



# AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

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## **A. PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(a) CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TSHEPISO PRIMARY SCHOOL TSHEPISO EXTENSION 3, VEREENIGING EMFULENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY GAUTENG PROVINCE**

### **(b) REPORT COMPILED BY**

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### **(c) DEVELOPER AND CONSULTANT INFORMATION**

#### **Owner Developer:**

Department of Education,  
6 Samuel Street, Sebokeng, Vanderbijlpark, 1983  
Private Bag X067, Vanderbijlpark, Gauteng, 1900  
Tel: 016 594 9100

#### **Consultants:**

Lesekha Consulting,  
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25 Caroline Close, Rowland Estate, Mafikeng, 2745  
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**Date of report: 10 July 2017**

## **B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The site was inspected on foot. The site is locally used as a dumping site. People have also excavated sections of the site for garden soil. No important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves could be found on the site.

The proposed development site is in a bad state because of dumping. No important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves are present on the site. There is no objection to the proposed development from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

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## **D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PROJECT:**

### **(a) Whether the report is part of a scoping report/EIA/HIA or not**

*The proposed site is located on Erf 5985, Portion No. 181 of the Farm Vanderbijlpark 550- IQ, Vereeniging within Emfuleni Local Municipality, in the Gauteng Province. The site is bound by Steve Tshwete Street and Peter Skhosana Street, in Tshepiso Ext 3.*

*The proposed project is aimed at providing “sustainable” produce and ecologically responsible practices will be incorporated into the life cycle of the development. The layout plan of the preferred alternative has been developed based on the outcome of the specialist studies and sensitivity mapping. The total development footprint would thus be 2 ha.*

*The site is currently serviced by the Municipality and services are available. Access roads to and on the site are already in existence. The proposed school facility to be constructed will comprise the following buildings of 28 classrooms.*

*The proposed construction of school will consist of: 5 grade R classrooms, 1 administration building, 1 multipurpose room, Ablution facilities, 1 laboratory, 1 library, 1 computer room, Fencing.*

### **(b) Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc).**

*School: Tshepiso Primary School proposed development. The school facility to be constructed will comprise the buildings with 28 classrooms.*

### **(c) Whether re-zoning and/or subdivision of land is involved.**

*The proposed site is not requiring any re-zoning or subdivision. The proposed site is 4.5 hectares and footprint of 2 hectares.*

### **(d) Developer and consultant and owner and name and contact details;**

**Prepared for: Developer and owner**

**Owner:**

Department of Education,  
6 Samuel Street, Sebokeng, Vanderbijlpark, 1983  
Private Bag X067, Vanderbijlpark, Gauteng, 1900  
Tel: 016 594 9100

**Consultants:**

Lesekha Consulting,

Contact Person: Lesego Senna

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**(e) Terms of Reference**

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

**(f) Legislative requirements of Act 25 of 1999.****Protected sites in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999**

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Paleontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or objects, which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

## **E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA**

Early industrial and mining activities and associated infrastructural development impacted negatively on the heritage resources of the study area. These include coal collieries for the gold mines of the Witwatersrand, the Vereeniging Power station and the Vaal Water Scheme (PGS 2010, 2011; Digby Wells 2013).

The area is perhaps best known for activities and heritage remains relating to the second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). Battle sites, cemeteries, memorials, former farm localities and historic structures, that have been mostly destroyed, constitute some of the data sets from this period (Pakenham 1933; Digby Wells 2013; Van der Walt 2013). The town of Vereeniging, established in 1882 and proclaimed in 1889, was the scene of many important events during the war. Important military luminaries represented the British and Boers during the signing of the Peace Treaty, at a locality currently near the Vereeniging Refractories Recreation Hall (Digby Wells 2013)

The region also has a rich Stone Age history. The Vaal River gravels are particularly well-known for vast numbers of lithics from the Earlier Stone Age (ESA). Well-known sites along the Vaal and Klip rivers include Klipplaatdrif, the Klip River Quarry site and the Duncanville Archaeological Reserve (Söhnge *et al.* 1937; Le Roux 1951; Mason 1968; Digby Wells 2013). Characteristic Large Cutting Tools (LCTs) of the ESA in the form of handaxes, cleavers and picks are iconic lithics. These tool types occur in large numbers in association with scraper forms and flakes. During this period landscape use by the early hominins shows a focus on water sources (Hallinan 2013). Deacon & Deacon (1999) argue that such a specialist, or stenotopic, pattern of landscape use was tied to both ecological and behavioural aspects. MacKay *et al.* (2014) argue that activities that relate to the acquisition of water, food and tool production, and perhaps also social activities, were mostly undertaken in open landscape settings. Open sites consequently constitute a major source of data on in particular the earlier periods when rock shelters were rarely used. In the study region the secure water sources also offered other subsistence resources such as raw materials for the production of stone tools, and an abundance of plant and animal foods. It is therefore not surprising that there are an abundance of sites along the Vaal and Klip rivers and huge numbers of the ESA Oldowan, and in particular the Acheulean, stone tools are present in river gravels (Digby Wells 2013; Van Schalkwyk 2013). Localities in the study area that date to the ESA constitute exceptionally important heritage resources and all developments should take the possible presence of sub-surface lithics into account.

Middle Stone Age (MSA) localities in the region are not as well-known (Thackeray 1992). Some MSA occurrences of low significance have been recorded. Nevertheless, as the MSA occur extensively in most regions of southern Africa, this should be borne in mind when developments are undertaken in the study area.

A remarkable locality near Redan contains numerous and mainly geographic rock engravings from the Later Stone Age (LSA) (Van Riet Lowe 1952; Mason 1962; Prins 2007). This fenced

Provincial Heritage Site is spread over more than 4000 square metres on the remainder of Portion 29 of the farm Kookfontein 545 IQ. Digby Wells (2007) commented on a report by Matakoma by W Fourie (2007) who documented LSA scatters at Bankfontein in secondary contexts. Digby Wells (2007) recommend that site MHC003 had to be re-evaluated when the then dense vegetation cover would allow further investigations.

African farmer stone-walled sites represent another major heritage resource as the Highveld region was settled by later African communities, in particular near Heidelberg and in the Suikerbosrand area, and in particularly in the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve (Mason 1962, 1968; National Cultural History Museum 1999). Mason (1968) recorded numerous sites with aerial photography. Wits archaeology has subsequently undertaken research at Suikerbosrand (Huffman et al. 2006/2007; McQuilkan 2009). Coetzee (2013) in an HIA recorded an absence of Iron Age settlements on the Farm Vischgat 467 LR in the Midvaal Local Municipality.

## **F. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

### **(a) Details of area surveyed:**

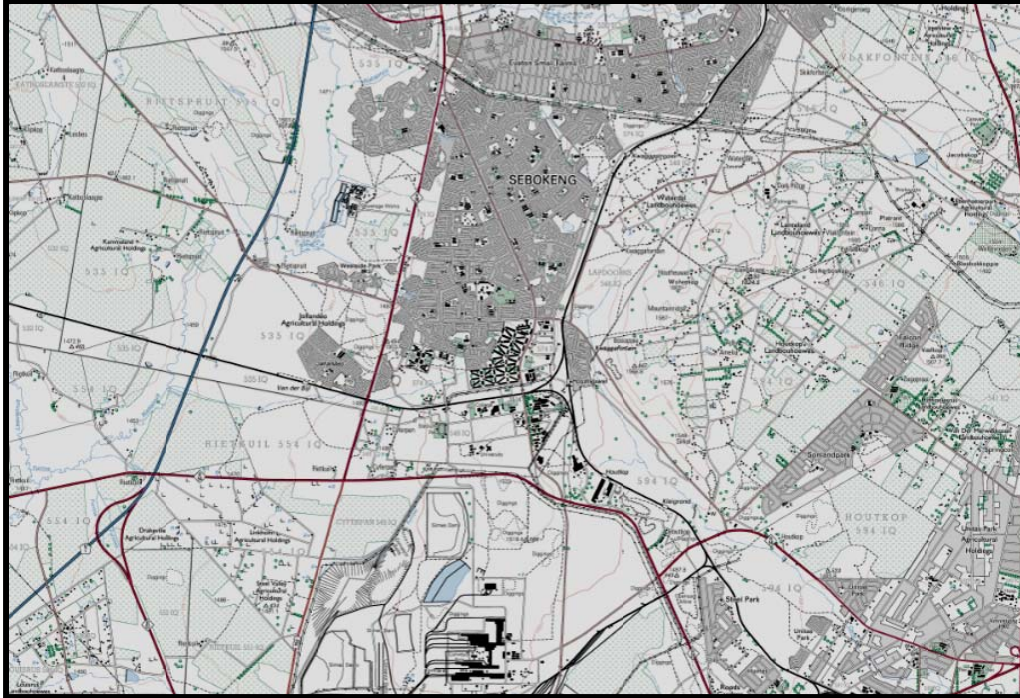
- Full location Data for Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority and property (e.g. farm/erf) name and number etc.;

Tshepiso Primary school will be developed on Erf No. 5988 of Portion No. 181 of the Farm Vanderbijlpark No. 550- IQ; Tshepiso Extension 3, Sedibeng East within the jurisdiction of Emfuleni Local Municipality, Sedibeng District Municipality, in the Gauteng Province. The site is bound by Steve Tshwete Street and Peter Skhosana.

### **(b) Methodology**

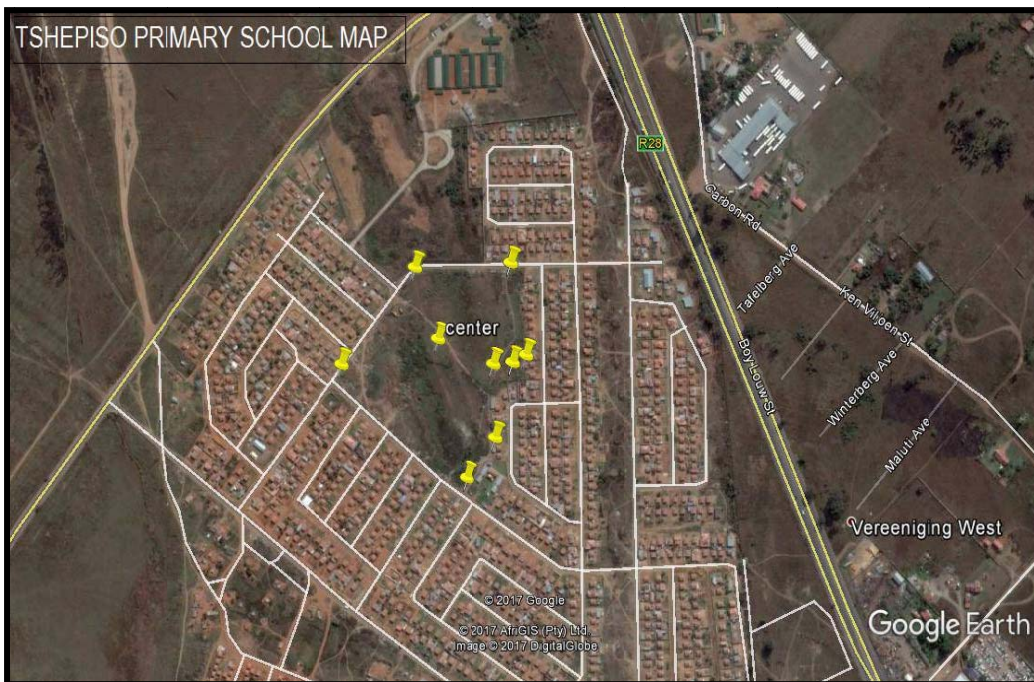
The site was inspected on foot and recorded. The site is at present used as a rubbish dump by locals. Visibility was bad because of all the rubbish.

- Location map(s)/ orthophotos of the general area. These must include the map name and number (e.g. 3313 DC Bellville). Maps must include at least a 1:50 000 and (if) available also a 1:10 000 (i.e. most detail possible). Large scale colour satellite photos make a useful addition. Maps should be preferable at least A4 size.



**1.50 000 Map: Vereeniging 2627 DB see enlargement on page: 15**

- Either the Location Map or the Site Map must have the polygon of the area surveyed marked on it and full geographical co-ordinates for all relevant points and where applicable, indication of the area to be developed (footprint).



**Co-ordinate: S26° 39'15.71" & E27° 52' 37.09"**

**Google map enlargement see page: 14**



## G. RESULTS

The site lies in a township surrounded by houses. The local people use the site for rubbish and garden rubble dumping. At places soil has been excavated for filling and gardening. The site is also over grown by weed - see photographs.



Excavated areas for  
gardening filling



Areas where rubbish and  
garden rubble is dumped



No important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves are present on the site

**H. DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTEFACTS, FAUNAL. BOTANICAL OR OTHER RINDS AND FEATURES**

None

**I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES**

None

**J. EVALUATION AND RATING (FIELD RATING)**

Not applicable

**K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (HERITAGE VALUE)**

Not applicable

**L. RECOMMENDATIONS AN CONCLUSION**

The proposed development site is in a bad state because of dumping. No important Cultural Heritage Resources or graves are present on the site. There is no objection to the proposed development from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

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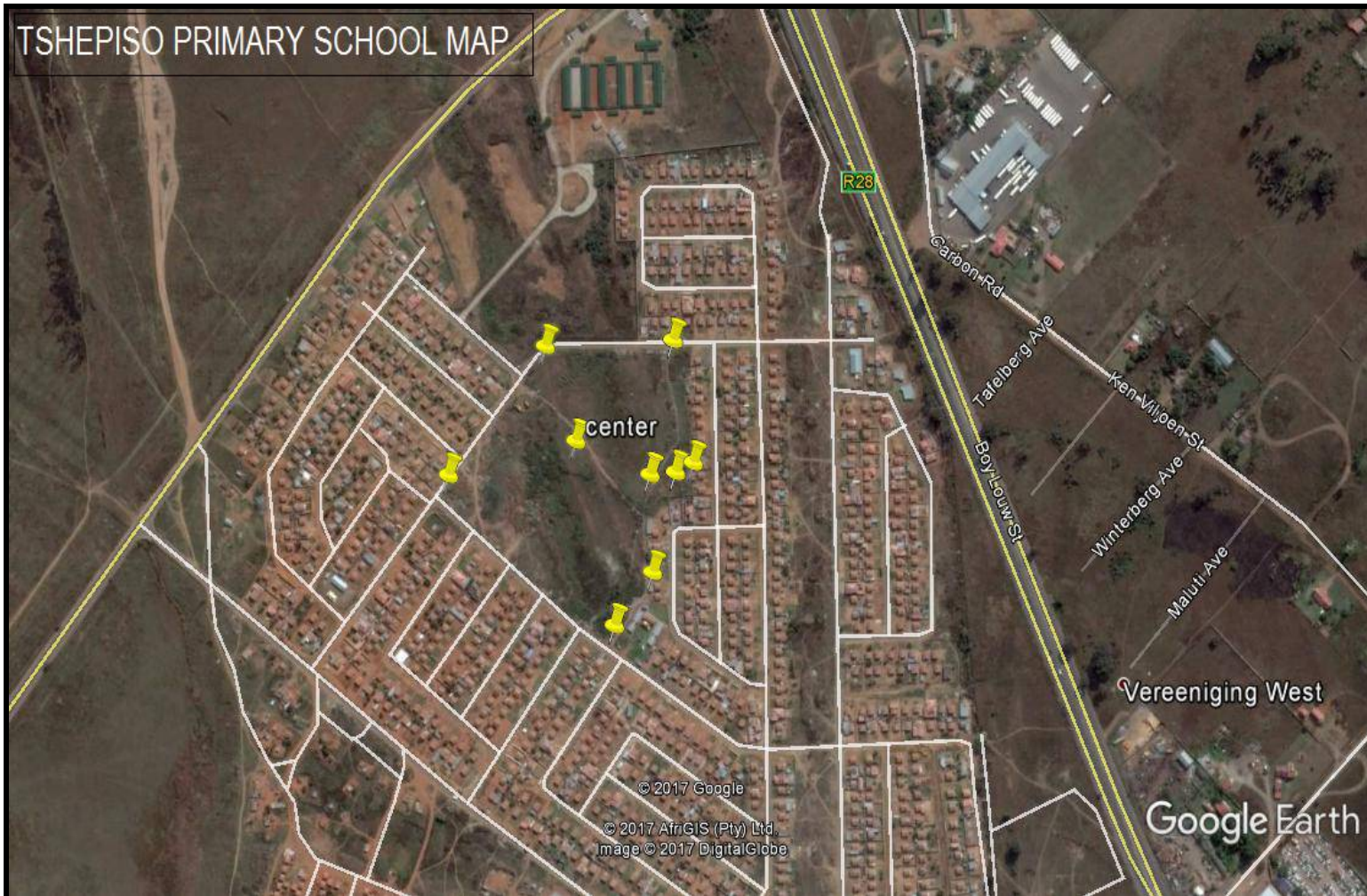
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## **N. APPENDICES**

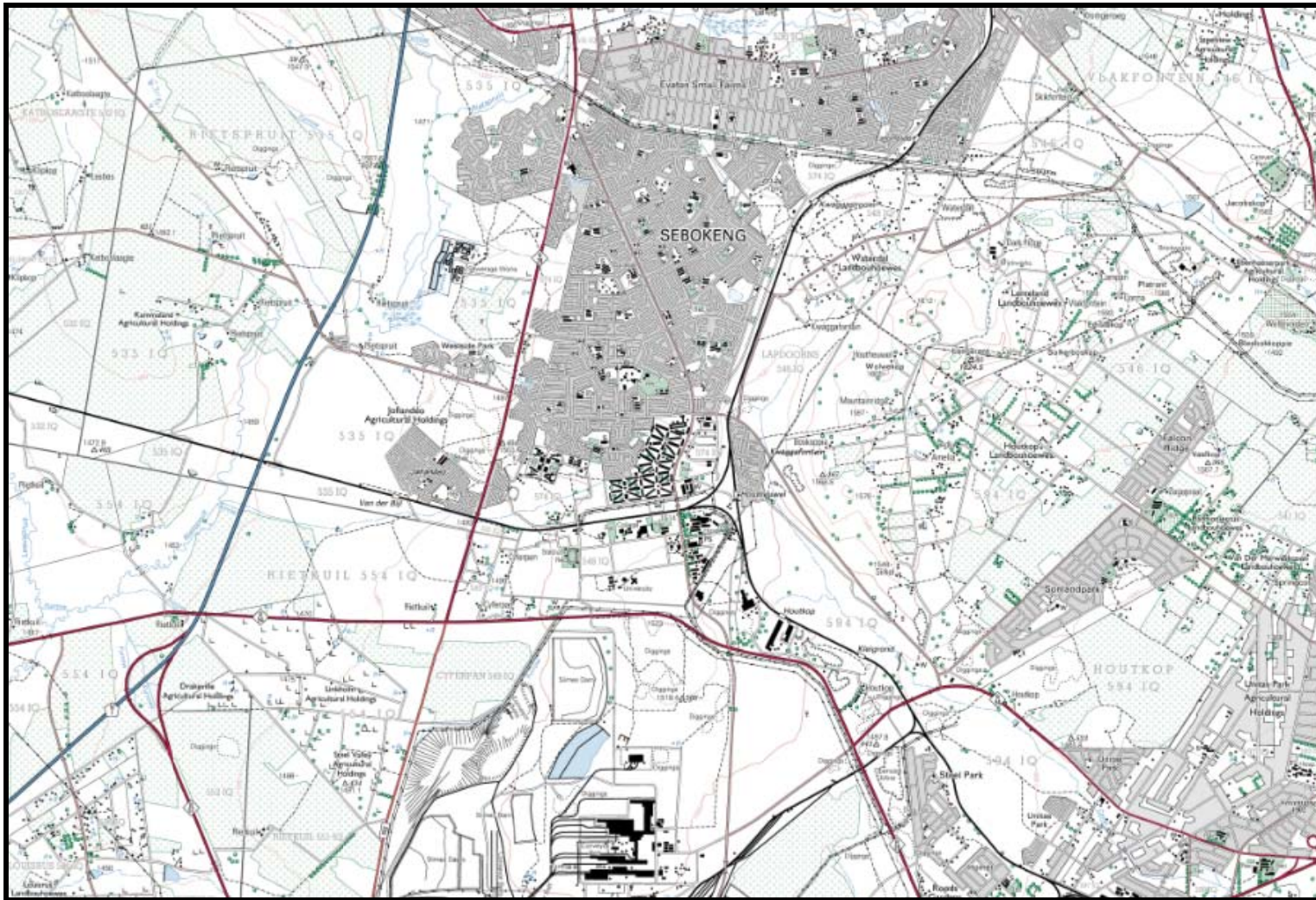
- Google Map page: 14
- 1/50 000 Map Vereeniging 2627 DB: 15.





**Google Image: Co-ordinates S26° 39' 15.71" & E27° 52' 37.09"**





*1.50 000 Map: Vereeniging 2627 DB*