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**PHASE 1 HIA REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED  
UPGRADING OF THE FRANKFORT SWS  
LOCATED ON TOWN & TOWNLANDS OF FRANKFORT 74  
FRANKFORT, FREE STATE PROVINCE**

For:

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**REPORT: APAC019/082**

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***January 2019***

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**Although all efforts are made to identify all sites of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance during an assessment of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites are as such that it is always possible that hidden or subterranean sites, features or objects could be overlooked during the study. APELSE Archaeological Consulting can't be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.**

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## SUMMARY

A Pelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by NSVT Consultants (Environmental & Social Scientists) to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for the proposed Upgrade of the Frankfort SWS. The study area is located on the farm Town & Townlands of Frankfort 74.

Background research indicates that there are a number of cultural heritage (archaeological & historical) sites and features in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. The assessment of the specific study area did not identify any sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance. This report discusses the results of both the background research and physical assessment.

**Finally, it is recommended that the proposed development be allowed to continue, taking into consideration the recommendations put forward at the end of the report.**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

A Pelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by NSVT Consultants (Environmental & Social Scientists) to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for the proposed Upgrade of the Frankfort SWS. The study area is located on the farm Town & Townlands of Frankfort 74.

Background research indicates that there are a number of cultural heritage (archaeological & historical) sites and features in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. The assessment of the specific study area did not identify any sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance.

The client indicated the location and boundaries of the study area and the assessment concentrated on this portion.

## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Terms of Reference for the study was to:

1. Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the portion of land that will be impacted upon by the proposed development;
2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value;
3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions;
4. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources;
5. Review applicable legislative requirements;

## **3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

### **3.1. The National Heritage Resources Act**

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography

- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

The National Estate includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Sites of Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m<sup>2</sup> or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m<sup>2</sup>
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

### **Structures**

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A 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.

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 the decoration or any other means.

### **Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites**

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial)

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

**The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.**

### **Human remains**

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;

- b. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated to) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)**.

### **3.2. The National Environmental Management Act**

This act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

## **4. METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1. Survey of literature**

A survey of available literature was undertaken in order to place the development area in an archaeological and historical context. The sources utilized in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

### **4.2. Field survey**

The field assessment section of the study was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of heritage significance in the area of the proposed development. The location/position of all sites,



features and objects is determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS) where possible, while detail photographs are also taken where needed.

#### **4.3. Oral histories**

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography.

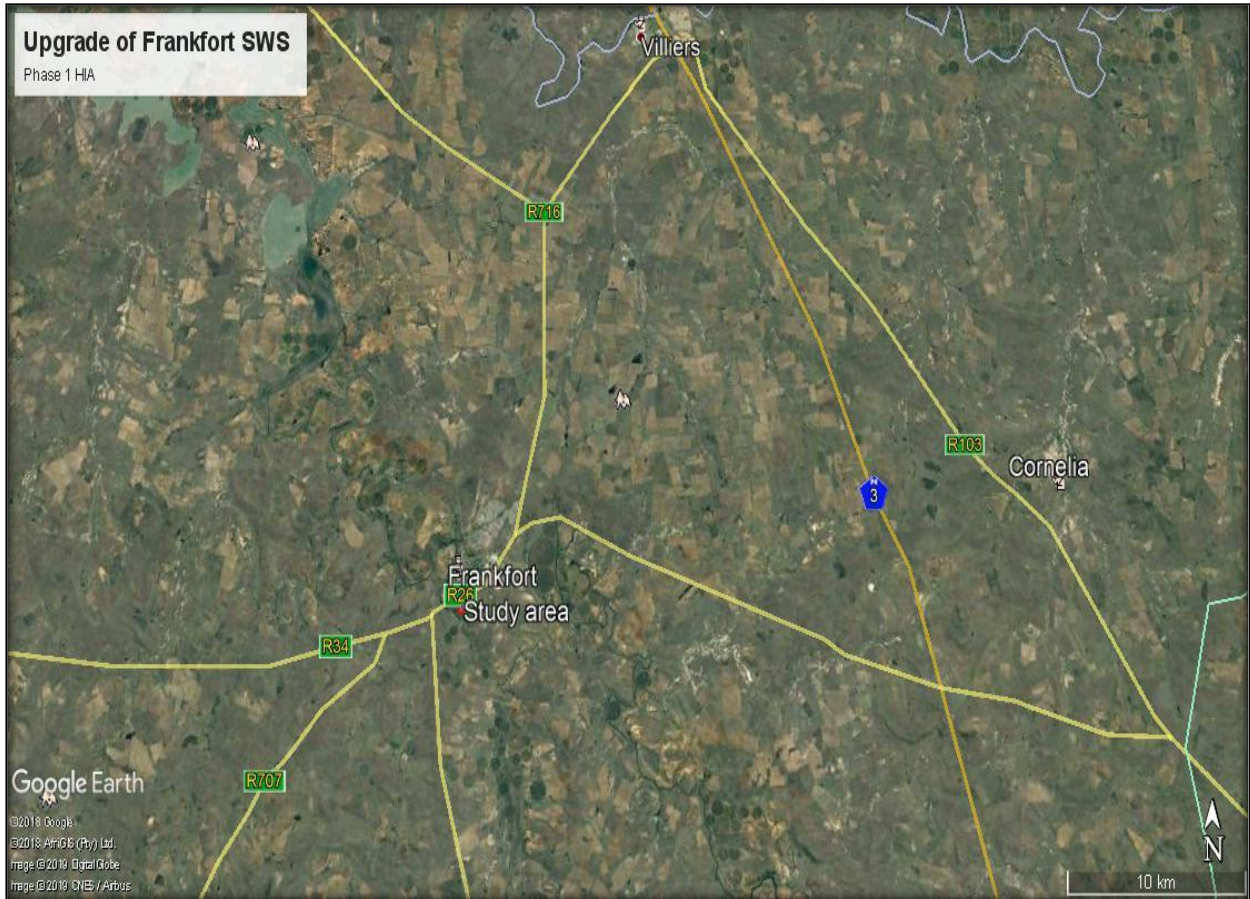
#### **4.4. Documentation**

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to a general set of minimum standards. Co-ordinates of individual localities are determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information is added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

### **5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA**

The study area is located on a portion of the farm Town & Townlands of Frankfort 74, in Frankfort. It is situated in an existing refuse/municipal dump site and close to an old quarry.

The topography of the area is relatively flat, with no rocky ridges or outcrops present. Dense grass cover and other vegetation made visibility on the ground difficult. The dumping of household refuse, building rubble and other materials, as well as the adjacent quarrying has impacted heavily on the area in the recent past. The area would possibly also have been used in the past for agricultural purposes. If any sites, features or material of a cultural heritage origin or significance did exist here in the past it would have been disturbed or destroyed to a large degree as a result of these activities.



**Figure 1: General location of study area (Google Earth 2019).**



Figure 2: Closer view of study area footprint (Google Earth 2019).



Figure 3: General view of area. Note the dense vegetation cover.





**Figure 4: Another view. Note the refuse & old quarry spoil heap adjacent.**



**Figure 5: A closer view of the quarry spoil heap.**



**Figure 6: Another general view of the study area.**

## **6. DISCUSSION**

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in basically into three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago

Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago

Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

**There are no known Stone Age sites (including rock art) in the area, and none was found during the survey. This included single or scattered concentrations of stone tools.**

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artifacts. In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases (Bergh 1999: 96-98), namely:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

Huffman (2007: xiii) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.

Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

Magg's Type V stone walled settlements (named after Vegkop close to Heilbron) occur in the larger geographical area and include the so-called stone-built corbelled huts (Huffman 2007: 33). Stone walled settlements in the Frankfort area is mentioned by Pullen as well (1942).

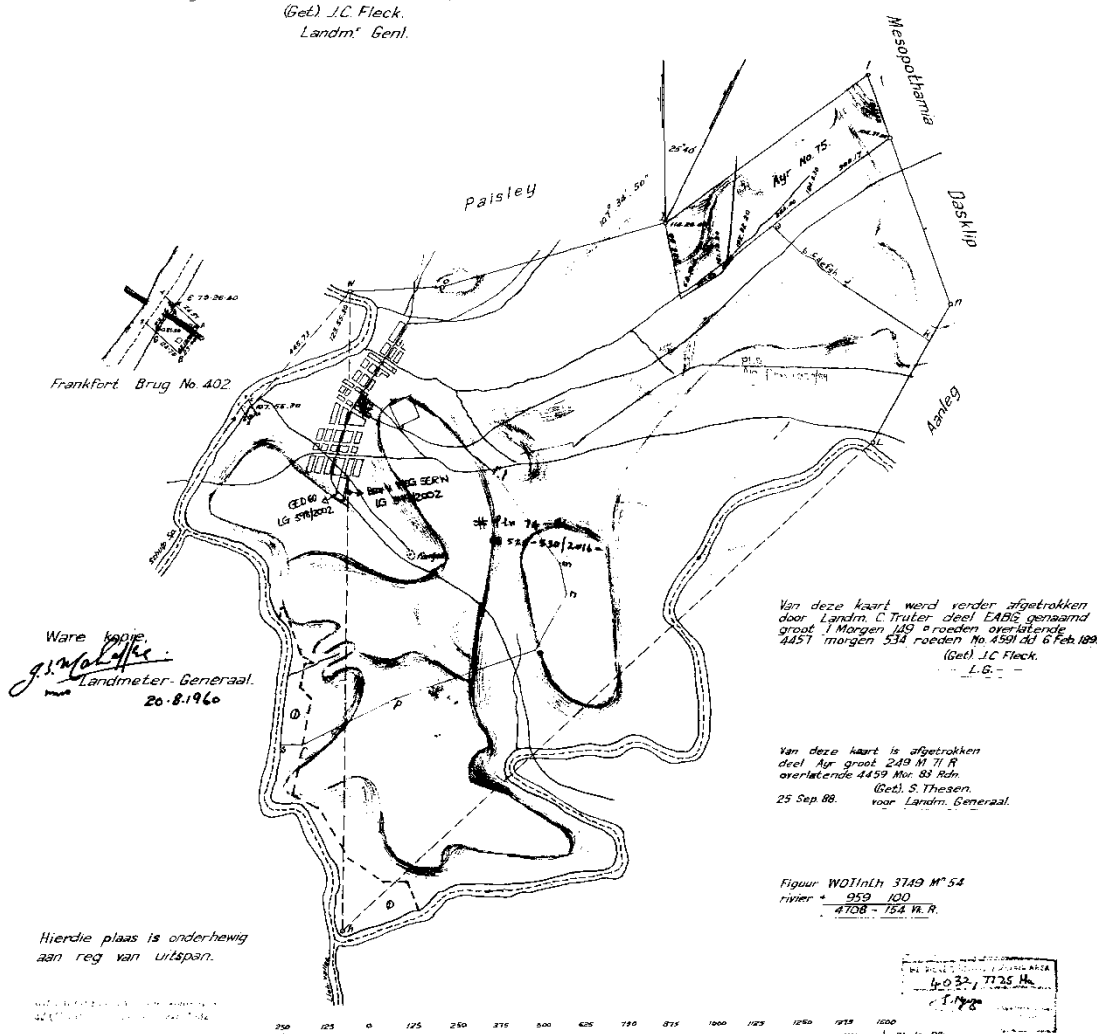
Based on Tom Huffman's research LIA sites, features or material that could present in the larger area will be related to the Ntsuanatsatsi facies of the Urewe Tradition, dating to between AD1450 and AD1650 (Huffman 2007: 167) or the Makgwareng facies of the same dating to between AD1700 & AD1820 (Huffman 2007: 179).

**No Iron Age sites, features or cultural material was identified during the assessment of the study area.**

Frankfort was named after Frankfurt in Germany by Albert von Gordon at the time of the founding of the town in 1869. It was proclaimed in 1873 ([www.mullersgazette.co.za](http://www.mullersgazette.co.za)) and got Municipality status in 1896 ([www.wikipedia.co.za](http://www.wikipedia.co.za)). The town and church was burnt down by the British during the Anglo-Boer War, and a British camp was situated close-by

The oldest map for the farm Frankfort 74 that could be obtained from the database of the Chief Surveyor General originally dates to 1884 ([www.csg.dla.gov.za](http://www.csg.dla.gov.za) – CSG Document 101UOQ01). It shows that the farm was also then known as Roodepoort and that it was located in the Ward of Wilgerivier and District of Frankfort (previously Harrismith). No historical sites or features could be identified from this map in the study area.

No 1487 dd 26 Nov 1884  
 Goedgekeurd (Ord No 30 & 36-1877)  
 (Get.) J.C. Fleck.  
 Landm. Genl.



Van deze kaart werd verder afgetrokken  
 door Landm. C. Truter deel EABIS genaamd  
 groot 1 Morgen 129 roeden overlatende  
 4457 morgen 534 roeden No 4501 dd 6 Feb. 1893  
 (Get.) J.C. Fleck.  
 L.G.

Van deze kaart is afgetrokken  
 deel Agr groot 249 M 71 R  
 overlatende 4459 Mo 83 Ro  
 (Get.) S. Thesen.  
 25 Sep 88. voor Landm. Generaal.

Figuur WOInLh 3749 M<sup>2</sup> 54  
 rivier +  $\frac{959}{4708} = 164$  V.R.

40321 7725 H  
 1884

Hierdie plaas is onderhewig  
 aan reg van uitspan.

HOEKEN	ZYDEN.
W 95.21.50	W O 265.44
O 192.37.10	O I 675.66
I 198.38.20	I n 743.75
I 72.51.30	I n 732.84
n 132.51.40	n L 466.93
L 161.3.20	L h 2107.46
h 46.36.10	h W 1875.00

Bovenstaande figuur W.O.I.I.n.L. Rivier W  
 beteekent 4708 Morgen 154 Quad: Roeden grond  
 zynde de plaats genaamd.  
DORP FRANKFORT No. 74 alias Rodepoort No. 634  
 gelegen in Wyk Wilge rivier District FRANKFORT  
Harlemia  
 Eigendom van het Committee.  
 volgens acte van transport No 11916 dd 1 Mei 1872  
 12 February 1883 Ordh 30-1871.

CO-ORDINATEN	
W	-2620.41 + 24.78
O	-2355.79 + 45.60
I	-1710.06 + 244.46
I	-1106.50 + 679.03
n	-872.71 - 15.10
L	-1095.70 - 425.36
h	-2648.76 - 1850.06

beed No GRANT  
 400193

5 Dec. 83.

Gemeten door ons,  
 (Get.) G.A.G.P. van den Bosch  
 (Get.) Charles J. Pritchard.  
 Gouvernements Landmeters.

FRANKFORT 74  
 HR-26.

Figure 7: Copy of 1884 map of the farm ([www.csg.dla.gov.za](http://www.csg.dla.gov.za)).

## **Results of the study area assessment**

As indicated earlier no sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance were identified in the study area during the physical assessment. If any did exist here in the past it would have been largely disturbed or destroyed by recent activities including the adjacent quarrying and dumping.

It should be noted that although all efforts are made to cover a total area during any assessment and therefore to identify all possible sites or features of cultural (archaeological and/or historical) heritage origin and significance, that there is always the possibility of something being missed. This will include low stone-packed or unmarked graves. This aspect should be kept in mind when development work commences and if any sites (including graves) are identified then an expert should be called in to investigate and recommend on the best way forward.

## **7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In conclusion it is possible to say that the Phase 1 HIA for the proposed Upgrade of the Frankfort SWS was conducted successfully. The study area (located on a portion of Frankfort Town & Townlands 74) has been extensively disturbed in the recent past as a result of household refuse, building rubble and other material dumping, as well as the adjacent quarrying activities. Older historical agricultural activities in the area might also have impacted on the area. No sites, features or material of any archaeological and/or historical origin or significance were identified in the study area during the field assessment.

It should be noted that although all efforts are made to locate, identify and record all possible cultural heritage sites and features (including archaeological remains) there is always a possibility that some might have been missed as a result of grass cover and other factors. The subterranean nature of these resources (including low stone-packed or unmarked graves) should also be taken into consideration. Should any previously unknown or invisible sites, features or material be uncovered during any development actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way forward.

**Finally, from a Cultural Heritage point of view the proposed Upgrade of the Frankfort SWS should be allowed to continue taking cognizance of the above.**



## 8. REFERENCES

General and closer views of study area location: Google Earth 2019.

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[www.wikipedia.co.za](http://www.wikipedia.co.za)

Chief Surveyor General Database ([www.csg.dla.gov.za](http://www.csg.dla.gov.za)): Document 101UOQ01.

## **APPENDIX A: DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

**Site:** A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

**Structure:** A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

**Feature:** A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

**Object:** Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

## **APPENDIX B: DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

**Historic value:** Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.

**Aesthetic value:** Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.

**Scientific value:** Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period

**Social value:** Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

**Rarity:** Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.

**Representivity:** Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

## **APPENDIX C: SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:**

### **Cultural significance:**

- Low: A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.
- Medium: Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.
- High: Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.

### **Heritage significance:**

- Grade I: Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance
- Grade II: Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate
- Grade III: Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

### **Field ratings:**

- i. National Grade I significance: should be managed as part of the national estate
- ii. Provincial Grade II significance: should be managed as part of the provincial estate
- iii. Local Grade IIIA: should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance)
- iv. Local Grade IIIB: should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/medium significance)
- v. General protection A (IV A): site should be mitigated before destruction (high/medium significance)
- vi. General protection B (IV B): site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance)
- vii. General protection C (IV C): phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it may be demolished (low significance)

## **APPENDIX D: PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:**

### **Formal protection:**

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – Grade I and II

Protected areas - An area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – For a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – Listing Grades II and III

Heritage areas – Areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. Archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

### **General protection:**

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states

Structures – Older than 60 years

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Burial grounds and graves

Public monuments and memorials

## **APPENDIX E: HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES**

1. Pre-assessment or Scoping Phase – Establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
2. Baseline Assessment – Establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
3. Phase I Impact Assessment – Identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
4. Letter of recommendation for exemption – If there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
5. Phase II Mitigation or Rescue – Planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
6. Phase III Management Plan – For rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.