APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

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# PHASE 1 HIA REPORT FOR PROPOSED TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHMENT ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF ERF 2048, STEINKOPF NAMA KHOI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

For:

***Maxim Planning Solutions***
***P.O.Box 6848***
***FLAMWOOD***
***2572***

REPORT: **APAC020/024**

by:

***A.J. Pelser***
***Accredited member of ASAPA***

***March 2020***

**P.O.BOX 73703**
**LYNNWOOD RIDGE**
**0040**
**Tel: 083 459 3091**
**Fax: 086 695 7247**
**Email: apac.heritage@gmail.com**

Member: AJ Pelser BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology) [WITS]

**DISCLAIMER:**

**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. APELSER Archaeological Consulting can't be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.**

**Clients & Developers should not continue with any development actions until SAHRA or one of its subsidiary bodies has provided final comments on this report. Submitting the report to SAHRA is the responsibility of the Client unless required of the Heritage Specialist as part of their appointment and Terms of Reference**

**SUMMARY**

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Maxim Planning Solutions to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for proposed Township Establishment on the Remaining Extent of Erf 2048, in Steinkopf. The development & study area is located in the Nama Khoi Local Municipality of the Northern Cape Province.

The study area is approximately 102 hectares in extent. The project is conducted on instruction from Barzani Town Planning (Pty) Ltd.

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 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 regarding the way forward.

**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.**

**CONTENTS**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Maxim Planning Solutions to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for proposed Township Establishment on the Remaining Extent of Erf 2048, in Steinkopf. The development & study area is located in the Nama Khoi Local Municipality of the Northern Cape Province.

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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 5 000$m^2$ or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 $m^2$
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 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 area is located on the Remaining Extent of Erf 2048, in Steinkopf, in the Nama Khoi Local Municipality of the Northern Cape Province. The study area is approximately 102 hectares in extent.

The topography of the area is relatively flat & open, with some small rocky ridges and outcrops present in parts. Vegetation cover (trees, shrubs and grass) is very scarce and visibility was therefore very good. Red Aeolian (Kalahari) sands cover sections of the study area. A dry stream bed runs through the area from the north to south in the western section of the footprint, while quarrying activities in the south-western portion has also impacted on the area. Informal dumping of building rubble and household refuse occurs throughout the area, while a few small informal houses are also present. Other impacts include a water pipeline and the south of the study area a water/sewerage treatment plant. Dirt roads criss-cross the area and was used as the access points to the area and for assessing the total area. Most of the work was done on foot however.


**Figure 1: General location of study area in red polygon (Google Earth 2020).**

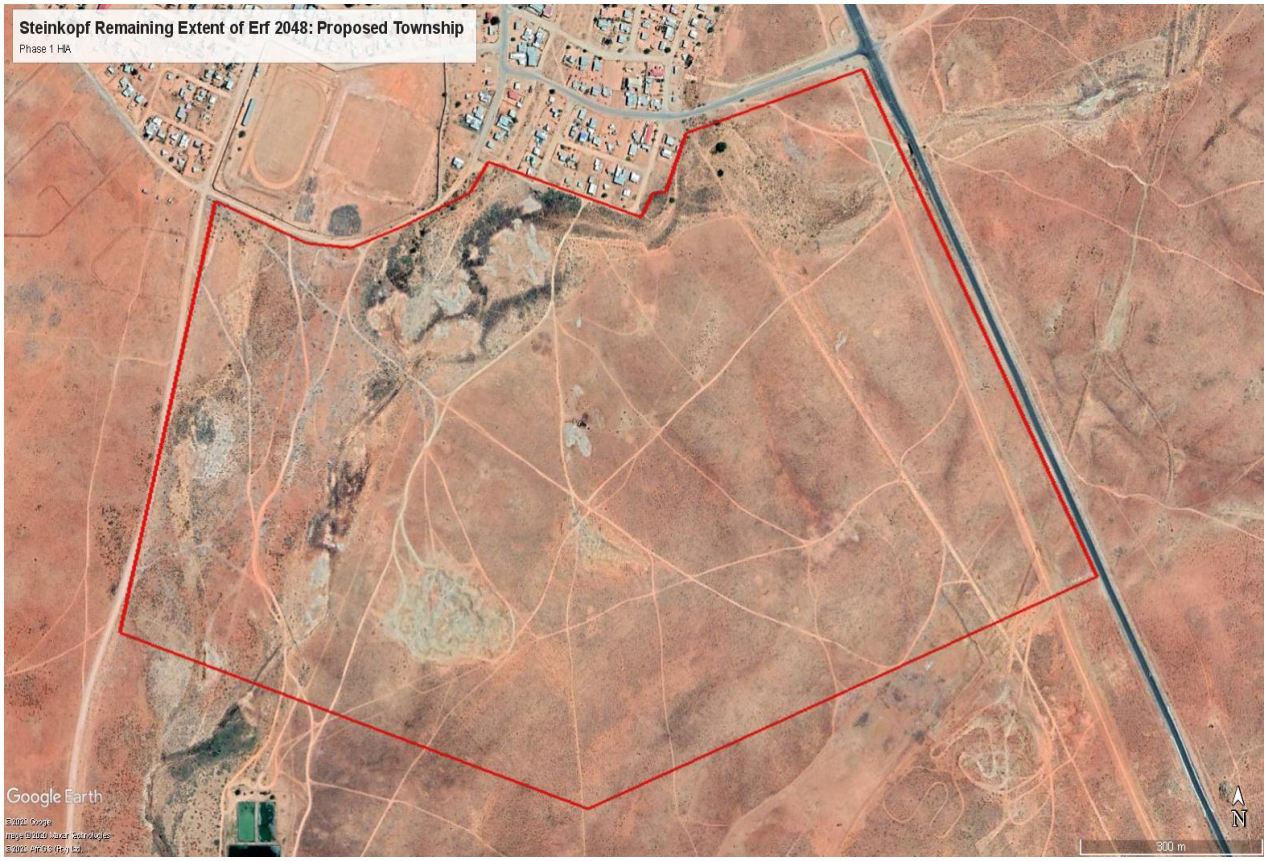


**Figure 2: Closer view of study area location and footprint (Google Earth 2020).**

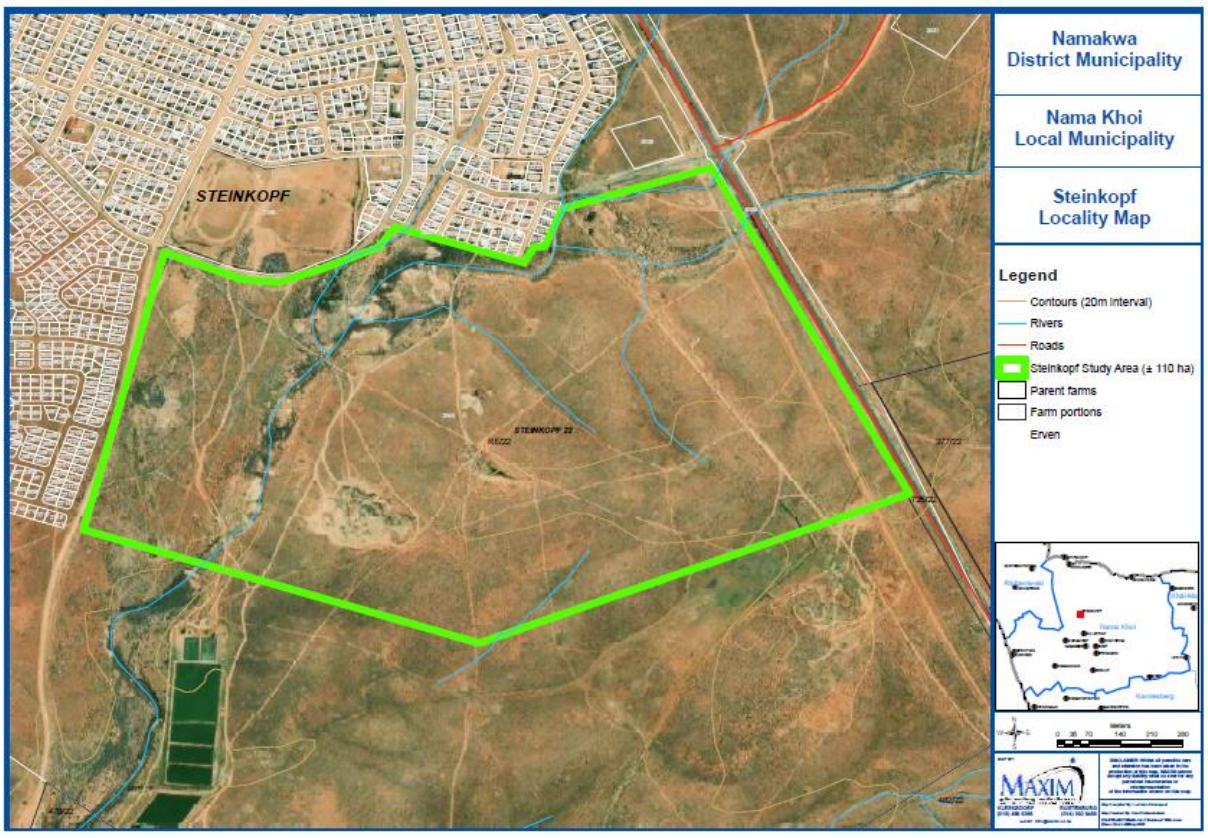


**Figure 3: Locality map (provided by Maxim Planning Solutions).**

**Figure 4: General view of a section of the study area.**

**Figure 5: Another view showing the flat and open nature of the study area.**

**Figure 6: A view of some of the dumping that occurs throughout.**

**Figure 7: A view of the water pipeline that runs through a section of the area.**

**Figure 8: A view of the recent quarrying that occurred in the study area.**

**Figure 9: A view of the area taken towards the town of Steinkopf. Not the red sands & open, flat nature of the property.**

**Figure 10 Another view showing the flat and open nature of the area, as well as the red sands covering parts of it.**

**Figure 11: A view of an informal house in the area, as well as a small rocky outcrop here. The informal houses in the distance form part of the current Steinkopf Township bordering the study area to the north.**

**Figure 12: A view of a section of the dry stream bed that runs in part of the study area.**

**Figure 13: Another view of a section of the dry stream bed.**

## 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).

According to David Morris of the McGregor Museum in Kimberley the archaeology of the Northern Cape is rich and varied, covering long spans of human history. The Karoo is particularly bountiful. Some areas are richer than others, and not all sites are equally significant. The significance of sites encountered in the study area may be assessed against previous research in the region and subcontinent. The regions remoteness from research institutions accounts for a relative lack of archaeological research in the area. The area has probably been relatively marginal to human settlement for most of its history, yet it is in fact exceptionally rich in terms of Stone Age sites and rock art, as a relatively few but important studies have shown (Morris 2006).

Some information on the Stone Age of the large geographical area could be found in a report on a HIA conducted by Morris for the Black Mountain Concentrated Solar Power Facility development at Aggeneys in the Northern Cape. No substantial MSA (or ESA) sites have been found previously in the survey area. Only very sparse localized scatters of stone tools have been seen in places, with limited traces in the hills (e.g. an MSA site at the top of Gamsberg) or at the bases of hills (Morris 2011: 10).

Late Holocene Later Stone Age (LSA) sites dominate the archaeological trace noted in past surveys in the Aggeneys-Pofadder region. Researchers such as Beaumont and Morris have shown that virtually all the Bushmanland sites so far located appear to be ephemeral occupations by small groups in the hinterland on both sides of the Orange River. The appearance of herders in the Orange River Basin, Beaumont et al. argue, led to competition over resources and ultimately to marginalization of hunter-gatherers, some of whom then occupied Bushmanland, probably mainly in the last millennium, and focused their hunting and gathering activities around the limited number of water sources in the region. Surveys have located signs of human occupation mainly in the shelter of granite inselbergs, on red dunes which provided clean sand for sleeping, or around the seasonal pans. Possibly following good rains, herders moved into the Orange River hinterland, as attested archaeologically at sites with ample pottery near Aggeneys and, east of Pofadder, at Schuitdrift South. However, Thompson (1824) refers to herder groups settled at the stronger springs such as Pella dispersing during periods of drought to smaller springs in the

region, which could equally well account for the traces referred to here. At such times competition between groups over resources and stress within an already marginalized hunter-gatherer society, must have intensified (Morris 2011: 9-10). Recent surveys by the author of this report for the Konkoonsies Solar PV Plant between Pofadder and Onseepkans also recorded a number of Later Stone Age sites (Pelser 2011).

**No Stone Age sites or material were identified in the study and development area during the March 2020 field assessment.**

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.

The expansion of early farmers, who, among other things, cultivated crops, raised livestock, made ceramic containers (pots), mined ore and smelted metals, occurred in this area between AD 400 and AD 1100 and brought the Early Iron Age (EIA) to South Africa. They settled in semi-permanent villages (De Jong 2010: 35).

While there is some evidence that the EIA continued into the 15th century in the South African Lowveld, on the escarpment it had ended by AD1100. The Highveld became active again from the 15th century onwards due to a gradually warmer and wetter climate. From here communities spread to other parts of the interior. This later phase, termed the Late Iron Age (LIA), was accompanied by extensive stonewalled settlements, such as the Thlaping capital Dithakong, 40 km north of Kuruman (De Jong 2010: 35-36).

Sotho-Tswana and Nguni societies, the descendants of the LIA mixed farming communities, found the region already sparsely inhabited by the Late Stone Age (LSA) Khoisan groups, the so-called “first people”. Most of them were eventually assimilated by LIA communities and only a few managed to survive, such as the Korana and Griqua. This period of contact is sometimes known as the Ceramic Late Stone Age and is represented by sites such as the Blinkklipkop specularite mine near Postmasburg and finds at the Kathu Pan (De Jong 2010: 36).

Factors such as population expansion, increasing pressure on natural resources, the emergence of power blocs, attempts to control trade and penetration by Griquas, Korana and white communities from the south-west resulted in a period of instability in Southern

Africa that began in the late 18th century and effectively ended with the settlement of white farmers in the interior. This period, known as the difaqane or Mfecane, also affected the Northern Cape Province, although at a relatively late stage compared to the rest of Southern Africa. Here, the period of instability, beginning in the mid-1820s, was triggered by the incursion of displaced refugees associated with the Tlokwa, Fokeng, Hlakwana and Phuting tribal groups.

The difaqane coincided with the penetration of the interior of South Africa by white traders, hunters, explorers and missionaries. The first was P.J. Truter's and William Somerville's journey of 1801, which reached Dithakong at Kuruman. They were followed by Cowan, Donovan, Burchell and Campbell and resulted in the establishment of a London Mission Society station near Kuruman in 1817 by James Read.

The Great Trek of the Boers from the Cape in 1836 brought large numbers of Voortrekkers up to the borders of large regions known as Bechuanaland and Griqualand West, thereby coming into conflict with many Tswana groups and also the missionaries of the London Mission Society. The conflict between Boer and Tswana communities escalated in the 1860s and 1870s when the Korana and Griqua communities became involved and later also the British government. The conflict mainly centered on land claims by various communities. For decades the western border of the Transvaal Boer republic was not fixed. Only through arbitration (the Keate Arbitration), triggered by the discovery of gold at Tati (1866) and diamonds at Hopetown (1867) was part of the western border finally determined in 1871. Ten years later, the Pretoria Convention fixed the entire western border, thereby finally excluding Bechuanaland and Griqualand West from Boer domination (De Jong 2010: 36).

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

The information below is from Kaplan 2016 (p.8; 16-17) and provides a short background to the archaeology and history of the area (See List of References):

**"***Springbok (the study area) is located in the arid Namaqualand region of the Northern Cape Province, 550 kms north of Cape Town, on the N7 to Namibia. Okiep, Concordia and Carolusberg owe their origins primarily to the 19th century copper mining industry, and preserve extensive mining and Anglo-Boer War heritage Okiep lies to the east of the N7 about 5kms north of Springbok. Concordia was originally established as a Rhenish mission station in 1852 before copper mining began there in 1853. During the Anglo Boer War, the Boers used Concordia as their headquarters whilst Okiep (some 10 kms away) was under siege. Carolusberg is located about 8kms northeast of Springbok, off the N14. The town was visited by Governor Simon van der Stel on his expedition to Namaqualand in 1685.*

*In general, the study area is characterized by extensive, exposed bedrock granite rocks of various sizes, huge granite and gneiss domes, mountains, steep rocky slopes, and open veld with shallow soils colonized by shrubs and dwarf vegetation (succulents). The dry Eselfontein River and several ephemeral water courses originating from the surrounding high mountains intersect and drain the study area. There are no known pans or springs. Surrounding land*

*use is agriculture (mainly sheep & goat grazing), with some local granite mining operations in the hills surrounding Okiep, Concordia and Carolusberg.*

*Historically, the interior of Namaqualand was occupied by the Little Namaqua, a Khoekhoen pastoralist group who herded sheep and cattle and lived in temporary encampments of mat/grass huts. The Little Namaqua is known to have moved seasonally with their livestock and historical reports indicate that they may have followed a transhumance cycle between the Kamiesberg in the summer months and the Sandveld in the winter months. Since the Little Namaqua had no clearly defined territorial boundaries, it was easy for the colonial Trekboers to settle in the area, when loan farms were granted after 1750. The Little Namaqua eventually retreated to so-called `reserves' such as Leliefontein,* ***Steinkopf,*** *Kommaggas, Carolusberg, Concordia and the Richtersveld*

*Until recently, little archaeological work had taken place in the Springbok area, where most of the current studies have been surveys undertaken as part of the EIA process. Most of the archaeological research in the western part of the Northern Cape has tended to be concentrated on the Namaqualand coast, in the Richtersveld and the Kamiesberg area. Archaeological surveys around Springbok have generated mixed results. For example, only three stone flakes were recorded during an HIA for a proposed Wind Energy Farm near Springbok, Okiep and Concordia, where some faded rock was also recorded. A few stone flakes were also encountered in a powerline route between Springbok and Nababeep during scoping for the same project. A low density scatter of Later Stone Age (LSA) flakes, chunks, cores and utilized pieces, in quartz and silcrete were recorded near Bulletrap (north of Springbok) during an assessment of several borrow pits.*

*No pre-colonial resources were documented during a heritage scoping assessment for a proposed water pipeline between Rooiwinkel and Nababeep, and between Okiep and Bulletrap alongside the N7, projects which are part of the current Namaqualand regional water supply scheme being administered by the applicant. A few stone tools and a possible grave/grave marker were recorded by Smith during a HIA for a proposed solar energy farm near Carolusberg, and dispersed scatters of stone tools, a stone kraal, colonial-era artifacts and a possible grave were also encountered by Smith during a HIA for a proposed solar energy farm near Nababeep. No archaeological heritage was encountered by Gaigher during a HIA for a proposed solar energy farm south of Springbok and no pre-colonial archaeological traces were encountered by Morris during a survey of the proposed upgrading of the Goegap Nature Reserve facilities a few kilometres outside Springbok.*

*Heritage resources relating to the historic copper railway line, and possible grave markers/alternatively copper prospecting pits covered with rocks, were identified by Webley during a HIA for the upgrading of the N7 between Okiep and* ***Steinkopf****, but no pre-colonial archaeological heritage was recorded during the study. The majority of the work so far done appears to indicate a paucity of archaeological traces in the Springbok area of the Northern Cape*".

**Information from Wikipedia**

The Rev. Christiaan Albrecht of the London Missionary Society (LMS) secured permission from the Cape Colony authorities to minister to the area as early as 1809. The first local mission was founded near Besondermeid in 1817 by Rev. Heinrich Schmelen of the LMS in 1817, and he named it Steinkopf after his spiritual mentor in London, Dr. Karl Steinkopf. When the LMS began working in the area, it was ruled by the Nama chiefs Vigiland and Orlam, vice-captains of Captain Kido Witbooi, at the time the predominant leader of Little Namaqualand between Buffelsrivier and the Orange River.

The Rev. Michael Wimmer moved the mission 5 km north of Besondermeid to Kookfontein Farm, where Steinkopf is today. The Rhenish Missionary Society (RMS) took over the LMS's work in 1840, when the latter left the area. Steinkopf became part of Cape Colony in 1847, when the colonial border shifted to the Orange River, but it was not until 1913, with the implementation of the Mission Stations and Communal Reserves Act of 1909, that direct state control was established. In 1934, the RMS left the region to the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa (NGK) Mission Church, which in 1994 became part of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (VGKSA).

In the early years of the mission, Steinkopf was wracked by violence between the San hunter-gatherers and pastoral communities. A mass grave of 32 Nama children at Kinderlê just north of town testifies to the bloody struggles that almost wiped out the San from the area.

When the railway was built to carry copper from the mines near Okiep, it passed through Steinkopf on the way to Port Nolloth, growing the mission town considerably. Steinkopf was also invaded by the Boer forces during the Second Boer War, under the leadership of Gen. Jan Smuts, and many fled to the refugee camp in Port Nolloth. Several local citizens served the British as part of the Town Guards and Border Scouts. Around 10 km north of town on the road to Port Nolloth, near Klipfontein, there remain graves of soldiers killed in the war and ruins of the railway station and hotel that served passengers on the copper line.

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

**Results of the study area assessment**

No sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance were identified in the study area during the assessment. Erosion dongas, the dry streambed and the quarry areas were scrutinized for the presence of possible Stone Age material (stone tools) and none were identified. It is possible that individual tools might be present in the area and that material could be covered by red sands, but it seems as if there is a total lack of material in the area. It is more than likely that the surrounding hills in the larger area would be more suitable locations for sites.

The remains of a recent informal dwelling were the only site identified in the study area. The site is not old and of no heritage significance. No mitigation measures are therefore required.

GPS Location of Ruins: **S29 16 36.10 E17 44 29.60**.

**Figure 14: Ruins of recent informal dwelling in the study area.**

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 Township Establishment on the Remaining Extent of Erf 2048 in Steinkopf was conducted successfully. The development & study area is located in the Nama Khoi Local Municpality of the Northern Cape Province.

The study area is approximately 102 hectares in extent. The project is conducted on instruction from Barzani Town Planning (Pty) Ltd.

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.

Vegetation cover (trees, shrubs and grass) is very scarce and visibility was therefore very good. Red Aeolian (Kalahari) sands cover sections of the study area. A dry stream bed runs through the area from the north to south in the western section of the footprint, while quarrying activities in the south-western portion has also impacted on the area. Informal dumping of building rubble and household refuse occurs throughout the area, while a few small informal houses are also present. Other impacts include a water pipeline and the south of the study area a water/sewerage treatment plant.

No sites, features or material of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) origin or significance were identified in the study area during the assessment. Erosion dongas, the dry streambed and the quarry areas were scrutinized for the presence of possible Stone Age material (stone tools) and none were identified. It is possible that individual tools might be present in the area and that material could be covered by red sands, but it seems as if there is a total lack of material in the area. It is more than likely that the surrounding hills in the larger area would be more suitable locations for sites.

The remains of a recent informal dwelling were the only site identified in the study area. The site is not old and of no heritage significance. No mitigation measures are therefore required.

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 point of view the proposed Township Establishment on the Remaining Extent of Erf 2048 in Steinkopf should be allowed continue taking the above recommendations into consideration.**

## 8. REFERENCES


General and Closer views of study area location and footprint: Google Earth 2020.

Location Map: courtesy Maxim Planning Solutions.

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**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.

**Aestetic 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.