

CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED MAPHUMULO CAUSEWAY, MAPHUMULO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL.

For: Enviroedge Environmental Consultants



ACTIVE HERITAGE CC.

Prepared by:

Frans Prins

Active Heritage cc

Cell.: 0834739657

Email: activeheritage@gmail.com

Sian Hall

Cultural Solutions

Cell.: 0835300273

Email: active.heritage.africa@gmail.com

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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)
NPA	Natal Provincial Authority
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

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following is a cultural heritage survey of the proposed Maphumulo Causeway Bridge, in the Maphumulo Local Municipality, approximately 36 km from Dalton and 34 km from Greytown, as the crow flies, in KwaZulu Natal. It is for the Maphumulo District Municipality. A Water Use Licence Applications (WULA in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) may be required.

Although a homestead lies 211 metres to the north-west, and another 340 metres to the south-east of the proposed construction (Fig 3), it is unlikely that any heritage material from the surrounding communities will be disturbed by the construction of this bridge since the area of construction is likely to be contained for such a small-scale project. It is however advised that during construction care should be taken not to allow disturbance of the landscape to intrude into the residential and operational zone of the associated community since heritage material is often associated with habitation areas, including graves and other cultural material.

We would also like to draw stakeholders attention to the South African National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA), and the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 4 of 2008), which requires that operations that expose archaeological, or historical remains should cease immediately, pending evaluation by the provincial heritage agency.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELATING TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF MATHAMO BRIDGE

Enviroedge Consultants have been contracted to conduct an Environmental Heritage Assessment for the proposed Maphumulo Causeway in the Maphumulo Local Municipality, close to Greytown and Dalton. The proposed Maphumulo Causeway structure will be constructed across a wide confluence of the uMvoti River.

The proposed structure will consist of a 5.8 m wide concrete paved roadway at river bed level, which will be vented at low flow river channels. The structure will be a 140 m long level causeway section. Other works include grading and making good of 2 km of approach road sections. The project is located in Ward 11 of Maphumulo local municipality and will directly benefit 1505 households of Ward 11 villages.



Plate 1. Site of the proposed Maphumulo Causeway (photograph by S Whitaker).

The co-ordinates for the proposed causeway are: 29°15'11.23"S 30°59'52.80"E. It is situated adjacent to the Umvoti River (Plate 1). The proposed activity triggers Activities 12 and 19 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983) of 2014 published under NEMA. The aforementioned proposed project in terms of Section 21 (c) and (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) also requires a Water Use License application (WULA) (ibid).

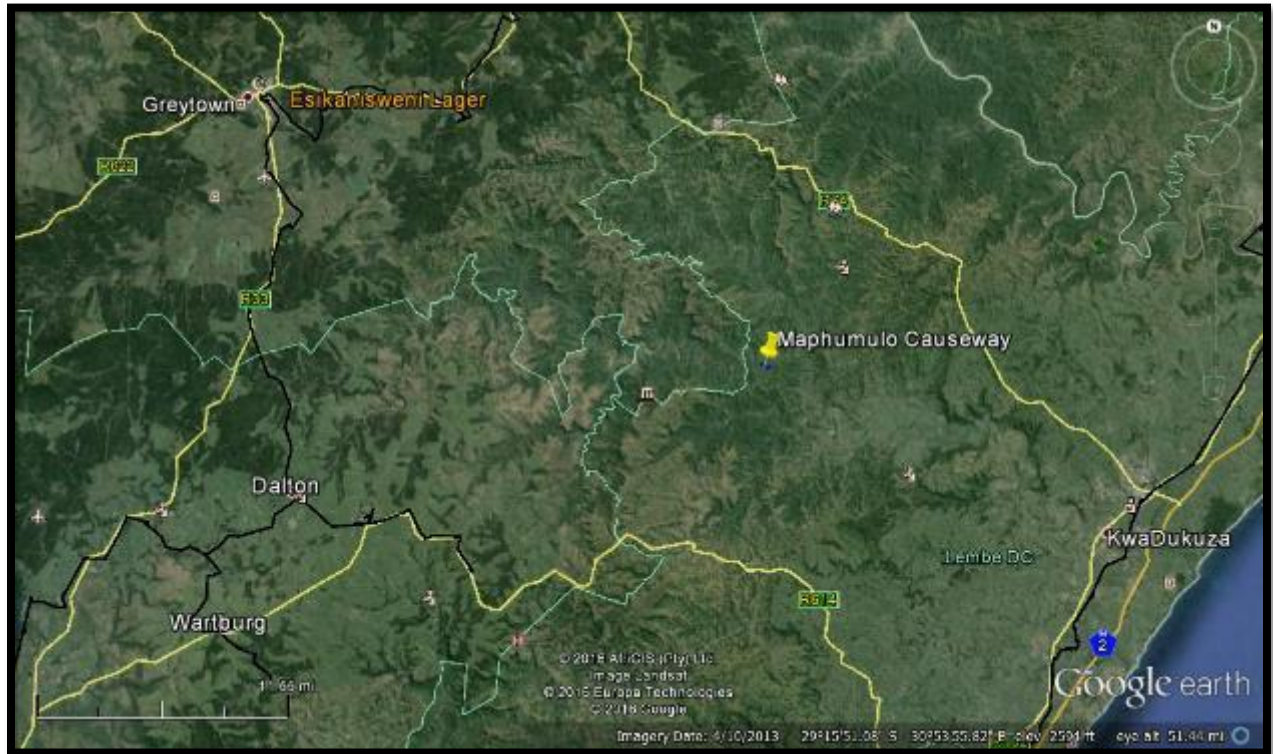


Figure 1. Location of the proposed Maphumulo Causeway.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT PARAMATERS

The consultant, Active Heritage, was approached by Enviroedge Environmental Consultants to conduct a heritage impact assessment (HIA) of the proposed establishment of the Maphumulo Causeway for the authorised Maphumulo Local Municipality. The Applicant, has appointed Enviroedge Environmental Consultants to conduct the Basis Assessment Process for the proposed development.

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. Based on the significance, the impact of the development on the heritage resources would be determined. Then 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 in the community, or 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.

Consultants:	Frans Prins (Active Heritage cc) and Sian Hall (Cultural Solutions) for Enviroedge Environmental Consultants
Type of development:	The Applicant, Maphumulo Local Municipality, propose to establish a causeway over a wide confluence of the Umvoti River near Greytown, Dalton and Kranskop, Maphumulo Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal. In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations under Section 24(5), 24M and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) published in Government Notice No. R. 543 of 2010, the proposed development triggers Listed Activities published in Government Notice No R. 544: The proposed activity triggers Activities 12 and 19 of Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983) of 2014 published under NEMA. The aforementioned proposed project in terms of Section 21 (c) and (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) also requires a Water Use License application (WULA).
Rezoning or subdivision:	Not applicable
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 KwaZulu Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 4 of 2008)

Table 1. Background Information.

4. BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT AREA

The project area is situated in the Maphumulo Local Municipality with the closest towns being Greytown, Dalton and Kranskop. The GPS coordinates of the footprint is as follows: 29°15'11.23"S 30°59'52.80"E.

The footprint is situated adjacent to the Umvoti River, in a rural setting. The study area is dominated by Valley Bushveld and riverine vegetation (Plate 2). The proposed area identified for the causeway is located on the Umvoti River (Plate 1)). The project area is located in Ward 11 of Maphumulo Local Municipality, and is believed by the stakeholders to directly benefit 1, 505 households on War 11 villages (Fig 2).



Plate 2. Proposed location of the Maphumulo Causeway. There is no human habitation in the immediate vicinity of the footprint (photograph by S Whitaker).



Plate 3. No heritage sites occur in the immediate vicinity of the Umvoti River on the proposed footprint (photograph by S Whitaker).



Figure 2. The Area immediately adjacent to the proposed Maphumulo Causeway.

5. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE AREA

The archaeological history of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) dates back to about 2 million years and possibly older, which marks the beginning of the Stone Age. The Stone Age in KZN was extensively researched by Professor Oliver Davies formerly of the Natal Museum. The Stone Age period has been divided in to three periods namely: Early Stone Age (ESA) dating between 2 million years ago to about 200 000 years ago, Middle Stone Age (MSA) dating between 200 000 years ago to about 30 000 years ago, and the Later Stone Age (LSA) which dates from 30 000 to about 2 000 year ago.

The Stone Age period ends around approximately 2 000 years ago when Bantu Speaking Age farmers from the north arrived in southern Africa. The Iron Age is also divided into three periods,

namely: Early Iron Age (EIA) dating between AD 200 and AD 900, Middle Iron Age (MIA), dating between AD 900 and AD 1300, Late Iron Age (LIA) dating between AD 1 300 and 1 820.

2.1 Stone Age

2.1.1 Early Stone Age (ESA)

The ESA is considered as the beginning of the stone tool technology. It dates back to over 2 million years ago until 200 000 years ago. This period is characterised by Oldowan and Acheulean industries. The Oldowan Industry, dating to approximately between over 2 million years and 1.7 million years predates the later Acheulean. The Oldowan Industry consists of very simple, crudely made core tools from which flakes are struck a couple of times. To date, there is no consensus amongst archaeologists as to which hominid species manufactured these artefacts.

The Acheulean Industry lasted from about 1.7 million years until 200 thousand years ago. Acheulean tools were more specialized tools than those of the earlier industry. They were shaped intentionally to carry out specific tasks such as hacking and bashing to remove limbs from animals and marrow from bone. These duties were performed using the large sharp pointed artefacts known as handaxes. Cleavers, with their sharp, flat cutting edges were used to carry out more heavy duty butchering activities (Esterhuysen, 2007).

The ESA technology lasted for a very long time, from early to middle Pleistocene, and thus seems to have been sufficient to meet the needs of early hominids and their ancestors. Although not identified on the footprint, ESA tools occurrence have been reported in other sites in KZN. Apart from stone artefacts, the ESA sites in this Province have produced very little as regards other archaeological remains. This has made it difficult to make inferences pointing to economical dynamics of the ESA people in this part of the world. The diet of ESA peoples has therefore had to be reconstructed on the basis of evidence from elsewhere that it comprised primarily of animal and plant foods (Mazel 1989).

2.1.2 Middle Stone Age (MSA)

The MSA dates to between 200 000 and 30 000 years ago, coinciding with the emergence of modern humans. The MSA technology is therefore believed to have been manufactured by fully modern humans known as *Homo sapiens* who emerged around 250 000 years ago. While some of the sites belonging to this time period occur in similar contexts as those of ESA, most of the MSA sites are located in rock shelters.

Palaeoenvironmental data suggest that the distribution of MSA sites in the high lying Drakensberg and surrounding areas was influenced by the climate conditions, specifically the amount and duration of snow (Carter, 1976). In general, the MSA stone tools are smaller than those of the ESA. Although some MSA tools are made from prepared cores, the majority of MSA flakes are rather irregular and are probably waste material from knapping exercises.

A variety of MSA tools include blades, flakes, scrapers and pointed tools that may have been hafted onto shafts, or handles and used as spearheads. Between 70 000 and 60 000 years ago new tool types appear known as segments and trapezoids. These tool types are referred to as backed tools from the method of preparation. Residue analyses on the backed tools from South African MSA sites, including those in KZN, indicate that these tools were certainly used as spear heads and perhaps even arrow points (Wadley, 2007). A few sites with impressive MSA deposits have been excavated in KZN. Perhaps the best known ones are Sibudu Cave and Umhlatuzana Cave to the south east of the study area, and Border Cave to the north of the study area. All these sites provided impressive evidence for fine resolution data and detailed stratigraphy (Wadley & Jacobs, 2006).

2.1.3 Late Stone Age (LSA)

Compared to the earlier MSA and ESA, more is known about the LSA which dates from around 30 000 to 2 000 (possibly later) years ago. This is because LSA sites are more recent than ESA and MSA sites and therefore achieve better preservation of a greater variety of organic archaeological material. The Later Stone Age is usually associated with the San (Bushmen) or their direct

ancestors. The tools during this period were even smaller and more diverse than those of the preceding Middle Stone Age period.

LSA tool technology is observed to display rapid stylistic change compared to the slower pace in the MSA. The rapidity is more evident during the last 10 000 years. The LSA tool sequence includes informal small blade tradition from about 22 000 – 12 000 years ago, a scraper and adze-rich industry between 12 000 – 8 000 years ago, a backed tool and small scraper industry between 8 000 – 4 000 years, and ending with a variable set of other industries thereafter (Wadley, 2007).

Adzes are thought to be wood working tools and may have also been used to make digging sticks and handles for tools. Scrapers are tools that are thought to have been used to prepare hides for clothing and manufacture of other leather items. Backed tools may have been used for cutting as well as tips for arrows. It was also during Later Stone Age times that the bow and arrow was introduced into southern Africa – perhaps around 20 000 years ago. Because of the bow and arrow and the use of traps and snares, Later Stone Age people were far more efficient in exploiting their natural environment than Middle Stone Age people.

Up until 2 000 years ago Later Stone Age people dominated the southern African landscape. However, shortly after 2 000 years ago the first Khoi herders and Bantu-speaking agro-pastoralists immigrated into southern Africa from the north. This led to major demographic changes in the population distribution of the subcontinent. San hunter-gatherers were either assimilated, or moved off to more marginal environments such as the Kalahari Desert or some mountain ranges unsuitable for small-scale subsistence farming and herding.

The San in the coastal areas of KZN were the first to have been displaced by incoming African agro-pastoralists. However, some independent groups continue to practice their hunter-gatherer lifestyle in the foothills of the Drakensberg, until the period of white Colonisation around the 1840's (Wright & Mazel, 2007). According to the Natal Museum archaeological database Later Stone Age sites have been located in the Tugela River in the past but these are mostly restricted to surface scatters.

Also dating to the LSA period is the impressive Rock Art found on cave walls and rock faces. Rock Art can be in the form of rock paintings, or rock engravings. The province of KZN is renowned for the prolific San rock painting sites concentrated in the Drakensberg. Rock art sites do occur outside the Drakensberg including Zululand however, these sites have not been afforded similar research attention as those sites occurring in the Drakensberg. Nevertheless, there are no rock art sites found within the immediate vicinity of study area, which may be due to the lack of the suitable geology.

2.2 Iron Age

2.2.1 Early Iron Age (EIA)

Unlike the Stone Age people whose life styles were arguably egalitarian, Iron Age people led quite complex life styles. Their way of life of greater dependence on agriculture necessitated more sedentary settlements. They cultivated crops and kept domestic animals such as cattle, sheep, goats and dogs. Pottery production is also an important feature of Iron Age communities. Iron smelting was practiced quite significantly by Iron Age society as they had to produce iron implements for agricultural use.

Although Iron Age people occasionally hunted and gathered wild plants and shellfish, the bulk of their diet consisted of the crops they cultivated as well as the meat of the animals they kept. EIA villages were relatively large settlements strategically located in valleys beside rivers to take advantage of the fertile alluvial soils for growing crops (Maggs, 1989). The EIA sites in KZN date to around AD 500 to AD 900. Extensive research in the province of this period led to it being divided in the following time lines according to ceramic styles (Maggs, 1989; Huffman 2007):

_ Msuluzi (AD 500);

_ Ndondondwane (AD 700 – 800);

_ Ntshekane (AD 800 – 900).

2.2.2 Late Iron Age (LIA)

The LIA is not only distinguished from the EIA by greater regional diversity of pottery styles, but is also marked by extensive stone wall settlements. However, in this part of the world, stone walls were not common as the Nguni people used thatch and wood to build their houses. Trade played a major role in the economy of LIA societies. Goods were traded locally and over long distances. The main trade goods included metal, salt, grain, cattle and thatch. This led to the establishment of economically driven centres and the growth of trade wealth. Keeping of domestic animals, metal work and the cultivation of crops continued with a change in the organisation of economic activities. Evidence for this stems from the fact that iron smelting evidence was not found in almost every settlement (Maggs, 1989; Huffman 2007).

2.3 Historic Period

Oral tradition is the basis of the evidence of historical events that took place before history could be recorded. This kind of evidence becomes even more reliable in cases where archaeology could be utilised to back up the oral records. Sources of evidence for socio-political organization during the mid-eighteenth to early nineteenth century in the study area and the larger former Natal Province suggest that the people here existed in numerous small-scale political units of different sizes, population numbers and political structures (Wright & Hamilton, 1989).

This period was largely characterised by instability as political skirmishes broke out due to the thirst for power and resources between chiefdoms. During the 2nd half of the eighteenth century, stronger chiefdoms and paramouncies emerged. However, these were not fully grown states as there was no proper formal central political body established. This changed in the 1780's when a shift towards a more centralized political state occurred. This shift was mainly characterized by population growth and geographical expansion of states.

The most important and largest and strongest states at the time were the Mabhudu, Ndwandwe and Mthethwa. However, other smaller states, also established themselves in the greater Tugela Region. These included in the south the Qwabe, Bhaca, Mbo, Hlubi, Bhele, Ngwane and many others (Wright & Hamilton, 1989). The Zulu kingdom, established by King Shaka however remained the most powerful in the region in the early years of the 19th century. Shaka fought ruthlessly and often defeated his rivals and

conquered their cattle, wives and even burnt their villages. These wars are often referred to as Difaqane and this period was characterised by blood shedding.

Shaka was assassinated in 1828 at which time he had transformed the nature of the society in the Natal and Zululand regions. He was succeeded by Dingaan (Wright & Hamilton, 1989). Dutch farmers unhappy with the British rule in Cape Town decided to explore into the interior of the country, away from British rule. Some groups remained in the Eastern Cape, others kept going and a few settled in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. A great number, led by Piet Retief and Gerrit Maritz, crossed the Drakensberg into Natal.

Here they encountered the Zulus who lured them into a trap and brutally massacred many of them. This was only one of the many failures of the white settler expeditions in the frontier areas, and when the shocking news reached the Cape, more groups were sent to the interior to enact revenge. A series of battles were fought but the most notable was the Battle of Blood River in 1838 where the Boers defeated the Zulus. This ended the Zulu threat to the white settlers and a permanent and formal settlement in Natal was established. However the Zulu kingdom remained independent for a couple of decades.

The Republic of Natalia was annexed by the British in 1845, and in 1879 the Zulu kingdom was also invaded (Wright & Hamilton, 1989). The Anglo-Zulu War has been well recorded and an important occurrence took place at Jamesons Drift, in the project area, when a few British soldiers attempted to cross the Thukela River after their defeat at the battle of Isandlwana. Although no relicts or artefacts survive from this encounter the surrounding landscape is still imbued with the meaning of this important period in the colonial history of KwaZulu-Natal.

6. BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE SURVEY

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. In addition, the archaeological database of the

KwaZulu-Natal Museum was consulted. The SAHRIS website was also consulted in order to evaluate previous heritage surveys in the area.

A ground survey following standard and accepted archaeological procedures took place on 1 March 2016.

6.2. Restrictions Encountered During the Survey

Visibility:

Visibility was good.

Disturbance:

There was general disturbance associated with a traditional rural landscape upon which people live, including cleared land, pathways, fields and evidence for burning. However, no disturbed heritage sites were observed.

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. Nearby Homesteads

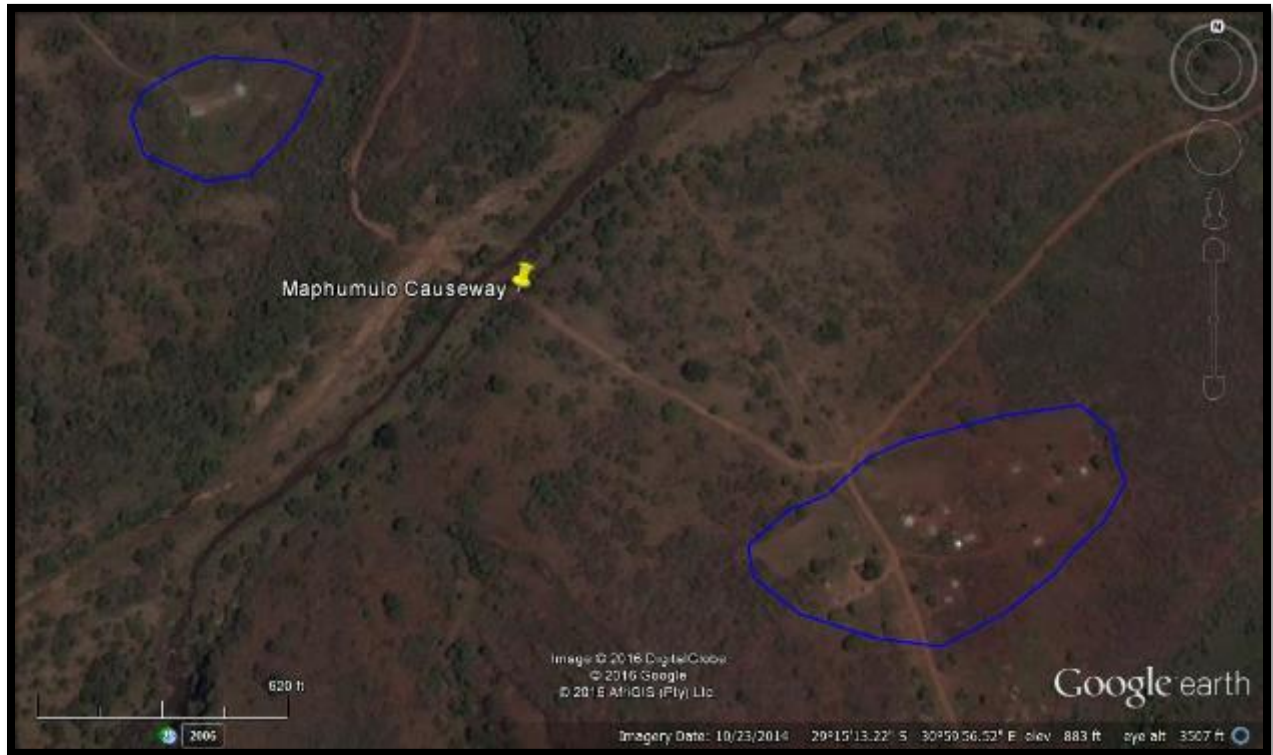


Figure 3. Maphumulo Homesteads close to the proposed Construction Site.

Only two homesteads lie in the close vicinity of the proposed location of the causeway. The first lies 211 metres to the north-west, and the other 340 metres to the south-east of the proposed construction. It is highly unlikely that the proposed construction will in any way affect these homesteads.

7.2 Heritage Material Located Within the Greater Area

A number of historical sites of different time periods, and different forms and features are to be found within the general area. These include:

- Archaeological Sites
- Historical Sites
- Battle Sites
- Cemeteries
- Graves
- Churches
- Monuments
- Houses

None of these, or any other sites, will be affected by the proposed construction of the Maphumulo Causeway. In addition, no heritage sites and graves occur in the immediate vicinity of the footprint (Plates 1 -3).

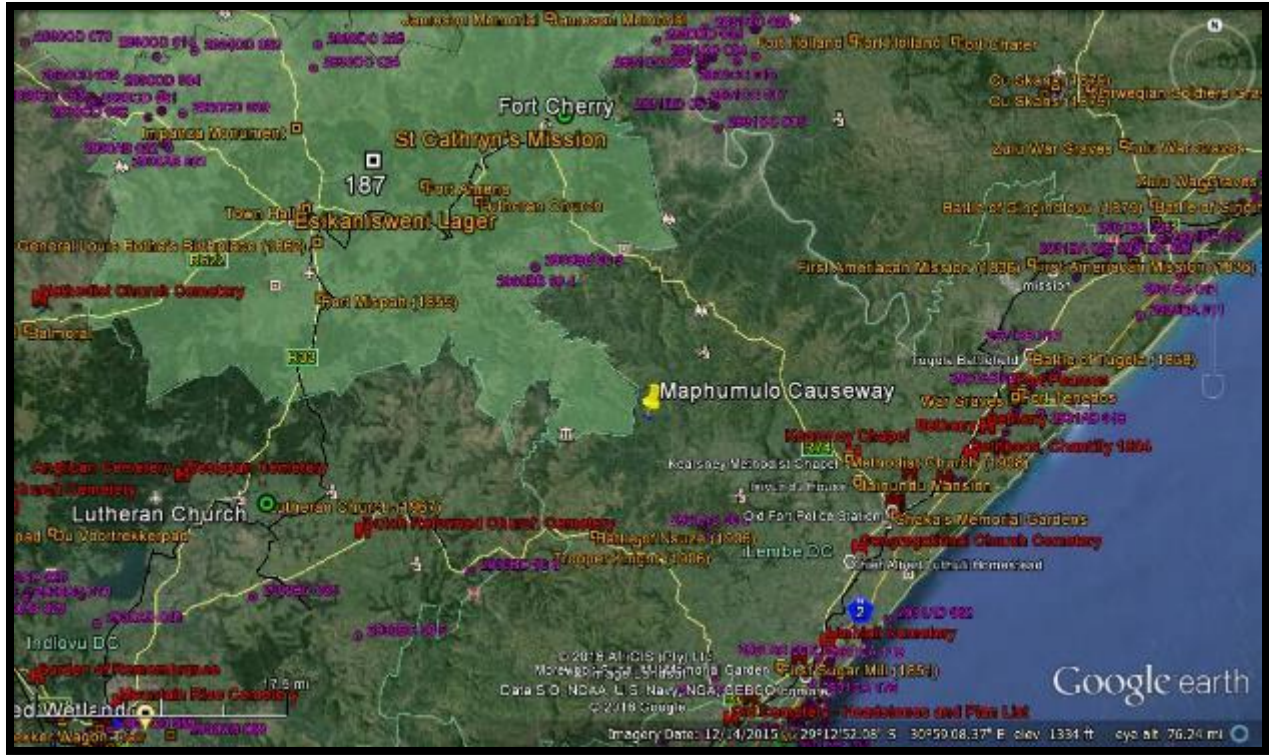


Figure 4. Heritage Sites within the general area of the proposed Causeway.

7.3 Mitigation of the Proposed Maphumulo Causeway

No mitigation is required.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (HERITAGE VALUE

8.1. Field Rating

The SAHRA system of Field Rating is applicable to this project. Table 2 of SAHRA Field Rating below provides levels of rating.

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

Table 2. Field rating and recommended grading of sites (SAHRA 2005)

The Field Rating Table compiled by SAHRA is not applicable in this regard.

9. CONCLUSION

It appears that there are no archaeological, or Heritage Features that fall within the immediate vicinity of the proposed construction site. It also appears that the existing homesteads within the immediate vicinity of the proposed causeway construction site will not be impacted during the construction. Heritage Features within the wider general area will not be impacted by the proposed construction.

Great care should also be taken to ensure that construction work does not impact upon the residential and operation areas of the adjacent communities since these areas will have various heritage and cultural features within their domestic areas, and upon the landscape that will be damaged by careless construction.

We would also like to suggest (as an aside) that in a rural area such as this, where outsiders are introduced for a short period of time, that AIDS and STD Education be introduced prior to construction work, in schools, and in public forums to guard against the spread of disease.

It should also be born in mind that the possibility does exist that hidden homesteads, graves and archaeological features may lie below the surface, and could possibly be unearthed during construction. We would therefore like to draw stakeholders attention to the South African National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) (NHRA), and the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act (Act No. 4 of 2008), which requires that operations that expose archaeological, or historical remains should cease immediately, pending evaluation by the provincial heritage agency.

10. REFERENCES

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