

**KINGSBURG WEST EXTENSION HOUSING PROJECT,
ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY
KWAZULU-NATAL**

Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment

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**Author: Jean Beater
JLB Consulting**

**Client: Alex Whitehead
Sustainable Development Projects**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ethekwini Municipality proposes to develop 281 units on 281 residential sites along with a commercial site and a community facility site in Kingsburg West. Associated infrastructure such as internal roads, bulk sewer and water reticulation and electricity are also proposed.

The site to be developed is known as Sub 16 of the Farm Illovo No. 16409 in Kingsburg West Extension. The site lies adjacent to previous phases of the Kingsburgh West housing project and is situated approximately 3 km inland of the coastal town of Kingsburg.

The proposed development triggers Section 38 (1) (c)(i) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) as the area that will be developed is approximately 6 hectares in size hence a heritage impact assessment was required for the development.

A site inspection of the proposed area of development was undertaken on 01 March 2016. The area previously used for agricultural purposes and is currently used for grazing of cattle and goats and some subsistence farming. It is also thickly overgrown with vegetation

No grave sites or structures were found on the site during the site inspection nor any visible archaeological material or sites. Discussions were held with two local residents who both stated that, to their knowledge, there were no graves on the project site nor worship sites. It was indicated that these sites were found north of the project area.

The South African Heritage Resources Agency's Fossil Sensitivity Map indicates that the project area is largely situated in an area of moderate palaeontological / fossil sensitivity with a slight overlap into a zone of high fossil sensitivity. Due to the area been previously used for agricultural purposes it is doubtful that any intact fossils will be found in the area and no further assessment is recommended. A protocol for fossil finds during the construction phase is included in the mitigation measures as provided in Section 10 in the main body of this report.

It is recommended that the project proceed with the proviso that the mitigation measures provided are implemented. It is also recommended that this report is submitted to the relevant heritage resource agency namely, Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali, for review and approval.

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AUTHOR DETAILS

Verification	Name	Qualification	Professional Registration
Author	Jean Beater	MA (Heritage Studies)	Member of Association of South African Professional Archaeologists (No. 349) Member of IAIAAsa (No. 1538)

1. INTRODUCTION

Ethekwini Municipality, through the implementing agent, Motheo Construction, proposes to develop 281 units on 281 residential sites along with a commercial site and a community facility site in Kingsburg West. Associated infrastructure such as internal roads, bulk sewer and water reticulation and electricity are also proposed.

This report serves as the Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed housing development.

2. LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

The proposed development triggers Section 38 (1) (c) (i) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) as the area that will be developed is approximately 6 hectares in size. The relevant section of the NHRA states that:

“(1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorised as—

(c) any development or other activity which will change the character of a site—

(i) exceeding 5 000 m² in extent

must notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

In addition, the project may impact on graves, structures, archaeological and palaeontological resources that are protected in terms of sections 33, 34, 35, and 36 of the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (No. 4 of 2008) as well as sections 34, 35, and 36 of the NHRA.

In terms of Section 3 of the NHRA, heritage resources are described as follows:

- (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 paleontological 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 Phase I HIA was undertaken to assess whether any heritage resources will be impacted by the proposed housing development.

3. LOCATION

The site to be developed is known as Sub 16 of the Farm Illovo No. 16409 in Kingsburg West Extension. The site lies adjacent to previous phases of the Kingsburgh West housing project. The property to be developed is situated approximately 3 km inland of the coastal town of Kingsburg on the KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) south coast. The site is situated east of the R603 road to Illovo North and Umbumbulu. See Figures 1 and 2 below.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Undertake a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment in order to determine the possible existence of archaeological, palaeontological and cultural-historical sites or features in the project area that could be impacted by the proposed activity. Provide mitigation measures to limit or avoid the impact of the construction of the project on heritage resources (if any).



Figure 1: Map of the surrounding area in which housing project (indicated in orange) is located

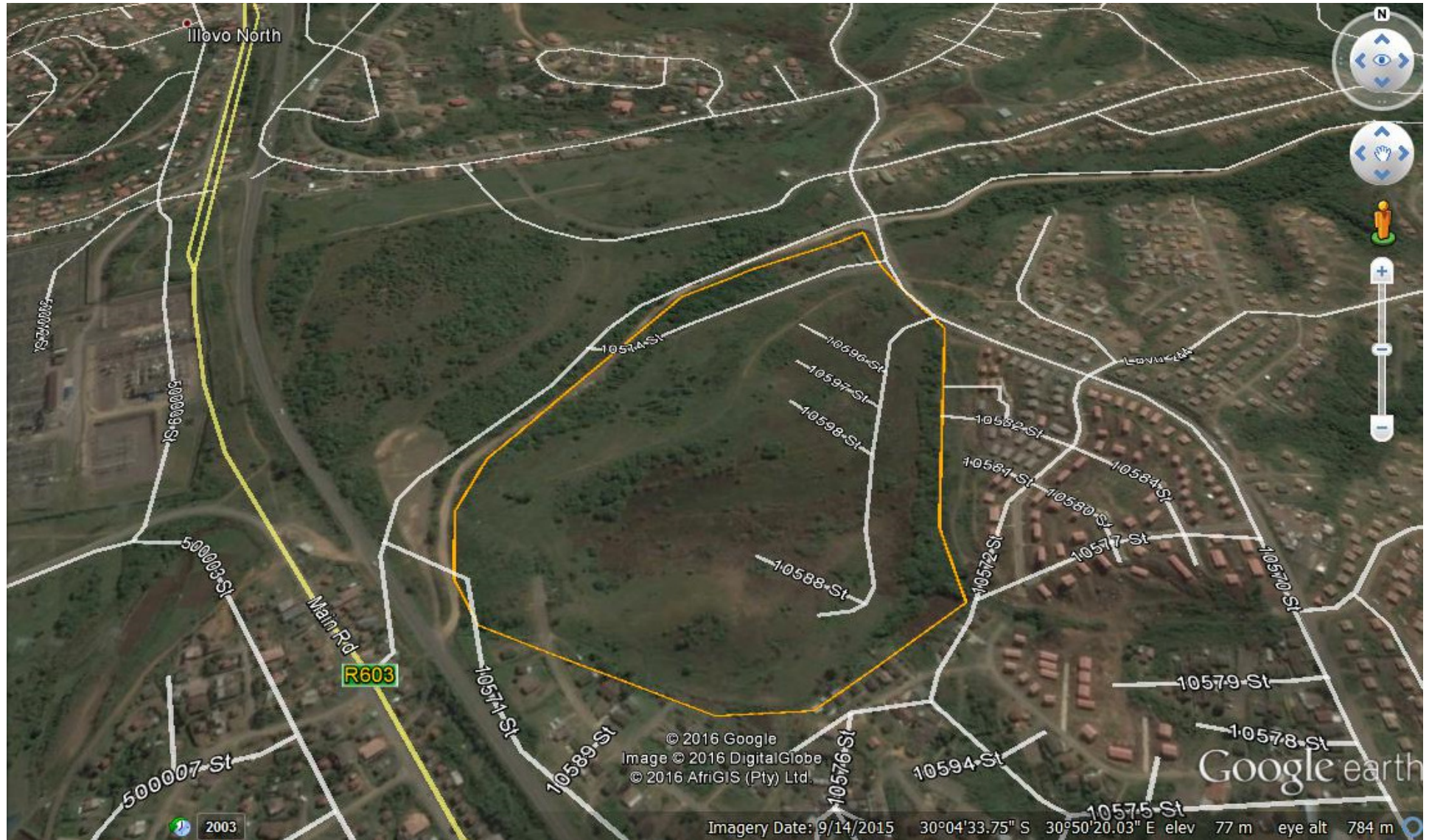


Figure 2: Closer view of project site indicated in orange

5. METHODOLOGY

A survey of literature was undertaken of the surrounding and larger area in order to place the project in a historical context. No other HIAs undertaken in the study area were found on the SAHRIS database.

A site inspection of the proposed area of development was undertaken on 01 March 2016.

This HIA report must be submitted to the heritage authority of KwaZulu-Natal, namely Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali (Amafa) for their assessment and approval.

6. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

Archaeological

According to Prins (2015:12), the greater Amanzimtoti area has been relatively well surveyed for archaeological sites by the KwaZulu-Natal Museum and, more recently, by private heritage consultants. The available evidence, as captured in the Amafa and KwaZulu-Natal Museum heritage site inventories, indicates that the area contains a wide spectrum of archaeological sites covering different time-periods and cultural traditions. These range from Early Stone Age, Middle Stone Age, and Later Stone Age to Early Iron Age, Middle Iron Age, and Later Iron Age sites. Two notable Middle Stone Age sites, i.e. Umlatuzana near Marianhill and Segubudu near Stanger have been excavated in the last two decades and yielded impressive archaeological stratigraphies relating to the period associated with the origins of anatomically modern people. The Umhlatuzana shelter is situated approximately 25 km to the north of the project area.

Around 1 700 years ago a wave of Early Iron Age People settled along the inland foot of the sand dunes on sandy but humus rich soils which would have ensured good crops for the first year or two after they had been cleared. These early people produced a characteristic pottery style known as Matola. The Matola people exploited the wild plant and animal resources of the forest and adjacent sea-shore. The communities seems to have been small groups that moved into a landscape that was sparsely inhabited by Later Stone Age San people (Prins 2015:12).

By 1500 years ago another wave of Iron Age migrants entered the area. The majority of these sites occur inland along the major river valleys of KwaZulu-Natal below the 1000m contour).

Various sites of this period have been recorded along the Umgeni River to the north of the study area, especially in the area close to Inanda Dam ((Prins 2015:13).

Historical

Originally known as Southern Umlazi, Kingsburgh became a township in October 1942 and reached borough status in August 1952. It was possibly named after Richard Philip (Dick) King (1811-1871) who rode along the area from Durban to Grahamstown on horseback to secure assistance for beleaguered British troops in 1842 (Wikipedia 2015:1).

Legend has it that when King Shaka tasted the water in 1828, he said 'Kanti amanza mtoti', meaning 'So, the water is sweet', from where the name of Amanzimtoti originated. Amanzimtoti adjoins Kingsburgh.

Not far from the project area is Adam's Mission. In 1835 the first American Board missionaries arrived in South Africa and a mission station was built near Amanzimtoti. Adams College, then known as Amanzimtoti Institute was established in 1853 by the American Board with the intention of opening up a school on the mission station originally founded by Dr Newton Adams. Adams College consisted of a number of institutions; a high school, a teacher training college and an industrial school. It was one of the first African schools to introduce co-education, to teach mathematics and science to Africans, to provide matriculation and post-matriculation courses, and to give responsible posts to Africans. In 1956 Adams College was closed by the government, as a consequence of the Bantu Education Act (Du Rand 1990:1).

7. RESULTS OF SITE INSPECTION

Access to the site is good but the roads are strewn with rubbish that has been dumped along the sites of the road. The site is abandoned agricultural land and is currently used to graze cattle and goats and some sections are used for subsistence agriculture. Footpaths cross the area and it is heavily overgrown with vegetation.

Some areas of the project were inspected on foot. Heavy undergrowth made the identification of heritage sites such as archaeological material, graves, etc., difficult. No grave sites were identified. No structures were found during the site inspection nor any visible archaeological material or sites.



Figure 3: Access road blocked by dumping



Figure 4: Access road with dumped rubbish

Discussions were held with two local residents who were passing the project area during the site inspection. Mrs Aleisha Maqukolo stated that to her understanding there were no graves in the area to be developed nor were there any areas of importance to the community such as worship areas for, amongst others, members of the Zion community.

The above statement was supported by Mr. Sakhile Dladla who said that graves could be found north of the project area beyond the power lines cresting the hill. He also confirmed that areas of worship could be found close to the power lines which lies outside and north of the proposed area of development.



Figure 5: Section of project area looking eastwards

A small section of the project area is used as a park for surrounding communities that appears to be well used. A watercourse runs through the north-western section of the project area just below the park.



Figure 6: Watercourse/wetland in north-western corner



Figure 7: Project area with densely overgrown vegetation



Figure 8: View overlooking project area to the north-west

Palaeontological

The South African Heritage Resources Agency's (SAHRA) Fossil Sensitivity Map indicates that the project area is largely situated in an area of moderate palaeontological / fossil sensitivity

(see map below) with a slight overlap into a zone of high fossil sensitivity (project area indicated by black circle).

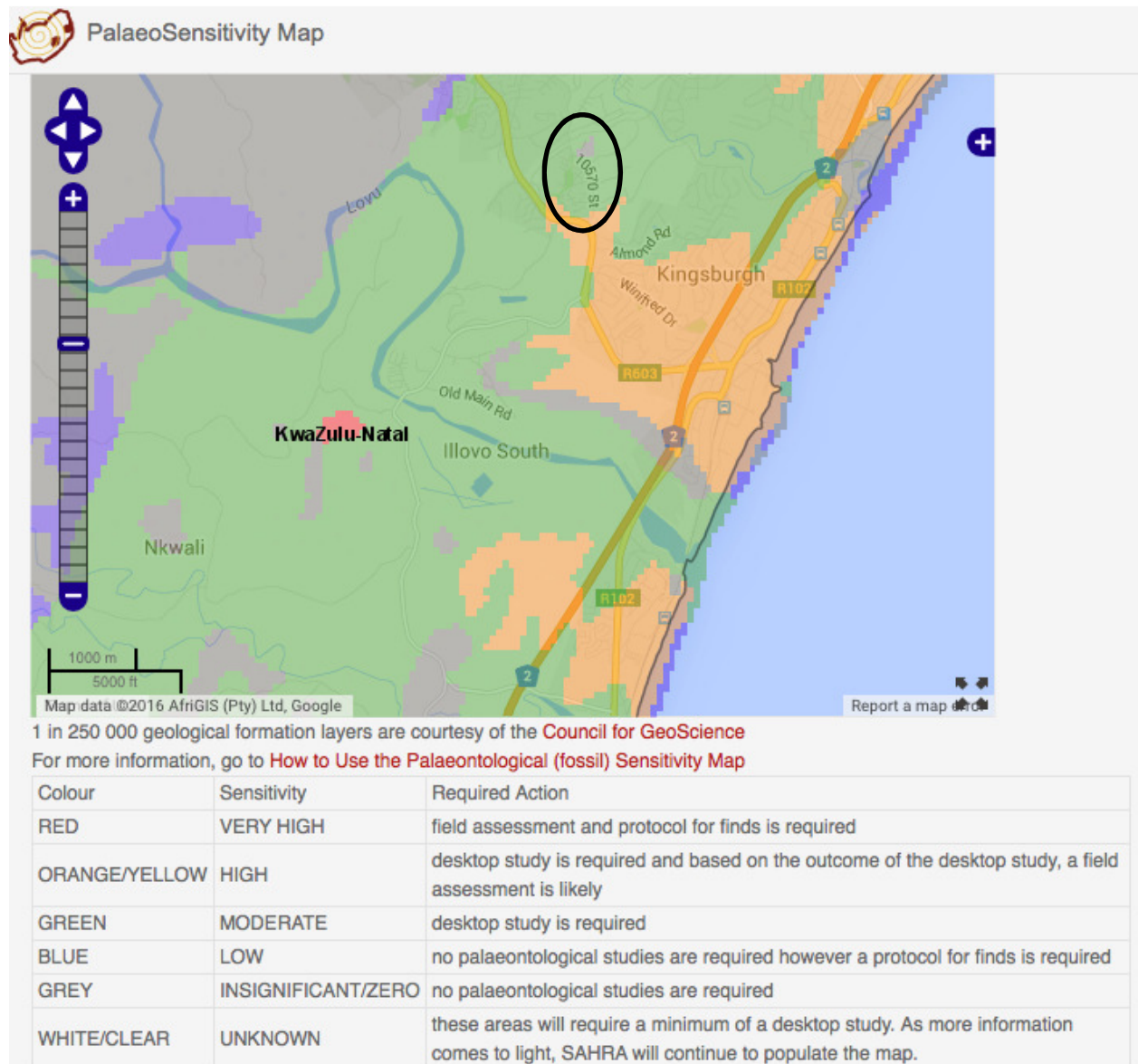


Figure 9: Palaeontological sensitivity map

However, due to the area been previously used for agricultural purposes it is doubtful that any intact fossils will be found in the area and no further assessment is therefore recommended. However, a protocol for fossil finds during the construction phase is included in the mitigation measures as provided in Section 10 of this report.

8. DISCUSSION

No heritage resources were identified during the site inspection it of the project area. However, thick vegetation made identification difficult. Input from local residents suggest that, at least, no

graves nor areas of worship that will be of significance to those using them, are situated in the project area. Such sites are found to the north of the project area.

Previous activity on the site, namely agricultural activity, indicates that if there were archaeological sites and palaeontological material (fossils) prior to this activity, these heritage resources have been destroyed.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS / CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the project proceed with the proviso that the mitigation measures provided below are implemented.

This report must be submitted to the relevant heritage resource agency namely, Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali (Amafa), for review and approval.

10. MITIGATION MEASURES

- For any chance finds, such as grave, all work will cease in the area affected and the Contractor will immediately inform the Project Manager. A registered heritage specialist must be called to site for inspection. Amafa must also be informed about the finding.
- The heritage specialist will assess the significance of the resource and provide guidance on the way forward.
- Written permission must be obtained from Amafa if heritage resources, including graves, are to be removed, destroyed or altered.
- All heritage resources found in close proximity to the construction area to be protected by a 5m buffer in which no construction can take place. The buffer material (danger tape, fencing, etc.) must be highly visible to construction crews.
- Under no circumstances may any heritage material be destroyed or removed from site unless under direction of a heritage specialist.
- If there are chance finds of fossils during construction, work in the area of the find must be stopped and a palaeontologist must be called to the site in order to assess the fossils and rescue them if necessary (with an Amafa permit). The fossils must then be housed in a suitable, recognized institute.

11. REFERENCES AND RESOURCES CONSULTED

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