PHASE ONE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED CULTIVATION OF APPROXIMATELY 50 HA OF LAND, LOCATED ON DUBLIN NO. 2 9929, INCHGARTH FARM, WITHIN THE DR NKOSAZANA DLAMINI ZUMA LOCAL AND HARRY GWALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, HIMEVILLE, KWAZULU-NATAL

For: Green Door Environmental

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Frans received his MA (Archaeology) from the University of Stellenbosch and is presently a PhD candidate on social anthropology at UKZN. His PhD research topic deals with indigenous San perceptions and interactions with the rock art heritage of the Drakensberg.

Frans was employed as a junior research associate at the then University of Transkei, Botany Department in 1988-1990. Although attached to a Botany Department he conducted a palaeoecological study on the Iron Age of northern Transkei - this study formed the basis for his MA thesis in Archaeology. Frans left the University of Transkei to accept a junior lecturing position at the University of Stellenbosch in 1990. He taught mostly undergraduate courses on World Archaeology and research methodology during this period.

From 1991 – 2001 Frans was appointed as the head of the department of Historical Anthropology at the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg. His tasks included academic research and publication, display conceptualization, and curating the African ethnology collections of the Museum. He developed various displays at the Natal Museum on topics ranging from Zulu material culture, traditional healing, and indigenous classificatory systems. During this period Frans also developed a close association with the Departments of Fine Art, Psychology, and Cultural and Media Studies at the then University of Natal. He assisted many post-graduate students with projects relating to the cultural heritage of South Africa. He also taught post-graduate courses on qualitative research methodology to honours students at the Psychology

Department, University of Natal. During this period he served on the editorial boards of the *South African Journal of Field Archaeology* and *Natalia*.

Frans left the Natal Museum in 2001 when approached by a Swiss funding agency to assist an international NGO (Working Group for Indigenous Minorities) with the conceptualization of a San or Bushman museum near Cape Town. During this period he consulted extensively with various San groupings in South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. He also made major research and conceptual contributions to the Kamberg and Didima Rock Art Centres in the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site.

Between 2003 and 2007 Frans was employed as the Cultural Resource Specialist for the Maloti Drakensberg Transfrontier Project – a bilateral conservation project funded through the World Bank. This project involved the facilitation with various stakeholders in order to produce a cultural heritage conservation and development strategy for the adjacent parts of Lesotho and South Africa. Frans was the facilitator for numerous heritage surveys and assessments during this project. This vast area included more than 2000 heritage sites. Many of these sites had to be assessed and heritage management plans designed for them. He had a major input in the drafting of the new Cultural Resource Management Plan for the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage site in 2007/2008. A highpoint of his career was the inclusion of Drakensberg San indigenous knowledge systems, with San collaboration, into the management plans of various rock art sites in this world heritage site. He also liaised with the tourism specialist with the drafting of a tourism business plan for the area.

During April 2008 Frans accepted employment at the environmental agency called Strategic Environmental Focus (SEF). His main task was to set-up and run the cultural heritage unit of this national company. During this period he also became an accredited heritage impact assessor and he is rated by both Amafa and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). He completed almost 50 heritage impact assessment reports nation-wide during an 18th month period.

Frans left SEF and started his own heritage consultancy called “Active Heritage cc” in July 2009. Although mostly active along the eastern seaboard his clients also include international companies such as Royal Dutch Shell through Golder Associates, and UNESCO. He has now completed almost 600 heritage conservation and management reports for various clients since the inception of “Active Heritage cc”. Amongst these was a heritage study of the controversial fracking gas exploration of the Karoo Basin and various proposed mining developments in South Africa and proposed developments adjacent to various World Heritage sites. Apart from heritage impact assessments (HIA’s) Frans also assist the National Heritage Council (NHC) through Haley Sharpe Southern Africa’, with heritage site data capturing and analysis for the proposed National Liberation Route World Heritage Site and the national intangible heritage audit. In addition, he is has done background research and conceptualization of the proposed Dinosaur Interpretative Centre at Golden Gate National Park and the proposed Khoi and San

Interpretive Centre at Camdeboo, Eastern Cape Province. During 2009 he also produced the first draft dossier for the nomination of the Sehlabathebe National Park, Lesotho as a UNESCO inscribed world heritage site.

Frans was appointed as temporary lecturer in the department of Heritage and Tourism, UKZN in 2011. He is also a research affiliate at the School of Cultural and Media Studies in the same institution. During 2020 he assisted Boston College (Stellenbosch) with the structuring of courses in Anthropology 1 and 2.

Frans's research interests include African Iron Age, paleoecology, rock art research, San ethnography, traditional healers in South Africa, and heritage conservation. Frans has produced more than forty publications on these topics in both popular and academic publications. He is frequently approached by local and international video and film productions in order to assist with research and conceptualization for programmes on African heritage and culture. He has also acted as presenter and specialist for local and international film productions on the rock art of southern Africa. Frans has a wide experience in the fields of museum and interpretive centre display and made a significant contribution to the conceptual planning of displays at the Natal Museum, Golden Horse Casino, Didima Rock Art Centre and !Khwa tu San Heritage Centre. Frans is also the co-founder and active member of "African Antiqua" a small tour company who conducts archaeological and cultural tours world-wide. He is a Thetha accredited cultural tour guide and he has conducted more than 50 tours to heritage sites since 1992.

Declaration of Consultants independence

Frans Prins is an independent consultant to Green Door Environmental and has no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity, application or appeal in respect of which he was appointed other than fair remuneration for work performed in connection with the activity, application or appeal. There are no circumstances whatsoever that compromise the objectivity of this specialist performing such work.

Frans Prins

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

EIA	Early Iron Age
ESA	Early Stone Age
HISTORIC PERIOD	Since the arrival of the white settlers - c. AD 1836 in this part of the country
IRON AGE	Early Iron Age AD 200 - AD 1000 Late Iron Age AD 1000 - AD 1830
LIA	Late Iron Age
LSA	Late Stone Age
MSA	Middle Stone Age
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998 and associated regulations (2006).
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) and associated regulations (2000)
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
STONE AGE	Early Stone Age 2 000 000 - 250 000 BP Middle Stone Age 250 000 - 25 000 BP Late Stone Age 30 000 - until c. AD 200

1. Executive Summary

A first phase heritage impact assessment was conducted of the proposed. Cultivation of approximately 50 Ha Of Land, Located On Dublin No. 2 9929, Inchgarth Farm, within the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local And Harry Gwala District Municipality, Himeville, KwaZulu-Natal.

Although the greater Himeville area is exceptionally rich in heritage sites, especially rock art, none occur at or near the footprint. The area is also not part of any known cultural landscape. The first phase desktop paleontological assessment indicates that the area has an insignificant fossil sensitivity. It is also important to note that the South African National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) and the Amafa Research Institute and KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 5 of 2018) require that operations that expose archaeological or historical remains should cease immediately, pending evaluation by the provincial heritage agency.

2. Background Information on the Project

The consultant was approached by Green Door Environmental to conduct a First Phase Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed cultivation of a field at Inchgarth Farm, near Himeville, KZN.

According to the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999), the heritage resources of South Africa include:

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 natural features of cultural significance;
e. geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
f. archaeological and palaeontological sites
g. graves and burial grounds, including
i. ancestral graves
ii. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
iii. graves of victims of conflict
iv. graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette
v. historical graves and cemeteries, and
vi. other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983)
h. sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
i. movable objects, including
i. objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens
ii. objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
iii. ethnographic art and objects;
iv. military objects
v. objects of decorative or fine art
vi. objects of scientific or technological interest; and
vii. 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)

The newly promulgated KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 4 of 2008) also makes specific mention to rock art and archaeological sites.

It is furthermore stated that:

(1) No person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter, write or draw upon, or otherwise disturb any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Council.
(2) Upon discovery of archaeological or palaeontological material or a meteorite by any person, all activity or operations in the general vicinity of such material or meteorite must cease forthwith and a person who made the discovery must submit a written report to the Council without delay.
(3) The Council may, after consultation with an owner or controlling authority, by way of written notice served on the owner or controlling authority, prohibit any activity considered by the Council to be inappropriate within 50 metres of a rock art site.
(4) No person may exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb, damage, destroy, own or collect any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
(5) No person may bring any equipment which assists in the detection of metals and archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, or excavation equipment onto any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, or meteorite impact site, or use similar detection or excavation equipment for the recovery of meteorites, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
(6) (*a*) The ownership of any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site, on discovery, vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.
(*b*) The Council may establish and maintain a provincial repository or repositories for the safekeeping or display of:
(i) archaeological objects
(ii) palaeontological material
(iii) ecofacts

(iv) objects related to battlefield sites
(v) material cultural artefacts, or
(vi) meteorites
(7) The Council may, subject to such conditions as the Council may determine, loan any object or material referred to in subsection (6) to a national or provincial museum or institution.
(8) No person may, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council, trade in, export or attempt to export from the Province:
(*a*) any category of archaeological object
(*b*) any palaeontological material
(*c*) any ecofact
(*d*) any object which may reasonably be regarded as having been recovered from a battlefield site;
(*e*) any material cultural artefact, or
(*f*) any meteorite
(9) (*a*) A person or institution in possession of an object or material referred to in paragraphs (*a*) – (*f*) of subsection (8), must submit full particulars of such object or material, including such information as may be prescribed, to the Council.
(*b*) An object or material referred to in paragraph (*a*) must, subject to paragraph (*c*) and the directives of the Council, remain under the control of the person or institution submitting the particulars thereof.
(*c*) The ownership of any object or material referred to in paragraph (*a*) vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.

This study aims to identify and assess the significance of any heritage and archaeological resources occurring on the site. Should any features significant features be identified appropriate actions to reduce the impact on the heritage resources would be put forward. In terms 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:

a. its importance to the community, or to the pattern of South Africa's history
b. its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage

c. its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage

d. its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects

e. its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group

f. its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

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, and

i. sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

Table 1. Background information

Consultants:	Active Heritage cc for Green Door Environmental.
Type of development:	The Applicant, Inchgarth Dairies CC, wishes to apply for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed cultivation of approximately 50 ha of land, located on Dublin No. 2 9929, Inchgarth Farm, within the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local and Harry Gwala District Municipality,Himeville, KwaZulu-Natal. The Applicant, Inchgarth Dairies CC, has appointed Green Door Environmental as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to conduct the Scoping and EIA Process. Green Door Environmental has sub-consulted Active Heritage to conduct the heritage assessment of the property.
Rezoning or subdivision:	N/A
Terms of reference	To carry out a Heritage Impact Assessment
Legislative requirements:	The Heritage Impact Assessment was carried out in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and following the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) and the Amafa Research Institute and Heritage Act (Act No. 5 of 2018)

3. Details of the Area Surveyed

The applicant, Inchgarth Dairies CC, is proposing the cultivation of approximately 50 ha of land, located on Dublin No. 2 9929, Inchgarth Farm, within the Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma Local and Harry Gwala District Municipality, Himeville, KwaZulu-Natal (Figs 1 - 3). The cultivation of approximately 50 ha of land (Fig 4) is proposed to take place at GPS coordinates 29°43'42.84" S and 29°32'47.51" E, and south of the Pevensy Road in Himeville. The land will be cultivated for dryland maize.

4. Background to Archaeological History of the Area:

The greater Himeville area is situated in the foothills of the southern Drakensberg in KwaZulu-Natal. The Drakensberg area is well endowed with cultural heritage, including various wilderness areas within and outside the formal protected area network that includes the UNESCO inscribed World Heritage Site. Although most literature refers to this heritage mainly in terms of San rock art, the region also contains other categories of cultural heritage features representative of various cultures and time-periods. The cultural heritage of the Drakensberg is diverse and highly fragile. Cultural heritage, unlike natural heritage, is non-renewable and irreplaceable. Once damaged, it is gone forever. San rock paintings and associated Later Stone Age sites, as well as the palaeontology of the area, are unique and have global significance. The remaining categories, however, certainly have national, provincial, and regional significance. The area has had several different cultural groups associated with it, from the San to the southern Sotho, the Zulu-speaking and Xhosa-speaking groups, and, more recently, the Griqua and Anglo-Boer descendants. Each of these groups has its own unique cultural expressions and has related in various ways to the others. These differences are found in the building styles of homes, their way of life as they interact with their environment, traditional dress, and so on. In addition, there are a number of living heritage values associated with all of these groups, many of which are unknown or poorly recorded. The following section is a more detailed description of the various cultural heritage features.

4.1 The Early Stone Age

The occurrence of Early Stone Age tools such as hand axes in areas below the 1 800 m contour suggests that the first inhabitants of the area predated modern humans by at least 800 000 years. Sites belonging to this period in the Drakensberg are mostly characterised by a few surface scatters and individual stone tools – usually in the close vicinity of water. They were most probably manufactured by *Homo erectus*, a predecessor of modern humans.

4.2 Middle Stone Age

Anatomically modern people *(Homo sapiens sapiens)* with a very different economic strategy and more sophisticated stone tool kits moved into the area about 200 000 years ago. Archaeological assemblages left behind by these people have been termed Middle Stone Age. Not only were these societies more effective hunters than their predecessors but Middle Stone Age sites elsewhere in southern Africa also provide convincing evidence for some of the earliest symbolic behaviour in the world. It was Middle Stone Age people from southern and eastern Africa who left the continent roughly between 80 000 – 60 000 years ago to populate the rest of the world. Middle Stone Age sites in the Drakensberg region occur in both Lesotho and South Africa. Sites occur as surface scatters as well as deep cave deposits. Prime archaeological deposits, however, occur in the Eastern Cape and Free State sections of the region. Archaeological excavations at Strathalan Cave in the Eastern Cape Province indicate that the Middle Stone Age persisted in the Eastern Cape Drakensberg until around 22 000 years ago (Mitchell 2002).

4.3 The Later Stone Age

The stone tool assemblages belonging to the immediate ancestors of the San or Bushmen have been termed Later Stone Age. Later Stone Age tools are generally much smaller but also more diversified than the earlier tool kits. It was during this period that the bow and arrow was used extensively, and societies exploited their environments distinctly more intensively and effectively. Literally hundreds of Later Stone Age sites prevail in the Drakensberg region. In addition, most of the rock art in the region was created by the San. The earliest evidence for Later Stone Age occupation of the Maloti Drakensberg comes from Sehonghong Cave in south eastern Lesotho and from Strathalan Cave in the Eastern Cape section of the region. Here a

specific Later Stone Age period called the Robberg Industry has been dated to approximately 20 000 years ago. In contrast, evidence from Good Hope shelter 1 near the bottom of Sani Pass suggests that the earliest archaeological evidence for San people in the KwaZulu-Natal portion of the Drakensberg dates back to approximately 8 000 years ago. Whereas most parts of the Maloti Drakensberg were only seasonally occupied by San hunter gatherers for the larger part of the last 20 000 years, the situation started to change during the latter part of the Holocene around 5 000 years ago. This was compounded by the arrival of immigrant black farmers in the region soon after 1600 AD and European colonialism around 1834 AD (Wright & Mazel 2007). During the historical period, the Maloti Drakensberg and adjacent mountainous areas became the last stronghold for various southern San groups such as the Baroa, //Xegwi !Ga!ne, //Kx'au, and //Ku//ke. Their Later Stone Age way of life finally came to an end during the late 19th century. San descendants still live in the area but for all practical purposes have assimilated with their more powerful neighbours. Many place names within the region still retained their original San pronunciations such as the Inxu, Sehonghong, Qomoqomong and Qhoasing rivers, and the Qeme, Qhuqhu, Qhalasi, and Qholaqhoe mountains. Approximately 1 300 Later Stone Age sites are known within the South African side of the Drakensberg.

4.4 Rock Paintings

The Maloti Drakensberg region is particularly well known for the occurrence of some of the finest and most complex prehistoric rock paintings in the world. Depictions of humans dominate, although finely executed animals such as eland and rhebuck are common. Some of the art is executed in various colours and in detailed precision that almost renders it a three dimensional aspect. Most researchers support the theory developed by Professor David Lewis-Williams and his colleagues that the figures represent trance induced visions during San religious rites (Lewis-Williams 2003). According to some researchers, the celebrated Rosetta Panel at Game Pass shelter (RSA) holds the key to our understanding of all San rock art in the sub-Sahara region of Africa. However, this interpretation is not supported by all rock art researchers. Notable deviations from this approach have been developed by Anne Solomon, and more recently by Thomas Dowson. The Maloti Drakensberg is also one of the areas with the highest density of prehistoric rock art in the world and certainly contains the highest concentration of prehistoric art south of the Sahara in Africa. Although the scientific dating of these paintings is still under researched, recent research suggests that the oldest paintings may date to approximately 4000 years ago (Wright & Mazel 2007). This is much older than previously

thought. The chronological uniqueness of the art, however, is not so much in its antiquity as in the fact that the Maloti Drakensberg was the last area in Africa south of the Zambezi River where the San rock art tradition was still actively practised. Paintings at two sites in the southern portion of the region were created as recently as 1920 (Prins 2009). Three rock art sites occur within the greater Bulwer area with many more in the Underberg/Himeville districts. However, none of these sites occur closer than 3km from the footprint (Fig 5).

4.5 Iron Age Sites

Around 2 000 years ago the southern African demographic landscape was transformed with the arrival of the first Bantu-speaking agriculturists in the sub-region. These subsistence farmers lived for the most part in the lower altitude, wooded areas of the eastern seaboard. Around 1250 AD certain agriculturists started occupying the higher altitude, grassland areas. Sites belonging to this period in KwaZulu-Natal are referred to as Moor Park settlements and they typically occupy hill tops with a low stone walling effect. Although none occur within the designated Maloti-Drakensberg project area, they can be found at the fringes, at an altitude of approximately 1 200-1 400 m. By 1600 AD, groups such as the amaZizi reached the foothills of the northern Drakensberg near Winterton (Wright and Mazel 2007). Various splinter groups of the amaZizi left KwaZulu Natal and also settled in parts of Lesotho where, over time, they adopted a Sotho identity. The baPhuti of south eastern Lesotho are perhaps the best known of these early immigrants. By the early 1700s various other Sotho and Nguni-speaking groups moved into the area and established chieftaincies in those areas below the 1 800 m contour. Impressive Iron Age sites belonging to this period and built in typical Sotho-style occur near Harrismith and Phuthaditjhaba in the Eastern Free State. Nguni-style sites of this period have also been found in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape parts of the Drakensberg. The expansion of the Zulu kingdom around 1818 had a major impact on Iron Age settlement in the region. Various chieftaincies were attacked, and their routed remnants typically traversed the Maloti Drakensberg region in search of better settlement elsewhere. Bandits often hid out in the mountains, and a number allegedly practised cannibalism. Perhaps the most significant development during this period was the founding of the Southern Sotho nation under King Moshoeshoe I. Various sites in Lesotho belong to this period – some of them, like Thaba Bosiu, are typically mountain strongholds. Almost 2 000 Iron-Age sites have been identified in the Maloti Drakensberg region, and most occur in altitudes lower than 1 800 m contour. Some well-

preserved Later Iron Age and historical era Nguni sites occur near Lotheni and Mpendhle about 20km from the footprint.

4.6 The Historical Period

The historical period spans the era of colonialism that started around 1830 AD when the first missionaries and Dutch immigrants arrived from the Cape Colony in the Maloti Drakensberg region. Sites associated with Voortrekker settlement of the area occur in the eastern Free State and the northern portion of KwaZulu-Natal near Winterton and Bergville. For the most part, these were the places where laagers were formed (with very low archaeological visibility) and old farmsteads with associated grave yards. A particular site worth mentioning is Kerkenberg near Oliviershoek Pass, where Debora Retief painted the initials of her father on a rock before the trekkers descended into KwaZulu Natal. In Lesotho, the rebellion by Chief Moorosi and the resultant action by the Cape Colony government at the southern tip of the country left footprints of forts and associated graves at Moyeni Camp, Fort Hartley, Cutting Camp, and Mount Moorosi. The most important structure relating to the history of Bushman raids is most probably Forth Nottingham, in KwaZulu-Natal, which was built around 1852. Various historical mission stations founded in the mid to late 1800s such as those at Morija and St James in Lesotho and Emmaus, Reichenau, and Mariazell in South Africa, are still in active use. The Reichenau Mission, which is situated approximately 5km from the footprint, was founded by Trappist missionaries around 1878. The Ongeluksnek Pass in the Eastern Cape is intimately associated with the epic trek of the Griqua people in 1861, led by Adam Kok. The area associated with the first native uprising against the British colonial government, by the celebrated Hlubi chief Langalibalele in 1873, is at Giants Castle Nature Reserve in the uKhlahlamba Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site. Various battle sites associated with the Basotho Wars between the Boer Republic of the Orange Free State and the Sotho Kingdom of Moshoeshoe I are to be found in the eastern Free State and adjacent parts of Lesotho. Sites belonging to the period of the Anglo-Boer War (1898-1901) abound in the eastern Free State portion of the project area. These are typically areas where skirmishes took place or where ammunition was destroyed. A few rock engravings belonging to the Anglo-Boer War period have been documented from the Golden Gate Highland Park. However, thorough research is still required to ascertain the meaning and value of these engravings. Many historical sites can be categorised as belonging to the “built environment” as defined in heritage legislation. These

are the physical remnants and traces of historical settlements that underpin the cultural value and meaning of the surrounding communities.

One of the earliest European explorers in the Himeville area was Captain Allen Gardener. Gardener skirted the southern KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg in 1835 seeking a route from Natal to the Cape Colony. Some Voortrekker farmers settled in the area, albeit briefly, around 1840 but it was only after 1850 when Natal became a British colony that more European, especially English-speaking, settlers arrived in the area. They were preceded and followed by French and German missionaries. The Trappist mission of Rheicenau, in the near vicinity of the footprint, became a prominent landmark in the Himeville/Underberg District. The buildings associated with these early missionaries as well as farmsteads and associated graveyards, dating from approximately 1860, occur at various localities in the Himeville area (McKenzie 1946). Another prominent historical building is the old jail of Himevillle (Fig 6). This building was erected in the 1870's and was meant to act as a defensive fort for the inhabitants of Himeville during the Anglo-Zulu War. Fortunately the war never reached as far south in the colony and today the old building functions as a museum.

By the 1880's there was a shortage of vacant land for farming in the then colony of Natal and the children and grandchildren of the 1820 and 1840 settlers were looking for land of their own. The land along the Southern Drakensberg, a hitherto undeveloped area, provided vast tracts of unclaimed land. The area had been surveyed in 1880 by Dr Peter Sutherland, the Surveyor-General for Natal, and farms had been identified. But when Dr Sutherland was approached by a certain Richard Cockerell for permission to take up land he was told that he could have as much as he wanted because the land was uninhabitable. Undeterred, Cockerell settled on "Fondeling" along the Bushman's Nek Road. Cockerell was soon joined by Robert Christison who settled along the river below Underberg on "Scotston". These two intrepid pioneers were soon followed by others and the district of Himeville/Underberg was born in 1886.

4.7 Graves

There are various grave sites belonging to different periods and cultural associations in the Drakensberg region. Perhaps the most famous sites are those belonging to the southern Sotho royalty at Botha Bothe in Lesotho; the grave of Nkosi Langalibalele at Giants Castle; KwaZulu

Natal graves associated with the royalty of the amaZizi and amaNgwane near Bergville, KwaZulu-Natal; the grave of Adam Kok at Matatiele, Eastern Cape; and various graves in the Free State belonging to the Voortrekker and Anglo-Boer War periods. Interestingly, graves belonging to the prehistoric San inhabitants of the area are markedly absent or, as yet, have not been identified by researchers.

4.8 The Living Heritage

The living heritage of the Drakensberg area is varied and as yet little understood. Yet preliminary investigations by the Maloti Drakensberg Project (Anderson 2007) indicate that certain areas, including sites in communal areas close to Underberg, are still frequented by local communities who afford them ritual or sacred significance. Such locales may include archaeological sites with a living heritage component or natural features such as mountains, forests, boulders, caves, pools, or waterfalls with cultural significance. Living heritage is not only site-specific but also relates to oral history, indigenous knowledge systems, and indigenous languages, practices, and beliefs. Oral history specifically is a rich resource that has been passed down the generations and provides diverse narratives and interpretations concerning places of historical significance. It also provides a window on community perspectives regarding heritage resources, including indigenous names for sites and plant and animal species – all of which are imbued with cultural meaning.

Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) constitute an integral component of local knowledge, at grass roots level, often associated with traditional methods of land management and use. In this regard, IKS can enhance conservation and sustainable management of cultural heritage to which communities may relate. Conservation should provide an enabling environment for communities to continue with the tradition of transmitting knowledge and skills and of safeguarding their cultural heritage. Traditional ceremonies still performed in the larger Drakensberg region include the *Bale* initiation schools among certain southern Sotho groups, the *amemulo* (coming of age) ceremonies among the amaNgwane, the *Nkubelwana* (planting of the first seed) among Zulu-speakers, rainmaking, and various ceremonies associated with the veneration of the ancestors. Six indigenous languages are still spoken in the area, including siBhaca, which was believed to be almost extinct.

Two broad categories of site-specific living heritage sites have been identified:

- Sites of national significance of which nine have been identified in the SA portion of the MDTFCA. These include rock art sites, sandstone shelters without any archaeological remains but used extensively as pilgrimage sites, two sacred forests, and three sacred mountains. All of these sites are frequented by indigenous groups as part of an annual pilgrimage.
- Sites of local significance include various pools, waterfalls, hot springs, kaolin and red ochre deposits, and boulders afforded special significance by traditional healers and sectarian Christian groupings. Seventeen such sites have been identified in the larger Drakensberg area.

Areas least influenced by human activities are often said to be representative of a "pristine" landscape. Such areas are recognised by the IUCN. In the context of the Drakensberg, only the UKhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site has any proclaimed wilderness areas, making up about 48% of the Park. In this regard, a specific wilderness management plan has been produced for the World Heritage site, with the express aim of retaining the integrity of these wilderness areas. In terms of the South African National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (no 57 of 2003), a wilderness area is defined as *"an area designated ……for* the *purpose of retaining an intrinsically wild appearance and character, or capable of being restored to such and which is undeveloped and road less, without permanent improvements or human habitation*".

In addition, wilderness can be considered as a value of a given area and in this regard can be defined as a *"…largely undeveloped and intrinsically wild character of the area in vast wilderness areas that provide outstanding opportunities to experience solitude and for spiritual renewal*" (EKZNW 2006). There are a number of stakeholders promoting the concept of wilderness, including the Wilderness Action Group and the Wilderness Foundation. From a cultural heritage perspective, the concept is more akin to a western inspired ideal than an academic reality. In this sense the concept of wilderness, as an area where visitors may experience and enjoy pristine nature removed from anthropogenic influence and pollution, is therefore a western expression of living heritage. The wilderness notion, however, finds expression also in the indigenous concepts of cultural landscapes which are usually natural areas with profound cultural significance.

4.9 Palaeontology

Given its nature, palaeontology should be a component of geology and biodiversity. Nevertheless, the present heritage legislation in South Africa also covers palaeontology. In fact, the heritage management procedures relating to palaeontology are almost identical to those of archaeology. The palaeontological history of the Maloti Drakensberg area is fascinating as it tells the story of the super southern continent called Gondwanaland and its associated fauna and flora preserved today as fossils (McCarthy & Rubidge 2005). Fossils and footprints belonging to various periods from around 270 million years ago to around 180 million years ago have been recorded and collected in the geological layers beneath the basalts. These layers, amongst other interesting facts, provide evidence of the greatest mass extinction of species in the world around 251 million years ago towards the end of the Permian period. Some species survived this extinction as attested by abundant fossils of certain species such as Lystrosaurus found deep in the Triassic period layers. Whereas the majority of fossilized remains in the area are *therapsids* (mammal-like reptiles, ancestors of most mammal species today), the Maloti Drakensberg also harbours evidence of some of the earliest dinosaurs in the world. Footprints belonging to these early dinosaurs appear in various localities in the Molteno formations of both Lesotho and South Africa.

The most celebrated palaeontological site occurs in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park. Here the earliest known dinosaur eggs in the world and a near intact embryo of an average sized dinosaur, i.e. *Massospondylus,* were located by scientists some thirty years ago. These early eggs, dated to almost 200 million years ago, are almost 100 million years older than other known dinosaur nest egg sites in the world. In adjacent Lesotho the Qomoqomong Dinosaur footprint and museum site has been developed for tourism purposes. The endemic turkey size dinosaur Lesothosaurus is known from various localities within Lesotho.

5. Historical Farms

5.1 Fondeling

The farms in the Underberg-Himeville District were first surveyed in 1880 by Dr Peter Sutherland, the Surveyor General for Natal. The district was then known as Polela (The First Hundred Years of the Underberg-Himeville District 1887-1987, 2007: 15). In 1886 Richard

Woodward Cockerell applied for land in the Surveyor General's Office in Pietermaritzburg. He approached Dr Sutherland asking for land in the uninhabited district beyond the Native Commissioner's Office which had been established near Bulwer in the Polela Magistracy. His response from Dr Sutherland was there was no surveyor available for immediate survey, but he could go and settle immediately wherever he chose, but that he doubted whether Cockerell would like it there. (ibid).

Cockerell outspanned his wagon on Fondeling farm in 1886, along the Bushmen's Nek Road. It was the first farm to be occupied in the Polela District, and once he had settled Cockerell was soon joined by Robert Christison who settled on Scotston Farm located along the river below Underberg. These two pioneers were soon followed by others, and the District of Underberg was born in 1886 (ibid). Cockerell however, left for Rhodesia in 1910 (ibid: 17). The Bushmen's Nek Police Post was opened on Fondeling in 1910 (ibid: 45), and the first stock yards were situated on this farm with stone walls marking the site of the kraals (ibid: 17).

The anthropologist, Hugh Stayt, and his wife bought Fondeling in 1945 (ibid. p. 64). Hugh was quite a personality. He had been blinded at the age of seventeen during action in World War II, and he went on to write the major reference work on the BaVenda ethnic group on a braille typewriter. It was published in 1931 and earned him his PhD. Initially the couple lived in the old brick house while Peter built the new house, which was completed in 1950. They used prison labour and the architect was a German gentleman from Port Shepstone. Hugh Stayt died in 1964 but his wife Peter kept on farming until 1989 when she sold the farm (ibid).

Henry Nicholson (1853-1934) is also recorded as having owned Fondeling (ibid, p. 17). There is also a contradictory entry that J.A. Halett bought Fondeling to farm SA Marino Mutton (ibid, p. 115). Since Peter Stayt is recorded as having sold the farm in 1989, it could be assumed that J.A. Halett bought the farm from Peter Stayt and that the dates have been recoded somewhat incorrectly.

Other farms on which historical and cultural material have been identified are Robert's Retreat 17129, Pelile (now Tegwaan) 11333, Glenside No. 2 9090, Ellerslie No. 2 7756, Lot FP 1077765, Eston 2948.

6. Background Information of the Study

6.1 Methodology

A desktop study was conducted of the SAHRA inventory of heritage sites. Unfortunately this database is incomplete and of only limited use. The SAHRIS website is more informative although most reports and sites cover the areas outside of KwaZulu-Natal. Nevertheless this data base indicates that various CRM related projects have been completed in the greater Himeville area in the last ten years or so. None of these, however, covers the footprint. In addition, the archaeological database of the KwaZulu-Natal Museum was consulted. This data base indicated more than 300 heritage sites (mostly rock art) in the greater Himeville/Underberg area (Fig 5). A local desktop study was also undertaken, and a ground survey was conducted of the proposed development and affected area following standard and accepted archaeological procedures. The consultant also approached the Himeville Fort Museum, and the Himeville/Underberg Historical Society, and local tour operators, as relevant stakeholders dealing specifically with the cultural heritage of the area.

6.2 Restrictions Encountered During the Survey

6.2.1 Visibility:

Visibility during the site visit was good.

6.2.2 Disturbance

No disturbance of potential heritage sites was observed.

6.3 Details of Equipment Used in the Survey

GPS: Garmin Etrek
Digital cameras: Canon Powershot A460
All readings were taken using the GPS. Accuracy was to a level of 5 m.

7. Description of Sites and Material Observed

7.1 Locational Data

Province: KwaZulu-Natal
Municipality: KwaSani Municipality
Towns: Himeville/Underberg

7.2 Description of the General Area Surveyed

The area has been well surveyed for archaeological sites in the past and more than 300 San rock art sites have been recorded in the greater Himeville/Underberg areas. However, none of these occur closer than 500m to the footprint (Fig 5) and they are therefore not endangered by the proposed development. The town of Himeville contains various historical buildings including residential homes and government buildings with distinct Victorian and Edwardian features. Many of the farmsteads in the area are older than 60 years and are therefore protected by heritage legislation. No prehistoric archaeological sites occur on the footprint. The area is also not part of any known cultural landscape.

8. Rating of Significance

The rating method developed by SAHRA (Table 3) does not apply as no heritage sites or features occur on the footprint.

Table 3. Field rating and recommended grading of sites (SAHRA 2005)

Level	Details	Action
National (Grade I)	The site is considered to be of National Significance	Nominated to be declared by SAHRA
Provincial (Grade II)	This site is considered to be of Provincial significance	Nominated to be declared by Provincial Heritage Authority
Local Grade IIIA	This site is considered to be of HIGH significance locally	The site should be retained as a heritage site
Local Grade IIIB	This site is considered to be of HIGH significance locally	The site should be mitigated, and part retained as a heritage site
Generally Protected A	High to medium significance	Mitigation necessary before destruction
Generally Protected B	Medium significance	The site needs to be recorded before destruction
Generally Protected C	Low significance	No further recording is required before destruction

The rating system as developed by SAHRA does not apply as no heritage sites occur on the actual footprint (Tables 3 & 4).

Table 4. Evaluation and statement of significance of heritage sites or features on the footprint.

Significance criteria in terms of Section 3(3) of the NHRA		
	Significance	**Rating**
1.	**Historic and political significance -** The importance of the cultural heritage in the community or pattern of South Africa's history.	None.
2.	**Scientific significance** – Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's cultural heritage.	None.
3.	**Research/scientific significance** – Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage.	None
4.	**Scientific significance** – Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's cultural places/objects.	None
5.	**Aesthetic significance** – Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.	None.
6.	**Scientific significance** – Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.	None.
7.	**Social significance** – Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultu-ral or spiritual reasons.	None
8.	**Historic significance** – Strong or special association with the life and work of a person, group or organization of importance in the history of South Africa.	None.
9.	The significance of the site relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.	None.

9. Phase 1 Desktop Palaeontology Assessment

The SAHRIS fossil sensitivity map indicates that the proposed cultivation plot falls within an area with an insignificant fossil sensitivity (Fig 8). There is no need for additional paleontological studies

10. Recommendations

No heritage sites occur on the actual footprint. The area is also not part of any known cultural landscape. There is no need for any mitigation from a general heritage perspective. The proposed development may proceed.

The proposed cultivation area has a low fossil sensitivity. There is no need for additional paleontological studies.

The Provincial and National Heritage Acts prevent the destruction and alteration of any heritage feature that may be unearthed during the proposed construction: Attention is drawn to the South African National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA) and the Amafa Research Institute and Heritage Act (Act No. 5 of 2018) which requires that operations that expose archaeological or historical remains should cease immediately, pending evaluation by the provincial heritage agency.

11. Maps and Photographs

Figure 1. 1:50 000 Topographical Map of the Project Area.

Figure 2. Map showing the location of the proposed cultivation site relative to Himeville (Source: Green Door).

Figure 3. Map showing the location of the proposed cultivation site (Source: Green Door).

Figure 4. Map showing location and context of the proposed cultivation site (Source: Green Door).

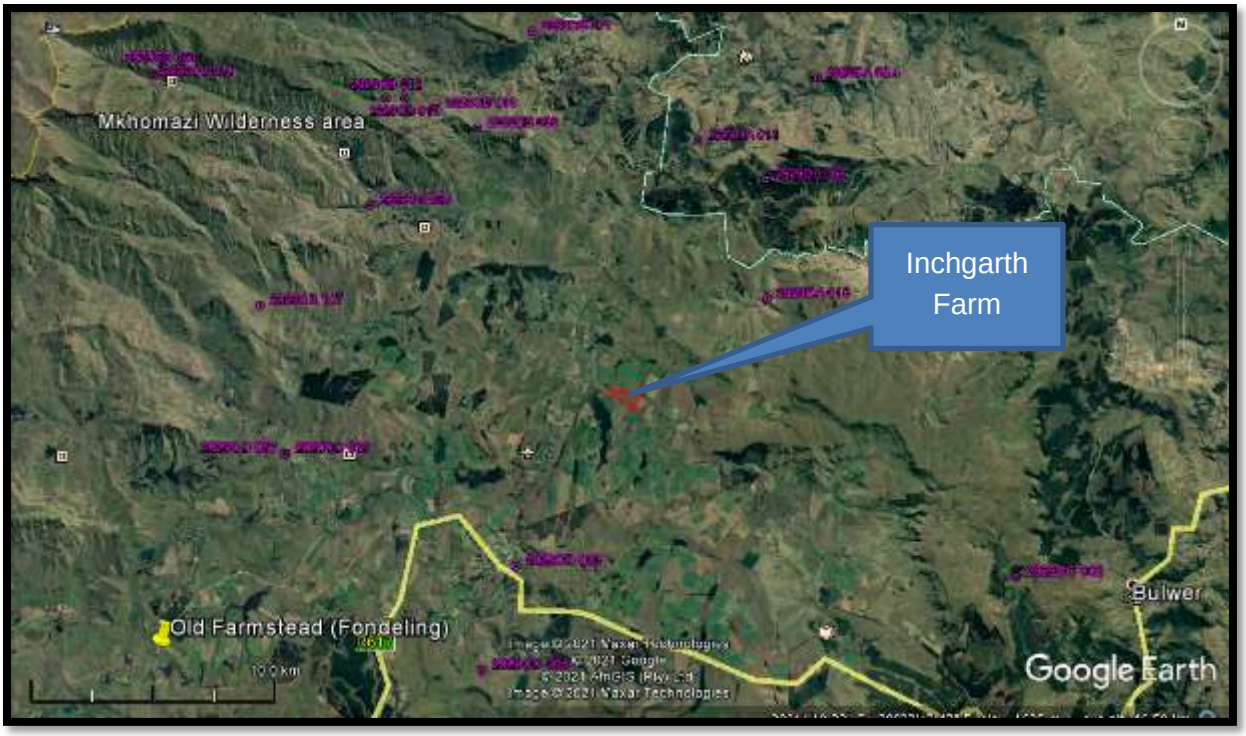


Figure 5. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of known archaeological sites (purple markers) relative to Inchgarth Farm.

Figure 6. Google Earth Imagery showing the location of known historical sites (yellow and white markers) relative to Inchgarth Farm.

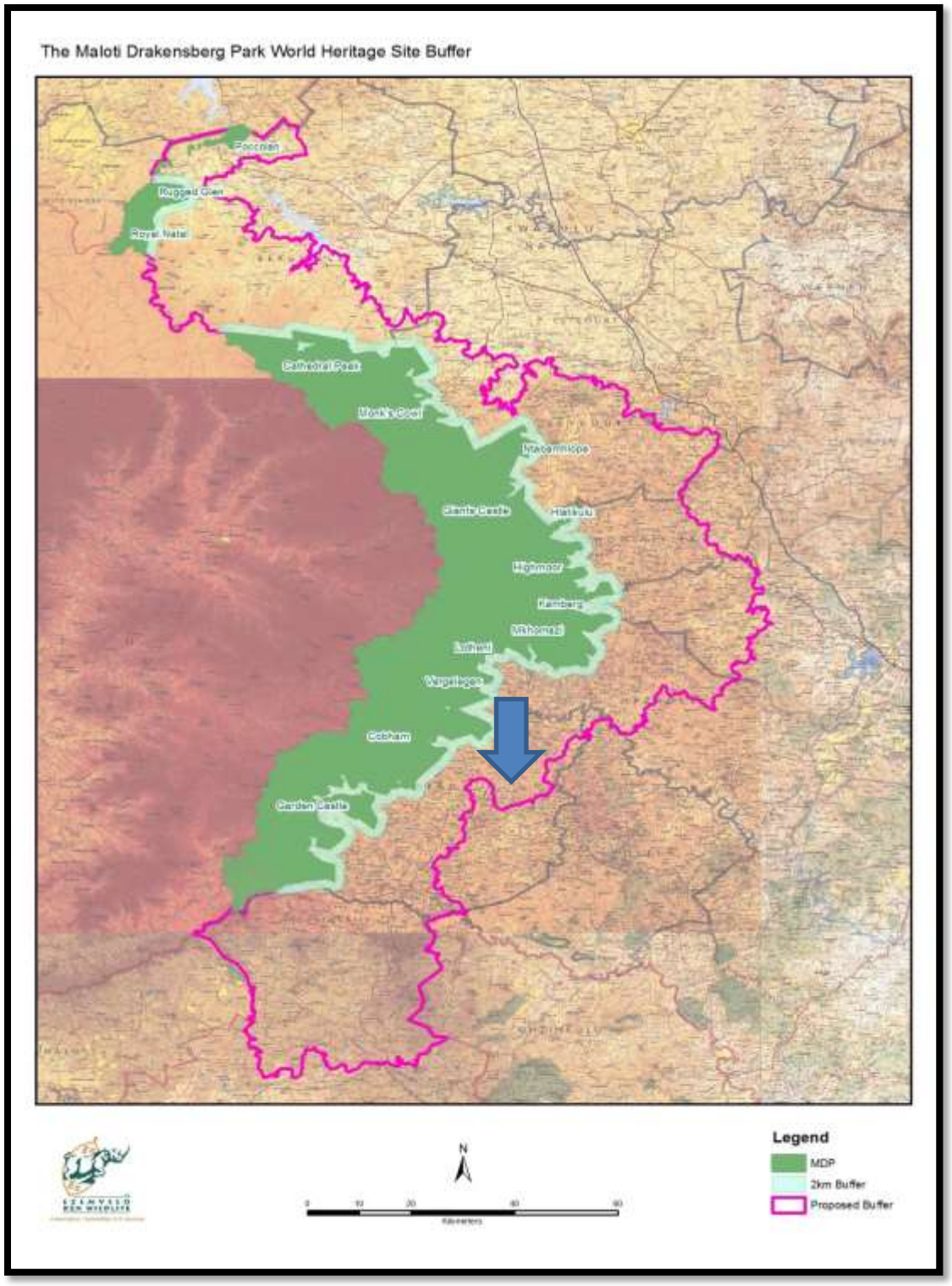
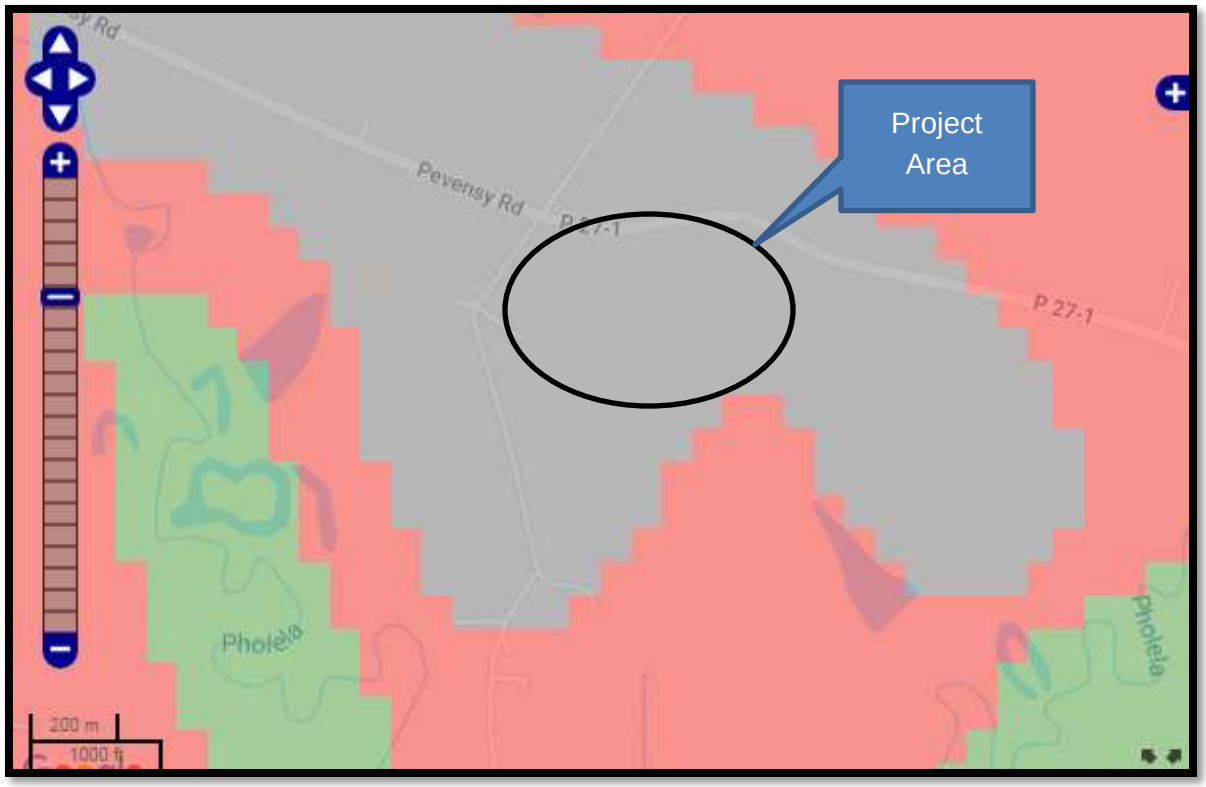


Figure 7. Map showing the location of the project area (blue arrow) relative to the Maloti Drakensberg World Heritage Site (Source: Ezemvelo).



Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	no palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	no palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	these areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

Figure 8. SAHRIS fossil sensitivity map: the project area is indicated by the black polygon. The grey background indicates an insignificant fossil sensitivity.

Figure 9. Entrance to Inchgarth Farm of the Pevensy Road.

Figure 10. Inchgarth Farm from the road junction in the north.

Figure 11. View towards the east showing the foothills of the Drakensberg in the distance.

Figure 12. There are no anthropogenic features on the footprint apart from a dirt road.

Figure 13. There are no heritage sites or features on the footprint.

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