

Comprehensive and Professional Solutions for all Heritage Related Matters
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**PHASE 1 HIA REPORT FOR A PROPOSED
FILLING STATION (RIETVLEI EXTENSION 6)
ON THE REMAINING PORTION OF PORTION 1 OF THE FARM WITKOPPIES 393JR
EAST OF THE RIETVLEIDAM NATURE RESERVE, CITY OF TSHWANE, GAUTENG**

For:

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REPORT: **APAC019/17**

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SUMMARY

A Pelsers Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for the development of a proposed filling station (Rietvlei Extension 6) situated on the Remaining Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Witkoppies 393 JR. The study area is located just to the west of the R50 (Delmas Road) and approximately 2km to the east of the south-eastern section of the Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve in the Greater Tshwane Municipal Area of Gauteng.

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.

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 Pelsers Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC to conduct a Phase 1 HIA for the development of a proposed filling station (Rietvlei Extension 6) situated on the Remaining Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Witkoppies 393 JR. The study area is located just to the west of the R50 (Delmas Road) and approximately 2km to the east of the south-eastern section of the Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve in the Greater Tshwane Municipal Area of Gauteng.

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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 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- 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 proposed filling station will be situated on the Remaining Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Witkoppies 393 JR. The proposed zoning for the new facility is "Special" for the purpose of a filling station, convenience store of 100m² and parking area for busses and trucks. The proposed filling station will be situated just to the west of the R50 (Delmas Road) and will be located approximately 2km to the east of the south-eastern section of the Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve. A new "agricultural theme" residential development, namely the Rietvlei Farm Village development will be developed in between the proposed filling station and the eastern boundary of the Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve. Nova Bricks is situated to the immediate east of the proposed filling station, on the eastern side of Delmas Road. The Albertina Sisulu Freeway/the R21 Freeway runs in a south-north direction to the west of the study area and link the City of Tshwane with Kempton Park, the O.R Thambo Airport and Johannesburg.

The topography of the study area is flat with no rocky ridges or outcrops present. The area was used in the past for agricultural purposes (ploughing and crop growing) with currently existing maize fields bordering the proposed development area. 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. There are no trees or bushes located in the study, while grass cover & weeds were fairly dense. A foot survey across the old ploughed field did not reveal any sites, feature or material of cultural heritage origin.

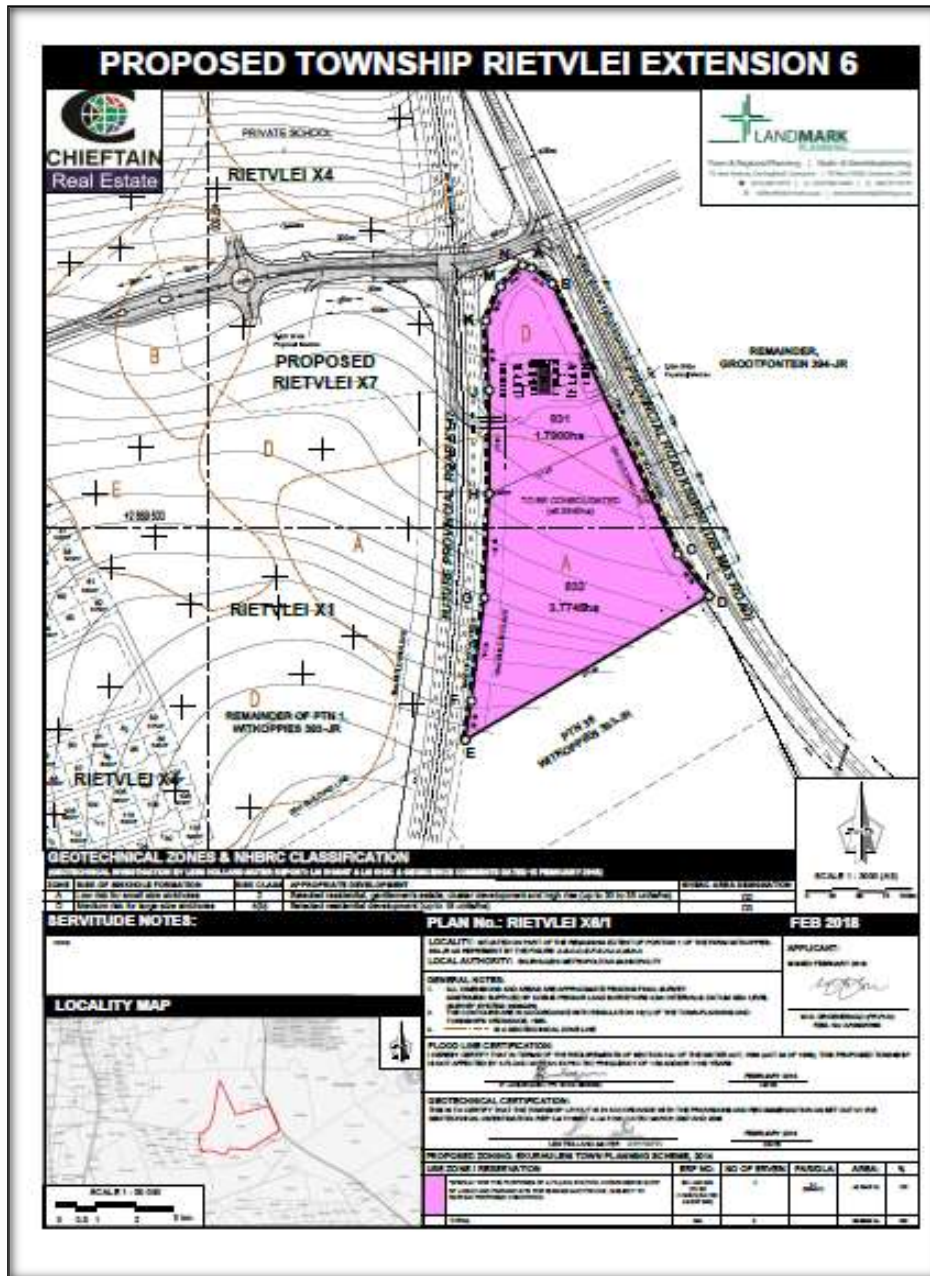


Fig.1: Site Development Plan (courtesy Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC).

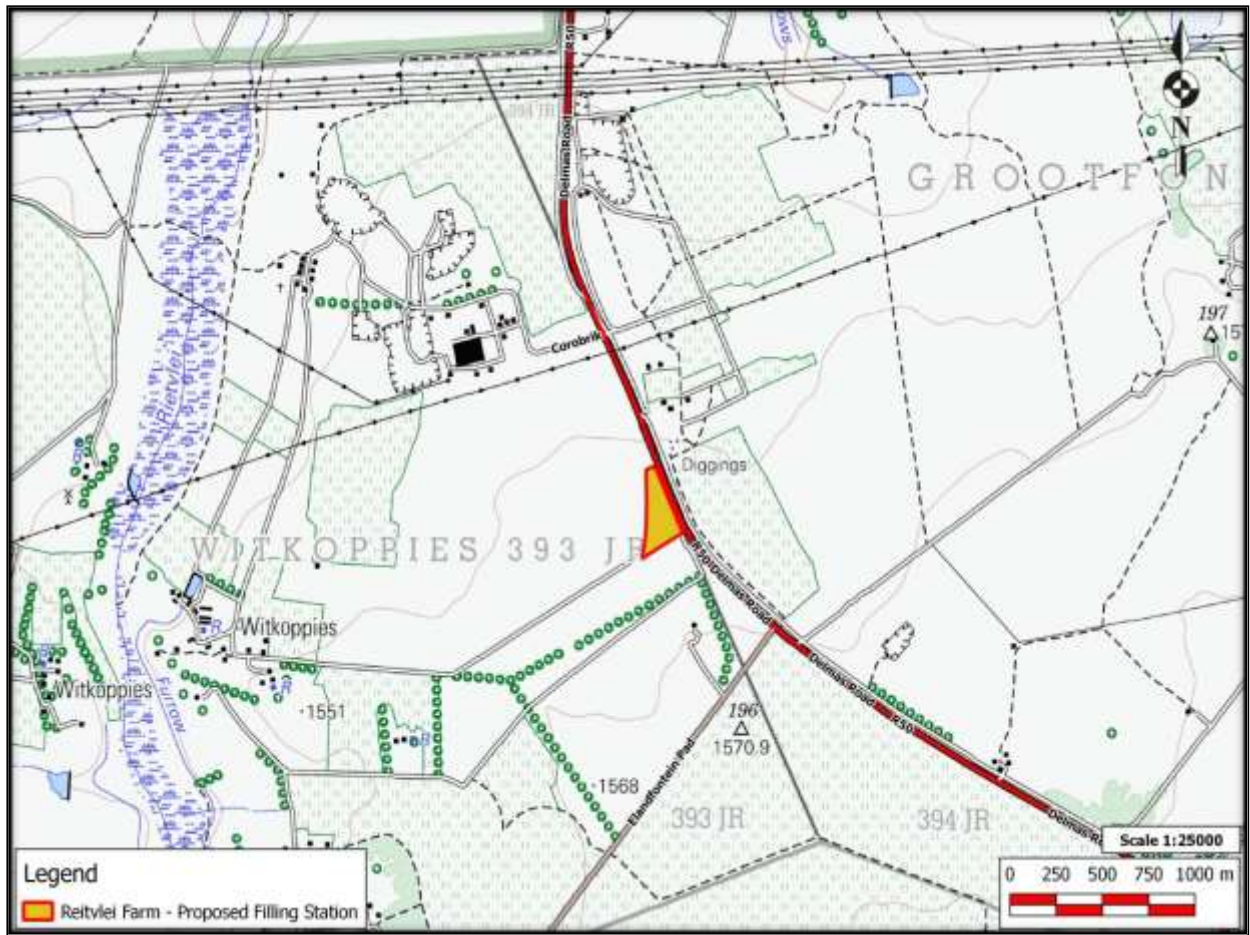


Fig.2: Topographic Locality Map (courtesy Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants CC).

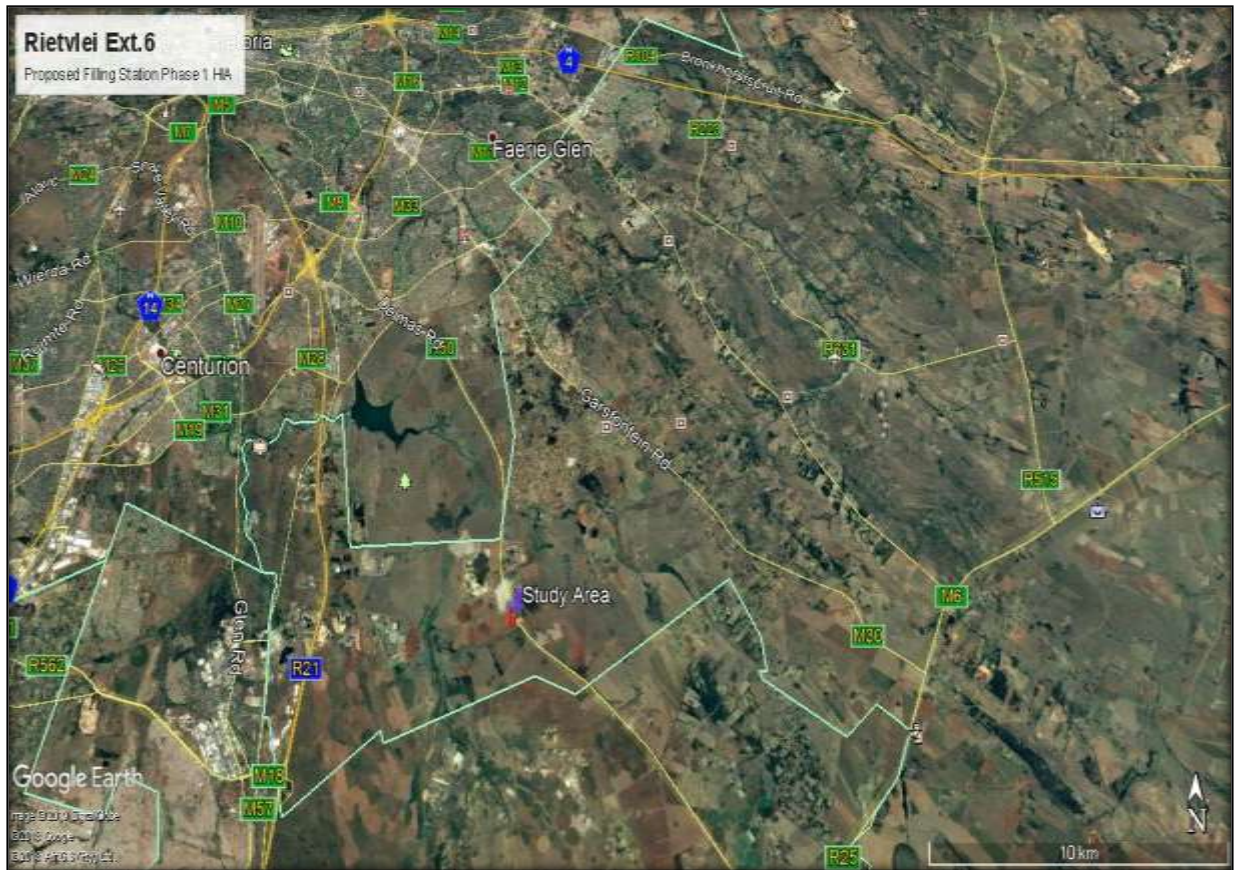


Fig.3: General location of study area (Google Earth 2019).

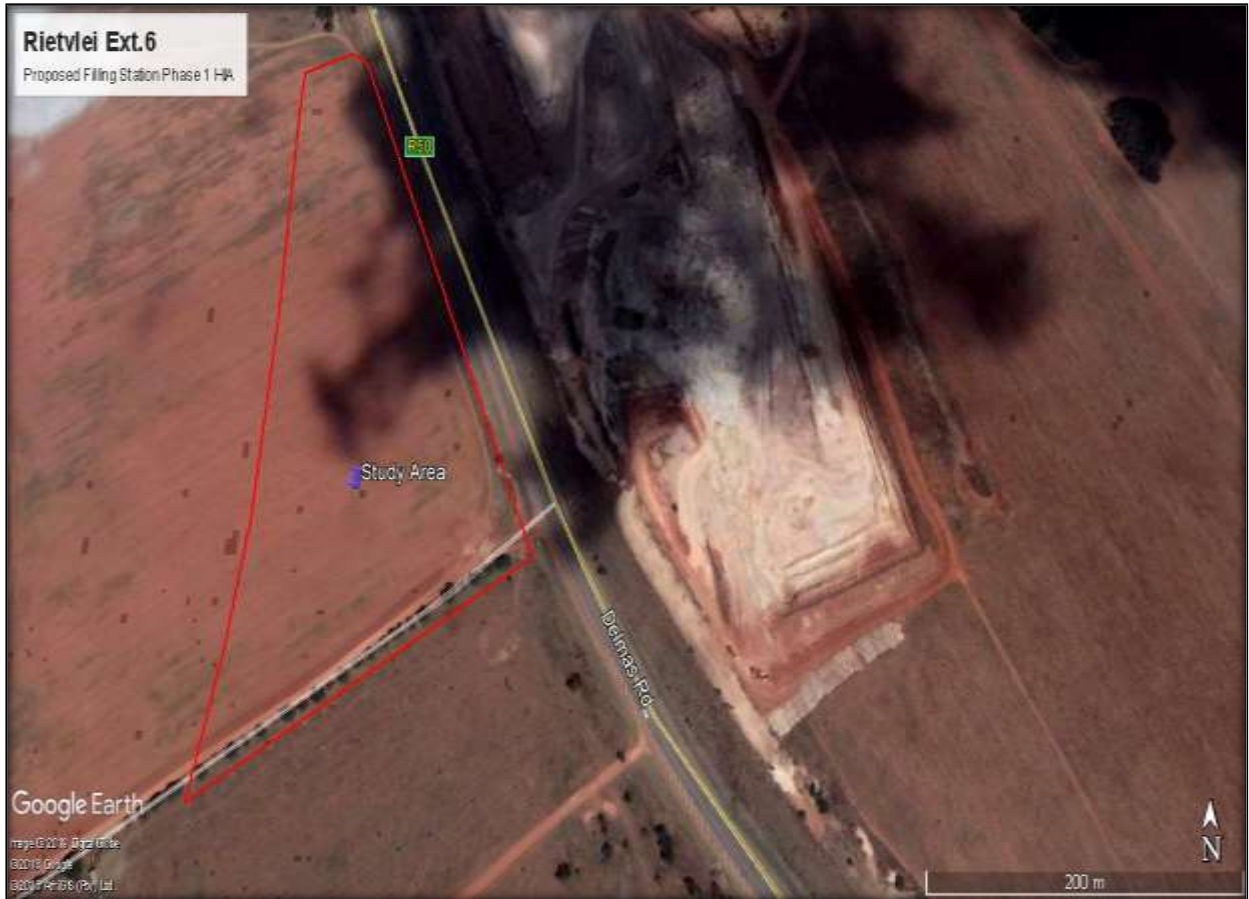


Fig.4: Closer view of study area (Google Earth 2019).



Fig.5: General view of the study area.



Fig.6: Another view of the study area.



Fig.7: Another section of the 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).

Middle Stone Age material was identified at Erasmusrand and the Groenkloof Nature Reserve (Van Vollenhoven 2006: 183). At the Erasmusrand cave some Late Stone Age tools were also identified as well as at Groenkloof (Van Vollenhoven 2006: 184). LSA material was also found at Zwartkops and Hennops River (Bergh 1999: 4). This last phase of the Stone Age is associated with the San people.

There are no known Stone Age sites (including rock art) in the area, and none was found during the survey.

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.

Only Late Iron Age sites have been identified close to the Rietvlei Dam Nature Reserve. Bergh (1999: 7) indicates that 125 sites are known in the Pretoria area, but this number could be much more. According to Delius (1983: 12) and Horn (1996: 23) LIA people moved into the Pretoria area after 1600 A.D. The closest LIA sites to the reserve are those found at Groenkloof and Erasmusrand (Van Vollenhoven 2006: 188).

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

The Historical Age started with the first historical sources which can be used to learn more about people of the past. In South Africa it can be divided into two phases. The first includes oral histories as well as the recorded oral histories of past societies. The latter were usually written by people who contact with such a community for a short time. This is followed by the second phase which includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write (Van Vollenhoven 2006: 189).

Early travelers have moved through the area that later became known as Pretoria as early as 1829. This was when the first white people visited the area, namely Robert Schoon and William McLuckie. During the same year the well-known missionary Dr. Robert Moffat also visited the area (Rasmussen 1978: 69). In October 1829 the missionary James Archbell and the trader David Hume traveled through this part of the country (Changuion 1999: 119).

The first Bantu language speakers in the area were the so-called Transvaal Ndebele, specifically the southern group. Their history goes back to Chief Msi (Musi) and the genealogy of the Manala (Mahbena) clan, the Ndzundza (Mapoch) clan, the Mathombeni (Kekana) clan and the Hwanda clan (Horn 1996: 23). Chief Msi lived in the Pretoria area somewhere between 1600 and 1700 A.D. His sons divided the tribe in three groups, namely the Hwaduba, Manala and Ndzundza (Horn 1996: 23).

The largest group of Bantu speaking people in the Pretoria area is the Northern Sotho, but Southern Sotho's and Tswanas are also present (Bergh 1999: 106). It seems as if all these groups fled from the area during the Difaquane when Mzilikazi came here in 1827. He killed the men, burned down their villages, confiscated the livestock and took the women to marry members of his impi (Van Vollenhoven 2000: 156). The missionary Jean-Pierre Pellissier even visited Mzilikazi in March 1832. In June/ July of that year he was attacked by the impi of Dingane, the Zulu chief. As a result he left the area during that year (Bergh 1999: 112). This left an area described as being deserted by the missionary Robert Moffat. Sotho groups however started moving back into the area after Mzilikazi left (Junod 1955: 68).

The first white people also came to the Pretoria area during this time (Coetzee 1992: 11). In 1839 JGS Bronkhorst settled on the farm Elandspoort. He was the first permanent white settler in the area (Van Vollenhoven 2005: 17-45). The first mention of the farm Witkoppies 393 JR is found in the Deeds Office and dates to 15 July 1859. The first owner of this farm was Johannes Elardus Erasmus. Although the date on the farm register is given as 1859, it should be indicated that many of the first farms were only registered once it was sold. Therefore the farm may have been in their hands for more than 10 years before it was registered (Van Vollenhoven 2010: 17).

The oldest map for the farm Witfontein 393JR that could be obtained from the database of the Chief Surveyor General dates to 1898 (www.csg.dla.gov.za – CSG Document 10198230). It shows that the farm was then known as Witkoppies 105 and that it was located in the District of Pretoria and in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR). For Portion 1 the oldest map dates to 1931 (CSG Document 10HEKD01). It was then also numbered as 105 and was located in the District of Pretoria and Province of Transvaal. It was surveyed between August

and November 1930. This map indicates that the whole of the original farm was granted to J.E. Erasmus on the 15th of July 1859. No historical sites or features could be identified from this map of Portion 1.

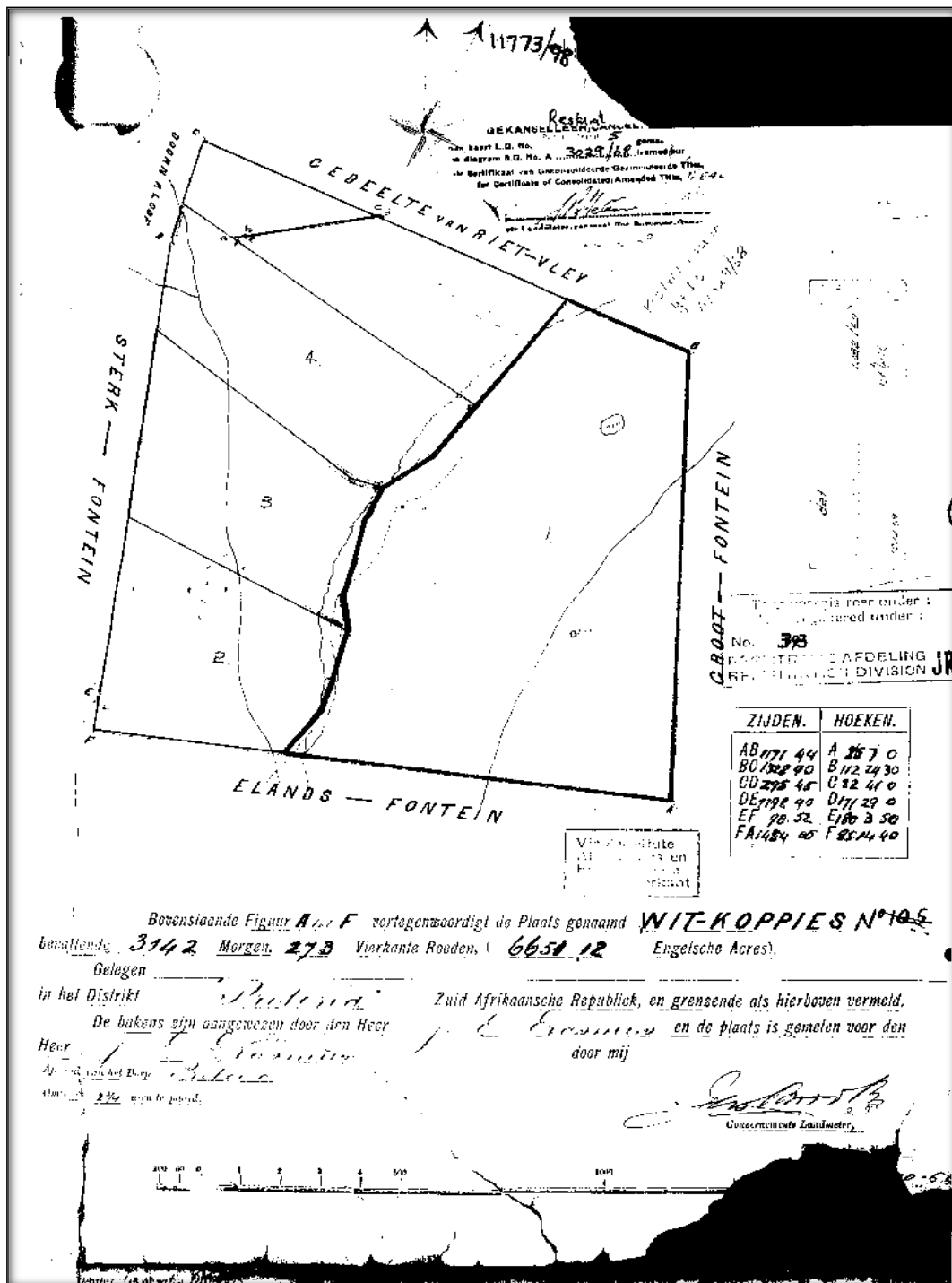


Figure 8: An 1898 map of the farm (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

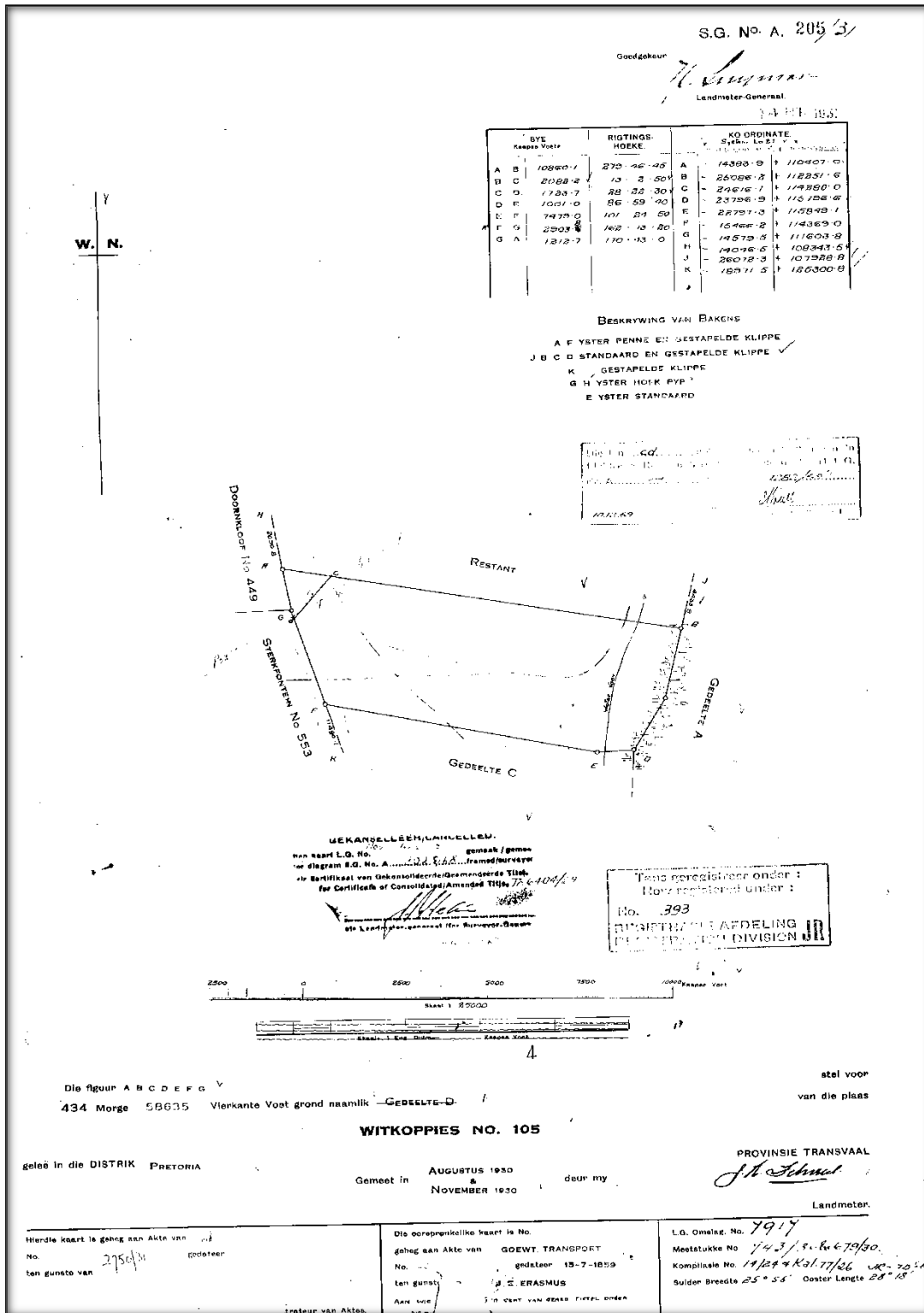


Fig.9: A 1931 map of Portion 1 of the farm (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

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 the historical agricultural activities in the study and larger area around it.

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 Phase 1 HIA for the development of a proposed filling station (Rietvlei Extension 6) situated on the Remaining Portion of Portion 1 of the Farm Witkoppies 393 JR was conducted successfully. The study area has been extensively disturbed in the recent past by agricultural activities. 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 Rietvlei Extension 6 Filling Station development should be allowed to continue.

8. REFERENCES

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

Locality Map and Site Plan (courtesy Bokamoso Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants)

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Chief Surveyor General Database (www.csg.dla.gov.za): Documents (1) 10198230 & (2) 10HEKDO1

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.