

**Cultural heritage impact assessment for the
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON PORTIONS 397 AND 399 OF THE FARM
DRIEFONTEIN 851R, BOKSBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
ON PORTIONS 397 AND 399 OF THE FARM DRIEFONTEIN 85IR, BOKSBURG,
GAUTENG PROVINCE**

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INDEX

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Declaration:

I, J.A. van Schalkwyk, declare that I do not have any financial or personal interest in the proposed development, nor its developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from the provision of heritage assessment and management services.



J A van Schalkwyk (D Litt et Phil)
Heritage Consultant
May 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON PORTIONS 397 AND 399 OF THE FARM DRIEFONTEIN 85IR, BOKSBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE

It is planned to develop a housing complex on a section of the farm Driefontein 85IR in the Boksburg magisterial district. A previous survey was done of the area (Van Schalkwyk 2009) by the author of the current report, but no feedback was ever received from the client.

In accordance with Section 38 of the NHRA, an independent heritage consultant was therefore appointed by **Index** to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to determine if any sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance occur within the boundaries of the area where it is planned to construct the housing complex.

The site used to be a mining area. During a site visit in 2009, the mines were already closed down, but a number of houses were still standing and were occupied by local people. During the current site visit in 2013, these houses were all found to have been demolished, by persons or parties unknown.

- As no sites, features or objects of cultural significance are known to exist in the study area, there would be no impact as a result of the proposed development.

Therefore, from a heritage point of view we recommend that the proposed development can continue. We request that if archaeological sites or graves are exposed during construction work, it should immediately be reported to a heritage consultant so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.



J A van Schalkwyk
Heritage Consultant
May 2013

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Property details						
Province	Gauteng Province					
Magisterial district	Boksburg					
District municipality	Ekurhuleni					
Topo-cadastral map	2628AA					
Closest town	Boksburg					
Farm name & no.	Driefontein 85IR					
Coordinates	Polygon (approximate)					
	No	Latitude	Longitude	No	Latitude	Longitude
	1	S 26.21867	E 28.23102	2	S 26.21551	E 28.20519
	3	S 26.20522	E 28.21281			

Development criteria in terms of Section 38(1) of the NHR Act	Yes/No
Construction of road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other linear form of development or barrier exceeding 300m in length	No
Construction of bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length	No
Development exceeding 5000 sq m	Yes
Development involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions	Yes
Development involving three or more erven or divisions that have been consolidated within past five years	No
Rezoning of site exceeding 10 000 sq m	Yes
Any other development category, public open space, squares, parks, recreation grounds	No

Development	
Description	Construction of housing estate
Project name	-

Land use	
Previous land use	Mining/vacant
Current land use	Vacant

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

TERMS

Study area: Refers to the entire study area as indicated by the client in the accompanying Fig. 1 & 2.

Stone Age: The first and longest part of human history is the Stone Age, which began with the appearance of early humans between 3-2 million years ago. Stone Age people were hunters, gatherers and scavengers who did not live in permanently settled communities. Their stone tools preserve well and are found in most places in South Africa and elsewhere.

Early Stone Age	2 000 000 - 150 000 Before Present
Middle Stone Age	150 000 - 30 000 BP
Late Stone Age	30 000 - until c. AD 200

Iron Age: Period covering the last 1800 years, when new people brought a new way of life to southern Africa. They established settled villages, cultivated domestic crops such as sorghum, millet and beans, and they herded cattle as well as sheep and goats. As they produced their own iron tools, archaeologists call this the Iron Age.

Early Iron Age	AD 200 - AD 900
Middle Iron Age	AD 900 - AD 1300
Late Iron Age	AD 1300 - AD 1830

Historical Period: Since the arrival of the white settlers - c. AD 1840 - in this part of the country

ABBREVIATIONS

ADRC	Archaeological Data Recording Centre
ASAPA	Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists
BP	Before Present
CS-G	Chief Surveyor-General
EIA	Early Iron Age
ESA	Early Stone Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
LSA	Later Stone Age
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
MSA	Middle Stone Age
NASA	National Archives of South Africa
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act
PHRA	Provincial Heritage Resources Agency
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency

CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON PORTIONS 397 AND 399 OF THE FARM DRIEFONTEIN 85IR, BOKSBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE

1. INTRODUCTION

It is planned to develop a housing complex on a section of the farm Driefontein 85IR in the Boksburg magisterial district. A previous survey was done of the area (Van Schalkwyk 2009) by the author of the current report, but no feedback was ever received from the client.

South Africa's heritage resources, also described as the 'national estate', comprise a wide range of sites, features, objects and beliefs. According to Section 27(18) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), Act 25 of 1999, no person may destroy, damage, deface, excavate, alter, remove from its original position, subdivide or change the planning status of any heritage site without a permit issued by the heritage resources authority responsible for the protection of such site.

In accordance with Section 38 of the NHRA, an independent heritage consultant was therefore appointed by **Index** to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) to determine if any sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance occur within the boundaries of the area where it is planned to construct the housing complex.

This HIA report forms part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as required by the EIA Regulations in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and is intended for submission to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report does not deal with development projects outside of or even adjacent to the study area as is presented in Section 5 of this report. The same holds true for heritage sites, except in a generalised sense where it is used to create an overview of the heritage potential in the larger region.

2.1 Scope of work

The scope of work for this study consisted of:

- Conducting of a desk-top investigation of the area, in which all available literature, reports, databases and maps were studied; and
- A visit to the proposed development area.

The objectives were to

- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development area;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;

- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance.

2.2 Limitations

The investigation has been influenced by the following factors:

- The unpredictability of archaeological remains occurring below the surface.

2.3 Assumptions

- It is assumed that the Social Impact Assessment and Public Participation Process might also result in the identification of sites, features and objects and that these then will also have to be considered in the EIA.
- It is assumed that a Paleontological Review will be done by a suitably qualified specialist.

3. HERITAGE RESOURCES

3.1 The National Estate

The NHRA (No. 25 of 1999) defines the heritage resources of South Africa which are of cultural significance or other special value for the present community and for future generations that must be considered part of the national estate to include:

- places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
- places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
- historical settlements and townscapes;
- landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
- geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
- archaeological and palaeontological sites;
- graves and burial grounds, including-
 - ancestral graves;
 - royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
 - graves of victims of conflict;
 - graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
 - historical graves and cemeteries; and
 - other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
- sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa;
- movable objects, including-
 - objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
 - objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - ethnographic art and objects;
 - military objects;
 - objects of decorative or fine art;
 - objects of scientific or technological interest; and
 - books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as

defined in section 1(xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).

3.2 Cultural significance

In the NHRA, Section 2 (vi), it is stated that “cultural significance” means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance. This is determined in relation to a site or feature’s uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential.

According to Section 3(3) of the NHRA, a place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of

- its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and
- sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

A matrix was developed whereby the above criteria were applied for the determination of the significance of each identified site (see Appendix 1). This allowed some form of control over the application of similar values for similar sites.

A matrix was developed whereby the above criteria were applied for the determination of the significance of each identified site (see Appendix 1). This allowed some form of control over the application of similar values for similar identified sites.

4. STUDY APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

4.1 Extent of the Study

This survey and impact assessment covers the area as presented in Section 5 and as illustrated in Figures 1 & 3.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 Preliminary investigation

4.2.1.1 Survey of the literature

A survey of the relevant literature was conducted with the aim of reviewing the previous research done and determining the potential of the area. In this regard, various anthropological, archaeological, historical sources and heritage impact assessment reports were consulted – see list of references below.

- Information on events, sites and features in the larger region were obtained from these sources.

4.2.1.2 Data bases

The *Heritage Atlas Database*, the *Environmental Potential Atlas*, the *Chief Surveyor General (CS-G)* and the *National Archives of South Africa (NASA)* were consulted.

- Database surveys produced a number of sites located in the larger region of the proposed development.

4.2.1.3 Other sources

Aerial photographs and topocadastral and other maps were also studied - see the list of references below.

- Information of a very general nature was obtained from these sources.

4.2.2 Field survey

The area that had to be investigated was identified by **Index** by means of maps. The study area was accessed on foot and different transects were walked across it. This was influenced by tall vegetation and wetland areas which were thought best to avoid as this is old mining territory.

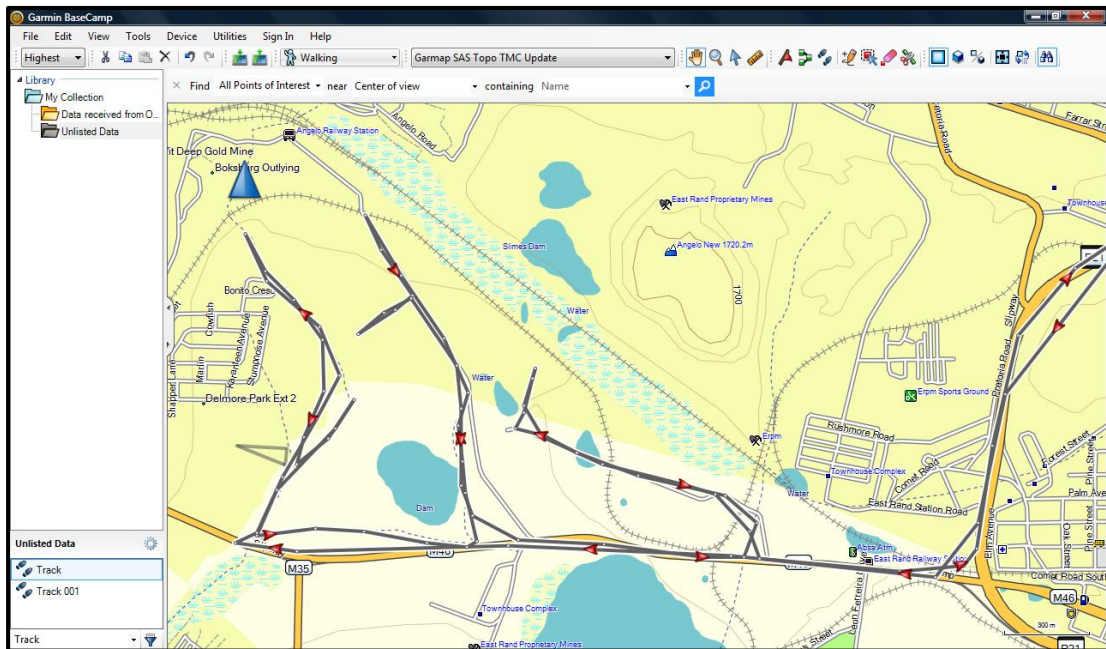


Fig. 1. Track log of the field survey.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Site location and description

The study area covers a triangular strip of land located between Commissioner Street and the railway line in the Reiger Park area of Boksburg, in the Boksburg magisterial district of Gauteng (Fig. 2). For more detail please see the Technical Summary presented above (p. iii).

The geology is made up of amphibolite, changing to shale to the east in the direction of the airport. The original vegetation is classified as Rocky Highveld Grassland.

The area has been subjected to mining activities, urban development and infrastructure (roads and railways) development and nothing remains of the original environment.

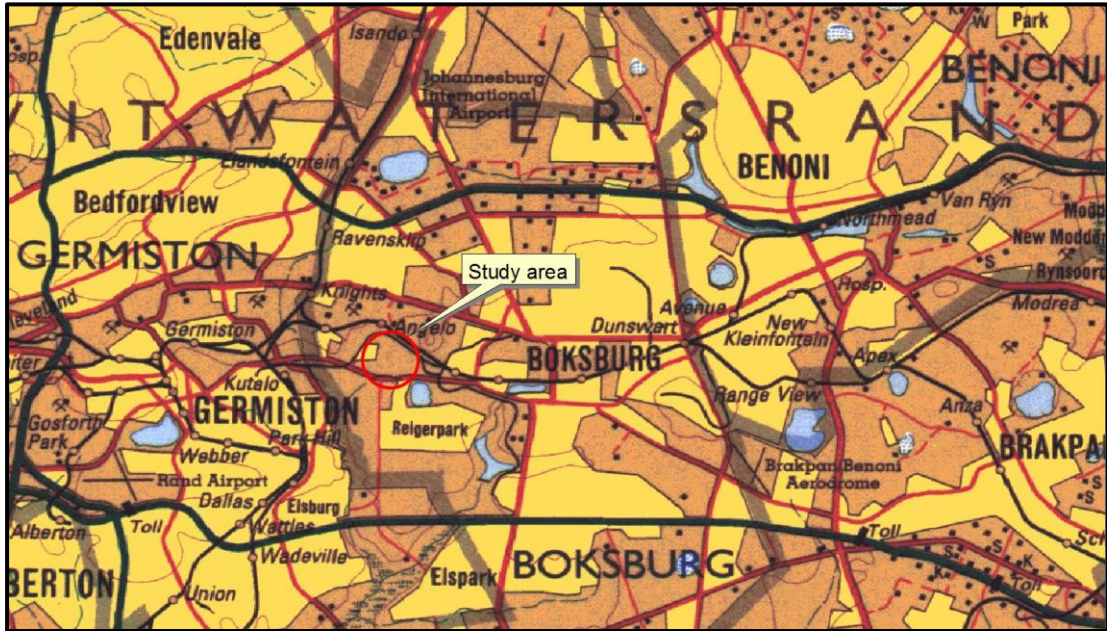


Fig. 2. Location of the study area in regional context. (Map 2628: Chief Surveyor-General)





Fig. 3. Views over different sections of the study area.

5.2 Project description

It is planned to develop a housing complex on a section of the farm Driefontein 851R in the Boksburg magisterial district. The development is presented in Fig. 4 & 5 below.

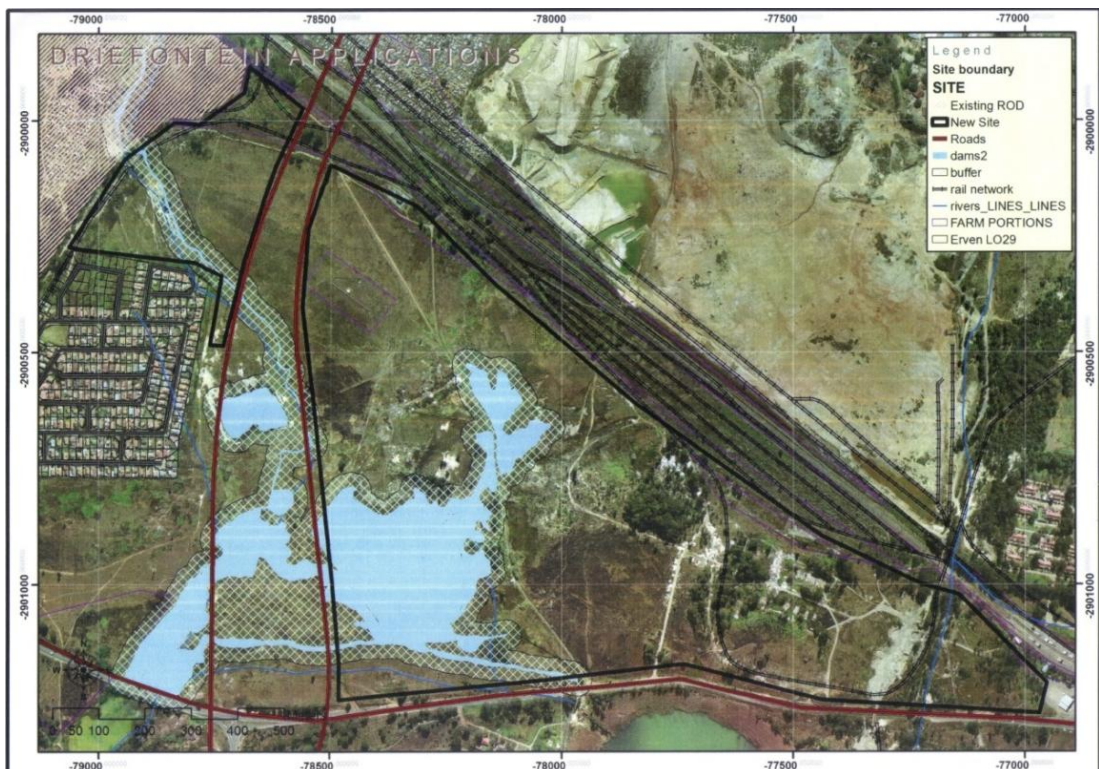


Fig. 4. Location of the proposed development.
(Map supplied by Index)



Fig. 5. Layout of the proposed development.
(Map supplied by Index)

5.3 Regional overview

5.3.1 Stone Age

Records indicate that stone tools dating to the Early and Middle Stone Age occurred all over, for example in the Primrose Ridge area in adjacent Germiston, as well as to the south at Henly-On-Klip. Tools dating to this period are mostly found in the vicinity of watercourses, and no sealed, stratified sites (i.e. rock shelter or cave) are known from the region.

5.3.2 Iron Age

Iron Age people started to settle in southern Africa c. AD 300, with one of the oldest known sites at Broederstroom south of Hartebeespoort Dam dating to AD 470. Having only had cereals (sorghum, millet) that need summer rainfall, Early Iron Age (EIA) people did not move outside this rainfall zone, and neither did they occupy the central interior highveld area.

The occupation of the larger geographical area (including the study area) did not start much before the 1500s. By the 16th century things changed, with the climate becoming warmer and wetter, creating condition that allowed Late Iron Age (LIA) farmers to occupy areas previously unsuitable, for example the Witwatersrand in the region of Klipriviersberg. Here, a large number of settlements dating to the Later Iron Age occur and, according to Huffman et al (2006/2007) these sites can be related to the Bafokeng people.

5.3.3 Historic period

White settlers moved into the area during the first half of the 19th century. They were largely self-sufficient, basing their survival on cattle/sheep farming and hunting. Few towns were established and it remained an undeveloped area until the discovery of gold and later of coal. From early days this region was subjected to intense gold mining activities (Praagh 1906). The result is that most sites and features of heritage significance in the larger region derive from this development.

The town of Boksburg was started in August 1887 with the sale of the first stands, but was created as municipality only in 1903. During the early years, the principal mining property was the East Rand Proprietary Mines, Ltd., while other mines were the Witwatersrand Deep, Ltd., Ginsberg, Driefontein Deep, Balmoral, Anglo Deep, Cinderella Deep, Boksburg Global Mines, and East Rand Extensions (Praagh 1906:371-372).

Some old houses existed on the site. Most of them seem to be constructed in at least two, and others in three phases. The first and oldest phase, now forming the rear of the building, was of corrugated iron. Later a section was added of cement blocks, and still later, sections built with bricks, were added. These houses probably date to the 1920s or earlier, and, although some are very run down, all are still inhabited. Some of the houses are single structures, whereas others are semi-detached structures.

According to Handley (2004) Driefontein 85IR was declared as public diggings on 20 September 1886. A few years later it became Knights Central Gold Mine and was later incorporated in the East Rand Proprietary Mines (ERPM). Expansion of activities obviously took place, but some of the mines also played out quite quickly, some mostly due to flooding by water. By 1908 there were some 70 mines at work in the Witwatersrand.

Sir Herbert Baker was very involved with the design of housing for the gold mines on the Witwatersrand. His commissions ranged from mansions for the managers to villages for workers. One of the mines for which he did some work was ERPM (Boksburg). According to Radford (1989:263), Baker received three commissions from this mine, divided in three groups: Plantation (6), Cason (9) and Angelo Mines (65). Unfortunately, information on the exact location of these buildings, especially the cottages for married staff, in contrast to the club houses or mine captain's houses, are very unspecific. However, it is known that Baker designed 14 cottages for Driefontein, which was built in the period 1908-1909 by a certain Ostland. In addition he also designed a total of 80 other houses: 5 Terrace units, 70 semi-detached units, 3 single storey and 2 double storey units.

The 1939 version of the 1:50000 topocadastral map (Fig. 6) show the development of the period as consisting of a number of buildings as well as two mines (Angelo Deep and Comet Deep) on the property. During the site visit in 2009, the mines were already closed down, whereas the houses were still standing and were occupied by local people (Fig. 7). During the current site visit, these houses were all found to have been demolished (Fig. 8), by persons or parties unknown.

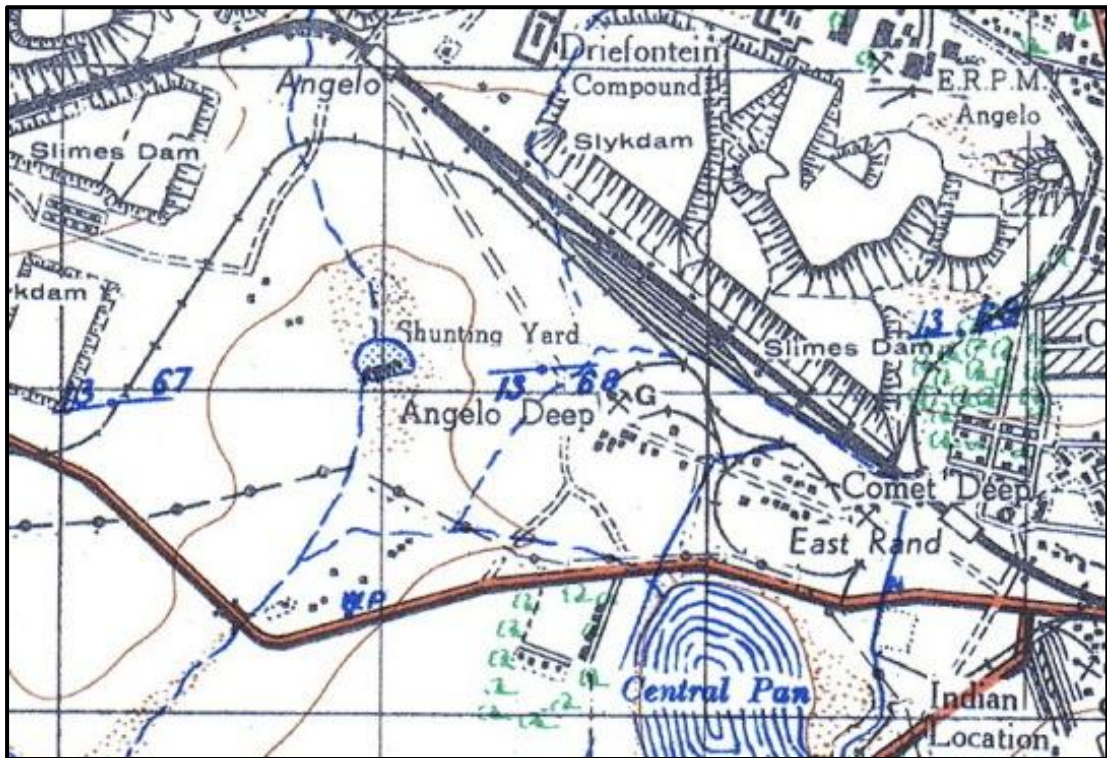


Fig. 6. The 1939 version of the topocadastral map.
(Map 2628AA: Chief Surveyor-General)



Fig. 7. Aerial photograph dating to 2008, showing the identified houses
(Photo: Google Earth)



Fig. 8. Aerial photograph dating to 2013, showing the demolished houses.
(Photo: Google Earth)



Fig. 9. Some of the houses as photographed in 2009.

5.4 Identified heritage sites

Based on the above sources and the field visit, the following heritage sites, features and objects of cultural significance were identified in the proposed development area (Fig. 7):

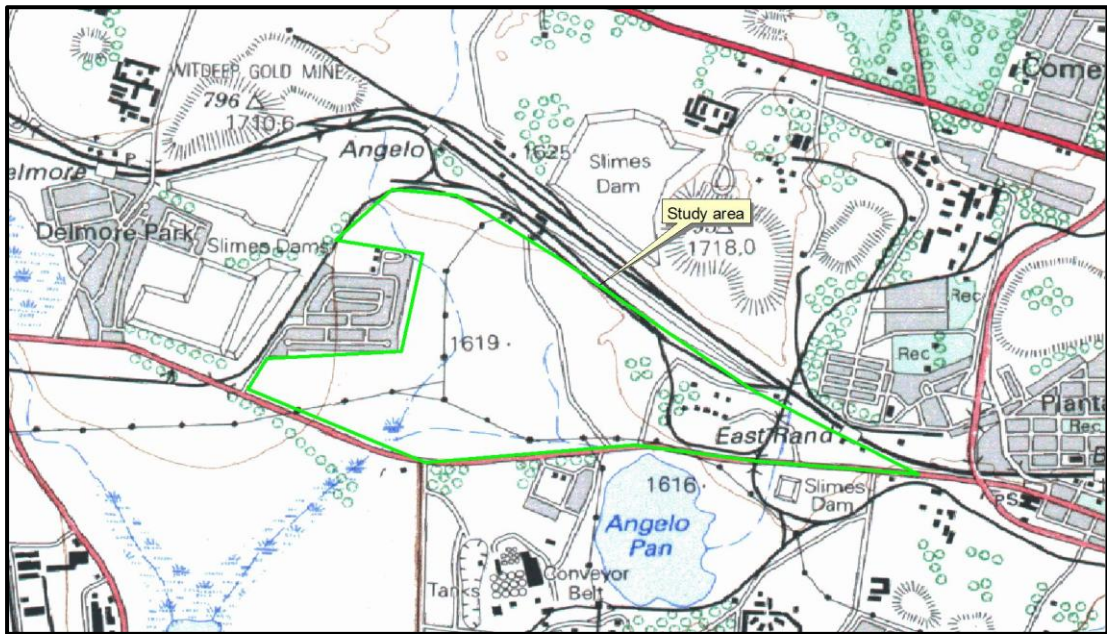


Fig. 10. The study area.
(Map 2628AA: Chief Surveyor-General)

5.4.1 Stone Age

No sites, features or objects of cultural significance dating to the Stone Age were identified in the study area.

5.4.2 Iron Age

No sites, features or objects of cultural significance dating to the Iron Age were identified in the study area.

5.4.3 Historic period

No sites, features or objects of cultural significance dating to the historic period were identified in the study area.

6. SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND ASSESSMENT

6.1 Heritage assessment criteria and grading

The NHRA stipulates the assessment criteria and grading of archaeological sites. The following categories are distinguished in Section 7 of the Act:

- **Grade I:** Heritage resources with qualities so exceptional that they are of special national significance;

- **Grade II:** Heritage resources which, although forming part of the national estate, can be considered to have special qualities which make them significant within the context of a province or a region; and
- **Grade III:** Other heritage resources worthy of conservation on a local authority level.

The occurrence of sites with a Grade I significance will demand that the development activities be drastically altered in order to retain these sites in their original state. For Grade II and Grade III sites, the applicable of mitigation measures would allow the development activities to continue.

6.2 Statement of significance

Based on current information regarding sites in the surrounding area, all sites expected to occur in the study region are judged to have **Grade III significance** and therefore would not prevent the proposed development for continuing after the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures and its acceptance by SAHRA.

6.3 Impact assessment

Impact analysis of cultural heritage resources under threat of the proposed development, are based on the present understanding of the development.

- As no sites, features or objects of cultural significance are known to exist in the study area, there would be no impact as a result of the proposed development.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The aim of the survey was to locate, identify, evaluate and document sites, objects and structures of cultural significance found within the area in which it is proposed to construct a housing complex.

The site used to be a mining area. During a site visit in 2009, the mines were already closed down, but a number of houses were still standing and were occupied by local people. During the current site visit in 2013, these houses were all found to have been demolished, by persons or parties unknown.

- As no sites, features or objects of cultural significance are known to exist in the study area, there would be no impact as a result of the proposed development.

Therefore, from a heritage point of view we recommend that the proposed development can continue. We request that if archaeological sites or graves are exposed during construction work, it should immediately be reported to a heritage consultant so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

8. REFERENCES

8.1 Data bases

Chief Surveyor General
Environmental Potential Atlas, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.
Heritage Atlas Database, Pretoria.
National Archives of South Africa

8.2 Literature

Acocks, J.P.H. 1975. *Veld Types of South Africa*. Memoirs of the Botanical Survey of South Africa, No. 40. Pretoria: Botanical Research Institute.

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Praagh, L.V. (ed.) 1906. *The Transvaal and its mines*. London: Praagh & Lloyd.

Radford, D. 1989. Baker and the mining houses - an initial investigation into this aspect of his architecture. *South African Journal of Cultural and Art History* 3(3):257-267.

Raper, P.E. 2004. *South African place names*. Johannesburg: Jonathan Ball Publishers.

Van Schalkwyk, J.A. 2009. *Heritage impact survey report for the proposed urban development on portions of the farm Driefontein 851R, Boksburg magisterial district, Gauteng*. Unpublished report 2009/JvS/016.

8.3 Maps and aerial photographs

1: 50 000 Topocadastral maps: 2628AA
Google Earth

APPENDIX 1: CONVENTIONS USED TO ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HERITAGE RESOURCES

Significance

According to the NHRA, Section 2(vi) the **significance** of heritage sites and artefacts is determined by its aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technical value in relation to the uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. It must be kept in mind that the various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and that the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these.

Matrix used for assessing the significance of each identified site/feature

1. Historic value				
Is it important in the community, or pattern of history				
Does it have strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in history				
Does it have significance relating to the history of slavery				
2. Aesthetic value				
It is important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group				
3. Scientific value				
Does it have potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural heritage				
Is it important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period				
4. Social value				
Does it have strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons				
5. Rarity				
Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage				
6. Representivity				
Is it important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or objects				
Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a range of landscapes or environments, the attributes of which identify it as being characteristic of its class				
Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics 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.				
7. Sphere of Significance		High	Medium	Low
International				
National				
Provincial				
Regional				
Local				
Specific community				
8. Significance rating of feature				
1.	Low			
2.	Medium			
3.	High			

APPENDIX 2. RELEVANT LEGISLATION

All archaeological and palaeontological sites, and meteorites are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act no 25 of 1999) as stated in Section 35:

(1) Subject to the provisions of section 8, the protection of archaeological and palaeontological sites and material and meteorites is the responsibility of a provincial heritage resources authority: Provided that the protection of any wreck in the territorial waters and the maritime cultural zone shall be the responsibility of SAHRA.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (8)(a), all archaeological objects, palaeontological material and meteorites are the property of the State. The responsible heritage authority must, on behalf of the State, at its discretion ensure that such objects are lodged with a museum or other public institution that has a collection policy acceptable to the heritage resources authority and may in so doing establish such terms and conditions as it sees fit for the conservation of such objects.

(3) Any person who discovers archaeological or palaeontological objects or material or a meteorite in the course of development or agricultural activity must immediately report the find to the responsible heritage resources authority, or to the nearest local authority offices or museum, which must immediately notify such heritage resources authority.

(4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority-

- (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 which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

In terms of cemeteries and graves the following (Section 36):

(1) Where it is not the responsibility of any other authority, SAHRA must conserve and generally care for burial grounds and graves protected in terms of this section, and it may make such arrangements for their conservation as it sees fit.

(2) SAHRA must identify and record the graves of victims of conflict and any other graves which it deems to be of cultural significance and may erect memorials associated with the grave referred to in subsection (1), and must maintain such memorials.

(3) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority-

- (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or 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, 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 equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

(4) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for the destruction or damage of any burial ground or grave referred to in subsection (3)(a) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has made satisfactory arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such graves, at the cost of the applicant and in accordance with any regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority.