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**FINAL REPORT ON THE SAMY'S WHOLESALERS EXTENSION TEST  
EXCAVATIONS WITHIN THE WESTERN PORTION OF ERF 44500**

For:

***Samy's Wholesalers  
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**REPORT: APAC015/25**

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Report: *May 2015*

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**I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I AM AN INDEPENDENT  
SPECIALIST APPOINTED BY THE CLIENT ON A CONSULTANCY  
BASIS**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Feber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

## SUMMARY

This Final Report pertains to work permitted under SAHRA BGG Unit Permit ID#2016 Case ID#6899.

The fieldwork on the site was undertaken between the 4th and 6th of May 2015, with the aim of testing the western portion of the Erf. Human remains weren't discovered on Erf 44500, it was discovered on the adjacent erven, the 'pavement', which is Municipal property, where human remains were discovered in late 2011 and excavated in 2012 by Dr. David Morris of the McGregor Museum in Kimberley, as part of the Neotel (fibre-optic line) Phase 2 Mitigation project. The discovery of these remains (and earlier during 2004 in the parking lot development of Samy's Wholesalers) prompted the requirement that all future development and infrastructure tasks in the area north of the old Pioneer Cemetery in the vicinity of Quinn and Lawrence Streets and possibly over a larger area should be monitored and no development should be entertained without prior assessment.

Subsequently, with the expansion of Samy's Wholesalers warehouse being proposed, it was required (as per the above permit) that prior to the development being allowed to continue, that Test Excavations be carried out on the western portion of the Erf 44500 to see if more in situ burials exist here and to recover (if any were to found) all remains for reburial purposes.

**Test pit data indicate that it is unlikely that the proposed Samy's Wholesalers Warehouse Expansion development will impact on a cemetery or any unknown burials. Based on the results of the Test Pit Excavations it can be concluded that the proposed development of the Samy's Wholesalers Warehouse Expansion will not impact on any heritage resource, including the inferred cemetery site, or any significant cultural member: It is recommended that development proceed without further delay and without the developer having to comply with additional archaeological and cultural heritage compliance requirements.**

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# **FINAL REPORT ON THE SAMY'S WHOLESALERS EXTENSION TEST EXCAVATIONS WITHIN THE WESTERN PORTION OF ERF 44500**

## **INTRODUCTION**

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Subsequently, with the expansion of Samy's Wholesalers warehouse being proposed, it was required that prior to the development being allowed to continue, that Test Excavations be carried out on the western portion of the Erf 44500 to see if more in situ burials exist here and to recover (if any were to found) all remains for reburial purposes.

A permit was issued by SAHRA's BGG Unit (Permit ID#2016 Case ID#6899) to undertake the required work, with the conditions of the issued permit to Mr. A.Pelser (as Principal Investigator) as follows:

***“Conditions: Test excavations within the western portion of the Erf 44500 as this area is mostly likely to retain in situ graves. If graves are uncovered the exhumation and relocation of such graves will be carried under this permit. If such a discovery is made the exhumation should continue because the extension of Samy's Wholesalers will impact upon such graves.”***

This report will discuss the results of the various test excavations and will provide recommendations on the way forward at the end.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Terms of Reference for the Project were as follows:

1. To conduct test excavations in the western portion of Erf 44500 to see if there are any burials located here related to an earlier so-called Black/African "Pioneer" Cemetery (formal or informal) that will be impacted on by the proposed development
2. To facilitate the reburial of any human remains that would potentially be uncovered during the Test Excavations
3. To determine if there are any other significant heritage remains in the study area that could be impacted on by the proposed development

4. And finally to provide suitable mitigation measures in future should this be required

## **METHODOLOGY**

The methodology employed comprises the following:

**Background Research** – This included background research on the area and history regarding the site and its connection with the possible Black/African cemetery in the area, as well as any other heritage resources

**Photographic** - Photographs of the site and area was taken, while all identifiable features, excavations and individual objects were also photographed for recording purposes.

### ***Mapping & GPR Scanning***

All identifiable features, objects, test excavations/pits and the site's extent were recorded via handheld GPS, while GPR scanning of the study area was also undertaken prior to the physical excavations starting. This was done in order to determine if there are any possible disturbances (graves and others) in the area under discussion.

### ***Test Excavations***

A number of test trenches and pits (10 in total) were dug, using a TLB and shovel/trowels, across the area. All features and material identified and removed were photographically documented and described on site

### ***Analysis & Documentation/Curation of cultural material***

All the cultural material recovered were documented photographically and analyzed accordingly. The cultural material was also cleaned, packed and placed in labeled bags and boxes for eventual proper curation in a suitable and recognized institution such as the McGregor Museum in Kimberley

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

***The historical background information provided here is taken from the February 2015 Archaeological & Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment by Karen Van Ryneveld of ArchaeoMaps for the proposed development (February 2010: p.23-39).***

Colonial Period archaeological CRM records for Kimberley reflect a faceted history, including historical buildings and structure remains, a number of middens, early mining village remains and associated industrial infrastructural remnants. Remains are often associated with records of cemeteries and grave sites of cross cultural tradition and including amongst them a Colonial Period grave site reported on by Becker (2013), the Du Toitspan cemetery; Phase 2 mitigation (excavation) records of previously unknown graves at the Gladstone cemetery (Morris et. al. 2004); recently mitigated graves from the Greenpoint suburb of Kimberley (SAHRIS Case ID 5153) and with more direct reference to the Samy's Wholesalers Extension study site, 4 graves mitigated from 87

Transvaal Road (Morris 2004) and 9 from Lawrence Street during a 2012 Neotel development.

In 1866 the 15 year old Erasmus Jacobs discovered a 'bright pebble' (diamond) on his fathers' farm, De Kalk, near Kimberley. Passed on to their neighbor Schalk van Niekerk, the diamond was traded through Dr. Guyborn Atherstone and became known as the 21.25 carat 'Eureka'. Merely 3 years later (1869) Schalk van Niekerk sold another diamond, obtained from a Griqua, for £11,200 – a diamond that was to become internationally known as the 'Star of Africa'. The same year witnessed the discovery of an 83.5 carat diamond on the farm Vooruitzicht, then owned by the brothers Diederick Arnoldus and Johannes Nicolaas de Beer. Between 1869 and 1871 surface outcrops of four diamondiferous pipes were located, all in fair proximity to the Vaal River, on land then held under Orange Free State titles by Dutch speaking farmers. The 'Diamond Rush' that followed was to forever change the cultural landscape of the area.

During the latter part of the 1860's / early 1870's only Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Kimberley had populations of over 10,000. An 1878 census recorded Kimberley's population as 14,169 including Europeans (6,574) and non-Europeans (7,595) (Diamond News 1879). During the 1880's Kimberley's population had grown to over 50,000. Dispute over ownership of the diamond fields immediately followed the discovery of diamonds; involving the Transvaal and Orange Free State Boer Republics, Griqua, Korana and Thlaping communities and the Cape Colonial Government. Through the Keate Arbitration of 1871 the diamond fields were awarded to the Griqua, directly to the Chief of the Griqua, Nicolaas Waterboer; thereby effectively proclaimed British territory under the name Griqualand-West. In 1879 Griqualand-West was annexed to the Cape Colony.

The population of Kimberley at the time was mixed, comprising Cape Colonists, mainly English and Dutch speaking, of varying racial groups and socio-economic backgrounds, as well as many African wage laborers. The complexity of only indigenous Africans in Kimberley was at the time further described by Rev. Tyamzashe (Christian Express newspaper, 1874, after Gaigher 2014): *'From the missionary point of view, it is not easy to deal with such a mixture of tribes as we have on the diamond fields. There are San, Khoikhoi, Griquas, Bathlaping, Damaras, Barolong, Barutse..., Bapedi, Baganana, Basutu, Maswaza, Matanga, Matabele, Mabaca, Mampondo, Mamfengu, Batembu, Maxhosa etc. Many of these (people) can hardly understand each other, and in many cases they have to converse through the medium of either Dutch, Sesotho or Xhosa. Those coming from far up in the interior such as the Bapedi come with the sole purpose of securing guns. Some of them therefore resolve to stay no longer here than is necessary to get some £6-£7 for the gun. Hence you will see hundreds of them leaving the fields, and as many arriving from the north almost every day.'*

During the late 1860's to early 1870's claims were primarily worked by independent claimholders, providing for a fairly fragmented system of production, nonetheless accounting for in excess of £400,000 in diamond exports in 1871. The following year diamond production surpassed £1.6 million, opening up greater possibilities of capital investment. Resultantly the early 1870's saw a number of small companies forming, but with restrictions on racial claim ownership, in turn leading to the unsuccessful 'Black Flag Revolt' of 1875. Following a radical drop in diamond prices in 1876 diamond merchants were able to raise funds to purchase more claims – a time which marked the beginning of company

formation and industrialized mining, directly associated with large scale infrastructural (primarily transport) development in South Africa and further north. To give a simple example of development in the industrialized mining sector at the time: 16 steam engines employed on Kimberley's mines in 1877 were increased to 306 in 1881. As early as 1872 work also commenced on connecting Kimberley by rail to cities along the Cape Colony's coastline, then under management of the Cape Government Railways, with the line between Cape Town and Kimberley completed in 1885.

Between 1877 and 1885 British Imperial troops conquered many a Xhosa, Zulu, Pedi and Tswana polity, described by Mabin (1986) as resulting in a '...“willingness” by large numbers of Africans to be recruited into laboring jobs at minimal pay.' An emphasis on company formation, increasing numbers of 'cheap' wage laborers (associated also with theft on the mines) and the 'boom-and-bust' of the share mania led to ownership of the mines being in the hands of less than 12 companies by 1883. Depression marked the period 1883 to 1885 – share price dropped from 30s in 1882 to below 23s in 1883, with a direct effect on capital – labor relationships: Unemployment numbers rose drastically and employers took advantage of radically reduced wages, employing minimal employees, with tighter control taken over both White and Black workers. Increasing racial labor division, directly associated with remuneration became prominent, characterized by higher wages reserved for White employees than their Black counterparts. This resulted in an adverse statistic with reference to job losses. From employment of 3,900 laborers on the Kimberley mines in 1881 to a mere 1,210 in 1884, with a lesser percentage of Black job losses than White job losses, a direct result of lower Black wages. Company restructuring to reduce production cost became progressively imperative. 1883 saw the introduction of a system of formally searching mine workers after each shift with working hours strictly monitored. Companies increasingly focused on formalization of housing to further monitor their work force: Compound housing, townships and workers villages were increasingly supported and later imposed by company policy, with aspects thereof successively formalized by law.

In 1888 Cecil John Rhodes became chairman of the newly founded De Beers Diamond Mining Company (DBDMC), and soon thereafter focused his attention on the then French owned portion of the mine, the Compagne Francaise des Mines de Diamants du Cap de Bonne Esperance. An agreement between Rhodes and Barney Bernato ensured the French mine in ownership of Bernato in 1889, with a significant shareholding by Rhodes. Shares in the mine quickly rose from £14-£49, but overproduction soon resulted in the market hitting an all-time low upon which Rhodes proposed to merge the DBDMC with the Kimberley Central Diamond Mining Company (KCDMC), forming 1 consolidated company, De Beers Consolidated Mines. A shareholder appeal to the merger was granted by court, resulting in KCDMC being liquidated and bought by De Beers Consolidated Mines. Soon thereafter De Beers Consolidated Mines also purchased the Bultfontein and Du Toitspan mines, thereby establishing a monopoly over the Kimberley mines that were to last for decades to come.

Later Colonial Period history of Kimberley includes the Siege of Kimberley in 1899, during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). Apartheid and Struggle histories are well awarded on the town, but these well post-dates timeframes applicable to the Samy's Wholesalers Extension, Erf 44500 study site.



Two hypotheses regarding the presence of burials and human remains on Erf 44500 can be put forward. The current hypothesis, that Erf 44500 forms part of an early 'Black' migrant worker cemetery, dating to the 1870's, and having become defunct circa. 1879, was 1st postulated by Morris (2004) after the discovery of 4 graves at 78 Transvaal Road, in the parking lot of the Samy's Wholesalers depot. At the time Morris proposed that the area be conserved and declared as a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS). Morris' hypothesis was supported by more informal accounts of skeletal remains having been discovered/present at the Diamantveld Primary School property, situated between the Pioneer Cemetery (Beit Street) and Quinn Street, with further oral reports on skeletal remains from the general Transvaal Road area. Archival evidence, a March 29, 1879 Diamond News newspaper report (DN 1879) reports on cemeteries in the area:

*'Report on the Sanitary Condition of Kimberley – Burial Grounds' 'Within the Municipality there are three burial grounds: -*

*1) The cemetery, which is used for Europeans and coloured people only. This spot about 5 acres in extent, is situated on the Transvaal Road below the goal. Neatly surrounded by a wall, the regularity with which it is laid out, the order everywhere exhibited, and the perfect state in which the grounds are kept, reflect great credit on the Committee to whose management it is entrusted. We observe that the graves were dug to a fair depth, and that sufficient space was allowed between each. 2) The burial ground for natives – This is situated in close proximity to the European cemetery, a very different state of matters, however, exists here. The digging of these graves is entrusted to black convicts and native police (who by the way employ the Sabbath for the purpose) without any white supervision, so the near residents informed us, consequently little or no uniformity of arrangement can be expected or is it to be found. The graves seen by us 'ready-made', awaiting their dead, were of a depth totally inadequate to prevent the effects of decomposition becoming apparent, even to passers-by. Those we examined were extremely shallow, varying in depth from two feet to three feet four inches, and were only from six to eight inches apart. A gentleman residing near told us he had on several occasions, on measuring, found the bodies within six inches from the surface and had also observed them lying exposed to the surface for two to three hours awaiting burial. As these bodies are buried without coffins, and as the soil in that neighborhood is of a loose nature, decomposition rapidly sets in. Heavy rains had just fallen previous to our visit, and the effluvia from the graves were simply horrible. In some places funnels had even been established by the water to the putrifying mass beneath. Six hundred and four natives were interred here during the past year, and we consider it a matter for which to be thankful that the prevailing winds come from a quarter that waft these pernicious smells from the camp, otherwise with this glaring neglect of all sanitary precautions, dire consequences must ere this have ensued. 3) The remaining burial ground situated midway between Kimberley and Old de Beers, on the left of the road has been in disuse for several years; unprotected from desecration by either wall or ditch, trampled over by pigs and cattle, it is a crying disgrace to the civilized portion of this community. The recommendations we have to make on this subject relate only to the Kafir burial ground, and we would suggest –*

*1) That the graves be dug in regular order.*

*2) That they be dug to a depth of not less than five feet.*

*3) That a space of at least two feet be allowed between each.*

- 4) *That the area allotted for this native burial ground be either enclosed by a wall or encompassed by a bank and ditch.*
- 5) *That the residents in the neighborhood be cautioned against drinking water from the wells in the near locality.*
- 6) *That the bodies be buried at once on being brought to the graveyard.*
- 7) *And lastly, That no more internments take place at the present site, but that a new locality at a further distance from the Township be at once chosen as a burial ground for the native population.'*

The initial discovery of graves at 78 Transvaal Road, coined with archival evidence led Morris (2004) to postulate the hypothesis that the Erf 44500 area and surrounds form part of the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery referred to in the DN 1879 report. With reference to the 78 Transvaal Road graves Morris (2004) states: *'The four graves lay in a regular row and, together, are highly suggestive that this site is part of a larger burial ground. ...geographically, it corresponds with the locality indicated in the 1879 report, and the graves found are all unexpectedly shallow.'* Morris (2004) continues: *'Subject to further findings, it could be that there are up to four to five thousand burials in this relatively informal 1870's African pioneers burial ground.'* The report highlights the problematic concern that the boundary of the said cemetery is unknown, but addresses, at least in part, adherence to the 7th recommendation regarding the 'Black' cemetery; Morris (2004) states: *'Burials subsequently took place at a spot which in 1883 was officially proclaimed as the new Gladstone cemetery.'* The Morris (2004) report contains additional useful information. With reference to stratigraphy it can be inferred that loose Hutton sand overlies a *'consolidated calcified sand / calcrete' member situated roughly 60-65cm below the surface and that graves were dug into this member, at shallow depths, roughly 12cm in the case of Graves B and D, 20cm in the case of Grave C and with the deepest grave being grave A, dug approximately 35cm into the calcified member'*. Additional unmarked graves were discovered along Lawrence Street during a Neotel development. Nine (9) graves were exhumed during the 2012 Phase 2 mitigation. Two graves, including a 'family grave' comprising 2/3 individuals and 1 additional grave containing remains of a single individual were found in direct proximity, on the sidewalk of Erf 44500. An additional 5/6 graves were uncovered further north along Lawrence Street. No graves were identified along the Quinn Street section of the Neotel development.

Work by Morris in 2004 attracted noticeable commercial media attention with his hypothesis receiving wide recognition, inferred to have only been reinforced by the further skeletal discoveries in 2012, to a level where the hypothesis seems to have almost become 'fact': A Volksblad (5 January 2015) article reporting on the Samy's Wholesalers Extension development boasts the heading: *'Sakeman tussen twee vure oor bouwerk op grafte'* [**Businessman between two fires over construction impact on graves**]. The article continues, *'Daar is vermoedelik oorskot van die stad se eerste Swart trekarbeiders onder die grond' ... 'Verskeie geraamtes is voorheen onder Samy's Cash & Cary se geboue en parkeerterrein...gevind'* [**Subsurface skeletal remains of the city's first Black migrant workers are expected at the site... a number of skeletons have been discovered from under Samy's buildings (?) and at the Samy's parking lot**]. The almost conviction of the site in question being the 1870's 'Black' migrant worker cemetery is extended to the heritage management arena: *'The site in question is said to be 100%*

*cemetery, 1870's African burial ground in Kimberley North... recommended for heritage site declaration in 2004'*

(NBYKB 2014) and 'It is therefore required that a new heritage report should be commissioned that would focus on the impact of the warehouse extension on the historical cemetery' (SAHRA 2015a). Despite the general sensitivity of the greater area with reference to formally mitigated skeletal remains, the 78 Transvaal Road and the Neotel remains along Lawrence Street, as well as more informal oral reports on additional graves, not all development in the area have exposed graves: In 2004 during construction of the Samy's Wholesalers depot development Pillay reported on skeletal remains, first to the police, with the case referred to the McGregor Museum upon verification of the remains being of archaeological and not forensic context. A 2008 extension to the Samy's Warehouse depot development yielded no skeletal remains. Two (2) swimming pools have been constructed in recent years in the immediate neighborhood, 1 in Lawrence Street and 1 in Grewer Square Street, neither of which have, according to resident reports, yielded human remains. The absence of skeletal remains along the Quinn Street portion of the Neotel line has already been mentioned. This in turn was supported by Sol Plaatje Municipal information: No graves were reported on during the 1980's construction of Quinn Street.

However, the absence of a report on graves should not be interpreted as confirmed 'evidence of absence'. Municipal staff directly involved in the Quinn Street development is no longer in the employ of the municipality and different legislation and practice were in place (Pers. Comm.: Mike Steyn, Sol Plaatje Municipality). Steyn reported on SPM records relating to a 1940's residential development of the immediately affected area. The 1980's development of Quinn Street resulted in the demolition of residences situated on then Erf 7542 and Erf 7543, with portions of these erven now forming part of Erf 44500. Reports also indicate that a creamery was known to be situated in the area, roughly 60 years ago (Pers. Comm.: Gabriel Goa, Kimberley resident), serving to further sketch the 1940's Colonial Period urban landscape of the immediate area.

Maps of early Kimberley are difficult to come by, more so maps that can assist in verifying the area in question as part of the inferred 'Black' migrant worker cemetery or not, or assist in demarcation of the boundaries thereof. The often problematic, albeit largely complimentary interdisciplinary sciences of history and archaeology, with their varying emphasis specifically on primary data type; history with its focus on the written or documented record and archaeology, with excavation being the primary method of data retrieval, are not lost on the case of Erf 44500, Kimberley. Further difficulty in resolving the issue of the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery is the general lack of information. Morris (2004) provides some direct excavation and limited archival information.

In order to provide a framework for analogy, comparison and discussion it is, despite the lack of information, necessary to construct a rough site description. The DN 1879 description of the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery being 'in close proximity' to the European cemetery, interpreted by Morris (2004) as being situated 'north' of the European cemetery is for purposes of a preliminary site description taken as correct, with north being anywhere north of the European cemetery, including directly north, directly north and cross-cutting Quinn Street, directly north of Quinn Street or somewhere north of Quinn Street. Morris (2004) also focuses description on the number of skeletal reports from the general Transvaal Road (Phakamile Mabija Road) area. A rough western border for the cemetery site can

loosely be defined as in the vicinity of Transvaal Road, including areas west and east thereof, implying that Transvaal Road may in fact run through the cemetery, but with the majority of actual skeletal data coming from the area immediate east thereof. The DN 1879 report states that graves were dug between 15-20cm (6-8 inches) apart. The report further states that 'Six hundred and four natives were interred here during the past year...' and also reporting on the fact that the cemetery in question was not the 1st cemetery, an earlier, already defunct a good few years prior to the DN 1879 report was commented on. It can thus reasonably be inferred that the cemetery in question was used for approximately 8 years. If an estimate is taken of approximately 600 burials per year over 8 years, equaling 4,800 graves in total ( $600 \times 8 = 4,800$ ), then Morris' description of an expected 4,000-5,000 graves seems very accurate. If an estimate of approximately  $3\text{m}^2$  is assigned to each grave, considering described close proximity then 600 burials over an 8 year period at  $3\text{m}^2$  per grave gives an estimated cemetery site size of 1.44ha ( $600 \times 8 \times 3\text{m}^2 = 14,400\text{m}^2$  or 1.44ha) for the site in question. Should a slightly more lenient grave size be considered, say  $4\text{m}^2$ , then proposed cemetery site size can reach 1.92ha ( $600 \times 8 \times 4\text{m}^2 = 19,200\text{m}^2$  or 1.92ha). In conclusion the estimated 4,800 graves comprising the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery may well be inferred to relate to a rough 1.4-2ha cemetery site area. Chief Surveyor General (CSG) maps of early Kimberley are basically divided between Kimberley North, on the property Vooruitzigt 81 and then Beaconsfield (later Kimberley South), on the property Bultfontein 80. However, these maps serve little purpose in answering the type of Erf 44500 / 'Black' migrant worker cemetery site specific questions.

Mabin's (1986) paper, a notably informative publication on early Kimberley provides a more concise, demarcated map of early Kimberley, Beaconsfield, and surrounding areas and landmarks, including specifically mining areas, labelled in the publication as 'Map of Kimberley area circa. 1895'. The Mabin map indicates a number of 'open space' areas in the immediate vicinity of the Samy's Wholesalers Extension study site, including the Pioneer cemetery area, the area immediately north thereof, including the Erf 44500 study site and cross-cutting Quinn Street and also an adjoining area, north of Quinn Street and bordering Transvaal Road; all potential cemetery sites or portions thereof. However, it is important to read Mabin's map for the purposes for which it was redrawn: To indicate the then existing areas of Kimberley and how political and economic, and resultant socio-cultural aspects impacted on 'lifeway' and associated therewith settlement pattern, including the later location of compounds, locations and workers villages. It is important to take cognizance of Mabin's acknowledgements: *'The skills of Phil Stickler in drawing Figs 1 and 5...'*, with Figure 5 being the map in question. The redrawing is very similar in layout to the 1986 1:50 000 topographic map details of the area in question, limited to geographic boundaries of then known areas, but importantly not indicating the Quinn Street alignment. Significant though is the presence of the railway line running roughly along the modern day Quinn Street alignment on the 1941 1:50 000 topographic map, with the railway line between Cape Town and Kimberley known to have been completed in 1885. It can reasonably be inferred that this portion of the railway line, not forming part of the major rail alignment between Cape Town and Kimberley was completed at around the same time.

When one considers the 1879 Deduction Plan no 261 of Kimberley, Vooruitzigt 81, Deduction Sheets 6 & 7 is of direct significance. Deduction Sheets 6 & 7 indicates the greater Erf 44500 area simply as 'Deed of Grant - KimF1-12', but lacking site specific information. However, these deduction sheets are in themselves informative: By 1879 Transvaal Road was

basically laid out, so were street alignments towards the south of the Pioneer cemetery – including Cemetery Street to the south thereof. Of note is the boundary of the Pioneer cemetery, specifically the northern boundary, excluding the Jewish portion. Deduction Sheets 6 & 7 is indicative of early Kimberley being systematically formalized, with formalization inferred to be primarily based on preceding more informal land-use patterns. The early registration of a property in the direct vicinity of the Samy's 2008 site, with a road or access way indicated immediately south thereof is of significance; it may designate an early road or access way having been operational in the area as early as 1879, upgraded in 1885 at the latest for railway purposes. It is unlikely that such a large scale development would have impacted directly on a cemetery which became defunct at the most 6 years prior, at a time when it can reasonably be assumed that typical 'Black' or Later Iron Age (LIA) grave demarcations; simple stone cairns, stone markers or perhaps perishable (wooden) demarcations would still have been clearly visible, the deceased may still have been known to family and acquaintances living in and around town, and time alone would not have resolved DN 1879 reported on sanitary concerns. It can thus reasonably be inferred that the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery would have been situated either north or south of the 1885 railway line; either north or south of the current basic alignment of Quinn Street.

Merely 10 years later the 'Deed of Grant – KimF1-12' area was largely formalized: The railway siding was registered and the majority of the properties had private title deed registrations by 1899. With specific reference to the registered railway siding on the 1889 map, it is important to note that construction of the railway line must have been completed at least 4 years prior to its 1st inclusion in the 1889 survey diagram. Likewise it can reasonably be assumed that the residential area north of the railway siding, as well as development south thereof followed suit in formalization and registration. It is highly likely that informal settlement pattern formed the basis of 1889 lot layout and registration. Accordingly it can reasonably be concluded that it is highly unlikely, considering traditional LIA grave demarcation custom, time frames with specific reference to 'memory' of the deceased, the reported on DN 1879 sanitary concerns and increasing capital – labor conflict and up-rises reported on by Mabin (1986) during the 1880's, that at most 10 years after a cemetery had become defunct development would have been imposed on the locale.

Interesting in the 1889 Kimberley diagram is the area to the south of the railway siding: For the 1st time a small 'Jewish cemetery' section is added to the European cemetery, directly north-east of it Beit Street, and across from Beit Street to the north-west a school and south-east thereof, between Beit Street and the railway siding an area demarcated as Lot 88-104. Geographically the Lot 88-104 area conforms to the description in the DN 1879 report: 'The burial ground for natives – This is situated in close proximity to the European cemetery...', with 'close proximity' then implying 'north, across Beit Street'. CSG records for the Lot 88-104 property don't include geo-referenced details; however a rough estimate would designate a property size of approximately 1.3+ha; very close to the minimum calculated site size bracket, 1.44-2ha, for the approximate 4,800 graves of the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery. The Lot 88-104 area today forms part of the Diamantveld Primary School. The school opened its doors in the beginning of 1938 (Pers. Comm.: Mike Steyn, Sol Plaatje Municipality), allowing for an approximate 59 year period from the time the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery became defunct to development. 59 Years approximates to roughly 2 generations. It is likely, considering weathering of traditional LIA grave demarcations, the recorded high rotational flux in Kimberley's early population,

described as early as 1874 by Tyamzashe as: ‘... you will see hundreds of them leaving the fields, and as many arriving... almost every day’ directly related to time frames associated with ‘memory’ of the deceased and the greater time afforded natural rehabilitation of sanitary concerns reported on in 1879, that ‘memory’ of, affection with and visual demarcation of a ‘Black’ migrant worker cemetery may well have been lost on 1930’s development planning. It is proposed that the 1889 demarcated Lot 88-104 represents the 1879 reported on ‘Black’ migrant worker cemetery. The proposal is supported by, albeit mainly oral records of skeletal remains having been found at the site locale (Morris 2004).

When the 1889 diagram is compared with the 1941 topographic map slight further additions along the northern boundary of the Pioneer cemetery is evident, with small sections added to both the Jewish and European sections thereof. These additions by implication came with slight alteration to Beit Street. It can be inferred that despite early Kimberley layout having en large dictated modern layout of the town proper slight alterations to alignments and associated land parcel sizes may well be expected.

Hypothesis 2 argues that Erf 44500 was part of an early Black residential area with identified graves reflecting LIA burial custom of burial at a homestead. Historical documentary evidence, primarily based on cartographic CSG Records of early Kimberley en large serves to demystify the hypothesized unknown location of the DN 1879 reported on ‘Black’ migrant worker cemetery, with the locale of the cemetery proposed to be the demarcated Lot 88-104 area, fitting with the 1879 geographical description of the cemetery being ‘in close proximity’ to the European cemetery, early Colonial Period government standards of record keeping; lot demarcation and registration, and with Lot 88-104 meeting site description requirements with reference to expected number of burials, directly equated to estimated site size. Demystification of the hypothesized unknown location of the 1879 reported on ‘Black’ migrant worker cemetery however does not explain the presence of skeletal remains north of Quinn Street; to date with remains of 4 individuals mitigated from the Samy’s Wholesalers depot parking lot and 9 skeletons exhumed from the Lawrence Street section of the Neotel development.

Mabin (1986) provides for a possible explanation: *‘When the introduction of closed compounds was first mooted in the late 1870’s, the Black population of Kimberley resided in three different environments: at workplaces, on residential streets of the town itself, and in the locations. Locations remained small until about 1880, but grew rapidly with the onset of the recession.’* Further thereto *‘There had been a degree of spatial segregation between various groups in Kimberley from early in its history. Some of the earliest “locations” on the outskirts of Kimberley were semi-rural in nature, with sheep and cattle kraals whence Koranna and Tswana producers supplied milk and meat to the mining camps. Most of the land in and around the camps was owned by the London and South African Exploration Company. By 1874 this company had allowed or encouraged the emergence of locations, occupied mainly by Africans. In April 1875, the company allocated a location site where Kimberley’s railway station was built a decade later. Africans were encouraged to move to this site from the town by a stand rent of 2s 6d, only a quarter of the rent demanded in the town proper. However few seem to have done so, for in July 1876 there were said to be only 400 hut owners in all of the several locations. In the wake of a rebellion by part of the population of the territory surrounding Kimberley in 1878, the government proclaimed Cape law relating to locations to be in force in Griqualand West.’*

For purposes of this discussion Mabin (1986) concludes: *'The residential circumstances of the Kimberley workers were extremely varied, and to some degree reflected the diverse origins of the working class as well as its diverse employment Patterns'*. It is suggested that the residential area east of Transvaal Road and north of Quinn Street, encompassing the Erf 44500 study site was an early primarily Black residential area, perhaps during the late 1860's and throughout the major part of the 1870's. Grave sites encountered to date conform to widely practiced Later Iron Age (LIA) burial custom of burial at a homestead with specific cognizance to Kimberley's 1889 recorded layout; with graves encountered identified on the rough perimeters of former lot stands. In accordance it can reasonably be inferred that more graves will be present in the area, expected to be fairly strategically placed towards the outer perimeters of early stands and varying in number per stand. 1889 Formalization of the layout is inferred to have had its roots in earlier, less formal settlement pattern: Layout may reflect recording of a primarily Black residential settlement pattern at the time. More likely it may reflect the formalization of a development renewal program, with its basic layout adopted from the preceding settlement pattern. An 1889 development renewal program, based on a largely adopted layout, would be in striking accord with the 1940's 'residential' development, effectively little more than a residential renewal program, again with minimal effect on basic layout of the immediate area.

Burial at a homestead is a widely practiced cultural custom amongst people of LIA cultural tradition, not limited to South Africa but extending beyond the borders thereof, with specific reference to the 'migrant' Black population of early Kimberley not having been limited to 'South Africans' only. It is a custom practiced to this day, most evident across the rural landscape but extending to fairly formalized villages. Many a village today is characterized by a cemetery, in many cases more than one, alongside with burial at homestead yards – with burial type thus largely guided by choice. A similar type scenario cannot be excluded from early Kimberley life; the reported on 'Black' migrant worker cemetery does not exempt early Kimberley from widely practiced culturally guided burial at homesteads. On the traditional LIA cultural landscape, amongst the various LIA groups, burial is guided by 'male' and 'female' space associated with various aspects of the homestead surrounds, at homesteads with temporal depth of occupation resulting in small 'cemeteries' situated at various on-site locales. Burial at the homestead is closely associated with the practice of ancestral appeasement, a practice that nurtures the relationship between the living and the dead, for purposes of this discussion directly reflecting on traditional respect for, and associated therewith the conservation of graves.

LIA burial is by custom shallow, or shallower; the concept of '6ft under' is essentially European in origin. In the vicinity of Erf 44500, inferred to also be the case at the nearby Lot 88-104 area, depth of burial is expected to also be to a degree dictated by the underlying geology; the 'consolidated calcified sand/calcrete' member situated at approximately 60-65cm below the surface. A hard calcified stratigraphic layer may well have contributed to generally shallower graves in an area where grave depth is not prescribed by custom or religion. With reference to the custom of burial at homesteads cognizance need to be taken that more than 1 grave at a homestead often result in the formation of small on-site cemeteries, the arrangement of graves in these cemeteries more than often done in row-like format. Small rows of graves are not inconsistent with homestead burial practice; with

specific reference to the Black residential area in question, perhaps more so in the culturally translated smaller confines of an urban 'lot' environment.

As reported on by Mabin (1986) the 1870's, and more so the onset of the 1880's, saw an increasing emphasis on the removal of Blacks from Kimberley town to demarcated areas on the outskirts thereof, be it compounds or locations, first by means of largely company 'encouragement'; lower rent at location stands than in the town proper, but with relocation from 1878 onwards increasingly enforced by legislation. Changing political circumstances, with its associated socio-cultural repercussions resulted in a noticeable change in Black settlement pattern. As Blacks were removed from the town proper, they were also removed, in part, from their heritage, their grave sites situated in town – be it at the 'Black' migrant worker cemetery or at their former homestead lots. Once a community is removed from their heritage resources, with value and use systems breached, 'loss of memory' sets in faster. The essential 'migrant' makeup of early Kimberley's Black population, reflecting on already compromised and thereby more fragile tradition, coined with the removal of these people from their heritage resources is inferred to be key elements in rapid 'loss of memory'.

With consideration to the Lot 88-104 'Black' migrant worker cemetery having become defunct circa. 1879, with subsequent development on the site during the latter part of the 1930's, an approximate 59 year or 2 generation span, timeframes generally associated with 'loss of memory' is in vast discord with Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) records. Both compromised LIA tradition and the removal of these people from their heritage resources are argued as variables that would have resulted in the rapid 'loss of memory'. Directly associated therewith would be weathering and loss of traditional LIA grave demarcations and the approximate 59 year period allowed for natural rehabilitation of 1879 reported on sanitary concerns. However, in the case of the 1930's development on the Lot 88-104 stand the impact or effect of political power in development decision making cannot be overruled.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

The test excavations consisted of the following:

1. A 1m (wide) x approx.20m (long) trench (TT1) on the western portion of the erf running in a N/S direction (bordering Lawrence Street and next to the Neotel Line). **GPS: S28°43'52.4" E24°45'56.2"**.
2. Three test trenches (TT2 – TT4) running in an E/W direction, towards the eastern side of the erf and adjoining TT1. **GPS: S28°43'52.6" E24°45'56.2" (TT4); S28°43'52.4" E24°45'56.4" (TT3) and S28°43'52.2" E24°45'56.5" (TT2).**
3. Six Test Pits (TP1 – TP6), scattered across the central and eastern portion of the site, where limited known structural remains, primarily dating to the 1940's but not necessarily excluding earlier activity, were found during GPR scanning of the development area, with the aims of determining whether or not there were any evidence of a burial site/cemetery existing here prior to later developments. **GPS: S28°43'52.2" E24°45'57.3" (TP1); S28°43'53.0" E24°45'57.4" (TP2); S28°43'52.9" E24°45'57.9" (TP3); S28°43'53.3" E24°45'58.3" (TP4); S28°43'53.6" E24°45'59.0" (TP5) & S28°43'53.9" E24°45'59.3"**.



In addition to these test excavations and test pits, the foundation trenches (for the construction of the warehouse), running in an N/S and E/W direction across the site was also monitored and checked for the existence of any possible burials and other cultural remains. Cultural remains (in the form of building rubble and refuse such as glass, porcelain and others) were also recovered as part of the process.

### ***Mapping/GPR Scanning***

Terra Scan was appointed by Mr Tom Pillay to undertake a non-intrusive Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of Erf 44500 in order to establish the presence or absence of an old (1870's / 1879) cemetery or any other buried manmade structures on the site.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the identification of graves included:

i. A consistent high-density pattern of subsurface disturbance that would reflect rows or row-like patterns of graves situated between 15-20cm (6 -8 inches) apart reflective of the study site forming part of the inferred cemetery 'site proper'.

ii. A lower density pattern of subsurface disturbance that would reflect rows or row-like patterns of graves situated in excess of roughly 20cm (8 inches) apart or a random scatter of subsurface disturbance reflective of the study site forming part of the inferred cemetery but closer associated with 'perimeter' burials.

iii. Individual or low density scattered subsurface disturbance that may reflect on Later Iron Age (LIA) burial practice of burial within a homestead yard.

iv. At the time of the GPR scan surface Hutton sand had been removed to a level of 30cm below the contemporary surface and the site sealed with a fine gravel layer of 10-15cm providing for a GPR scan surface level of approximately 15cm below the contemporary surface.

v. Stratigraphy of the site, based on archaeological excavation data from the immediate vicinity included a top Hutton sand level underlain by a 'consolidated calcified sand / calcrete' member, situated at approximately 60-65cm below the contemporary surface. The said member may be lense like, not continuing across the sub-surface extent of the study site or may be characteristic of the sub-surface geology of the study site.

vi. Previously identified graves in the vicinity of the study site were dug between 10- 40+cm into the 'consolidated calcified sand / calcrete' member.

vii. A 1940's residential development with confirmed evidence of impact on the western portion of the study site is available from the records of the Sol Plaatje Municipality. The 1980's development of Quinn Street resulted in destruction of the 1940's residences affecting the study site.

For practical scanning purposes the site was divided into three survey sections along its length. Block one is situated on the Western side of the site in the area demarcated by datum

points Z and Y, with the block measuring 17m x 40m. A total of 103 scans were performed across Block one. The block was scanned in a grid formation and 54 scans were performed in the South to North and North to South directions, 19 scans were performed in the West to East and East to West direction. A further 30 scans were performed across the anomalies that were detected during the onsite grid scan.

Block two is situated in the center of the site in the area demarcated by datum points Y and X, with the block again measuring 17m x 40m. A total of 74 scans were performed across Block two. The block was scanned in a grid formation and 45 scans were performed in the South to North and North to South directions, 23 scans were performed in the West to East and East to West direction.

Block three is situated on the Eastern side of the site in the area demarcated by datum points X and W and the block measured 17m x 36m. A total of 94 scans were performed across Block three. The block was scanned in a grid formation and 64 scans were performed in the South to North and North to South directions, 23 scans were performed in West to East and East to West directions.



**Figure 1: Site Map. (GPS data recorded and map produced by ArchaeoMaps).**

The technical details of the scans undertaken by TerraScan will not be repeated here, but the results will be summarized. The objects detected and marked out during the onsite survey represents linear objects that represents the remains of what is believed to be manmade

infrastructure such as building foundations described in the ToR (vii), the ground disturbance that were detected was relatively shallow and on top of the change in geology situated at a depth of  $\pm 56$  cm below ground surface, the mentioned change in geology corresponds with the ToR (v) and extends across the sub-surface extent of Erf 44500.

During the onsite survey, no consistent high or lower density patterns of subsurface disturbance were detected that could reflect rows or row-like patterns, or infrequent random scatters of graves as described in the ToR (i, ii, iii & vi), with grave-like disturbance inferred to be variable in size, primarily rectangular in shape, but which may approach 'square shaped' disturbances (double or multiple graves) and which may approach 'oval' shapes. No disturbance other than objects "A" and "B" penetrated the geological member situated at 56cm below ground surface. The data suggests that that object "A" is a void measuring 1.5 m x 0.7m situated at approximately 30cm below the surface, it extends down to a depth of 1m below surface. This object seems to have a flat surface area that suggests that it could be an old sewerage pit or other manmade void. Object "A" is situated 9.7m from the Quinn Street side-walk and 8.9m from the Lawrence Street kerb. Object "B" is situated on the sidewalk, 0.9m from the Lawrence Street kerb. The object measures 1.2m x 0.6m and is situated at a depth of approximately 48cm below the surface and extends down to a depth of 90cm below the surface. This object represents a similar GPR signature as a void but no flat surface is present in this position.

Through an analysis of the processed GPR data, no consistent high or lower density patterns of subsurface disturbance were detected that could reflect rows or row-like patterns of graves as described in the ToR (i, ii, iii & vi).



**Figure 2: Location of the development on Erf 445500.**

The numerical data of this diagram are sufficiently consistent  
 (Sgd) Max Jurach  
 Ex.

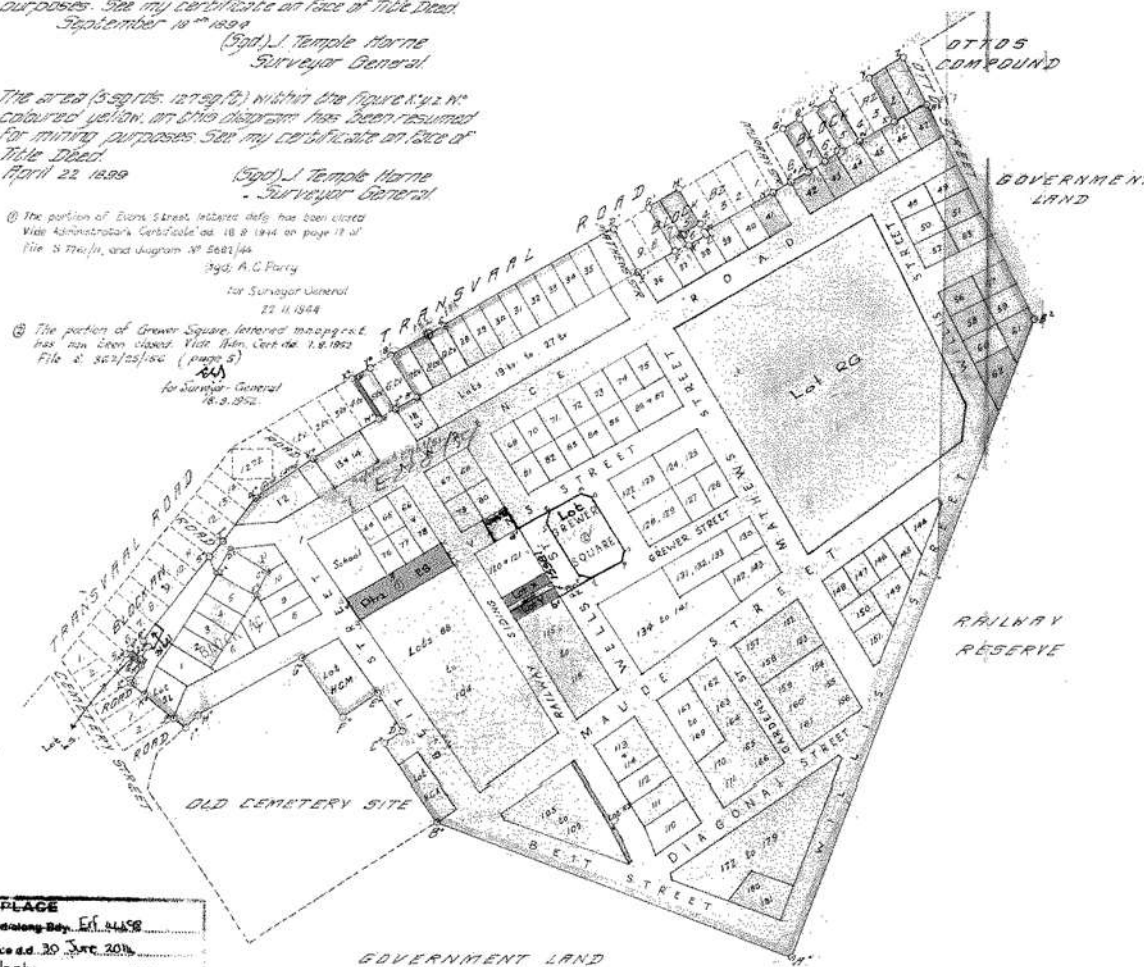
The area (91 sq rds. 67 sq ft) within the figure 1.2.3.4 (School)  
 of this diagram has been resumed for public  
 purposes. See my certificate on face of Title Deed.  
 September 14<sup>th</sup> 1894  
 (Sgd) J. Temple Horne  
 Surveyor General

The area (5 sq rds. 127 sq ft) within the figure K/2. K' colored yellow on this diagram has been resumed  
 for mining purposes. See my certificate on face of  
 Title Deed.  
 April 22 1899 (Sgd) J. Temple Horne  
 Surveyor General

ⓐ The portion of Ewart Street, (situated defly has been closed  
 vide Administrator's Certificate of 18<sup>th</sup> 9 1894 on page 17 of  
 File S 776/11, and Diagram N<sup>o</sup> 5687/44  
 (Sgd) A. C. Parry  
 for Surveyor General  
 22. 11. 1894

ⓑ The portion of Grover Square, lettered m.a.p.p.r.s.E  
 has now been closed. Vide J.R. Verme's 1.8.1892  
 File # 362/25/144 (page 5)  
 (Sgd)  
 for Surveyor General  
 18. 2. 1892.

Registrar's Memorandum



**PUBLIC PLACE**  
 Road lettered along Bdy. Erf 6658  
 closed. Notice d.d. 30 June 2014  
 File S. 362/25/144 p. 105  
 (Sgd) [Signature]  
 for SURVEYOR-GENERAL

Road lettered/along-Bdy.... L.S.R.G.B.A.  
 closed. Vide T/C's Notice d.d. 2.11.76  
 File S. 352/25/144 p. 118.....  
 (Sgd) [Signature]  
 for SURVEYOR GENERAL  
 Date 16.2.1977

Road lettered Erf 3164  
 closed. Vide T/C's Notice d.d. 1998-06-22  
 File S/362/25/90 p. 85  
 (Sgd) [Signature]  
 for SURVEYOR-GENERAL DATE

ERF 6658  
 KIMBERLEY



Figure 3: Extract from the 'Deed of Grant – KimF1-12' area, Kimberley North, 1889 (CSG Record 6658-8/1889).



**Figure 4: The development area taken from Lawrence Street towards the east showing the foundations test trenches being dug.**



**Figure 5: A closer view of the foundation trenches taken down Quinn Street towards Lawrence Street.**

### *Excavations*

The monitoring of the foundation trenches (between 0.50m and 0.80m deep) revealed to some extent what was recorded on the GPR scans of the area previously, and that is that there are various structural remains and other disturbances in the area dating to the 1940's, with material cultural remains dating roughly to the 1870's-early 1900's. No evidence of burials pits were identified in any of these foundation trenches.



**Figure 6: Some late 19th to mid20th century bottle glass from the foundations.**



**Figure 7: Teaspoons from Phillip Ashbury & Sons in Sheffield (UK) dating to the late 19th century. Small spoon uncovered during May 2015 Test excavation, larger spoon uncovered January 2015 (Van Ryneveld 2015).**



**Figure 8: Building rubble from the 1940's.**

***Test Trench 1 – Western section of Site (next to Neotel Line in Lawrence Street)***

Although the trench ran next to Neotel's line, a section of the trench cut into the line exposing the Neotel line insertion. No evidence of any burial pits or unnatural disturbances was identified in the trench, with sterile gravel/shale found at a depth of between 0.80m and 1.20m (from the Present Surface Level or PSL) where the trenching was stopped. Some cultural material including glass, metal objects and building rubble was however recovered from depths of between 0.60m and 0.80m below PSL.

***Test Trenches 2 – 4 – Western section of site running in an E/W direction***

These trenches also revealed no evidence of any burials in this part of the development site, with no disturbances in the form of burial pits identified. Sterile gravel/shale was found at a depth of around 1.20m and more below PSL, with building rubble (1940's?), and other material such as glass and porcelain from the late 19th to early 20th centuries recovered as well. The amount of material is however very small. Each test trench was around 1.00m to 1.50m in size, excavated by TLB.

In Test Trench 3 some faunal and a possible human long bone fragment were recovered. Last mentioned long bone was broken in two (not during the 2015 excavations) and was clean, with no soil/dirt adhering to it. No other remains were recovered and it seems as if this bone could have been left behind during earlier work on the Neotel line mitigation. The bone was found in the western portion of TT3 on the edge of TT1 trench (Neotel line). This is however speculation and cannot be determined without a doubt.

Remnants of a fairly extensive rocky ridge were found in the eastern section of TT3, extending some distance towards the east and west thereof and extending across the majority of the western perimeter of the study site. Any excavation of burial pits in this part would have been very difficult, and if burials (even if shallow) were to have been dug here it would have been more towards the western portion of the now buried outcrops, as evidenced by the 2011 discoveries and removal of human remains on the Neotel Line running parallel to Lawrence street.





**Figure 9: Test Trench 1 prior to excavation.  
The man-holes show the approximate Neotel Line connection.**



**Figure 10: TT1 being excavated.  
A section of the Neotel Line connection was exposed.**



**Figure 11: TT1 – Sterile gravel/shale found at around 1.20m below PSL.**



**Figure 12: Cultural material from TT1.**



**Figure 13: Bone and wood from TT2/3.**  
The one bone at the top could be human, but this is inconclusive.



**Figure 14: Part of the remnants of a rocky ridge/seam in TT3.**



**Figure 15: TT2.**



**Figure 16: TT4.**

### ***Test Pits 1 – 6***

All six test pits were around 1.5m (length and width) in size. The depth at which sterile gravel/shale was found in all of these pits range between 1.20m and 1.60m below PSL, except for TP6 where a concrete floor/slab was found at a depth of around 0.30m below PSL, interpreted as a type of station platform considering its location in relation to the railway siding and CSG surveyed demarcation (See map 10, Van Ryneveld 2015).

No indication of any burial pits was found in any of the Test Pits. What was however recovered, fairly consistently, throughout all of these pits (TP1, TP2, TP3), were sections of structures and building rubble, as well as ash and refuse pits between approximately 0.50m and 1.20 – 1.50m depth. If any earlier burial pits or a large cemetery existed here prior to this then it would have been expected to be below the 1940's structural remains: No evidence however exists. The cultural material from these Test pits ranges in age between the late 19th and early/mid 20th centuries.



**Figure 17: Test Pit 1 – Part of concrete structure visible in eastern section of pit.**



**Figure 18: Cultural material from TP2. The bone is from a juvenile goat/sheep.**



**Figure 19: TP2 - Building rubble visible on eastern side of pit.**



**Figure 20: TP3.**





**Figure 21: Cultural material from TP3.**



**Figure 22: Building rubble in TP4's north-western corner.**



**Figure 23: Ash and refuse layer in TP4's south-western section.**



**Figure 24: Cultural material from TP4.  
The ages range between the late 19th and early/mid 20th centuries.**



**Figure 25: TP5.**



**Figure 26: Cultural material from TP5.**



**Figure 27: TP6.**



**Figure 28: TP6 – Note the concrete floor/slab that runs through the whole trench.**



**Figure 29: Cultural material from TP6.**



**Figure 30: Aerial view of site showing location/distribution of Test Trenches and Pits.**

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the work on Erf 44500 in Kimberley, for the Samy's Wholesalers Warehouse Expansion development, was conducted successfully and within the requirements of the SAHRA BGG Unit permit issued for the Test Excavations within the western portion of Erf 44500 *“as this area is mostly likely to retain in situ graves”*.

A number of Test Trenches (TT1 – TT4) was excavated in the western-most portion of the site, next to the Neotel Line and adjacent to it where human remains were uncovered in 2011/12. No indication of burial pits in this area and further to the eastern section of this site was identified, with a single unidentified long bone section, possibly human, recovered from a section of TT3 most likely to be related to the earlier 2012 exhumations and not part of an in situ previously unrecorded burial.

The six Test Pits (TP1-6) dug across the central and eastern portion of the study site similarly revealed no indication of any burial pits or the existence of a cemetery. Structural remains, some picked up on the GPR scan and some indicated on early maps, dating to the 1940's, and cultural material from both this time period and the earlier late 19th to mid20th centuries were found in the test pits, If these structures, residential or otherwise were in fact constructed on top of an earlier cemetery, then clear evidence of burial pits would have been uncovered in test pit section stratigraphies. No such evidence could be found.

Test pit data, combined with earlier GPR scanning evidence, indicate that it is unlikely that the proposed Samy's Wholesalers Warehouse Expansion development will impact on a cemetery or any unknown burials. The results of the Test Pit Excavations contribute to interpretation of the possible location of the 1870's Black migrant worker cemetery, but are limited to evidence that Erf 44500 is not the said locality.

Based on the results of the Test Pit Excavations it can be concluded that the proposed development of the Samy's Wholesalers Warehouse Expansion will not impact on any heritage resource, including the inferred cemetery site, or any significant cultural member. It is recommended that development proceed without further delay and without the developer having to comply with additional archaeological and cultural heritage compliance requirements.

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