

Archaeological Impact Assessment

FOR THE PROPOSED SHELL PROTEA BOULEVARD SERVICE STATION, SOWETO, GAUTENG PROVINCE

Prepared For

ERM

By



TEL: +27 82 373 8491. E –MAIL JACO.HERITAGE@GMAIL.COM

VERSION 1.0
29 April 2015

CLIENT: ERM
CONTACT PERSON: Lisa Otten
Email: Lisa.Otten@erm.com

SIGNATURE: _____

LEADING CONSULTANT: Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC

CONTACT PERSON: Jaco van der Walt
Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting
Professional Member of the Association of Southern African
Professional Archaeologist (#159)

I, Jaco van der Walt as duly authorised representative of Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC, hereby confirm my independence as a specialist and declare that neither I nor the Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC have any interest, be it business, financial, personal or other, in any proposed activity, application or appeal in respect of which the client was appointed as Environmental Assessment practitioner, other than fair remuneration for work performed on this project.



SIGNATURE: _____

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Site name and location: The proposed Shell Protea Boulevard Service Station is located on Portion 134 of Erf 14466, Protea Glen Extension 12 in Soweto, Gauteng Province

Purpose of the study: Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment to determine the presence of cultural heritage sites and the impact of the proposed project on these resources within the study area.

1:50 000 Topographic Map: 2627 BD

Environmental Consultant: ERM

Developer: Shell South Africa Marketing (Pty) Ltd (Shell)

Heritage Consultant: Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC).

Contact person: Jaco van der Walt Tel: +27 82 373 8491

E -mail jaco.heritage@gmail.com.

Date of Report: 29 April 2015

Findings of the Assessment:

The study area was assessed in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 of the NHRA and considering that the study area has been highly disturbed by various land uses and activities in the past it is highly unlikely that any significant heritage resources are still present within the study area. This was confirmed during the survey and no surface indicators of archaeological (Stone or Iron Age) material was identified in the study area. Other studies in the area similarly recorded no sites of significance e.g. Van der Walt (2015) and Van Schalkwyk (2013). In terms of the built environment of the area (Section 34), no standing structures occur in the study area.

An independent paleontological assessment was conducted for the study area (Almond 2015) who recommended exemption for further paleontological studies.

Due to the lack of significant heritage features in the study area there is from an archaeological point of view no compelling reason why the proposed project cannot commence work based on approval from SAHRA.

General

The possible occurrence of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds cannot be excluded. If during construction any possible finds such as graves, stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find.

Disclaimer: *Although all possible care is taken to identify sites of cultural importance during the investigation of study areas, it is always possible that hidden or sub-surface sites could be overlooked during the study. Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result of such oversights.*

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- The technology described in any report;
- Recommendations delivered to the Client.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIA: Archaeological Impact Assessment
ASAPA: Association of South African Professional Archaeologists
BIA: Basic Impact Assessment
CRM: Cultural Resource Management
ECO: Environmental Control Officer
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment*
EIA: Early Iron Age*
EIA Practitioner: Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner
EMP: Environmental Management Plan
ESA: Early Stone Age
GPS: Global Positioning System
HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment
LIA: Late Iron Age
LSA: Late Stone Age
MEC: Member of the Executive Council
MIA: Middle Iron Age
MPRDA: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act
MSA: Middle Stone Age
NEMA: National Environmental Management Act
PRHA: Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
SADC: Southern African Development Community
SAHRA: South African Heritage Resources Agency

**Although EIA refers to both Environmental Impact Assessment and the Early Iron Age both are internationally accepted abbreviations and must be read and interpreted in the context it is used.*

GLOSSARY

Archaeological site (remains of human activity over 100 years old)

Early Stone Age (~ 2.6 million to 250 000 years ago)

Middle Stone Age (~ 250 000 to 40-25 000 years ago)

Later Stone Age (~ 40-25 000, to recently, 100 years ago)

The Iron Age (~ AD 400 to 1840)

Historic (~ AD 1840 to 1950)

Historic building (over 60 years old)

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<i>Kind of study</i>	Archaeological Impact Assessment
<i>Type of development</i>	Service Station
<i>Developer:</i>	Shell South Africa Marketing (Pty) Ltd (Shell)
<i>Consultant:</i>	ERM

The Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) report forms part of the Basic Assessment for the proposed project.

The aim of the study is to identify cultural heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within local, provincial and national context. It serves to assess the impact of the proposed project on non-renewable heritage resources, and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the responsible cultural resources management measures that might be required to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner. It is also conducted to protect, preserve, and develop such resources within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

The report outlines the approach and methodology utilized before and during the survey, which includes: Phase 1, information collection from various sources and consultations; Phase 2, the physical surveying of the area on foot and by vehicle; Phase 3, reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey no archaeological sites were identified. General site conditions and features on sites were recorded by means of photographs, GPS locations, and site descriptions. Possible impacts were identified and mitigation measures are proposed in the following report.

This report must also be submitted to SAHRA for peer review.

1.1 Terms of Reference

Desktop study

Conducting a brief desktop study where information on the area is collected to provide a background history of the area.

Field study

Conduct a field study to: a) systematically survey the proposed project area to locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources recorded in the project area.

Reporting

Report on the identification of anticipated and cumulative impacts the operational units of the proposed project activity may have on the identified heritage resources for all 3 phases of the project; i.e., construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Consider alternatives, should any significant sites be impacted adversely by the proposed project. Ensure that all studies and results comply with Heritage legislation and the code of ethics and guidelines of ASAPA.

To assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, and to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

1.2. Archaeological Legislation and Best Practice

Phase 1, an AIA or a HIA is a pre-requisite for development in South Africa as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation. The overall purpose of a heritage specialist input is to:

- Identify any heritage resources, which may be affected;
- Assess the nature and degree of significance of such resources;
- Establish heritage informants/constraints to guide the development process through establishing thresholds of impact significance;
- Assess the negative and positive impact of the development on these resources;
- Make recommendations for the appropriate heritage management of these impacts.

The AIA or HIA, as a specialist sub-section of the EIA, is required under the National Heritage Resources Act NHRA of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), Section 23(2)(b) of the NEMA and section s.39(3)(b)(iii) of the MPRDA.

The AIA should be submitted, as part of the EIA, BIA or EMP, to the PHRA if established in the province or to SAHRA. SAHRA will be ultimately responsible for the professional evaluation of Phase 1 AIA reports upon which review comments will be issued. 'Best practice' requires Phase 1 AIA reports and additional development information, as per the EIA, BIA/EMP, to be submitted in duplicate to SAHRA after completion of the study. SAHRA accepts Phase 1 AIA reports authored by professional archaeologists, accredited with ASAPA or with a proven ability to do archaeological work.

Minimum accreditation requirements include an Honours degree in archaeology or related discipline and 3 years post-university CRM experience (field supervisor level).

Minimum standards for reports, site documentation and descriptions are set by ASAPA in collaboration with SAHRA. ASAPA is a legal body, based in South Africa, representing professional archaeology in the

SADC region. ASAPA is primarily involved in the overseeing of ethical practice and standards regarding the archaeological profession. Membership is based on proposal and secondment by other professional members.

Phase 1 AIAs are primarily concerned with the location and identification of sites situated within a proposed development area. Identified sites should be assessed according to their significance. Relevant conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations should be made. Recommendations are subject to evaluation by SAHRA.

Conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations, as approved by SAHRA, are to be used as guidelines in the developer's decision making process.

Phase 2 archaeological projects are primarily based on salvage/mitigation excavations preceding development destruction or impact on a site. Phase 2 excavations can only be conducted with a permit, issued by SAHRA to the appointed archaeologist. Permit conditions are prescribed by SAHRA and includes (as minimum requirements) reporting back strategies to SAHRA and deposition of excavated material at an accredited repository.

In the event of a site conservation option being preferred by the developer, a site management plan, prepared by a professional archaeologist and approved by SAHRA, will suffice as minimum requirement.

After mitigation of a site, a destruction permit must be applied for from SAHRA by the client before development may proceed.

Human remains older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, with reference to Section 36. Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983), and are the jurisdiction of SAHRA. The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36[5]) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in this age category, located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority, require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years, in addition to SAHRA authorisation. If the grave is not situated inside a formal cemetery, but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws, set by the cemetery authority, must be adhered to.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983), and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning; or in some cases, the MEC for Housing and Welfare.

Authorisation for exhumation and reinterment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. To handle and transport human remains, the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).

1.3 Description of Study Area

1.3.1 Location Data

The development is service station located on Portion 134 of Erf 14466, Protea Glen Extension 12 in Soweto, Gauteng Province. The proposed project site for the service station is an undeveloped (vacant) piece of land surrounded by cultivated land and low density residential areas

1.3.2. Location Map

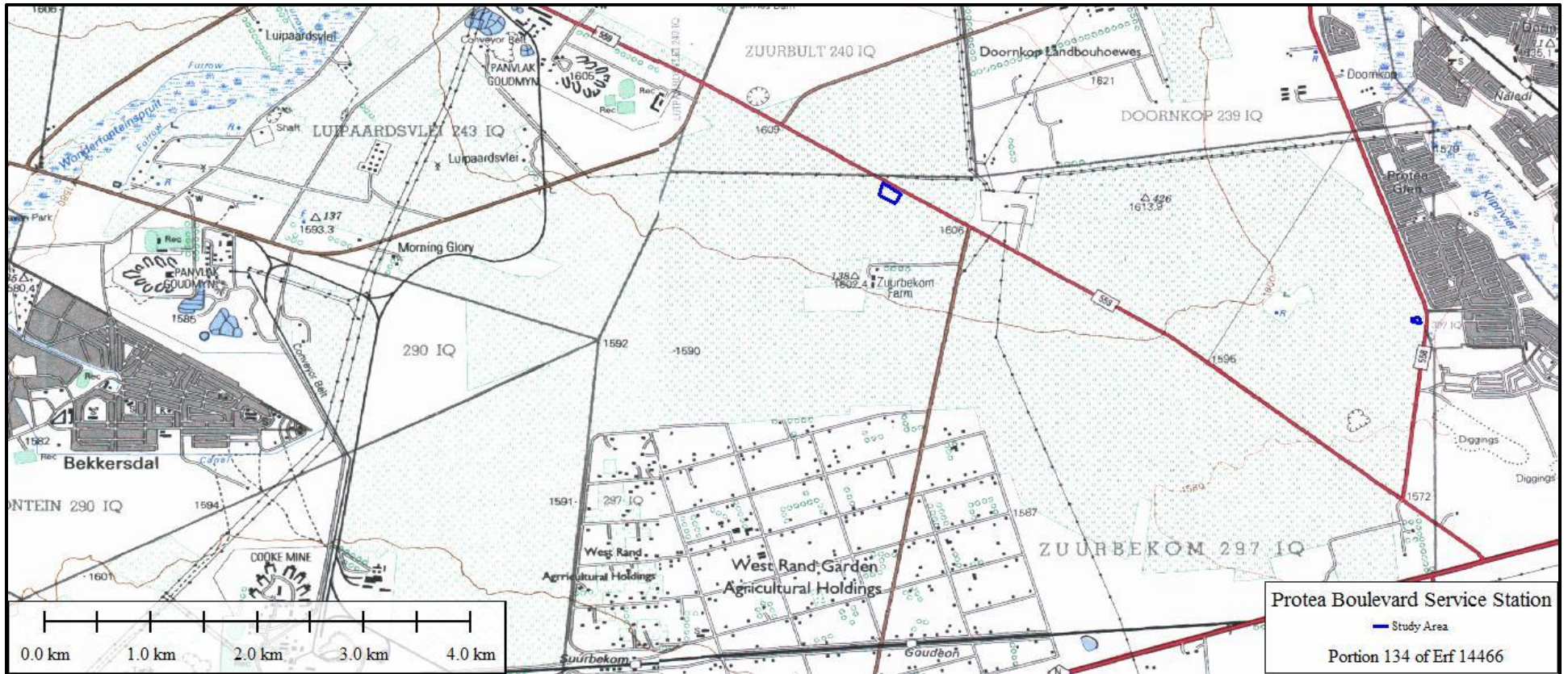


Figure 1: Study area.

2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study is to cover archaeological databases and historical sources to compile a background history of the study area followed by field verification; this was accomplished by means of the following phases.

2.1 Phase 1 - Desktop Study

The first phase comprised a desktop study, gathering data to compile a background history of the area in question. It included scanning existing records for archaeological sites, historical sites and graves, on the inhabitants of the area.

2.1.1 Literature Search

Utilising data for information gathering stored in the archaeological database at Wits, previous CRM reports done in the area and a search in the National archives. The aim of this is to extract data and information on the area in question, looking at archaeological sites, historical sites, graves, architecture, oral history and ethnographical information on the inhabitants of the area.

2.1.2 Information Collection

The SAHRA report mapping project (Version 1.0) was consulted to collect data from previously conducted CRM projects in the region to provide a comprehensive account of the history of the study area. The South African Heritage Information System was also used to collect information.

2.1.3 Consultation

No consultation was conducted by the heritage team as this is conducted as part of the EIA.

2.1.4 Google Earth and Mapping Survey

Google Earth and 1:50 000 maps of the area were utilised to identify possible places where sites of heritage significance might be located.

2.1.5 Genealogical Society of South Africa

The database of the Genealogical Society was consulted to collect data on any known graves in the area.

2.2 Phase 2 - Physical Surveying

Due to the nature of cultural remains, the majority of which occurs below surface, a field survey of the study area was conducted; focussing on drainage lines, hills and outcrops, high lying areas and disturbances in the topography. The study area was surveyed on foot by a professional archaeologist on 23 April 2015.

2.3. Assumptions and Limitations

Due to the fact that most cultural remains may occur below surface, the possibility exists that some features or artefacts may not have been discovered/ recorded during the survey. Low archaeological visibility is due to extensive ground disturbance and vegetation, and the possible occurrence of unmarked graves and other cultural material cannot be excluded. Although Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC surveyed the area as thoroughly as possible safety concerns and intimidation from locals limited coverage of the area, and it is incumbent upon the developer to stop operations and inform the relevant heritage agency should further cultural remains, such as unmarked/informal graves, stone tool scatters, artefacts, bones or fossils, be exposed during the process of development.

3. NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT

The service station will consist of four Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) with a capacity of 46m³ each, with associated fuel infrastructure and further facilities including a shop, restrooms, parking and access routes.

4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

4.1 Databases Consulted

Wits Archaeological Data Bases

42 Previously recorded sites are on record for the 2627 BD 1: 50 000 sheet at the Wits database. These sites consist of Stone Age (ESA & LSA), Late Iron Age sites as well as Anglo Boer War remains and Historic remains (including graves). None of these sites are located within or close to the project area but provide a background of the sites that can be expected in the area.

SAHRA Report Mapping Project

At least 7 previous CRM projects were conducted in the general vicinity of the study area. To the north Du Piessanie & Nel (2014) recorded buildings and structures associated with early mining in the area older than 60 years. To the south east van Schalkwyk (2013) recorded cemeteries. North West of the current study area Birkholtz (2013) recorded seven sites. These included three sites that can directly or indirectly be associated with the Jameson Raid and its final battle on 2 January 1896, three buildings and a cemetery. Fourie (2015) completed grave investigations in the area and De Jong (2004) did an AIA on the same farm, Zuurbekom, no sites were recorded apart from the pump station, Huffman (2008) recorded two European houses. Van der Walt (2015) recorded no sites.

Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments

Neither the Genealogical Society nor the monuments database at Google Earth (Google Earth also include some archaeological sites and historical battlefields) have any recorded sites in the study area. The Historic Zuurbekom pump house (AD 1899) is however indicated and is located 5.7 km south east of the study area.

4.2 Archaeological and Historical Information Available on the Study Area

The report will endeavour to give an account of the history of this area and also a brief overview of the history of the wider area and district in which the farm is located.

4.2.1. Historiography and Methodology

Sources for the history of the area surrounding the study area include secondary source material, maps, electronic sources and archival documents. A brief history of human settlement and black and white interaction in the area is included in this report. The source of J. S. Bergh will be used to write a short history of the area.

4.2.2. Maps of the Area under Investigation



Figure 2: 1904 Major Jackson Map of the Potchefstroom district with the approximate location of the study area marked in red.

4.2.3. Historical background of the area

J. S. Bergh's historical atlas of the four northern provinces of South Africa is a very useful source for the writing of local and regional history. Interestingly, it seems that the study area is located in the vicinity of the Melville Koppies, which is a Middle Stone-Age site. (Bergh 1999: 4) This area was also important to Iron Age communities, since these people had smelted and worked iron ore at the Melville Koppies site since the year 1060, by approximation. (Bergh 1999: 7, 87)

The Difaqane (Sotho), or Mfekane ("the crushing" in Nguni) was a time of bloody upheavals in Natal and on the Highveld, which occurred around the early 1820's until the late 1830's. (Bergh 1999: 10) It came about in response to heightened competition for land and trade, and caused population groups like gun-carrying Griquas and Shaka's Zulus to attack other tribes. (Bergh 1999: 14; 116-119) It seems that, in 1827, Mzilikazi's Ndebele started moving through the area where Johannesburg is located today. This group went on raids to various other areas in order to expand their area of influence. (Bergh 1999: 11)

During the time of the Difaqane, a northwards migration of white settlers from the Cape was also taking place. Some travellers, missionaries and adventurers had gone on expeditions to the northern areas in South Africa, some already as early as the 1720's. One Bain travelled through, or close by the area where the present-day farm was located in 1831 (Figure 2). One Harris also travelled through this area in 1836. (Bergh 1999: 13)

It was however only by the late 1820's that a mass-movement of Dutch speaking people in the Cape Colony started advancing into the northern areas. This was due to feelings of mounting dissatisfaction caused by economical and other circumstances in the Cape. This movement later became known as the Great Trek. This migration resulted in a massive increase in the extent of that proportion of modern South Africa dominated by people of European descent. (Ross 2002: 39) By 1939 to 1940, farm boundaries were drawn up in an area that includes the present-day Johannesburg and Krugersdorp. (Bergh 1999: 15).

The Jameson Raid

Cecil John Rhodes had an ideal to unify all South African countries under the British Empire as a federation and in order to do so he planned to overthrow the Kruger government in Johannesburg. Initially a revolt by immigrants in Johannesburg was planned. British troops would then be sent in to protect the lives of British citizens in the area. After this was completed a British High commissioner would be required to ensure the protection of the Transvaal (Birkholtz 2013).

A reform committee was established and included historic figures such as Lionel Phillips, Charles Leonard, John Hayes Hammond, Colonel Frank Rhodes (Cecil John's brother) as well as Percy Fitzpatrick (later author of *Jock of the Bushveld*). Interestingly the reformers are believed to have had their own agendas in terms of the revolt as gold had recently been discovered in the area and foreigners were not allowed to vote and a desire for equal opportunity would rather have been the driving force than political aspirations. The group was armed and British High Commissioner, Sir Hercules Robinson, was included in the plan. The attack was to come from a strip of land presented to road to build a railway link in what is now Botswana (Birkholtz 2013).

The reform group reconsidered the plan and Rhodes subsequently suggested that the whole plan should be dropped. However, Dr Leander Starr Jameson, responsible for leading the armed force into the Transvaal Republic and Johannesburg, now requested the Reform Committee to write a letter asking his assistance. The letter was drafted by Charles Leonard, and signed by senior members of the Reform Committee. One of the sentences of this letter reads: "*It is under these circumstances that we feel constrained to call upon you to come to our aid should a disturbance arise here*" (Hocking, 1986:51). Jameson indicated that the contents of the letter would not be disclosed, but it was promptly read to the Voluntary Corps at Pitsanaphotlokwe (Pitsani) and the Bechuanaland Border Police troopers stationed at Mafeking (Birkholtz 2013).

On Sunday night, 29 December 1885 all parties who read the letter rode out under Jameson. The telegraph lines were not successfully sabotaged and Kruger knew about the raid within a few hours. The raid was first opposed in the Krugersdorp area by General Cronje's troops, but managed to continue around Randfontein in an attempt to reach Johannesburg. On the farm Vlakfontein on 2 January 1886 Jameson's men were surprised by a Boer attack and had to seek shelter amongst cattle kraals and outbuildings on the farm. Maxim fire and cavalry charges were unsuccessful. On the hills between Vlakfontein and the farm Roodepoort the ZAR Staats Artillerie took up position. Their attack took the Jameson troops by surprise and soon after a white apron (that belonged to a farm worker) was raised in surrender (Birkholtz 2013).

The raid is seen by many historians as one of the key contributing factors which led to the decline of relations between the *Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek* and Great Britain, and eventually to the outbreak of

the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902 (Birkholtz 2013). The site is located less than 8 km to the north of the study area.

An Anglo Boer War battle known as the Battle of Doornkop took place in the area on 29 May 1900. The British were advancing toward Johannesburg led by General John French. De La Rey and his men held the Klipriviersberg Ridge for the first two days but on the third day the Boers were outflanked by French's cavalry to the West, where General Sarel Oosthuizen's commando was forced to withdraw. This opened the road to Johannesburg and the British took the city peacefully on 30 May 1900. Huffman (2008) recorded several sangers dating to the Boer war close to the study area on a ridge.

Zuurbekom Pumpstation

In 1895, there was a great drought and the water company were unable to meet the water demands which were almost 900 000 gallons per day. Water was supplied to the higher areas of Johannesburg by mule cart at two shillings and six pence a bucket. A commission was appointed to investigate sources of water and David Draper (a geologist employed by a waterworks company owned by Barney Barnato) pointed out the site in 1895 and in 1899 the Zuurbekom pumping station began supplying water to Johannesburg (De Jong 2004). The water never needed filtration. The site has been declared a Provincial Heritage site.

4.2.2. Johannesburg

The city of Johannesburg was formally established in 1886 with the discovery of gold and the Witwatersrand reef on the farm Langlaagte. This gold discovery set off an influx of people from all over the world into the settlement to find gold. The new settlement was named after two officials of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR), Christiaan Johannes Joubert and Johannes Rissik, who both worked in land surveying and mapping.

4.2.3. History of Soweto

Soweto was created in the 1930's after the implementation of the Urban Areas Act (1923). Blacks were moved away from Johannesburg, to an area separated from White suburbs by a "sanitary corridor" (this was usually a river, a railway track, an industrial area or a highway) (www.sahistory.com).

Soweto became the largest Black city in South Africa, but until 1976 its population could only have status as temporary residents, serving as a workforce for Johannesburg. After a ruling that Afrikaans should be used in African schools in the township, Soweto became home to civil upsets and serious riots in 1976. The riots were violently suppressed, with 176 striking students killed and more than 1,000 injured (www.sahistory.com).

Chair of non-European affairs, William Carr, initiated the naming of Soweto in 1959. He called for a competition to give a collective name to townships around the South-west of Johannesburg. The people responded to the competition with great enthusiasm. Some of the names submitted to the City Council were KwaMpanza, meaning Mpanza's place, after Mpanza and his role in bringing the plight of Orlando sub tenants to the attention of the City Council.

The City Council settled for the acronym SOWETO (South West Townships) (www.sahistory.com). The name Soweto was first used in 1963 and shortly thereafter, following the 1976 uprising of students in the township, the name became internationally known. After the uprising riots flared up again in 1985 and unrest and violence continued until the first multiracial elections were held in April 1994 (www.sahistory.com).

South Africa's oldest township hosted the FIFA Soccer World Cup final in 2010, and commanded the attention of more than a billion soccer spectators from all over the world (www.sahistory.com).

4.2.4. Archaeology of the area

Although there are no well-known Stone Age sites located on or around the study area there is evidence of the use of the larger area by Stone Age communities for example along the Kliprivier where ESA and MSA tools were recorded. LSA material is recorded along ridges to the south of the current study area (Huffman 2008). Petroglyphs occur to the south at Redan as well as along the Vaal River (Berg 1999).

Regarding the Iron Age, the well-known Smelting Site at Melville Koppies requires further mention. The site was excavated by Professor Mason from the Department of Archaeology of WITS in the 1980's. Extensive Stone walled sites are also recorded at Klipriviers Berg Nature reserve belonging to the Late Iron Age period. A large body of research is available on this area. These sites (Taylor's Type N, Mason's Class 2 & 5) are now collectively referred to as Klipriviersberg (Huffman 2007). These settlements are complex in that aggregated settlements are common, the outer wall sometimes includes scallops to mark back courtyards, there are more small stock kraals, and straight walls separate households in the residential zone. These sites date to the 18th and 19th centuries and was built by people in the Fokeng cluster.

In this area the Klipriviersberg walling would have ended at about AD 1823, when Mzilikazi entered the area (Rasmussen 1978). This settlement type may have lasted longer in other areas because of the positive interaction between Fokeng and Mzilikazi.

5. HERITAGE SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The presence and distribution of heritage resources define a 'heritage landscape'. In this landscape, every site is relevant. In addition, because heritage resources are non-renewable, heritage surveys need to investigate an entire project area, or a representative sample, depending on the nature of the project. In the case of the proposed development the local extent of its impact necessitates a representative sample and only the footprint of the areas demarcated for development were surveyed. In all initial investigations, however, the specialists are responsible only for the identification of resources visible on the surface.

This section describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The following criteria were used to establish site significance:

- » The unique nature of a site;
- » The integrity of the archaeological/cultural heritage deposits;
- » The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site;
- » The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features;
- » The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined/is known);
- » The preservation condition of the sites;
- » Potential to answer present research questions.

Furthermore, The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999, Sec 3) distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate' if they have cultural significance or other special value. These criteria are:

- » Its importance in/to the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- » Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- » Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- » Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- » Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- » Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- » Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- » Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;
- » Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

5.1. Field Rating of Sites

Site significance classification standards prescribed by SAHRA (2006), and approved by ASAPA for the SADC region, were used for the purpose of this report. The recommendations for each site should be read in conjunction with section 7 of this report.

FIELD RATING	GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED MITIGATION
National Significance (NS)	Grade 1	-	Conservation; national site nomination
Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2	-	Conservation; provincial site nomination
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3A	High significance	Conservation; mitigation not advised
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3B	High significance	Mitigation (part of site should be retained)
Generally Protected A (GP.A)	-	High/medium significance	Mitigation before destruction
Generally Protected B (GP.B)	-	Medium significance	Recording before destruction
Generally Protected C (GP.C)	-	Low significance	Destruction

6. BASELINE STUDY-DESCRIPTION OF SITES

It is important to note that the entire farm was not surveyed but only the proposed development area as indicated in Figure 1. The study area consists of a portion of an Erf in a proclaimed township and is located at 26° 16' 41" S 27° 48' 49" E. Over time various land uses have established themselves on the site and it consists of an undeveloped piece of land surrounded by cultivated land and low density residential areas. The site was previously extensively ploughed that would have destroyed any surface indicators of heritage sites. Currently the area has been fallow for a number of years and grass cover is extremely high hampering archaeological visibility.

No archaeological sites of significance were noted during the survey and now standing buildings occur in the study area. An independent paleontological assessment was conducted for the study area (Almond 2015) who recommended exemption for further paleontological studies.



Figure 3: Site viewed from the North



Figure 4: High grass cover in the study area



Figure 5: General site conditions



Figure 6: General Site conditions



Figure 7: Google image of the study area marked in blue with track logs in black.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The study area consists of an existing Erf (3206) in a proclaimed township. In the 1970's the area was extensively ploughed and no buildings, roads or structures occurred here at that time (Figure 1). The agricultural activities would have impacted on any surface indications of archaeological sites.

To comply with legislation the study area was assessed in terms of the archaeological component of Section 35 of the NHRA and no surface indicators of archaeological (Stone or Iron Age sites were identified in the study area. Other studies in the area similarly recorded no sites of archaeological significance e.g. Van der Walt (2015) and van Schalkwyk (2013).

Considering that the study area has been highly disturbed by ploughing activities it is highly unlikely that any significant heritage resources are still present within the study area and there is from an archaeological point of view no reason why the development cannot commence work based on approval from SAHRA.

Grass cover is high and ground visibility was low on portions of the site during the survey. The possible occurrence of unmarked or informal graves and subsurface finds can thus not be excluded. If during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find.

It is therefore recommended that chance find procedures are put in place during the construction period to mitigate any accidental finds as described below.

Chance finds procedure

This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. The aim of this procedure is to establish monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure compliance with this policy and its associated procedures. Construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds as discussed below.

- If during the construction, operations or closure phases of this project, any person employed by the developer, one of its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, or service provider, finds any artefact of cultural significance, this person must cease work at the site of the find and report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
- It is the responsibility of the senior on-site Manager to make an initial assessment of the extent of the find, and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area.
- The senior on-site Manager will inform the ECO of the chance find and its immediate impact on operations. The ECO will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will notify the SAHRA.

8. PROJECT TEAM

Jaco van der Walt, Project Manager and Archaeologist
Liesl Bester, Archival Study

9. STATEMENT OF COMPETENCY

I (Jaco van der Walt) am a member of ASAPA (no 159), and accredited in the following fields of the CRM Section of the association: Iron Age Archaeology, Colonial Period Archaeology, Stone Age Archaeology and Grave Relocation. This accreditation is also valid for/acknowledged by SAHRA and AMAFA.

I have been involved in research and contract work in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania; having conducted more than 400 AIAs since 2000.

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