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1 NOVEMBER 2010

FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE BORROW PIT AT "THE MILLS" NEAR HANOVER, NORTHERN CAPE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project involves the opening of a new borrow pit at the farm "The Mills" near Hanover, Northern Cape. An existing borrow pit lies adjacent the proposed area of development.

No historical material was found at the site. Archaeological remains occurred in the form of a vague scatter of stone flakes lower down the slope near the streambed.

The finds are considered of minor significance and the developments will not require any mitigation measures.

I recommend that the planning and development of the borrow pit may proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

Scope and Limitations

The investigation provided an opportunity to examine the quarry site.

No limitations or obstacles were experienced during site visit.

Methodology

- 1. The site was inspected on foot.
- 2. GPS points were taken and the surrounding area was recorded on camera.

INVESTIGATION

The new quarry site was visited on 27 October 2010. The owner of the farm accompanied me to the site.

The environmental investigation is done by Incline Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein.

The site was examined for any possible traces of cultural and historical remains to establish the potential impact of the developments on any archaeological and cultural historical material. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

The report aims to locate and evaluate the significance of cultural heritage sites, archaeological material, manmade structures older than 60 years, and sites associated with oral histories and graves that may be affected by the proposed developments.

Geological and palaeontological deposits are not included as a subject of this report.

LOCALITY

The quarry site is located along the N1 main road about 10km south of Hanover, Northern Cape (Map 1). The site is on a very rocky dolerite hill, adjacent to the existing borrow pit (Fig.).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (Map 2):

Α	31°09'57"S 024°19'41"E	Altitude 1497m	(Figs.1&2).
В	31°09'54"S 024°19'41"E	Altitude 1496m	(Figs.3&4).
D			(Fig.5)

RESULTS

FINDS

The site is part of a dolerite outcrop consisting of large boulders (Fig.3).

Archaeological material in the form of small stone flakes was found lower down the slope along the streambed near Point D (Figs.6-8).

No engravings or other relics or historical value was found at the site.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The stone flakes are considered of minor significance and the developments will not require any mitigation measures.

The proposed developments will have no impact on any cultural and historical heritage remains of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the planning and development of the quarry at "The Mills" near Hanover may continue.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed developments, no mitigation measures will be required.

No obvious reasons could be found to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Ivan Maskell for taking me to the site.

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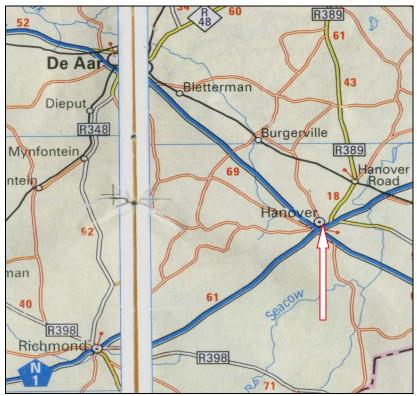
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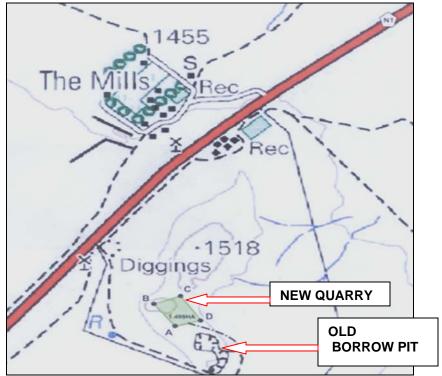
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 1 Locality of Hanover, Northern Cape.



Map 2 Old & new quarries at The Mills, Hanover (3124).



Fig.1 Point A at The Mills, Hanover.



Fig.2 Point A at The Mills, Hanover.



Fig.3 Point B at The Mills, Hanover.



Fig.4 Point B at The Mills, Hanover.



Fig.5 Point D at The Mills, Hanover.



Fig.6 Stone flakes near Point D at The Mills, Hanover (Pocket knife = 83mm).



Fig.7 Stone flakes near Point D at The Mills, Hanover (Pocket knife = 83mm).



Fig.8 Stone flakes *in situ* near Point D at The Mills, Hanover (Pocket knife = 83mm).