



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
BK 98 09854/23

**A REPORT ON A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
SPRINGLAKE SIDING CLOSE TO HATTINGSRUIT IN THE KWAZULU-NATAL
PROVINCE**

For:

Cabanga Concepts

REPORT: **AE01227V**

By:

Dr. A.C. van Vollenhoven (L. Akad. S.A.)

Accredited member of ASAPA
Professional member of SASCH

May 2012

Archaetnos
P.O. Box 55
GROENKLOOF
0027
Tel: **083 2916104**
Fax: 086 520 4173
E-mail: antonv@archaetnos.co.za

Members: AC van Vollenhoven BA, BA (Hons), DTO, NDM, MA (Archaeology) [UP], MA (Culture History) [US], DPhil (Archaeology) [UP], Man Dip [TUT], DPhil (History) [US]
AJ Pelsers BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology) [WITS]

**©Copyright
Archaetnos**

The information contained in this report is the sole intellectual property of Archaetnos CC. It may only be used for the purposes it was commissioned for by the client.

DISCLAIMER:

Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the survey of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites are as such that it always is possible that hidden or subterranean sites could be overlooked during the study. Archaetnos and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or one of its subsidiary bodies needs to comment on this report and clients are advised not to proceed with any action before receiving these. It is the responsibility of the client to submit this report to the relevant heritage authority.

SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was appointed by Cabanga Concepts to conduct a cultural heritage study for the proposed Springlake siding. This is located close to Hattingspruit, between Dundee and Newcastle in the KwaZulu-Natal Province.

The fieldwork undertaken revealed no sites of cultural heritage significance. Therefore no mitigation is required and the project may continue.

Note should also be taken that all archaeological and historical sites may not have been identified as it is possible that subterranean archaeological sites may be found later on. On identification of these it needs to be dealt with by an archaeologist.

CONTENTS

	Page
SUMMARY	3
CONTENTS	4
1. INTRODUCTION.....	5
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
3. CONDITIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS	5
4. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	6
5. METHODOLOGY	9
6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA.....	10
7. HISTORICAL CONTEXT	12
8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	14
9. REFERENCES.....	14
APPENDIX A – DEFENITION OF TERMS	16
APPENDIX B – DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.....	17
APPENDIX C – SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING.....	18
APPENDIX D – PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES.....	19
APPENDIX E – HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES.....	20

1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was appointed by Cabanga Concepts to conduct a cultural heritage study for the proposed Springlake siding. This is located at Hattingspruit, between Dundee and Newcastle in the KwaZulu-Natal Province.

The client indicated the area where the proposed development is to take place. The field survey was confined to this area.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the survey were to:

1. Identify objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the property (see Appendix A).
2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B).
3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions.
4. Recommend suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources by the proposed development.
5. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. CONDITIONS & ASSUMPTIONS

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity (Appendix A). These include all sites, structure and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development. Graves and cemeteries are included in this.
2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. The various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these aspects.
3. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full

and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix C).

4. The latitude and longitude of any archaeological or historical site or feature, is to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public.
5. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation.
6. It has to be mentioned that it is almost impossible to locate all the cultural resources in a given area, as it will be very time consuming. Developers should however note that the report should make it clear how to handle any other finds that might occur. In this case the vegetation cover in certain areas is reasonably dense making archaeological visibility difficult.

4. 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).

4.1 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 of scientific or technological value.

The national estate (see Appendix D) 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. Archaeological and paleontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds

- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, 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 thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment only looks at archaeological resources. The different phases during the HIA process are described in Appendix E. 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 paleontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological 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 paleontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals

- or archaeological and paleontological 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.

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

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) 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)**.

4.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act (Act 107 of 1998) 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.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

5.2 Field survey

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area of proposed development. If required, the location/position of any site was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS)¹, while photographs were also taken where needed.

The survey was undertaken by a physical survey via off-road vehicle and on foot.

5.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are 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.

5.4 Documentation

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

5.5 Evaluation of Heritage sites

The evaluation of heritage sites is done by giving a field rating of each (see Appendix C) using the following criteria:

¹ A Garmin Oregon 550 with an accuracy factor of a few meters.

- The unique nature of a site
- The integrity of the archaeological deposit
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site
- The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features
- The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined or is known)
- The preservation condition of the site
- Uniqueness of the site and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The area that was surveyed is situated to the east of the town of Hattingspruit in the KwaZulu-Natal Province. This lies between Dundee and Newcastle (Figure 1-2).

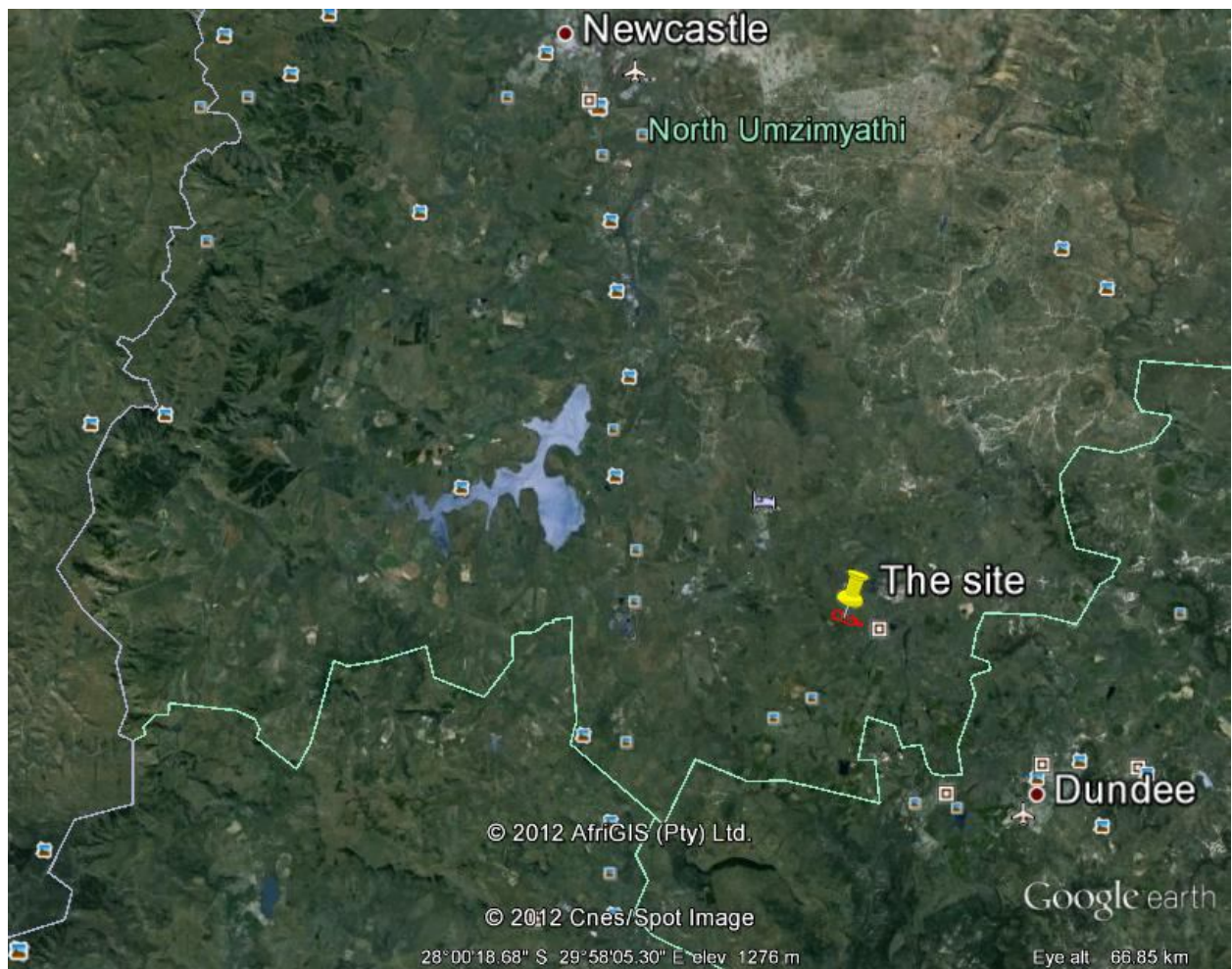


Figure 1 Location of the surveyed area in KwaZulu-Natal.



Figure 2 Location of the surveyed area to the east of Hattingspruit (indicated in red).

The environment of the area is mostly disturbed by farming activities. A railway line runs from east to west through the area. The disturbance includes agriculture (maize) on the southern part of the railway and grazing to the north (Figure 3-4). Here a marshland is also situated. During the survey the grass cover in the north was reasonably high making archeological visibility difficult. The maize crops to the south were also high. The natural topography in the area falls towards the railway line where a marshland is situated.



Figure 3 General view of the surveyed area to the south of the railway line.



Figure 4 General view of the surveyed area to the north of the railway line.

7. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

During the survey no sites of cultural heritage significance was located in the area to be developed. However, there is always a possibility that sites may become known later and that those need to be dealt with in accordance with the legislation discussed above. In order to enable the reader to better understand archaeological and cultural features, it is necessary to give a background regarding the different phases of human history.

7.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 293). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. The division for the Stone Age according to Korsman & Meyer (1999: 93-94) is as follows:

- Early Stone Age (ESA) 2 million – 150 000 years ago
- Middle Stone Age (MSA) 150 000 – 30 000 years ago
- Late Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 1850 - A.D.

This geographical area is not well-known as one containing many prehistoric sites. This however definitely indicates a lack of research in the area. A few sites including different Stone Age sites are known from recent surveys in the area. Archaeologists have also found such

sites in the vicinity of Newcastle, Dundee and Dannhauser, mostly dating to the Middle Stone Age, during previous surveys (www.archaetnos.co.za).

The environment definitely is suitable for Stone Age people. There is ample water and grazing for the wild life they would have hunted. Although no caves or rock shelters were identified, there would be enough shelter further away from the surveyed area.

It is therefore very likely that Stone Age people did utilize and settled in the area. No such sites were however identified during the survey. The dense vegetation cover may be a contributing factor to this.

7.2 Iron Age

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

Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

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:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.

Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

Both Early and Late Iron Age sites are known from the Kwazulu-Natal (Zululand) area. These are associated with the predecessors of the current Zulu people in the area. During the Late Iron Age (LIA), people stayed in extensive stonewalled settlements and some of these were identified close to Dundee (Archaetnos database) during a recent survey.

Iron Age people therefore definitely settled in the study area. The good grazing and access water in the area would have provided a good environment for Iron Age people although building material seem to be reasonably scarce in the immediate vicinity of the surveyed site. One would therefore expect that Iron Age people may have utilized the area. This is the same reason why white settlers moved into this environment later on.

7.3 Historical Age

The historical age started with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. This era is sometimes called the Colonial era or the recent past.

Due to factors such as population growth and a decrease in mortality rates, more people inhabited the country during the recent historical past. Therefore and because less time has passed, much more cultural heritage resources from this era have been left on the landscape. It is important to note that all cultural resources older than 60 years are potentially regarded as part of the heritage and that detailed studies are needed in order to determine whether these

indeed have cultural significance. Factors to be considered include aesthetic, scientific, cultural and religious value of such resources.

After 1800 the small tribes in Zululand were unified by Chaka (Bergh & Bergh 1984: 14). During the Difaqane (1820's – 1830's) the Ndebele of Mzilikazi migrated from the north-eastern parts of Kwazulu-Natal to the north and most likely passed close to the study area. On this journey they conquered other groups and caused wide-spread chaos (Bergh 1999: 11).

Travelers and missionaries also came to the area. By 1824 people like FG Farewell, JS King, Henry Fynn, John Cane, Henry Ogle, Alexander Biggar, WH Davis, and Thomas Halstead have settled in Port Natal. It was however only during the 1830's when the Voortrekkers moved in that white people started colonizing the area to a large extent (Venter 1985: 25-27). This led to an era of conflict ending with the Battle of Blood River (Ncome) where the Voortrekkers ended the reign of Dingane in the area (Venter 1985: 49-52). This battlefield is found approximately 40 km from Dundee.

During the Anglo-Zulu War and the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) many battles were also fought in the vicinity of the study area. This includes Isandlwana and Talana (or Dundee), the latter on 20 October 1899 (Bergh 1999: 51; Pretorius 1985: 14). The British also built some forts around the town of Dundee (Pretorius 1985: 12).

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is concluded that the assessment of the area was conducted successfully. In the surveyed area no sites of cultural significance have been found. The owner of the property, Mr. Mark Stein also indicated that he is unaware of any graves on the portion that was surveyed.

The final recommendations are as follows:

- The proposed development may continue.
- It should be remembered that due to the natural factors indicated in the report, it is possible that all cultural sites may not have been identified. Also the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts are always a distinct possibility. Care should therefore be taken when development work commences that, if any more artifacts are uncovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate.

9. REFERENCES

Archaeotnos database.

Bergh, J.S. (ed.). 1999. **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies.** Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.

Bergh, J.S. & Bergh, A.P. 1984. **Stamme & Ryke.** Cape Town: Don Nelson.

Coertze, P.J. & Coertze, R.D. 1996. **Verklarende vakwoordeboek vir Antropologie en Argeologie.** Pretoria: R.D. Coertze.

- Huffman, T.N. 2007. **Handbook to the Iron Age: The Archaeology of Pre-Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa**. Scottsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.
- Knudson, S.J. 1978. **Culture in retrospect**. Chicago: Rand McNally College Publishing Company.
- Korsman, S.A. & Meyer, A. 1999. Die Steentydperk en rotskuns. Bergh, J.S. (red.). **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies**. Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.
- Pretorius, F. 1985. **1899-1902 Die Anglo-Boereoorlog**. Cape Town: Don Nelson.
- Republic of South Africa. 1980. **Ordinance on Excavations** (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980). The Government Printer: Pretoria.
- Republic of South Africa. 1983. **Human Tissue Act** (Act 65 of 1983). The Government Printer: Pretoria.
- Republic of South Africa. 1999. **National Heritage Resources Act** (No 25 of 1999). Pretoria: the Government Printer.
- Republic of South Africa. 1998. **National Environmental Management Act** (no 107 of 1998). Pretoria: The Government Printer.
- SAHRA database.
- Stein, Mr. M., 2012.05.11. Farmer, Personal communication.
- Van der Ryst, M.M. & Meyer, A. 1999. Die Ystertydperk. Bergh, J.S. (red.). **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies**. Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.
- Venter, C. 1985. **Die Groot Trek**. Cape Town: Don Nelson.

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:

- National Grade I significance should be managed as part of the national estate
- Provincial Grade II significance should be managed as part of the provincial estate
- Local Grade IIIA should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance)
- Local Grade IIIB should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance)
- General protection A (IV A) site should be mitigated before destruction (high/ medium significance)
- General protection B (IV B) site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance)
- 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.