

SPECIALIST REPORT

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
NAUDE'S RUST DEBUSHING PROJECT ON PORTIONS 17 & 21 OF THE FARM NAUDE'S
RUST 272JU, KAAPMUIDEN - LOWS CREEK AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

**REPORT COMPILED FOR
RHENGU ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

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OCTOBER 2022

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) regarding archaeological and other cultural heritage resources was conducted on the footprint for the Naude's Rust debushing project, on *portions 17 & 21 of the farm NAUDE'S RUST 272JU*, between Kaapmuiden and Lows Creek.

The study area is situated on topographical map 1:50 000, 2531CB (Kaapmuiden), which is in the Mpumalanga Province. This area falls under the jurisdiction of the Ehlanzeni District Municipality, and Nkomazi Local Municipality. The National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 (1999) (NHRA), protects all heritage resources, which are classified as national estate. The NHRA stipulates that any person who intends to undertake a development, is subjected to the provisions of the Act.

The applicant, Mr. Walter Giuricich, in co-operation with Rhengu Environmental Services, is requesting the debushing of four sections on the farm Naude's Rust, for agricultural purposes. The four sections will cover an area of approximately 28ha. The arable areas of Naude's Rust were historically disturbed by commercial farming activities since at least 1968. The area is ideal for agricultural development, with large commercial farms to the north, south, east and west.

The proposed development is situated to the north of the R38 between Kaapmuiden and Lows Creek. Swaziland is situated approximately 30 km to the south. The farm is currently zoned as agricultural.

The survey revealed a number of recent structures which have no historical significance, as well as a single fragment of a Late Iron Age (LIA), clay potsherd, which was observed within a disturbed road section. No graves were identified during the survey, which was also confirmed by the owner.

It is recommended that the owner be made aware that distinct archaeological material or human remains may only be revealed during the debushing operation. Due to the dense grass cover in some of the sections, it is recommended that the debushing / earthmoving activities be monitored by a qualified archaeologist, who will assess any finds should it be necessary. Based on the survey and the findings in this report, Adansonia Heritage Consultants state that there are no compelling reasons which may prevent the proposed debushing on the four sections, to continue.

Disclaimer: *Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural significance during the investigation, it is possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study. Christine Rowe trading as Adansonia Heritage Consultants will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred by the client as a result.*

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- 1) The results of the project;*
- 2) The technology described in any report;*
- 3) Recommendations delivered to the Client.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Rowe', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

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CHRISTINE ROWE
OCTOBER 2022

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RUST 272JU, KAAPMUIDEN - LOWS CREEK AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO THE PROJECT

The owner of the farm Naude's Rust 272JU in the Kaapmuiden - Lows Creek area is requesting the debushing of four sections on *portions 17 & 21 on the farm Naude's Rust 272JU*.¹ The four sections are numbered from one (1) to four (4) respectively, and covers a total area of 28ha.² Large sections on the farm have historically been used for agricultural purposes since at least the 1960's, and the wider area is well known for extensive farming of fruit, vegetables and sugarcane (see maps 2 & 3: Aerial map & Google image). The farmers continue to investigate and experiment with crops which could give better returns and use less water.³

The study area is situated on *portions 17 & 21 of the farm NAUDE'S RUST 272JU*, just north of the R38 between Lows Creek and Kaapmuiden,⁴ and is approximately 15km south of the N4 national road.

Adansonia Heritage Consultants were appointed by *RHENGU ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES*, to conduct a Phase 1 heritage impact assessment (HIA) on archaeological and other heritage resources on the study area. A literature study, relevant to the study area as well as a foot survey was done, to determine that no archaeological or heritage resources will be impacted upon (see map 10: Topographical Map: 2531CB -1968 & 1984).

The aims of this report are to source all relevant information on archaeological and heritage resources in the study area, and to advise the client on sensitive heritage areas as well as where it is viable for the development to take place in terms of the specifications as set out in the National Heritage Resources Act no., 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Recommendations for maximum conservation measures for any heritage resources will also be made. The study area is indicated in maps 1 - 14, and Appendix 1 & 2.

- This study forms part of an EIA, Consultant: *RHENGU ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES*.

¹ Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1

² Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

³ Needs & Desirability of the clearing of indigenous vegetation for crop production, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1.

⁴ Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1

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- Type of development: Debushing of land for agricultural purposes. Four sections were identified for the debushing project to the extent of 28ha, and are located *on portion 17 & 21 of the farm NAUDE'S RUST 272JU*, in the Lows Creek / Kaapmuiden area, Mpumalanga Province.
- The study areas are mostly natural, with also invasive species. There is recent infrastructure development, and the farm is zoned as agricultural – no rezoning will take place.
- Location of Province, Magisterial district / Local Authority and Property (farms): The area falls within the Mpumalanga Province under the jurisdiction of the Ehlanzeni District Municipality and Nkomazi Local Municipality.
- Land owner: Mr. Walter Giuricich, KUDU & ESPERIA FARMS (Pty) Ltd., (E-mail: walter@ivorymacs.co.za / Cell: 082 967 6757).

Terms of reference: As specified by section 38 (3) of the NHRA, the following information is provided in this report.

- a) The identification and mapping of heritage resources where applicable;
- b) Assessment of the significance of the heritage resources;
- c) Alternatives given to affected heritage resources by the development;
- d) Plans for measures of mitigation.

Legal requirements:

The legal context of the report is grounded in the National Heritage Resources Act no. 25, 1999, as well as the National Environmental Management Act (1998) (NEMA) (as amended):

- In terms of Government Notice R546, a basic Environmental Impact Assessment is required in terms of listed activities.

• Section 38 of the NHRA

This report constitutes a heritage impact assessment investigation linked to the environmental impact assessment required for the development. The proposed development is a listed activity in terms of Section 38 (1) of the NHRA. Section 38 (2) of the NHRA requires the submission of a HIA report for authorisation purposes to the responsible heritage resources agency, (SAHRA). Heritage conservation and management in South Africa is governed by the NHRA and falls

under the overall jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and its provincial offices and counterparts.

Section 38 of the NHRA requires a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to be conducted by an independent heritage management consultant, for the following development categories:

- Any development or other activity which will change the character of a site:
 - exceeding 5000m² in extent;
 - the rezoning of a site exceeding 10 000m² in extent;

In addition, the new EIA regulation promulgated in terms of NEMA (as amended), determines that any environmental report will include cultural (heritage) issues.

The end purpose of this report is to alert *RHENGU ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES*, as well as the clients, interested and affected parties about existing heritage resources that may be affected by the proposed development, and to recommend mitigation measures aimed at reducing the risks of any adverse impacts on these heritage resources. Such measures could include the recording of any heritage buildings or structures older than 60 years prior to demolition, in terms of section 34 of the NHRA and also other sections of this act dealing with archaeological sites, buildings and graves.

The NHRA section 2 (xvi) states that a “heritage resource” means any place or object of cultural significance, and in section 2 (vi) that “cultural significance” means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance.

Apart from a heritage report assisting a client to make informed development decisions, it also serves to provide the relevant heritage resources authority with the necessary data to perform their statutory duties under the NHRA. After evaluating the heritage scoping report, the heritage resources authority will decide on the status of the resource, whether the development may proceed as proposed or whether mitigation is acceptable, and whether the heritage resource require formal protection such as a Grade I, II or III, with relevant parties having to comply with all aspects pertaining to such a grading.

- **Section 34 of the NHRA**

Section 34 of the NHRA stipulates that no person may alter, damage, destroy, relocate etc., any building or structure older than 60 years, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority. This section does not apply since no structure older than 60 years

was identified in the study area during the survey.

- **Section 35 of the NHRA**

Section 35 (4) of the NHRA stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object. This section may apply to any significant archaeological sites that may be discovered. In the case of such chance finds, the heritage practitioner will assist in investigating the extent and significance of the finds and consult with an archaeologist about further action. This may entail removal of material after documenting the find or mapping of larger sections before destruction. One fragment of a Late Iron Age (LIA) potsherd was observed in a disturbed road section.

- **Section 36 of the NHRA**

Section 36 of the NHRA stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA, destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority. It is possible that chance burials might be discovered during development of the road infrastructure or agricultural activities. No graves were identified during the survey and the owner, confirmed this.

- **Section 37 of the NHRA**

This section deals with public monuments and memorials but does not apply in this report.

- **NEMA**

The regulations in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, (107/1998 / as amended), provides for an assessment of development impacts on the cultural (heritage) and social environment and for specialist studies in this regard.

B BACKGROUND TO ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE STUDY AREA

- **Literature review, museum databases & previous relevant impact assessments**

Very little contemporary research has been done on prehistoric African settlements in the study area. No Early or Later Stone or Iron Age sites were recorded by Bergh.⁵ The SAHRA database was consulted and a few Specialists AIA reports revealed no significant

⁵ J.S. Bergh, *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid-Afrika Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies*, pp. 4-7.

archaeological (Stone Age or Iron Age) sites.

STONE AGE

- The Stone Age is the period in human history when people produced stone tools. The Stone Age in South Africa can be divided in three periods:
- Early Stone Age (ESA): +- 2 million – 150 000 years ago;
- Middle Stone Age (MSA): +- 150 000 – 30 000 years ago;
- Later Stone Age (LSA): +- 40 000 – 1850AD.

IRON AGE

- The Iron Age is the period in time when humans manufactured metal artifacts. According to Van der Ryst & Meyer,⁶ it can be divided in two separate phases, namely:
- Early Iron Age (EIA) +- 200 – 1000 AD;
- Late Iron Age (LIA) +- 1000 – 1850 AD.

Archaeological surveys by heritage practitioners in the immediate and wider area revealed mainly burial sites and historic features (see below).

In order to place the areas in and around Kaapmuiden / Lows Creek to Nelspruit and north towards Bushbuckridge in an archaeological context, primary and secondary sources were consulted. Ethnographical and linguistic studies by early researchers such as Ziervogel and Van Warmelo shed light on the cultural groups living in the area since ca 1600. Historical and academic sources by Küsel, Meyer, Voight, Bergh, De Jongh, Evers, Myburgh, Thackeray and Van der Ryst were consulted, as well as historical sources by Makhura and Webb.

Primary sources were consulted from the Pilgrim's Rest Museum Archives for a background on the pre-history and history of the study area. The author was involved in a *Desktop Study for Proposed Eskom Powerlines, Hazyview – Dwarsloop* in 2008, *Inspection of Umbhaba Stone-walled settlement, Hazyview*, in 2001, as well as a *Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for 132Kv Powerlines from Kiepersol substation (Hazyview), to the Nwarele substation (Dwarsloop (2002))*, as well as a *Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for a proposed traffic training academy, Calcutta, Mkhuhlu, Bushbuckridge (2013)*. The SAHRA database for archaeological and historical impact assessments was consulted and revealed a few reports for the Komatipoort region, which are listed below. One report for Bushbuckridge (F. Roodt), and one for Acornhoek (JP Celliers) revealed no archaeological sites

⁶ Van der Ryst, M.M, & Meyer, A, Die Ystertydperk in *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid-Afrika Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies*, pp. 96 – 98.

of significance. Two reports by Dr. J. Van Schalkwyk (NCHM) revealed only historical sites close to the Komatipoort – Mozambique border.⁷ Reports by Birkholz and Van Vollenhoven for the Nelspruit area revealed historical / recent structures and graves but no archaeological features.

Later Stone Age sites in the Kruger National Park date to the last 2500 years and are associated with pottery and microlith stone tools.⁸ The only professionally excavated Early Iron Age site in the immediate area, besides those in the Kruger National Park, is the Plaston site towards the west, dating ca 900 AD.⁹ No other archaeological excavations have been conducted to date within the study area, which have been confirmed by academic institutions and specialists in the field.^{10 11} A stone walled settlement with terracing was recorded by C. van Wyk (Rowe) close to Hazyview,¹² as well as several others further west and north-west,¹³ outside of the study area. Research has been done by the Pilgrim's Rest Museum on San rock art as well as rock art made by Bantu speakers in the Escarpment area, but none was recorded to date in the Lows Creek area.¹⁴

Several early ethnographical and linguistic studies by early researchers such as D. Ziervogel and N.J. Van Warmelo, revealed that the study area was inhabited by mainly Swazi groups from before the 18th century.^{15 16} However, when concentrating on ethnographical history, it is important to include a slightly wider geographical area in order for it to make sense. The whole district is divided in two, with the Drakensberg Escarpment in the west, and the Low Veld (in which the study area is situated) towards the east. Today, we found that the boundaries of groups are intersected and overlapping.¹⁷ Languages such as Zulu, Xhosa, Swazi, Nhlangu, and Ndebele are spoken in the area.

⁷ National Cultural History Museum, 2002., Archaeological Survey of a section of the Secunda-Mozambique Gas Pipeline, Barberton District, Mpumalanga & J. Van Schalkwyk, 2008., HIA Report: Proposed new Lebombo Port of Entry and Upgrade of Komatipoort Railway Station, Mpumalanga (SA) & Mozambique.

⁸ J.S. Bergh (red)., *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid Afrika: Die vier Noordelike Provinsies*, p. 95.

⁹ M.M. Van der Ryst., *Die Ystertydperk*, in J.S. Bergh (red)., *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid Afrika: Die vier Noordelike Provinsies*. p. 97.

¹⁰ Personal information: Dr. J. Pistorius, Pretoria, 2008-04-17.

¹¹ Personal information: Dr. MS. Schoeman, University of Pretoria, 2008-03-27.

¹² C. Van Wyk, *Inspection of Umbhamba Stone-walled settlement, Hazyview*, pp. 1-2.

¹³ PRMA: Information file 9/2.

¹⁴ PRMA: Information file 9/2.

¹⁵ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*. pp. 90-92 & 111.

¹⁶ H. S. Webb, *The Native Inhabitants of the Southern Lowveld*, in *Lowveld Regional Development Association, The South-Eastern Transvaal Lowveld*. p. 16.

¹⁷ N.J. van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 51.

Nkuna, sePedi, hiPau and seRôka, are commonly spoken throughout this area.¹⁸

The Swazi under Mswati II (1845), commenced on a career of largescale raids on the prosperous tribal lands to the north of Swaziland. His regiments such as the *Nyatsi* and the *Malelane* brought terror to African homes as far afield as Mozambique.¹⁹ During their northern expansion they forced the local inhabitants out of Swaziland, or absorbed them.²⁰ There is evidence of resistance, but the Eastern Sotho groups who lived in the northern parts of Swaziland, moved mainly northwards.²¹ This appears to have taken place towards the end of the 18th century,²² when these groups fled from Swaziland to areas such as Nelspruit, Bushbuckridge, Klaserie, Blyde River and Komatipoort.²³

Mswati II built a line of military outposts from west to east of the upper Komati River and the Mlambongwane (KaaP River). At each outpost he stationed regiments to watch and stop the BaPedi returning to their old haunts.²⁴ Shaka in the course of his military actions, came into conflict with Zwide Mkhathshwa (1819). Nonwithstanding Zwide's numerical superiority, Shaka defeated him. The remnants of Zwide's tribe fled into the Eastern Transvaal where they settled. They ultimately found a new kingdom in Gaza land, which extended from just north of the current Maputo, up the east coast as far as the Zambezi River.²⁵ Soshangane was a very powerful chief of the Gaza people, even though he was under the rule of Zwide. Soshangane decided to leave and was given full passage through Swaziland. He passed on his way through the Komati gorge, today known as Komatipoort, taking with him a great booty of cattle and women. Meanwhile more Shangane arrived and by 1896 some 2000 refugees settled between Bushbuckridge and Acornhoek where they are still living today. With the establishment of the Sabie Game Reserve (later known as the Kruger National Park), the BakaNgomane, their Shangaan protégés and Swazis who lived within its borders, were evicted in 1902, and went westward into Klaserie and Bushbuckridge areas, or south of the Crocodile River and established themselves in the Tenbosch and Coal Mine (Strijdom Block) areas (east of the current study area), west and south of Komatipoort. The Swazi of Khandzalive moved to

¹⁸ M. De Jongh (ed)., *Swatini*, p. 21.

¹⁹ Bornman H., *The Pioneers of the Lowveld* p 11.

²⁰ A.C. Myburgh, *The Tribes of Barberton District*, p. 10.

²¹ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*. p. 111.

²² H. S. Webb, *The Native Inhabitants of the Southern Lowveld, in Lowveld Regional Development Association, The South-Eastern Transvaal Lowveld*. p. 14

²³ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

²⁴ Bornman, H., *The Pioneers of the Lowveld* p. 12.

²⁵ Bornman, H., *The Pioneers of the Lowveld*, p.17.

Mjejane or Emjane, the current name for Hectorspruit.²⁶ (See also: Map 1: 1935 Map of Van Warmelo).

Several circular stone-walled complexes and terraces as well as graves have been recorded in the vicinities of Hazyview²⁷, Bushbuckridge, Graskop and Sabie. Clay potsherds and upper as well as lower grinding stones, are scattered at most of the sites.²⁸ Many of these occur in caves as a result of the Swazi attacks on the smaller groups.

The only early trade route mentioned, which crossed this section, was a footpath used by the African groups from Delagoa Bay towards Bushbuckridge (Magashulaskraal as it was previously named), along the Sabie River, up the Escarpment, and further north to the Soutpansberg.²⁹ There is however, no physical evidence left of this early route.

Van Warmelo based his 1935 survey of *Bantu Tribes of South Africa* on the number of taxpayers in an area. The survey does not include the extended households of each taxpayer, so it was impossible to indicate how many people were actually living in one area.³⁰

The author was involved in desktop studies and surveys in the **wider area**, such as:

- *Study for the Proposed Eskom Powerlines, Hazyview – Dwarsloop* (2008);
- *Inspection of Umbhaba Stone-walled settlement, Hazyview*, (2001);
- *a Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for 132Kv Powerlines from Kiepersol substation (Hazyview), to the Nwarele substation Dwarsloop* (2002);
- *a Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for a proposed traffic training academy, Calcutta, Mkhuhlu, Bushbuckridge* (2013);
- *Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Nkambeni cemetery in Numbi, Hazyview* (2013); no features of significance were identified;
- *Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for a Development on the farm Agricultural Holding no 56 JU, White River* (2013) was done in the wider area;
- *Phase 1 Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for proposed agricultural development on the farm SIERAAD, Komatipoort area*, (2013) revealed one possible

²⁶ Bornman, H., *The Pioneers of the Lowveld*, p.19.

²⁷ PRMA: Information file 9/2.

²⁸ D. Ziervogel, *The Eastern Sotho, A Tribal, Historical and Linguistic Survey*, p. 3.

²⁹ L. Changuion & J.S. Bergh, *Swart gemeenskappe voor die koms van die blankes*, in J.S. Bergh (red.), *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid Afrika: Die vier Noordelike Provinsies*. p. 104.

³⁰ N.J. van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p.9.

Late Stone Age borer which was identified in a soil sample, one meter below the surface;

- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed debushing of natural land for agricultural use: Portion 10 of the farm Thankerton 175JU, Hectorspruit, Mpumalanga Province (2013);* revealed some Later Stone Age artifacts which were all out of context and a burial site.
- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed debushing of natural as well as disturbed land for agricultural use: Portion 2 of the farm Herculina 155JU, Hectorspruit area, Mpumalanga Province;* no significant archaeological or historical features were identified.
- *Letter of recommendation for the exemption from a Phase 1 AIA / HIA for the proposed new position for the Gutshwa substation, Gutshwa (near White River) (2016);*
- *Recommendation: Archaeological Material discovered on a building site at stand no 134 (Lugedlane Development), Mjejane Game Reserve, Lodwichs Lust 163JU, Hectorspruit (2016);*
- *Report on Grave site found at the Lugedlane Development site, Mjejane Game Reserve, Lodwichs Lust 163JU, Hectorspruit (2016).*
- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for a proposed agricultural development on the farm Krokodilspruit 248JT, White River, Mpumalanga Province –* some archaeological features as well as graves were observed.
- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed establishment of macadamia plantation on portion 1 of the farm PEEBLES 31JU, White River, Mpumalanga Province;*

The author was involved in desktop studies and surveys in the **immediate area**, such as:

- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed Residential Township, Tekwane Extension 2, Portion 7 of Tekwane 537JU, Kanyamazane, Mpumalanga Province (2014);* the entire area was transformed agricultural lands which revealed a few upper grinders;
- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed Reservoir, Bulk sewer and bulk water pipelines, Portion 7 of Tekwane 537JU, Kanyamazane, Mpumalanga Province (2014);* mostly disturbed residential areas which revealed no features of significance;
- *Report on Grave site found at portion 7 of the farm Tekwane 537 JU, in way of amended Bulk Sewer Pipeline, Kanyamazane, Mpumalanga Province (2017) –* Large graveyard identified.
- *Phase 1 AIA / HIA for the proposed construction of a 0.75ML/D water treatment plant and bulk line on government land at Makoko Village (near White River) Kabokweni, Mpumalanga Province (2017) residential township,*
- *Letter of recommendation for the exemption from a phase 1 AIA & HIA investigation:*

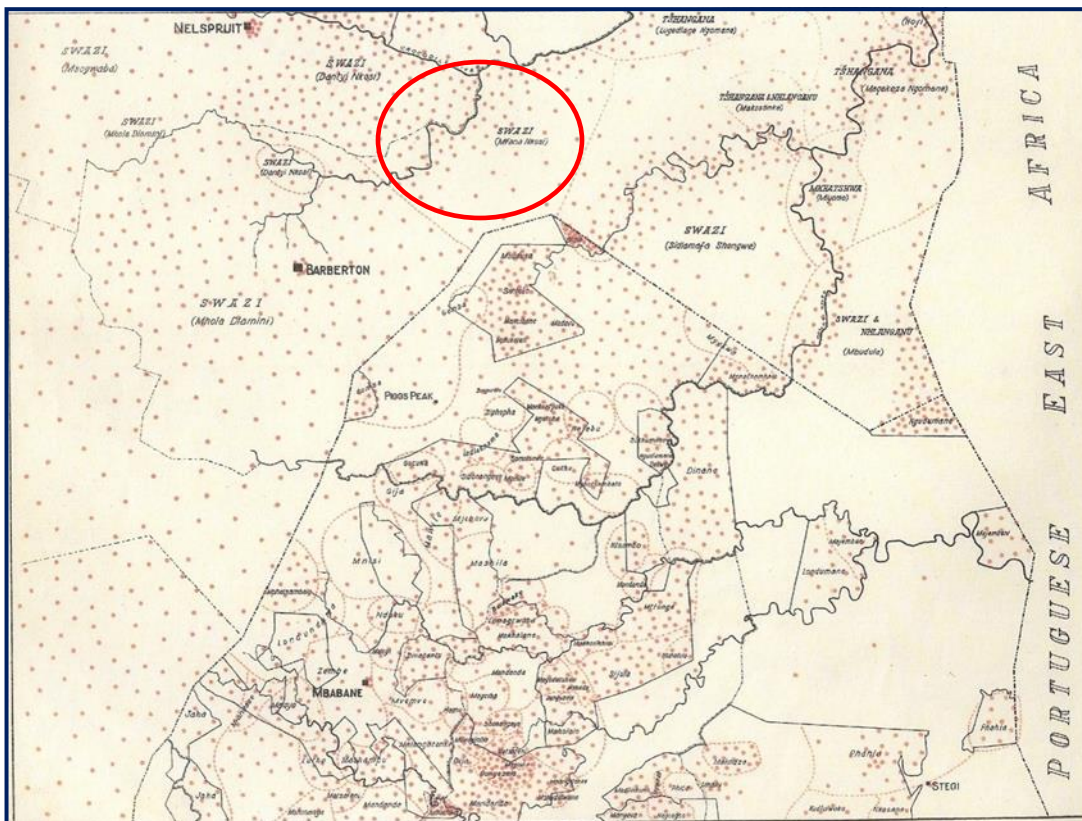
Proposed construction of a bridge on the D233 road in Louieville, Nkomazi local Municipality, Mpumalanga, (April 2018). – no archaeological sites were observed.

- Phase 1 AIA / HIA for the *proposed 2ha development of the Msogwaba Youth Development Centre on a portion of the farm Nyamasaan 647JU, Msogwaba, Mpumalanga province - no significant archaeological sites were observed (2018).*
- DESKTOP *Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Tekwane Hub residential development on Portion 9 of the farm Tekwane 573JU, Mbombela, City of Mbombela, Mpumalanga (2019).*
- DESKTOP *HIA for the proposed construction of a gravity outfall sewer line through a wetland, UMP Township & Portion 74 of the farm Friedenheim 282JU, Mbombela, City of Mbombela, Mpumalanga (2020).*
- Phase 1 AIA / HIA for the proposed Louws Creek Dam Project: *Construction of an irrigation dam on portions of the remaining extent of the farm Esperado 253JU & portions 1 & 2 of Esperado Annex 222JU, Louws Creek-Kaapmuiden area, Mpumalanga Province (2020)*

The SAHRA database for archaeological and historical impact assessments was consulted and revealed other recent Archaeological Impact Assessment reports in the wider and immediate areas:

- National Cultural History Museum, J. Van Schalkwyk: *Archaeological survey of a section of the Secunda- Mozambique Gas pipeline, Barberton District, Mpumalanga (2002), revealed one historic structure.*
- J. Van Schalkwyk: *Proposed new Lebombo Port of Entry and upgrade of Komatipoort railway station between Mpumalanga (SA) and Mozambique (2008) – Some historic buildings were identified but no archaeological remains;*
- A. Van Vollenhoven: *Report on a cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Kangwane Antracite Mine, Komatipoort (2012) – An archaeological site with Middle and Late Stone Age tools were identified as well as some Iron Age artifacts and decorated pottery. Mitigation measures were recommended by exclusion from the development or a Phase 2 study;*
- JP Celliers: *Report on Phase 1 Archaeological Impact assessment on erven at Komatipoort 182 JU Extension 4, Komatipoort (2012) – Revealed two pieces of undecorated sherds of pottery which was of low significance. It was recommended that any earthmoving activities be monitored by a qualified archaeologist.*

- A. Van Vollenhoven: *Archaeological Impact Assessment for Border site at Komatipoort (2012)* – Revealed historic remains linked to the Steinaeker’s Horse regiment during the South African War.
- A. Van Vollenhoven: *A Report on a basic assessment relating to cultural heritage resources for the proposed Eskom Tekwane North line and substations, Mpumalanga Province (2013)* – revealed historic remains of low significance and a cemetery.
- P. Birkholz: *HIA for the proposed development of the Karino Interchange located east of Mbombela, Mpumalanga Province (2017)* – Historical buildings and structures were revealed but no archaeological sites or features were identified.
- A. Van Vollenhoven: HIA for Aurecon, 15 June 2012, *Basic Assessment for the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Friedenheim Office Complex, Nelspruit, Mpumalanga.* – revealed no graves or archaeological sites. Recent buildings were observed.



MAP 1: Van Warmelo: 1935: The study area is indicated by the red oval.

Tsonga groups: The Nhlanganu and Tšhangana

The Nhlanganu and Tšhangana (also generally known as the Shangaan-Tsonga)³¹ form part of the larger Tsonga group of which the original group occupied the whole of Mozambique (Portuguese East Africa), and it has been recorded that by 1554, they were already living around the Delagoa Bay area (Maputo).³² They fled from the onslaughts of the Zulu (Nguni) nation from the Natal area, and great numbers of emigrants sought safety in the “Transvaal” as recently as the 19th century, especially in the greater Pilgrim's Rest district (including the study area that we are concerned with). The Tsonga also moved west from Mozambique into the “Transvaal”. They have never formed large powerful tribes but were mostly always subdivided into loosely-knit units, and absorbed under the protection of whichever chief would give them land.³³ They were originally of Nguni origin.³⁴ The term “Shangaan” is commonly employed to refer to all members of the Tsonga division.³⁵

The **Nhlanganu** occupied the Low Veld area in their efforts to escape the Zulu raids during 1835-1840. They lived side by side with the Tšhangana, and the differences between the two are inconsiderable. They have mixed extensively with other tribes.³⁶

The **Tšhangana** are also of Nguni origin who fled in the same way as the Nhlanganu, and settled in the “Transvaal” a little later than the former. Most of the Tsonga were subjects to *Soshangane*, who came from Zululand.³⁷ The downfall of *Ngungunyana* (son of *Soshangane*) saw his son seeking sanctuary in the “Transvaal”, and the latter became known as *Thulamahashi*,³⁸ the name that is still used for the area east of Busbuckridge.

The historical background of the study area confirmed that it was occupied since the 17th century by the Tsonga groups (Nhlanganu and Tšhangana). These groups have intermarried extensively or were absorbed by other groups in time.³⁹

³¹ M. De Jongh (ed)., *Swatini*, p. 24.

³² N.J. Van Warmelo, Grouping and Ethnic History, in *Schapera I., The Bantu-Speaking Tribes of South Africa. An Ethnographical survey*, p. 55.

³³ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, pp. 90-91.

³⁴ N.J. Van Warmelo, Grouping and Ethnic History, in *Schapera I., The Bantu-Speaking Tribes of South Africa. An Ethnographical survey*, p. 55.

³⁵ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 92

³⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 91-92.

³⁷ N.J. Van Warmelo, Grouping and Ethnic History, in *Schapera I., The Bantu-Speaking Tribes of South Africa. An Ethnographical survey*, p. 57.

³⁸ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 92.

³⁹ M. De Jongh (ed)., *Swatini*, p. 40.

Swazi

The Swazi people descend from the southern Bantu (Nguni) who migrated from central Africa in the 15th and 16th centuries.⁴⁰ The differences between the Swazi and the Natal Nguni were probably never great, their culture as far as is known from the comparatively little research being carried out, does not show striking differences. Their language is a 'Tekeza' variation of Zulu, but through having escaped being drawn into the mainstream of the Zulus of the *Shaka* period, they became independent and their claim to be grouped apart as a culture is now well founded.⁴¹

HISTORY OF THE FARM NAUDE'S RUST – relevant extracts:

The farm *NAUDES RUST* is situated in the Lows Creek area. It was already used as an agricultural farm since 1924 when Ernst Wallisch farmed with grenadella, paw-paw, litchis and bananas.⁴² Burgert Naude bought a farm named *PERL*, and married Mynie Bornman. Burgert was a cousin of the well-known Tom Naude, Member of Parliament for Pietersburg and brother of Colonel Koos Naude, chief of the Police. He farmed with cattle and planted maize, which was regularly destroyed by Kudu. He later moved from this farm (*PERL*), to Lows Creek where he bought land and named the farm ***Naude's Rust, 272JU***. Very little is known about Burgert Naude and what he did on *Naude's Rust*.⁴³

A certain Naas Ferreira bought the farm *PERL* and made a canal to water his crops. The canal started at the farm Bon Accord below Eureka station, to *PERL*, and later extended the canal to the farm *Lovedale* which he bought in 1924.⁴⁴

Ernst Wallisch bought the farm *WAAIHEUWEL* at Lows Creek (next to *Naude's Rust*). He experienced a shortage of water for his crops and piped water from the Daylight Mine for the farm. In 1951, a Ms Miemie van der Hoff (who was involved in the establishment of the Malelane clinic), requested a clinic for Lows Creek, and all the farmers assisted in some way or the other to get the clinic built, and it was opened on 26 November 1952.⁴⁵ The Clinic is still operational and situated on *Naude's Rust*.

Wycliffe James Hulley moved to Lows Creek in 1940. Charles Dryer sold a portion of *Naude's Rust 272JU* to Wycliffe, just west of Lows Creek. Wycliffe attempted to establish an economical viable farm. Water supply was pumped from the Lows Creek, but as it was not enough, Wycliffe

⁴⁰ Swaziland: Internet access: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swaziland> p.1.

⁴¹ N.J. Van Warmelo, *A Preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 83.

⁴² Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 114.

⁴³ Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 64.

⁴⁴ Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 65.

⁴⁵ Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 114.

decided to construct a canal (which took many years to build), to draw water from a farm several kilometers up river. (This initiative, no doubt was copied from the work done by Naas Ferreira and Ernst Wallisch). Hulley also served on many committees in the region as well as the Lows Creek Irrigation Board. ⁴⁶

The farm *NAUDES RUST* was owned by Barry Hulley from 1945, son of Wycliffe. The next owner was Ralph Dehrmann who purchased the farm in 1960. The Claasens purchased the property around 1981. Boeta Claasen still lives on the property (he is now 86), and his son Neels also lives on the property as he is the bailiff for the Irrigation Board. ⁴⁷

The writer Hans Bornman's family also lived on *Naude's Rust*, but the house (on a hill) is currently in disrepair and vandalized. ⁴⁸ Other infrastructure on the farm, included a sawmill, hostel, dams, sheds and residences.

C. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Giuricich of KUDU & ESPERIA FARMS (Pty) Ltd., is requesting the debushing of four sections on *portions 17 & 21 of the farm Naude's Rust 272JU* in the Kaapmuiden - Lows Creek area. ⁴⁹ The four sections are numbered from one (1) to four (4) respectively, (see below), and covers a total area of 28ha. ⁵⁰ Large sections on the farm have historically been used for agricultural purposes since at least the 1960's, and the wider area is well known for extensive farming of fruit, vegetables and sugarcane (see maps 2 & 3: Aerial map & Google image of wider area).

The general study area consists of the mountainous bushveld of eastern Mpumalanga. The landscape is characterized by wooded hills and slopes, intersected by large perennial rivers and smaller streams. Typical trees which can be found in this section, are Marula, Knobthorn, Mountain Seringa, Yellow flametree (*Peltophorum*), Candelabra tree (*Euphorbia ingens*), Buffalo thorn etc. ⁵¹ The general geology of the area consists of granite and gneiss, mostly of the Nelspruit suite, forming hills with large boulders. Soils are shallow, comprised of Glenrosa / Mispah soil types. ⁵²

⁴⁶ Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 115 & 116.

⁴⁷ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

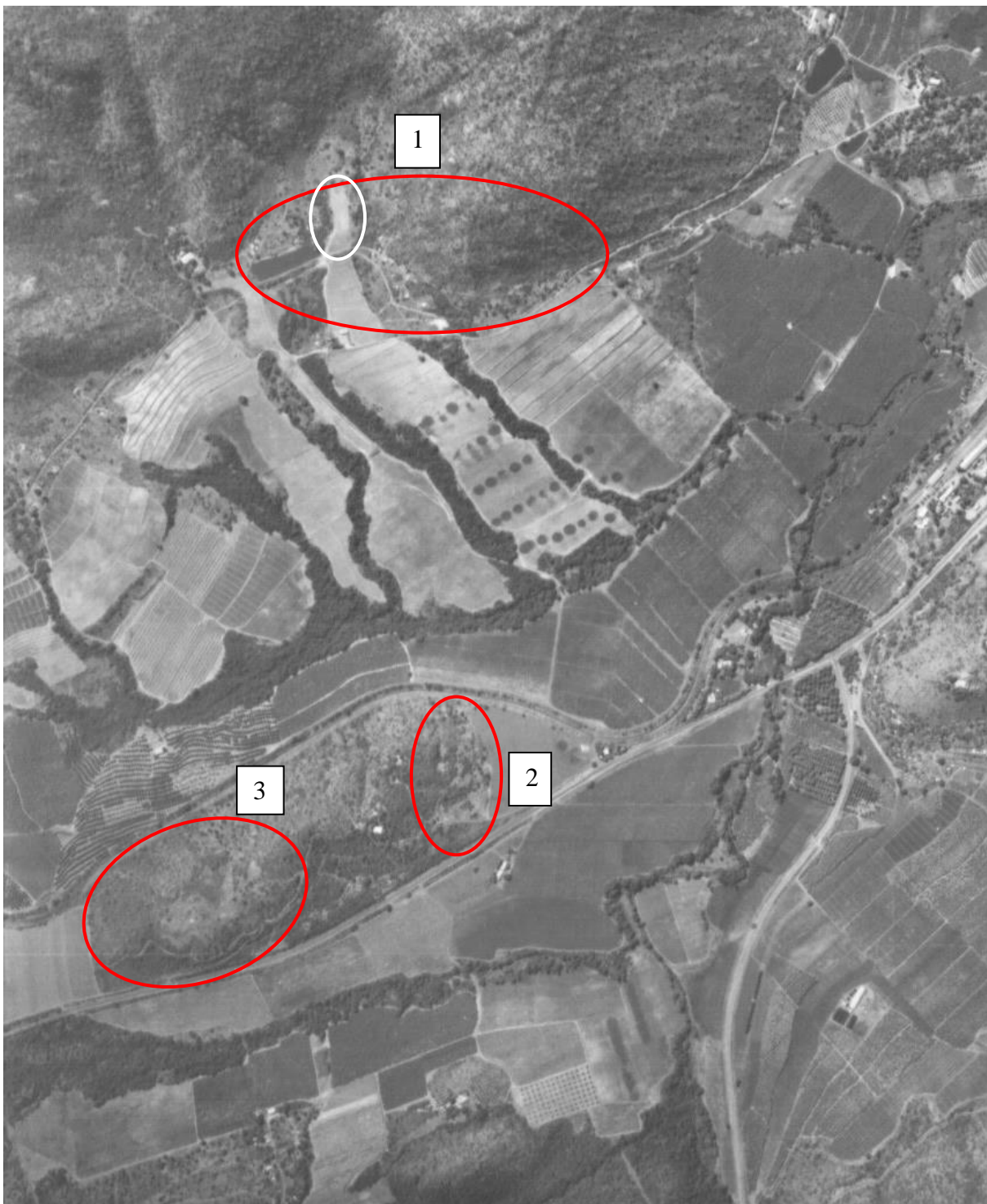
⁴⁸ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁴⁹ Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1

⁵⁰ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁵¹ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁵² Nelspruit area: Friedenheim Housing project, AEB, p. 2. Access: 2020-02-25.



MAP 2: (AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH 1:30 000: 25/05/1988, no. 498/245): The study areas (1, 2 & 3), are indicated by the red ovals. The white oval indicates a cultivated section in study area 1.

Please note the extensive agricultural activities in the area at this time (1988). (Aerial photograph provided by Mr. Giuricich).

STUDY AREA 1: 8ha (see figs. 1 – 18) Maps 4, 5 & 11.

Study area 1 is situated in the northern section of the farm and is in the extent of 8ha.⁵³ This section is situated at the foot of a hill (in the north), and consists of indigenous as well as alien vegetation (see figs. 1 – 6, 13 – 14, 16 – 17). This section borders a dam in the south as well as a concrete water canal (figs. 3, 7).

The western and central sections (of study area 1), are infested with pioneer species, such as Sickie bush (*Dichrostachys cinerea*), which occurs in the bushveld particularly on disturbed or overgrazed areas⁵⁴ (figs. 2, 4 & 5). This area was historically disturbed by extensive cattle grazing in the past.⁵⁵

The remains of a large compound / hostel can be seen directly north of the water canal and stretches very far into the central and eastern areas (figs. 5, 6, 16 & 17). The compound was built around 1982, with an estimated of 30 dwellings, and the hostel had about 8 units. The compound fell into disrepair over the years and was demolished by the owner in June 2022⁵⁶ (figs. 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14). A pit toilet is still visible (fig. 12). A shed, in the fallow land (fig. 8), and three additional buildings at the foot of the hill were visible in 2004, but cannot be traced on google images after 2010, these were all part of the compound in previous years (maps 2, 4 & 11). Mr. Claasens demolished various buildings in previous years, on the farm.⁵⁷

The dam was built around 1950 and enlarged around 1985,⁵⁸ and holds water for the canals (fig. 3). A concrete block of unknown nature, was observed in the eastern section, just above the canal (fig. 18).

A powerline cuts through the southern part of the study area (fig. 17).

Apart from one fragment of a Late Iron Age clay potsherd, (fig. 15), no other archaeological, historical features or graves were observed in study area 1.

⁵³ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁵⁴ Van Wyk, B., & Van Wyk P., Field Guide to Trees of Southern Africa, 1997, p. 500.

⁵⁵ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁵⁶ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁵⁷ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁵⁸ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

STUDY AREA 2: 6ha (see figs. 19 – 27) Maps 4, 6 & 12.

Study area 2 (6ha), is situated on the eastern slope of a small hill.⁵⁹ This section was very overgrown during the field survey, but the google image of 2004, indicate that large sections were already disturbed by quarry activities previously. Indigenous vegetation has established since then (maps 4 & 12), figs. 19, 20, 23. This section, which is directly north of the R38 provincial road, borders a small banana plantation as well as the Lows Creek Clinic, which is also situated on the farm Naude's Rust, as well as the railway line in the north. The Clinic was established in the early 1950's by the surrounding community, and was opened on 26 November 1952.⁶⁰

Two round structures (although completely overgrown), were observed during the survey, and were concrete water tanks which supplied the clinic with water (figs. 21 – 23). The date of these concrete structures could not be established. These old round concrete tanks were in use until the 1980's, thereafter they were replaced by modern plastic JoJo tanks within the clinic fence.⁶¹

The eastern section of the study area was disturbed by large quarries (which can be seen in map 12). Sections have recovered with vegetation but the quarries / gravel pits are still visible. Figs. 24 -26, show clearly the current and historical disturbances. The quarries / gravel pits were used since 1999 / 2000, by the previous owners of the farm. There were no crops on these sections previously.⁶²

No archaeological, historical features or graves were observed during the field survey in study area 2.

STUDY AREA 3: 8ha (see figs. 28 – 39) Maps 4, 7 & 13.

Study area 3 is situated in the southern section of the farm, on the western side of a small hill (opposite side of study area 2). Study area 3 is in the extent of 8ha.⁶³ This section consists of indigenous as well as alien vegetation (see figs. 28 & 29). The railway line is situated towards the north (fig. 30). Parts of the northern section has been de-bushed of mainly pioneer species, such as Sickle bush (*Dichrostachys cinerea*, which occurs in the bushveld particularly in

⁵⁹ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁶⁰ Bornman, H., *On a Lowveld Farm*, p. 114.

⁶¹ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁶² Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁶³ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

disturbed or overgrazed areas),⁶⁴ (figs. 30 & 32).

The vegetation on study area 3 was dense, apart from a large section which had recently burnt, and which made visibility in this section, excellent (figs. 33 & 34). It was established that there were foundations of an old sawmill, as well as rondavels, at the top of the hill (figs. 35, 39). Fragments of human habitation in the form of glass, bottles, rusted tins and iron objects were observed in the surrounding area (figs. 36 – 38). The access road to the sawmill was originally from the eastern side (figs. 30, 3, 7). The sawmill was established in the 1960's and burned down in 1974. It was never rebuilt. According to the owner, the material smouldered for about 10 years thereafter. The foundations which were visible during the survey, belong to buildings / offices for the sawmill, and beyond that, was the yard where the work occurred. There were a few pits around the sawmill, which were filled with scrap metal.⁶⁵

The rondavel foundations were the remains of staff quarters, for the staff which used to work at the sawmill (fig. 39). These structures also fell into disrepair or were demolished when the sawmill burned down.⁶⁶

No archaeological, historical features or graves were observed during the field survey in study area 3.

STUDY AREA 4: 6ha (see figs. 40 – 45) Maps 4, 8 & 14.

Study area 4 is situated in the western section of the farm and is in the extent of 6ha.⁶⁷ This section (a thin strip of land between a hill and the railway line), has been cleared illegally by the neighbors. The cleared piece of land, made visibility from an archaeological perspective, excellent. This section is situated at the foot of a hill and south of the railway line (see figs. 40 - 44). The western section has previously been disturbed by citrus cultivation (fig. 45). A concrete water canal cuts through this section in the east, from south to north (figs. 41 & 42).

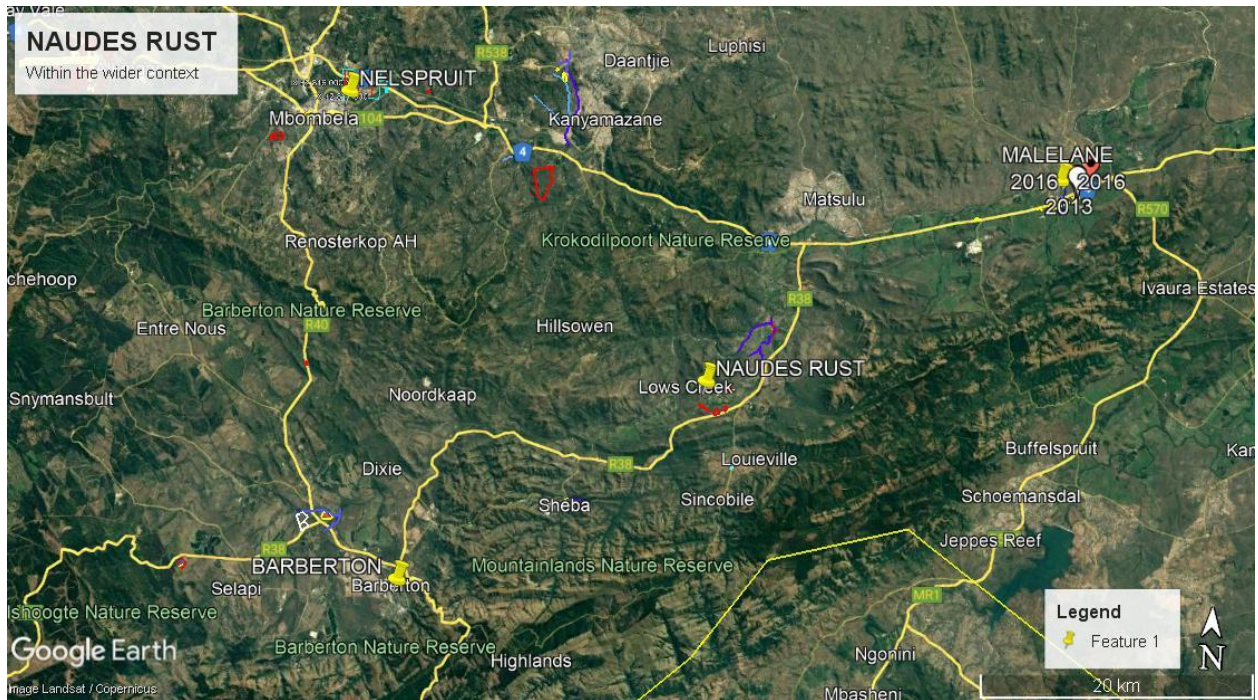
No archaeological, historical features or graves were observed during the field survey in study area 4.

⁶⁴ Van Wyk, B., & Van Wyk P., Field Guide to Trees of Southern Africa, 1997, p. 500.

⁶⁵ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

⁶⁶ Personal Communication, Mr. W. Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-10.

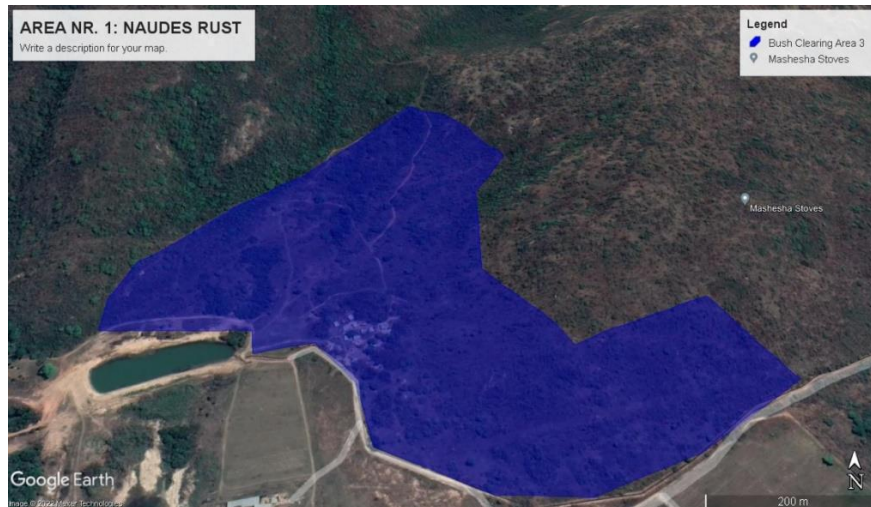
⁶⁷ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.



MAP 3: Naude's Rust within the wider context.



MAP 4: The study area is indicated by the red lines, 1, 2, 3 & 4. Please note the historically disturbed farm lands in the surrounding area. The black line represents the railway.



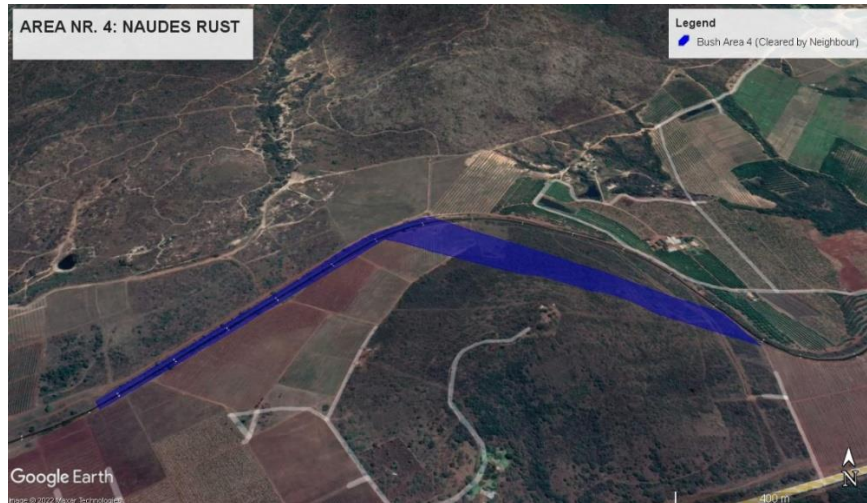
MAP 5: Study area 1 is in the extent of 8ha. (Map provided by Rhengu Environmental Services).



MAP 6: Study area 2 is 6 ha. (Map provided by Rhengu Environmental Services).

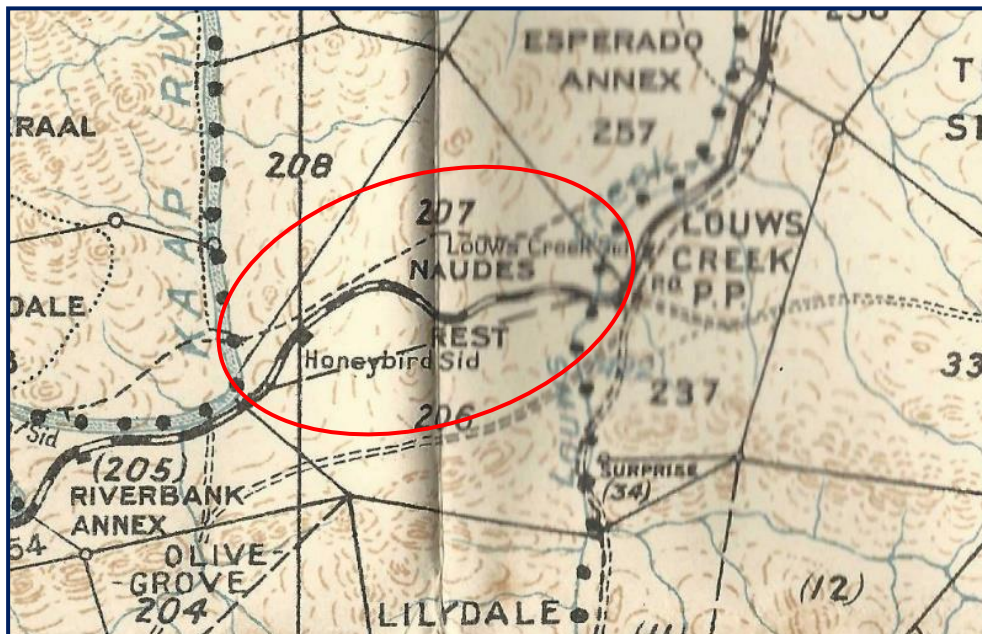


MAP 7: Study area 3 is in the extent of 8ha. (Map provided by Rhengu Environmental Services).

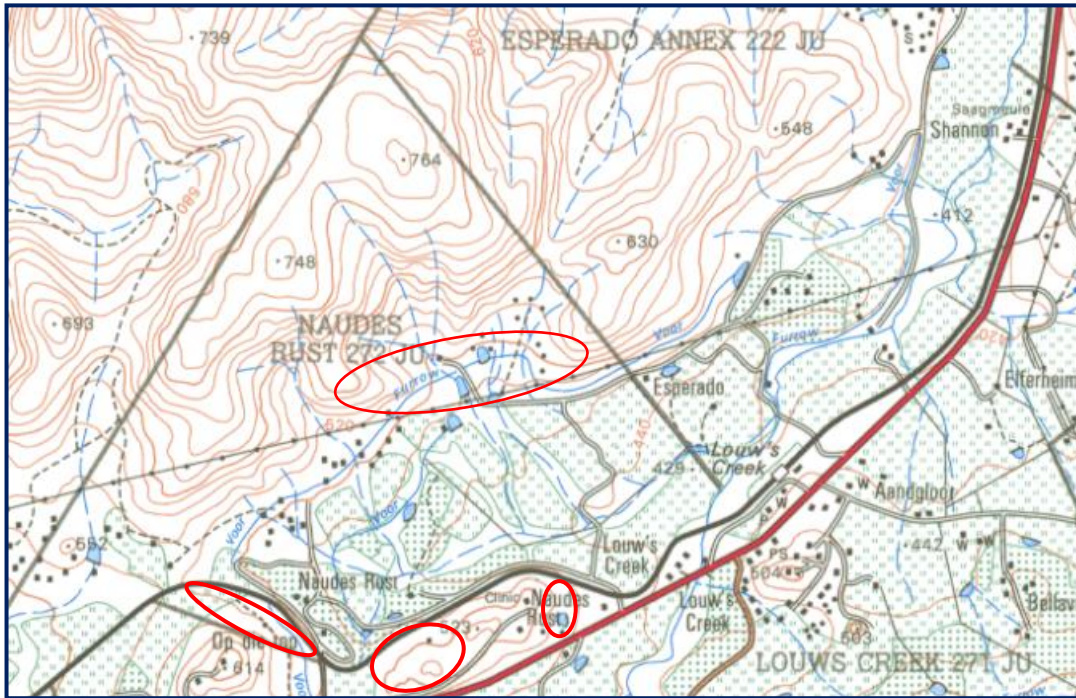


MAP 8: Study area 4 is 6ha and is situated between the foot of a hill, and the railway line. (Map provided by Rhengu Environmental Services).

Sections within the study area are partly natural and partly covered with invasive vegetation. All open or disturbed areas (gravel pits, quarries), were investigated for any remains of archaeological or historical nature, but nothing was observed.



MAP 9: The 1926 topographical map does not indicate any black settlements within or near the study area. A footpath to the north of the railway line, cuts roughly through the middle of the farm (not within any of the study areas)



MAP 10: 1984 Topographical map: The study area is within red ovals. No black settlements were recorded in the immediate area. Extensive historical cultivated lands are visible.

NAUDE's RUST is indicated on the 1984 (1: 50 000) topographical map 2531CB (map 10).

This map shows the extent of farming operations in the area, and on the property in the past.

D. LOCALITY

The proposed project site is located on *portions 17 & 21 of the farm NAUDE's RUST 272JU* (see map 10). The study area is just north of the R38 between Lows Creek and Kaapmuiden,⁶⁸ and is approximately 15km south of the N4 national road. It is approximately 30km north of Swaziland. The site falls under the Nkomazi Local Municipal jurisdiction, which in turn falls within the Ehlanzeni District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province (see maps 3 - 8). Large areas surrounding the farm have historically been disturbed by commercial agricultural farms.

- **Description of methodology:**

An historical Aerial map (1988, map 2), 1984 topographical map, (2531CB, map 10), as well as the 1926 topographical map (map 9), and Google images of the site (maps 3 - 8), indicate the study area of the proposed development. These were intensively studied to assess the current and historically disturbed areas and infrastructure. The historical Google Images show

⁶⁸ Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1.

extensive agricultural disturbances on Naude's Rust, in the past. In order to reach a comprehensive conclusion regarding the cultural heritage resources in the study area, the following methods were used:

- The desktop study consists mainly of archival sources studied on distribution patterns of early African groups who settled in the area since the 17th century, and which have been observed in past and present ethnographical research and studies.
- Literary sources, books and government publications, which were available on the subject, have been consulted, in order to establish relevant information.
- Several specialists currently working in the field of anthropology and archaeology have also been consulted on the subject.

-Literary sources: A list of books and government publications about prehistory and history of the area were cited, and revealed some information;

-The archaeological database of SAHRA as well as the National Cultural History Museum were consulted. Heritage Impact Assessment reports of specialists who worked in the area were studied and are quoted in section B.

- Naude's Rust is primarily a commercial farming concern, with small sections of natural vegetation in the hills and along drainage lines.
- A site visit with interested and affected parties was held on 20 September 2022.
- The fieldwork and survey were conducted extensively on foot and with a vehicle. Existing roads and small paths were mainly used to access areas (See Appendix 1: Tracks & Paths).
- The terrain was mainly dense and visibility was restricted. However, section 3 has burnt recently, which made visibility, excellent, and section 4 was de-bushed, so no restrictions were experienced within these sections. Aerial and google maps indicated previously disturbed sections, where the visibility was restricted (see Appendix 2).
- The relevant data was located with a GPS instrument (Garmin Etrex) datum WGS 84, and plotted. Co-ordinates were within 4-6 meters of identified sites.
- Evaluation of the resources which might be impacted upon by the footprint, was done within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 (1999);
- Personal communication with relevant stakeholders on the specific study areas were held during the site visits.⁶⁹ The owners are familiar with the properties and confirmed that they have never encountered any graves or archaeological features on the

⁶⁹ Personal information: Mr. Walter Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-24.

properties. Environmental practitioner Mr. R. Kalwa, ⁷⁰ was consulted during the research.

- GPS co-ordinates were used to locate the site and for possible heritage features within the study area (Co-ordinates provided by RHENGU Environmental Services): (See Maps 3 – 8 for perimeters of the sites).

GPS CO-ORDINATES		
Location	South	East
Naude's Rust 1	S 25° 38' 03.87"	E 31° 16' 43.64"
Naude's Rust 2	S 25° 39' 00.46"	E 31° 16' 22.96"
Naude's Rust 3	S 25° 38' 49.94"	E 31° 16' 48.45"
Naude's Rust 4	S 25° 38' 07.16"	E 31° 17' 01.18"

E. DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFIED SITES

The applicant is requesting to debush natural sections *on portions 17 & 21 of the farm NAUDE's RUST 272JU*. The footprint of the study area, is located on four small sections as described in Chapter C, above (1, 2, 3, & 4), which will cover a total area of approximately 28ha. It will affect partly natural vegetation as well as historically disturbed lands and access roads (see map 4). ⁷¹

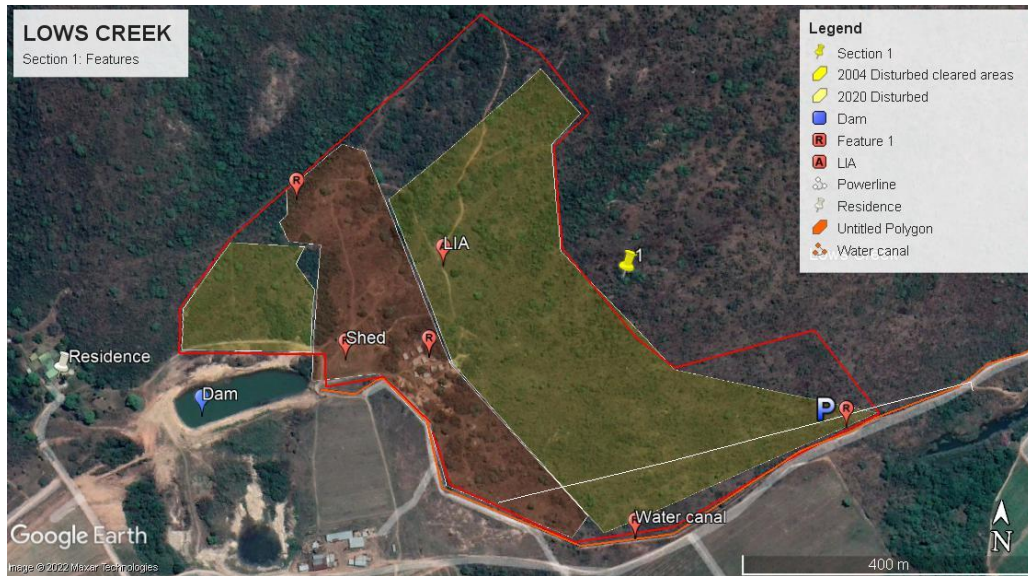
The study area falls within Kaapmuiden / Lows Creek area which has historically been known for commercial agricultural farming. Large sections on the adjacent properties are already cultivated with bananas, paw paw, sugarcane and macadamias (see map 3). Modern topographical maps also clearly show extensive historical farming activities in the surrounding areas (map 10 - 1984). The 1926 topographical map (map 3) does not indicate any historic settlements directly in the study area. The 1935 map by Van Warmelo indicated the groups living in the area as mainly of Swazi decent (map 1). The study area consists of arable sections on the foot, or partly against or on top of low hills.

The study areas are indicated in maps 3 - 14. **Study area 1** was located at the foot of a low hill. It consisted of natural vegetation, previous cultivated land, pioneer vegetation, mainly sickle bush, and the remains of a large compound / hostel which was demolished in June 2022. There is a dam to the west, and this section borders a water canal in the south. The original dirt water canal system was removed when the concrete canal system was built in 1965 -1966. The

⁷⁰ Personal communication: Ralf Kalwa, Rhengu Environmental Services, 2022-10-08.

⁷¹ Notice of Environmental Impact Assessment, Rhengu Environmental Services, p. 1.

terrain of the study area varied from fairly even to difficult, closer to the hill. The yellow section on map 11, indicate overgrazing in the past, and the brown section, the disturbed cultivated areas since at least 2004. Existing tracks within the study area was used to access this section. No archaeological material or deposits, graves, historical features or structures were observed during the survey.



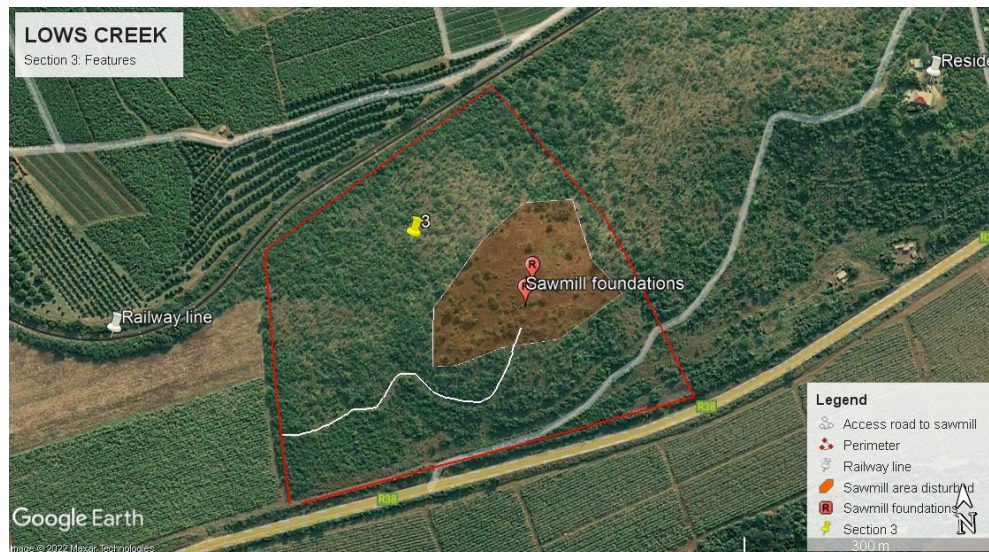
MAP 11: Study area 1: The area was used as a cattle farm and overgrazing resulted in the low vegetation (as seen on google images), in previous years. The brown section indicates the disturbed cultivated area as well as the hostel.



MAP 12: Study area 2: The quarry to the south and a section of the gravel pit was already seen on the 2010 google image. The gravel pit was extended in 2015 (yellow) and 2021 (brown).

Study area 2 was very overgrown with dense natural vegetation, however the larger part of this section was (and sections are still) used for quarries and gravel pits. The large quarry to the south was already visible in 2010, and a section of the gravel pit towards the north-east. The gravel pit was extended in 2015 (yellow) and in 2021 (brown – see map 12). This section borders a banana plantation in the east, the railway line in the north, existing residences in the west, and the R38 provincial road, in the south. A gravel road cuts through this section. All disturbed sections were investigated for possible signs of an archaeological or historical nature.

No archaeological material or deposits, graves, historical features or structures were observed, and the disturbed areas were all sterile.



MAP 13: Study area 3: The brown area indicates where the disturbed section of the sawmill and rondavels were, since the late 1960's.

Study area 3 was situated on top of a small hill, and the natural vegetation was dense and overgrown, apart from a large section which had burnt recently. Sections in study area 3 consisted of pioneer vegetation (mainly sickle bush). The burnt sections were investigated and visibility here was excellent, and is indicated in brown, in map 13 (disturbed sawmill area). Study area 3 borders a natural section in the east, the R38 provincial road in the south, the railway line in the north, and an existing cultivated section in the west (fig. 29).



MAP 14: Study area 4: Bush clearance already took place in 2004 (brown section) to prepare the area for citrus orchards. Further bush clearance took place in 2021 (yellow section) and in 2022 (pink section).

Study area 4 was a thin strip of natural vegetation which was cleared of bush in 2022. Due to this, visibility was excellent. The section in the far west was already cleared for citrus cultivation in 2004, and a small section was cleared in 2021 (yellow section) (see map 14). This section is close to the railway line in the north, and also borders the railway line in the west. There is a concrete water canal that cuts through the eastern section and this section is against a small hill in the south (figs. 41 - 42).

The terrain in general was mostly accessible, even with dense vegetation cover. Paths and roads made some sections more accessible for the survey. The visibility in these sections were excellent (Appendix 1 & 2).

The following features were observed during the survey (please see Appendix 2 & maps):

Site / Feature	Description / Comments	Site / Location
Naude's Rust 1		
LIA clay potsherd	Was observed within a disturbed road section. Un decorated, and very brittle fragment.	25°38'00.90"S 31°16'41.97"E 462m
Three structures to the north which formed part of the hostel (Google image 2004)	According to Mr. Giuricich these formed part of the hostel area, but has long been demolished, and is currently not visible.	25°37'58.31"S 31°16'35.69"E 514m
Shed just east of the dam (Google image 2004)	According to Mr. Giuricich this was a shed to keep equipment, but has long been demolished, and is currently not visible. It was situated in the previously cultivated area.	25°38'05.06"S 31°16'36.98"E 491m
Hostel / Compound	The remains of the hostel / compound area were demolished in June 2022 – remains are still visible.	25°38'05.17"S 31°16'40.95"E 493m
Concrete block	A square concrete block of unknown origin / use, was noted towards the eastern section.	25°38'08.11"S 31°17'59.76"E
Water canal – built in 1965 - 1966	Section 1 borders a concrete water canal from west to south.	West: 25°38'06.35"S 31°16'36.94"E 486m Exit: 25°38'06.60"S East 31°17'02.82"E 466m
Naude's Rust 2		
Concrete water tanks	The concrete water tanks were providing the Lows Creek Clinic with water up to the 1980's.	25°38'49.62"S 31°16'48.23"E 466m
Large quarry (south)	The large quarry towards the south east, was already in use by the previous owners since 1999 / 2000	25°38'53.03"S 31°16'46.65"E 469m
Gravel pit (north)	The gravel pits towards the north-east were already in use by the previous owners since 1999 / 2000	Start: 25°38'48.52"S South 31°16'47.38"E / 469m Exit: 25°38'44.84"S North 31°16'45.88"E / 459m
Naude's Rust 3		
Sawmill area with associated cultural material (glass / tins / bottles / iron)	The foundation of a sawmill is still visible with fragments of glass, bottles, tins and iron pieces in the area	25°39'00.21"S 31°16'22.49"E 516m
Rondavel area	The rondavels are no longer visible and was demolished years ago.	25°38'56.41"S 31°16'23.41"E 494m
Naude's Rust 4		
Water canal	A water canal cuts through this section in the east	South 25°38'57.70"S 31°15'57.74"E 503m Exit: North 25°38'53.13"S 31°15'53.53"E 502m

The farm owner and previous residents were interviewed to find out if they were aware of any archaeological, historical features or graves. They confirmed that they, or their farm workers had no knowledge of any burial sites or other heritage related features on the property.⁷²

No archaeological sites of significance, stone walls or historic structures or graves were identified, and was confirmed by the applicant.

F. DISCUSSION ON THE FOOTPRINT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

<i>ACT</i>	<i>COMPO- NENT</i>	<i>IMPLICATION</i>	<i>RELEVANCE</i>	<i>COMPLIANCE</i>
NHRA	S 34	Impact on buildings and structures older than 60 years	None older than 60 years	None
NHRA	S35	Impacts on archaeological heritage resources	One fragment of LIA clay potsherd -	Out of context – no significance
NHRA	S36	Impact on graves	None present	None
NHRA	S37	Impact on public monuments	None present	None
NHRA	S38	Developments requiring an HIA	Development is a listed activity	HIA done
NEMA	EIA regulations	Activities requiring an EIA	Development is subject to an EIA	HIA is part of EIA

⁷² Personal information: Mr. Walter Giuricich, Owner of Naude’s Rust, 2022-10-24.

- **Summarised identification and cultural significance assessment of affected heritage resources: General issues of site and context:**

Context		
Urban environmental context	No	NA
Rural environmental context	No	NA
Natural environmental context	No	NA
Formal protection (NHRA)		
(S. 28) Is the property part of a protected area?	No	NA
(S. 31) Is the property part of a heritage area?	No	NA
Other		
Is the property near to or visible from any protected heritage sites	No	NA
Is the property part of a conservation area of special areas in terms of the Zoning scheme?	No	NA
Does the site form part of a historical settlement or townscape?	No	NA
Does the site form part of a rural cultural landscape?	No	NA
Does the site form part of a natural landscape of cultural significance?	No	NA
Is the site adjacent to a scenic route?	No	NA
Is the property within or adjacent to any other area which has special environmental or heritage protection?	No	NA
Does the general context or any adjoining properties have cultural significance?	No	NA

<i>Property features and characteristics</i>		
Have there been any previous development impacts on the property?	Yes	Historically disturbed agricultural land
Are there any significant landscape features on the property?	No	NA
Does the property have any rocky outcrops on it?	Yes	Small hills
Does the property have any fresh water sources (springs, streams, rivers) on or alongside it?	Yes	Drainage lines towards the Lows Creek

<i>Heritage resources on the property</i>		
<i>Formal protection (NHRA)</i>		
National heritage sites (S. 27)	No	NA
Provincial heritage sites (S. 27)	No	NA
Provincial protection (S. 29)	No	NA
Place listed in heritage register (S. 30)	No	NA
<i>General protection (NHRA)</i>		
Structures older than 60 years (S. 34)	No	NA
Archaeological site or material (S. 35)	Yes	One fragment of LIA potsherd – no significance
Graves or burial grounds (S. 36)	No	NA
Public monuments or memorials (S. 37)	No	NA
<i>Other</i>		

Heritage resources on the property		
Any heritage resource identified in a heritage survey (author / date / grading)	No	NA
Any other heritage resources (describe)	No	Outside of the study area: Foundations of old house (Bornman house) - no date

NHRA S (3)2 Heritage resource category	E L E M E N T S	INDICATORS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE										RISK	
		Histo rical	Rare	Scie ntific	Typi cal	Tec hno logi cal	Aes thetic	Pers on / com muni ty	Land mark	Mate rial con ditio n	Sust aina bility		
Buildings / structures of cultural significance	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	NA
Areas attached to oral traditions / intangible heritage	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	NA
Historical settlement/ townscapes	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA
Landscape of cultural significance	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA

NHRA	E	INDICATORS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE										RISK	
Archaeological sites	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA
Grave / burial grounds	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA
Areas of significance related to labour history	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA
Movable objects	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	NA

- **Summarised recommended impact management interventions**

NHRA S (3)2 Heritage resource category	SITE	IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE		Impact management	Motivation
		Cultural significance rating			
		Cultural significance	Impact significance		
Buildings / structures of cultural significance	No	None	None	-	NA
Areas attached to oral traditions / intangible heritage	No	None	None	-	NA
Historical settlement/ townscape	No	None	None	-	NA
Landscape of cultural significance	No	None	None	-	NA
Archaeological sites	No	None	None	One fragment of LIA potsherd	No impact – in disturbed area

NHRA S (3)2 Heritage resource category	SITE	IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE Cultural significance rating		Impact management	Motivation
Grave / burial grounds	No	No	None	-	NA
Areas of significance related to labour history	No	None	None	-	NA
Movable objects	No	None	None	-	NA

ACT	COMPONENT	IMPLICATION	RELEVANCE	COMPLIANCE
NHRA	S 34	Impact on buildings and structures older than 60 years	None present	None
NHRA	S35	Impacts on archaeological heritage resources	One LIA fragment of a potsherds in disturbed section	No significance
NHRA	S36	Impact on graves	None present	None
NHRA	S37	Impact on public monuments	None present	None
NHRA	S38	Developments requiring an HIA	Development is a listed activity	Full HIA
NEMA	EIA regulations	Activities requiring an EIA	Development is subject to an EIA	HIA is part of EIA

G. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE & EVALUATION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES

Section 38 of the NHRA, rates all heritage resources into National, Provincial or Local significance, and proposals in terms of the above is made for all identified heritage features.

• Evaluation methods

Site significance is important to establish the measure of mitigation and / or management of the resources. Sites are evaluated as *HIGH (National importance)*, *MEDIUM (Provincial importance)* or *LOW, (local importance)*, as specified in the NHRA. It is explained as follows:

- **National Heritage Resources Act**

The National Heritage Resources Act no. 25, 1999 (NHRA) aims to promote good management of the national estate, and to enable and encourage communities to conserve their legacy so that it may be bequeathed to future generations. Heritage is unique and it cannot be renewed, and contributes to redressing past inequities.⁷³ It promotes previously neglected research areas.

All archaeological and other cultural heritage resources are evaluated according to the NHRA, section 3(3). A place or object is considered to be part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value in terms of:

- (a) its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- (c) its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- (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 or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa.⁷⁴

- **The significance and evaluation of the archaeological and cultural heritage features in the study area**

None of the features which were identified during the survey, was older than 60 years.

SITE	CULTURAL / HERITAGE FEATURES	SIGNIFICANCE	MEASURES OF MITIGATION
Naude's Rust 1			
LIA potsherd	One undecorated, and very rough / brittle fragment. Was observed within a disturbed road section – out of an archaeological context.	No significance	None
Three structures (foundations)	According to Mr. Giuricich these were part of the hostel area, but has long been demolished, and is currently not visible – built after 1982.	No significance	None
Shed (foundation)	According to Mr. Giuricich this was a shed to keep equipment, but has long been demolished, and is currently not visible. It was situated in the cultivated area – built after 1982	No significance	None
Hostel / Compound	The remains of the hostel / compound area were demolished in June 2022 – It was built in approximately 1982. Remains are still visible	No significance	None
Concrete block	A square concrete block of unknown origin / use, was noted towards the eastern section	No significance	None
Water Canal	Section 1 borders a concrete water canal from west to south, which was built in 1965 -1966 – will not be impacted upon.	Not older than 60 years	None

⁷³ National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999. p. 2.

⁷⁴ National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999. pp. 12-14

Naude's Rust 2			
Concrete water tanks	The concrete water tanks were providing the Lows Creek Clinic with water up to the 1980's.	No date could be determined but they hold no historical significance	None
Naude's Rust 3			
Sawmill area	The foundations of a sawmill are still visible with fragments of glass, bottles, tins and iron pieces in the area – established in the late 1960's	No significance	None
Rondavel area	The rondavels are no longer visible and was demolished years ago – established in the late 1960's	No significance	None
Naude's Rust 4			
Water Canal	Water canal cuts through section from south to north. Canal was built in 1965 -1966 – will not be impacted upon.	Not older than 60 years	None

Summary:

None of the remains above, including the fragment of LIA clay potsherd, have any cultural value which could link them as of outstanding importance to a certain community (NHRA 3.3a); or its potential to yield social, cultural or spiritual information or to link it to a particular community which may contribute to an understanding of South Africa's cultural heritage (NHRA 3.3c & g).⁷⁵

No archaeological sites of significance, stone walls or historic structures or graves were identified during the survey, and the applicant, who was interviewed, had no knowledge of any such features on the farm.⁷⁶

It is not believed that any archaeological or historical features will be impacted upon by the proposed footprint of the agricultural development.

H. RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSION

Archaeological material or graves are not always visible during a field survey and therefore some significant material may only be revealed during debushing activities of the proposed agricultural development.

It is recommended that the owner be made aware that distinct archaeological material or human remains may only be revealed during further de-bushing or construction activities. Based on the

⁷⁵ National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999.

⁷⁶ Personal information: Mr. Walter Giuricich, Owner of Naude's Rust, 2022-10-24.

survey and the findings in this report, Adansonia Heritage Consultants state that there are no compelling reasons which may prevent the proposed development to continue, but it is recommended that debushing activities be monitored by a qualified archaeologist and that an assessment be done should any archaeological material be found.

Adansonia Heritage Consultants cannot be held responsible for any archaeological material or graves which were not located during the survey.

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**APPENDIX 1:
TRACKS & PATHS USED DURING THE SURVEY**



Section 1



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4