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**A PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT & REPORT FOR THE
PROPOSED KLERKSOORD FILLING STATION DEVELOPMENT
ON PORTION 355 OF THE FARM WITFONTEIN 301JR
TSHWANE METROPOLITAN AREA, GAUTENG**

For:

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REPORT: **APAC021/04**

by:

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APELSE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Pelser', is centered below the disclaimer text.

SUMMARY

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station. The study area is located in the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality of Gauteng and on Portion 355 of the farm Witfontein 301JR.

Background research indicates that there are some 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 and provides recommendations on the way forward at the end.

From Cultural Heritage perspective it is recommended that the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station be allowed to continue, taking into consideration the recommendations put forward at the end of the report.

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1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station. The study area is located in the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality of Gauteng and on Portion 355 of the farm Witfontein 301JR.

Background research indicates that there are some 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 focused on this delineation.

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. A 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 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34(1) 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 the 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 of 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 and development area is located on Portion 355 of Witfontein 301JR, in Klerksoord in the Pretoria North area of the Greater Tshwane Municipal area of Gauteng.

The topography of the area is flat and open and visibility during the assessment was relatively good despite some dense vegetation (grass and shrub/bush cover) at the time. The area was utilized in the past for small-scale agricultural purposes, while in the general area both urban residential and industrial/business developments have altered the original historical landscape extensively. The study area is surrounded by existing developments, while a house and related outbuildings are situated in the south-western corner of the area. This site is currently occupied and utilized and is seemingly not older than 60 years of age.

As a result of past developments and agricultural activities, if any cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) sites, features or material were present here in the past it would have been extensively disturbed or destroyed as a result.



Figure 1: General location of the study and development area (Google Earth 2021).



Figure 2: Closer location of study area showing the current house as well (Google Earth 2021).

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 into basically 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).

No known Stone Age sites or artifacts are present in the area. The closest known Stone Age sites are those of the well-known Early Stone Age site at Wonderboompoort and a number of sites in the Magaliesberg area (Bergh 1999: 4). Stone Age people occupied the larger area since earliest times. This, for example, is evidenced by the site they used to occupy in the Wonderboom neck, probably dating back as much as 200 000 years ago. Tools derived from these people's habitation of the area are found in a number of areas close to the Apies River to the west and the Hartebeesspruit to the east. Middle and Late Stone Age people also roamed over the area, sheltering close to the river banks, with the latter group usually settling in caves and rock shelters (Van Schalkwyk 2013: 7).

No Stone Age sites or objects (such as stone tools) were identified in the area. If any Stone Age artifacts are to be found in the area then it would more than likely be single, out of context, stone tools. Urbanization over the last 150 years or so would have destroyed any evidence if indeed it did exist.

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 into 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.

No Early Iron Age sites are known in the larger geographical area of Pretoria, while Later Iron Age sites do occur in the Pretoria area (Bergh 1999: 7). The closest known LIA sites are

at Silver Lakes and near Mamelodi on the farm Hatherley (Van Schalkwyk et.al 1996). These sites are related to the Manala Ndebele (Bergh 1999: 10) who was present in the area at the time when the first Europeans arrived here during the mid-19th century.

Iron Age occupation of the area did not start much before the 1500s. By that time, groups of Tswana and Ndebele speaking people were moving into the area, occupying the different hills and outcrops, using the ample resources such as grazing, game and metal ores. During the early decades of the 19th century, the Tswana- and Ndebele-speakers were dislodged by the Matabele of Mzilikazi. Internal strife caused Mzilikazi, a general of King Shaka, and his followers to move away from the area between the Thukela and Mfolozi River (KwaZulu-Natal). Eventually, after a sojourn in the Sekhukhuneland area, followed by a short stay in the middle reaches of the Vaal River, they settled north of the Magaliesberg. One of three main settlements established by them, eKungwini, was on the banks of the Apies River, just north of Wonderboompoort. However, no remains of this settlement have ever been identified. It was during the Matabele's stay along the Apies River that the first white people entered the area: travelers and hunters such as Cornwallis Harris and Andrew Smith, traders Robert Schoon and Andrew McLuckie, and missionaries James Archbell and Robert Moffat. It is known from oral history the Robert Schoon sent Mzilikazi huge quantities of glass trade beads, rather than the guns that the latter coveted so much (Van Schalkwyk 2013: 7-8).

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

The historical age started with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. The first Europeans to move through and into the area were the groups of Schoon and McLuckie and the missionaries Archbell and Moffat in 1829 (Bergh 1999: 12). They were followed by others such as Andrew Smith (1835), Cornwallis Harris (1836) and David Livingstone in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 13). These groups were closely followed by the Voortrekkers after 1844 and Pretoria was established in 1855 (Bergh 1999: 14-17). White settlers started to occupy huge tracts of land, claiming it as farms after the late 1840s. Of these, some of the earliest were Lucas Bronkhorst (Groenkloof), David Botha (Hartebeestpoort – Silverton) and Doors Erasmus (Wonderboom). With the establishment of Pretoria (1850) services such as roads, started to develop. An increase in population also demanded more food, which stimulated development of farming on the alluvial soils on the banks of the Apies River, close to the water (Van Schalkwyk 2013: 8).

No historical sites, features or material were identified in the study area during the assessment.

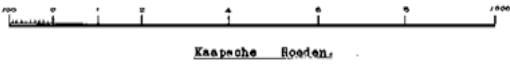
The oldest map that could be obtained for the farm from the Chief Surveyor General's database (www.csg.dla.gov.za) dates originally to 1895 (**CSG Document 10L68101**). It shows that the farm was then known as Witfontein No.53 and was situated in the District of Pretoria, Ward of Aaprivier (Apiesrivier). The farm was originally granted by deed to one J.L.J. Pretorius on the 11th May 1860 and Portion 2 was formally surveyed in September 1894.

ZIJDEN.	HOEKEN.		COORDINATEN.	
AB	224.66	A	104. 4.50	A + 1652.22 + 1066.26
BC	177.28	B	183. 6.20	B + 1618.83 + 786.09
CD	1105.37	C	83. 1.10	C + 1581.02 + 612.46
DE	340.04	D	83. 0.30	D + 2684.72 + 522.42
EF	664.65	E	275.53. 0	E + 2670.96 + 862.18
FG	397.87	F	84.40.50	F + 3329.86 + 774.70
GA	1701.15	G	82.13.20	G + 3345.44 + 1172.27

10670/1894
1959/94

WARE KOPIE
LARMETER-GENERAAL,
PRETORIA.
17. 8. 1957

Tans geregistreer onder ?
Now registered under :
No. 301
REGISTRASIE AFDELING JR
REGISTRATION DIVISION



De bovenstaande figuur A B C D E F G stelt voor gedeelte 2 der plaats
Witfontein No. 53
gelegen in het distrikt Pretoria wijk Aanrivier
Zuid - Afrikaansche Republiek. en bevat 1218 Morgen 215 vierkante Rooden
De geheele plaats werd oorspronkelijk in leening uitgegeven aan J.L.J.Pretorius
volgens Gouvs Transport dd 11 Mei 1860
volgens
De bakens zijn aangewezen door G.Horn. en zijn behoorlijk opgericht
volgens wet. Gemeten in Sept. 1894
door mij, (Oet.) M.H.Walker.
Landmeter.

RESIDENT IS KUNSKAARLEKES VAN HESSE-A PARK, UIT
No. 2197/94 Goedgekeurd. De zijden hoeken en
Grootte van dese kaart zijn onderling
bestaanbaar.
(Oet.) Johann. Rissik.
Aest Landmeter-Generaal.
Landmeter-Generaals Kantoor,
9 Nov 1894

Ik, wd. Registrateur van
Akten certificeer dat dese kaart
behoort tot Transport No.142/1895
op heien uitgereikt
ten faveure van Philippus
Johannes Jacobus Venter
Registratie-Kantoor,
24, Januarie 1895
(Oet.) ?
Reg. van Akten
Ed.
JRaf. 238

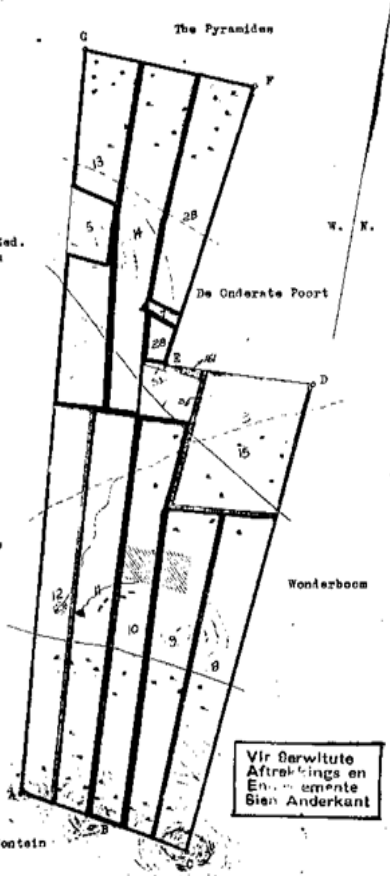


Figure 3: Copy of 1895 map of Portion 2 of Witfontein 301JR (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

Results of the January 2021 study area assessment

No sites, features or material of archaeological and/or historical nature or significance were identified in the study area during the assessment. The study and development footprint area has been impacted on by past agricultural activities. The development of the recent historical house and related structures on it has also had some impact on the land and the original natural and historical landscape of the area has been extensively altered.

The house and associated structures on it is most likely not older than 60 years of age and is not of any cultural heritage significance. It is also currently occupied and utilized for business purposes and access to it could not be gained. Informal dumping of residential refuse and building rubble also occurs in the area. A 2005 aerial image of the area shows the agricultural nature of the property. By 2021 the area had been completely altered further with dirt roads cutting through it and informal dumping on it clearly visible.

It is therefore recommended that the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station development be allowed to continue based on the desktop and physical assessment.



Figure 4: 2005 image of the study area. Note the old fields (Google Earth 2021).



Figure 5: View of a section of the area. Although the grass cover is fairly dense the land is fairly flat and open.



Figure 6: Informal dumping of residential refuse & building rubble occurs in the area.



Figure 7: A view of the area showing the dirt road that cuts through it.



Figure 8: The area is bordered by existing urban residential developments.



Figure 9: Back-view of the home and related structures on the property.



Figure 10: Partial front-view of the house on the property. The house and related structures most likely date to the 1970's.



Figure 11: Another view of a section of the area.

Finally, 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

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station. The study area is located in the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality of Gauteng and on Portion 355 of the farm Witfontein 301JR.

Background research indicates that there are some cultural heritage (archaeological & historical) sites and features in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. No sites, features or material of archaeological and/or historical nature or significance were identified in the study area during the assessment. The study and development footprint area has been impacted on by past agricultural activities. The development of the recent historical house and related structures on it has also had some impact on the land and the original natural and historical landscape of the area has been extensively altered.

The house and associated structures on it is most likely not older than 60 years of age and is not of any cultural heritage significance. Informal dumping of residential refuse and building rubble also occurs in the area. A 2005 aerial image of the area shows the agricultural nature of the property. By 2021 the area had been completely altered further with dirt roads cutting through it and informal dumping on it clearly visible.

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.

From a Cultural Heritage perspective it is therefore recommended that the proposed Klerksoord Filling Station development be allowed to continue taking the above into consideration.

8. REFERENCES

General and Closer views of study area location and development footprint: Google Earth 2021.

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Chief Surveyor General Database (www.csg.dla.gov.za): Document: 10L68101

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.