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REPORT ON A PHASE 1 HIA FOR THE ALABAMA EXTENSION 4 TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 1 OF TOWN & TOWNLANDS OF KLERKSDORP 424IP NEAR KLERKSDORP (MATLOSANA), NORTHWEST PROVINCE

For:

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REPORT: APAC012/16

by:

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SUMMARY

APelser Archaeological Consulting was appointed by Maxim Planning Solutions (Pty) Limited to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of the Alabama Extension 4 Township, located on the remaining extent of Portion 1 of Town & Townlands of Klerksdorp 424IP, in Klerksdorp (Matlosana), Northwest Province. A desktop study formed part of the assessment, after which a field survey was conducted in the area.

The area has been disturbed extensively in the recent past by agricultural activities while recent residential squatting on a section of the area has also had an impact. The Jagspruit forms the western boundary of the development area, and the only archaeological material identified was on the banks of this water source. Recommendations regarding the mitigation of impacts on any possible sites, objects or features that could possibly be located in the area (including unknown or unmarked graves) are given at the end of this report.

From a Cultural Heritage perspective there would be no objection to the continuation of the proposed development, taking into consideration the conclusions and recommendations put forward at the end of this report.

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1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting was appointed by Maxim Planning Solutions (Pty) Limited to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of the Alabama Extension 4 Township, located on the remaining extent of Portion 1 of Town & Townlands of Klerksdorp 424IP, in Klerksdorp (Matlosana), Northwest Province. A desktop study formed part of the assessment, after which a field survey was conducted in the area.

The area has been disturbed extensively in the recent past by agricultural activities while recent residential squatting on a section of the area has also had an impact. The Jagspruit forms the western boundary of the development area, and the only archaeological material identified was on the banks of this water source.

The client indicated the boundaries of the area to be assessed and the fieldwork focused on this.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the study were to:

- 1. Conduct a desktop study regarding the archaeology and history of the area, as well as on previous heritage impact studies in the area, and to undertake a physical survey in the area of proposed development
- 2. Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located in the area;
- 3. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value;
- 4. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions;
- 5. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources;
- 6. Review applicable legislative requirements;

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

3.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- **e.** Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites or scientific or technological value.

The national estate includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Sites of Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development on these resources. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- b. 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; or

c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations** (**Ordinance no. 12 of 1980**) (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated to) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act** (**Act 65 of 1983 as amended**).

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

3.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature, including other possible Heritage Impact Assessment Reports completed in the area, was undertaken in order to place the development area in an archaeological and historical context. The sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2 Field Survey

The assessment was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance in the area of the proposed development. The location/position of all sites, features and objects was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while photographs were also taken where needed.

The assessment was undertaken both on foot and by driving through the area under scrutiny. Areas with the potential of containing archaeological and other sites are focused on during the survey. This include rocky outcrops, erosion dongas and unnatural clumps of trees and other vegetation.

4.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography.

4.4 Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities are determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information is added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The proposed development area (of around 249ha) is located on the Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the farm Town & Townlands of Klerksdorp 424IP near Klerksdorp in the Northwest Province. The development – termed Alabama Extension 4 – is located close to the existing Alabama and Jouberton townships. The topography of the area is very flat and consists mainly of rolling grass veld (where this has not been disturbed by ploughing).

The Jagspruit forms the western boundary of the development (the 100m flood line will be honored), while an ESKOM Powerline forms the northern boundary. There are no rocky outcrops or hills on the property and most of the area has been extensively disturbed through agricultural activities (ploughing for crops) in the recent past. A large section of the southeastern portion of the property has recently been occupied by squatters, which have also had an impact on the landscape and vegetation. Informal residential dumping is also taking place as a result.

Visibility was fairly good, with the area very flat and open. The 1:50 000 topographic map of the area (2626DC Klerksdorp) dating to 1996 also indicates a fairly flat area, with no historical features or sites indicated.



Figure 1: Location of development area. Note the agricultural fields (camps), Jagspruit and residential developments bordering the area (Courtesy Maxim Planning Soluitons).



Figure 2: View of a section of the site, with the Squatter camp visible in the distance.



Figure 3: Another view of the development area.



Figure 4: Another view of the ploughed fields in the area.



Figure 5: Closer view of a section of the squatter camp.



Figure 6: View down the Jagspruit – the western boundary of the development area.



Figure 7: Cattle grazing on the ploughed fields.

6. DISCUSSION

As part of the assessment of the area a desktop study was undertaken to put the farm and the general geographical area in a historical and archaeological context.

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in basically into three periods. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

According to Bergh there are no known Stone Age sites close to Klerksdorp, although a number of rock engraving sites are known to occur in the larger geographical area (Bergh 1999: 4-5).

Stone Age material is frequently found close to rivers and other water sources, and this case a small number of MSA/LSA flakes were found scattered in the dry river bed (floodplain) of the Jagspruit. It is possible that more tools could be present in the area, but as the development will not be located close to the river (100m floodline) there will be no negative impact on any possible Stone Age sites or material.



Figure 8: MSA/LSA flake and core tool from the area.



Figure 9: Location of Stone Age material in survey area.

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce artifacts (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 346). In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases (Bergh 1999: 96-98), namely:

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Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D.
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.
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Huffman (2007: xiii) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

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Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.
Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.
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There are no known EIA/MIA sites in the area, although there are some Late Iron Age sites in the larger geographical area north and west of the town (Bergh 1999: 6-7). One such site is Palmietfontein (around 30km north of the town), excavated in 1975 by D.A.White. In an article on this work it is also indicated that the area north of Klerksdorp is relatively rich in terms of Late Iron Age sites, and that the Rolong capital of Thabeng lies within this area (White 1977: 89).

Based on the research by Huffman it is possible that sites related to the so-called Olifantspoort facies of the Urewe Tradition, dating to around AD1500-1700, and the Thabeng facies of the same tradition (AD1700-1840) could possibly be found in the area ((Huffman 2007: 207). No Iron Age sites, features or cultural material was found during the assessment of the area.

The historical age generally starts with the first recorded oral histories in an area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. The earliest traveller through this area was Cornwallis Harris in 1836, followed by missionaries and the Voortrekkers (Bergh 1999: 13-14).

According to Wikipedia the town was founded in 1837 when the Voortrekkers settled on the banks of the Schoonspruit which flows through the town. The most prominent of the first settlers was C.M. du Plooy who claimed a large farm called Elandsheuwel. He gave plots of land and communal grazing rights on this farm to other Voortrekkers in return for their labour in building a dam and an irrigation canal. This collection of smallholdings was later given the name of Klerksdorp in honour of the first landdrost (magistrate) of the area, Jacob de Clerq.

In August 1886 gold was discovered in the Klerksdorp district by M.G. Jansen van Vuuren as well as on the Witwatersrand, which lies about 160 km to the east. As a consequence, thousands of fortune-seekers descended on the small village, turning it into a town with 70 taverns and even a stock exchange of its own. However, the nature of the gold reef demanded expensive and sophisticated equipment to mine and extract the gold, causing the majority of diggers to move away in the late 1890s and leading to a decline in the gold mining industry.

During the Second Boer War (1899-1902), heavy fighting occurred in the area, which also housed a large concentration camp. The most famous of the battles around Klerksdorp, is that of the Battle of Ysterspruit during which the Boers under General Koos de la Rey achieved a great victory. On April 11, 1902, the Battle of Rooiwal, the last major engagement of the war, was fought near Klerksdorp during which a Boer charge was beaten off by entrenched British troops. The graves of the victims of the British Concentration Camps near Klerksdorp are located in the old cemetery just outside of town.

Klerksdorp was connected by rail to Krugersdorp on 3 August 1897 and to Kimberley in 1906. The gold mining industry was revived by large mining companies in 1932, causing the town to undergo an economic revival, which accelerated after World War II.

The above information was obtained from <u>www.wikipedia.org</u>.

The oldest maps of the farm that could be obtained (www.csg.dla.gov.za) indicates that the farm (Portion 2 of Townlands of Klerksdorp 44) was surveyed between January and March 1905 (Document 10LIV201) and that Portion 3 (a portion of Portion 1) was surveyed in March 1907 and transferred to the Municipal Council of Klerksdorp on the 23rd of April 1906 (Document 10LI2C01).

According to Bergh the farmer settlement along the Schoonspruit started to become called a town at around 1855, although its status as town was only formally established on the 12th of September 1888 (Bergh 1999: 130; 146). This source also indicates the two Anglo-Boer War battles mentioned in wikipedia, but includes the Battle of Hartebeestfontein (18th February 1901) close to Klerksdorp (p. 54). Besides the Boer women en children Concentration Camp in Klerksdorp there was also one for Black people (Bergh 1999: 54).

No sites of any historical origin were identified in the study area during the assessment.

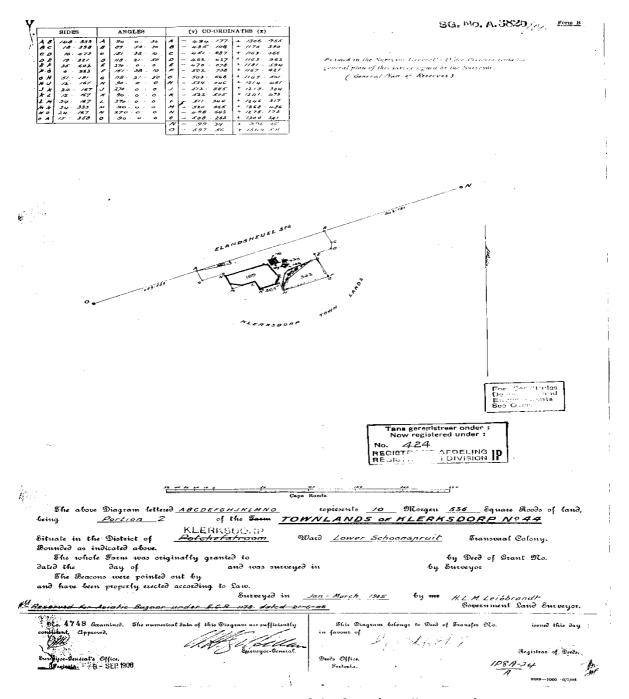


Figure 10: 1906 map of the farm (csg.dla.gov.za)

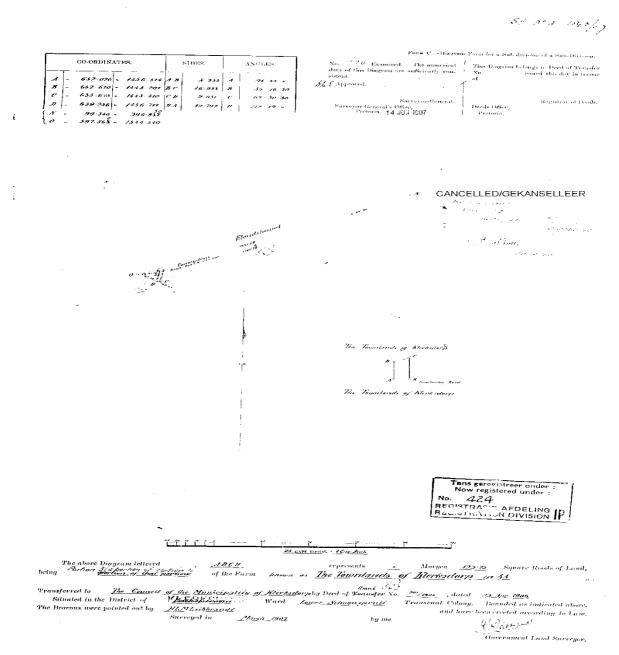


Figure 11: 1907 map of Portion 3 of the farm (csg.dla.gov.za).

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment of the remaining extent of Portion 1 of the farm (Town & Townlands) Klerksdorp 424IP, to be impacted by the proposed Alabama Extension 4 Township Development was conducted successfully. The area has been extensively disturbed in the past through mainly agricultural activities and if any sites of cultural (archaeological & historical) origin and significance did exist here in the past it would have been disturbed or destroyed to a large degree. Some Stone Age (MSA/LSA) tools were identified in the area close to the Jagspruit, but the material is scattered and the area around the spruit will not be impacted by the development. Although rock engraving sites and Late Iron Age sites are known to occur in the larger geographical area north of the town, none were identified during the assessment.

During the Anglo-Boer War a number of battles were fought in the area of Klerksdorp, while there were Concentration Camps for both Boer women and children near the town as well. The location of last mentioned is unknown.

From a Cultural Heritage point of view therefore the development should be allowed to continue. However, the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts are always a distinct possibility, and this aspect needs to be kept in mind at all times. Care should therefore be taken during any development activities that if any of these are accidentally discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate. This would include the discovery of previously unknown graves.

8. REFERENCES

Aerial map & location provided by client – Maxim Planning Solutions (Pty) Ltd

Aerial view of location area and Stone Age finds within the development area: Google Earth 2012.

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www.csg.dla.gov.za (Chief Surveyor General Database)

www.wikipedia.org

APPENDIX A

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B

DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Historic value: Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association

with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in

history.

Aesthetic value: Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a

community or cultural group.

Scientific value: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of

natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree

of creative or technical achievement of a particular period

Social value: Have a strong or special association with a particular community or

cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Rarity: Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or

cultural heritage.

Representivity: Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular

class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

Cultural significance:

- Low A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.

- Medium Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.

- High Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.

Heritage significance:

- Grade I Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance

- Grade II Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate

- Grade III Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

Field ratings:

should be managed as part of the national estate i. National Grade I significance ii. Provincial Grade II significance should be managed as part of the provincial estate iii. Local Grade IIIA should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance) iv. Local Grade IIIB should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance) site should be mitigated before destruction (high/ v. General protection A (IV A) medium significance) site should be recorded before destruction (medium vi. General protection B (IV B) significance) vii. General protection C (IV C) phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it may be demolished (low significance)

APPENDIX D

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:

Formal protection:

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – Grade I and II

Protected areas - An area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – For a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – Listing Grades II and III

Heritage areas – Areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. Archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

General protection:

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states Structures – Older than 60 years Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites Burial grounds and graves Public monuments and memorials

APPENDIX E

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

- 1. Pre-assessment or Scoping phase Establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
- 2. Baseline Assessment Establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
- 3. Phase I Impact Assessment Identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
- 4. Letter of Recommendation for Exemption If there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
- 5. Phase II Mitigation or Rescue Planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
- 6. Phase III Management Plan For rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.