

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED NEW ROAD K56
(STUDY AREA: ERLING ROAD BETWEEN THE K46 AND K56 AND THE K56 BETWEEN K46
AND MAIN ROAD) MIDRAND, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

	
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commissioned for by the client.

DISCLAIMER:

Although all possible care is taken to identify/find all sites of cultural importance
during the initial survey of the study area, the nature of archaeological and
historical sites are as such that it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface
sites could be overlooked during the study. Leonie Marais-Botes Heritage
Practitioner/ Archaetnos Archaeologists and Heritage Consultants will not be held
liable will not be held liable for such oversights or for the costs incurred as a
result thereof.

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

The heritage report must reflect that consideration has been given to the history and heritage significance of the study area and that the proposed work is sensitive towards the heritage resources and does not alter or destroy the heritage significance of the study area.

The heritage report must refer to the heritage resources currently in the study area.

The opinion of an independent heritage consultant is required to evaluate if the proposed work generally follows a good approach that will ensure the conservation of the heritage resources.

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) are the guideline documents for a report of this nature.

Leonie Marais-Botes Heritage Practitioner/Archaeologists and Heritage Consultants was appointed by Bokamoso Environmental to carry out a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed new road K56 Midrand, Gauteng Province. The site investigation was conducted on 31 March 2014.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project may impact on any types and ranges of heritage resources that are outlined in Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). Consequently a Heritage Impact Assessment was commissioned by Bokamoso Environmental and conducted by Leonie Marais-Botes/Archaetnos Archaeologists and Heritage Consultants.

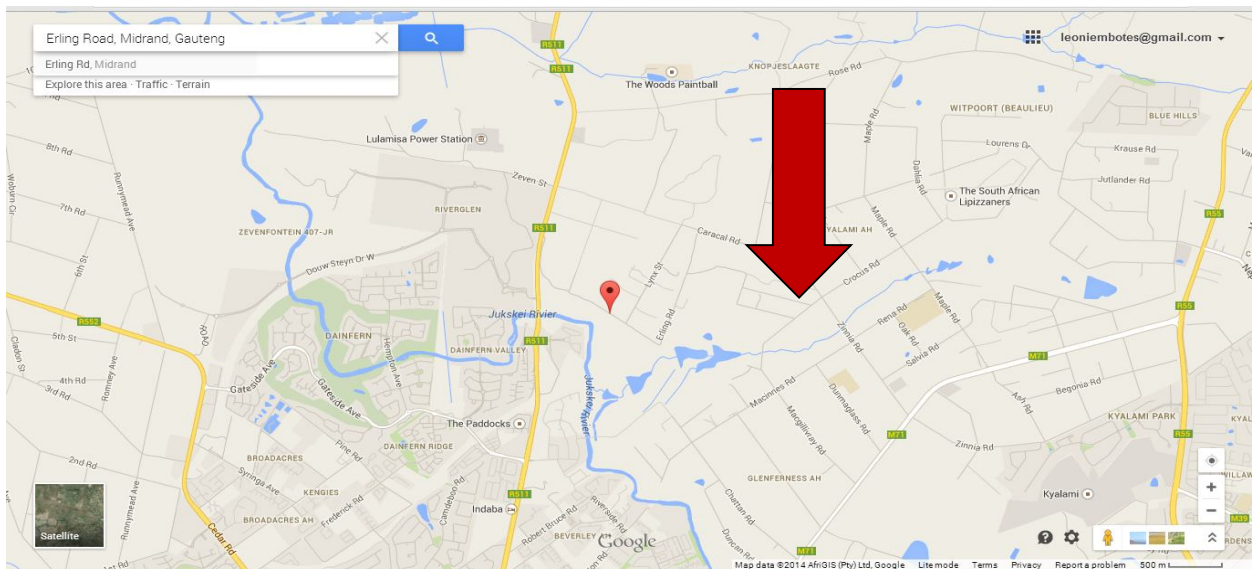
It is important to note that all graves and cemeteries are of high significance and are protected by various laws. Legislation with regard to graves includes the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) whenever graves are 60 years and older. Other legislation with regard to graves includes those when graves are exhumed and relocated, namely the Ordinance on Exhumations (no 12 of 1980) and the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended).

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed development entails the construction of a new road.

1.2 LOCATION

The study area is situated between William Nicol Drive and Main Road, Midrand, Gauteng Province.



1.3 METHOD

The objective of this Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was to gain an overall understanding of the heritage sensitivities of the area and indicate how they may be impacted on through development activities. The survey took place on 31 March 2014.

In order to establish heritage significance the following method was followed:

- Investigation of primary resources (archival information)
- Investigation of secondary resources (literature and maps)
- Physical evidence (site investigation)
- Determining Heritage Significance

1.4 BACKGROUND HISTORY OF THE GREATER STUDY AREA

Midrand was established cc 1980's on various farm portions. Originally and still at present many smallholdings are situated here.

1.5 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF AREA EARMARKED FOR DEVELOPMENT

The area earmarked for development consists mainly of small holdings





Main and Ash Road Crossing (eastern access point)



Near Erling Rd William Nicol acces point (western access point) an area suggesting that it was previously farmland/small holdings with homesteads, Currently abonded.





2. FINDINGS

2.1 PRE-COLONIAL HERITAGE SITES

Possibilities: Greater study area taken into account.

Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when stone material was mainly used to produce tools¹. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods²;

- Early Stone Age 2 000 000 – 150 000 years ago
- Middle Stone Age 150 000 – 30 000 years ago
- Late Stone Age 40 000 years ago - +/- 1850 AD

Iron Age

The Iron Age is the period in human history when metal was mainly used to produce artefacts³. In South Africa the Iron Age can be divided in three periods;

- Early Iron Age 250-900 AD
- Middle Iron Age 900-1300 AD
- Late Iron Age 1300-1840 AD⁴

¹ P. J. Coertze & R.D. Coertze, Verklarende vakwoordeboek vir Antropologie en Argeologie.

² S.A. Korsman & A. Meyer, *Die Steentydperk en rotskuns* in J.S. Bergh (red) Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies.

³ P.J. Coertze & R.D. Coertze, Verklarende vakwoordeboek vir Antropologie en Argeologie.

⁴ M.M. van der Ryst & A Meyer. *Die Ystertydperk* in J.S. Bergh (red) Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies and T.N Huffman, A Handbook to the Iron Age: The Archaeology of Pre-Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa.

There are no pre-colonial heritage sites evident in the study area. This can be attributed to previous farming and infra-structure development activities in the greater study area.

2.2 HISTORICAL PERIOD HERITAGE SITES

Possibilities: Greater study area taken into account.

- Pioneer sites (Voortrekker sites cc 1836-1850's)
- Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) sites.
- Structures older than 60 years.
- Historical graves.

There are no historical period sites in the area earmarked for development.

2.3 ORIGINAL LANDSCAPE

Infrastructure and other development have altered the original landscape in most of the greater study area.

2.4 INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

The intangible heritage of the greater study area can be found in the stories of past and present inhabitants.

3 CATEGORIES OF HERITAGE VALUE (ACT 25 OF 1999)

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) identifies the following categories of value under section 3(1) and (2) of the Act under the heading "National Estate":

- "3 (1) For the purpose of this Act, those heritage resources of South Africa which are of cultural significance or other special value for the present community and for future generations must be considered part of the national estate and fall within the sphere of operations of heritage resources authorities.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the national estate may include-
- (a) places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
 - (b) places which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (c) historical settlements and townscapes;
 - (d) landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
 - (e) geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
 - (f) archaeological and palaeontological sites;
 - (g) graves and burial grounds, including-
 - (i) ancestral graves;
 - (ii) royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
 - (iii) graves of victims of conflict;
 - (iv) graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette
 - (v) historical graves and cemeteries; and

- (vi) other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
 - (h) sites of significance relating to the history in South Africa;
 - (i) movable objects, including-
 - (i) objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
 - (ii) objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (iii) ethnographic art and objects;
 - (iv) military objects
 - (v) objects of decorative or fine art;
 - (vi) objects of scientific or technological interests; and
 - (vii) books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 (xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).
- (3) Without limiting the generality of the subsections (1) and (2), a place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of-
- (a) Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
 - (b) Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
 - (c) Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
 - (d) Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural objects;
 - (e) Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
 - (f) Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
 - (g) Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
 - (h) Its strong or special association with the life and work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and
 - (i) Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa."

3.1 HERITAGE VALUE OF WEIGHED AGAINST CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE CATEGORIES

3.1.1 Spiritual value

During the site visit/field work no indication of any spiritual activity was observed on/near the proposed site. Thus no sites of spiritual value will be impacted on by the proposed project.

3.1.2 Scientific value

No sites of scientific value was observed on or near the site earmarked for development.

3.1.3 Historical value

No historical value associated with the proposed site could be found in primary and secondary sources.⁵

3.1.4 Aesthetic value

No heritage item with exceptional aesthetic (architectural) value was identified in the study area.

3.1.5 Social value

Social value is attributed to sites that are used by the community for recreation and formal and informal meetings regarding matters that are important to the community. These sites include parks, community halls, sport fields etc. Visually none of the above is evident in the study area.

⁵ Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa and the Transvaalse Argiefbewaarplek (TAB) database at the National Archives, Pretoria;
J.S. Bergh (red), Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika: Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies.

3.2 SPECIFIC CATEGORIES INVESTIGATED AS PER SECTION 3 (1) AND (2) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LEGISLATION (ACT 25 OF 1999)

3.2.1 Does the site/s provide the context for a wider number of places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance?

The study area does not provide context for a wider number of places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance. The reason is the low density of heritage structures/sites in the study area, near or on the proposed site.

3.2.2 Does the site/s contain places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage?

Places to which oral traditions are attached or associated with living heritage are usually found in conjunction with traditional settlements and villages which still practise age old traditions. None of these are evident near or on the proposed site.

3.2.3 Does the site/s contain historical settlements?

No historical settlements are located on or near the proposed site.

3.2.4 Does the site/s contain landscapes and natural features of cultural significance?

Due to previous infra-structure development activities the original character of the landscape have been altered significantly in the study area.

3.2.5 Does the site/s contain geological sites of cultural importance?

Geological sites of cultural importance include meteorite sites (Tswaing Crater and Vredefort Dome), fossil sites (Karoo and Krugersdorp area), important mountain ranges or ridges (Magaliesburg, Drakensberg etc.). The proposed site is not located in an area known for sites of this importance.

3.2.6 Does the site/s contain a wide range of archaeological sites?

The proposed site does not contain any surface archaeological deposits, the reason being the large scale alteration of the original landscape.

The possibility of sub-surface findings always exists and should be taken into consideration in the Environmental Management Plan.

If sub-surface archaeological material is discovered work must stop and a heritage practitioner preferably an archaeologist contacted to assess the find and make recommendations.

3.2.7 Does the site/s contain any marked graves and burial grounds?

The site does not contain marked graves. The possibility of graves not visible to the human eye always exists and this should be taken into consideration in the Environmental Management Plan.

It is important to note that all graves and cemeteries are of high significance and are protected by various laws. Legislation with regard to graves includes the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) whenever graves are 60 years and older. Other legislation with regard to graves includes those when graves are exhumed and relocated, namely the Ordinance on Exhumations (no 12 of 1980) and the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended).

If sub-surface graves are discovered work should stop and a professional preferably an archaeologist contacted to assess the age of the grave/graves and to advice on the way forward.

3.2.8 Does the site/s contain aspects that relate to the history of slavery?

This is not an area associated with the history of slavery like the Western Cape Province.

3.2.9 Can the place be considered as a place that is important to the community or in the pattern of South African history?

In primary and secondary sources the proposed site is not described as important to the community or in the pattern of South African history.⁶

3.2.10 Does the site/s embody the quality of a place possessing uncommon or rare endangered aspects of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage?

The proposed site does not possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage. These sites are usually regarded as Grade 1 or World Heritage Sites.

3.2.11 Does the site/s demonstrate the principal characteristics of South Africa's natural or cultural places?

The proposed site does not demonstrate the principal characteristics of South Africa's natural or cultural places. These characteristics are usually associated with aesthetic significance.

3.2.12 Does the site/s exhibit particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the community or cultural groups?

This part of the greater study area does not exhibit particular aesthetic characteristics valued by the community or cultural groups. The reason being the low density of heritage buildings and structures located in the greater study area.

⁶ Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa and the Transvaalse Argiefbewaarpark (TAB) database at the National Archives, Pretoria.

J.S. Bergh (red), Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies.

3.2.13 Does the site/s contain elements, which are important in demonstrating a high degree of creative technical achievement?

The site does not contain elements which are important in demonstrating a high degree of creative technical achievement. Reason being none of the above evident on site.

3.2.14 Does the site/s have strong and special associations with particular communities and cultural groups for social, cultural and spiritual reasons?

The proposed site does not have a strong or special association with particular communities and cultural groups for social, cultural and spiritual reasons, the reason being that the particular site is located on mainly developed land and it is evident that the site is not utilised for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

3.2.15 Does the site/s have a strong and special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation?

No indication of the above in primary and secondary sources.

4. OPPORTUNITIES, RESTRICTIONS, IMPACTS

- Because of the good summer rains grass is long and vegetation dense.
- There are no visible restrictions or negative impacts in terms of heritage associated with the site other than the structures older than 60 years. In terms of heritage this project can proceed.
- 3.2.6 and 3.2.7 must be taken into account in the Environmental Management Plan.

5. THE WAY FORWARD

- **Submit this report as a Section 38 application to the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) for comment/approval.**