

HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED DUGUZA GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT, KWAZULU-NATAL

FOR TRIPLO4

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INTRODUCTION

Double Ring Trading 7 (PTY) Ltd intends to develop a shopping mall with a mixed-use precinct at the old Duguza Golf Course, Stanger. The development will also upgrade existing social amenities. The site is 28 hectares in size and is currently zoned for recreational purposes.

Stanger is famous for its relation to King Shaka and KwaDukuza. The more recent history of Stanger begins with King Shaka in the 1820s. He called his last capital KwaDukuza and it is here where he died and is buried. Thereafter King Shaka's half-brothers burnt the capital. The area thus has a lot of oral history relating to King Shaka, and many places in KwaDukuza are associated with him.

In 1873, European settlers built a town on the site of KwaDukuza, naming it Stanger after William Stanger, the surveyor-general of Natal. Stanger is also related to sugar cane farming in KwaZulu-Natal and the indentured labourer system of the 19th to early 20th century (e.g. see Govinden 2008).

While few systematic heritage surveys have been undertaken in the general Stanger area, the older history suggests human occupation of the area dating back to the Early Stone Age.

Figures 1 – 3 show the location of the planned industrial development park.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP

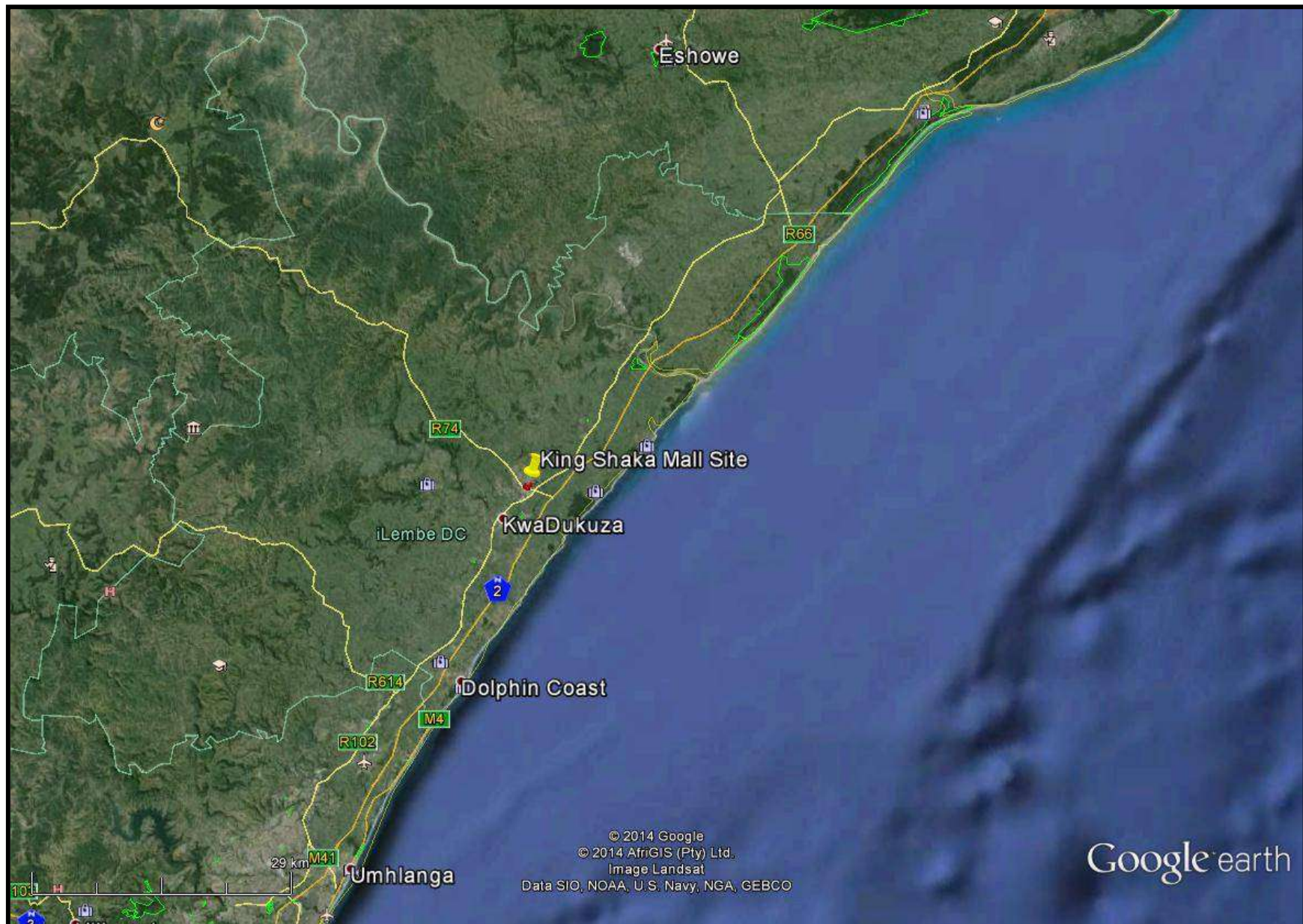
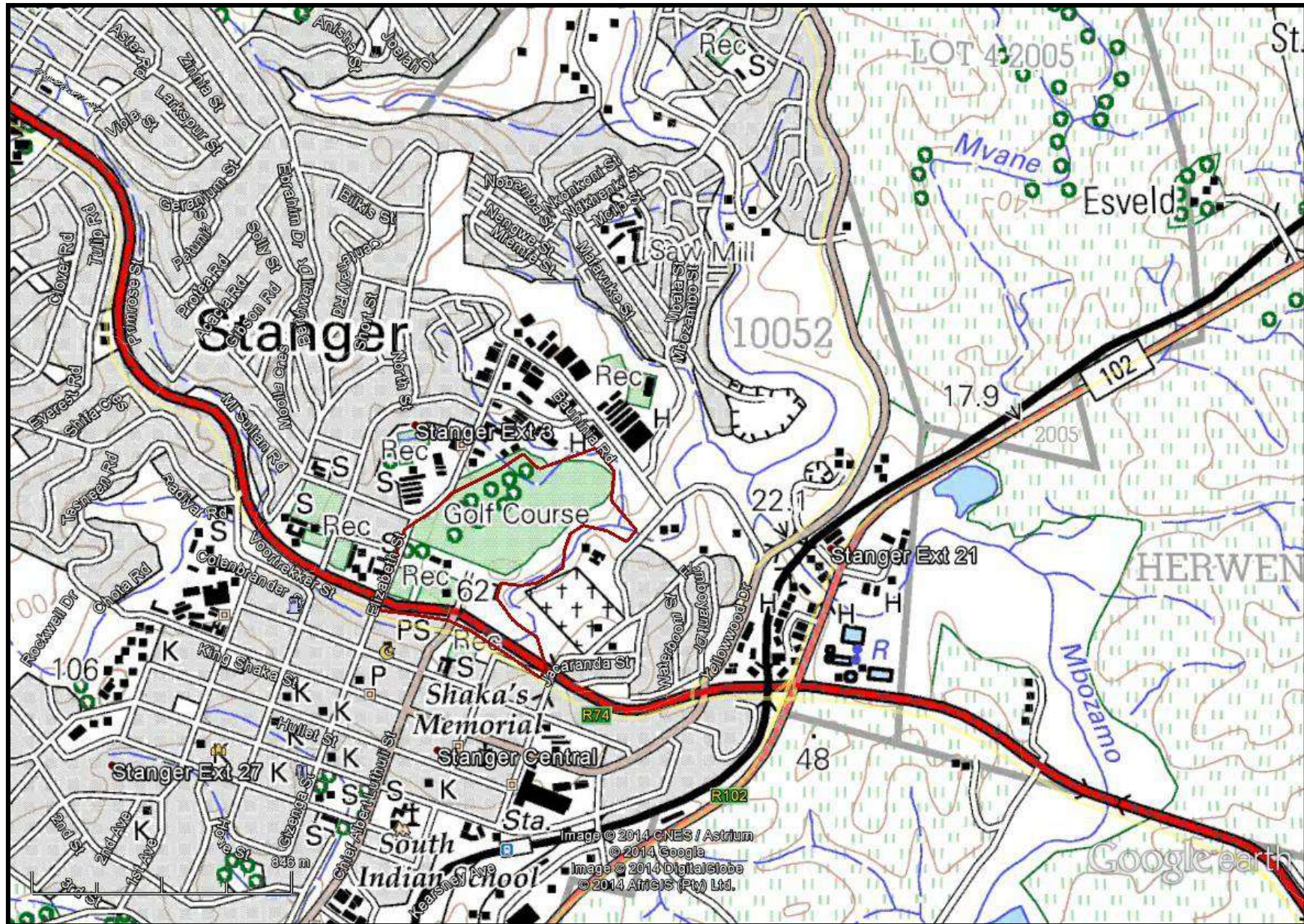


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP



FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP



KWAZULU-NATAL HERITAGE ACT NO. 4 OF 2008

“General protection: Structures.—

- No structure which is, or which may reasonably be expected to be older than 60 years, may be demolished, altered or added to without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Where the Council does not grant approval, the Council must consider special protection in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- The Council may, by notice in the *Gazette*, exempt—
 - A defined geographical area; or
 - defined categories of sites within a defined geographical area, from the provisions of subsection where the Council is satisfied that heritage resources falling in the defined geographical area or category have been identified and are adequately protected in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- A notice referred to in subsection (2) may, by notice in the *Gazette*, be amended or withdrawn by the Council.

General protection: Graves of victims of conflict.—No person may damage, alter, exhume, or remove from its original position—

- the grave of a victim of conflict;
- a cemetery made up of such graves; or
- Any part of a cemetery containing such graves, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- General protection: Traditional burial places.—
 - No grave—
 - not otherwise protected by this Act; and
 - not located in a formal cemetery managed or administered by a local authority, may be damaged, altered, exhumed, removed from its original position, or otherwise disturbed without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

The Council may only issue written approval once the Council is satisfied that—

- the applicant has made a concerted effort to consult with communities and individuals who by tradition may have an interest in the grave; and
- The applicant and the relevant communities or individuals have reached agreement regarding the grave.

General protection: Battlefield sites, archaeological sites, rock art sites, palaeontological sites, historic fortifications, meteorite or meteorite impact sites.—

- 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 Council.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.” (KZN Heritage Act of 2008)

METHOD

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps.

The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the database that has been collated by Umlando. These databases contain archaeological site locations and basic information from several provinces (information from Umlando surveys and some colleagues), most of the national and provincial monuments and battlefields in Southern Africa (<http://www.vuvuzela.com/googleearth/monuments.html>) and cemeteries in southern Africa (information supplied by the Genealogical Society of Southern Africa). We use 1st and 2nd edition 1:50 000 topographical and 1937 aerial photographs where available, to assist in general location and dating of buildings and/or graves. The database is in Google Earth format and thus used as a quick reference when undertaking desktop studies. Where required we would consult with a local data recording centre, however these tend to be fragmented between different institutions and areas and thus difficult to access at times. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

The survey results will define the significance of each recorded site, as well as a management plan.

All sites are grouped according to low, medium, and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips, and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone, and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features.

Defining significance

Heritage sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

These criteria are:

1. State of preservation of:

- 1.1. Organic remains:
 - 1.1.1. Faunal
 - 1.1.2. Botanical
- 1.2. Rock art
- 1.3. Walling
- 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit
- 1.5. Features:
 - 1.5.1. Ash Features
 - 1.5.2. Graves
 - 1.5.3. Middens
 - 1.5.4. Cattle byres
 - 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

2. Spatial arrangements:

- 2.1. Internal housing arrangements
- 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns
- 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

3. Features of the site:

- 3.1. Are there any unusual, unique or rare artefacts or images at the site?
- 3.2. Is it a type site?
- 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artefact?

4. Research:

- 4.1. Providing information on current research projects
- 4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

5. Inter- and intra-site variability

- 5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?
- 5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

6. Archaeological Experience:

- 6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

7. Educational:

- 7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?
- 7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?
- 7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

8. Other Heritage Significance:

- 8.1. Palaeontological sites
- 8.2. Historical buildings

- 8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.5. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

RESULTS

DESKTOP STUDY

The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The archaeological database indicates that there are archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 4). These sites include all types of Stone Age and Iron Age sites. No sites occur in the study area.

The Natal Museum's database indicates that there is one site on the southern edge of the study area. According to the records, and directions, this is known as Mavivane, or Execution Cliff (29°20'4.00"S 31°17'46.00"E). The cliff is said to have been used by Shaka for executing people (*Mavivane* - place of shivering).

One presumes people were executed at the top, and then had the bodies pushed over the side. Umhlangana, the son of Senzangakhona, is believed to have been stabbed at top of the cliff near an Ngwenya tree (wild plum) and then thrown over the edge. He is believed to be buried at the foot of the cliff. However, there is no cliff at this location and the ground is a gentle gradient down to the river. The co-ordinates are probably slightly incorrect (see fig. 6).

Very little information regarding this site is available. The Natal Museum's data base notes that the sources used by Dr T. Maggs included Mrs Gibb, Stanger Museum Curator, Mr Hama of Shakaville and Chief Z. Khumalo.

The 1937 aerial photographs indicate that there are buildings in the southwestern corner of the study area (fig. 5). The rest of the area is open grassland.

The 1968 topographical map indicates that there are several more buildings in the southwestern corner of the study area (fig. 6). These would be the buildings related to the swimming pool and Golf Club. The buildings noted in 1937 are now missing on the map.

FIG. 4: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES NEAR THE STUDY AREA

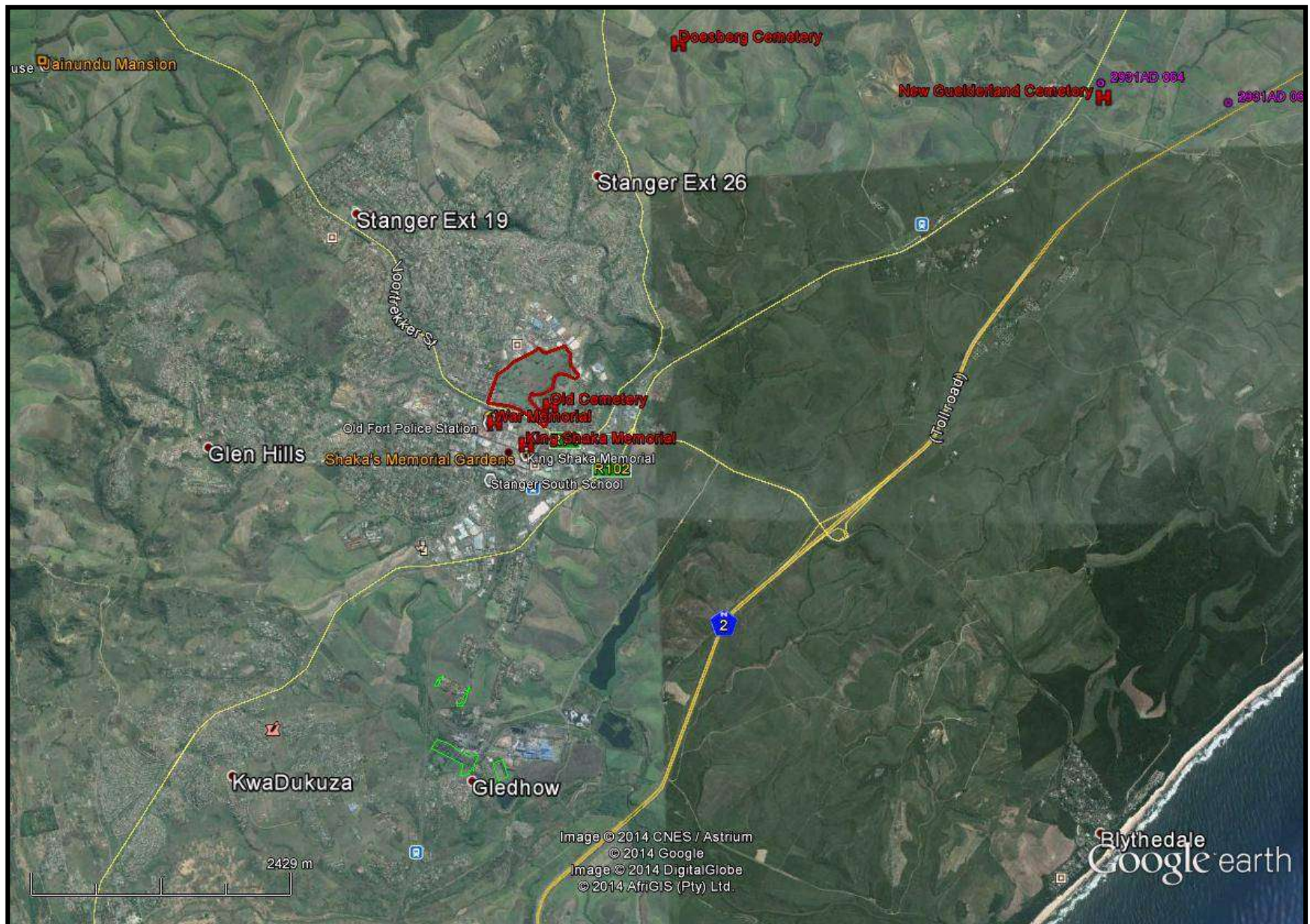


FIG. 5: STUDY AREA IN 1937



FIG. 6: STUDY AREA IN 1968

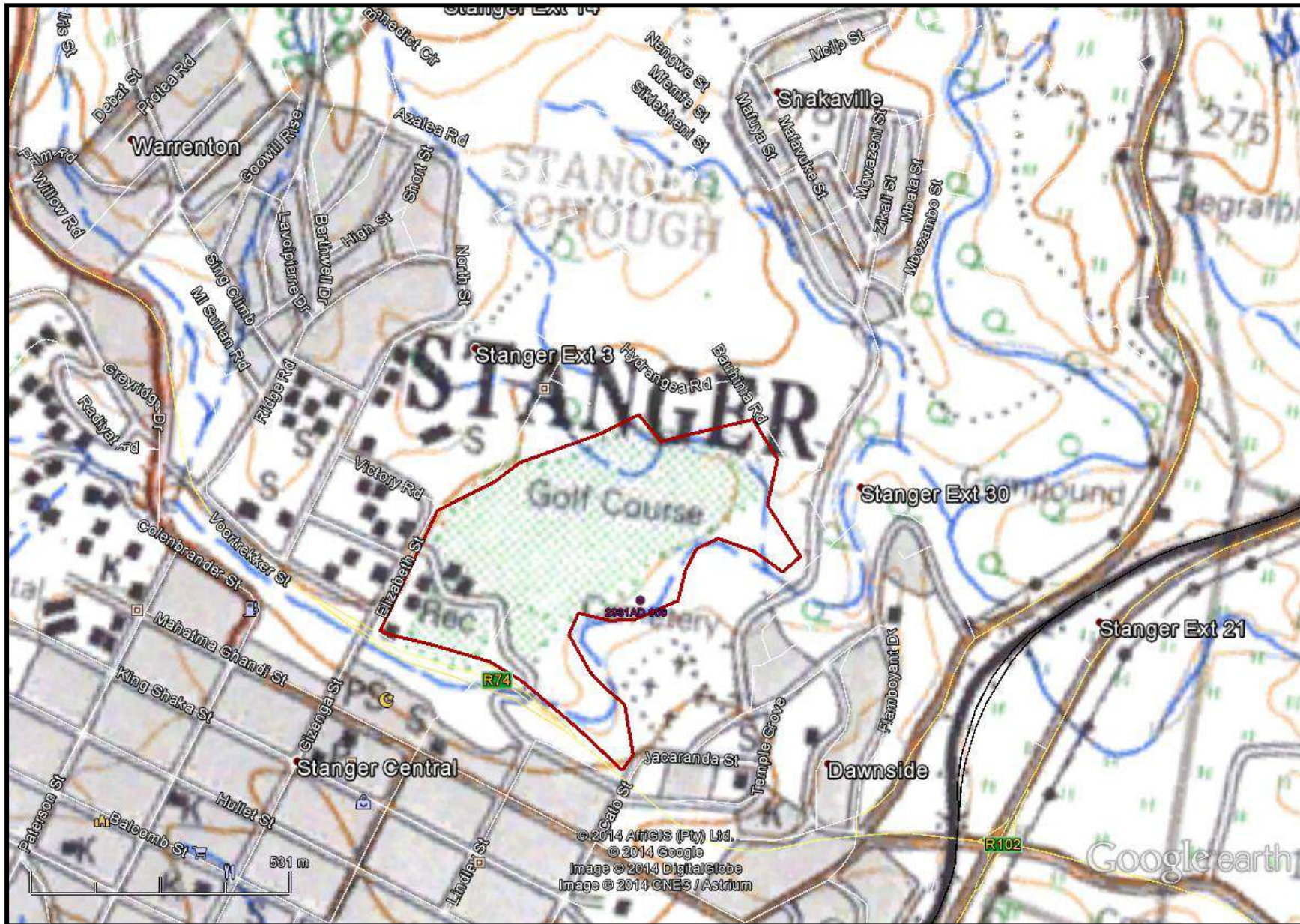


FIG. 7: SCENIC VIEWS OF THE STUDY AREA



FIG. 8: BUILDINGS IN THE STUDY AREA



FIELD SURVEY

.The KwaDukuza Golf Course would have partially changed the landscape of the area. Archaeological visibility was mostly good – shown in figure 6. No heritage sites were observed in the study area, nor were there any national/provincial monument signs.

There are several buildings in the study area, of which some are currently in use. The Golf Club and associated structures are abandoned and in various stages of ruin. The buildings noted in the 1937 aerial photograph are now underneath the tennis court. Figure 8 shows some of these buildings.

The golf course and illegal dumping (pits) have disturbed the study area. The area along the river buffer is heavily vegetated resulting in poor visibility.

No evidence for the Mavivane Cliffs in the form of monument signage could be found in the study area. Fig. 9 shows the given location of the site while Fig. 10 (top) shows the view of the recorded site. The area has dense vegetation making visibility low. A higher cliff occurs ~125m west of the given location - see fig. 9 and 10 (bottom). This area is even more disturbed due to concrete palisade fencing, and various forms of excavations.

The exact location of Mavivane Cliffs is unknown however; one can assume it is within the general area.

The site is of high significance due to its association with King Shaka Zulu, and its associated oral history, and more recent Living Heritage.

FIG 9: LOCATION(S) OF MAVIVANE

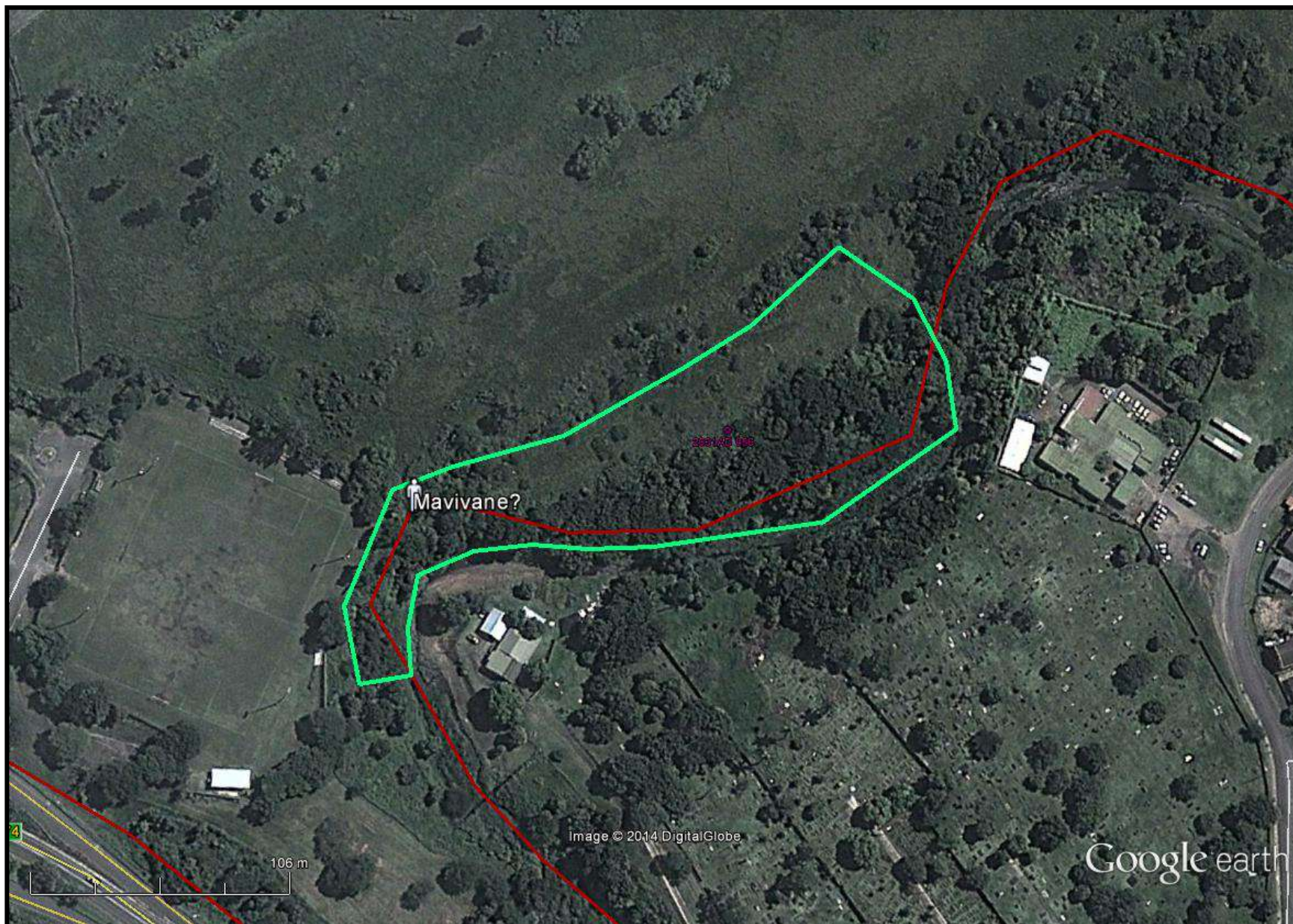


FIG. 10: VIEW OF THE LOCATION(S) OF MAVIVANE



MANAGEMENT PLAN

No archaeological sites were noted in the study area. Some of the buildings that currently exist occur on the 1968 maps, and do not appear to be older than 60 years in age, i.e. pre-1953. The developer may need to produce deeds documents to prove the age of the buildings. If the buildings are older than 60 years then they will need to be assessed by an architect historian.

The exact location of the Mavivane Cliffs is uncertain; however, a general area appears to be recognised. The area is of high significance, but has been neglected. There is no signage indicating its location, significance, nor the oral history behind the site. The site should have been included in the King Shaka Heritage Route, as it appears to play a central role in the history of KwaDukuza.

The area probably falls within the riverine buffer zone and will not be physically affected by the proposed development. There will be a visual impact on the site. That is, the buildings may result a loss in the sense of place for the site. I suggest that a 25m – 50m buffer is placed around the site as indicated in figure 9. The edge of the buffer zone should be screened from the proposed development with fast growing indigenous trees. This would then lower the visual impact of the buildings on the historical site.

The development should also incorporate the site into the overall plans and undertake to clean up the area in terms of plant species and general rubbish. One must remember that the development is referring specifically to King Shaka, and it should thus respect the name by saving the history.

Any development of this site will need to be undertaken in conjunction with Amafa KZN.

CONCLUSION

A heritage survey was undertaken for the proposed King Shaka Mall, Stanger. The development will occur on the old and disused Duguza Golf Club. The development will contain mixed precinct developments, and existing structures will be upgraded.

Stanger, or KwaDukuza, has a rich history relating to the 19th century of KwaZulu-Natal. However, no heritage sites were observed in the study area. The buildings do not appear to be older than 60 years in age; however deeds titles should be obtained to indicate their age.

The general location of the Mavivane Cliffs was noted. There is no signage to indicate the location or history of the site, and it appears to be neglected. I suggested that the development incorporate, and rehabilitate, the site into the general planning. I suggested that a visual barrier be placed as a buffer around the site.

REFERENCES

Givinden, D. 2008. In C. Haley (Ed) India in Africa, Africa in India: Indian Ocean Cosmopolitanisms. Indiana University Press: