

# PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) FOR THE PROPOSED NKOSI CITY INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

On a Portion of the Farm Nkosi City 1002-JU  
Mbombela Local Municipality, Mpumalanga  
Province

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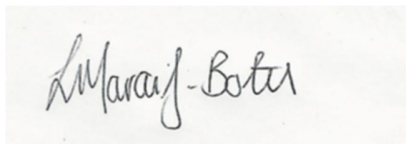
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### Declaration of independence:

I, the above mentioned specialist investigator responsible for conducting this particular specialist heritage study, declare that:

- At the time of conducting the study and compiling this report I did not have any interest, hidden or otherwise, in the proposed development, except for financial compensation for work done in a professional capacity;
- Work performed for this study was done in an objective manner. Even if this study results in views and findings that are not favorable to the client/applicant, I will not be affected in any manner by the outcome of any heritage and environmental process of which this report may form a part;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing this specialist investigation. I do not necessarily object to or endorse the proposed development, but aim to present facts, findings and recommendations based on relevant professional experience, and scientific data;
- I do not have any influence over decisions made by the governing authorities;
- I have the necessary qualifications in conducting specialist reports relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- This document and all information contained herein are and will remain the intellectual property of Bokamoso Environmental: Specialist Division. This document, in its entirety or any portion thereof, may not be altered in any manner or form, for any purpose without the specific and written consent of the respective specialist investigator.



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**BA (Hons) Cultural History**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Bokamoso Environmental Specialist Division was commissioned to carry out a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the proposed Nkosi City Integrated Human Settlement Development on the Farm Nkosi City 1002-JU, Mbombela Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Nkosi City is an integrated human settlements development project based on the Rural Transformation Model comprising of agricultural units, social and bonded housing, schools, institutional buildings, commercial and industrial properties, sports facilities, public transport facilities, waste water treatment works, water reticulation, stormwater management infrastructure, electrical infrastructure, waste management facilities, public open space, and the construction of dams on land 968ha in extent.

The objective of this Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was to gain an overall understanding of the heritage sensitivities of the area and indicate how these may be impacted on through development activities. The site visit took place on 2 June 2017.

## 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To assess the heritage component of the study area and establish heritage significance where applicable;
- To identify and list the heritage items occurring on the site;
- To indicate heritage sensitive areas in the study area;
- To highlight the potential impacts of the proposed development on the heritage nature of the study area; and
- Provide recommendations to mitigate negative impacts and enhance positive impacts relating to heritage items discovered in the study area.

## 3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

### **This report:**

- Lists all heritage sites recorded during the site visit;
- Comments on heritage sensitive areas in the study area;
- Comments on impacts affecting the heritage sensitivity of the study area;
- Evaluates the conservation importance and significance of the study area;
- Provides recommendations to mitigate negative impacts, should the proposed development be approved.

#### **4. LIMITATIONS OF THIS STUDY**

Although all possible care is taken to identify/find all sites of cultural importance during the initial survey of the study area, the nature of archaeological and historical sites are as such that it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study.

Therefore, Bokamoso Environmental: Specialist Division cannot accept responsibilities for conclusions and mitigation measures made in good faith with the limited available information at the time of the directive. This report should be viewed and acted upon considering these limitations.

#### **5. STUDY AREA**

##### **5.1 Historical Background**

The study area is situated near Mbombela (Nelspruit) in the Mpumalanga Province. The above town was founded in 1889. The name Nelspruit was derived from the name of the original farm owner. It is a leading center for the production of citrus and other sub-tropical crops. The Department of Agriculture maintains a research station here. During the South African War (1899-1902) it was for a short while a seat of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR).

##### **5.2 Study Area**

The proposed Nkosi City development is situated east of Daantjie and west of Lumphisi, Mpumalanga Province. The site can be accessed on the west via an unnamed road running through Daantjie and the study area.



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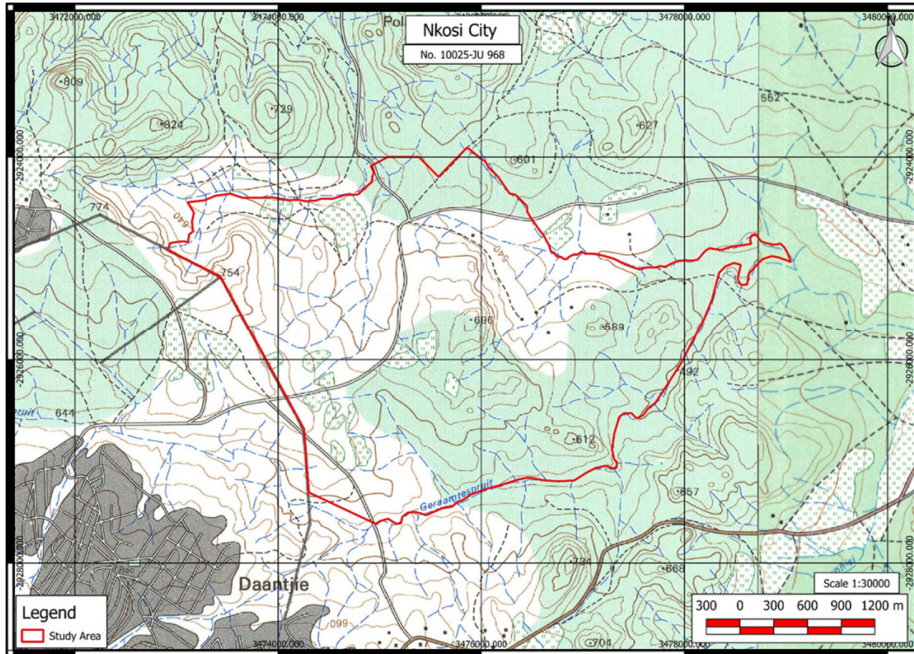


Figure 1: Locality map

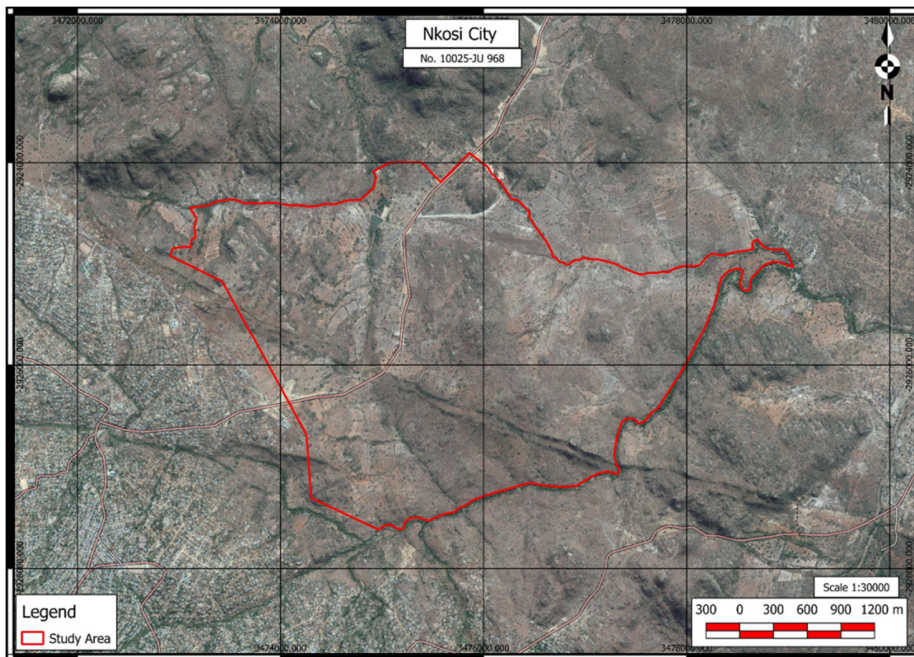


Figure 2: Aerial image of study area

## 6. METHOD

The objective of this Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was to gain an overall understanding of the heritage sensitivities of the area and indicate how they may be impacted on through development activities. The site visit took place on 2 June 2017.

In order to establish heritage significance the following method was followed:

- Investigation of primary resources (archival information)
- Investigation of secondary resources (literature and maps)
- Physical evidence (site investigation)
- Determining Heritage Significance.

## 7. RESULTS

### 7.1 Photographic Record



**Figure 3: Site characteristics**





**Figure 4: Site characteristics**



**Figure 5: Site characteristics**



**Figure 6: Site characteristics**



**Figure 7: Site characteristics**



**Figure 8: Site characteristics**

## 7.2 Findings

### Pre-Colonial Heritage Sites

Possibilities: Greater study area taken into account.

#### Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when stone material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods;

- Early Stone Age 2 000 000 – 150 000 years ago
- Middle Stone Age 150 000 – 30 000 years ago
- Late Stone Age 40 000 years ago - +/- 1850 AD

#### Iron Age

The Iron Age is the period in human history when metal was mainly used to produce artefacts. In South Africa the Iron Age can be divided in three periods;

- Early Iron Age 250-900 AD
- Middle Iron Age 900-1300 AD
- Late Iron Age 1300-1840 AD

*There are no pre-colonial heritage sites evident in the study area. This can be attributed to previous farming infrastructure development in the study area.*

## Historical Period Sites

Possibilities: Greater study area taken into account.

- Pioneer sites;
- Sites associated with early mining;
- Structures older than 60 years;
- Graves (Graves younger than 60 years, graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years, graves older than 100 years, graves of victims of conflict or of individuals of royal descent).

*Two cemeteries (referred to as Cemetery 1 and Cemetery 2) are situated in the study area and greater study area.*

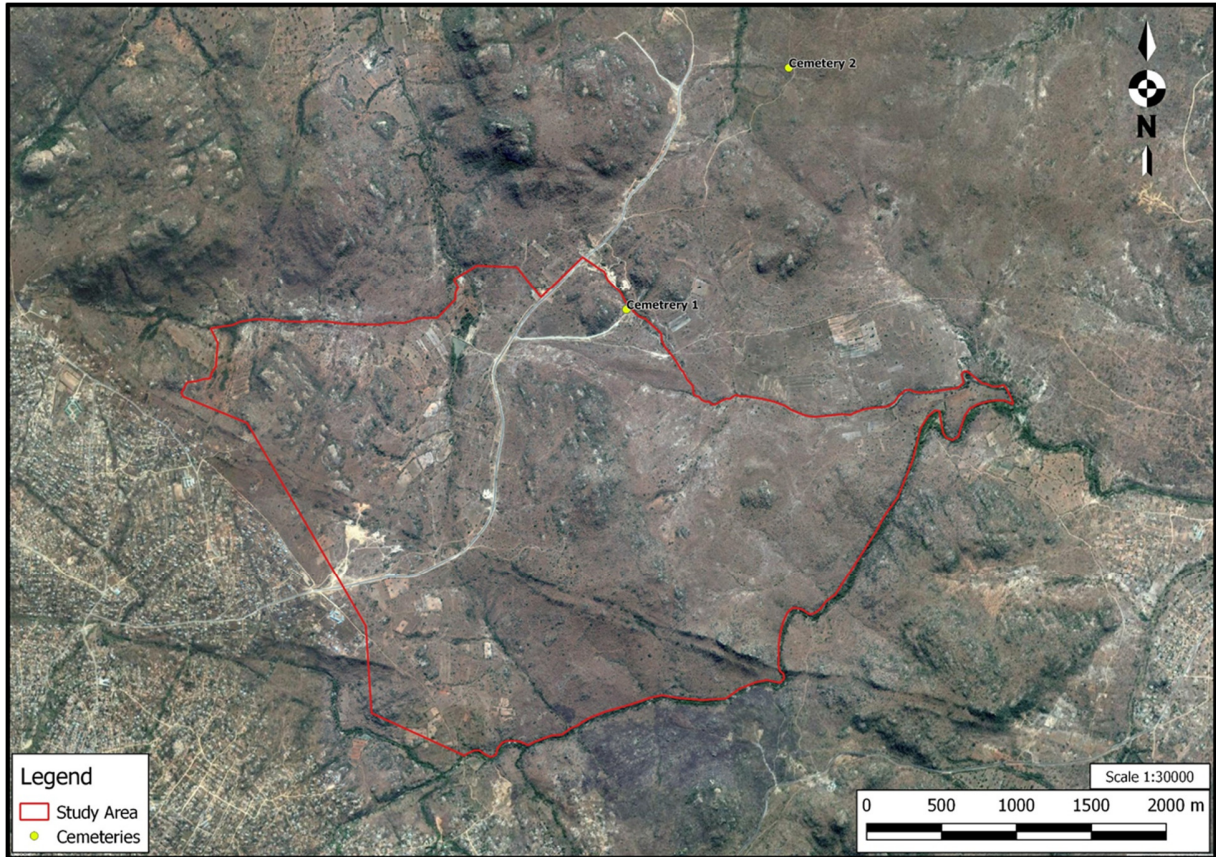
### **Cemetery 1**

S 25° 23' 41.3"  
E031° 13' 37.6"

### **Cemetery 2 (Lukhele Family Cemetery)**

S 25° 22' 48.9"  
E031° 14' 16.4"





**Figure 9: Location of cemeteries**



**Figure 10: Cemetery 1**



**Figure 11: Cemetery 1**





**Figure 12: Cemetery 1**



**Figure 13: Cemetery 1**



**Figure 14: Cemetery 2**

### **Original Landscape**

Large portions of original landscape are still evident in the study area.

### **Intangible Heritage**

The intangible heritage of the greater study area can be found in the stories of past and present inhabitants.



### **7.3 Heritage Value Weighed Against Cultural Significance Categories**

#### **Aesthetic value**

No heritage item with exceptional aesthetic value was identified in the study area.

#### **Architectural value**

No heritage item with exceptional architectural value was identified in the study area.

#### **Historical value**

No historical value associated with the site could be found in primary and secondary sources.

#### **Linguistic value**

No linguistic value associated with the site exists.

#### **Scientific value**

No sites of scientific value were observed on or near the site earmarked for development.

#### **Social value**

Social value is attributed to sites that are used by the community for recreation and formal and informal meetings regarding matters that are important to the community. These sites include parks, community halls, sport fields etc. None such items are evident in the immediate study area.

#### **Spiritual value**

During the site visit/field work no indication of any spiritual activity was observed on/near the proposed site. Thus no sites of spiritual value will be impacted on by the proposed project.

#### **Technological value**

None of the above is evident in the study area.

#### 7.4 Categories Investigated As Per Section 3(1) and 3(2) Of The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Category Description	Present	Not Present
Context wider number of places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance		√
Cultural value because of its importance in the community or pattern of South Africa's history		√
Cultural value because of its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage		√
Cultural value because of its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage		√
Cultural value because of its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural objects		√
Cultural value because of its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group		√
Cultural value because of its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement in a particular period		√
Cultural value because of its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons		√
Cultural value because of its strong or special association with the life and work of a person, group or organization of importance in the history of South Africa		√
Cultural value because of sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa		√
Cultural value because of its		√
Features, structures and artefacts associated with military history		√
Graves and burial grounds	√	
Historical settlements and townscapes		√
History of slavery		√
Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group		√
Indigenous knowledge systems		√
Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance		√
Living heritage including cultural tradition, oral history; performance, ritual, popular memory		√
Movable object		√
Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance		√
Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural and cultural heritage		√
Public monuments and memorials		√
Skills and techniques		√
Rock Art		√
Structure		√
Wrecks		√
The holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships		√

**Table 1: Categories investigated as per Section 3(1) and 3(2) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999**

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES (IF APPLICABLE)**

- Two cemeteries were identified, one in the study area (Cemetery 1) and another outside of the study area (Cemetery 2).
- It is advised that the cemetery situated in the study area be conserved *in situ*.
- No other visible restrictions or negative impacts in terms of heritage associated with the study area could be found.
- The discovery of subsurface archaeological and/or historical material as well as graves must be taken into account in the Environmental Management Program.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

In terms of heritage the proposed project can proceed.

## **10. WAY FORWARD**

Submit this report as a Section 38 application in term of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) to the Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority for comment/approval.

## 11. LITERATURE, MAPS AND ARCHIVAL SOURCES

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Coertze, P.J. & Coertze, R.D. Verklarende vakwoordeboek vir Antropologie en Argeologie. Pretoria, 1996.

Huffman, T.N. A Handbook to the Iron Age: The Archaeology of Pre- Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa. University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2007

Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)

Government Printers. 1: 50 000

National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)

Ordinance on Exhumations (no 12 of 1980)

Potgieter, D.J. (editor-in-chief) Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa. London 1971.

Rosenthal E. (Editor) Encyclopedia of Southern Africa, London and New York 1973

The National Archives of South Africa databases

## 12. DEFINITION OF TERMS

**“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 other decoration or any other means.

**“archaeological”** means—

(a) material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;

(b) rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;

(c) wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and

(d) features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found.

**“conservation”**, in relation to heritage resources, includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance.

**“cultural significance”** means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance.

**“development”** means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of a heritage authority in any way result in a change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place, or influence its stability and future well-being, including—

(a) construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change of use of a place or a structure at a place;

(b) carrying out any works on or over or under a place;

(c) subdivision or consolidation of land comprising, a place, including the structures or airspace of a place;

(d) constructing or putting up for display signs or hoardings;

(e) any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land; and

(f) any removal or destruction of trees, or removal of vegetation or topsoil; object that is specifically designated by that state as being of importance.

**“grave”** means a place of interment and includes the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place.

**“heritage resource”** means any place or object of cultural significance.

**“heritage resources authority”** means the South African Heritage Resources Agency, or in respect of a province, a provincial heritage resources authority.

**“heritage site”** means a place declared to be a national heritage site by SAHRA or a place declared to be a provincial heritage site by a provincial heritage resources authority.

**“improvement”**, in relation to heritage resources, includes the repair, restoration and rehabilitation of a place protected in terms of Act 25 of 1999.

**“living heritage”** means the intangible aspects of inherited culture, and may include—

- (a) cultural tradition;
- (b) oral history;
- (c) performance;
- (d) ritual;
- (e) popular memory;
- (f) skills and techniques;
- (g) indigenous knowledge systems; and
- (h) the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships.

**“local authority”** means a municipality as defined in section 10B of the Local Government Transition Act, 1993 (Act No. 209 of 1993).

**“management”**, in relation to heritage resources, includes the conservation, presentation and improvement of a place protected in terms of Act 25 of 1999.

**“meteorite”** means any naturally-occurring object of extraterrestrial origin.

**“object”** means any movable property of cultural significance which may be protected in terms of any provisions of Act 25 of 1999, including—

- (a) any archaeological artefact;
- (b) palaeontological and rare geological specimens;
- (c) meteorites; and
- (d) other objects.

**“palaeontological”** means any fossilised remains or fossil trace of animals or plants which lived in the geological past, other than fossil fuels or fossiliferous rock intended for industrial use, and any site which contains such fossilised remains or trace.

**“place”** includes—

- (a) a site, area or region;



- (b) a building or other structure which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with such building or other structure;
- (c) a group of buildings or other structures which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and articles associated with or connected with such group of buildings or other structures;
- (d) an open space, including a public square, street or park; and
- (e) in relation to the management of a place, includes the immediate surroundings of a place.

**“presentation”** includes—

- (a) the exhibition or display of;
- (b) the provision of access and guidance to;
- (c) the provision, publication or display of information in relation to; and
- (d) performances or oral presentations related to, heritage resources protected in terms of Act 25 of 1999.

**“public monuments and memorials”** means all monuments and memorials—

- (a) erected on land belonging to any branch of central, provincial or local government, or on land belonging to any organisation funded by or established in terms of the legislation of such a branch of government; or
- (b) which were paid for by public subscription, government funds, or a public-spirited or military organisation, and are on land belonging to any private individual.

**“site”** means any area of land, including land covered by water, and including any structures or objects thereon.

**“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.

**“victims of conflict”** means—

- (a) certain persons who died in any area now included in the Republic as a direct result of any war or conflict as specified in the regulations, but excluding victims of conflict covered by the Commonwealth War Graves Act, 1992 (Act No. 8 of 1992);
- (b) members of the forces of Great Britain and the former British Empire who died in active service in any area now included in the Republic prior to 4 August 1914;
- (c) persons who, during the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) were removed as prisoners of war from any place now included in the Republic to any place outside South Africa and who died there; and
- (d) certain categories of persons who died in the “liberation struggle” as defined in the regulations, and in areas included in the Republic as well as outside the Republic.