

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

FOR THE PROPOSED MOROKWENG FILLING STATION AND  
SHOPPING CENTRE, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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LEAP

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## General

The possibility of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds cannot be excluded. If any possible finds are made during construction, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist contacted for an assessment of the find/s.

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- Recommendations delivered to the Client.


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**SIGNATURE:**

 \_\_\_\_\_

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Site name and location:** The proposed Morokweng Filling Station and Shopping Centre will be located on a Portion of the Farm Morokweng 246 I.M, North West Province.

**1: 50 000 Topographic Map:** 2623 BB.

**EIA Consultant:** Leap

**Developer:** The Meronamix (Pty) Ltd

**Heritage Consultant:** Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC).

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**Date of Report:** 30 January 2017

### Findings of the Assessment:

HCAC was appointed to assess the study area in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 of the NHRA as part of the basic assessment for the project. Similar to other study's in the area (e.g., Fourie 20113) no archaeological sites (Iron Age or Stone Age) of significance were recorded. No further mitigation prior to construction is recommended in terms of Section 35 for the proposed development to proceed.

In terms of the built environment of the area (Section 34), no standing structures older than 60 years occur within the study area and in terms of Section 36 of the Act no burial sites were recorded in the study area. However if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation. Due to the subsurface nature of archaeological remains and the fact that graves can occur anywhere on the landscape, it is recommended that a chance find procedure is implemented for the project as part of the EMP.

The study area is surrounded by residential developments (formal and informal) and no significant cultural landscapes or viewsapes were noted during the fieldwork. Based on the results of the field survey of the proposed development there are no significant archaeological risks associated with the development and HCAC is of the opinion that from an archaeological point of view there is no reason why the development should not proceed if the recommendations as made in the report area adhered to and based on approval from SAHRA.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AIA: Archaeological Impact Assessment
ASAPA: Association of South African Professional Archaeologists
BIA: Basic Impact Assessment
CRM: Cultural Resource Management
ECO: Environmental Control Officer
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment*
EIA: Early Iron Age*
EIA Practitioner: Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner
EMP: Environmental Management Plan
ESA: Early Stone Age
GPS: Global Positioning System
HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment
LIA: Late Iron Age
LSA: Late Stone Age
MEC: Member of the Executive Council
MIA: Middle Iron Age
MPRDA: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act
MSA: Middle Stone Age
NEMA: National Environmental Management Act
PRHA: Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
SADC: Southern African Development Community
SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources Agency

*\*Although EIA refers to both Environmental Impact Assessment and the Early Iron Age both are internationally accepted abbreviations and must be read and interpreted in the context it is used.*

## GLOSSARY

Archaeological site (remains of human activity over 100 years old)

Early Stone Age (~ 2.6 million to 250 000 years ago)

Middle Stone Age (~ 250 000 to 40-25 000 years ago)

Later Stone Age (~ 40-25 000, to recently, 100 years ago)

The Iron Age (~ AD 400 to 1840)

Historic (~ AD 1840 to 1950)

Historic building (over 60 years old)

## 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (**HCAC**) was appointed to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed Morokweng Filling station and Shopping Centre development as part of the Basic Assessment process.

The aim of the study is to identify cultural heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within local, provincial and national context. It serves to assess the impact of the proposed project on non-renewable heritage resources, and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the responsible cultural resources management measures that might be required to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner. It is also conducted to protect, preserve, and develop such resources within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

The report outlines the approach and methodology utilized before and during the survey, which includes: Phase 1, a desktop study that includes collection from various sources and consultations; Phase 2, the physical surveying of the study area on foot and by vehicle; Phase 3, reporting the outcome of the study.

General site conditions were recorded by means of photographs, GPS locations, and site descriptions. Possible impacts were identified and mitigation measures are proposed in the following report.

This report must also be submitted to the SAHRA for review.

## 1.1. Terms of Reference

### Desktop study

Conduct a brief desktop study where information on the area is collected to provide a background setting of the archaeology that can be expected in the area.

### Field study

Conduct a field study to: a) systematically survey the proposed project area to locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources recorded in the project area.

### Reporting

Report on the identification of anticipated and cumulative impacts the operational units of the proposed project activity may have on the identified heritage resources for all 3 phases of the project; i.e., construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Consider alternatives, should any significant sites be impacted adversely by the proposed project. Ensure that all studies and results comply with Heritage legislation and the code of ethics and guidelines of ASAPA.

To assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, and to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

## 1.2. Archaeological Legislation and Best Practice

Phase 1, an AIA or a HIA is a pre-requisite for development in South Africa as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation. The overall purpose of a heritage specialist input is to:

- » Identify any heritage resources, which may be affected;
- » Assess the nature and degree of significance of such resources;
- » Establish heritage informants/constraints to guide the development process through establishing thresholds of impact significance;
- » Assess the negative and positive impact of the development on these resources;
- » Make recommendations for the appropriate heritage management of these impacts.

The AIA or HIA, as a specialist sub-section of the EIA, is required under the National Heritage Resources Act NHRA of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), Section 23(2) (b) of the NEMA and section S. 39 (3) (b) (iii) of the MPRDA.

The AIA should be submitted, as part of the EIA, BIA or EMP, to the PHRA if established in the province or to SAHRA. SAHRA will be ultimately responsible for the professional evaluation of Phase 1 AIA reports upon which review comments will be issued. 'Best practice' requires Phase 1 AIA reports and additional development information, as per the EIA, BIA/EMP, to be submitted in duplicate to SAHRA after completion of the study. SAHRA accepts Phase 1 AIA reports authored by professional archaeologists, accredited with ASAPA or with a proven ability to do archaeological work.

Minimum accreditation requirements include an Honours degree in archaeology or related discipline and 3 years post-university CRM experience (field supervisor level).

Minimum standards for reports, site documentation and descriptions are set by ASAPA in collaboration with SAHRA. ASAPA is based in South Africa, representing professional archaeology in the SADC region. ASAPA is primarily involved in the overseeing of ethical practice and standards regarding the archaeological profession. Membership is based on proposal and secondment by other professional members.

Phase 1 AIA's are primarily concerned with the location and identification of sites situated within a proposed development area. Identified sites should be assessed according to their significance. Relevant conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations should be made. Recommendations are subject to evaluation by SAHRA.

Conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations, as approved by SAHRA, are to be used as guidelines in the developer's decision making process.

Phase 2 archaeological projects are primarily based on salvage/mitigation excavations preceding development destruction or impact on a site. Phase 2 excavations can only be conducted with a permit, issued by SAHRA to the appointed archaeologist. Permit conditions are prescribed by SAHRA and includes (as minimum requirements) reporting back strategies to SAHRA and deposition of excavated material at an accredited repository.

In the event of a site conservation option being preferred by the developer, a site management plan, prepared by a professional archaeologist and approved by SAHRA, will suffice as minimum requirement.

After mitigation of a site, a destruction permit must be applied for from SAHRA by the client before development may proceed.

Human remains older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, with reference to Section 36. Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983), and are the jurisdiction of SAHRA. The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36[5]) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in this age category, located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority, require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years, in addition to SAHRA authorisation. If the grave is not situated inside a formal cemetery, but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws, set by the cemetery authority, must be adhered to.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983), and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning; or in some cases, the MEC for Housing and Welfare. Authorisation for exhumation and reinternment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. To handle and transport human remains, the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).

### 1.3. Description of Study Area

#### 1.3.1 Location Data

The proposed Morokweng Filling station and shopping Centre development is located on a Portion of Portion 83 of the Farm Morokweng 246 I.M (Figure 1). The study area comprises approximately 2, 4554 hectares. The proposed development is surrounded by densely populated townships and the general area has been extensively disturbed. The study area is directly accessible from the R 379 and is located at 26° 06' 04.5796" S, 23° 45' 08.8640" E.

The village of Morokweng is a rather large rural village with some commerce in the shape of general dealers, bottle stores and automotive spares and repairs dominating. It supports a largely subsistence farming community who produces mainly maize and have live-stock such as cattle, goats and sheep. These subsistence farming activities occur all around and within the immediate vicinity of the village. The vegetation is described by Mucina and Rutherford (2006) as Molopo Bushveld.

1.3.2. Location Map

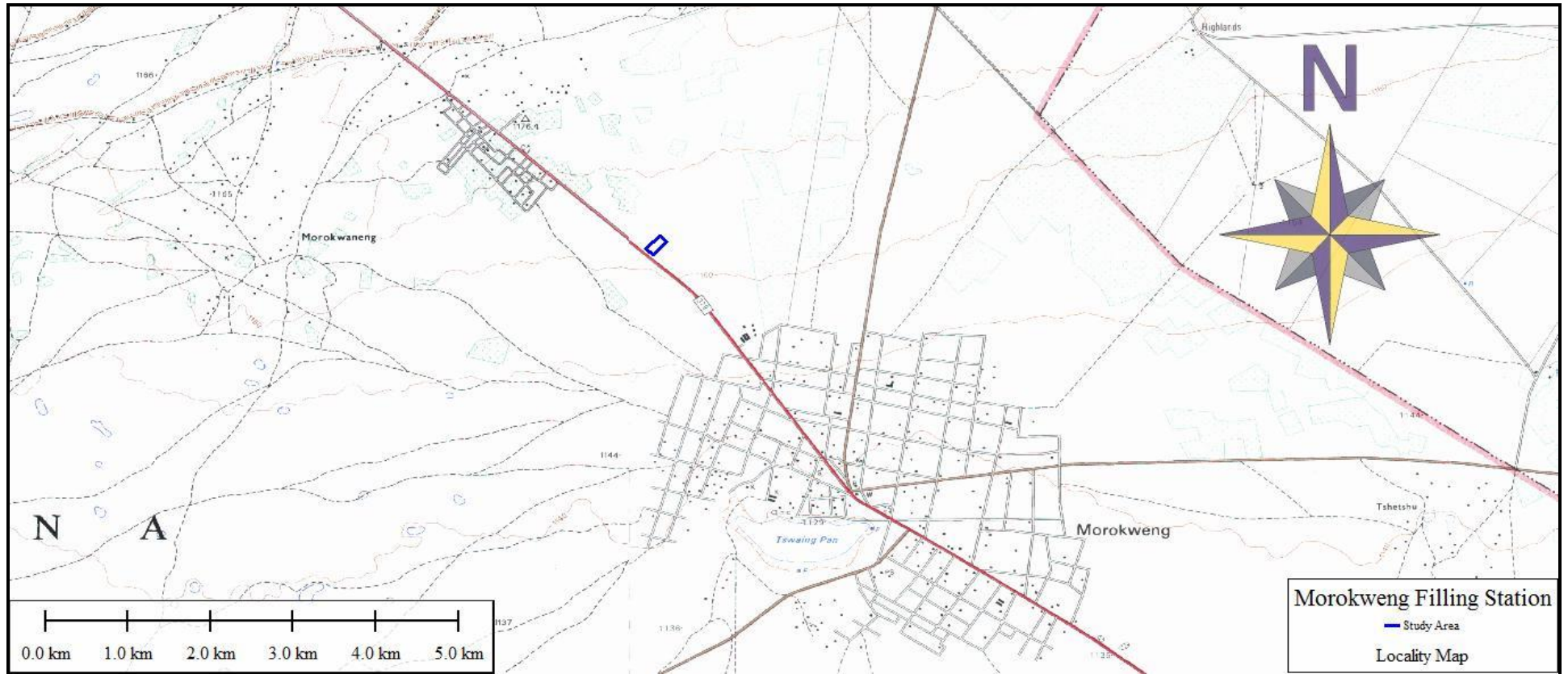


Figure 1. Location map

## 2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study is to cover archaeological databases to compile a background of the archaeology that can be expected in the study area followed by field verification; this was accomplished by means of the following phases.

### 2.1 Phase 1 - Desktop Study

The first phase comprised desktop, scanning existing records for archaeological sites, historical sites, graves, architecture (structures older than 60 years) of the area. The following approached was followed:

#### 2.1.1 Literature Search

This was conducted by utilising data stored in the national archives and published reports relevant to the area. The aim of this is to extract data and information on the area in question.

#### 2.1.2 Information Collection

SAHRIS was consulted to collect data from previously conducted CRM projects in the region to provide a comprehensive account of the history of the study area.

#### 2.1.3 Consultation

No public consultation was done by the author as this was done independently as part of the BA.

#### 2.1.4 Google Earth and Mapping Survey

Google Earth and 1:50 000 maps of the area were utilised to identify possible places where sites of heritage significance might be located.

#### 2.1.5 Genealogical Society of South Africa

The database of the Genealogical Society was consulted to collect data on any known graves in the area.

### 2.2 Phase 2 - Physical Surveying

Due to the nature of cultural remains, the majority of which occurs below surface, a field survey of the proposed development was conducted. The study area was surveyed by means of vehicle and extensive pedestrian surveys during the week of 25 January 2017.

The survey was aimed at covering the proposed development footprint, focussing on specific areas on the landscape that would be more likely to contain archaeological and/or other heritage remains like drainage lines, rocky outcrops as well as slight elevations in the natural topography. These areas were searched more intensively, but many other areas were walked in order to confirm expectations in those areas. Track logs of the areas covered were taken (Figure 2).



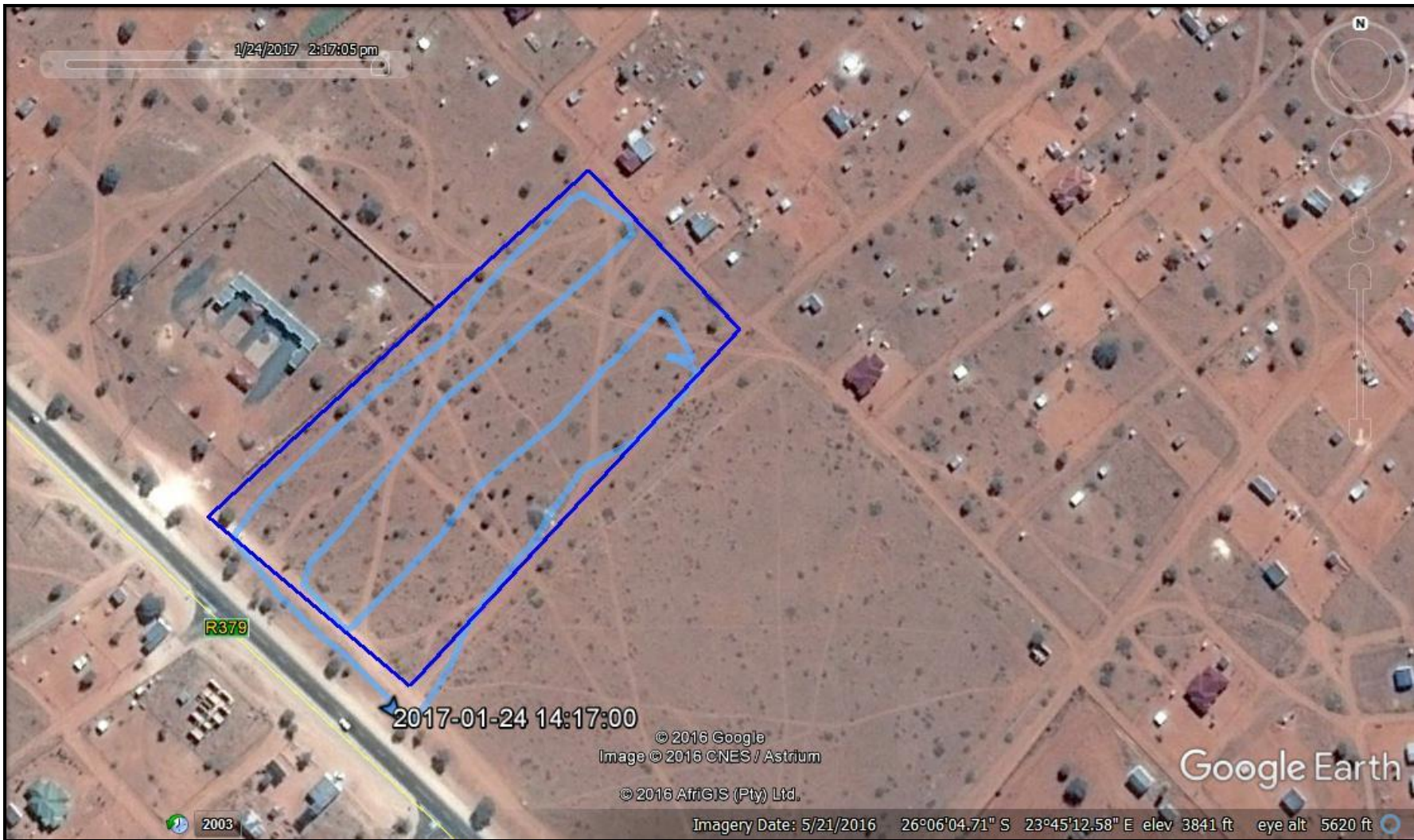


Figure 2. Track logs of the areas surveyed indicated in light blue with the development footprint indicated in dark blue.



### 2.3. Restrictions

Due to the subsurface nature of archaeological artefacts, the possibility exists that some features or artefacts may not have been discovered/ recorded during the survey and the possible occurrence of unmarked graves and other cultural material cannot be excluded. This report only deals with the footprint area of the proposed development as indicated in the location map. It should be noted that access in the study area was restricted due to safety concerns.

Although HCAC surveyed the area as thoroughly as possible, it is incumbent upon the developer to stop operations and inform the relevant heritage agency should further cultural remains, such as graves, stone tool scatters, artefacts, bones or fossils, be exposed during the process of development.

### 3. NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT

The Applicant intends to develop a filling station and shopping centre on part of the Farm Morokweng 246 I.M. The development will include associated infrastructure such as electrical infrastructure and sanitation as well as access roads. The development comprises approximately 2, 4554 hectares.

## 4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

### 4.1 Databases Consulted

Very few previous CRM projects were conducted in the general vicinity of the study area. For this study a scoping report by Fourie (2013) was consulted. Fourie found no heritage sites.

#### *Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments*

Neither the Genealogical Society nor the monuments database at Google Earth (Google Earth also include some archaeological sites and historical battlefields) have any recorded sites in the study area.

### 4.2. Brief background to the study area

It was necessary to use a range of sources in order to give an account of the history of the study area. Sources include secondary source material, maps, online sources and archival documents. This study should be viewed as an introduction to the history of the area under investigation.

Note that, because the Morokweng/Morokwen Reserve formed part of the Cape Colony and Cape Province before being included in the North West Province, many files regarding this area is kept at the Western Cape Archives Repository.

#### **4.2.1. Maps of the area under investigation.**

Since the mid-1800s up until the present, South Africa has been divided and re-divided into various districts. By the late 1800s, the area that would become Morokweng formed part of the Cape Colony. After 1910 the study area became part of the Cape Province. After 1994 the land formed part of the North West Province. It currently falls within the Kagisano-

Molopo Local Municipal area in the [Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati](#) district (Bergh 1999: 17; 20-27).

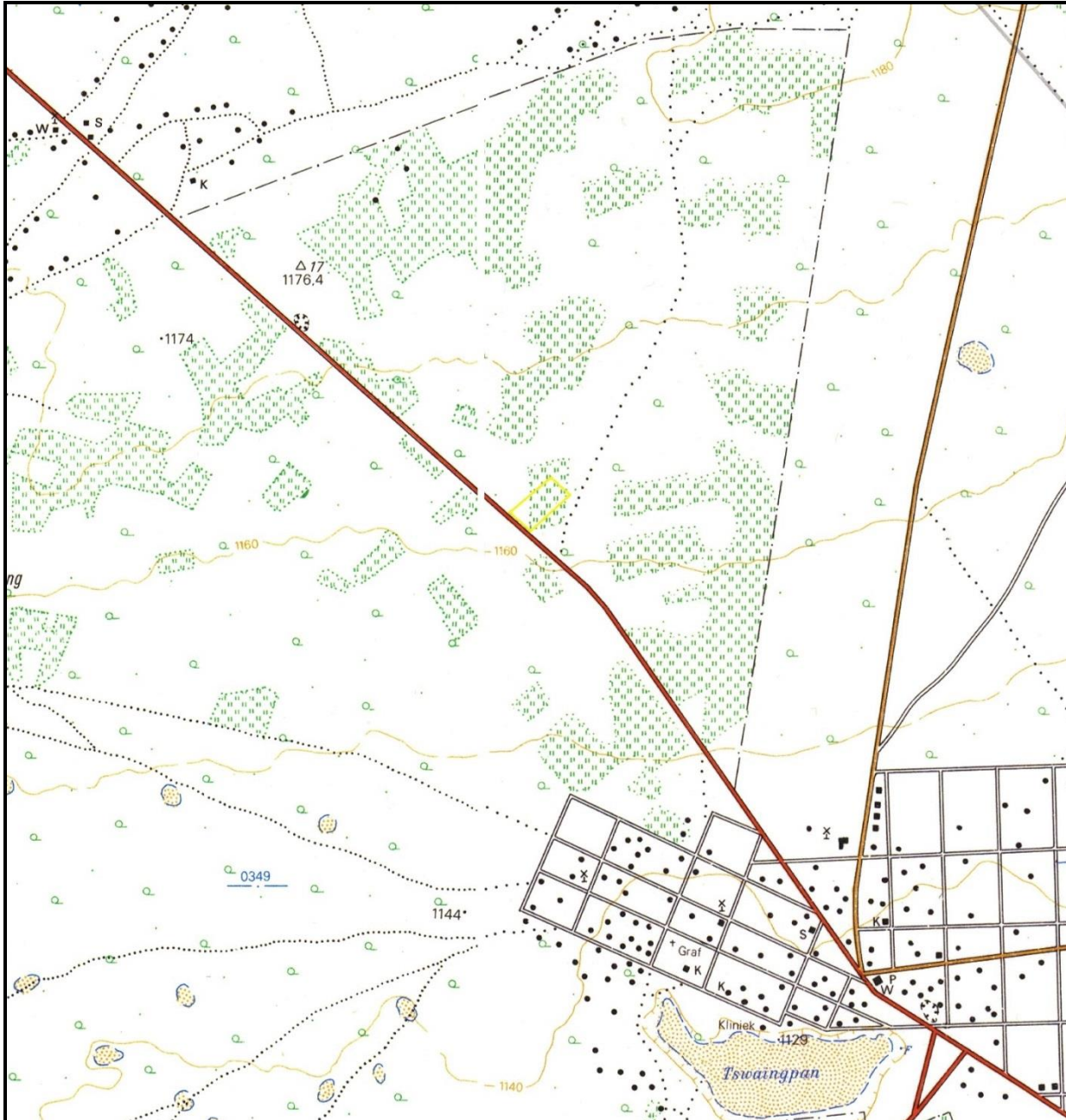


Figure 3. 1974 Topographical map showing the approximate location of the property under investigation (yellow border). The portion of interest lay next to a main road, some distance to the northwest of Morokweng. A track or footpath can be seen to the east of the property. The surrounding area was used mainly as cultivated fields, and no buildings can be seen in the vicinity. The area under investigation was also used for crop cultivation (Topographical Map 1974; Topographical Map 1974).

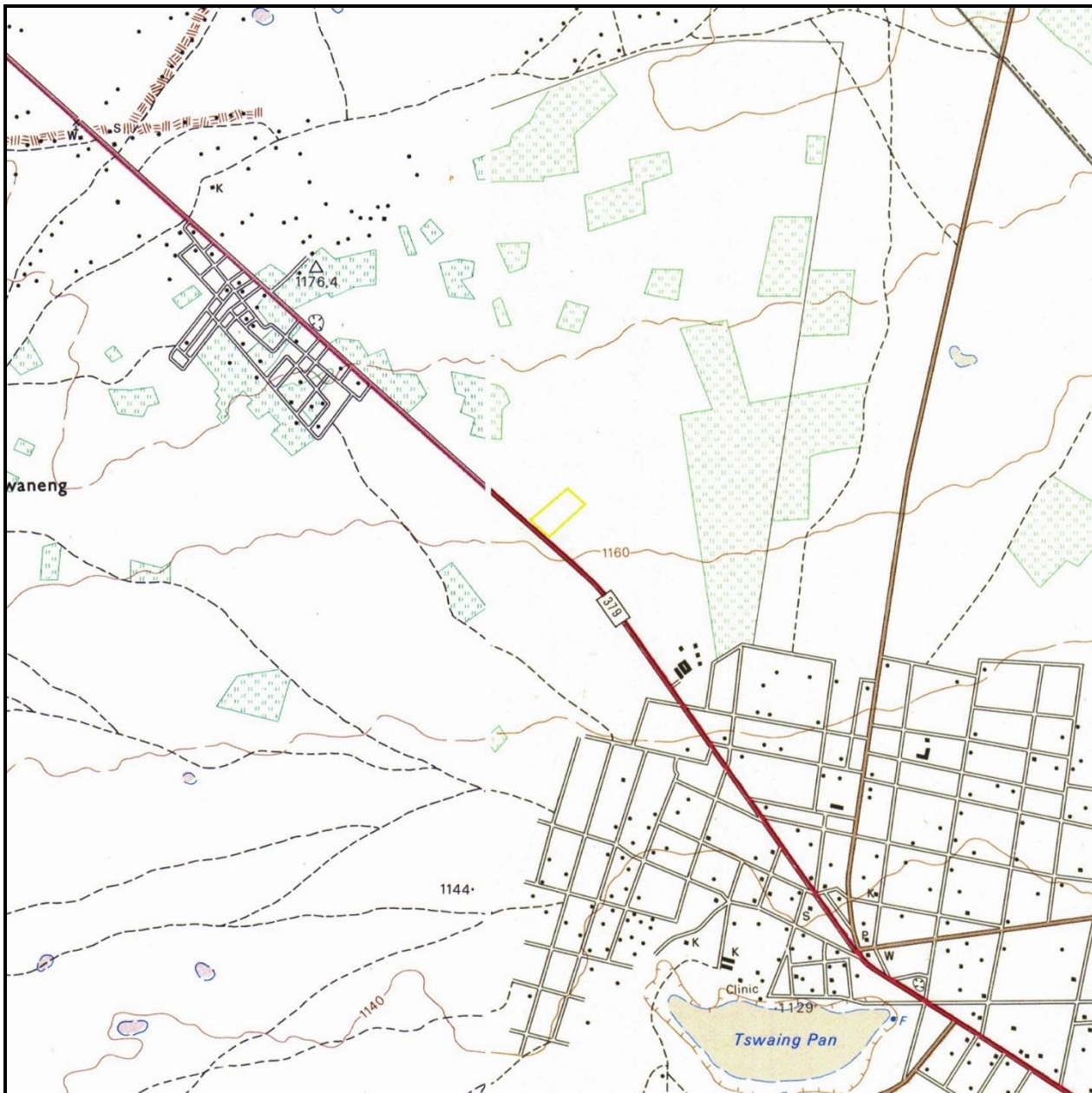


Figure 4. 1990 Topographical map showing the approximate location of the property under investigation (yellow border). The property was located next to the 379 Main Road, about halfway between the Morokweng settlement (to the southeast) and the Morokwaneng settlement (to the northwest). There are still no buildings visible in the vicinity of the property and no other signs of development can be seen on this portion. Some cultivated lands are visible in the area between the settlements (Topographical Map 1990; Topographical Map 1990).



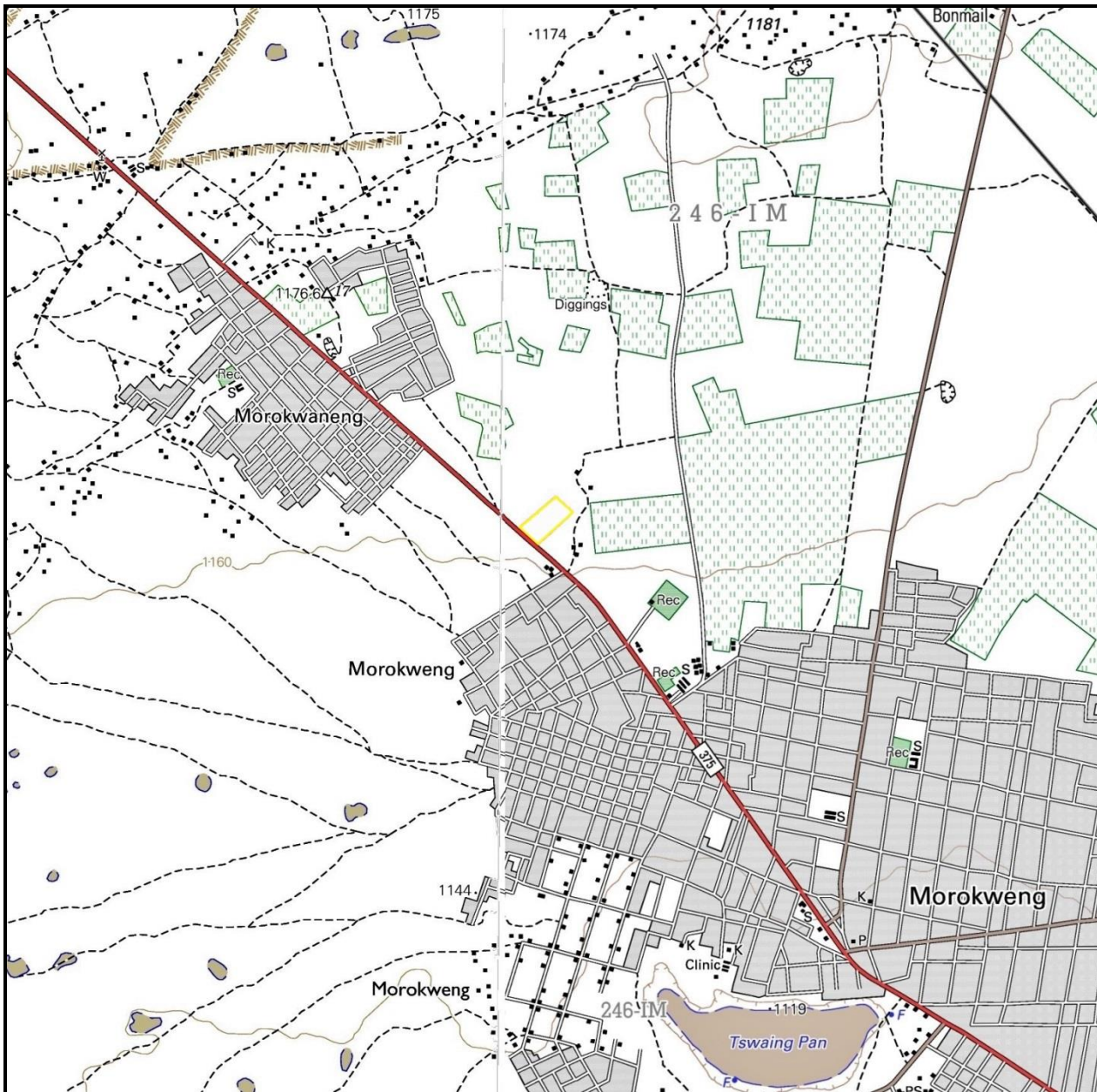


Figure 5. 2003 Topographical map showing the approximate location of the property under investigation (yellow border). Both the Morokweng and Morokwaneng townships had expanded and were much closer to the portion under investigation. The road was renamed as the 275 Main Road and a hiking trail is visible to the east of the property. Some buildings can be seen along this track. No developments can be seen on the portion under investigation. (Topographical Map 2003; Topographical Map 2003)

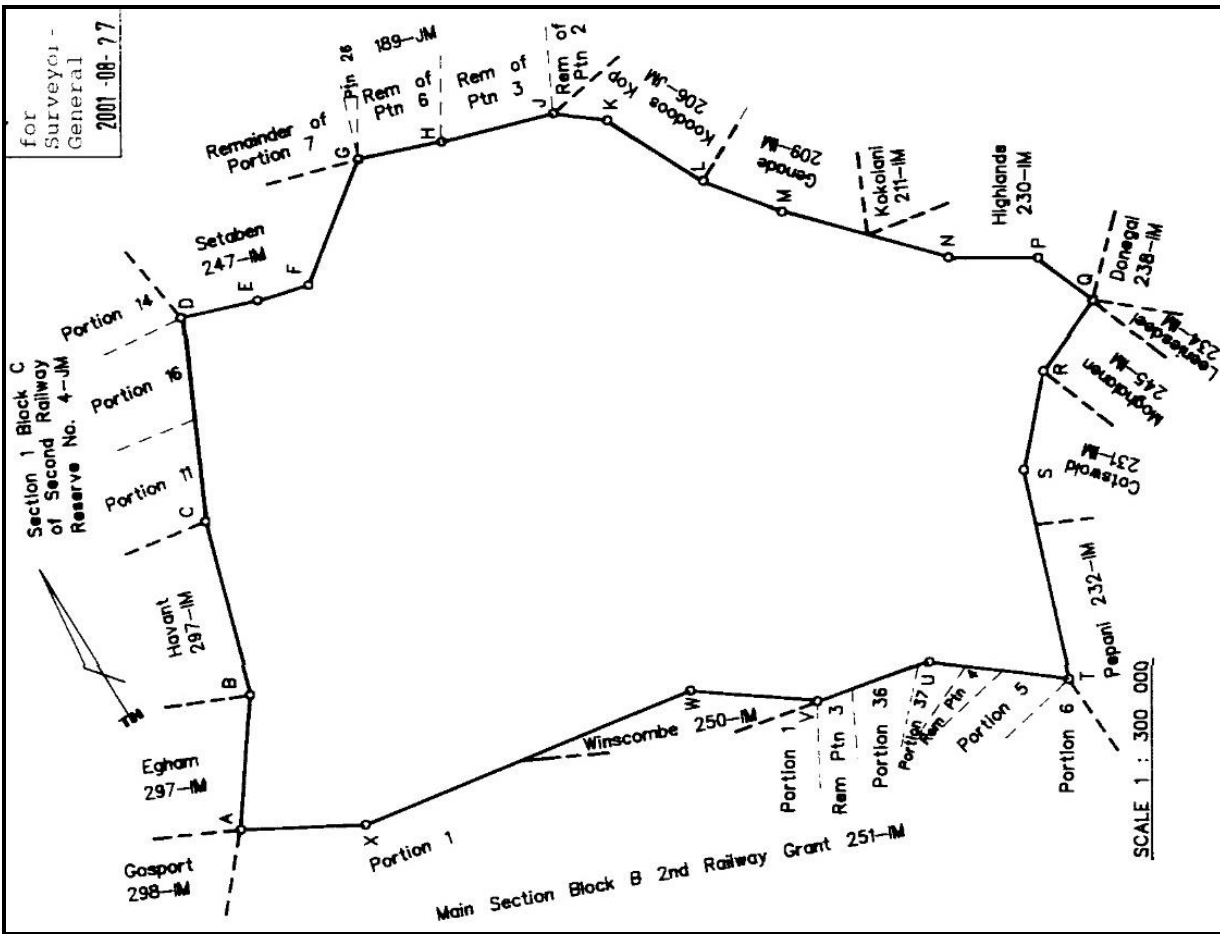


Figure 6. 2001 Surveyor-General diagram of the farm Morokwen 246 IM. (Chief Surveyor-General 2017)



Figure 7: 2016 Google Earth image showing the area under investigation. (Google Earth 2016)



#### 4.2.2. Historical overview of the development of the study area

All available archival evidence was used to provide some information on the history of the study area in the following section. Unfortunately no information could be found specifically dealing with Portion 83 of Morokweng 246 IM. Some background information and a number of maps of the area however provide insight as to how the Morokweng area changed and developed over time.

When the Union Government of South Africa passed Act No. 27 of 1913, many areas were proclaimed as reserves where black people would reside and be able to purchase land. This was the first major piece of segregation legislation passed by the Union Parliament. In short, the act decreed that whites were not allowed to buy land from blacks and vice versa. The Morokweng Native Reserve was proclaimed on 19 June 1913, and formed part of the Vryburg District, Cape Province. (SA History 2017: 454)

Piet Setlhabetsi was the headman over a hundred people in the Konki Location at Morokweng from 1921 until his death in December 1933. His subsidies were increased a number of times, since the Native Commissioner felt that "his services have been satisfactory and his conduct very good." A new headman, Setlhabetsi Tshokho, was elected and appointed in September 1934. The new headman was however convicted on three counts of stock theft in Morokweng in December 1943. He was therefore dismissed from his post. A new headman, Johnny Piet Setlhabetse, was appointed early in 1944. (NASA SAB, BAO: 5/436 F54/1734/11)

The Morokweng Tribal Authority was established in 1957. It was noted by the Bantu Affairs Commissioner of the time that the chairman and members of the authority of the reserve were strong government supporters that never caused any difficulties (NASA SAB, BAO: 10179 D52/1734/86).



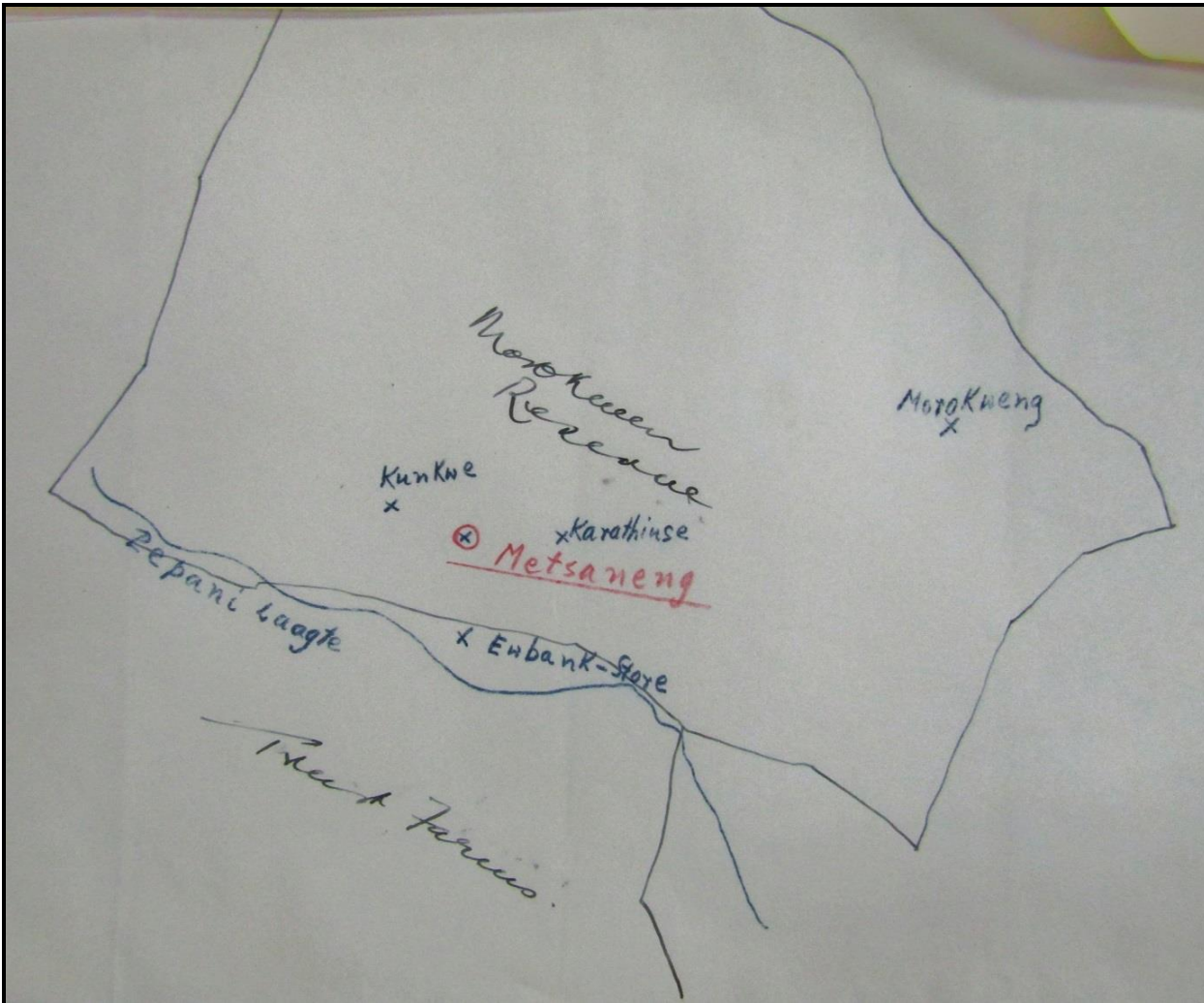


Figure 8. 1950 Map of the Morokweng Reserve. (NASA SAB, NTS: 609 45/106)

In 1959, the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa approved the collection of a levy on the community resident in the area of the Morokweng Tribal Authority under Headman Ben Direleng Keipatile Monchusi in the Vryburg District. The tribe had voluntarily made application for the levy of a special rate for the purpose of collecting funds for the erection of school buildings and for other tribal purposes. The Minister of Native Affairs was satisfied that the majority of the taxpayers of the tribe desired such a levy and approved the purpose for which it was imposed. This rate of ten shillings per year was payable for the years 1959 to 1962. The tribal authority had full control over the use of this levy (NASA SAB, NTS: 1414 433/213; NASA SAB, URU: 3866 93).



Figure 9. 1959 Map showing the layout of the Morokweng Reserve, as well as other sites to the north and west of the area. (NASA SAB, NTS: 1030 79/158)

By 1960, Konki formed about half of the Morokweng Native Reserve. It was decided that Headman Johnny Setlhabeti would be given civil and criminal jurisdiction over the Konki location, as well as over the Setaben Crown Reserve. This was decided because Setlhabeti was the only other government headman who was a councillor. Headman Ben Monchusi acted as chairman and head of the whole Morokweng Tribal Authority at the time, and the dominant tribe in this area was the Barolong. (NASA SAB, BAO: 5/436 F54/1734/11)

In the early 1960s, there were requests to survey the Morokweng area for diamonds. By October 1962 permission had been granted for the prospecting and mining of diamonds in the area, first by one Mr Renou. The Department of Bantu Affairs and Administration regarded mining in the area as a very good potential source of revenue for the black people living there. H. E. Teifel of the company Portex S. A. (Pty) Ltd applied for a permit to mine for diamonds in the area in the early 1960s, but it could not be ascertained whether this request was granted (NASA SAB, BAO: 10179 D52/1734/104).

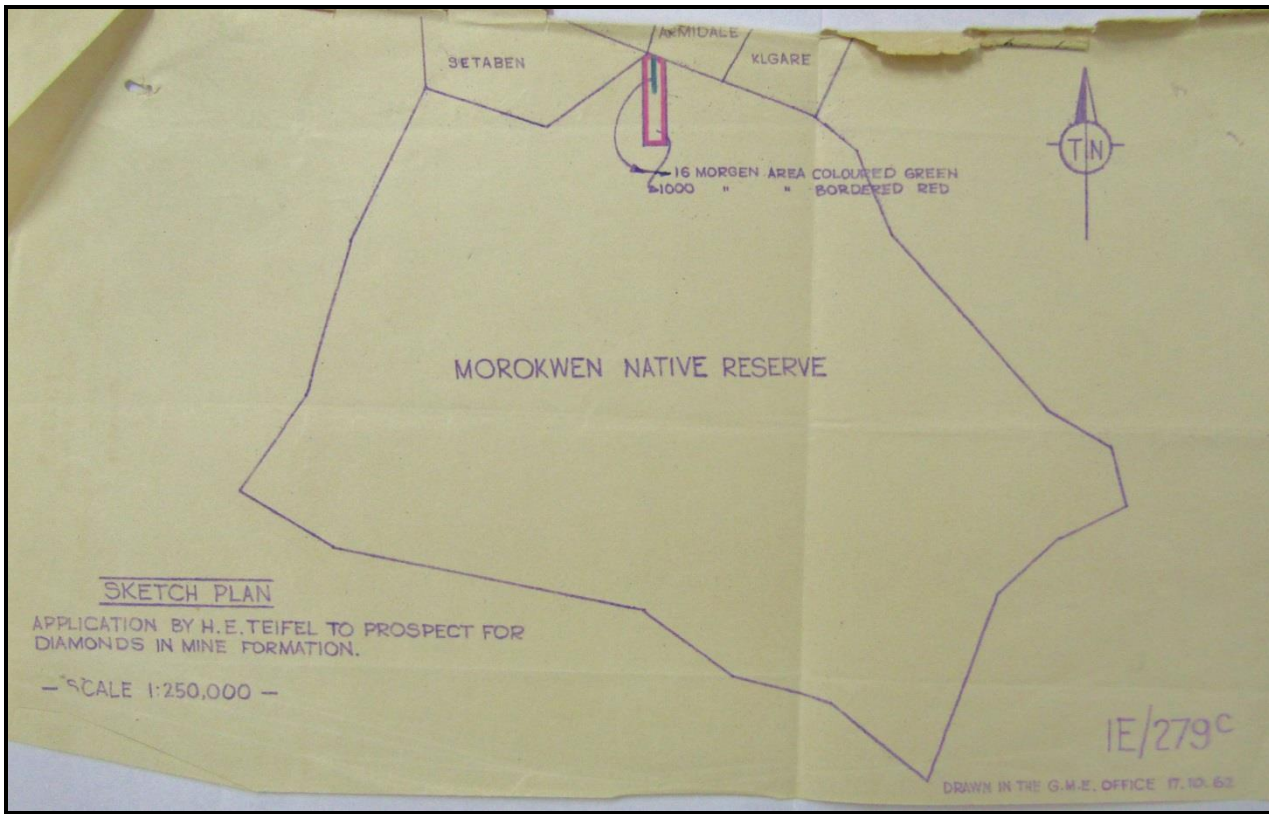


Figure 10. 1962 Sketch plan of the Morokweng Native Reserve (sometimes referred to as the “Morokwen” Native Reserve), showing a 1000 morgen area (red) where Teifel applied for a diamond mining permit (NASA SAB, BAO: 10179 D52/1734/104).

Since the mid-1960s, prospectors started applying for permits to prospect for salt in the Morokweng area. L. C. F. Niemand and T. J Niemand received a permit in June 1969 to prospect for salt on a 1000 morgen of Konki Pan at Morokweng Reserve. The permit was renewed until at least 1971. A monthly fee was payable to the Department of Bantu Administration and Development, who oversaw all undertakings in the black reserves at the time (NASA SAB, BAO: 10179 D52/1734/86).





Figure 11. 1961 Map showing the locating of the Morokweng Village (northeast) in relation to the Court Room (to the south, east of the road) and the police station (further to the south). (NASA SAB, BAO: 1/2120 D49/9/1734/104)

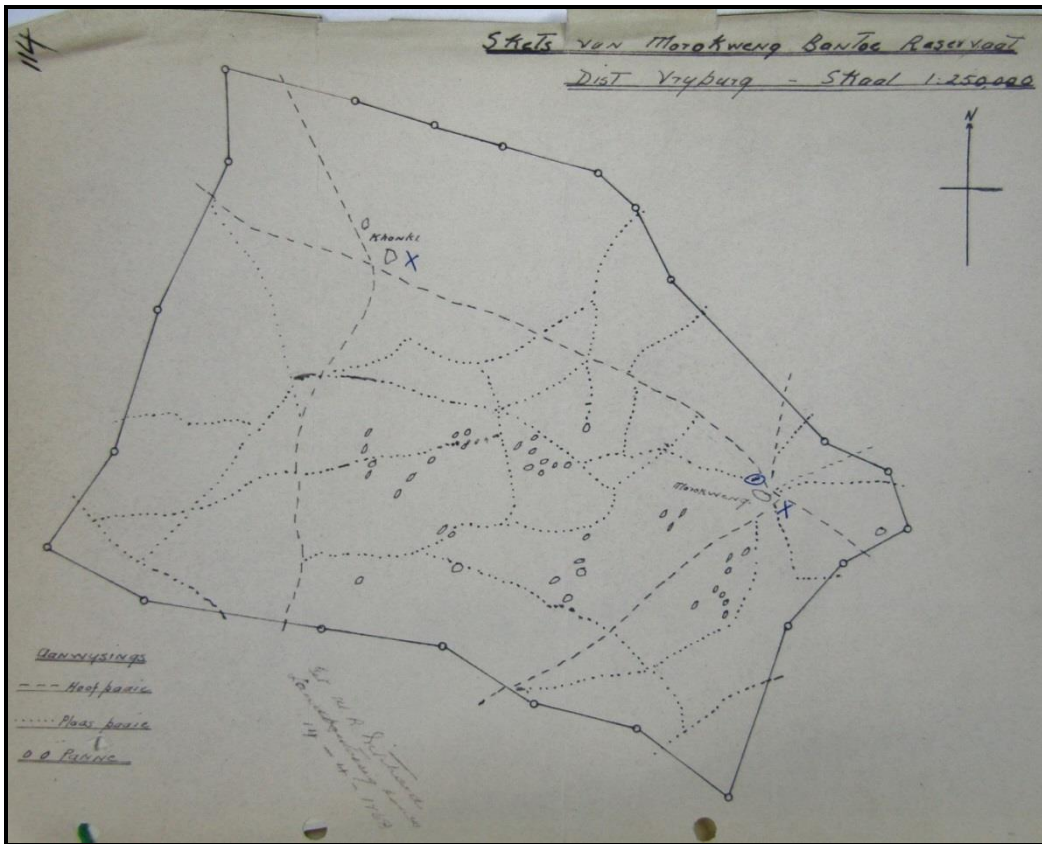


Figure 12. 1968 Map showing the location of salt pans, main roads and farm roads in the Morokweng Reserve. (NASA SAB, BAO: 10179 D52/1734/104)

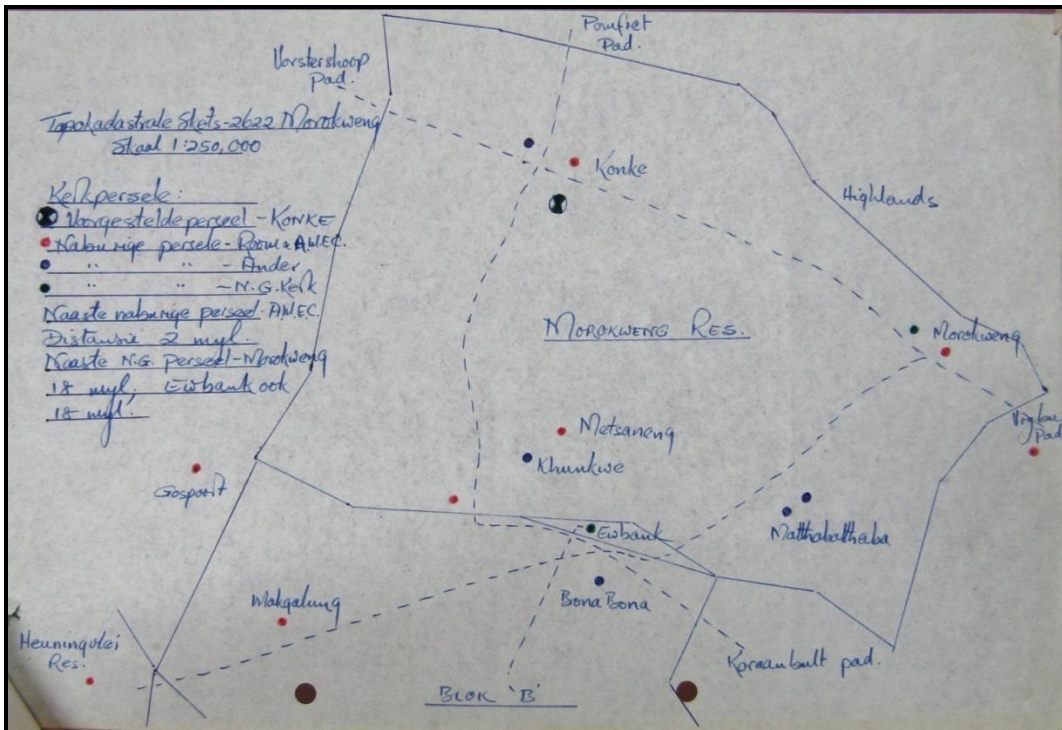


Figure 13. : 1970 Map showing the layout of the Morokweng Reserve, as well as the location of a number of churches. These included a Roman Catholic Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Church and a Dutch Reformed Church. The road alongside which the property under investigation is located was known as the Vryburg Road (NASA SAB, BAO: 1/1876 D47/1734/104/5).

In November 1969 George Moreri Piet was appointed as Acting Headman over the whole Morokweng Reserve in the place of Headman D. K. Hailane (NASA SAB, BAO: 5/436 F54/1734/11).



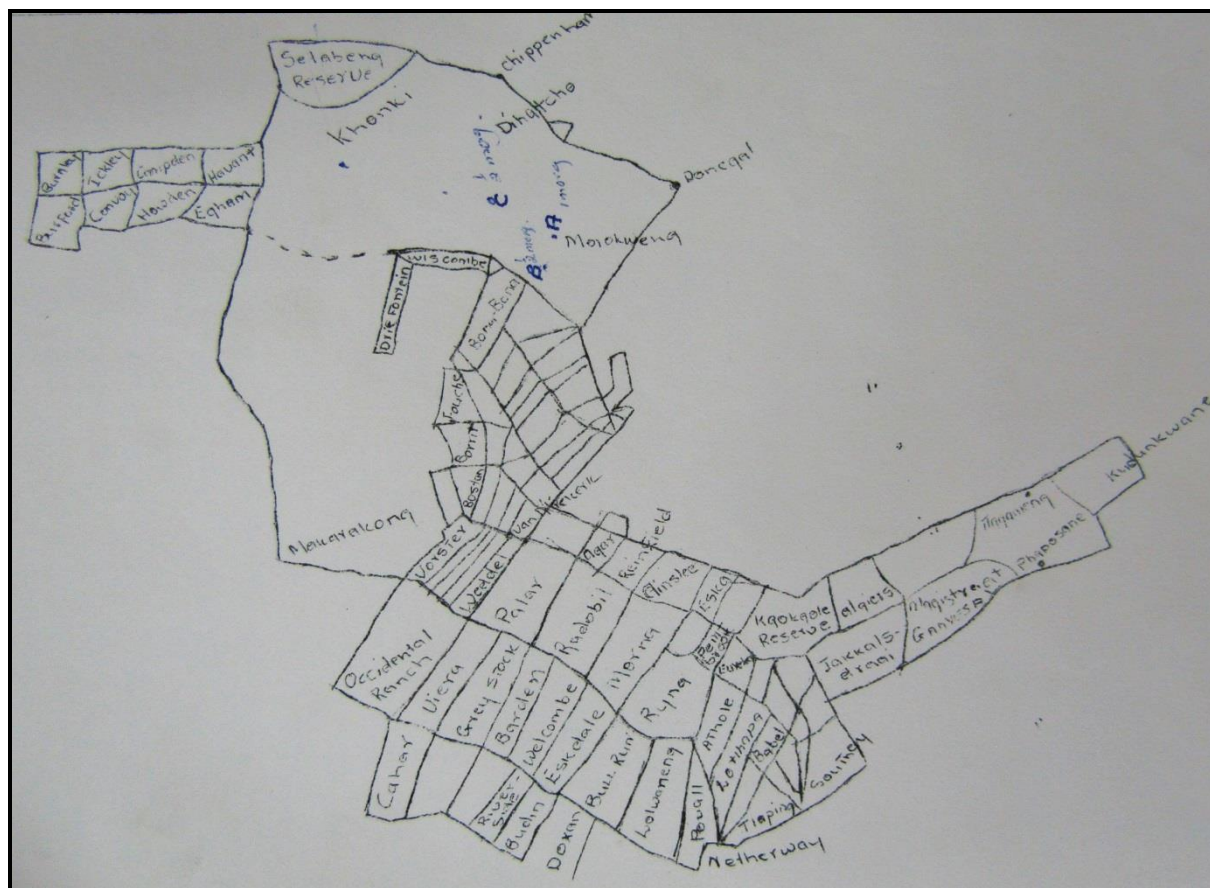


Figure 14. 1974 map of Barolong area, in what used to be known as the Ganyesa-Vryburg district. The area was under the authority of the Bophuthatswana government. Morokweng (A) was the headquarters for the Barolong area. Morokwaneng (C) was located about 5 ½ miles from Morokweng at the time. (NASA SAB, BAO: 1/1877 D47/1734/104/10)

#### 4.2.4. Archaeology of the area

The archaeological background and timeframe of the study area can be divided into the Stone Age and Iron Age.

##### 4.2.4.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is divided in Early; Middle and Late Stone Age and refers to the earliest people of South Africa who mainly relied on stone for their tools.

**Early Stone Age:** The period from  $\pm 2.5$  million yrs. -  $\pm 250\ 000$  yrs. ago. Acheulean stone tools are dominant. No Acheulean sites are on record near the project area, but isolated finds may be possible. However, isolated finds have little value. Therefore, the project is unlikely to disturb a significant site. The lack of any ESA sites was confirmed during the field investigation.

**Middle Stone Age:** The Middle Stone Age includes various lithic industries in SA dating from  $\pm 250\ 000$  yrs. – 25 000 yrs. before present. This period is first associated with archaic Homo sapiens and later Homo sapiens sapiens. Material culture includes stone tools with prepared platforms and stone tools attached to handles. MSA are found scattered widely across southern Africa but no significant sites are on record for the immediate study area.

**Late Stone Age:** The period from  $\pm 25\ 000$ -yrs before present to the period of contact with either Iron Age farmers or European colonists. This period is associated with *Homo sapiens sapiens*. Material culture from this period includes: microlithic stone tools; ostrich eggshell beads and rock art. Sites in the open are usually poorly preserved and therefore have less value than sites in caves or rock shelters. Since there are no caves in the study area no LSA sites of significance were recorded and no isolated finds or occurrences were recorded. For the wider region an important LSA site is located to the North West of Stella at Thaba Sione and later used by Tswana people as a rainmaking site with several engraved boulders. To the west and south east of Stella are various rock engraving sites with a rock painting site to the north of the study area close to Setagole (Bergh 1999).

#### 4.2.4.2. Iron Age (general)

The Iron Age as a whole represents the spread of Bantu speaking people and includes both the pre-Historic and Historic periods. It can be divided into three distinct periods:

The Early Iron Age: Most of the first millennium AD.

The Middle Iron Age: 10th to 13th centuries AD

The Late Iron Age: 14th century to colonial period.

The Iron Age is characterised by the ability of these early people to manipulate and work Iron ore into implements that assisted them in creating a favourable environment to make a better living.

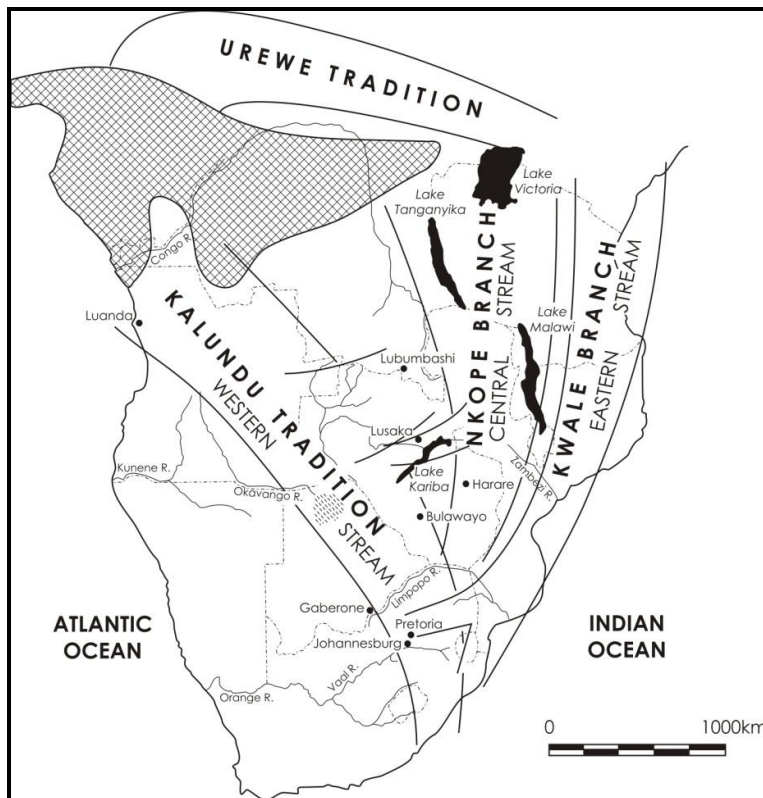




Figure 15. Movement of Bantu speaking farmers (Huffman 2007).

No Sites dating to the Early or Middle Iron Age have been recorded or is expected for the study area. The same goes for the Later Iron Age period where the study area is situated outside the western periphery of distribution of Late Iron Age settlements in the North West Province. To the north east of the study area the area is well known for Later Iron Age stone walled settlements archaeologically referred to as Molokwane settlements (Pistorius 1992, Booyens 1998, Huffman 2007), and to the south east towards Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom some 88 stone walled settlements are recorded (Bergh 1999). No sites dating to this period was recorded in the study area.

## 5. HERITAGE SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The presence and distribution of heritage resources define a 'heritage landscape'. In this landscape, every site is relevant. In addition, because heritage resources are non-renewable, heritage surveys need to investigate an entire project area, or a representative sample, depending on the nature of the project. In the case of the proposed project the local extent of its impact necessitates a representative sample and only the footprint of the areas demarcated for development were surveyed. In all initial investigations, however, the specialists are responsible only for the identification of resources visible on the surface.

This section describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The following criteria were used to establish site significance:

- » The unique nature of a site;
- » The integrity of the archaeological/cultural heritage deposits;
- » 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/is known);
- » The preservation condition of the sites;
- » Potential to answer present research questions.

Furthermore, The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Sec 3) distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate' if they have cultural significance or other special value. These criteria are:

- » Its importance in/to the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- » Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- » Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- » Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- » Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- » Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- » Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- » Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;
- » Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

### 5.1. Field Rating of Sites

Site significance classification standards prescribed by SAHRA (2006), and acknowledged by ASAPA for the SADC region, were used for the purpose of this report. The recommendations for each site should be read in conjunction with section 7 of this report.

<b>FIELD RATING</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED MITIGATION</b>
National Significance (NS)	Grade 1	-	Conservation; national site nomination
Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2	-	Conservation; provincial site nomination
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3A	High significance	Conservation; mitigation not advised
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3B	High significance	Mitigation (part of site should be retained)
Generally Protected A (GP.A)	-	High/medium significance	Mitigation before destruction
Generally Protected B (GP.B)	-	Medium significance	Recording before destruction
Generally Protected C (GP.C)	-	Low significance	Destruction

## 6. BASELINE STUDY-DESCRIPTION OF SITES

It is important to note that the entire farm was not surveyed but only the development footprint. The proposed site is situated on an open piece of land on the northern fringes of the village and in between Morokweng village and its nearby northern neighbour, Morokwaneng village. The study area measures approximately 2.5ha in size and is situated on the northern side of the R375 tar road which is the main road through the village.

The site is bordered by the R375 to the south, some open property to the east and stands and houses to the north and west. The site is predominantly flat and characterised by red Kalahari Aeolian sands. No major topographical focal points (e.g., pans or rocky outcrops) were noted (Figure 17, 19 & 20). A few pedestrian tracks and a dirt road traverse the site. Pedestrians cross this site on a daily basis to get to the tar road or back to their homes. Some pioneer vegetation is evident as this site was previously overgrazed by local live-stock, and the site was also impacted on by the R375 to the south and the residential developments. Illegal dumping also occurs on site (Figure 18). Historically (in the 1970's) the site was also under cultivation (Figure 3) all of these activities would have impacted on surface indicators of heritage features.

The study area was assessed in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 of the NHRA and no archaeological (Stone or Iron Age) sites of significance were identified in the study area. In terms of the built environment of the area (Section 34), no standing buildings older than 60 years occur in the areas visited (Figure 7). No burial grounds or graves were recorded and no significant cultural landscapes or viewsapes were noted during the fieldwork due to the extensive residential developments surrounding the study area. As graves can be expected anywhere on the landscape and the fact that the area has been disturbed it is recommended that a chance find procedure is incorporated for this project.



Figure 16: Study area viewed from the north west.



Figure 17. Illegal dumping in the study area.



Figure 18: General Site conditions



Figure 19. Study area viewed from the South West. .

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

HCAC was appointed to assess the study area in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 of the NHRA. No archaeological sites (Iron Age or Stone Age) of significance were recorded within the study area. No further mitigation is recommended in terms of Section 35 for the proposed development to proceed. In terms of Section 34 of the Act no standing structures occur in the study area and terms of Section 36 of the Act no burial sites were recorded. However if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation.

The study area is largely disturbed and due to the subsurface nature of archaeological remains and the fact that graves can occur anywhere on the landscape, it is recommended that a chance find procedure is implemented for the project as part of the EMP:

### Chance find procedure

This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. The aim of this procedure is to establish monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure compliance with this policy and its associated procedures. Construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds as discussed below.

- If during the pre-construction phase, construction, operations or closure phases of this project, any person employed by the developer, one of its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, or service provider, finds any artefact of cultural significance or heritage site, this person must cease work at the site of the find and report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
- It is the responsibility of the senior on-site Manager to make an initial assessment of the extent of the find, and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area.
- The senior on-site Manager will inform the ECO of the chance find and its immediate impact on operations. The ECO will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will notify the SAHRA.

The study area is surrounded by township developments and no significant cultural landscapes or viewsapes were noted during the fieldwork.



### 7.1 Reasoned Opinion

From a heritage perspective the proposed project is acceptable from a heritage point of view. If the above recommendations are adhered to and based on approval from SAHRA, HCAC is of the opinion that the development can continue as the development will not impact negatively on the archaeological record of the area. If during the pre-construction phase or during construction, any archaeological finds are made (e.g. graves, stone tools, and skeletal material), the operations must be stopped, and the archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the finds. Due to the subsurface nature of archaeological material and graves the possibility of the occurrence of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds cannot be excluded, but can be easily mitigated by preserving the sites *in-situ* within the development.

### 8. PROJECT TEAM

Jaco van der Walt, Project Manager

Marko Hutten, Archaeologist

### 9. STATEMENT OF COMPETENCY

I (Jaco van der Walt) am a member of ASAPA (no 159), and accredited in the following fields of the CRM Section of the association: Iron Age Archaeology, Colonial Period Archaeology, Stone Age Archaeology and Grave Relocation. This accreditation is also acknowledged by SAHRA and AMAFA.

I have been involved in research and contract work in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Tanzania and the DRC; having conducted more than 300 AIA's since 2000.

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