

APPENDIX 3

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION OF KOMATIPOORT TOWNLANDS

Please refer to Appendix 1, 4 & 5 for areas which were investigated:



Fig. 1: General view north of the Ngweti River (Northern section): Most of this section is under sugarcane lands, with the SASOL gas pipeline, infrastructure, servitudes as well as a large quarry, disturbing the rest.



Fig. 2: General view south of the Ngweti river (Southern section): Most of this section is under sugarcane lands, and it seems that the other parts were also disturbed historically.

SECTION A:



Fig. 3: Section A was dense with grass but burnt in patches. Visibility was good. Sickle bush and cotton occurs in this section which suggest previous disturbance.



Fig. 4: View to the east in the path of the SASOL gas pipeline. The N4 is to the left and a fallow sugarcane field to the right. The area was burnt.



Fig. 5: View to the west (the N4 is on the right), in the path of the SASOL gas pipeline. The pipeline is taking up a large area of section A.

SECTION B



Fig. 6: The general view of Section B in the southern part. The area has also burnt in sections but generally the grass was dense. The railway line is visible in the background (the embankment).



Fig. 7: The general view of Section B in the northern part with large Fever trees.



Fig. 8: The SASOL gas pipeline servitude towards the **pump station**. Sickie bush is growing in between and suggest historic disturbance.



Fig. 9: The access road (servitude) to the SASOL Plant.



Fig. 10: The SASOL gas pipeline **pump station**.



Fig. 11: The SASOL Plant area (see also location in Appendix 1).

SECTION C NORTH:



Fig. 12: The entrance from the west (just north of the Ngweti River). The vegetation was thick grass cover with tall trees.



Fig. 13: Section B is situated to the left and Section C to the right. The railway bridge is visible where it crosses the Ngweti River in the eastern part of the study area. Sickle bush is covering large parts away from the river which suggests previous disturbance.



Fig. 14: Section C on the left (facing west). Sickle bush is visible in between parts in this section which suggests historic disturbance.



Fig. 15: A large quarry is located just north of the Ngweti River (see Appendix 1 for the location). It borders sugarcane fields to the west, north and east.

SECTION C: SOUTH



Fig. 16: This view is facing north towards the river. Large fever trees dominate the landscape in the eastern parts. The grass cover was fairly dense.



Fig. 17: This view is close to the River (south of the Ngweti River) and is facing west. Grass cover was still dense and a mixture of large trees dominate the landscape near the river.



Fig. 18: View of the railway bridge crossing the Ngweti River (left). Many access roads were used to investigate the area because the grass cover was dense.



Fig. 19: The Ngweti River is on the right, and this view is facing west. Sugarcane fields are visible to the left of the access road.



Fig. 20: The riverine section. Large trees occur on both sides of the Ngweti River and vegetation underneath was sparse. Visibility in this area was good.



Fig. 21: An overgrown square foundation of approximately 2500mm x 1500mm was observed near the river. The bricks are modern and recent and it is believed to be the foundation of an earlier pump house.



Fig. 22: An ESKOM line runs from north to south across the River. This view is facing south



Fig. 23: The same ESKOM line showing the view towards the north (from south of the river). The Eskom servitudes helped to assess the areas.



Fig. 24: View on the southern part facing east. The river is on the left and the sugarcane fields are situated on the right.



Fig. 25: The western part of the southern section along the river is more open and dry, although the grass cover is still fairly dense. Visibility was a little better in this area.



Fig. 26: Locals use this area to gather reeds which are used for domestic purposes.



Fig. 27: The western area of the southern section is next to a tarred road. The vegetation is dominated by sickle bush and suggests historic disturbance.

SECTION D:



Fig. 28: A general of the southern section facing south. Section D (in the west) is visible next to the sugarcane lands. Large parts of section D is covered with sickle bush.



Fig. 29: A drainage line which was dug out to form a canal, starts in section D.



Fig. 30: Vegetation cover in section D was dense and has a mixture of small trees and sickle bush, which suggest previous disturbance.



Fig. 31: Another view of section D where the sickle bush is clearly visible.

SECTION E:



Fig. 32: Section E is located roughly in the middle of the southern section. It is surrounded by sugarcane lands.



Fig. 33: The grass cover was dense, and sickle bush mixed with medium trees cover most of the area, which also suggests historic disturbance.



Fig. 34: An ESKOM line runs through the section toward the east and this servitude was used to access the area.

SECTION F:



Fig. 35: This small section is dominated by sickle bush and suggests previous disturbance.

SECTION G:



Fig. 36: Section G is entire disturbed by new sugarcane lands.

SECTION H:



Fig. 37: Section H was covered with a dense grass cover and dominated by sickle bush which suggests historic disturbance.



Fig. 38: Many access roads in this section were used to investigate the area.



Fig. 39: Cotton bushes were observed in between natural vegetation as well as sickle bush which suggests historic disturbed areas.



Fig. 40: Another view of section H – note the dense grass cover and sickle bush.

SECTION I:



Fig. 41: Section I is at the south-eastern end of the property. The perimeter fence next to the railway line is visible left of the road. This section is entirely disturbed. The “entrance” between the two roads is dominated with sickle bush.



Fig. 42: A large quarry disturbed most of this section.



Fig. 43: Another view of the quarry (see Appendix 1 for the location).



Fig. 44: To the west of section I is a dam (visible behind the trees), housing infrastructure, sugarcane lands in the back and a large vegetable garden to the right (See Appendix 1).