

**DESKTOP STUDY FOR STORAGE UNITS FOR THE FARM
MT ALBERT NO. 2074 ET, R102, PENNINGTON,
UMDONI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, UGU DISTRICT
MUNICIPALITY.**

FOR THE INDEPENDANT ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISOR

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Abbreviations

HP	Historical Period
IIA	Indeterminate Iron Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
EIA	Early Iron Age
ISA	Indeterminate Stone Age
ESA	Early Stone Age
MSA	Middle Stone Age
LSA	Late Stone Age
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
PIA	Palaeontological Impact Assessment

INTRODUCTION

The development proposes to establish storage units and a private workshop and associated infrastructure on Ptn 204 of Erf 184 of the Farm Mt Albert No. 2074 ET, R102, Pennington, Umdoni Local Municipality, Ugu District Municipality.

- The development proposal encompasses the following:
- 5 blocks x 10 storage units
- Private workshop attached to the 5th block of storage at the south western extremity of the property
- Internal access road (grassblock or pavers)
- Parking areas for each storage unit (grassblock or pavers)
- New exit onto the R102 adjacent to the entrance to the neighbouring Ugu water reservoirs

Environmental Authorisation following a Basic Assessment process is required as the storage units will require clearing more than 300m² indigenous vegetation and the internal access road may be wider than 4m in a mapped area listed in the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act as critically endangered for South Coast Grasslands, however the site is vegetated with Northern Coastal Forest which is also a critically endangered vegetation type.

The property was previously zoned “urban agricultural” but was rezoned “general residential” following the environmental authorisation of a residential estate on the property in 2010. The residential estate was never developed. This application for the development of 4 blocks of 10 storage units each and 5th block of 10 storage units with a private workshop within areas of the property with maximum invasion and disturbance by invasive alien plants. The footprint is anticipated to occupy approximately 3810sqm of the 22646sqm property

Alternatives for the development of the property include the do-nothing option as well as a residential estate as previously proposed.

Umlando was requested to assist in the HIA and suggested that it be exempt from further HIA. Figures 1 – 4 show the location of the site.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA

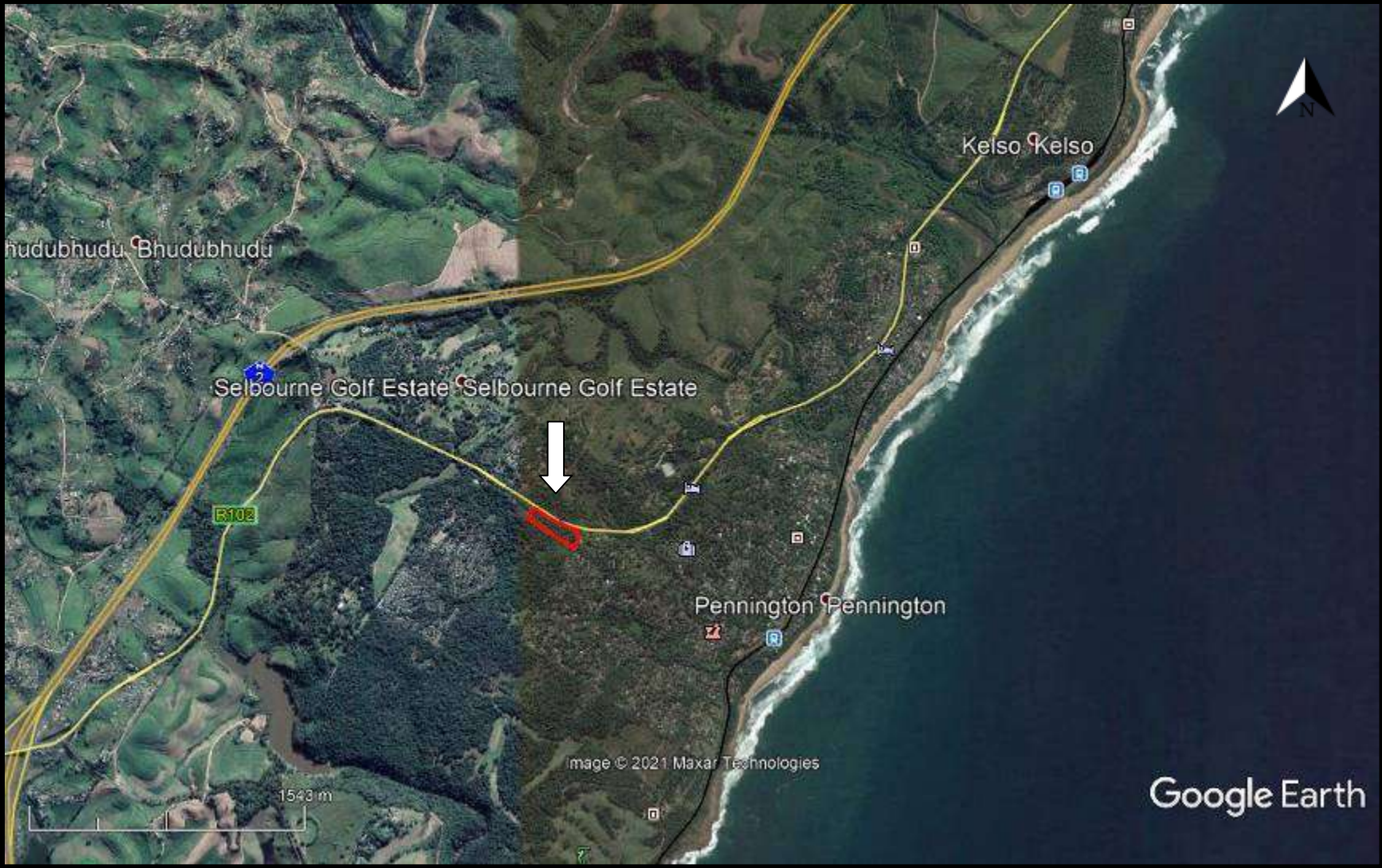


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA



FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW OF THE EASTERN STUDY AREA (1996)

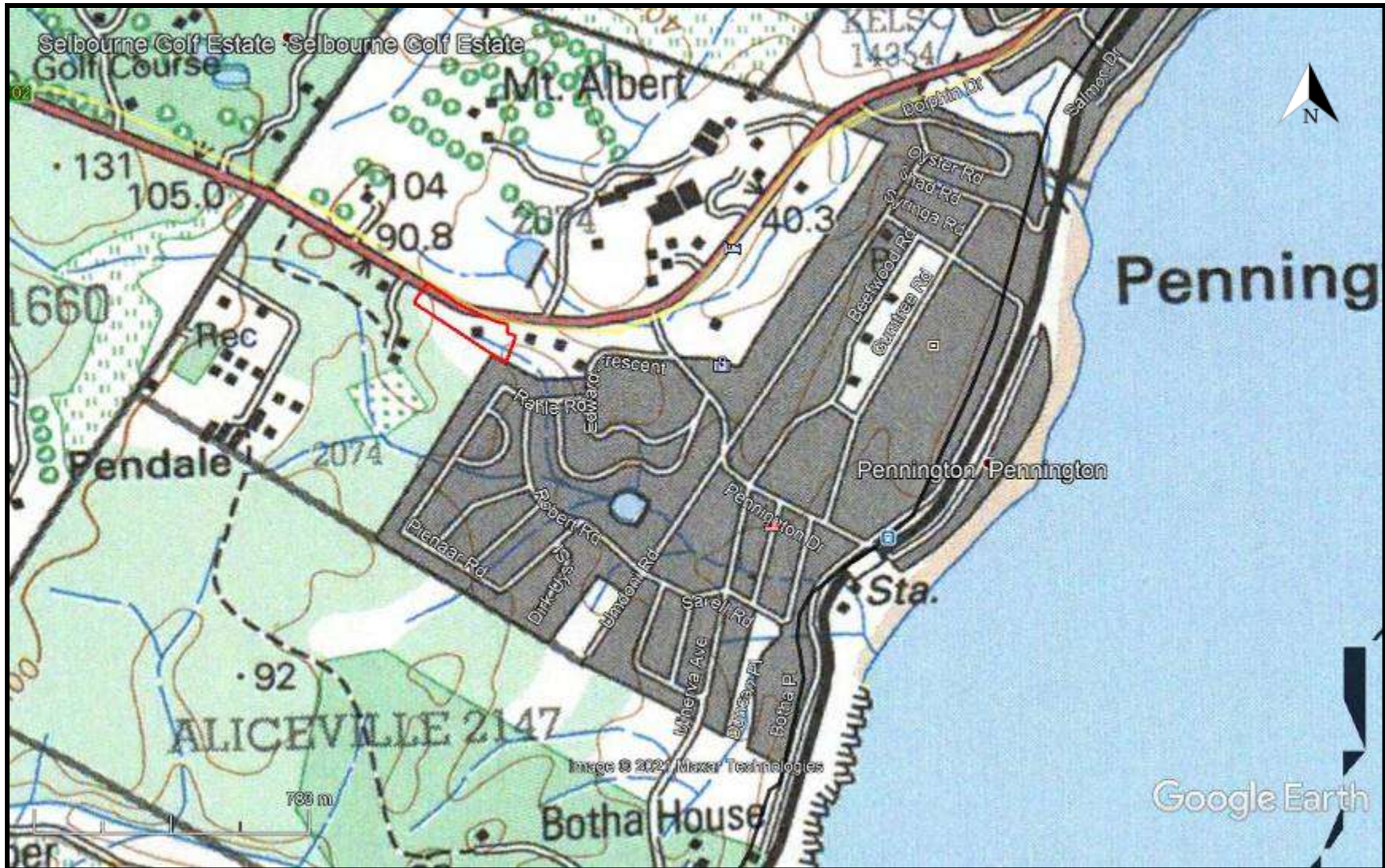


FIG. 4: SCENIC VIEWS OF THE SITE



The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The archaeological database indicates that there are archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 5). These sites include all types of Stone Age and Iron Age sites. No sites occur in the study area. The Stone Age sites are more a case of a collection of tools on a shared geological horizon.

No national monuments, battlefields, or historical cemeteries are known to occur in the study area.

The 1937 (fig. 6) aerial map indicates that the area was agricultural land and the original road went through some of the study area. This is reiterated by the 1942 topographical map (fig. 7).

The study area is of low palaeontological sensitivity (fig. 8). However, the community hall will not extend into unweathered fossil bearing layers.

Currently there is a water treatment facility to the northwest of the study area and buildings in the southeastern part. The buildings predate 1996, but are unlikely to be older than 60 years in age.

The historical maps indicate that the site had been disturbed by agricultural activity and road works since the 1930s. The area is not pristine. If any Stone Age material occurs in the study area it will be in a secondary context and of low significance.

The heritage desktop study suggests that no further mitigation should be required for this development.

FIG. 5: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES NEAR THE STUDY AREA

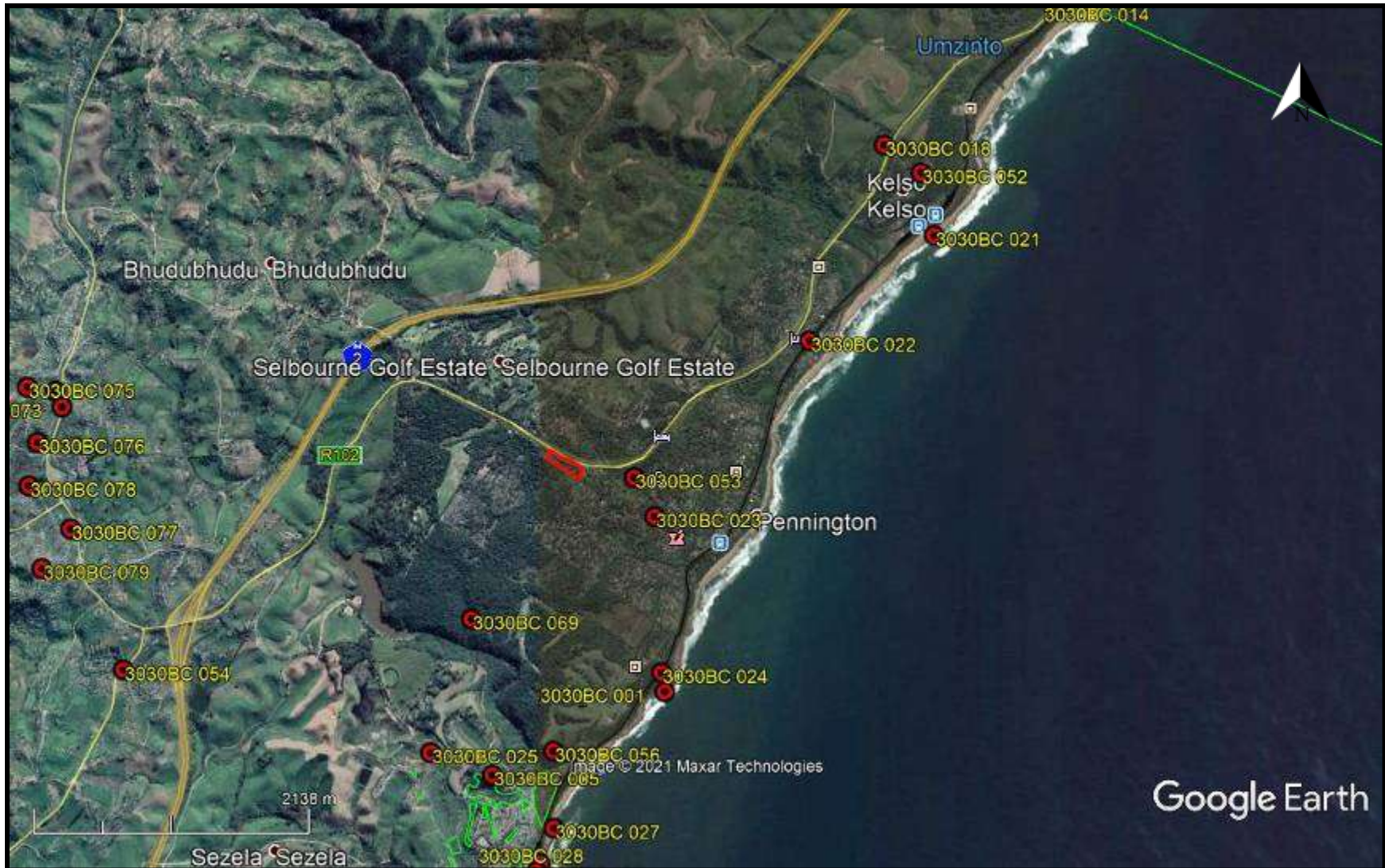


FIG. 6: STUDY AREA IN 1937



FIG. 7: STUDY AREA IN 1942

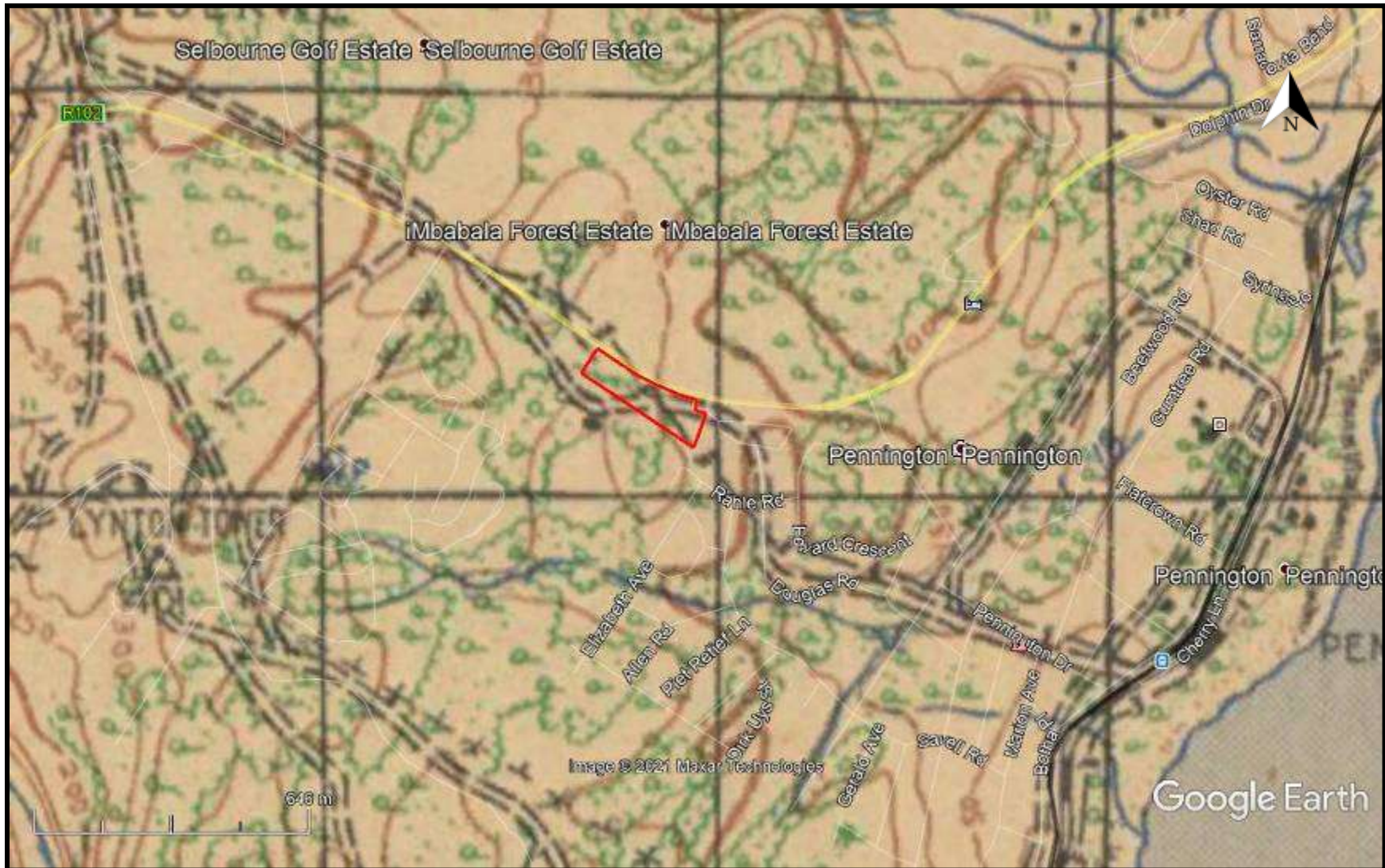
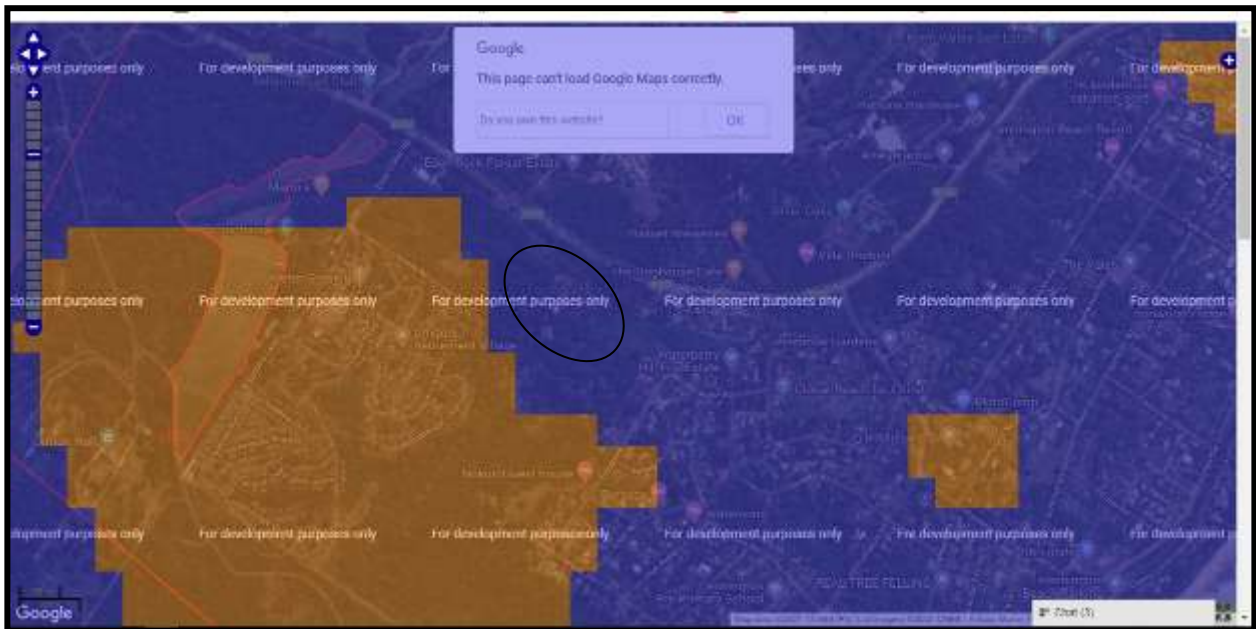


FIG. 8: PALAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

COLOUR	SENSITIVITY	REQUIRED ACTION
RED	VERY HIGH	field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	no palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	no palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	these areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

CONCLUSION

The desktop study concludes that there is a very low probability of archaeological and palaeontological sites occurring within the study area. No further heritage mitigation should be required.

EXPERIENCE OF THE HERITAGE CONSULTANT

Gavin Anderson has a M. Phil (in archaeology and social psychology) degree from the University of Cape Town. Gavin has been working as a professional archaeologist and heritage impact assessor since 1995. He joined the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Southern Africa in 1998 when it was formed. Gavin is rated as a Principle Investigator with expertise status in Rock Art, Stone Age and Iron Age studies. In addition to this, he was worked on both West and East Coast shell middens, Anglo-Boer War sites, and Historical Period sites.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Gavin Anderson, declare that I am an independent specialist consultant and have no financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development, nor the developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from fair remuneration for work performed in the delivery of heritage assessment services. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of my performing such work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Anderson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Gavin Anderson
Archaeologist/Heritage Impact Assessor