

Phase 1 Archaeological Survey on the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet
435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU, Nkomazi, Mpumalanga Province.

Compiled by:



For Henwood Environmental Solutions

Surveyor: Mr JP Celliers

30 June, 2016

I, Jean-Pierre Celliers as duly authorised representative of Kudzala Antiquity CC, hereby confirm my independence as a specialist and declare that neither I nor the Kudzala Antiquity CC have any interest, be it business, financial, personal or other, in any proposed activity, application or appeal in respect of which the client was appointed as Environmental Assessment practitioner, other than fair remuneration for work performed on this project.

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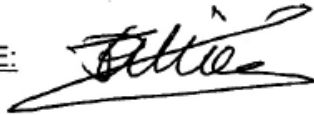
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Celliers', written over a horizontal line.

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Executive summary

Site name and location: The farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU in Nkomazi district, Mpumalanga Province.

Purpose of the study: An Archaeological and historic study in order to identify heritage resources on the property.

1:50 000 Topographical Maps: 2531 DB (1968, 1984, 2003).

EIA Consultant: Henwood Environmental Solutions.

Client: Mawecro Farming (Crookes Brothers Limited)

Heritage Consultant: Kudzala Antiquity CC.

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Report date: 30 June 2016

Description and findings:

An Archaeological Impact Assessment and resource survey was undertaken by Kudzala Antiquity CC in respect of proposed agricultural expansion and infrastructure development on the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU in the Nkomazi Local Municipality and near the town of Komatipoort, Mpumalanga Province. These farms are some of the properties of Mawecro Farming which are managed by the Crookes Brothers Ltd.

The study was done with the aim of identifying sites which are of heritage significance on the property and assessing their current preservation condition, significance and possible impact of the proposed development and expansion activities. This forms part of legislative requirements as appears in section 38 of the National Heritage Resources act (25 of 1999) and the NEMA (17 of 1998).

The survey was conducted on foot and a motor vehicle in an effort to locate archaeological remains and historic sites and features. An archival study in combination with social consultation formed the basis on which sites were identified, located and assessed.

A total of twenty six sites and features were located and documented (sites MF1-26). A further four sites were documented for survey orientation purposes (sites SO1-4). The located sites include unmarked graves, the ruined remains of houses and structures, staff accommodation and utility buildings and offices. In terms of the built environment (section 34 of the NHRA, 25 of 1999) the vast majority of buildings are considered to be of low heritage significance with the exception of three buildings which are of low to medium heritage significance (sites MF14, 17 and 23) because of their approaching heritage status (i.e. approaching 60 years of age). It is recommended that these buildings be formally recorded before destruction when they reach 60

years of age. They are visible on the topographical map of 1968 so are currently at least 48 years old. Graves totalling eight from four sites (MF1, MF5-7) are regarded as highly significant (see significance rating scales fig. 5.1 & 5.2). It is recommended that they be conserved *in situ* and fenced to protect them from damage resulting from agricultural expansion activities and that family and relatives be allowed access. In the case where graves are older than 60 years they are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the graves may be relocated or exhumed. If the graves are younger than 60 years the Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies whereby a registered funeral undertaker may facilitate exhumation and reburial. Since the graves located during this survey have no headstones, social consultation with the families will form the basis on which the age of the graves will be determined.

From a heritage perspective it is therefore recommended that the proposed activities continue on the condition that the recommendations of this report regarding graves and the built environment receive attention.

Disclaimer: *Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the investigation of study areas, it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study. Kudzala Antiquity CC will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result of such oversights.*

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- The results of the project;
- The technology described in any report
- Recommendations delivered to the Client.

1. Introduction

1.1. Terms of reference

Kudzala Antiquity CC was commissioned to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment and heritage resources survey on the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU near Komatipoort in Mpumalanga. The survey was conducted in respect of the potential impact on archaeological and heritage resources which may occur on the property pending agricultural expansion and infrastructural development. The survey was conducted for Henwood Environmental Solutions.

1.2. Legislative Framework

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25, 1999) and the NEMA (National Environmental Management Act No. 107 of 1998) requires of individuals (engineers, farmers, mines and industry) or institutions to have specialist heritage impact assessment studies undertaken whenever any development activities are planned. This report is the result of an archaeological and heritage scoping study in accordance with the requirements as set out in Section 38 (3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (25 of 1999) in an effort to ensure that heritage features or sites that qualify as part of the national estate are properly managed and not damaged or destroyed.

The study aims to address the following objectives:

- Analysis of heritage issues;
- Assess the cultural significance of identified places including archaeological sites and features, buildings and structures, graves and burial grounds within a specific historic context;
- Identifying the need for more research;
- Surveying and mapping of identified places including archaeological sites and features, buildings and structures, graves and burial grounds;
- A preliminary assessment of the feasibility of the proposed development or construction from a heritage perspective;
- Identifying the need for alternatives when necessary;
- Recommending mitigation measures to address any negative impacts on archaeological and heritage resources.

Heritage resources considered to be part of the national estate include those that are of Archaeological, Cultural or historical significance or have other special value to the present community or future generations.

The national estate may include:

- places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
- places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living
- heritage;
- historical settlements and townscapes;
- landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
- geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
- archaeological and paleontological sites;
- 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 other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
- sites of significance relating to slavery in South Africa;
- movable objects including:
 - (i) objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and paleontological 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 of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).

Cultural resources are unique and non-renewable physical phenomena (of natural occurrence or made by humans) that can be associated with human (cultural) activities (Van Vollenhoven 1995:3).

These would be any man-made structure, tool, object of art or waste that was left behind on or beneath the soil surface by historic or pre-historic communities. These remains, when studied in their original context by archaeologists, are interpreted in an attempt to understand, identify and reconstruct the activities and lifestyles of past communities. When these items are disturbed from their original context,

any meaningful information they possess is lost, therefore it is important to locate and identify such remains before construction or development activities commence.

1.3. Approach

An AIA (Archaeological Impact Assessment) consists of three phases, this document deals with the first phase. This (phase 1) investigation is aimed at getting an overview of cultural resources in a given area, thereby establishing the locality, significance and assessing the possible impact a proposed development may have on these resources. This includes settlements, structures and artefacts which have value for an individual or group of people in terms of historical, archaeological, architectural, cultural and social significance.

The *aim* of this study is to locate, identify and assess the significance of cultural remains or features in order to establish whether they require further investigation or protection. This is done by means of foot surveys, a desktop or detailed archival study as well as a study of the results of previous archaeological work in the area.

When the archaeologist encounters a situation where the planned project will lead to the destruction or alteration of an archaeological site, a second phase of action is normally recommended. During a phase two investigation mitigation measures are put in place to facilitate detailed investigation into the nature and origin of the cultural material and features. Often at this stage, archaeological excavation is carried out in order to document and preserve the cultural heritage. This is followed by a third phase which consists of the compiling of a management plan for the safeguarding, conservation, interpretation and utilization of cultural resources (Van Vollenhoven, 2002).

2. Description of surveyed area

The study area falls within the Nkomazi Local Municipality, Ehlanzeni District, Mpumalanga Province. The survey was carried out on approximately 2 270 ha of land which is mostly agricultural and cultivated at present. The undeveloped land (approximately 980 ha) falls within the Tshokwane-Hlane Basalt Lowveld Bioregion. Limiting factors include the dense nature of the vegetation which are often hard to access and also limits the visibility of archaeological and heritage sites and features.

Veld type: The vegetation forms part of the Savanna Biome and classed as the Tshokwane-Hlane Basalt Lowveld Bioregion. This comprises flat plains with open tree savanna with *Acacia nigrescens* and *Sclerocarya birea* dominating a moderately developed shrub layer and dense herbaceous layer. (Mucina and Rutherford, 2009).

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Geology: The Letaba formation basalts of the Karoo Supergroup give rise to black, brown or red clay soils which are usually not more than 1 metre deep (Mucina and Rutherford, 2009).

3. Methodology

An archival study followed by a physical survey of the proposed development area was conducted. Social consultation formed an integral part of this. This was done to assess whether graves or features of historical or archaeological value exist on the property. Limiting factors include the dense nature of the vegetation which limits the visibility of archaeological and heritage sites and features.

Social Consultation: During the survey, managers of and workers on the property were consulted to establish whether any graves and other sites of possible heritage significance are located in the area. The informants consulted in this regard were farm manager Mr Jaco Badenhorst who has been working on the farm for 12 years, Mr Albie Harmse, estate Accountant, Mr Isaac Mandlazi a farm labourer since age 15 and Mr Francisco Shongo, farm labourer since 1993.

Historical maps: Historical maps obtained during the archival search were scrutinized and features that were regarded as important in terms of heritage value were identified and if they were located within the boundaries of the project area they were physically visited in an effort to determine whether they:

- (i) still exist
- (ii) assess their current condition, and
- (iii) significance

SAHRA (South African Heritage Resources Agency) and the relevant legislation (Act 25 of 1999, National Heritage Resources Act) require that the following components be included in an Archaeological impact assessment:

- Archaeology
- Shipwrecks
- Battlefields
- Graves
- Structures older than 60 years
- Living heritage
- Historical settlements
- Landscapes
- Geological sites
- Paleontological sites and objects

All the above-mentioned heritage components are addressed in this report, except shipwrecks, geological sites and paleontological sites and objects.

3.1. Desktop study

The purpose of the desktop study is to compile as much information as possible on the heritage resources of the area. This helps to provide an historical context for located sites. Sources used for this study include published and unpublished documents, archival material and maps. Information obtained from the following institutions or individuals were consulted:

- Lydenburg Museum, Lydenburg
- Published and unpublished archaeological reports and articles
- Published and unpublished historical reports and articles
- Historical maps
- SAHRIS database

3.1.1. Previous Archaeological studies in the area

Some Archaeological Impact Assessments (AIA) has been conducted in the vicinity of the study area. An AIA was conducted in 2013 on Portions of the farms Guillaume 480 JU, Steenbok 493 JU and Wanhoop 485 by Mr JP Celliers. No sites or features of heritage significance was located or documented during this survey.

Mr Neels Kruger conducted an AIA in the nearby town of Komatipoort in January 2016 and reported a small number of Middle Stone Age artefacts but its context was disturbed and therefore the find of low significance.

3.2. Significance of sites

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) formulated guidelines for the conservation of all cultural resources and therefore also divided such sites into three main categories. These categories might be seen as guidelines that suggest the extent of protection a given site might receive. They include sites or features of local (Grade 3) provincial (Grade 2) national (Grade 1) significance, grades of local significance and generally protected sites with a number of degrees of significance.

For practical purposes the surveyor uses his own classification for sites or features and divides them into three groups, those of low or no significance, those of medium significance, those of high significance **(Also see table 5.2. Significance rating guidelines for sites).**

Values used to assign significance to a site include:

- **Types of significance**

The site's scientific, aesthetic and historic significance or a combination of these is established.

- **Degrees of significance**

The archaeological or historic site's rarity and representative value is considered. The condition of the site is also an important consideration.

- **Spheres of significance**

Sites are categorized as being significant in the international, national, provincial, regional or local context. Significance of a site for a specific community is also taken into consideration.

It should be noted that to arrive at the specific allocation of significance of a site or feature, the specialist considers the following:

- Historic context
- Archaeological context or scientific value
- Social value
- Aesthetic value
- Research value

More specific criteria used by the specialist in order to allocate value or significance to a site include:

- The unique nature of a site
- The integrity of the archaeological deposit
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site
- The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features
- The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined or is known)
- The preservation condition of the site
- Quality of the archaeological or historic material of the site
- Quantity of sites and site features

In short, archaeological and historic sites containing data which may significantly enhance the knowledge that archaeologists currently have about our cultural heritage should be considered highly valuable. In all instances these sites should be preserved and not damaged during construction activities. When development activities do however jeopardize the future of such a site, a second and third phase in the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) process is normally advised which entails the excavation or

rescue excavation of cultural material along with a management plan to be drafted for the preservation of the site or sites.

Graves are considered very sensitive sites and should never under any circumstances be jeopardized by development activities. Graves and burial grounds are incorporated in the *National Heritage Resources Act* under *section 36* and in all instances where graves are found by the surveyor, the recommendation would be to steer clear of these areas. If this is not possible or if construction activities have for some reason damaged graves, specialized consultants are normally contacted to aid in the process of exhumation and re-interment of the human remains.

4. History and Archaeology

4.1. Historic period

4.1.1. Early History

The first inhabitants of the eastern Lowveld were probably the San or Bushmen. They were a nomadic people who lived together in small family groups and relied on hunting and gathering of food for survival. Evidence of their existence is to be found in numerous rock shelters throughout the Lowveld where some of their rock paintings are still visible. A number of these shelters have been documented in the Nelspruit area (Bornman, 1995; Schoonraad in Barnard, 1975). It has been argued that the red ochre source for these paintings is to be found at Dumaneni, near Malelane (Bornman, 1995).

Two Late-Holocene (Later Stone Age) sites near Hazyview in the Kruger National Park date to the last 2500 years and are associated with pottery and microlith stone tools (Bergh, 1998: 95). This is contemporary to typical hunter-gatherer lifestyle and may also have been sites frequented by San.

It was only later that Bantu-speaking tribes moved into this area from the northern parts of Southern Africa and settled here. This period is referred to as the Early Iron Age (AD 200-1500 approx.). These were presumably Sotho-Tswana herder groups.

Various historians and ethnographers describe that the Lowveld was frequented by Swazi and Sotho-Tswana groups during historic times i.e. Late Iron Age times during the period AD 1500-1800. (Barnard, 1975; Bergh, 1998; Bornman, 2002; Herbst, 1985; Myburgh, 1949).

Old trade routes were well established before the period of Colonial expansion and these routes mainly existed as a direct consequence of metallurgy and mining for iron, tin, copper and some gold to make weapons, agricultural equipment and ornaments (Bergh, 1998:103). The earliest signs of iron mining and working in the old Transvaal dates to approximately 300 AD and copper mining and working in Southern Africa may have been practiced as early as 620 AD (Bergh, 1998:103).

These people were responsible for the establishment of large centres like Monomotapa the Zimbabwe Complex and also the famed Mapungubwe in the Limpopo valley. At around 900 AD Arab merchants established a trade post at Sofala (Beira). Since the start of the 11th century, these Arabs had trade relations with the people of Zimbabwe. Textiles, porcelain and glass beads were traded for gold, ivory and other minerals.

An ancient trade route passed close-by the current Nelspruit and started from Delagoabay in a westward direction through the Lowveld towards the gold fields of Lydenburg, by passing through Malalapoort, the Nkhomati and Crocodile Rivers to Skipberg in the current Kruger National Park close-by the place where Pretoriuskop Rest Camp is located. From here onwards there were two possible routes up the mountains

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to reach the goldfields. The first one passed by Spitskop (Sabie) and from there on to Lydenburg. The second passed south of the “Devils Knuckles” to Lydenburg. The Voortrekkers used this route in 1845 when making the wagon route between Ohrigstad and Delagoabay (Berg, 1998: 104). There were also several linking routes to existing main routes, one of which started from Sabie or Lydenburg to the route which linked Delagoabay to the Soutpansberg via Pilgrim’s Rest. It is also believed that a footpath existed at the foothills of the (Transvaal) Drakensberg which led around the mountain to link again with a major route alongside the Olifants River (Bergh, 1998:104).

In 1721 Dutch sailors reached Delagoa Bay and settled there for nine years, during this time they launched a number of expeditions inland. During August 1723 lieutenant Jan Steffler and 17 men launched the first of these expeditions but they were ambushed by natives shortly after crossing the Lebombo Mountains. Exactly where they crossed the mountains is uncertain but it is possible that they were actually in northern Swaziland when they were attacked. Steffler succumbed as a result of this ambush and his followers returned to Delagoa Bay (Bergh, 1998:116).

A second attempt to create an inland route took place two years later in June 1725 when Francois de Cuiper and 34 men departed from Delagoa Bay and travelled in a north-western direction. They reached Gomondwano in the current Kruger National Park where they were also attacked by a local tribe. This resulted in them also having to return to Delagoa Bay. Although this attempt was also not successful, it is seen as the first European intrusion into this northern area (Bergh, 1998:116).

In the (Eastern Transvaal) Lowveld a sub-group of the Northern Sotho, known as the eastern Sotho, were present nearby the eastern escarpment. They are known as the Pulana, Pai (emaMbayi) and Kutswe, these people moved from northern Swaziland further northwards when Swazi expanded into this area during the *mfecane* (Bergh, 1998:107-108). One of the recorded events relates to the attack of the Ndwande under Zwide on the Pedi in 1825 (Bergh, 1998:114-115). This seems to have started from the Lowveld in the region of the Pretoriuskop area towards Steelpoort.

During the nineteenth century the Lowveld area of Mpumalanga was extensively settled by both Bantu and European groups that migrated into this area. Bantu migration was mainly as a result of political upheaval during the *mfecane* (“the crushing” in Nguni). This was a period of bloody tribal and faction struggles in present-day KwaZulu Natal and on the Highveld area, which occurred around the early 1820’s until the late 1830’s (Bergh, 1998). It came about in response to heightened competition for land and trade, and caused population groups like gun-carrying Griquas and Shaka’s Zulus to attack other tribes (Giliomee, 2003). During this period, a movement of Swazi people took place to the areas north and northwest of Swaziland, passing close by the current Komatipoort area. (Bergh 1999: 11, 109-119). As a result reports indicate that the Swazi were living in the Lowveld area by the 1840’s (Bergh, 1998). During the time of the *mfecane*, a northwards migration of white settlers from the Cape was also taking place. Some travellers, missionaries and adventurers had gone on expeditions to the northern areas in

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South Africa – some as early as in the 1720s. The traveller S. V. Erskine had followed a route parallel and to the west of the Komati River in 1868, not too far from the study area. In 1875 the traveller Colonel Colley passed northeast by this area (Bergh, 1999: 13, 116-121; Jeppe 1877; also see fig 4.1.).

Komatipoort is a town situated at the confluence of the Komati and Crocodile rivers, 93 km northwest of Maputo, 120 km east of Nelspruit and about 25 km northeast of the study area. It was named after a gorge (Afrikaans “poort”) 200 m deep which the Komati River had cut through the Lebombo Mountains. The word Komati is of Swazi origin and means “river of cows”, i.e. hippos (Raper 1983).

In the 19th and early 20th century, the Komatipoort area was a region where malaria occurred during the rainy season. During the first half of the nineteenth century, the Tsetse fly was also abundant. It seems logical that pastoralists would have preferred to avoid the moist low-lying valleys and thickly wooded regions where these insects preferred to congregate. It is unlikely that populations would be dense in areas where malaria and the “sleeping sickness” transferred by Tsetse flies was a constant threat to humans and their stock. Myburgh confirms that for the greatest part of the nineteenth century, the present-day Barberton area was infested with malaria mosquitoes and Tsetse flies, rendering it more or less useless to pastoralists. It stands to reason that malaria would have been especially rampant in areas close to water, such as along the Komati River. Interestingly, after Rinderpest broke out in 1897, the Tsetse fly more or less disappeared from the Barberton district. Greater numbers of pastoralists could therefore move into the area from the end of the nineteenth century. The western uplands of the Barberton district were not good cattle country and, though not as fly infested as lower lying areas, were avoided by the Swazi. The Sotho people who originally settled in the area had few cattle (Bergh 1999: 3; Myburgh 1956: 6-7; Shillington 1995: 32).

4.1.2. Colonial settlement and influence

The expansion of white land ownership to the northern parts of South Africa only started in the late 1820s. The Great Trek, as this northern movement from the Cape Colony was called, resulted in a massive increase in the extent of that proportion of modern South Africa dominated by people of European descent. The migration of whites into the northern provinces would have a significant impact on the black people who populated the land. This was also the case in Mpumalanga, the then Eastern Transvaal Province (Ross 1995: 39).

The two major results of European settlement in the Barberton district was, firstly, that only Europeans could own land, except in two released areas in the extreme east of the district. This left several tribes of note without any sufficient land where they could live undisturbed. The European farmers with cattle required few herdsmen, and were averse to large, permanent black populations on their farms. Vegetable farmers would also employ several workers, including mainly women and children. These people would

stay in self-made shelters on the farms. There were also some stable, permanently settled workers on farms. Those black workers with too many cattle were often asked to move from a farm if the farmer felt that his grazing area was threatened. The second result of the European settlement was the institution of a migrant labor system in the area and some workers flocked to the area from beyond the country's borders (Myburgh 1956: 9-10).

The discovery of diamonds and gold in the northern provinces had very important consequences for South Africa. After the discovery of these resources, the British, who at the time had colonized the Cape and Natal, had intentions of expanding their territory into the northern Boer republics. This eventually led to the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) which was one of the most turbulent times in South Africa's history. During the war, Komatipoort was used as a base by Major Francis Christiaan Ludwig Von Steinaecker and his group known as the "Steinaecker's Horse" regiment, who fought on the British side. Von Steinaecker was a former Prussian-German soldier with vast military experience, whose life story was that of a somewhat controversial adventurer. Though his unit was at first small, it grew in strength and eventually consisted of 450 men, made up mostly of local inhabitants of the Lowveld. The unit was comprised of both white and black troops, of which the latter were mainly Swazi, Pedi and Shangane speakers. There was little military confrontation in the Lowveld between the British forces and the Boers, and the main task of the British forces in the area was to guard communication routes. On the Boer side, the Lebombo Intelligence Scouts also had a prominent role to play in the Komatipoort area during the war. This corps was established in 1901. (SA Military History 2003; Van Vollenhoven & Pelsers 2004: 3, 8-9, 15)

Steinaecker's Horse's most important legacy was probably its role in the establishment of the Kruger National Park. Five days before Captain Francis, the commanding officer at the Steinaecker's Horse Fort Mpisane, was killed in battle, he wrote a letter to the British Government in which he stated that he was interested in the position of Park Ranger at the Kruger National Park. He wrote that he had had some success in stopping black people from hunting indiscriminately in the area, especially close to Steinaecker's Horse's outposts. Before this time, members of the unit themselves had also practiced ruthless hunting in the area, until some species were nearly exterminated. After Francis' death, the second-in-command of Steinaecker's Horse, Major A. Greenhill-Gardyne, wrote a report about the preservation of wildlife in the area. This report put a final end to these hunting practices and Major J. Stevenson-Hamilton used it as a guide in establishing principles for the preservation of wildlife in the area after the war. Stevenson-Hamilton, the first warden of the Kruger National Park, used Steinaecker's Horse's Sabi Bridge blockhouse as his office as of September 1902. Unfortunately, nothing is left of this structure today. Some of the members of the Steinaecker's Horse were later employed as game rangers in the area, as they knew the area and local people well (Van Vollenhoven & Pelsers 2004: 28-29).

By 1904 about half of the black population in the Transvaal was living on private land, owned by white people or companies. According to the Squatters' Law of 1895, no more than five black families could live on any farm or portion of a farm, without special permission from the Government. This law was however not rigidly enforced in practice.

The black people living on white-owned properties paid an annual rent in labour or money, varying in amount. Those adult black cultivators living on Crown Lands paid an annual rental of £1, in addition to poll tax. They were, however, not charged for water, wood or grazing, and they were not restricted as to the amount of land that they could cultivate. There are several indications that the Swazi people in the Transvaal had good relations with its European (Boer and British) inhabitants. In 1876, for example, when war broke out between the Republic and the BaPedi, Swazi forces assisted the burgher army (Massie 1905: 97; Ross 1995: 60).

In 1905, the British authorities in South Africa commissioned a book from its War Office, in which information on the black tribes in Transvaal would be recorded for military purposes. The author of this book, Bt.-Major R. H. Massie, grouped tribes according to the administrative divisions in which they were found. The bulk of the Swazi people found in the eastern administrative division lived in the district of Barberton, where they are said to have settled in the year 1865. This settlement took place after the "wholesale killing-off" which took place on the death of the great Swazi chief Umswazi. According to this source, the British had found the area practically uninhabited, as the Swazis under *Sapusa* (probably the Swazi chief Sobhuza) had exterminated the Basuto tribe that used to live in the area some years before. As for the early 20th century Barberton district, Massie explains that tribes had become so scattered that it was scarcely possible to describe any one tribe as a whole, portions of several tribes being found in almost every district (Massie 1905: 14, 20 & 85).

During the first part of the twentieth century, black people living outside of "Native Areas" often stayed on farms as labour tenants. The Natives Land Act of 1913 had established a clear legal distinction between the African Reserves and white farming areas. Though the Natives Land Committee saw labour tenancy as an evil, it acknowledged that it was the only system by means of which the average farmer could develop his land in the early 1900s. Farmers were indeed opposed to any restriction of the system (Union of South Africa 1918: 10).

The system of land tenure can be explained as follows. Those black people who did not live in towns would either stay in:

- a) Locations or reserves specially set apart for them,
- b) Land regularly acquired and owned by themselves,
- c) Land, the property of white owners, or
- d) Crown lands (Massie 1905: 96).

In the case where the blacks lived on Government locations they had common rights regarding water, wood and grazing. They would pay no rent to the Government for the use of these lands. With the first Boer occupation of the area, it was decided that no blacks could own land, but the Pretoria Convention of 1881 provided that they could be allowed to acquire land if the transfer of the property was registered in the name of the Native Location Commission. By 1904 the Commissioner for Native Affairs was the trustee for all the lands purchased by blacks (Massie 1905: 97).

In the early 1930s, a petition was set up by the hereditary chiefs, *indunas* and headmen of the Swazi tribes of the Transvaal, living in the districts of Barberton, Carolina and Ermelo, representing a black population of 60 000 people. Herewith they tried to bring to the attention of the Union Parliament that they have never had any land or location reserved for them up to that date. The petitioners noted that it was laid down in the Native Land Act No. 27 of 1913 that blacks would have Native Areas reserved to them within which they could develop along their own lines. With this petition the Swazi people asked to be given areas in which they could stay, live and develop separately. On 25 March 1932, the petition was signed by, among others, Chief Mhola Dhlamini, Chief Maguba Shongwe, Chieftainess Monile Dhlamini, Chief Lugedhlane Ngomane, Chief Hoyi Ngomane, Chief Maqekeza Ngomane, Chief Mbuduya Mahlalela and Chief Myomo Ntiwane, all residing in the Barberton district (NASA, SAB: GG50/1443).

In the Surplus People Project Report, the forced removal of people to the Kangwane area/ homeland, is discussed. This area was allocated for the Swazi people, and consisted of two blocks of land. The first of these, the Nsikazi reserve, was a finger of land stretching along the western boundary of the Kruger National Park, and had been occupied by black people since the 1920s. The second block was adjacent to the western and northern boundaries of Swaziland, and consisted of the Nkomazi and Mswati/Mlondozi reserves released under the 1935 Land Act. The area under investigation formed part of this second block by 1994 (Surplus people project 1983: 59; Bergh 1999: 43).

4.1.3. Historic maps of the study area

Since the mid 1800's up until the present, South Africa has been divided and re-divided into various different districts. Since 1845, the site where the farms under investigation are located today formed part of the Lydenburg district. This remained the case up until 1902, when the properties fell within the Komati ward of the newly proclaimed Barberton district. As of 1977, the farm area formed part of the Witrivier district. This was still the case by 1994, and the farms also formed part of the larger Mpumalanga province since then. Today, the properties are part of the Nkomazi local municipality in the Ehlanzeni district municipality, Mpumalanga. The farms under investigation were surveyed at some point between 1926 and 1930 (Bergh, 1999; Surveyor General, 1930; Windeed, 2016).

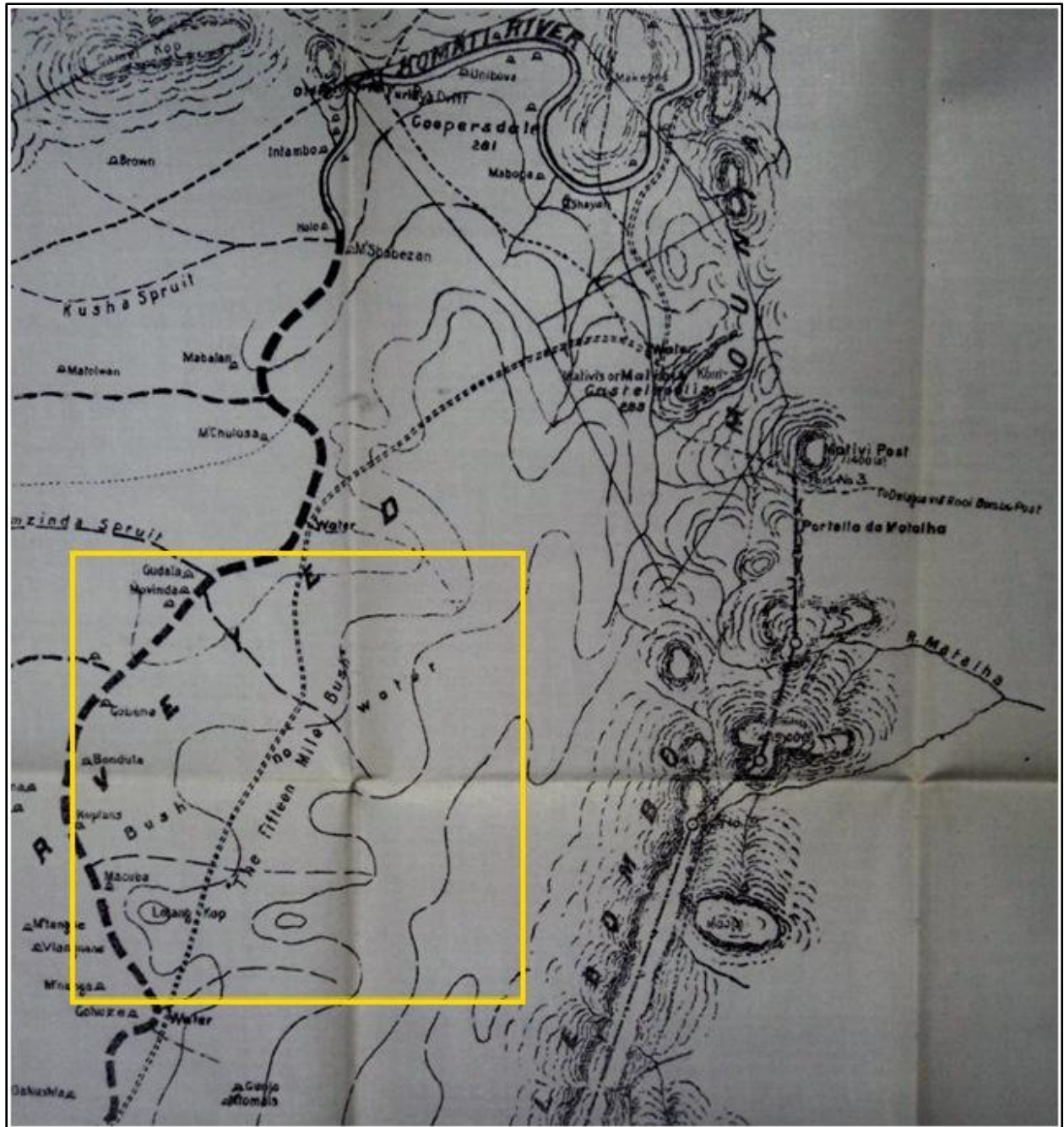


Fig. 4.2. Komatiport District Map, 1905. The approximate study area is indicated with a yellow border. A number of homesteads can be seen alongside the eastern shore of the Komati River. These included the kraals of Gobene, Bondula, Kupans and Macuba. The cartographer indicated that this area was known as “The Fifteen Mile Bush, and that there was no water to be found east of the river. A main road intersected the area. A hill in the southwestern part of this area was known as “Lotang Kop”. No farms had been surveyed (Surveyor-General, 1905).



Fig. 4.3. Komatiport district as it was in 1911. The yellow border indicates the approximate study area. Developments on the land included a farm road, a main road, a small nature reserve and a kraal (black homestead), possibly known as “Sguameni”. The farm area formed part of government proclaimed ground at the time. The farms were part of the Komati ward of the Barberton district (Surveyor-General 1911).

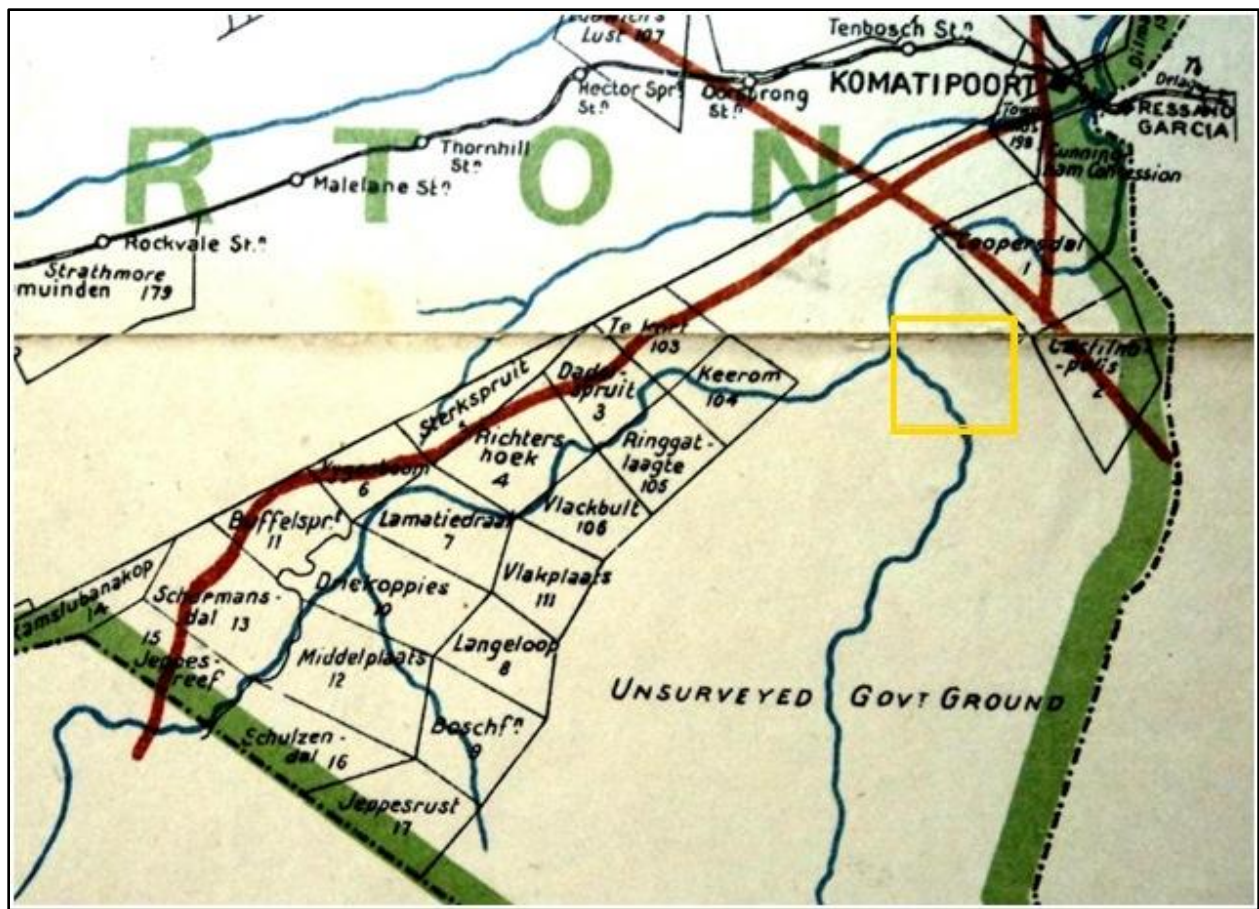


Fig. 4.4. Barberton district map of the 1920's. The approximate study area is indicated with a yellow border. This area formed part of unsurveyed government land at the time (Anon, 1920s).



Fig. 4.5. Komatiport district of 1930. The farms under investigation (yellow borders) had been surveyed sometime between the mid-1920s and 1930 and were initially known as Biltong 415, Lang Piet 416 and Amanxala 417. Apart from a main road intersecting all three properties, as well as some farm roads, no developments are visible (Surveyor-General 1930).

4.1.4. Recent topographical maps of the study area

A few recent topographical maps of the study area had valuable comparative information about the locality and approximate age of some located sites (see table 5.5 in section 5). First of these is a topographical map dating to 1968 (fig. 4.6.) at the time, the properties were mostly undeveloped. One dam is visible on Biltong, two on Lang Piet and one on Amanxala. A main road traversed all three properties. Signs of human settlement on Biltong include small sections of cultivated land in the most western part of the property, near the Nkomati River. Three buildings and a dipping tank are visible near the river (site MF 23), and two huts are visible a small distance to the east of the main road (near sites MF 1 & MF 5). Signs of human settlement on Lang Piet include cultivated fields, also along the river, as well as two buildings (site MF 14) and six huts. There are also signs of human settlement on Amanxala; a section of cultivated land is visible in the western part of the farm, alongside the Nkomati River. Two buildings (sites MF 3, 4) and a hut can also be seen in this part of the property. The farmlands and settlements on all three properties were connected to the main road by smaller roads. The western boundary of Amanxala was also known as the “SABT Boundary” at the time.

A second topographical map dated 1984 (fig. 4.7.) shows that largest part of Biltong and Lang Piet had been planted with orchards at the time. Apart from the small dams that were present on the properties by 1968, a larger dam had also been built on the northwestern part of Biltong, near the Komati River. The four buildings that were present on Biltong 434 JU by 1968 are still visible, and two more buildings had been constructed to the west thereof. The two huts are however no longer present. It is indicated that Macadamia orchards were planted on Lang Piet 435 JU, and seven buildings can be seen between the Komati River and a farm road (probably sites MF 13-16). Two of these possibly date back at least to 1968 (site MF 14). No huts are visible on Lang Piet. On Amanxala 436 JU, the same section of cultivated land can still be seen in the western part of the property, but a section thereof had been converted to orchards. The two buildings of 1968 are still visible, and three more buildings can be seen in the vicinity (probably MF 10, 11, 12). Sites 17, 18, 21-23 are also visible on Biltong 434 JU. A landing strip can be seen running parallel to the main road, this is probably the local Army Base landing strip (Topographical Map 1984).

In the year 2003 the topographical map shows that approximately a third of the farm Biltong 434 JU was cultivated at the time. Most of the southeastern part of Lang Piet 435 JU was also cultivated, and a large dam had been constructed on the southwestern border. The area west of the main road on Lang Piet was used mainly for Macadamia orchards, though there are also some other small sections of cultivated land. Two sections of land east of the main road on Amanxala 436 JU were also cultivated at the time. On all three farms, furrows had been constructed either from dams or the Komati River, diverting water for agricultural use. By 2003 a section of the farm Biltong 434 JU had been added to the neighbouring farm, Squamans 568 JU. The buildings that were visible on Biltong on the 1984 map are still present, and there are now ten buildings west of the main road on this property (see table 5.5 in section 5). On the farm

Lang Piet 435 JU, ten buildings (sites MF 11-16) can now be seen between the Komati River and a farm road, in the northernmost part of the farm (see table 5.5 in section 5). Sites MF 24-26 are now visible near the large dam on Biltong 434 JU and Lang Piet 435 JU respectively. Developments on Amanxala 436 JU included two buildings near the Komati river (sites MF 11, 12) as well as a new development next to the landing strip which is probably the Army Base, west of the main road (Topographical Map 2003).

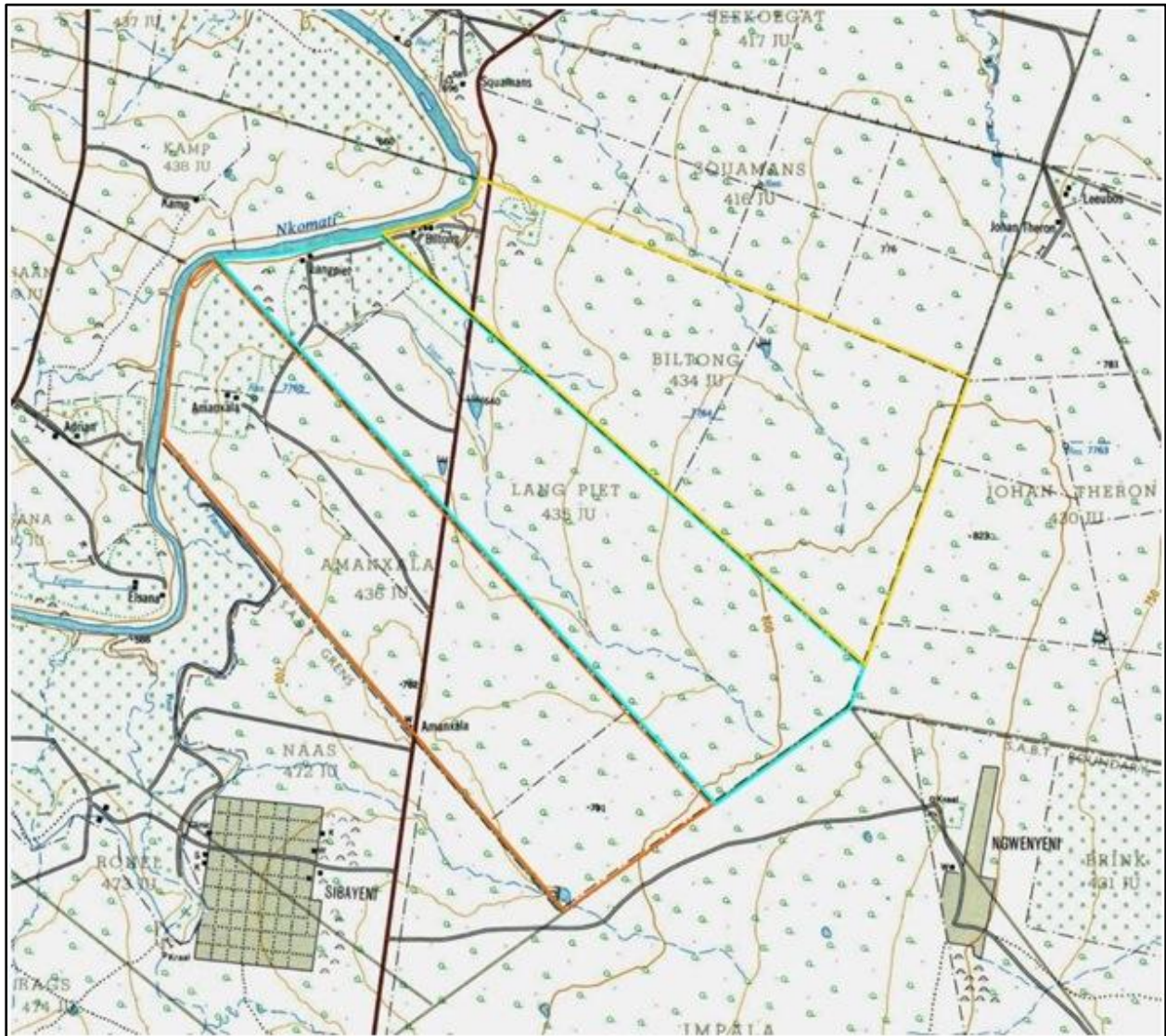


Fig. 4.6. Topographical map of the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU dated 1968 (Topographical Map 1968).

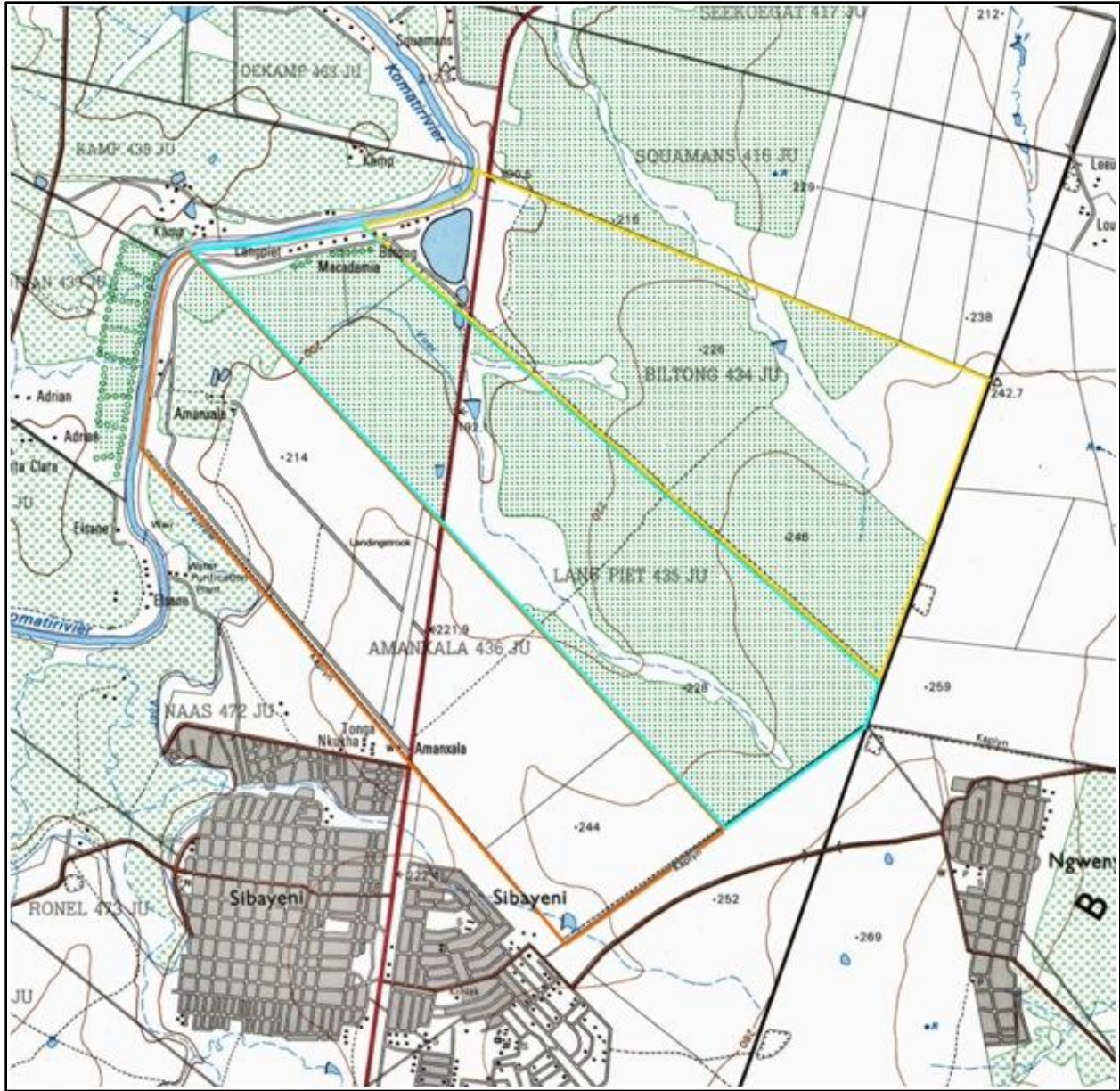


Fig. 4.7. Topographical map of the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU dated 1984 (Topographical Map, 1984).

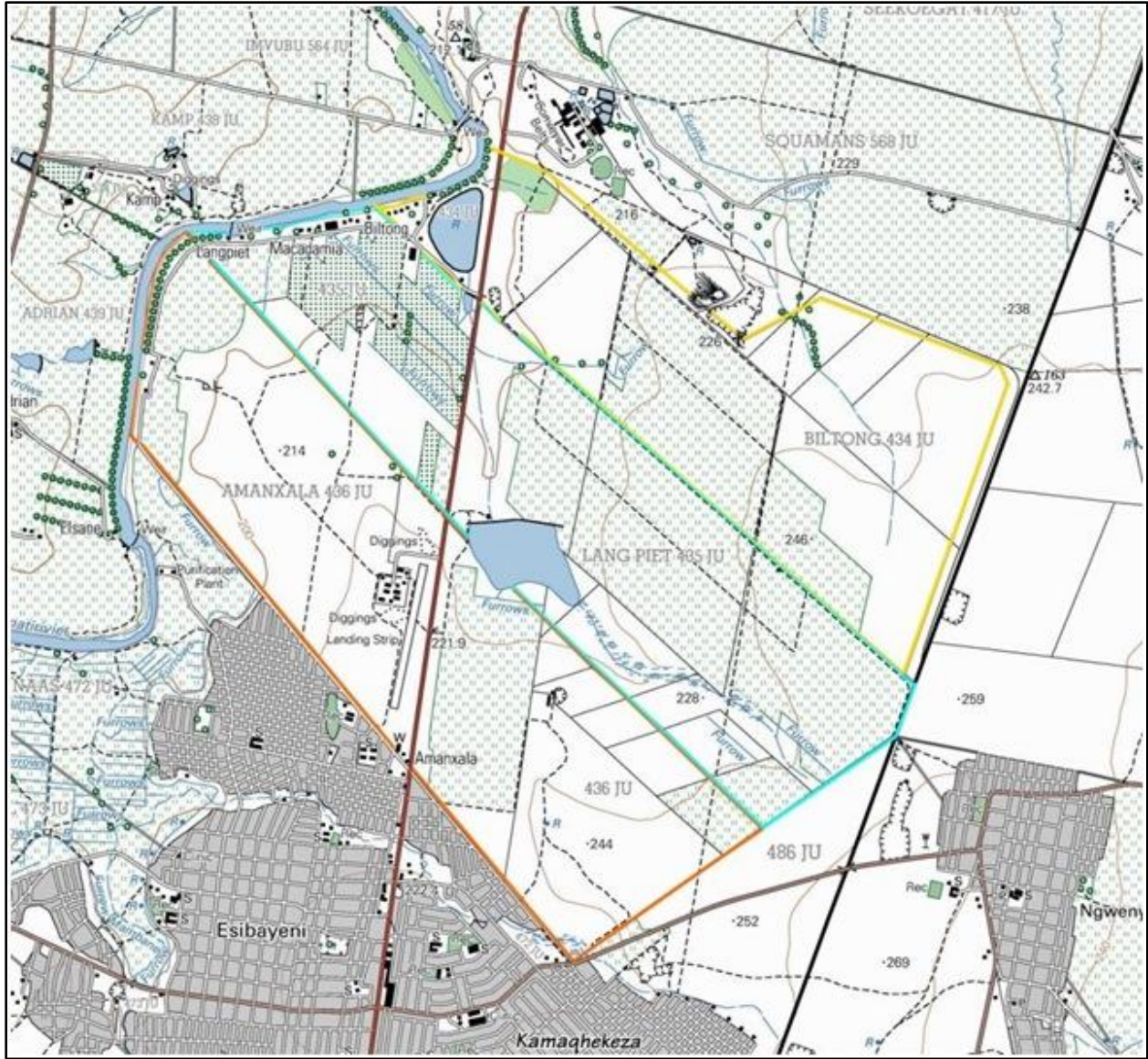


Fig. 4.8. Topographical map of the farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU dated 2003 (Topographical Map, 2003).

4.1.5. History of the farms in the study area

The area where the properties under investigation are situated today would have formed part of the Lebombo Flats by 1926 (see fig. 4.9). At the time, the Lebombo Flats were occupied mainly by black tribes. Rumours had however started to spread that the land would be occupied by white people in the near future (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

In May 1926 Lebombo Flats was described by the Native Commissioner as a flat country lying between the Lebombo Range on the Portuguese Border and the Komati River, where a Chief named Mbudula resided with the majority of his followers at the time. No portion of this land fell within the recently determined potential Native Area in the Barberton district (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

By July 1926 the Secretary for Lands provided an answer regarding the settlement of whites in the Lebombo Flats. He noted that the land in question was intended for settlement by “Europeans” but that it was not expected that it would be ready for disposal until the following year (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

In September 1926 G. F. Bennett made a supplication to the government on behalf of Chief Mbudula KaNomahasha. His tribe had originally possessed a large piece of land, but a part was taken over by the Portuguese, a portion became part of Swaziland and another portion was taken by the Transvaal. Mbudula feared that his tribe would soon have no land left where they could reside outside of European farms. He solicited the government to consider proclaiming the land on which he resided as a Native Area, since he had a large following, numbering about 5000, with large herds of cattle. The chief referred to the area where he resided as Mbuzini. He believed that leaving the area would cause great hardship for this community; white farm owners would not tolerate black cattle owners on their farms. In March 1927 the Secretary for Native Affairs noted that it was not anticipated that Chief Mbudula would be required to move from the site where he resided at the time (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

By 1927 Chief Mbudula’s own kraal and a large portion of his following were living on the Mbuzini stream, the only permanent water in the Lebombo range in the area. A large portion of the area was very mountainous and rocky, and therefore a good percentage of it could not be occupied (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

In June 1928 the following decision was reached with regards to the Lebombo Flats area by the Department for Native Affairs: “The excision from the area of that portion lying to the north and north-west of farms Jeppe’s Reef No. 15, and Schoemansdal No. 13; and the inclusion in compensation therefore of an equivalent area bounded on the west by the Komati River and on the south by Swaziland, on the south-east and east by Portuguese East Africa and on the north by that portion of an imaginary line, drawn from the southern beacon of the farm Jeppe’s Rust No. 17, due east to the Portuguese border, falling between the Komati River and the Portuguese border”. It was therefore decided that the tribes that

were living in the Lebombo Flats area at the time would be removed from the land. The compensating area would be equal in extent to the area that was to be excised (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

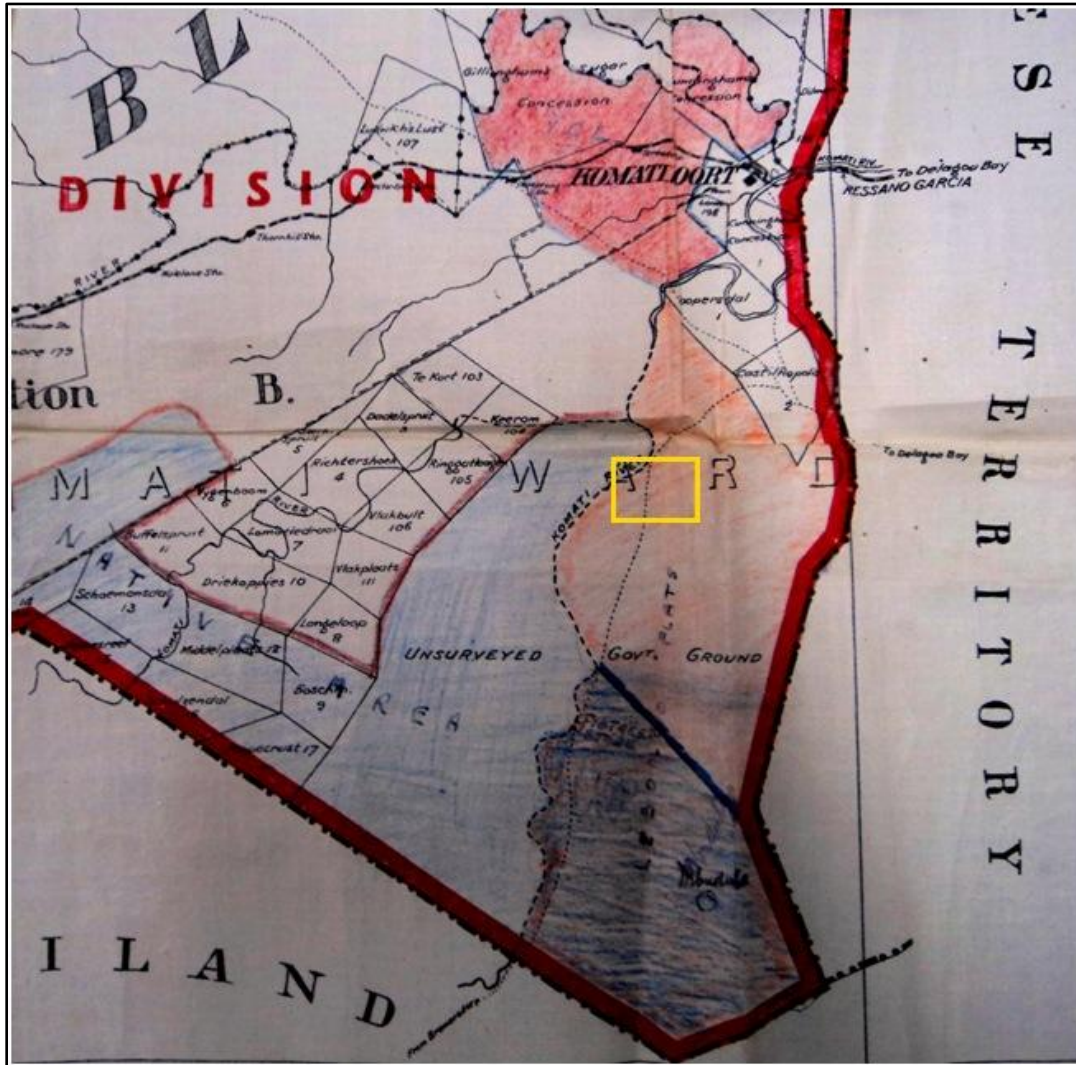


Fig. 4.9. Map of the Barberton magisterial district, ward Komatipoort. The area within the yellow border indicates more or less where the study area is located. An area was shaded in red on this map by the Native Commissioner in 1926, to indicate the area known as Lebombo Flats. The potential “Native Area” is shaded in blue. Though the farms under investigation had not necessarily been surveyed by 1926, the unsurveyed land would have formed part of the Lebombo Flats (NASA SAB, NTS: 3530 420/308).

By 1951 plans were underway to move black communities from the farm Tenbosch 234, which used to be a “Released Area”, to various other farms of which the South African Native Trust was the owner. These farms were communally known as the Lebombo Flats, and included the following properties: Portion 1 of Vlakbult 106; Portion 1 of Wanhoop 428; Fig Tree 444; Murray 443; Excelsior 442; Bonnie Vale 441; Sweet Home 440; Rusplek 439; Wildebeest 438; Guillaume 437; Grobler 436; Verlore 446; Verdwaal 434; Rhebok 432; Steenbok 433; Koedoe 431; Konkoni 430; Oasis 429; Duikershoek 423 and Nagel 421. (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308)

Though none of the farms in the project area the map in fig. 4.10 shows that Amanxala was also part of the land earmarked for the Tenbosch people (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

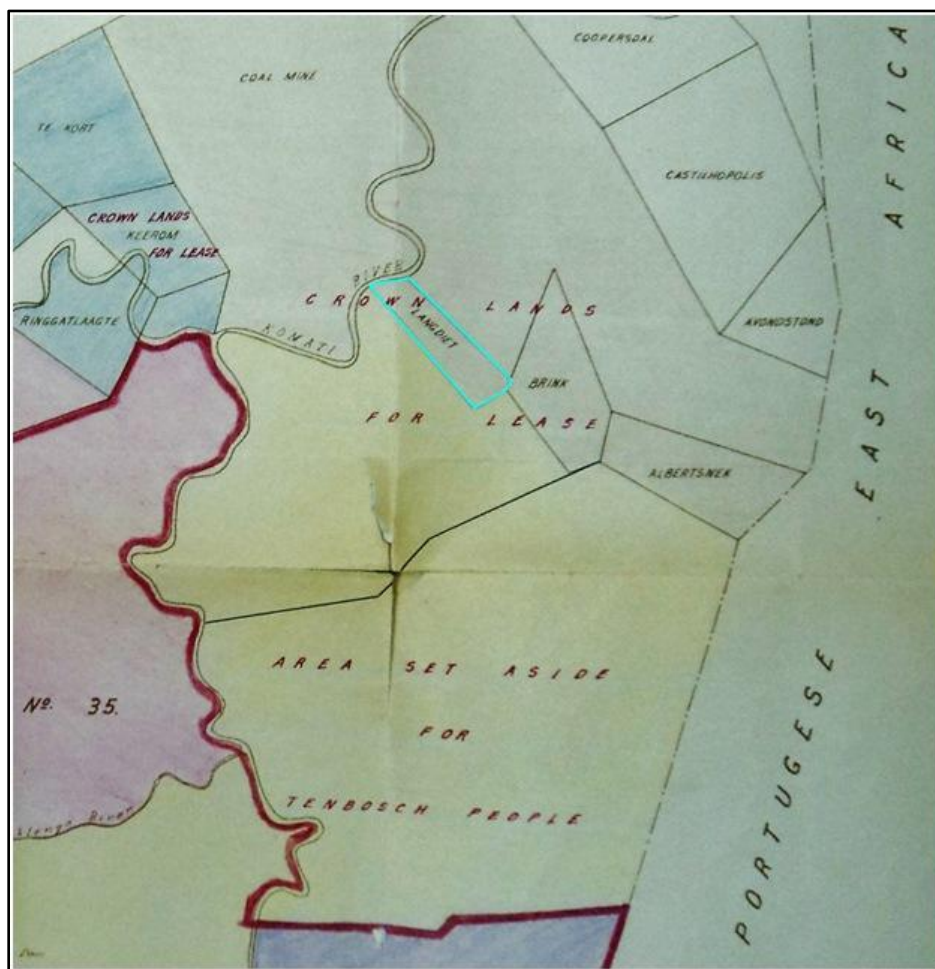


Fig. 4.10. A map of 1951 indicating various tribal areas. The farm Lang Piet is indicated with a light blue border. It therefore seems that Lang Piet and Biltong would have been located within an area that was not tribal land, but rather “Crown Lands for lease”. The land on which Amanxala is currently located would however have formed part of the “Area set aside for Tenbosch people”, which fell within the jurisdiction of Chief Gasá Mkatshwa at the time (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

By July 1951 plans were underway for the removal of black people from the property Tenbosch to the Lebombo Flats "Native Area". It was suggested by the Secretary for Native Affairs that the arable lands in the new area would be laid out in morgen plots along the course of the rivers but not within 150 yards of the river banks. It was stressed that the removals would have to be effected as speedily as possible. Questions such as the supply of water for agriculture and residential purposes were regarded as priorities. An area of approximately 25 000 morgen was set apart for the resettlement of people, and about 1068 families would be moved (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

The Director of Native Agriculture assessed the new area of settlement in June 1951, and was of the opinion that the area in its present state was only fit for ranching. Crops had been mostly unsuccessful in this area in previous years. It was suggested that each tenant would be allowed to keep ten head of cattle, but it was admitted that the area would have to be much larger to allow for this. The Director furthermore recommended that more land would have to be made available, including arable land, to allow for the growing of crops by black people living in this area (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

It seems that the people on the farm Tenbosch were not at all in favour of leaving the land, and the various chiefs pleaded with the government to be left where they were. They were concerned with the scarcity of water at Lebombo Flats, and did not want to leave their traditional lands. The tribes were however assured by the Native Commissioner that they would not be moved until water has been developed and stabilised on the land. Several families living on the Lebombo farms would also have to be removed to other areas before the "Tenbosch Natives" could be moved there (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

In July 1952 it was noted by the Secretary for Native Affairs that removals from Tenbosch would take place no later than 31 October 1952. The Acting Chief Native Commissioner set out some of the logistics regarding the move in July 1952. He noted that a convoy of at least 25 Lorries would be required and that the removal of these people would take a period of three months. As the move was to be completed by the end of October, it was deemed essential that a start be made not later than the first week of August 1952 (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

By late October 1952, removals had however not yet taken place. The Secretary of Lands Wrote to the Secretary for Native Affairs, and noted that it had been decided for the time being that the removals would not take place. The Minister had however instructed that attention had to be given to the allotment of lots in the Tenbosch area to white settlers, thereby systematically forcing black inhabitants off the land. No further information was provided regarding the removal of black people from Tenbosch to the Lebombo Flats (NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

Biltong 434 JU

No archival documents specifically dealing with this property could be found. A number of early maps of the Komatipoort area were consulted. By 1905 the area where this farm would later be located was most probably inhabited by black tribes, who built their homesteads alongside the Komati River. By 1911, the Sguameni Homestead, a section of a main road, as well as a small game reserve seems to have been established on the land. By 1926 the farm Biltong had not yet been surveyed, but it could be ascertained that the land formed part of the Lebombo Flats area. This land was occupied mainly by black tribes, some of which the people of Chief Mbudula KaNomahasha. The Department for Native Affairs however decided to remove these people from the Lebombo Flats area in 1928, and to move them to a site equal in extent. In 1930, the property had been surveyed and was known as Biltong 415. A main road and a farm road traversed the property at the time. In 1951, the property could be classified as "Crown Lands for lease". (Surveyor-General 1905; Surveyor-General 1911; Anon 1920s; Surveyor-General 1930; NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

By 1968 Biltong 434 JU was mostly undeveloped. Evidence of human settlement on the farm (maps) included small sections of cultivated land in the most western part of the property, near the Nkomati River. Three buildings were present near the river, and two huts were visible a small distance to the east of the main road (Topographical Map 1968).

By 1984, the largest part of the property had been planted with orchards. A large dam had been built on the northwestern part of Biltong, near the Komati River. The four buildings that were present on Biltong by 1968 were still visible, and two more buildings had been constructed to the west thereof. The two huts from 1968 were absent (Topographical Map 1984).

In 2003, about a third of Biltong was cultivated. Furrows had been constructed from dams and the Komati River, diverting water for agricultural use. A section of the farm had been added to the neighbouring farm, Squamans 568 JU (this name is probably derived from the Sguameni Homestead, which was located on the land in 1911). The buildings that were visible on Biltong on the 1984 map were still present, and there are now ten buildings west of the main road on this property (Topographical Map 2003).

Portion 1 of Biltong 434 JU no longer exists, but now forms part of the Remaining Extent of the farm, which in turn makes up the entire farm. The whole property is currently owned by the Mawewe Communal Property Association. This property forms part of the Nkomazi Local Municipality and measures 669.1735 hectares (Windeed, 2016).

Lang Piet 435 JU

No archival documents specifically dealing with this property could be found. A number of early maps of the Komatipoort area indicate that by 1905 the area where this farm would later be located was most probably inhabited by black tribes, who built their homesteads alongside the Komati River. By 1911, a section of a main road had been constructed on the land. By 1926 the farm Lang Piet had not yet been surveyed, but it could be ascertained that the land formed part of the Lebombo Flats area. This land was occupied mainly by black tribes, some of which the people of Chief Mbudula KaNomahasha. The Department for Native Affairs however decided to remove these people from the Lebombo Flats area in 1928, and to move them to a site equal in extent. In 1930, the property had been surveyed and was known as Lang Piet 416. A main road and a farm road traversed the property at the time. In 1951, the property could be classified as "Crown Lands for lease" (Surveyor-General 1905; Surveyor-General 1911; Anon 1920s; Surveyor-General 1930; NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

By 1968 Lang Piet 435 JU was mostly undeveloped. Signs of human settlement on the farm included cultivated fields along the Komati River, as well as two buildings and six huts (Topographical Map 1968).

By 1984, the largest part of the property had been planted with orchards, some of which were Macadamia orchards. Seven buildings had been constructed between the Komati River and a farm road in the western part of the farm. Two of these possibly date back at least to 1968. No huts are visible on the property (Topographical Map 1984).

In 2003, most of the southeastern part of Lang Piet was cultivated, and a large dam had been constructed on the southwestern border. The area west of the main road on the farm was used mainly for Macadamia orchards, though there were also some other small sections of cultivated fields. Ten buildings could be seen between the Komati River and a farm road, in the northernmost part of the farm. Three more buildings were present to the northwest of the main road, and another property to the southeast of the main road, near the large dam (Topographical Map 2003). The Remaining Extent of Lang Piet 435 JU makes up the entire farm. This property currently forms part of the Nkomazi Local Municipality and is 812.3663 hectares in extent (Windeed 2016).

Amanxala 436 JU

No archival documents specifically dealing with this property could be found. A number of early maps of the Komatipoort area show that by 1905 the area where this farm would later be located was most probably inhabited by black tribes, who built their homesteads alongside the Komati River. By 1911, a section of a main road had been constructed on the land. By 1926 the farm Amanxala had not yet been surveyed, but it could be ascertained that the land formed part of the Lebombo Flats area. This land was occupied mainly by black tribes, some of which the people of Chief Mbudula KaNomahasha. The Department for Native Affairs however decided to remove these people from the Lebombo Flats area in 1928, and to move them to a site equal in extent. In 1930, the property had been surveyed and was known as Amanxala 417. A main road and a farm road traversed the property at the time. In 1951, the property formed part of an area that had been set aside as compensation for tribes that were to be moved from the farm Tenbosch 234. It is not certain when and if these removals actually took place (Surveyor-General 1905; Surveyor-General 1911; Anon 1920s; Surveyor-General 1930; NASA SAB, NTS: 3844 3097/308).

By 1968 Amanxala 436 JU was mostly undeveloped.. Signs of human settlement on the farm included a section of cultivated land in the western part of the farm, alongside the Nkomati River. Two buildings and a hut could also be seen in this part of the property. The western boundary of Amanxala was known as the "SABT Boundary" at the time (Topographical Map 1968).

By 1984, the farm was still mainly undeveloped. The same section of cultivated land could still be seen in the western part of the property, but a section thereof had been converted to orchards. The two buildings of 1968 were still visible, and three more buildings could be seen in the vicinity.

In 2003, two sections of land east of the main road on Amanxala were used for cultivation. Furrows had been constructed either from dams or the Komati River, diverting water for agricultural use. Other developments included two buildings near the Komati river, as well as a new development next to the landing strip, west of the main road. Two digging sites, as well as a cluster of 11 buildings could be seen (Topographical Map 2003). Amanxala 436 JU is made up of the following portions: Portion 2, Portion 3 and Remaining Extent. This property currently forms part of the Nkomazi Local Municipality. Portion 2 of Amanxala measures 13.5614 hectares, Portion 3 measures 5 hectares and the RE is 789.9834 hectares (Windeed 2016).

4.2. Archaeology

4.2.1. Stone Age

In Mpumalanga Province the Drakensberg separates the interior plateau also known as the Highveld from the low-lying subtropical Lowveld which stretches to the Indian Ocean. A number of rivers amalgamate into two main river systems, the Olifants River and the Komati River. This fertile landscape has provided resources for humans and their predecessors for more than 1,7million years (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007).

The initial attraction of abundant foods in the form of animals and plants eventually also led to the discovery of and utilisation of various minerals including ochre, iron and copper. People also obtained foreign resources by means of trade from the coast. From 900AD this included objects which were brought across the ocean from foreign shores.

The Early Stone Age (ESA)

In South Africa the ESA dates from about 2 million to 250 000 thousand years ago in other words from the early to middle Pleistocene. The archaeological record shows that as the early ancestors progressed physically, mentally and socially, bone and stone tools were developed. One of the most influential advances was their control of fire and diversifying their diet by exploitation of the natural environment (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007).

The earliest tools date to around 2, 5 million years ago from the site of Gona in Ethiopia. Stone tools from this site shows that early hominids had to cognitive ability to select raw material and shape it for a specific application. Many bones found in association with stone tools like these have cut marks which lead scientists to believe that early hominids purposefully chipped cobblestones to produce flakes with a sharp edge capable of cutting and butchering animal carcasses. This supplementary diet of higher protein quantities ensured that brain development of hominids took place more rapidly.

Mary Leaky discovered tools like these in the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania during the 1960s. The tools are named after this gorge and is known as the Oldowan industry. These tools, only found in Africa, are mainly simple flakes which were struck from cobbles. This method of manufacture remained for about 1,5 million years. Although there is continuing debate about who made these tools, two hominids may have been responsible. The first of these was an early form of *Homo* and the second was *Parathropus robustus*, which became extinct about 1 million years ago (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007).

Around 1, 7 million years ago more specialised tools known as Acheulean tools, appeared. These are named after tools from a site in France by the name of Saint Acheul, where they were first discovered in the 1800s. It is argued that these tools had their origin in Africa and then spread towards Europe and Asia with the movement of hominids out of Africa. These tools had longer and sharper edges and shapes

Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)

which suggest that they could be used for a larger range of activities which included the butchering of animals, chopping of wood, digging roots and cracking bone. *Homo ergaster* was probably responsible for the manufacture of Acheulean tools in South Africa. This physical type was arguably physically similar to modern humans, a larger brain and modern face, body height and proportion are all characteristics which are very similar to us. *Homo ergaster* was able to flourish in a variety of habitats in part because they were dependent on tools. They adapted to drier, more open grassland settings. Because these early people were often associated with water sources such as rivers and lakes, sites where they left evidence of their occupation are very rare. Most tools of these people have been washed into caves, eroded out of riverbanks and washed downriver. An example in Mpumalanga is Maleoskop on the farm Rietkloof where ESA tools have been found. This is one of only a handful of such sites in Mpumalanga.

Middle Stone Age (MSA)

A greater variety of tools with diverse sizes and shapes appeared by 250 000 BP. These replaced the large hand axes and cleavers of the ESA. This technological advancement introduces the Middle Stone Age (MSA). This period is characterised by tools which are smaller in size but different in manufacturing technique (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007).

In contrast to the ESA technology of removing flakes from a core, MSA tools were flakes to start with. They were of a predetermined size and shape and were made by preparing a core of suitable material and striking off the flake so that it was flaked according to a shape which the toolmaker desired. Elongated, parallel-sided blades, as well as triangular flakes are common finds in these assemblages. Mounting of stone tools onto wood or bone to produce spears, knives and axes became popular during the MSA. These early humans not only settled close to water sources but also occupied caves and shelters. The MSA represents the transition of more archaic physical type (*Homo*) to anatomically modern humans, *Homo sapiens*.

The MSA has not been extensively studied in Mpumalanga but evidence of this period has been excavated at Bushman Rock Shelter, a well-known site on the farm Klipfonteinhoek in the Ohrigstad district. This cave was excavated twice in the 1960s by Louw and later by Eloff. The MSA layers show that the cave was repeatedly visited over a long period. Lower layers have been dated to over 40 000 BP while the top layers date to approximately 27 000 BP (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998).

Later Stone Age (LSA)

Early hunter gatherer societies were responsible for a number of technological innovations and social transformations during this period starting at around 20 000 years BP. Hunting of animals proved more successful with the innovation of the bow and link-shaft arrow. These arrows were made up of a bone tip which was poisoned and loosely linked to the main shaft of the arrow. Upon impact, the tip and shaft separated leaving the poisoned arrow-tip imbedded in the prey animal. Additional innovations include

Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)

bored stones used as digging stick weights to uproot tubers and roots; small stone tools, mostly less than 25mm long, used for cutting of meat and scraping of hides; polished bone tools such as needles; twine made from plant fibres and leather; tortoiseshell bowls; ostrich eggshell beads; as well as other ornaments and artwork (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007).

At Bushman Rock Shelter the MSA is also represented and starts at around 12 000 BP but only lasted for some 3 000 years. The LSA is of importance in geological terms as it marks the transition from the Pleistocene to the Holocene which was accompanied by a gradual shift from cooler to warmer temperatures. This change had its greatest influence on the higher lying areas of South Africa. Both Bushman Rock Shelter and a nearby site, Heuningneskrans, have revealed a greater use in plant foods and fruit during this period (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998).

Faunal evidence suggests that LSA hunter-gatherers trapped and hunted zebra, warthog and bovids of various sizes. They also diversified their protein diet by gathering tortoises and land snails (*Achatina*) in large quantities.

Ostrich eggshell beads were found in most of the levels at these two sites. It appears that there is a gap of approximately 4 000 years in the Mpumalanga LSA record between 9 000 BP and 5 000 BP. This may be a result of generally little Stone Age research being conducted in the province. It is, however, also a period known for rapid warming and major climate fluctuation which may have led people to seek out protected environments in this area. The Mpumalanga Stone Age sequence is visible again during the mid-Holocene at the farm Honingklip near Badplaas in the Carolina district (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998).

At this location, two LSA sites were located on opposite sides of the Nhlazatshe River, about one kilometre west of its confluence with the Teespruit. These two sites are located on the foothills of the Drakensberg where the climate is warmer than the Highveld but also cooler than the Lowveld (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998).

Nearby the sites, dated to between 4 870 BP and 200 BP are four panels which contain rock art. Colouring material is present in all the excavated layers of the site which makes it difficult to determine whether the rock art was painted during the mid- or later Holocene. Stone walls at both sites date from the last 250 years of hunter gatherer occupation and they may have served as protection from predators and intruders (Esterhuizen & Smith in Delius, 2007; Bergh, 1998).

4.2.2. Early Iron Age

The period referred to as the Early Iron Age (AD 200-1500 approx.) started when presumably Karanga (north-east African) herder groups moved into the north eastern parts of South Africa. It is believed that these people may have been responsible for making of the famous Lydenburg Heads, ceramic masks dating to approximately 600AD.

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Ludwig von Bezing was a boy of more or less 10 years of age when he first saw pieces of the now famous Lydenburg heads in 1957 while playing in the veld on his father's farm near Lydenburg. Five years later von Bezing developed an interest in archaeology and went back to where he first saw the shards. Between 1962 and 1966 he frequently visited the Sterkspruit valley to collect pieces of the seven clay heads. Von Bezing joined the archaeological club of the University of Cape Town when he studied medicine at this institution.

He took his finds to the university at the insistence of the club. He had not only found the heads, but potsherds, iron beads, copper beads, ostrich eggshell beads, pieces of bones and millstones. Archaeologists of the University of Cape Town and WITS Prof. Ray Innskeep and Dr Mike Evers excavated the site where von Bezing found the remains. This site and in particular its unique finds (heads, clay masks) instantly became internationally famous and was henceforth known as the Lydenburg Heads site.

Two of the clay masks are large enough to probably fit over the head of a child, the other five are approximately half that size. The masks have both human and animal features, a characteristic that may explain that they had symbolic use during initiation- and other religious ceremonies. Carbon dating proved that the heads date to approximately 600 AD and was made by Early Iron Age people. These people were Bantu herders and agriculturists and probably populated Southern Africa from areas north-east of the Limpopo river. Similar ceramics were later found in the Gustav Klingbiel Nature Reserve and researchers believe that they are related to the ceramic wares (pottery) of the Lydenburg Heads site in form, function and decorative motive. This sequence of pottery is formally known as the Klingbiel type pottery. No clay masks were found in similar context to this pottery sequence.

Two larger heads and five smaller ones make up the Lydenburg find. The heads are made of the same clay used in making household pottery. It is also made with the same technique used in the manufacture of household pottery. The smaller heads display the modeling of a curved forehead and the back neck as it curves into the skull. Around the neck of each of the heads, two or three rings are engraved horizontally and are filled in with hatching marks to form a pattern. A ridge of clay over the forehead and above the ears indicates the hairline. On the two larger heads a few rows of small clay balls indicate hair decorations. The mouth consists of lips – the smaller heads also have teeth. The seventh head has the snout of an animal and is the only head that represents an animal.

Some archaeological research was done during the 1970's at sites belonging to the EIA (Early Iron Age), location Plaston, a settlement close to White River (Evers, 1977). This site is located on a spur between the White River and a small tributary. It is situated on holding 119 at Plaston.

The site was discovered during house building operations when a collection of pottery shards was excavated. The finds consisted of pottery shards both on the surface and excavated.

Some of the pottery vessels were decorated with a red ochre wash. Two major decoration motifs occurred on the pots:

- Punctuation, using a single stylus and
- Broadline incision, the more common motif

A number of Early Iron Age pottery collections from Mpumalanga and Limpopo may be compared to the Plaston sample. They include Silver Leaves, Eiland, Matola, Klingbiel and the Lydenburg Heads site. The Plaston sample is distinguished from samples of these sites in terms of rim morphology, the majority of rims from Plaston are rounded and very few beveled. Rims from the other sites show more beveled rims (Evers, 1977:176).

Early Iron Age pottery was also excavated by archaeologist, Prof. Tom Huffman during 1997 on location where the Riverside Government complex is currently situated (Huffman, 1998). This site known as the Riverside site is situated a few kilometers north of Nelspruit next to the confluence of the Nelspruit and Crocodile River. It was discovered during the course of an environmental impact assessment for the new Mpumalanga Government complex/ offices. A bulldozer cutting exposed storage pits, cattle byres, a burial and midden on the crest of a gentle slope. Salvage excavations conducted during December 1997 and March 1998 recovered the burial and contents of several pits.

One of the pits contained among other items, pottery dating to the eleventh century (AD 1070 ± 40 BP) this relates the pottery to the Mzonjani and Broederstroom phases. The early assemblage belongs to the Kwale branch of the Urewe tradition.

During the early 1970's Dr Mike Evers of the University of the Witwatersrand conducted fieldwork and excavations in the Eastern Transvaal. Two areas were studied, the Letaba area south of the Groot Letaba River, west of the Lebombo Mountains, east of the great escarpment and north of the Olifants River. The second area was the Eastern Transvaal escarpment area between Lydenburg and Machadodorp.

These two areas are referred to as the Lowveld and escarpment respectively. The earliest work on Iron Age archaeology was conducted by Trevor and Hall in 1912. This revealed prehistoric copper-, gold- and iron mines. Schwelinus (1937) reported smelting furnaces, a salt factory and terraces near Phalaborwa. In the same year D.S. van der Merwe located ruins, graves, furnaces, terraces and soapstone objects in the Letaba area.

Mason (1964, 1965, 1967, 1968) started the first scientific excavation in the Lowveld which was followed by N.J. van der Merwe and Scully. M. Klapwijk (1973, 1974) also excavated an Early Iron Age (EIA) site at Silverleaves and Evers and van den Berg (1974) excavated at Harmony and Eiland, both EIA sites.

Recent research by the National Cultural History Museum resulted in the excavation of an Early Iron Age site in Sekhukuneland, known as Mototolong (Van Schalkwyk, 2007). The site is characterized by four
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large cattle kraals containing ceramics which may be attributed to the Mzonjani and Doornkop occupational phases.

4.2.3. Late Iron Age

The later phases of the Iron Age (AD 1600-1800's) is represented by various tribes including Ndebele, Swazi, BaKoni, Pedi marked by extensive stonewalled settlements found throughout the escarpment and particularly around Lydenburg, Badfontein, Sekhukuneland, Roosenekal and Steelpoort. The BaKoni were the architects of the stone-walled enclosures found throughout the escarpment area of Eastern Mpumlanga. These settlement complexes may be divided into three basic features: homesteads, terraces and cattle tracks. Researchers such as Mike Evers (1975) and Collett (1982) identified three basic settlement layouts in this area. Basically these sites can be divided into simple and complex ruins. Simple ruins are normally small in relation to more complex sites and have smaller central cattle byres and fewer huts. Complex ruins consist of a central cattle byre which has two opposing entrances and a number of semi-circular enclosures surrounding it. The perimeter wall of these sites is sometimes poorly visible. Huts are built between the central enclosure and the perimeter wall. These are all connected by trackways referred to as cattle tracks. These tracks are made by building stone walls which forms a walkway for cattle to the centrally located cattle byres.

Smaller tribes such as the Pai and Pulana who resided in the Lowveld were attacked by and made to flee from the aggressive Swazi, especially during the *mfecane* (difaqane). They (Swazi) were particularly active in the Lowveld during the difaqane period (1820's) and it is well-known that they frequently attacked and ousted smaller herder groups like the Pai and Pulana, especially in the area today known as Low's Creek. They were however prevented from settling in the low-lying areas due to the presence of the tsetse fly and malaria. Consequently there is little evidence of large scale settlement in the Crocodile River valley until the time of colonial settlement (1890's) and later. Small, isolated dry-packed stonewalled enclosures found near Nelspruit and surrounding areas may be attributed to these smaller groups who hid away from the Swazi onslaught. The sites were probably not used for extended periods as they were frequently on the move as a result of the onslaught and therefore small, indistinct and with little associated cultural material.

5. Located sites, description and suggested mitigation

A total of twenty six (26) sites were located and documented. Significance grading scales as outlined in **table 5.2.**, and summarized in **table 5.1.**, apply when allocating significance to located sites. Graves were assessed in accordance with section 36 of the Act (25 of 1999) and are considered to be of high significance (**sites MF1, 5-7**) and should be protected from any development activities (preferably fenced) and relatives be allowed access. Sites MF 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11-26 were assessed in accordance with section 34 of the Act which incorporates heritage structures. Consequently sites 14, 17 and 23 are rated with medium to low significance (**GPB and GPC, table 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4**) as some of these are approaching heritage status (**table 5.5.**). Sites (**SO 1-4**) were recorded for survey orientation and observation purposes.

Table 5.1. Summary of located sites and their significance

Type of site	Identified sites	Significance
Graves and graveyards	MF 1, 5-7	High; LS 3A
Late Iron Age	None	N/A
Early Iron Age	None	N/A
Historical buildings	MF 14, 17, 23	Med -Low; GPB & GPC
Historical features	None	N/A
Stone Age sites	None	N/A

Table 5.2. Significance rating guidelines for sites

Field Rating	Grade	Significance	Recommended Mitigation
National Significance (NS)	Grade 1		Conservation, nomination as national site
Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2		Conservation; Provincial site nomination
Local significance (LS 3A)	Grade 3A	High Significance	Conservation, No mitigation advised
Local Significance (LS 3B)	Grade 3B	High Significance	Mitigation but at least part of site should be retained
Generally Protected A (GPA)		High/ Medium Significance	Mitigation before destruction
Generally Protected B (GPB)		Medium Significance	Recording before destruction
Generally Protected C (GPC)		Low Significance	Destruction

5.2. Description of located sites

5.2.1. Site MF 1.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 9-12).

Description: Five unmarked graves located on Biltong 434 JU. Pointed out by informant Mr Isaac Mandlazi who has been on the property since childhood. According to the informant possibly Ngomane or Mawewe family members buried here.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The proposed development will probably impact on the graves.

Recommendation:

Construction or agricultural contractors must be made aware of the location of the graves in order to minimise impact, fencing of the graves will contribute to their conservation. Any surviving relatives should be allowed access. If this is not possible, heritage legislation guides alternative options. The Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies to graves younger than 60 years. Graves which are older than 60 years are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the grave may be relocated or exhumed.

5.2.2. Site MF 2.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 13).

Description: A concrete weir in the Komati River. The weir is not older than 60 years (see table 5.5.)

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The feature will probably not be impacted upon during the proposed development activity.

Recommendation:

The feature is of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.3. Site MF 3.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 14).

Description: The remains of house and associated infrastructure.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The ruin will possibly be impacted upon during the proposed development activity.

Recommendation:

The feature is a ruin and of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.4. Site MF 4.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 15).

Description: The remains of house and associated infrastructure.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The ruin will possibly be impacted upon during the proposed development activity.

Recommendation:

The feature is a ruin and of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.5. Site MF 5.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 16).

Description: One unmarked grave located on Biltong 434 JU. Pointed out by informant Mr Francisco Shongo who has been working on the property since 1993. According to the informant the family of the deceased last visited the site in 2007. The deceased is unknown.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The proposed development will probably impact on the graves.

Recommendation:

Construction or agricultural contractors must be made aware of the location of the graves in order to minimise impact, fencing of the graves will contribute to their conservation. Any surviving relatives should be allowed access. If this is not possible, heritage legislation guides alternative options. The Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies to graves younger than 60 years. Graves which are older than 60 years are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the grave may be relocated or exhumed.

5.2.6. Site MF 6.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 17).

Description: One unmarked grave located on Biltong 434 JU. Pointed out by informant Mr Francisco Shongo who has been working on the property since 1993. According to the informant the family of the deceased last visited the site in 2007. The deceased is unknown.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The proposed development will probably impact on the graves.

Recommendation:

Construction or agricultural contractors must be made aware of the location of the graves in order to minimise impact, fencing of the graves will contribute to their conservation. Any surviving relatives should be allowed access. If this is not possible, heritage legislation guides alternative options. The Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies to graves younger than 60 years. Graves which are older than 60 years are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the grave may be relocated or exhumed.

5.2.7. Site MF 7.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 18).

Description: One unmarked grave located on Biltong 434 JU. Pointed out by informant Mr Francisco Shongo who has been working on the property since 1993. According to the informant the family of the deceased last visited the site in 2007. The deceased is unknown.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The proposed development will probably impact on the graves.

Recommendation:

Construction or agricultural contractors must be made aware of the location of the graves in order to minimise impact, fencing of the graves will contribute to their conservation. Any surviving relatives should be allowed access. If this is not possible, heritage legislation guides alternative options. The Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies to graves younger than 60 years. Graves which are older than 60 years are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the grave may be relocated or exhumed.

5.2.8. Site MF 8.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 19).

Description: A circular concrete irrigation dam/ water reservoir.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The feature will possibly be impacted upon by the proposed development.

Recommendation:

The features are of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.9. Site MF 9.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 20).

Description: A circular concrete irrigation dam.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The dam will possibly be impacted upon by the proposed development.

Recommendation:

The feature is of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.10. Site MF 10.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 21, 22).

Description: Household remains located close to site MF 9. Probably associated with a demolished dwelling (site MF 3 & 4).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The site will possibly be impacted upon by the proposed development.

Recommendation:

The features and context are of low heritage significance. No need to preserve.

5.2.11. Site MF 11.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 23).

Description: Staff housing, not heritage see table 5.5.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The buildings are of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.12. Site MF 12.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 24).

Description: Staff housing, not heritage see table 5.5.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The buildings are of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.13. Site MF 13.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 25).

Description: Staff accommodation, total five housing units.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The buildings are of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.14. Site MF 14.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 26, 27).

Description: Two buildings, one which is currently used as a fertilizer shed and the other serves as the farm club house. These buildings are at least 48 years old as they appear on a topographical map of 1968. According to informant and Estate Accountant Mr Albie Harmse, the buildings were associated with the South African Defence Force in the past (see table 5.5.).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The buildings will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The buildings are at least 48 years old and probably approaching heritage status (60 years old, section 34 of the Act). It is recommended that these buildings be formally recorded before destruction when they reach 60 years of age.

5.2.15. Site MF 15.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 28, 29).

Description: Staff housing, two units (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The houses will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The houses are of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.16. Site MF 16.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 30).

Description: A staff residence. According to informant Mr Albie Harmse, this was the first farm house. The house does not seem appear on the topographical map of 1968 (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The house is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.17. Site MF 17.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 31).

Description: A rectangular building of bricks and mortar, which according to informant Mr Albie Harmse, used to be utilised as the farm offices. The building seems to be indicated on a topographical map of 1968 so it is at least 48 years old (see table 5.5.).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The dam and terraced landscape will possibly be impacted upon by the proposed development

Recommendation:

The building is at least 48 years old and probably approaching heritage status (60 years old, section 34 of the Act). It is recommended that the building be formally recorded before destruction when it reaches 60 years of age.

5.2.18. Site MF 18.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 32).

Description: Staff housing, a single unit (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The house is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.19. Site MF 19.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 33).

Description: Staff housing, a single unit (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The house is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.20. Site MF 20.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 34).

Description: Staff housing, a single unit (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The house is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.21. Site MF 21.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 35).

Description: Staff housing, a single unit (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The house will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The house is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.22. Site MF 22.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 36).

Description: The current farm offices.

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The office building will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The building is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.23. Site MF 23.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 37, 38).

Description: This is a building which serves as a farm workshop. The building seems to be indicated on a topographical map of 1968 so it is at least 48 years old (see table 5.5.).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The building will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The building is at least 48 years old and probably approaching heritage status (60 years old, section 34 of the Act). It is recommended that the building be formally recorded before destruction when it reaches 60 years of age.

5.2.24. Site MF 24.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 39).

Description: This is a utility building which is currently used as a tool and herbicide storage facility. The building is not visible on the topographical map of 1968 or 1984 but it is indicated on the 2003 map (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The building will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The building is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.25. Site MF 25.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 40).

Description: The current farm offices. The building is not visible on the topographical map of 1968 or 1984 but it is indicated on the 2003 map (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The office building will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The building is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

5.2.26. Site MF 26.

Location: See Appendix B and D (fig. 41).

Description: A package facility, probably for the bananas grown on the farms. The building is not visible on the topographical map of 1968 or 1984 but it is indicated on the 2003 map (see table 5.5).

Impact of the proposed development/ activity:

The building will not be impacted upon by the proposed activity.

Recommendation:

The building is of low heritage significance. No immediate preservation needed.

TABLE 5.3. General Significance of located sites and field rating.

Site No.	Description	Type of significance	Degree of significance	NHRA heritage resource & rating
MF 1	Graves x 5	Burial grounds & graves	Archaeological: Not known Historic: High	Burial Grounds & graves. High. LS GPA.
MF 2	Weir in Komati River	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 3	House ruins	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 4	House ruins	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 5	Graves x 1	Burial grounds & graves	Archaeological: Not known Historic: High	Burial Grounds & graves. High. LS GPA.
MF 6	Graves x 1	Burial grounds & graves	Archaeological: Not known Historic: High	Burial Grounds & graves. High. LS GPA.
MF 7	Graves x 1	Burial grounds & graves	Archaeological: Not known Historic: High	Burial Grounds & graves. High. LS GPA.
MF 8	Reservoir ruins	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 9	Concrete dam	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 10	House ruins	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 11	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 12	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 13	Staff housing x 5	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 14	Fertilizer shed & club house	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low- Medium	Buildings & Structures. Low-Medium. GPB.
MF 15	Staff housing x 2	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 16	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 17	Old farm office	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low- Medium	Buildings & Structures. Low-Medium. GPB.

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MF 18	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 19	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 20	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 21	Staff housing	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 22	Farm offices	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 23	Farm workshop	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low- Medium	Buildings & Structures. Low-Medium. GPB.
MF 24	Utility room	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 25	Farm offices	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.
MF 26	Banana Packaging facility	Built environment	Archaeological: None Historic: Low	Buildings & Structures. Low. GPC.

TABLE 5.4. Site condition assessment and management recommendations.

Site no.	Type of Heritage resource	Integrity of cultural material	Preservation condition of site	Relative location	Quality of archaeological/historic material	Quantity of site features	Recommended conservation management
MF1	Burial grounds & graves	Not known	Poor	Biltong 434 JU	Poor	5	Avoid if possible & fence or relocation permit
MF2	Buildings & structures	N/A	Good	Lang Piet 435 JU	N/A	1	None
MF3	Buildings & structures	N/A	Poor - ruin	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	1	None
MF4	Buildings & structures	N/A	Poor- ruin	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	2	None
MF5	Burial grounds & graves	Not known	Poor	Biltong 434 JU	Poor	1	Avoid if possible & fence or relocation permit
MF6	Burial grounds & graves	Not known	Poor	Biltong 434 JU	Poor	1	Avoid if possible & fence or relocation permit
MF7	Burial grounds & graves	Not known	Poor	Biltong 434 JU	Poor	1	Avoid if possible & fence or relocation permit
MF8	Buildings & structures	N/A	Poor	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	1	None
MF9	Buildings & structures	N/A	Fair	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	1	None
MF10	Buildings & structures	Poor	Poor	Amanxala 436 JU	Poor	1	None
MF11	Buildings & structures	N/A	Good	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	1	None
MF12	Buildings & structures	N/A	Good	Amanxala 436 JU	N/A	1	None
MF13	Buildings & structures	N/A	Good	Lang Piet 435 JU	N/A	5	None
MF14	Buildings & structures		Good	Lang Piet 435 JU Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)	N/A	2	Approaching heritage status (60 years) record before destruction recommended

MF15	Buildings & structures		Good	Lang Piet 435 JU	N/A	2	None
MF16	Buildings & structures		Good	Lang Piet 435 JU	N/A	1	None
MF17	Buildings & structures		Poor	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	Approaching heritage status (60 years) record before destruction recommended
MF18	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF19	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF20	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF21	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF22	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF23	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	Approaching heritage status (60 years) record before destruction recommended
MF24	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF25	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None
MF26	Buildings & structures		Good	Biltong 434 JU	N/A	1	None

Table 5.5. Buildings & structures visible on 1: 50 000 topographic maps as a tool to determine approximate age in terms of the NHRA 60 year clause.

Site no.	1930 Topo	1968 Topo	1984 Topo	2003 Topo	Ambit of Act Y/N	Significance	Remarks
MF 2	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 3	-	x	x	-	N	Low	Demolished
MF 4	-	x	x	-	N	Low	Demolished
MF 8	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 9	-	-	-	-	N	Low	
MF 11	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 12	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 13	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 14	-	x	x	x	N	Low - Medium	Approaching heritage status
MF 15	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 16	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 17	-	x	x	x	N	Low - Medium	Approaching heritage status
MF 18	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 19	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 20	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 21	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 22	-	-	x	x	N	Low	
MF 23	-	x	x	x	N	Low - Medium	Approaching heritage status
MF 24	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 25	-	-	-	x	N	Low	
MF 26	-	-	-	x	N	Low	

6. Findings and recommendations

Recommendations were allocated to each site as discussed in section 5: **Located sites and their description, tables 5.3 and 5.4.**

A total of twenty six sites and features were located and documented (sites MF1-26). A further four sites were documented for survey orientation purposes (sites SO1-4). The located sites include unmarked graves, the ruined remains of houses and structures, staff accommodation and utility buildings and offices. In terms of the built environment (section 34 of the NHRA, 25 of 1999) the vast majority of buildings are considered to be of low heritage significance with the exception of three buildings which are of low to medium heritage significance (sites MF14, 17 and 23) because of their approaching heritage status (i.e. approaching 60 years of age). It is recommended that these buildings will have to be formally recorded before destruction when they reach 60 years of age. They are visible on the topographical map of 1968 so are currently at least 48 years old. Graves totalling eight from four sites (MF1, MF5-7) are regarded as highly significant (see significance rating scales fig. 5.1 & 5.2). It is recommended that they be conserved *in situ* and fenced to protect them from damage resulting from agricultural expansion activities and that family and relatives be allowed access. In the case where graves are older than 60 years they are protected under section 36 of the NHRA (25 of 1999) and therefore a permit must be issued by SAHRA before the graves may be relocated or exhumed. If the graves are younger than 60 years the Human Tissues Act 65 of 1983 applies whereby a registered funeral undertaker may facilitate exhumation and reburial. Since the graves located during this survey have no headstones, social consultation with the families will form the basis on which the age of the graves will be determined.

From a heritage perspective it is therefore recommended that the proposed activities continue on the condition that the recommendations of this report regarding graves and the built environment receive attention.

The bulk of archaeological remains are normally located beneath the soil surface. It is therefore possible that some significant cultural material or remains were not located during this survey and will only be revealed when the soil is disturbed. Should excavation or large scale earth moving activities reveal any human skeletal remains, broken pieces of ceramic pottery, large quantities of sub-surface charcoal or any material that can be associated with previous occupation, a qualified archaeologist should be notified immediately. This will also temporarily halt such activities until an archaeologist have assessed the situation. It should be noted that if such a situation occurs it may have further financial implications.

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Appendix A

Terminology

“Alter” means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or other decoration or any other means.

“Archaeological” means –

- Material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artifacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features or structures;
- Rock Art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;
- Wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artifacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and
- Features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found;

“Conservation”, in relation to heritage resources, includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance;

“Cultural significance” means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance;

“Development” means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of a heritage authority in any way result in a change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place, or influence its stability and future well-being, including –

- construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change of use of a place or a structure at a place;
- carrying out any works on or over or under a place;

- subdivision or consolidation of land comprising, a place, including the structures or airspace of a place;
- constructing or putting up for display signs or hoardings;
- any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land; and
- any removal or destruction of trees, or removal of vegetation or topsoil;

“Expropriate” means the process as determined by the terms of and according to procedures described in the Expropriation Act, 1975 (Act No. 63 of 1975);

“Foreign cultural property”, in relation to a reciprocating state, means any object that is specifically designated by that state as being of importance for archaeology, history, literature, art or science;

“Grave” means a place of internment and includes the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place;

“Heritage resource” means any place or object of cultural significance;

“Heritage register” means a list of heritage resources in a province;

“Heritage resources authority” means the South African Heritage Resources Agency, established in terms of section 11, or, insofar as this Act (25 of 1999) is applicable in or in respect of a province, a provincial heritage resources authority (PHRA);

“Heritage site” means a place declared to be a national heritage site by SAHRA or a place declared to be a provincial heritage site by a provincial heritage resources authority;

“Improvement” in relation to heritage resources, includes the repair, restoration and rehabilitation of a place protected in terms of this Act (25 of 1999);

“Land” includes land covered by water and the air space above the land;

“Living heritage” means the intangible aspects of inherited culture, and may include –

- cultural tradition;
- oral history;
- performance;
- ritual;
- popular memory;
- skills and techniques;

- indigenous knowledge systems; and
- the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships;

“Management” in relation to heritage resources, includes the conservation, presentation and improvement of a place protected in terms of the Act;

“Object” means any moveable property of cultural significance which may be protected in terms of any provisions of the Act, including –

- any archaeological artifact;
- palaeontological and rare geological specimens;
- meteorites;
- other objects referred to in section 3 of the Act;

“Owner” includes the owner’s authorized agent and any person with a real interest in the property and –

- in the case of a place owned by the State or State-aided institutions, the Minister or any other person or body of persons responsible for the care, management or control of that place;
- in the case of tribal trust land, the recognized traditional authority;

“Place” includes –

- a site, area or region;
- a building or other structure which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with such building or other structure;
- a group of buildings or other structures which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with such group of buildings or other structures;
- an open space, including a public square, street or park; and
- in relation to the management of a place, includes the immediate surroundings of a place;

“Site” means any area of land, including land covered by water, and including any structures or objects thereon;

“Structure” means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Appendix B

Tables of site locations

A total of twenty six sites were located on the project area and numbered MF 1-26 (**Table A**). The initials “MF” represent Mawecro Farming followed by the number of the sites, spatial location with the aid of a GPS (Global Positioning System) was added to each site. **Table C** indicates the located sites on the respective farms Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU and Amanxala 436 JU. **Table B** indicates four survey orientation locations.

Table A. Site Locations.

Site Name	Date of compilation	GPS Coordinates		Photo figure No.
MF 1	24/06/2016	S25°37'01.84"	E031°51'57.65"	9-12
MF 2	24/06/2016	S25°37'06.38"	E031°50'40.23"	13
MF 3	24/06/2016	S25°37'43.17"	E031°50'33.49"	14
MF 4	25/06/2016	S25°37'42.94"	E031°50'36.75"	15
MF 5	25/06/2016	S25°37'02.72"	E031°51'56.75"	16
MF 6	25/06/2016	S25°37'08.00"	E031°52'00.19"	17
MF 7	25/06/2016	S25°37'07.95"	E031°52'00.75"	18
MF 8	25/06/2016	S25°39'26.16"	E031°52'05.51"	19
MF 9	25/06/2016	S25°37'42.80"	E031°50'41.60"	20
MF 10	25/06/2016	S25°37'44.85"	E031°50'41.19"	21, 22
MF 11	25/06/2016	S25°37'44.86"	E031°50'19.18"	23
MF 12	25/06/2016	S25°37'36.33"	E031°50'21.40"	24
MF 13	25/06/2016	S25°37'06.28"	E031°51'00.75"	25
MF 14	25/06/2016	S25°37'04.09"	E031°51'04.90"	26, 27
MF 15	25/06/2016	S25°37'03.64"	E031°51'11.99"	28, 29
MF 16	25/06/2016	S25°37'03.08"	E031°51'13.79"	30
MF 17	25/06/2016	S25°37'00.93"	E031°51'20.31"	31
MF 18	25/06/2016	S25°37'00.40"	E031°51'27.42"	32
MF 19	25/06/2016	S25°37'00.57"	E031°51'26.30"	33
MF 20	25/06/2016	S25°37'00.97"	E031°51'24.61"	34
MF 21	25/06/2016	S25°37'01.56"	E031°51'22.98"	35
MF 22	25/06/2016	S25°36'59.22"	E031°51'29.43"	36
MF 23	25/06/2016	S25°36'57.43"	E031°51'31.97"	37, 38
MF 24	25/06/2016	S25°37'03.28"	E031°51'30.78"	39
MF 25	25/06/2016	S25°37'06.30"	E031°51'30.97"	40
MF 26	25/06/2016	S25°37'08.91"	E031°51'30.01"	41

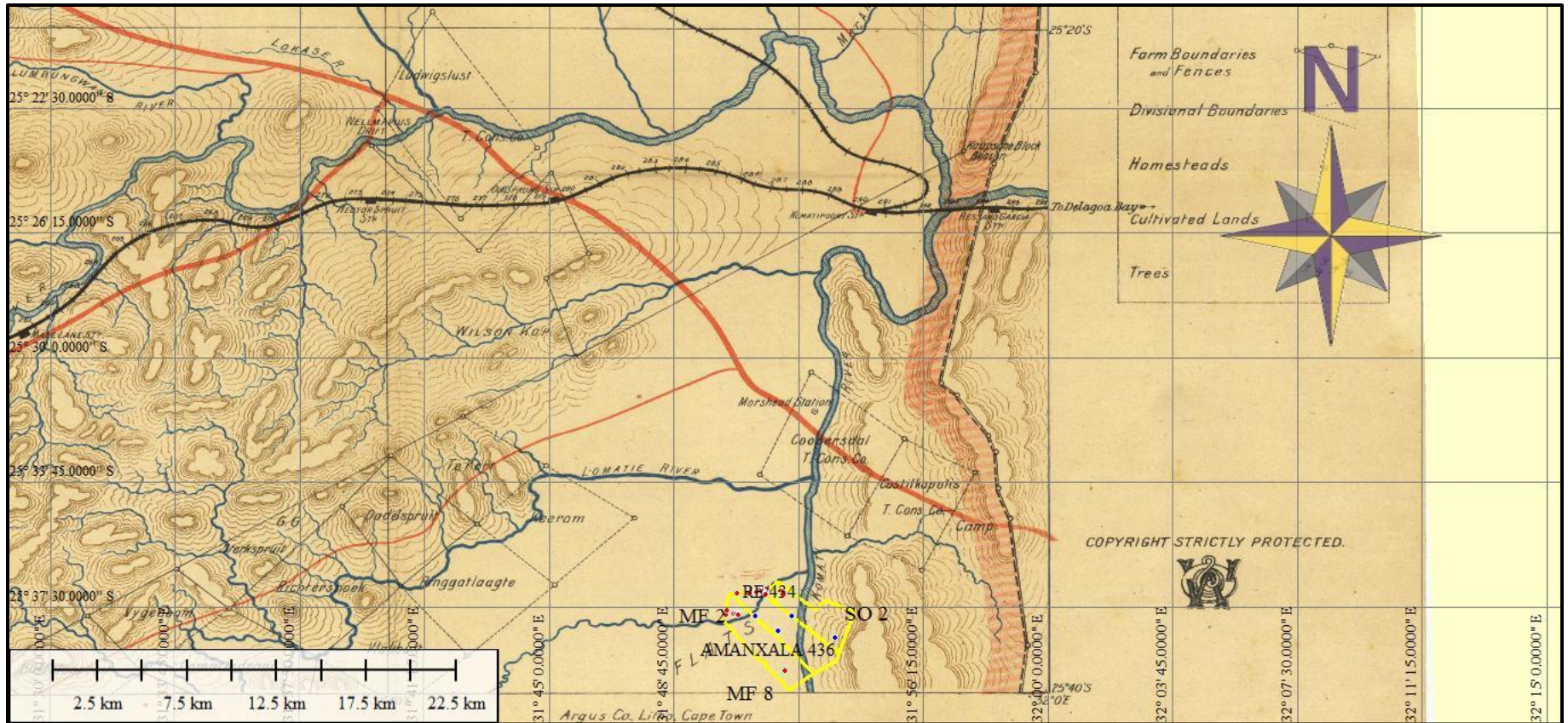
Table B. Survey Orientation Locations.

Site Name	Date of compilation	GPS Coordinates		Photo figure No.
SO 1	24/06/2016	S25°37'47.13"	E031°52'18.98"	1, 2
SO 2	24/06/2016	S25°38'25.89"	E031°53'35.99"	3, 4
SO 3	25/06/2016	S25°38'14.59"	E031°51'52.83"	5, 6
SO 4	25/06/2016	S25°37'47.01"	E031°51'12.36"	7, 8

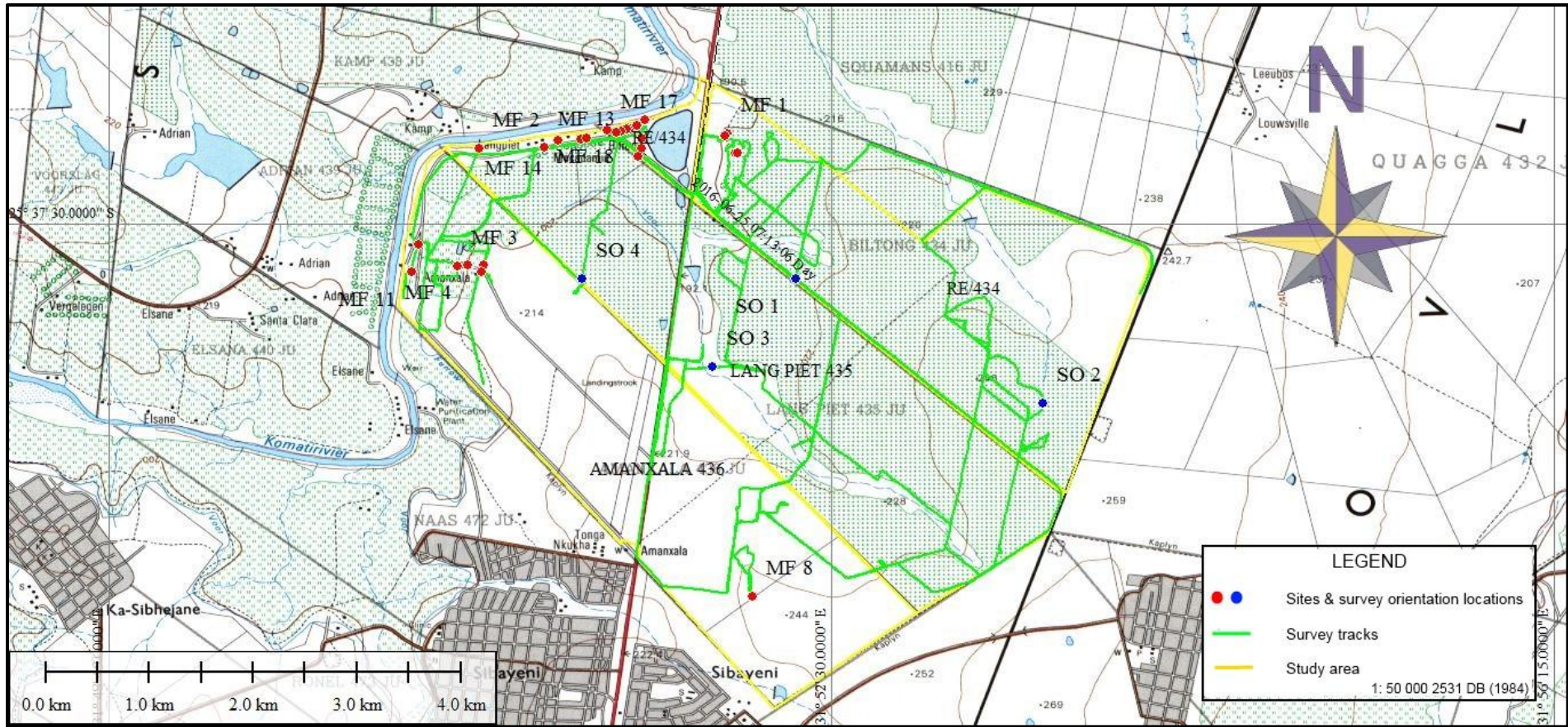
Table C. Located sites on Mawecro farms consisting of Biltong, Lang Piet and Amanxala.

Site No	Biltong 434 JU	Lang Piet 435 JU	Amanxala 436 JU	Ambit of Act Y/N	Heritage Significance
MF1	x			Y	High
MF2		x		N	Low
MF3			x	N	Low
MF4			x	N	Low
MF5	x			Y	High
MF6	x			Y	High
MF7	x			Y	High
MF8			x	N	Low
MF9			x	N	Low
MF10			x	N	Low
MF11			x	N	Low
MF12			x	N	Low
MF13		x		N	Low
MF14		x		N	Low-Med
MF15		x		N	Low
MF16		x		N	Low
MF17	x			N	Low-Med
MF18	x			N	Low
MF19	x			N	Low
MF20	x			N	Low
MF21	x			N	Low
MF22	x			N	Low
MF23	x			N	Low-Med
MF24	x			N	Low
MF25	x			N	Low
MF26	x			N	Low

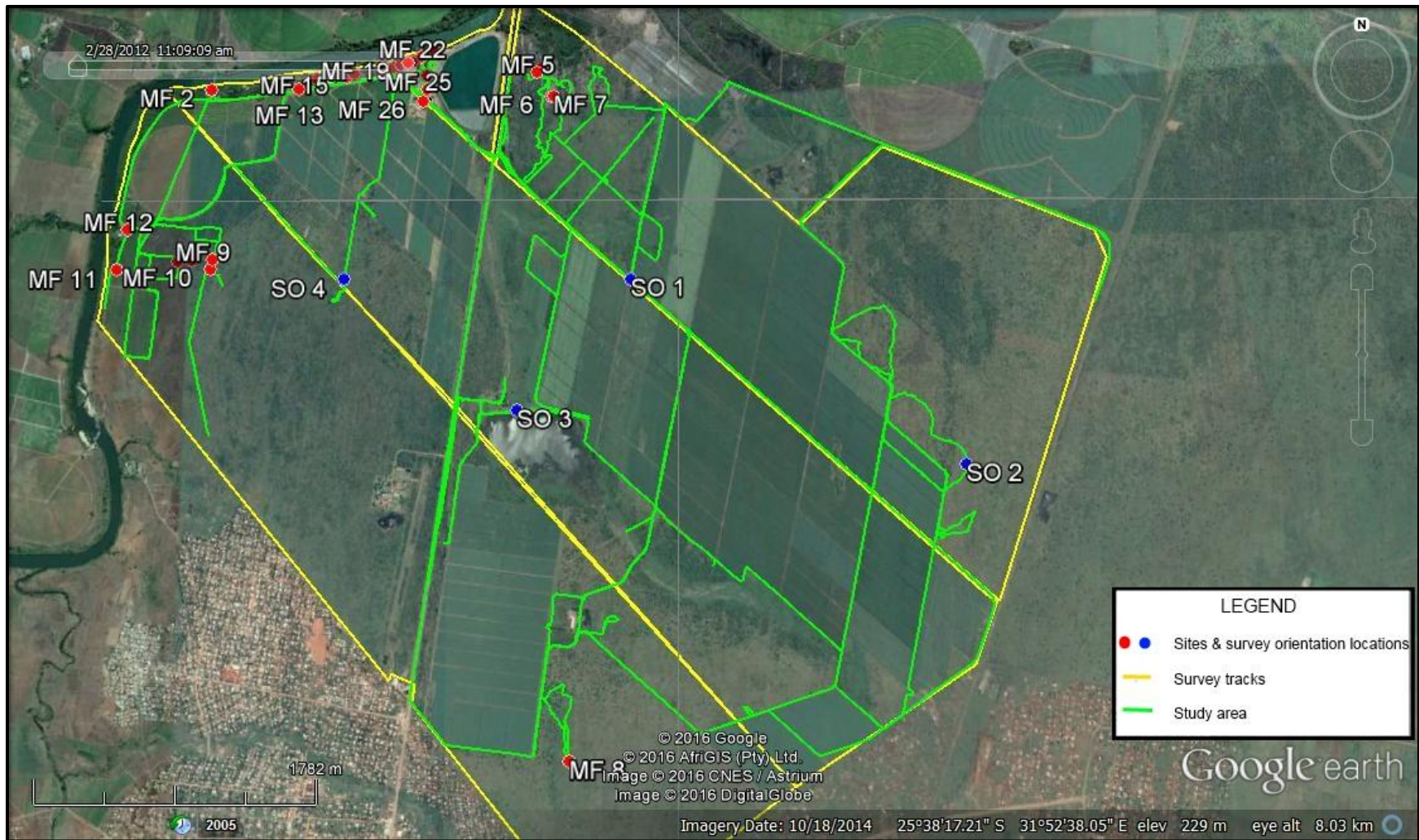
Appendix C



Historic Imperial Map of South Africa, 1900, sheet 102 De Kaap, shows the study area and located sites. Clearly no farm development visible at that stage.



Topographic map of the study area (2531 DB, 1984) as well as located sites and survey tracks.



A current Aerial photo with the project area in yellow, survey tracks in green and located sites as red dots.



An Aerial photograph showing the location of the graves on Biltong 434 JU.

Appendix D



Fig. 1. Site SO 1 (Survey orientation). Photo taken in a eastern direction.



Fig. 2. Site SO 1. Photo taken in south-western direction.



Fig. 3. Site SO 2. Photo taken in a northern direction.



Fig. 4. Site SO 2. Photo taken in an eastern direction.

Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)



Fig. 5. Site SO 3. Photo taken in an north-eastern direction.



Fig. 6. Site SO 3. Photo taken in an south-eastern direction.



Fig. 7. Site SO 4. Photo taken in an eastern direction.



Fig. 8. Site SO 4. Photo taken in a southern direction.

Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)



Fig. 9. Site MF 1. Informant Mr Isaac Mandlazi, recalls that either family members of Ngomane or Mawewe were buried here.



Fig. 10. Site MF 1. Arrows indicate graves, photo taken in a western direction.



Fig. 11. Site MF 1. Arrows indicate graves, photo taken in a north-western direction.



Fig. 12. The informant Mr Isaac Mandlazi indicates a fifth grave. Photo taken in northern direction.



Fig. 13. Site MF 2. A weir in the Komati River. Photo taken in western direction.



Fig. 14. Site MF 3. Ruin, photo taken in a southern direction.



Fig. 15. Site MF 4. Photo taken in south-eastern direction.



Fig. 16. Site MF 5. Informant Mr Francisco Shongo points out the grave. He does not have information about the individual buried here.



Fig. 17. MF 6. Informant Mr Francisco Shongo points out another single grave. The deceased or family is not known, relatives stopped visiting the grave since 2007.

Kudzala Antiquity cc Mawecro Farming (Biltong 434 JU, Lang Piet 435 JU, Amanxala 436 JU)



Fig. 18. Site MF 7. A single grave shown by informant Mr Francisco Shongo. The deceased or family is not known, relatives stopped visiting the grave since 2007.



Fig. 19. Site MF 8. The ruined remains of a reservoir. Photo taken in a southern direction.



Fig. 20. Site MF 9. Photo taken in south-eastern direction.



Fig. 21. Site MF 10. Photo taken in eastern direction.



Fig. 22. MF 10. Surface scatter of glassware and household items.



Fig. 23. Site MF 11. Staff housing. Photo taken in western direction.



Fig. 24. Site MF 12. Staff housing. Photo taken south-west.



Fig. 25. Site MF 13. Staff housing, five units. Photo taken west.



Fig. 26. Site MF 14. Currently used as a fertilizer storage facility, this building served as a military building in the past. It probably approaches 60 years of age.



Fig. 27. Site MF 14. A second building which is currently utilized as club house is probably contemporaneous with the current fertiliser storage building.



Fig. 28. Site MF 15. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 29. Site MF 15. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 30. Site MF 16. Staff residence. Photo taken in western direction.



Fig. 31. Site MF 17. Old farm offices. Approaching 60 years of age. Photo taken west.



Fig. 32. Site MF 18. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 33. Site MF 19. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 34. Site MF 20. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 35. Site MF 21. Staff residence. Photo taken west.



Fig. 36. Site MF 22. Farm offices. Photo taken north.



Fig. 37. Site MF 23. Farm workshop, approaching heritage (60 years) age. Photo taken north.



Fig. 38. Site MF 23. Farm workshop. Photo taken east.



Fig. 39. Site MF 24. Utility shed. Photo taken south.



Fig. 40. Site MF 25. Farm offices. Photo taken in an south-eastern direction.



Fig. 41. Site MF 26. Banana packaging facility. Photo taken in a western direction.