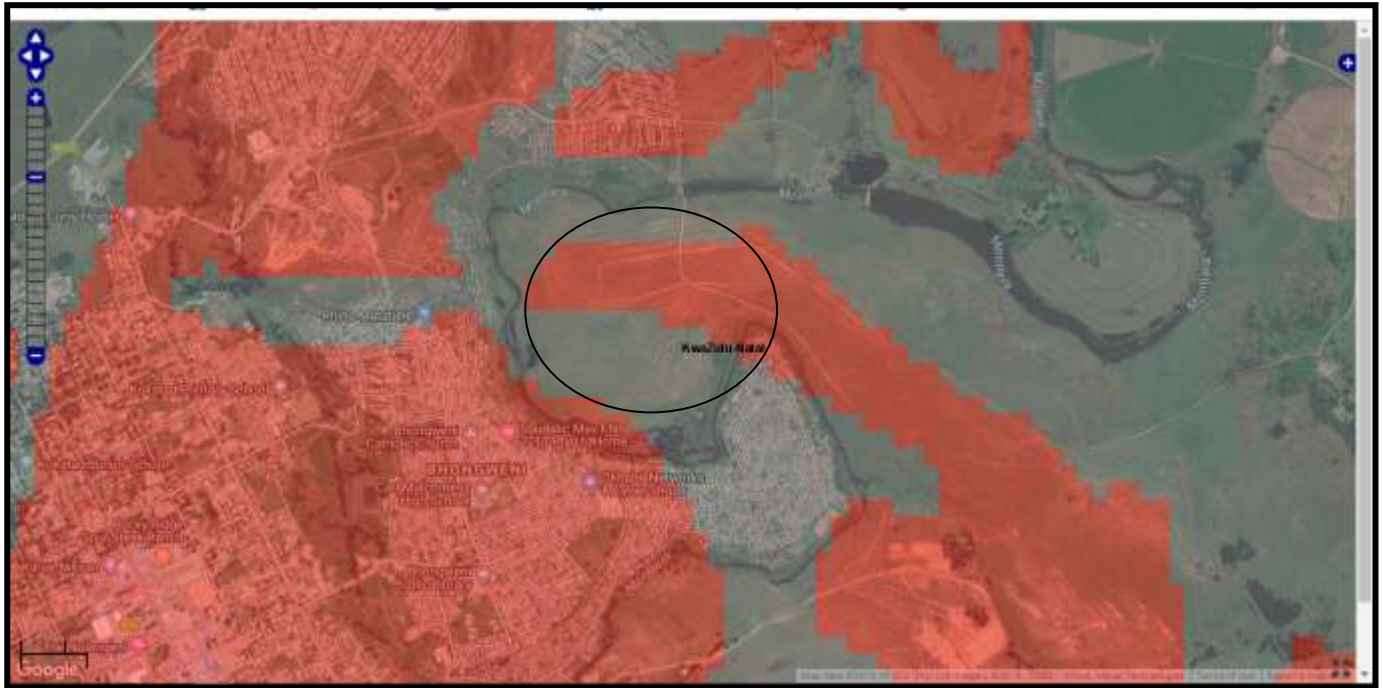


FIG. 8: 1:50 000 TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF STUDY AREA IN 1963





**FIG. 9: PALAEOANTHROPOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAP**



**FIG. 10: SOIL PROFILE IN THE STUDY AREA**





## **FIELD SURVEY**

The field survey was undertaken on 5 September 2019. Ground visibility was very good. As the maps indicated, the study area has been extensively ploughed for many decades resulting in terracing.

No artefacts or features were noted during the survey.

No further HIA mitigation is required.

## **MANAGEMENT PLAN**

No further HIA mitigation is required.

## **CONCLUSION**

A heritage survey was undertaken for the proposed Erf 258 Horseshoe cemetery, Kokstad. The area has been used for agricultural activity since at least the 1940s, and has been terraced.

No heritage artefacts nor features were noted during the survey.

The PIA sensitivity map had some of the area as being sensitive; however, the geotechnical results indicated the area was ~1m of clay soils lying on top of weathered dolerite. Any excavations at the cemetery will thus not affect potential fossiliferous layers.

## REFERENCES

### Maps:

3029CB Kokstad 1963, 1989

207\_003\_26590

C1336/1878

### Literature

Anderson, G. 2012. Heritage Survey Of The Proposed Landfill Site, For The Greater Kokstad Municipality Kwa-Zulu Natal. For Icando

Bamford, M. 2016. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Kokstad CRU Housing Project, KwaZulu Natal Province. Desktop study for Fuze Environmental Services