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***FIRST PHASE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
BUILDING OF A NEW MEDICAL FACILITY ON THE OLD AIRBASE AT
POTCHEFSTROOM.***



HARVARD PLANE LANDING ON THE OLD AIR FORCE FACILITY POTCHEFSTROOM

APRIL 2014

Sidney Miller.

.....
B.Sc (Engineering) Civ., M. (Architecture) Conservation ASAPA Member no. 087

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1. CONTACT DETAILS.**1.1. OWNERS DETAILS**

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1.4. TYPE OF SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT

Hospital facility

1.5. ZONING OF THE GENERAL SITE

Military

1.6. PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND PROVINCE

Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality

Tlokwe City Local Municipality

Portions of the Rem. and Portion 429 Town & Townlands of Potchefstroom 435 IQ

North West Province

1.8. GPS COORDINATES

No.	Description	Degrees south	Degrees east
01	North-west corner	26° 40' 37, 73" S	28° 04' 29, 38" E
02	North-east corner	26° 40' 35, 86" S	28° 04' 40, 83" E
03	South-west corner	26° 40' 43, 79" S	28° 04' 40, 31" E
04	South-east corner	26° 40' 41, 69" S	28° 04' 41, 82" E

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2014 African Heritage Consultants were approached by Envirovision Consulting CC for a first phase heritage impact assessment for the proposed building of a new medical facility on the old Air Force Facility north of Potchefstroom

The present author visited the site on the 22 of April 2014 and was able to do a walk-through inspection of the facility owing to the fact that the vegetation of whole site was cut down to ground level. Inspection was not impeded in any way.

Although only seven scattered residential buildings remains on the western extremity of the six hectare site, it was clear that most of the area was previously utilised as a residential area owing to services in the form of modern water hydrants and electrical supply distribution boxes that still remain on the site. A number of trees (described in the report below) also confirm the presence of a residual residential area. This observation was confirmed by verbal communication with Major Wentzel¹ that indicated that the area was used for the placement of semi-permanent housing during the period 1970 to 2002 (?)

As the site is also located outside of the historical centre of Potchefstroom, and there are no historical assets remaining in close proximity of the site, it is clear that the site is redundant of any visibly recognisable heritage remains.

RECOMMENDATION

Under the present legislation it is advised that development may proceed without any further investigation.

If any heritage assets are uncovered during construction, such as human remains then the normal procedure must be followed.



Sidney Miller.

B.Sc (Eng) Civ. M. (Architecture) Conservation. Asapa member no 087.

¹ Liaison officer SANDF tel. 0845053832

3. DEFINITIONS

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

4. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE ACT, Act. NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the **National Heritage Act: (see sections 4.1 and 4.2)**

- a. **Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years**
- b. **Archaeological sites and objects**
- c. Palaeontological sites
- d. Meteorites
- e. Ship wrecks
- f. Burial grounds
- g. Graves of victims of conflict
- h. **Public monuments and memorials**
- i. **Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Government and Provincial Gazette**
- j. **Any other places or objects which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance**
- k. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- l. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
- m. Objects to which oral traditions are attached
- n. **Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history**

We furthermore specifically also refer to in Act 25 of 1999:-

Section 4.1.3. Heritage Impact Assessment

Section 4.1.3.a. The construction of a linear development such as a road exceeding 300 meters in length **Section 4.1.3.e.** Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or by PHRA

Section 4.1.5. Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites

This section states clearly that archaeological material in any form may only **be disturbed** after receiving a permit from SAHRA. It also states clearly that **to destroy** such a disturbed site a second and separate permit is required.

The environmental act requires that:

“The disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute a nation’s cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied”.

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1. African Heritage Consultants, *further referred to as A.H.C.*, were tasked by Envirovision Consulting CC to undertake a first phase heritage impact assessment for the proposed building of a new medical facility on the old Air Force Base north of Potchefstroom
- 5.2. All relevant maps and documents that pertain to the project were studied and considered by A.H.C.
- 5.3. The site was visited and photographed on the 22nd of April 2014.
- 5.4. This visit and observation was confirmed by verbal communication with Major Wentzel² that indicated that the area was used for the placement of semi-permanent housing during the period 1970 to 2002 (?)
- 5.5. The internet was used to retrieve information regarding the background of the history, geology and vegetation of the area.

² *Liaison officer SANDF tel. 0845053832*

6. LOCATION.

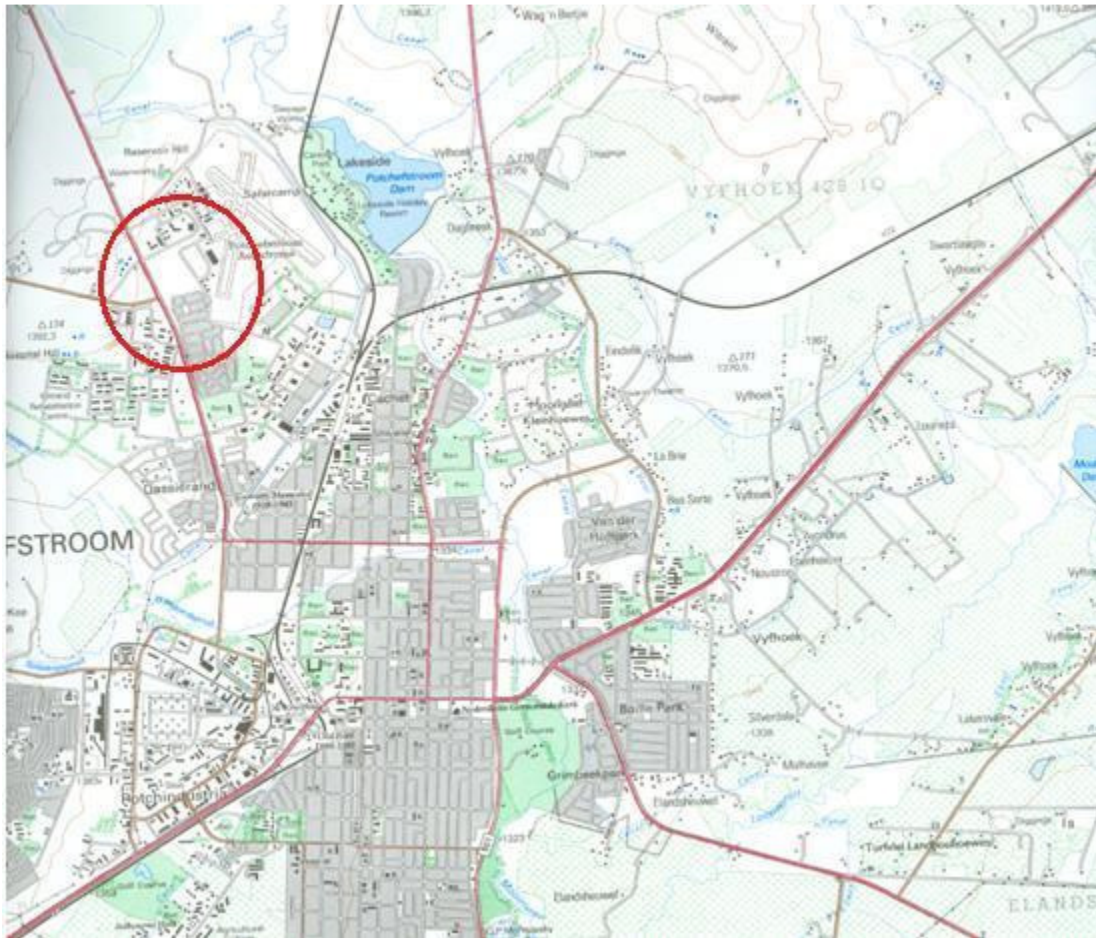


Fig. 01. The above image shows the location of the site relative to Potchefstroom Central on the 1 : 50 000 Map, POTCHEFSTROOM 2434 DD

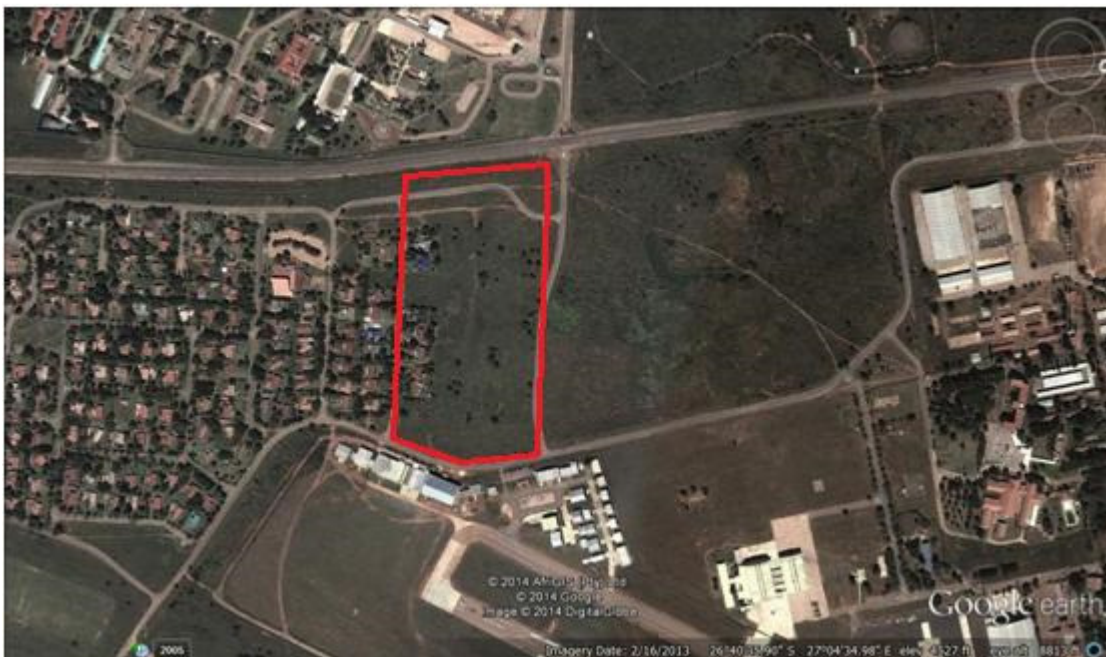
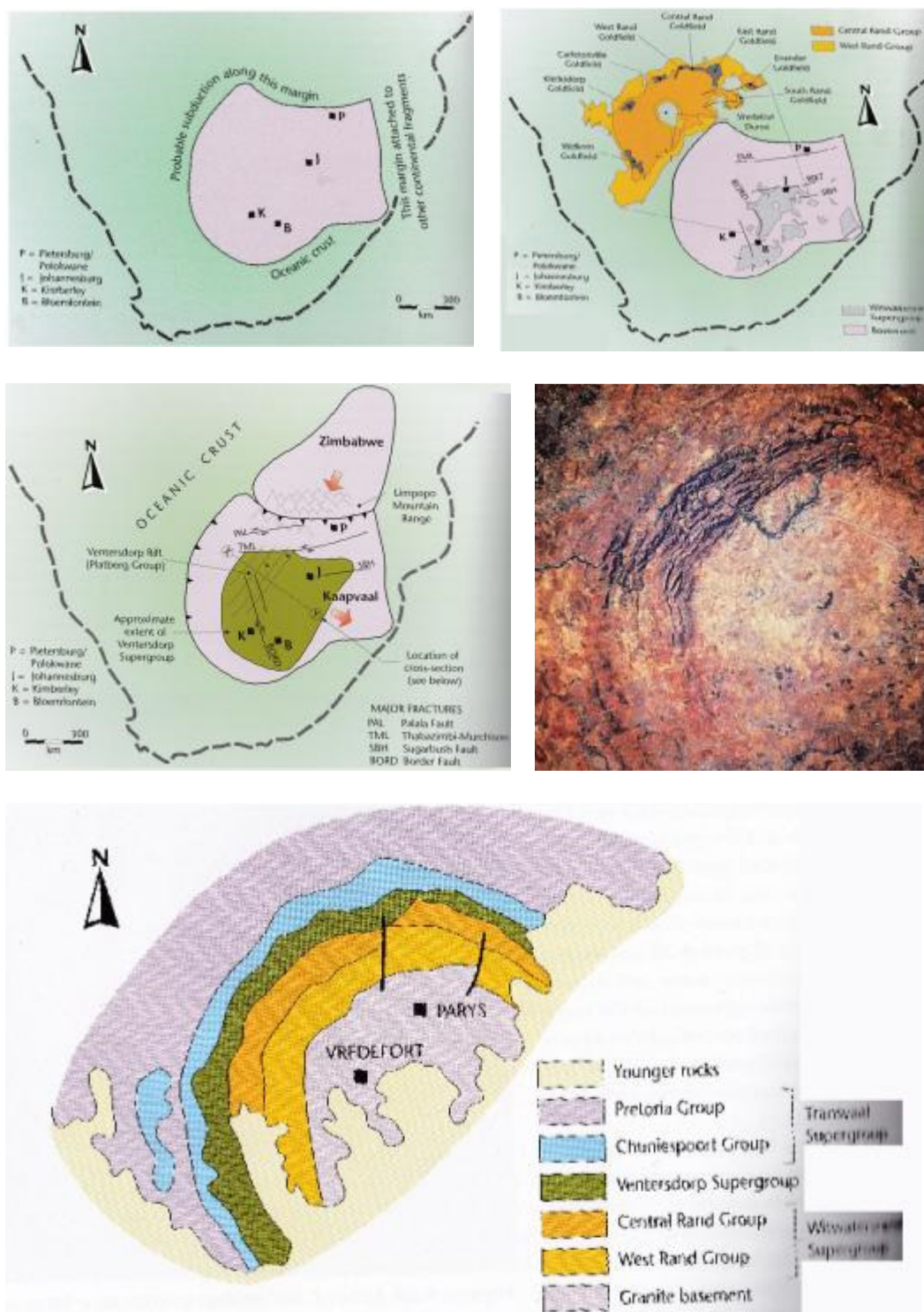


Fig. 02. The above is an image of the site under investigation flanked by Afmars Street in the north Auster Street on the east and Tigermoth Street in the south. The existing residential area forms the western side. (Google Earth 2013)

7. ECOLOGY.

7.1. Geology. (See McCarthy & Rubidge, 2005, for full description.)



Figs. 03 to 07. As with most places on earth, the geological under-build of Potchefstroom is complex. Here however much can be followed back as far as the remains of two pre-Pangean continents, the Kaapvaal Craton and the Zimbabwean Craton when they collided some 2700 million years ago. This resulted in the tilting of the Kaapvaal Craton and the erosion and winnowing of heavy metals into a shallow sea. The ongoing event laid the basis of the formation of the Witwatersrand super group up to some 2000 million years ago. During the end phase of the formation of the Witwatersrand Supergroup a large asteroid struck the Kaapvaal Craton (around 2023 million years ago) forming a crater some 300 kilometres in diameter. These events were responsible for the formation of the geological structure known as the Vredefort Dome, and possibly the gold fields stretching from Klerksdorp to Benoni. The dolomite structures encountered north-east and north-west of Potchefstroom are deposits from much more recent events related to the formation of the Bushveld Igneous Complex. . (McCarthy and Rubidge, p 96 p 102 p108 p129 and 130.) (McCarthy and Rubidge, p 102.)

7.2. Vegetation. (See Acocks, 1988)³

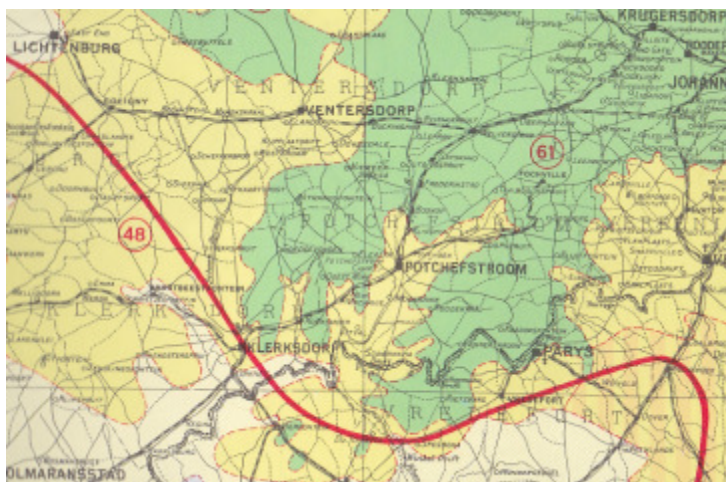


Fig. 08. Potchefstroom is located on the intersection of two different veldt type zones (48 and 61) as illustrated above, with a third located towards the south (Wolmeransstad.) (Type 50) (Acocks map, Veldt Types of Southern Africa.)

According to Acocks three of his original veldt types are present in and around Potchefstroom. **Veldt type 61(b)** exists to the north, east and west of Potchefstroom. Apparently it is possible that this type is a derivative of an *Acacia caffra* savannah which it still is in parts. It is a sparse and tall tufted type with the forbs playing an important part, and is extremely sour. It is also the veldt type of the Witwatersrand and the high undulating country sloping down to the Magaliesberg. The rocks are mainly quartzite, shale, dolomite, chert and granite. The soils are poor and acid, either stony or sandy with an altitude of 1450 to 1750 metres above sea level. Rainfall is in the region of 750 mm per annum and the winters are cold and frosty. Combined with continuous burning the veldt is particularly sour and supports wiry grazing, not particularly edible for livestock.

Rocky ridges carry Bushveld vegetation dominated by *Protea caffra*, *Acacia caffra*, *Celtis africana* and sometimes *P. welwitschii* as well as a large number of South Bushveld shrubs in smaller numbers. A typical plant of the hills is *Xerophyta retinervis*. In sheltered valleys and sinkholes there are traces of temperate or transitional forest, with species such as *Celtis africana*, *Kiggelaria africana*, *Halleria lucida*, *Leucosidea sericea*, *Buddleja salviifolia* and *Cassinopsis ilicifolia*, for example in the Vredefort Dome. For the extremely long lists of grass species and succulent species see page 114 of Acocks.

Acocks describes his **type 48** as *Cymbopogon-Themeda* grass-veldt. It also consists of two regions, north and south, the south being a moderately dense grass-veldt, and the north a sparser more tufted veldt. Altitude varies between 1350 and 2000 m above sea level with summer rainfall of between 450 and 750 mm per annum severe frosty winters. Amongst the grasses that generally occur are *Setaria flabellate*, *Themeda triandra*, *Heteropogon contortus*, a number of *Eragrostis* species and others (Acocks p 100-101)

The greatest impact that this vegetative composition had on the development of the goldfields was that there was no wood available for either shelter, construction work, heating or food preparation. This resulted in the transport of wood from other parts of the region, the planting of millions of trees and the discovery and development of the regional coal fields.

Acocks' type 50 is the *Dry Cymbopogon-Themeda* grass-veldt. It consists of four regions, north, central and south and the south-east regions. Owing to its distance from Potchefstroom it is not described in this report.

³ The author is aware of the updated version of Acocks's work by Mucina & Rutherford, 2010, but for the purposes of this publication Acocks version is preferred.

8. ARCHAEOLOGY AND EUROPEAN BACKGROUND

8.1. Stone Age

Although there are no well-known type sites located on or around the study area there is evidence of the use of the area during the formative years of man in general area towards the Vaal River, especially the well documented stone tool ensembles described by Van Riet Lowe in Vereeniging. The Cradle of Mankind some 100 km to the north-east is then also indicative that early man had utilised the area in general. Finally, the stone engraving sites at Redan and at the Vaal River Bridge, is indicative that during the Later Stone Age man were present, albeit possibly in smaller numbers.

Regarding the present study area, Stone Age remains will not influence the proposed work.

8.2. Iron Age

8.2.1. Early Iron Age remains.

The only Early Iron Age remains known in the greater region is the Broederstroom village site, and the Melville Koppies Smelting sites excavated by Professor Mason from the Department of Archaeology of WITS in the 1980s.

As these sites are extremely rare, it is unlikely that material from the same period will be encountered in the present study area.

8.2.2. Later Iron Age remains.

The Vredefort Dome to the southeast of Potchefstroom has been recognized as a World Heritage Site on account of its geological and natural history and also cultural significance (Government Gazette 3 May 2013).

Bakker et al (2004) in their heritage management plan for the Vredefort Dome listed all the recorded archaeological sites in this area. These were graded and rated according to significance.

Very numerous Late Iron Age stone-walled settlements of probably early Nguni groups and later Sotho-Tswana communities demonstrate that the area from Heidelberg in the East, past Johannesburg and towards Klerksdorp was occupied by African farmers from at least AD 1400 to AD 1800 (Maggs 1976; Huffman 2007).

The settlement history of Buffelskloof is important for the report under review. The Buffelskloof study area is located roughly 17 km west of the Free State town of Parys. Buffelskloof and the nearby Venterskroon (established in 1887 on the neighbouring farm Nooitgedacht) featured in gold prospecting and mining during the historical period (Naudé 2005; Byrne 2012). The area around Buffelskloof formed the focus of a number of Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA's).

Dreyer in 2004 conducted a Phase 1 AIA in the Buffelskloof Conservancy. No heritage remains were recorded at the localities to be impacted by the proposed development. However, within the footprint Dreyer (2004) did document the remains of smelting activities and a lower grindstone at a Late Iron Age living site (26°50'55"S. 027°16'51"E). Dreyer (2008) conducted another Phase I AIA for a proposed residential development at Buffelskloof. In 2010 Dreyer again undertook a Phase I AIA for a Vodacom mast in this area. (Note that in both the latter instances no report could be located on SAHRIS).

Sadr (2012) from the University of the Witwatersrand conducted an archaeological field school at Holkrans (BFK 1) on the property Thabela Thabeng, part of the original farm Buffelskloof 511 IQ, Potchefstroom District, on the North West Province side of the

Vredefort Dome. At this locality a small rock shelter contains Later Stone Age (LSA) deposits. Two occupation pulses were recorded. An older pre-ceramic occupation (Bradfield & Sadr 2011; Sadr 2012) was found followed by a cultural layer with ceramics that demonstrated some interactive relationships with nearby African farming communities.

Byrne (2012) used a landscape approach to map Iron Age and historical stone-built structures in the Vredefort Dome and presented the data in a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format. The property Thabela Thabeng, originally within the boundaries of the farm Buffelskloof, again formed the major focus of study on account of the many stone-walled structures present within the hilly regions.

Research by Anton Pelser (2003) at the major stone-walled settlement of what is currently known as Askoppies demonstrated links with the Sotho-Tswana, and then probably the Rolong. Some of these large sites featured as aggregation localities during the widespread unsettlement of groups caused by the *Difaqane*. Pelser (2005) also identified Middle Stone Age (MSA) and LSA occurrences within the Vredefort Dome.

As these sites are extremely rare in the direct vicinity of Potchefstroom, it is unlikely that material from this period will be encountered in the present study area.

8.3. European settlement.

8.3.1. The Great Trek

The Great Trek is rather incorrectly named, as no more than between five percent and twenty percent of the Cape population in fact left British Authority, over a period of three to four years. With the split between the Maritz Group and the Pretorius group and the fragmentary nature of the 'Northern Group' there was little coherence in their 'settlement plan', and many were originally simply killed by indigenous people such as the Van Rensburg Trek, or by the rigorous and dangerous nature of Africa such as the Louis Trichardt Trek. Some prematurely settled in 'towns' such as De Clercq and only over a period of ten years were Potchefstroom, Lydenburg, Ohrigstad and Schoemansdal born. Although towns were founded, they were only functional as focal points for religious, political, governance and trade activities. Most of the populace were settled on farms and retained townhouses for periodical visits.

Shortly after the end of the Great Trek around 1840 a number of families settled in, on and around the warmer Bushveld hunting ground to the north. However they soon became aware of the discomfort during the summer in the Lowveld regions and the obvious advantages of the Highveld where it was cooler with good grazing. This resulted in the two-farm system with entire households and their livestock moving back and forth between the two farms.



Fig. 09. The remains of one of the Schutte family's dwellings from the 1850s on the farm Deelkraal to the east of Potchefstroom, which is typical of early pioneer architecture.

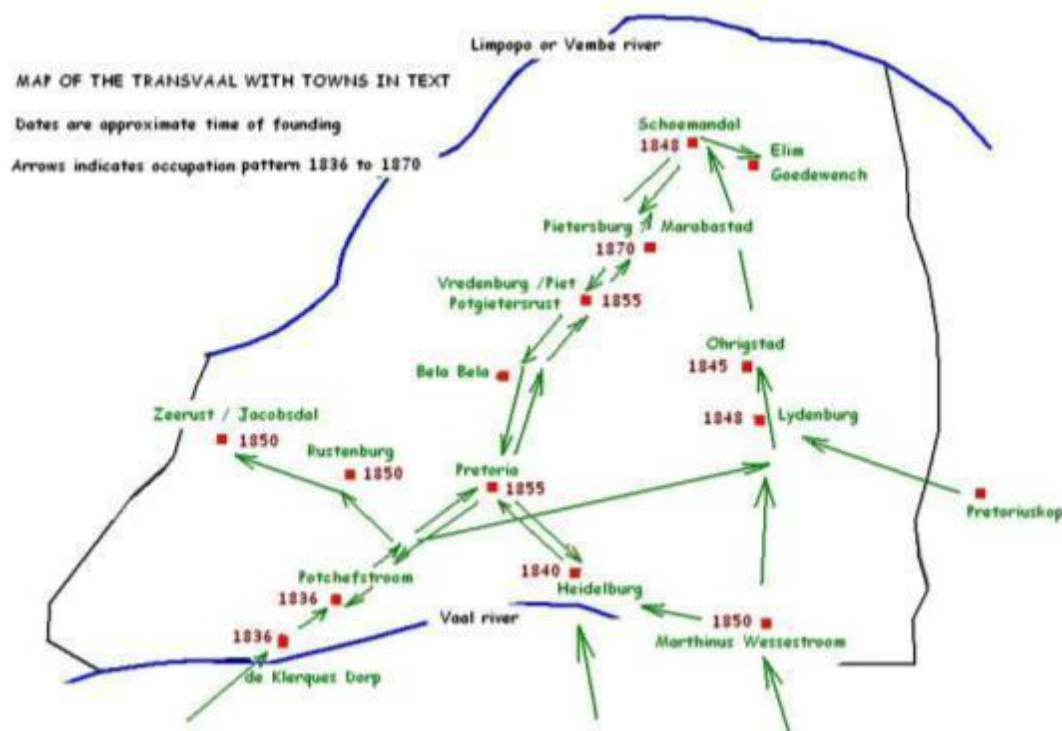


Fig. 10. Above is a schematic representation of the Transvaal with the Limpopo River to the north, the Vaal River to the South as delineation. As we know that the white pioneering population did not surpass several thousand men women and children during this time the diagram is rather illuminating. As these people had little regard for the presence or absence of indigenous peoples, it is clear that their distribution in the landscape were directed by political will of independence of the British, contact with the East Coast ports of the Portuguese and the faunal population of the area. On the other hand it is also clear that their establishment in permanent locations were seriously hampered by Malaria and the Tsetse fly. (SM Miller Schoemansdal report 1992)

8.3.2. Klerksdorp, (De Clercq –dorp)

Little is known regarding this first settlement in the Transvaal leaving open an area of investigation for historians. About ± 20 families laid out a 'rydorp' here between a water furrow and the Schoonspruit. Just like Stellenbosch its original format still exists although much of the architecture had changed. Interesting cameos of buildings from a variety of periods have survived in Potgieter Street, from the late nineteenth century to present day. Only a few months later the Potgieter and Pretorius group decided on putting their roots down next to the Mooirivier, some sixty kilometres eastwards.



Fig. 11. The original De Clercq (Klerksdorp) Settlement is beautifully captured by this part of Jeppe's 1899 Map of the Transvaal. We can clearly see its elongated profile on the western bank of the Schoonspruit. The modern town is also shown on the eastern bank of the Schoonspruit where it is the terminus of the rail line serving the Klerksdorp Goldfields as documented above the town lands. (SM Miller Schoemansdal report 1992)



Fig. 12. Detail of the Google Earth image of the original Klerksdorp Settlement. The erven, now very much diminished in width owing to subdivision, stretches between Potgieter Street in the west and the river in the east. (SM Miller Schoemansdal report 1992)

8.3.3. Potchefstroom

The early history of Potchefstroom is well documented owing to it being the focal point of settlement in the early Transvaal, its healthy climate away from the malaria ridden Lowveld and Bushveld, and it to a large extent being the seat of government of the Z. A. R. for several decades before its transition to Pretoria. O.J.O. Ferreira's documentation of Commandant General Schoeman's stormy political career also gives one an interesting insight into early pioneer life especially focussed on Potchefstroom. It is important to note that the present day Potchefstroom is then also several kilometres to the south of the first settlement known only as 'Oudedorp' (old or first town). As in the case with Schoemansdal the pioneers of Potchefstroom had to first 'outspan' (temporarily settle) on a location while the 'new town' was surveyed and serviced with a water furrow system.

For a brief but illuminating description we turn to a lecture by *Arie Kuijers* that was presented to the meeting of the Stigting Simon Van Der Stel Foundation in Potchefstroom in 1985. His lecture on the architectural history of Potchefstroom is then interesting to compare to a similar lecture given by Ds Fick on the 20th June in 1919 that was captured in *P. Aucamp's 'Potchefstroom in die Literatuur'*.

The founding of Potchefstroom is generally accepted to have been in 1838 after the final expulsion of Mzilikazi from the Transvaal region after the action fought at Mosega in the Marico district. But as in the case with other *Boeredorpe* in the Transvaal, Potchefstroom also had a temporary phase, that according to Kuijers (1985, 4), lasted from 1838 to 1841. The case of this may to a certain extent be found in the fact that Rex (1971 90-95) relates to us that Commandant General A. H. Potgieter and many of his followers had by 1841 settled themselves in the Cashan Mountains, from the Marico area to the present Pretoria region. This we believe was to be closer to the game rich region, as well with one eye still on the Ports of the East coast.

However it may be Kuijers relates that at Oudedorp was in 1840 described by a visitor, one *Kinloch of the East India Company*, as'At Mooirivier the town is not much advanced. One

or two houses only have been erected, and nearly all are still living in their wagons...’Of importance in this letter is that even though the Voortrekkers were on site for nearly three years there was surely no sign of invigorating town building present, and the place was only referred to as Mooirivier, and not as Potchefstroom.

In 1841/42 it is known that the site of the town was relocated some eleven miles to the south to its present position where a large water furrow had been prepared to bring the ‘new’ town under water by G. J. Kruger. For his efforts he received the old site in payment. According to *Kuijers* the water furrow served the town, block by block, so one must accept that the town must have been surveyed, to a certain extent, to provide direction for the furrows.

Even so, the building of permanent residences and official buildings also progressed at a snail’s pace. On page six of his lecture *Kuijers* tells us that in 1848, 1851 and in 1852 there was estimated to be some 40, 50 and ‘a little hundred’ buildings in town.

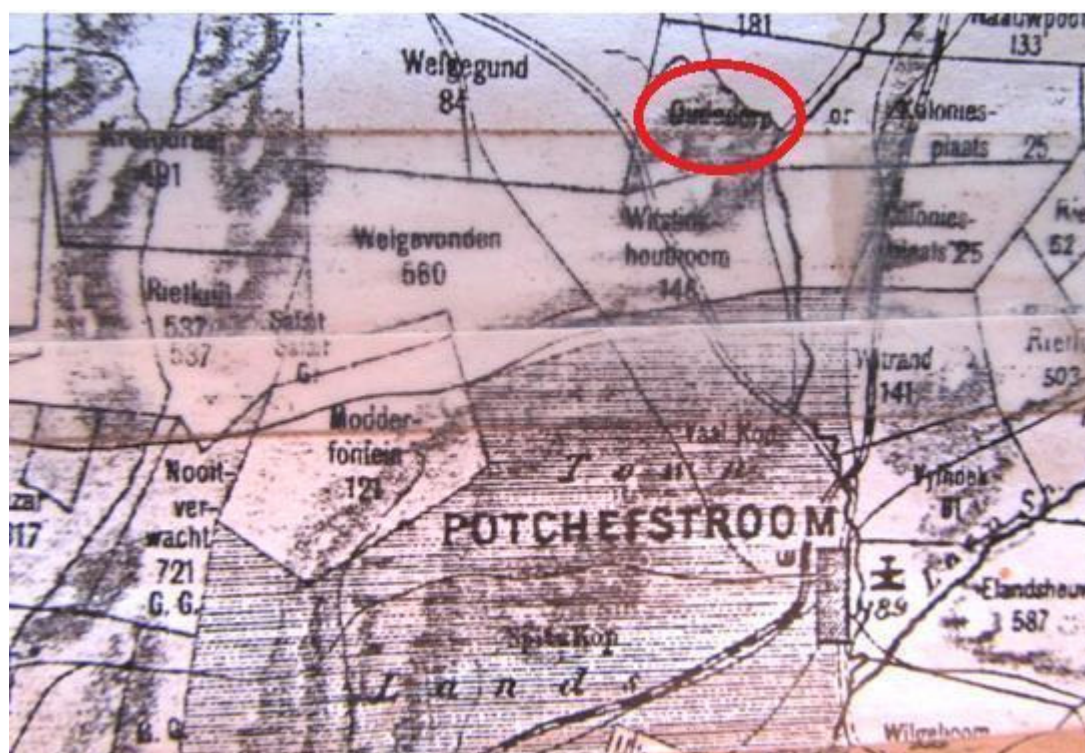


Fig. 13. Potchefstroom captured by this part of *Jeppe's 1899 Map of the Transvaal*. We can clearly see its elongated profile on the western bank of the Mooi Rivier. This north – south orientation must however not be confused with the east – west orientation of the original town and its extension in the 1863 *Jeppe* documentation (see figure 096). With Potchefstroom being the western ‘capitol’ of the Transvaal and of the now expanding gold mine industry to the west along the gold, by 1899 it had increased fivefold in size relative to its original format. But it expanded to the north and south owing to the realities of water supply that had to be channelled into town through furrows from the Mooi Rivier. (Note delineation of OUDEDORP farm north of Potchefstroom) (*SM Miller Schoemansdal report 1992*)

By 1859 though, the editor of the ‘*Staatskoerant*’ wrote that the the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek was rapidly advancing as could be observed in the town. (Interesting the author still refers to the town as Mooirivier, and not as Potchefstroom). He remarked that any viewer that visited the town five or six years ago were to observe today that ‘*paalhuisjes*’ (wattle and daub dwellings) had disappeared and that there were now numbers of elegant shops and comfortable dwellings present. These apparently arose like magic in the intervening years, and a walk through the town would reveal the ongoing construction of new projects in different phases of completion.

Apparently according to *Kuijers* there was very soon erected a jail on the Old Market square, and in the 1840’s a modest magistrates office was built on the New Market square. In 1851 a T shaped church was inaugurated on the 19th of May that was supplied with a redoubt

fashioned with loopholes in 1854. These were joined by a magazine shortly afterwards at a position unknown.

By 1853 the first town regulations were in place regulated by a town council that was democratically elected on the 30th March 1854.

Shortly afterwards the construction of a bridge over the river to the north of the town was in progress, as well as the construction of a larger and more permanent church. By 1860 the impact of the trade with the ZAR with visiting traders started having an impact, with the construction of permanent stores and shops around the market and church squares, two of which being those of Pavey & Reid and Vergottini & Klein. Drawings of these were made by Jeppe on his town map of 1863 (See figure 099).

By 1865 one Thomas Leask had the following to say about the town.....'...a rather nice looking town, well watered after the Boer style, viz water sluits running down every street.....streets straight, wide, crossing each other at right angles.....minus any sort of pavementhouses are straggling and scattered over a large space of ground....some rather of unattractive aspect.....many substantial and one or two ornamental buildings.....several large stores....churches are plentiful.....but in need of a good hotel. '.....

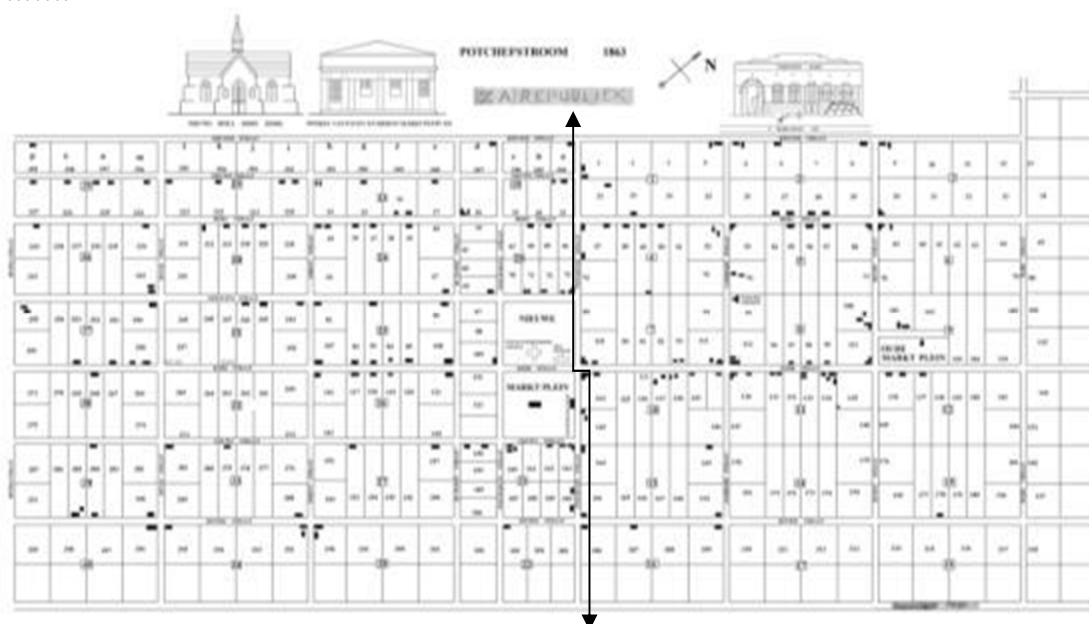


Fig. 14. Site map of Potchefstroom as documented by Jeppe in 1863. As the town was founded much earlier. This map was probably compiled for an extension of the town taking into consideration the 'OUDE MARKT PLEIN' and the 'NIEUWE MARKT PLEIN'. This map is a copy of the original that is housed in the Potchefstroom Museum, redrawn by the author in 2012. Note the orientation of the town as indicated on top of the drawing, while the Google Earth image shows a perfect east-west orientation. (SM Miller Schoemansdal report 1992)

In 1868 Fred Jeppe commented that there were some 408 erven in the town. In his 1863 map of the town we also see it named as Potchefstroom, so one must assume this happened between 1859 and 1868, probably after his death in 1852. Jeppe furthermore remarks that there are 275 houses in the town, 3 Dutch churches, 3 English churches, one church for 'blacks' 15 large shops, a government school, a free masons lodge and 5 hotels.

Regarding the inhabitants he surmises that there are 1200 people, of which 200 were branded as 'buitelanders' or foreigners. Of this number one must be cautious, as it is well known that most of the surrounding farmers had 'townhouses' for the purpose of attending communion. We find the same problem at Schoemansdal where the priest Santa Rita de Montana describing the town to have 1800 inhabitants, which we know was not possible.

In contrast Lady Florence Dixie in 1882, after the siege of the town during the First South African War stated that...' It was a quaint little town with its long row of unevenly built houses, its broad sandy street, over which the weeping willows arched and cast their welcome shade. Cozy cottages peeped from their green retreats....I rode through the principal and in

fact only real street of Potchefstroom....the cemetery, enclosed by strong brick walls.....a line of small houses...was riddled with bullets, and the whole of the Tronk, or goal, was that of disfigurement and ruin.

Apparently it was also in the eighteen sixties that several mills were put to use, and the then President, M. W. Pretorius, erected his home that survives in a restored format. Fortunately there survive a number of drawings from this early period of the history that captures the true 'spirit' of Boeredorpe although most of the buildings themselves disappeared.

From the 1890's onwards the diamonds of Kimberly, and the gold of the Rand, and the Second South African War brings along the Anglicization of South African architecture in the form of Victorian, Edwardian and Art Deco influences, not only in Potchefstroom, but throughout the Transvaal. This emerges both in true form, as well as in the hybridization of the Z.A.R. 'Traditionalism' that petered out during the Second World War.

8.3.4. Potchefstroom time line (Potchefstroom Herald Newspaper)

1838

a. Potchefstroom was proclaimed on 22 December by the Voortrekker leader Andries Hendrik Potgieter. The town was originally at Oudedorp, approximately 10 km upstream from where the city is today.

1841

- a. The town is relocated from Oudedorp to its current location.
- b. Potchefstroom became the capital of the Transvaal.
- c. First town magistrate appointed.

1846

a. First school. The first school of Potchefstroom was housed in the first church building which stood on the north-east corner of Church Plain. (Fig. 15)

1847

- a. Postal service inaugurated between Lydenburg and Potchefstroom. The post was carried by post runners.
- b. Market started in Potchefstroom
- c. Market on the plain - Photograph taken between 1896 and 1908.

Photo: Potchefstroom Museum (Fig. 16)

1851

a. First church building (Nederduits Hervormde Church).

1852

a. First execution of a murderer.

1853

a. First gunpowder magazine built (still exists). The gunpowder magazine in Potchindustria was declared a heritage site in 1969.

Photo: Potchefstroom Museum. (Fig. 17)

b. Gold discovered in Potchefstroom district.

1857

- a. First newspaper (De Staats Courant).
- b. First North Bridge built. (Fig. 18)

Photo: Potchefstroom Museum

1859

a. First Postmaster appointed.

1861

- a. New water furrow.
- b. New cemetery (second) laid out.

1862

a. Civil War between President Paul Kruger and usurper Stephanus Schoeman. Bombardment between them took place on the Bult.

1863

a. Swedish immigrants settled at Skandinawiëdrif. O.W.A. Forssman with his wife, Emelia. He was the leader of the Scandinavians who settled near Potchefstroom. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum (Fig. 19)

b. First Cricket club in Transvaal founded in Potchefstroom.

1864

a. Mail-coach service started between Pretoria and Potchefstroom.

1866

- a. First mill opened.
- b. Potchefstroom had 275 houses and 1 200 inhabitants and is the largest town in Transvaal, the second largest town being Pretoria with 180 inhabitants.
- c. The second and current building of the Nederduitsche Hervormde Church was inaugurated.



1867

- a. Gravel on streets.
- b. First agricultural show.
- c. First Reformed Church building and Dutch Reformed Church building inaugurated.
- d. First Anglican Church building inaugurated.

1868

- a. First municipal elections.

1869

- a. Theological School of the Reformed Church founded at Burgersdorp (later moved to Potchefstroom).

1872

- a. First Methodist Church building.

1877

- a. British troops annexed the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek.
- b. First commercial bank, Standard Bank, opened.
- c. Black location, later Willem Klopperville, laid out south of town. The old Native Location of Potchefstroom, later also known as William Klopperville or Makweteng. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum (*Fig. 20*)

1878

- a. First library service and museum movement.

1880

- a. The Fort at Potchefstroom besieged. The 322 people in the Fort included a few civilians and British troops under Col Winslow. For 95 days they were confined to an area 25 X 25 metres and subsequently six people died. This was the first hostilities of the First Anglo-Boer War. This model shows the Fort at the time of the Siege. (*Fig. 21*)

1881

- a. Potchefstroom fell to the Boers.

1884

- a. First Asians in Potchefstroom.

1887

- a. First private post-boxes made available.

1889

- a. Potchefstroom Stock Exchange founded.
- b. M L Fick Primary School, currently the oldest school, founded. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum (*Fig. 22*)

1890

- a. First Rugby club in Transvaal founded.

1891

- a. President Pretorius Primary School founded.

1892

- a. A park with sporting fields, Alexandra Park, next to cemetery is developed. Alexandra Park. (*Fig. 23*)

1893

- a. First tennis club in Transvaal founded in Potchefstroom.

1895

- a. Second Dutch Reformed Church inaugurated. This building is the oldest DR Church across the Vaal River and was restored after a devastating fire in 2007. Photo: Lennie Gouws

1896

- a. Landdrost-, Post-en Telegraafkantoor is office officially opened. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum. (*Fig. 24*)

1897

- a. Railroad between Potchefstroom and Johannesburg opened

1897

- a. Anglo Boer War declared

1900

- a. British troops under General Sir Ian Hunter occupied Potchefstroom.
- b. Military hospital built.

1902

- a. Health Committee formed to become first local authority after war.
- b. Church Street renamed King Edward Street and names of other streets changed.
- c. Experimental Farm founded.

1903

- a. British Garrison housed approximately 1 000 soldiers in cantonments.
- b. Potchefstroom acquired municipal status
- d.. First electrical power station came into operation.
- e. The Lyric Theatre opened on the corner of King Edward Street and Lombard Street.
- f. New cemetery (current) laid out.
- g. Two orphanages are combined. Out of this developed the Hoër Tegniese Skool.

1904

- a. Potchefstroom town council held its first meeting.
- b. New Methodist Church opened in May. Photo: Lennie Gouws. (*Fig. 25*)



1905

a. Theological School and Literary Department of the Reformed Church relocated to Potchefstroom from Burgersdorp.

b. Potchefstroom High School for Boys founded.

The Rector's House was the first building to be completed in the complex that housed the Theological School when it relocated from Burgersdorp to Potchefstroom. Today this is a museum, known as the Totius House.

Photo: Lennie Gouws. (*Fig. 26*)

1906

a. Railway line between Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp opened.

1908

a. Potchefstroom Herald newspaper founded.

b. Building of Potchefstroom Dam started.

c. First 40 telephones installed.

d. New golf links officially opened, soon to become one of the best in South Africa. The opening of the Golf Links. (*Fig. 27*)

1909

a. City Hall officially opened. The Potchefstroom Town Hall, at the time of its official opening in 1909. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum. (*Fig. 28*)

b. Experimental Farm became an Agricultural School.

1910

a. New post-office and magistrate's office opened.

b. Oak trees planted in Potchefstroom, the longest oak lane in South Africa. Later declared a National Monument.

1911

a. Municipality took over the supply of electricity.

1912

a. New electrical power station opened in Kock Street.

b. On 14 July marathon runner K.K. McArthur, a Irish-born policeman from Potchefstroom, won a gold medal at the Olympic Games in Stockholm.

Official opening of the electrical power station on 26 June 1912.

Photo: Potchefstroom Museum. (*Fig. 29*)

1914

a. Hospital opened.

b. Municipal Library, funded by Carnegie, opened.

c. British troops withdrew, but Potchefstroom stayed a military training base.

1918

a. Approximately 500 people died of Spanish Flu in Potchefstroom and district.

1919

a. New railway station opened in Potchefstroom. Photo: Potchefstroom Museum

b. Potchefstroom University College founded after Literary Department parted ways with the Theological School.

1920

a. Synagogue opened.

1923

a. New artillery school opened at Potchefstroom military base.

b. Witrand Rehabilitation Centre founded, second oldest psychiatric hospital in South Africa.

1926

a. Water purification service.

b. Streets tarred. Church Street (now Walter Sisulu Avenue) (*Fig. 30*)

1928

a. Railway opened between Potchefstroom and Fochville.

1930

a. Public swimming pool opened.

1939

a. Potchefstroom Centenary celebrations.

b. New airfield inaugurated near Sewerage Farm.

1940

a. First Police station.

b. Agriculture School became Agriculture College.

c. Airfield moved to current location.

1949

a. Various street names changed. King Edward Street again became Church Street.

1951

a. Potchefstroom University College acquired full university status to become Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education.

1952

a. The National Gunners' Memorial was unveiled. It is also known as the National Artillery Memorial. It is dedicated to all the Gunners who had laid down their lives for South Africa.

1954

a. Development of Ikageng started.

1955

a. Road between Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom tarred.



1958

- a. Boskopdam built.

1961

- a. Twelve people died in hail storm.
- b. Museum opened. The Potchefstroom Museum opened its doors in December 1961 Avenue. Photo: Lennie Gouws. (*Fig. 31*)

1962

- a. Automated telephone services.

1963

- a. Third and current Northbridge built.

1966

- a. New post office opened in Potchefstroom (still in use).
- b. Military District upgraded to become Northwest Commando.

1971

- a. Mohadin suburb laid out.
- b. Fire station opened in Newmarket Street.

1973

- a. Twenty people died when an ammonia tank at the Triomf Fertiliser Plant exploded.

1975

- b. Potgieter Street widened to a double road.

1976

- a. Self-governing body for Promosa.

1977

- a. New prison opened at Mooibank.
- b. The Totius House Museum, part of the Theological School Complex, is officially opened as one of the house museums in Potchefstroom.

1979

- a. The house of MW Pretorius former state president of the old ZAR was declared as a national monument and is now one of three house museums in Potchefstroom.

1982

- a. New Library and museum building inaugurated. (*Fig. 32*)
Library and Museum building.

1985

- a. The Goetz-Fleischack House on the corner of Nelson Mandela and Sol Plaatjes Avenue is declared a National Monument. It is the only example of an early town house still in existence and is fitted out as a house museum.

1988

- a. 150 Year Celebrations.
- b. A H Potgieter Banqueting Halls opened. Later renamed Madiba Banqueting Halls.

1991

- a. New Police Office.

1992

- a. Air Force base closed.

1988

- a. First national democratic elections – ANC won Potchefstroom with a 59.08% vote
- a. Potchefstroom acquired city status.

1995

- a. New fire station opened in Potchindustria.

1996

- a. Cachet Park Shopping Centre developed.

1997

- a. Checkers Centre enlarged and renamed Riverwalk Centre.

1998

- a. First Aardklop National Art Festival.

1999

- a. Centenary celebrations of the Anglo Boer War.

2003

- a. PU for CHO became the North West University, Potchefstroom Campus after merger with University of Bophuthatswana.
- b. 3 Students died of Meningitis.

2004

- a. Wide ranging street name changes.

2005

- a. The Vredefort Dome, the biggest and oldest meteorite impact site in the world was declared a World Heritage Site.

2006

- a. Potchefstroom Municipality became Tlokwe Municipality.

2006

- a. Kynoch Fertiliser Plant, previously known as Triomf, closed.
- b. The Dutch Reformed Church in Nelson Mandela Drive is destroyed by a fire due to an electrical fault. By 2011 the church is fully restored and inaugurated.

2008

- a. Mooiriver Mall opens.
- b. Herald newspaper celebrates centenary.

Photo: Lennie Gouws. (*Fig. 33*)



8.3.5. Some of the heritage sites of Potchefstroom.



Figs. 34 to 37. The M.W. Pretorius town house, the Potgieter earth redoubt, the church on the market place and the Kings Hotel all available on Google Earth Street View that covers the first eighty years of Potchefstroom history.

9. FIELD RECORDING OF THE SITE UNDER INVESTIGATION.



Fig. 38. Google Earth street view images of the site looking east over the main road in the foreground with Afmars Street in the middle of the image. (Google Earth street view 2014)



Fig. 39. Google Earth street view image, looking west over the main road towards the military base assets dating to the 1920's. (Google Earth street view 2014)



Figs. 40 to 41. Above is the photographic recording of the environmental public notification of the proposed development situated on the western extremity of the property. (S.M.Miller 2014)



Figs. 42 to 43. Photographic recording of the visitation of the investigating consultant on the extremities of the site on the 22nd of April, 2014. (S.M.Miller 2014)



Figs. 44 to 45. Photographic recording of the visitation of the investigating consultant on the western extremities of the site on the 22nd of April, 2014. (S.M.Miller 2014)



Figs. 46 to 47. Photographic recording of the visitation of the investigating consultant on the eastern extremities of the site on the 22nd of April, 2014. (S.M.Miller 2014)



Figs. 48 to 50. Photographic recording of the remains of a variety of vegetation that proclaims the site being previously utilised as a residential area, as recorded on the 22nd of April, 2014. (S.M. Miller 2014).



Figs. 48 to 50. Photographic recording of the remains of a variety of modern services in the form of water and electricity reticulation that proclaims the site being previously utilised as a residential area. As recorded on the 22nd of April, 2014. (S.M. Miller 2014).

10. ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS.

As the site is cleared of any heritage assets above ground these are not necessary at present.

12. FIELD RATING AND STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (See SG 2.2. APM. Guidelines: Minimum Standards for Impact Assessment Reports)

11.1.2. Field rating. Younger than sixty years (section J) therefore absolved to comply with Act 25 of 1999.

11.1.3. Significance. Younger than sixty years (section J) therefore absolved to comply with Act 25 of 1999.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

Under the present legislation it is advised that development may proceed without any further investigation.

If any heritage assets are uncovered during construction, such as human remains then the normal procedure must be followed.

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APPENDIX A: DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Sidney Mears Miller (ID 5412135029082) declare that:

- I act as an independent environmental practitioner in this application
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999) and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in regulation 8 of the regulations when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- I will ensure that information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is distributed or made available to interested and affected parties and the public and that participation by interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all interested and affected parties will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to participate and to provide comments on documents that are produced to support the application;
- I will ensure that the comments of all interested and affected parties are considered and recorded in reports that are submitted to the competent authority in respect of the application, provided that comments that are made by interested and affected parties in respect of a final report that will be submitted to the competent authority may be attached to the report without further amendment to the report;
- I will keep a register of all interested and affected parties that participated in a public participation process; and
- I will provide the competent authority with access to all information at my disposal regarding the application, whether such information is favourable to the applicant or not
- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct;
- will perform all other obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the Regulations; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 71 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

Disclosure of Vested Interest

I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity AND OR proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations,



SIDNEY MEARS MILLER