

**SPECIALIST REPORT**  
**A PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR**  
**THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WASTE TRANSFER AND**  
**SORTING FACILITY AT SIKHULULIWE VILLAGE, ON PORTION 9 OF THE**  
**FARM SPRINGBOKLAAGTE 416JS, EAST OF MIDDELBURG (STEVE**  
**TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY)**

**MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) regarding archaeological and other cultural heritage resources was conducted on the footprint for the proposed establishment of a waste transfer and sorting facility at Sikhululiwe village. The study area is located on portion 9 of the farm Springboklaagte 416JS, 30km east of Middelburg.

The study area is situated on topographical map 1:50 000, 2529DD, which is in the Mpumalanga Province. This area falls under the jurisdiction of the Steve Tshwete Local municipality, and the Nkangala district municipality.

The National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 (1999)(NHRA), protects all heritage resources, which are classified as national estate. The NHRA stipulates that any person who intends to undertake a development, is subjected to the provisions of the Act.

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (the current owners of the site), is requesting the proposed establishment of a waste transfer and sorting facility, at Sikhululiwe village. The area for the proposed facility is 4900m<sup>2</sup> in extent with a 372m access road from the village to the site (indicated on the maps). The site is currently vacant, and situated on previous agricultural lands. It is currently used for cattle grazing.

A small graveyard was identified in close proximity to the study area. The graveyard is properly fenced and locals have easy access to the graves. The graveyard will however be affected by the proposed access road and therefore it required that mitigation measures are implemented:

- A 10m buffer should be kept between the access road and the fence of the graveyard. The access road will have a 12m reserve (as specified by DELTA Built Environmental Consultants).
- Should the above option not be possible, then the graves need to be relocated, before the development may continue. Negotiations may be entered into with family members to relocate the graves for which a permit should be applied for.

The survey revealed no other archaeological or heritage features, but the owner / applicant must be made aware that distinct archaeological material or human remains may only be revealed during the development. It is recommended that earthmoving activities in the area be monitored by a qualified archaeologist. Based on the survey and findings in this report, Adansonia Heritage Consultants, states that there are no compelling reason which may prevent the proposed development to continue, should mitigation measures be adhered to.

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

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

April 2015

Christine Rowe

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**A PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL / HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR  
PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WASTE TRANSFER AND SORTING  
FACILITY AT SIKHULULIWE VILLAGE, ON PORTION 9 OF THE FARM  
SPRINGBOKLAAGTE 416JS, EAST OF MIDDELBURG (STEVE TSHWETE  
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY)**

**A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO THE PROJECT**

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is gearing towards the minimization of waste in terms of the National Waste Act (Act no. 59 of 2008) and has identified a need to establish a waste transfer station and sorting facility on *portion 9 of the farm Springboklaagte 416JS* at Sikhululiwe Village, for the disposal of household and garden waste. The transfer station is 4900m<sup>2</sup> in extent with an access road of approximately 372m and will serve the following purposes:

- Temporary storage of household waste from residential areas;
- Disposal of garden refuse and other unused material;
- Sorting of recyclable waste.

Adansonia Heritage Consultants were appointed by DELTA BUILT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, to conduct a Phase 1 heritage impact assessment (HIA) on archaeological and other heritage resources in the study area.

A literature study, relevant to the study area was done, to determine that no archaeological or heritage resources will be impacted upon. (Topographical Map: 2529DD, Map 3).

The aims for this report are to source all relevant information on archaeological and heritage resources in the study area, and to advise the client on sensitive heritage areas as well as where it is viable for the development to take place in terms of the specifications as set out in the National Heritage Resources Act no., 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Recommendations for maximum conservation measures for any heritage resource will also be made. The study area is indicated in Maps 1 – 4 and photographic evidence is in Appendix 1.

- This study forms part of a Basic Assessment (BA) as prescribed by the

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Consultant: DELTA BUILT ENVIRONMENT CONSULTANTS, 320 The Hillside Road, Rynlal Building, Lynnwood, PRETORIA, 0180. Tel: 012 – 368 1850 / Fax: 012 – 248 4738 / Cell: 079 311 3122; e-mail: nsovo.mdungazi@deltabec.com.

- Type of development: Establishment of a waste transfer and sorting facility at Sikhululiwe Village, in extent of 4900m<sup>2</sup> with a 372m access road.
- Rezoning of the proposed development is involved as the current zoning status is agricultural. It will be rezoned to municipal status.
- Location of Province, Magisterial district / Local Authority and Property (farms):  
The area falls within the Mpumalanga Province under the jurisdiction of Steve Tshwete local municipality and the Nkangala district municipality. It includes *portion 9 of the farm Springboklaagte 416JS*, 30km east of Middelburg, Mpumalanga Province.
- Land owners: Steve Tshwete Local Municipality.
  
- **Terms of reference:** As specified by section 38 (3) of the NHRA, the following information is provided in this report.
  - a) The identification and mapping of heritage resources where applicable;
  - b) Assessment of the significance of the resources;
  - c) Alternatives given to affected heritage resources by the development;
  - d) Plans for measures of mitigation.

- **Legal requirements:**

The legal context of the report is grounded in the National Heritage Resources Act no. 25, 1999, as well as the National Environmental Management Act (1998) (NEMA) and the Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008), as published in Government Notice 332 of 2014, the proposed establishment triggers Category A activities:

- (2) The sorting of general waste at a facility that has an operational area in excess of 1000m<sup>2</sup>;
- (12) The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category A of Government Notice 332 of the NEMWA (Act no. 59 of 2008);

These activities may have a detrimental effect on the environment, hence a Basic Assessment process as prescribed in the EIA regulations Government Notice R. 982 of 2010, and in conjunction with a Waste Management Licence (WML) application.

**National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), no. 25, 1999:**

• **Section 38 of the NHRA**

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

Heritage conservation and management in South Africa is governed by the NHRA and falls under the overall jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and its provincial offices and counterparts.

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

- Any development or other activity which will change the character of a site.

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

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

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

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

- **Section 35 of the NHRA**

Section 35 (4) of the NHRA stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object. This section may apply to any significant archaeological sites that may be discovered. In the case of such chance finds, the heritage practitioner will assist in investigating the extent and significance of the finds and consult with an archaeologist about further action. This may entail removal of material after documenting the find or mapping of larger sections before destruction. This section does not apply, since no archaeological material was found which might be impacted upon by the proposed development.

- **Section 36 of the NHRA**

Section 36 of the NHRA stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA, destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority. It is possible that chance burials might be discovered during construction work. This section does apply since a small graveyard will be impacted upon by the access road to the waste facility.

- **Section 34 of the NHRA**

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



- **Section 37 of the NHRA**

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

- **NEMA**

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

## **B. BACKGROUND TO ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE STUDY AREA**

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

In order to place the study area in archaeological context, primary and secondary sources were consulted. Ethnographical and linguistic studies by early researchers such as Ziervogel, Theal and Van Warmelo shed light on the cultural groups living in the area since ca 1600. Historic and academic sources by Küsel and Bergh, were consulted, as well as historic sources by Makhura and Webb.

No historical information on the study area was available at the municipality. The closest museum is at Botshabelo north of Middelburg which deals mainly with the Botshabelo Missionary Station and Ndebele cultural group. No other relevant information could be obtained. The topographical map 2529DD revealed that the study area was entirely disturbed before, and utilized for agricultural purposes. Visibility during the survey was excellent as a result of extensive livestock grazing (see Maps 1 – 4, and Appendix 1).

The author was involved with surveys in the area, such as:

- C. Van Wyk Rowe: April 2011: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed 132kV Power lines from Doornpoort (Emalahleni) to Rockdale (Middelburg);
- C. Van Wyk Rowe: September 2011: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed residential township on the remainder of portion 6 of the farm Rockdale 442JS, Middelburg;
- C. Van Wyk Rowe: February 2012: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed residential township: Extension 8 of portion 79 of the farm Tweefontein 357JS, Belfast;
- C. Van Wyk Rowe: February 2012: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed residential

- township: Extension 5 of portion 13 of the farm Klipfontein 385JS, Belfast;
- C. Van Wyk Rowe: February 2012: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed residential township: Extension 7 of portion 5 of the farm Weltevreden 386JS, Belfast;
  - C. Van Wyk Rowe: February 2013: Phase 1 AIA / HIA for proposed township establishment on portion 27 of the farm Middelburg Town and Townlands 287 JS, Middelburg;

No significant archaeological or historical remains were found during these investigations.

The SAHRA database for archaeological and historical impact assessments was consulted and revealed the following Archaeological Impact assessment reports in the direct vicinity of the study area:

- Francois Coetzee: Cultural Heritage Assessment for the construction of a proposed railway siding, haul road, pollution control dam and associated infrastructure, Exaro Coal (Pty) Ltd, near Belfast, Mpumalanga – Historical farmhouse sites, livestock kraals and graves were identified;
- Julius Pistorius: February 2013: Phase 1 Archaeological Heritage Impact assessment for the Sasol Shandoni conveyer amendment project on the eastern Highveld, Mpumalanga: - historical remains were identified as well as graves. No archaeological remains were identified;
- Julius Pistorius: Phase 1 HIA for the Arnot / Mooifontein opencast expansion project onto portions 1, 6, 7 and remainder of Mooifontein 448JS: historical structures, cattle enclosures and graveyards were identified.

No significant archaeological or historical remains were identified during these surveys.

Very little contemporary research has been done on prehistoric African settlements in the study area. According to Bergh, there are no recorded sites that date from the Stone Age, (including Rock paintings or engravings), or Early Iron Age. The section falls within the general zone of Late Iron Age stone walled settlements,<sup>1</sup> although none were encountered during the survey.

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<sup>1</sup> J.S. Bergh, *Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid-Afrika Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies*, pp. 4-7

The area was very sparsely populated during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and only a few Late Iron Age settlements are known by the author, towards Dullstroom. Bergh <sup>2</sup> does not indicate any cultural group specific to the study area, and even ethnographical and linguistic studies by early researchers such as D. Ziervogel and N.J. Van Warmelo, does not include this area. It may be assumed that some of the *Ndzundza abaga* (Ndebele), and various tribes of the *baSotho* (baKôpa, baPedi),<sup>3</sup> inhabited this area as they do occur extensively towards Stoffberg and Middelburg which are situated to the north and west. The local inhabitants of the Sikhululiwe Village currently consists of various groups including Ndebele, Sotho, Swazi and Zulu, This information was confirmed by statistics of Belfast on the internet.<sup>4</sup>

- **AmaNDEBELE**

According to Van Warmelo, the *amaNdebele* are the earliest known offshoot of the *Nguni* group. The Ndebele is divided into two groups, the Southern and the Northern, and they are separated from one another. A certain legendary chief *Msi* or *Musi* heads a list of about twenty-five successive chiefs who lived just north of where Pretoria now stands. His two sons were *Manala* and *Ndzundza* and form the most important tribes of the Southern group. The *abagaNdzundza* moved eastwards and settled near Roos Senekal, approximately 60km north of Belfast, and it is said that some of *Manala's* followers, the *abagaManala*, settled in the Witbank district. The tribes slowly broke up after the days of the Republic.<sup>5</sup>

- **CENTRAL SOTHO**

The tribes in this group were at one time largely under the rule of the baPedi, who's last independent king was *Sekhukhune*, who's stronghold was to the north of Belfast (Steelpoort area), although his domain was extremely large.<sup>6</sup> Great numbers of *baSotho* who belong to the above group, who still speak *sePedi* but which became detribalized, live in the districts of Middelburg, Lydenburg, Witbank and Springs. They mingled freely with other groups such as the Zulu, Swazi and Tonga.

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<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> N.J. Van Warmelo, *A preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 18.

<sup>4</sup> Belfast Mpumalanga, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belfast,\\_Mpumalanga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belfast,_Mpumalanga)

<sup>5</sup> N.J. Van Warmelo, *A preliminary Survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa*, p. 87.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 108.

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

The proposed development of a waste transfer and sorting facility is 4900m<sup>2</sup> in extent. A 372m access road will connect the waste transfer and sorting facility to the Siklululiwe Village, to the east (maps 1 & 2), which will be used as temporary storage of household waste, the disposal of garden refuse and other unused material and sorting of recyclable waste.

The entire study area is extensively disturbed by cultivated land. The study area is bordered by the current Siklululiwe Village to the east, open vacant land and a dam towards the south. The land is used for cattle grazing. The study area is currently zoned as agricultural but will be rezoned as municipal. The area consists mostly of highveld grassland. Drainage lines and wetlands are marked on map 1.



**Map 1:** Google image of the study area. The layout of the waste transfer and sorting facility is visible next to the Siklululiwe Village. The drainage lines and wetland are marked in light green (Map provided: DELTA Built Environment Consultants).

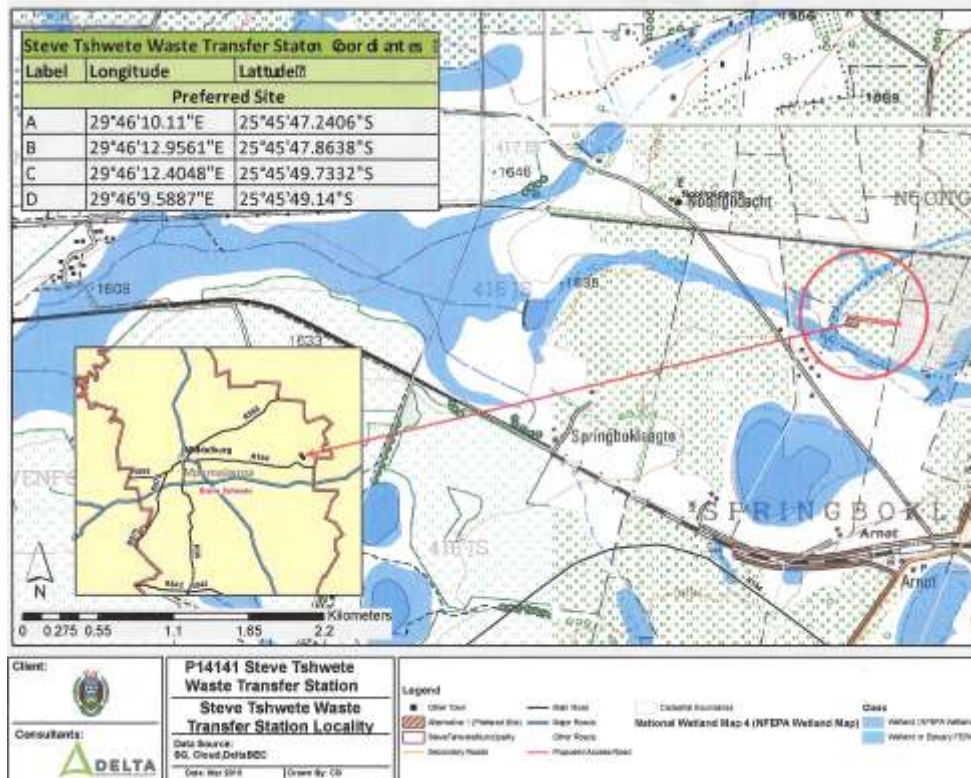


**Map 2:** Heritage features: The study area is indicated by the red outlines. The previous agricultural field is easily identified on this image as well as the position of the graveyard.  
(Map provided: DELTA Built Environment Consultants).

#### **D. LOCALITY**

The proposed project site is located approximately 30 km east of Middelburg, and approximately 30km west of Belfast. The site falls under the Steve Tshwete Local Municipal jurisdiction, which in turn falls within Nkangala District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province (Map 3: Topographical Map, Google images of site, Maps 1, 2 & 4 and Appendix 1).

The proposed area for development is situated on *portion 9 of the farm Springboklaagte 416JS* and is currently vacant agricultural land which belongs to the Steve Tshwete Municipality. It will be rezoned to municipal status.



**Map 3:** Topographical map 1:50 000 2529DD. (Map provided: DELTA Built Environment Consultants). Please note the previously cultivated land used for agricultural purposes in the study area.



**Map 4:** Google image of the site within the wider area. (Map provided: DELTA Built Environment Consultants).

- **Description of methodology:**

The topographical map, (map 3), and Google images of the site (maps 2 - 4), indicate the study area of the proposed development. These were intensively studied to assess the current and historic disturbed areas and infrastructure. In order to reach a comprehensive conclusion regarding the cultural heritage resources in the study area, the following methods were used:

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

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

-Archaeological databases of the National Cultural History Museum and SAHRA were consulted (see section B).

- The fieldwork and survey was conducted extensively on foot and with a vehicle, with two people in April 2015 (autumn).
- The entire area was previous cultivated land, which is now vacant and used for cattle grazing.
- The terrain was even and accessible and visibility was excellent. The grass was short due of cattle grazing.
- The relevant data was located with a GPS instrument (Garmin Etrex) datum WGS 84, and plotted. Co-ordinates were within 4-6 meters of identified sites.
- Evaluation of the resources which might be impacted upon by the footprint, was done within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 (1999);

- **GPS: Co-ordinates of the perimeters of the study area** (Co-ordinates provided by DELTA BUILT ENVIRONMENT CONSULTANTS:

Site number	Latitude	Longitude
Access road at village	S 25° 45' 49.0"	E 29° 46' 22.9"
Perimeters of the Waste facility:	S 25° 45' 47.24"	E 29° 46' 10.11"
A		
B	S 25° 45' 47.86"	E 29° 46' 12.95"
C	S 25° 45' 49.73"	E 29° 46' 12.40"
D	S 25° 45' 49.14"	E 29° 46' 09.58"

#### **E. DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFIED SITES**

All comments should be studied in conjunction with the maps and appendices, which indicate the areas, and which corresponds with the summary below. Photographs in Appendix 1 show the general view of the study area. Visibility was excellent.

The study area was extensively surveyed on foot for any remains of archaeological or historical nature. Visibility was excellent (See map 2 / Appendix 1: Fig 6 & 7).

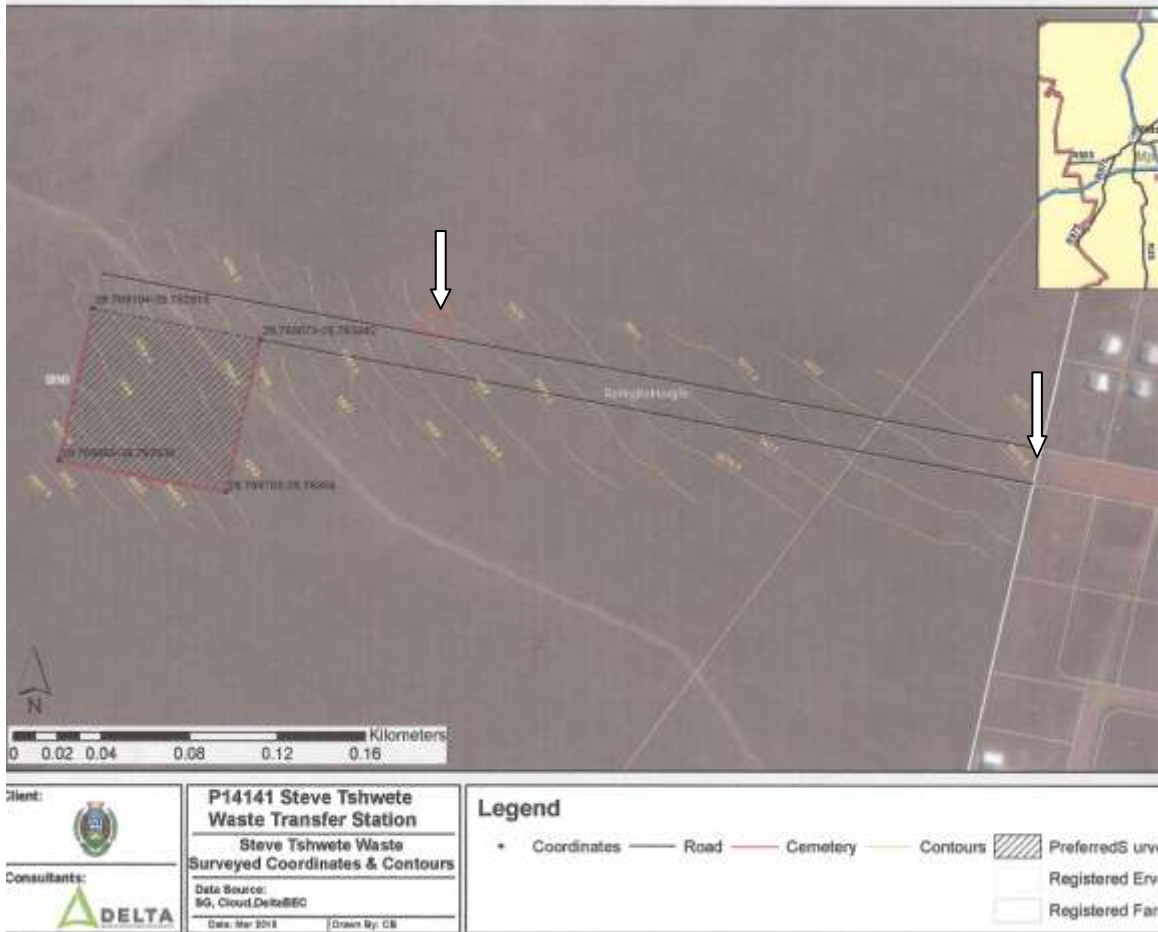
The inhabitants of the Siklululiwe Village utilize the area for cattle grazing (Fig. 2 & 9). A small graveyard was identified near the study area (Fig. 4 & 5). The graveyard is properly fenced in and inhabitants have easy access to the graves. Approximately five graves were identified of which two were marked with headstones. It was however not possible to establish the exact number of graves as they were not demarcated properly.

The following inscriptions on the graves were observed:

- Petrus Ndinga Magagula 1889-06-12 to 1949-12-06;
- Mtuntu Magagula 1861-02-03 to 1890-06-13.

The graveyard is located directly north of the proposed access road (see map 5). It will be recommended that a buffer of 10m be kept between the access road and the graveyard, in order to prevent a negative impact on the graves.





**Map 5:** Surveyors map: The start of the access road at the Siklululiwe Village is indicated by the arrow. The graveyard (outlined in red) is also indicated by an arrow. (Map provided: DELTA Built Environment Consultants).

The survey revealed no archaeological or historical remains of any kind, as the study area is entirely located in previously disturbed agricultural land.

#### F. DISCUSSION ON THE FOOTPRINT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

<i>ACT</i>	<i>COMPONENT</i>	<i>IMPLICATION</i>	<i>RELEVANCE</i>	<i>COMPLIANCE</i>
NHRA	S 34	Impact on buildings and structures older than 60 years	None present	None
NHRA	S35	Impacts on archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources	None present	None

<b>ACT</b>	<b>COMPO-NENT</b>	<b>IMPLICATION</b>	<b>RELEVANCE</b>	<b>COMPLIANCE</b>
NHRA	S36	Impact on graves	Small graveyard	Graveyard is situated close to the proposed access road and mitigation measures are recommended
NHRA	S37	Impact on public monuments	None present	None
NHRA	S38	Developments requiring an HIA	Development is a listed activity	HIA done
NEMA	EIA regulations	Activities requiring an EIA	Development is subject to an EIA	HIA is part of EIA

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

<b>Context</b>		
Urban environmental context	No	NA
Rural environmental context	Yes	Vacant land
Natural environmental context	No	Highly disturbed area by previous agricultural land
<b>Formal protection (NHRA)</b>		
(S. 28) Is the property part of a protected area?	No	NA
(S. 31) Is the property part of a heritage area?	No	NA
<b>Other</b>		
Is the property near to or visible from any protected heritage sites	No	NA
Is the property part of a conservation area of special area in terms of the Zoning scheme?	No	NA
Does the site form part of a historical settlement or townscape?	No	NA
Does the site form part of a rural cultural landscape?	No	NA

<b>Context</b>		
Does the site form part of a natural landscape of cultural significance?	No	NA
Is the site adjacent to a scenic route?	No	NA
Is the property within or adjacent to any other area which has special environmental or heritage protection?	No	NA
Does the general context or any adjoining properties have cultural significance?	No	NA

<b>Property features and characteristics</b>		
Have there been any previous development impacts on the property?	Yes	The site was previously cultivated farmland & cattle grazing. It is bordering a current established residential township.
Are there any significant landscape features on the property?	No	NA
Are there any sites or features of geological significance on the property?	No	NA
Does the property have any rocky outcrops on it?	No	NA
Does the property have any fresh water sources (springs, streams, rivers) on or alongside it?	Yes	A dam to the south and drainage lines - indicated on map 1.

<b>Heritage resources on the property</b>		
<b>Formal protection (NHRA)</b>		
National heritage sites (S. 27)	No	NA
Provincial heritage sites (S. 27)	No	NA
Provincial protection (S. 29)	No	NA
Place listed in heritage register (S. 30)	No	NA

<b>Heritage resources on the property</b>		
<b>General protection (NHRA)</b>		
Structures older than 60 years (S. 34)	No	NA
Archaeological site or material (S. 35)	No	NA
Palaeontological site or material (S. 35)	No	NA
Graves or burial grounds (S. 36)	Yes	One graveyard
Public monuments or memorials (S. 37)	No	NA
<b>Other</b>		
Any heritage resource identified in a heritage survey (author / date / grading)	No	NA
Any other heritage resources (describe)	No	NA

<b>NHRA S (3)2 Heritage resource category</b>	<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>INDICATORS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE</b>										<b>RISK</b>	
		Historical	Rare	Scientific	Typical	Technological	Aesthetic	Person / community	Landmark	Material condition	Sustainability		
Buildings / structures of cultural significance	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-
Areas attached to oral traditions / intangible heritage	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	-
Historical settlement/ townscapes	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<b>NHRA</b>	<b>ELE-</b>	<b>INDICATORS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE</b>										<b>RISK</b>	
Landscape of cultural significance	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Geological site of scientific/cultural importance	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Archaeological / palaeontological sites	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grave / burial grounds	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Access road may negatively impact on the graveyard if it is too close	
Areas of significance related to labour history	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Movable objects	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- **Summarised recommended impact management interventions**

<b>NHRA S (3)2 Heritage resource category</b>	<b>SITE</b>	<b>IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE Cultural significance rating</b>		<b>Impact management</b>	<b>Motivation</b>
		<b>Cultural significanc</b>	<b>Impact significanc</b>		
Buildings / structures of cultural significance	No	No	None	-	-
Areas attached to oral traditions / intangible heritage	No	None	None	-	-

<b>NHRA S (3)2 Heritage</b>	<b>SITE</b>	<b>IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE Cultural significance rating</b>		<b>Impact management</b>	<b>Motivation</b>
Historical settlement/ townscape	No	None	None	-	-
Landscape of cultural significance	No	None	None	-	-
Geological site of scientific/ cultural importance	No	None	None	-	-
Archaeologic al / palaeontolog ical sites	No	None	None	-	-
Grave / burial grounds	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mitigation measures recommended	The graveyard should at least be 10m from the access road.
Areas of significance related to labour history	No	None	None	-	-
Movable objects	No	None	None	-	-

<b>ACT</b>	<b>COMPO- NENT</b>	<b>IMPLICATION</b>	<b>RELEVANCE</b>	<b>COMPLIANCE</b>
NHRA	S 34	Impact on buildings and structures older than 60 years	None present	None
NHRA	S35	Impacts on archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources	None present	None
NHRA	S36	Impact on graves	Graveyard present	Mitigation measures recommended

<b>ACT</b>	<b>COMPO- NENT</b>	<b>IMPLICATION</b>	<b>RELEVANCE</b>	<b>COMPLIANCE</b>
NHRA	S37	Impact on public monuments	None present	None
NHRA	S38	Developments requiring an HIA	Development is a listed activity	Full HIA
NEMA	EIA regulations	Activities requiring an EIA	Development is subject to an EIA	HIA is part of EIA

## **G. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE & EVALUATION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES IN THE STUDY AREA**

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

### **• Evaluation methods**

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

### **• National Heritage Resources Act**

The National Heritage Resources Act no. 25, 1999 (NHRA) aims to promote good management of the national estate, and to enable and encourage communities to conserve their legacy so that it may be bequeathed to future generations. Heritage is unique and it cannot be renewed, and contributes to redressing past inequities.<sup>7</sup> It promotes previously neglected research areas.

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

- (a) its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- (c) its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South

<sup>7</sup>National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999. p. 2.

Africa's natural or cultural heritage;

(g) its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

(h) its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa.<sup>8</sup>

- **Graves**

### **SAHRA Policy on burial grounds**

NHRA Sections 27 & 36: The policy is that graves and cemeteries should be left undisturbed, no matter how inaccessible and difficult they are to maintain. It is our obligation to empower civil society to nurture and conserve our heritage. It is only when essential developments threaten a place of burial, that human remains should be disinterred to another cemetery or burial ground.

From a historical point of view and for research purposes, it is vital that burial sites are not disturbed. The location and marking of an individual's grave tells a life story, possibly where he / she died defending (or attacking) a particular place or situation and makes it easier to understand the circumstances of his / her death.<sup>9</sup>

**Please note:** All graves are rated as *High* and are of outstanding significance as specified by the NHRA.

- **The significance and evaluation of the archaeological and cultural heritage features in the study area, can be summarised as follows:**

<b>Site no</b>	<b>Cultural Heritage features</b>	<b>Significance</b>	<b>Measures of mitigation</b>
G1 (Map 2)	Small graveyard with approximately 5 graves of which 2 were marked with prominent headstones Fig. 4 & 5)	High	Recommendation: The access road to the waste facility must be at least 10m from the fence of the graveyard to avoid an impact on the

<sup>8</sup>National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999. pp. 12-14

<sup>9</sup>SAHRA, Burial sites, [Http://www.sahra.org.za/burial.htm](http://www.sahra.org.za/burial.htm), Access, 2008-10-16.



	<b>GPS co-ordinate:</b> Elev. 1584m S 25° 45' 46.74" S 29° 46' 14.18"		graveyard; <b>alternatively</b> the graves should be relocated.
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## H. RECOMMENDATIONS

A small graveyard was identified in close proximity to the study area. The graveyard is properly fenced and locals have easy access to the graves. The graveyard will however be affected by the proposed access road and therefore it is required that mitigation measures be implemented:

- A 10m buffer should be kept between the access road and the fence of the graveyard. The access road will have a 12m reserve (as specified by DELTA Built Environmental Consultants).
- Should the above option not be possible, then the graves need to be relocated, before the development may continue. Negotiations may be entered into with family members to relocate the graves for which a permit should be applied for.

No other archaeological or heritage features were identified during the survey, therefore Adansonia Heritage Consultants, have no compelling reasons that may prevent the proposed development to continue, if the mitigation measures are adhered to.

## I. CONCLUSION

Archaeological material or human remains are not always visible during a field survey and therefore some significant material may only be revealed during construction activities of the proposed development. It is therefore recommended that the developers be made aware of this possibility and when human remains, clay or ceramic pottery etc. are observed, a qualified archaeologist must be notified and an assessment be done. Further research might then be necessary in this regard for which the developer will be responsible.

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

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Belfast Mpumalanga, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belfast,\\_Mpumalanga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belfast,_Mpumalanga)

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

- JP Cilliers, Archaeologist, Lydenburg Museum, 2010-02-21