



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
BK 98 09854/23

**A REPORT ON A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED
KREMETART LODGE, CLOSE TO MAKHADO, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

For:

ECI International
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REPORT: **AE02210V**

By:

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31 March 2022

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Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the survey of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites is as such that it always is possible that hidden or subterranean sites could be overlooked during the study. Archaetnos and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.

Also note that the study and report does not guarantee approval from the relevant heritage body. The report must be an independent opinion of the consultant and the responsibility of the consultant ends with submission of the report.

The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or one of its subsidiary bodies needs to comment on this report and clients are advised not to proceed with any action before receiving these.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was appointed by ECI International to conduct a heritage impact assessment (HIA) for the proposed Kremetart Lodge. This is located on four farms, namely Robertson 748 MS, George 749 MS, Carnarvon 751 MS and Kremetart Wildplaas 766 MS. This lies within the Makhado Local Municipality and the Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo Province. The site lies on the northern slopes of the Soutpansberg Mountain and is approximately 32 north-west of Makhado.

The client indicated the site to be surveyed, which was done via off-road vehicle and on foot. This report is the result of the latter.

The standard methodology for Heritage Impact Assessments in South Africa was used to do the field survey. During the survey, six sites of cultural heritage significance were identified within the project area.

The following is recommended:

1. The reasoned opinion of the heritage consultant is that the proposed development may continue but only after receiving comments from the relevant heritage authority.
2. It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a distinct possibility. Due to the density of vegetation in certain areas, it also is possible that some sites may only become known later on. Operating controls and monitoring should therefore be aimed at the possible unearthing of such features. Care should therefore be taken when development commences that if any of these are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.

In this regards the following 'Chance find Procedure' should be followed:

- Upon finding any archaeological or historical material all work at the affected area must cease.
- The area should be demarcated in order to prevent any further work there until an investigation has been completed.
- An archaeologist should be contacted immediately to provide advice on the matter.
- Should it be a minor issue, the archaeologist will decide on future action, which could include adapting the HIA or not. Depending on the nature of the find, it may include a site visit.
- SAHRA's Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit may also be notified.
- If needed, the necessary permit will be applied for with SAHRA. This will be done in conjunction with the appointed archaeologist.
- The removal of such archaeological material will be done by the archaeologist in lieu of the approval given by SAHRA, including any conditions stipulated by

the latter.

- Work on site will only continue after removal of the archaeological/ historical material was done.

DRAFT

CURRICULUM VITAE
Prof. Anton Carl van Vollenhoven

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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TERTIARY EDUCATION

- BA 1986, University of Pretoria
- BA (HONS) Archaeology 1988 (cum laude), University of Pretoria
- MA Archaeology 1992, University of Pretoria
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Museology 1993 (cum laude), University of Pretoria
- Diploma Tertiary Education 1993, University of Pretoria
- DPhil Archaeology 2001, University of Pretoria.
- MA Cultural History 1998 (cum laude), University of Stellenbosch
- Management Diploma 2007 (cum laude), Tshwane University of Technology
- DPhil History 2010, University of Stellenbosch

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Current:

- *Since 2012:* Archaeologist and heritage official, Department of Environment and Agriculture, City of Tshwane
- *Since 2015:* Extraordinary Professor of History at the North-West University

Previous:

- *1988-1991:* Fort Klapperkop Military Museum - Researcher
- *1991-1999:* National Cultural History Museum. Work as Archaeologist, as well as Curator/Manager of Pioneer Museum (1994-1997)
- *1999-2002:* City Council of Pretoria. Work as Curator: Fort Klapperkop Heritage Site and Acting Deputy Manager Museums and Heritage.
- *2002-2007:* City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality. Work as Deputy Manager Museums and Heritage.
- *August 2007 – present –* Managing Director for Archaetnos Archaeologists.
- *1988-2003:* Part-time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Pretoria and a part-time lecturer on Cultural Resources Management in the Department of History at the University of Pretoria.
- *2014-2015:* Part-time lecturer for the Honours degree in Museum Sciences in the Department of History and Heritage Studies at the University of Pretoria

OTHER

- NRF C2 Research rating.
- Has published 40 peer-reviewed and 50 popular articles.


- He has written 13 books/book contributions/conference proceedings .
- Has been the author and co-author of over 1076 unpublished reports on cultural resources surveys and archaeological work.
- Has delivered more than 79 papers and lectures at national and international conferences.
- Member of SAHRA Council for 2003 – 2006.
- Member of the South African Academy for Science and Art.
- Member of Association for South African Professional Archaeologists.
- Member of the South African Society for Cultural History (Chairperson 2006-2008; 2012-2014; 2018-2021).
- Has been editor for the SA Journal of Cultural History 2002-2004.
- Editorial member of various scientific journals.
- Member of the Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, Gauteng's Council.
- Member of Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, Gauteng's HIA adjudication committee (Chairperson 2012-2024).

A list of reports can be viewed on www.archaetnos.co.za.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Anton Carl van Vollenhoven from Archaetnos, hereby declare that I am an independent specialist within the field of heritage management. The report complies with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards for *Archaeological Components of Impact Assessment Reports*.

Signed:



Date: 31 March 2022

LIST OF ACRONYMS:

AIA – Archaeological Impact Assessment
 CMP – Cultural Management Plan
 EAP – Environmental Assessment Practitioner
 EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment
 HIA – Heritage Impact Assessment
 PIA – Palaeontological Impact Assessment
 SAHRA – South African Heritage Resources Agency

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was appointed by ECI International to conduct a heritage impact assessment (HIA) for the proposed Kremetart Lodge. This is located on four farms, namely Robertson 748 MS, George 749 MS, Carnarvon 751 MS and Kremetart Wildplaas 766 MS. This lies within the Makhado Local Municipality and the Vhembe District Municipality, Limpopo Province (Figure 1-4). The site lies on the northern slopes of the Soutpansberg Mountain and is approximately 32 north-west of Makhado.

The development entails the establishment of eco-tourism facilities . This includes the following:

- Accommodation consisting of different lodges/camps/houses
- Staff accommodation
- A spa complex
- Activity pavillions
- A gym
- Infrastructure such as roads and parking areas

The client indicated the site to be surveyed, which was done via off-road vehicle and on foot. This report is the result of the latter.



Figure 1: Location of Makhado in the Limpopo Province.

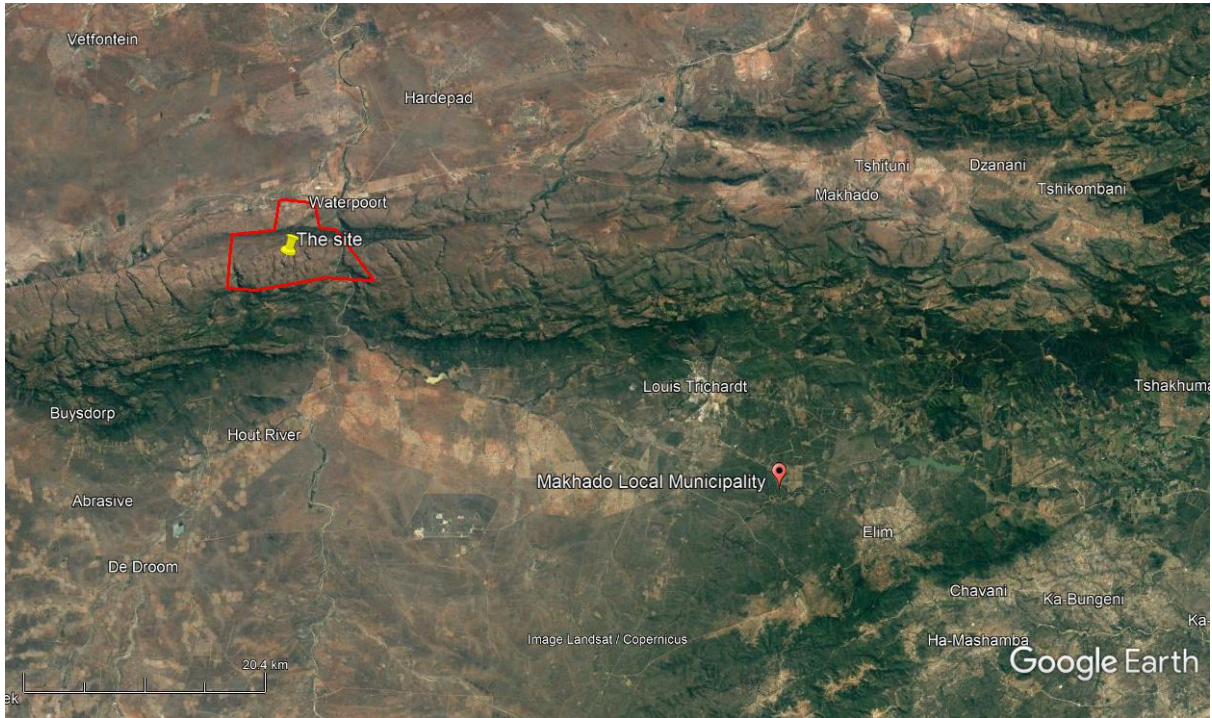


Figure 2: Location of the site in relation to Makhado.

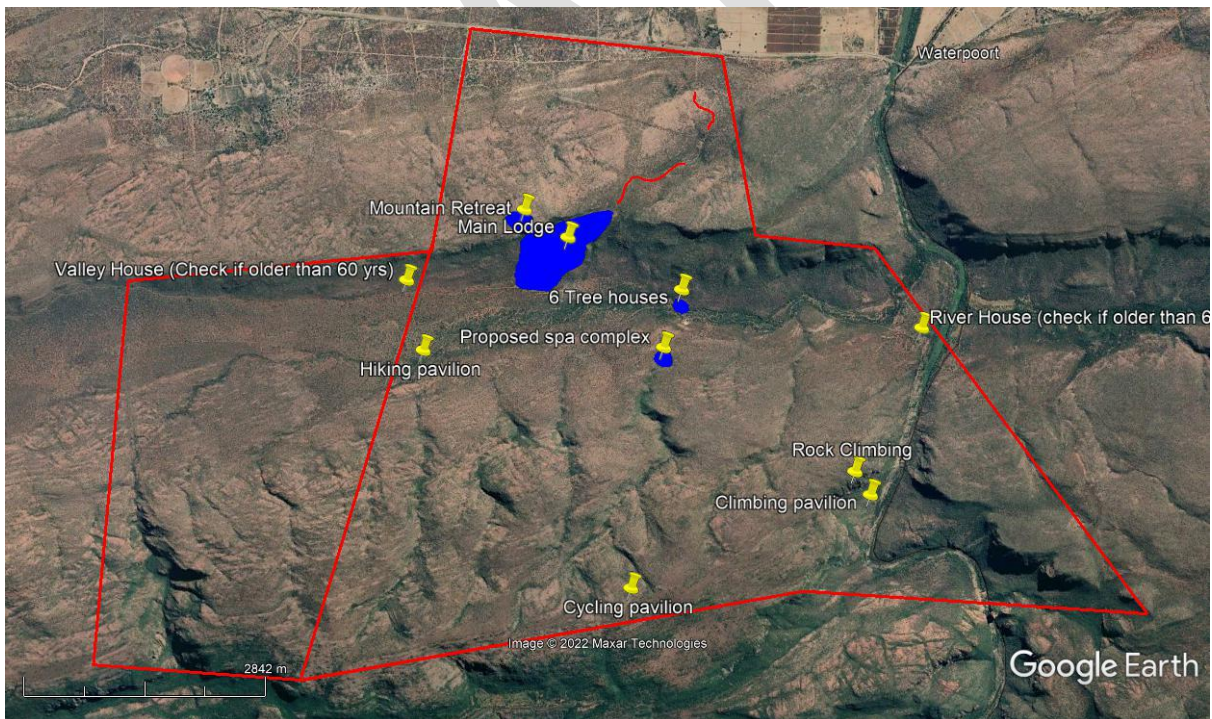


Figure 3: Google Earth image indicating the site boundary and the areas of impact.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the study were to:

1. Identify objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the property (see Appendix A).
2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B).
3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions.
4. Recommend suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources by the proposed development.
5. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. CONDITIONS & ASSUMPTIONS

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity (Appendix A). These include all sites, structure and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development. Graves and cemeteries are included in this.
2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. These aspects as a collective refers to the character of a site. The various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these aspects.
3. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix C).

4. The latitude and longitude of any archaeological or historical site or feature, is to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public.
5. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation.
6. It must be mentioned that it is almost impossible to locate all the cultural resources in a given area, as it will be very time consuming. Developers should however note that the report should make it clear how to handle any other finds that might occur.
7. The road that was surveyed is on an existing road and thus there will be no impact in this regard.
8. All the buildings and the dam wall found in the study area are all younger than 60 years and thus are not discussed.
9. The hiking pavilion, cycling pavilion and mountain retreat was not surveyed due to the difficulty of the terrain. However, both the hiking pavilion and cycling pavilion areas will have a limited impact as the structures to be erected here are temporary ones (it therefore are reversable). The mountain retreat is located on a cliff and where there is existing WiFi and radio antennas. Thus the area had already been disturbed. In all cases these areas are regarded as low risk to reveal heritage sites, due to the steep terrain and that existing infrastructure is already located there.
10. The vegetation coverage in the area was reasonably high and dense, which had a negative effect on the archaeological visibility.

4. 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).

4.1 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 (see Appendix D) 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. Archaeological and paleontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed 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 only looks at archaeological resources. The different phases during the HIA process are described in Appendix E. 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 or 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.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise. Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the **National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003)** and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Exhumations (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) before exhumation can take place. Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker, or an institution declared under the **National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003)**.

4.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act (Act 107 of 1998) states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, which 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.

5. THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATIONS' PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

South African legislation conforms with this standard which recognizes the importance of cultural heritage for current and future generations. It aims to ensure that clients protect cultural heritage in the course of their project activities.

This is done by clients abiding to the law and having heritage surveys done in order to identify and protect cultural heritage resources via field studies and the documentation of such resources. These need to be done by competent professionals (e.g. archaeologists and cultural historians). Any possible chance find, encountered during the project development, also needs to be managed by not disturbing it and by having it assessed by professionals.

Impacts on the cultural heritage should be minimized. This includes the possible maintenance of such sites in situ, or when not possible, the restoration of the functionality of the cultural heritage in a different location. When cultural historical and archaeological artifacts and structures need to be removed, this should be done by professionals and by abiding to the applicable legislation. The removal of cultural heritage resources may, however, only be considered if there are not technically or

financially feasible alternatives. In considering the removal of cultural resources, it should be outweighed by the benefits of the overall project to the affected communities. Again professionals should carry out the work and adhere to the best available techniques.

Consultation with affected communities should be conducted. This entails that such communities should be granted access to their cultural heritage if this is applicable. Compensation for the loss of cultural heritage should only be given in extra-ordinary circumstances.

Critical cultural heritage may not be impacted on. Professionals should be used to advise on the assessment and protection thereof. Utilization of cultural heritage resources should always be done in consultation with the affected communities in order to be consistent with their customs and traditions and to come to agreements with relation to possible equitable sharing of benefits from commercialization

6. METHODOLOGY

6.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature was undertaken to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography. It should be indicated that no previous heritage surveys were done on any of the four applicable farms. Although various heritage surveys were done in the surrounding area, none of these have any contextual link to the surveyed farms (SAHRIS database; Archaetnos database).

6.2 Physical field survey

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area of proposed development. One regularly looks a bit wider than the demarcated area, as the surrounding context needs to be taken into consideration.

If required, the location/position of any site was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS)¹, while photographs were also taken where needed. The survey was undertaken by doing a physical survey on foot and by off-road vehicle and covered as much as possible of the area to be studied (Figure 5).

The proposed road is located on an already existing road and was largely disturbed and will thus likely have a low chance of heritage features being present. The road runs through the Main Lodge area and the area located along the road is disturbed, the further from the road the area become undisturbed with dense vegetation and the terrain becomes largely rock with mountain outcroppings. The Tree house and Spa areas is somewhat disturbed and very rocky. The Climbing pavilion area is also rocky.

¹ A Garmin Oregon 550 with an accuracy factor of a few meters.

The under footing was mostly dense, and the vegetation cover is medium to high in height. Accordingly, both the horizontal and the vertical archaeological visibility was influenced negatively. The farm is 5562 Ha in size, but only the areas of impact were surveyed. This amounts to approximately 70 Ha. The survey took 4 hours to complete.

6.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are interviewed 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.

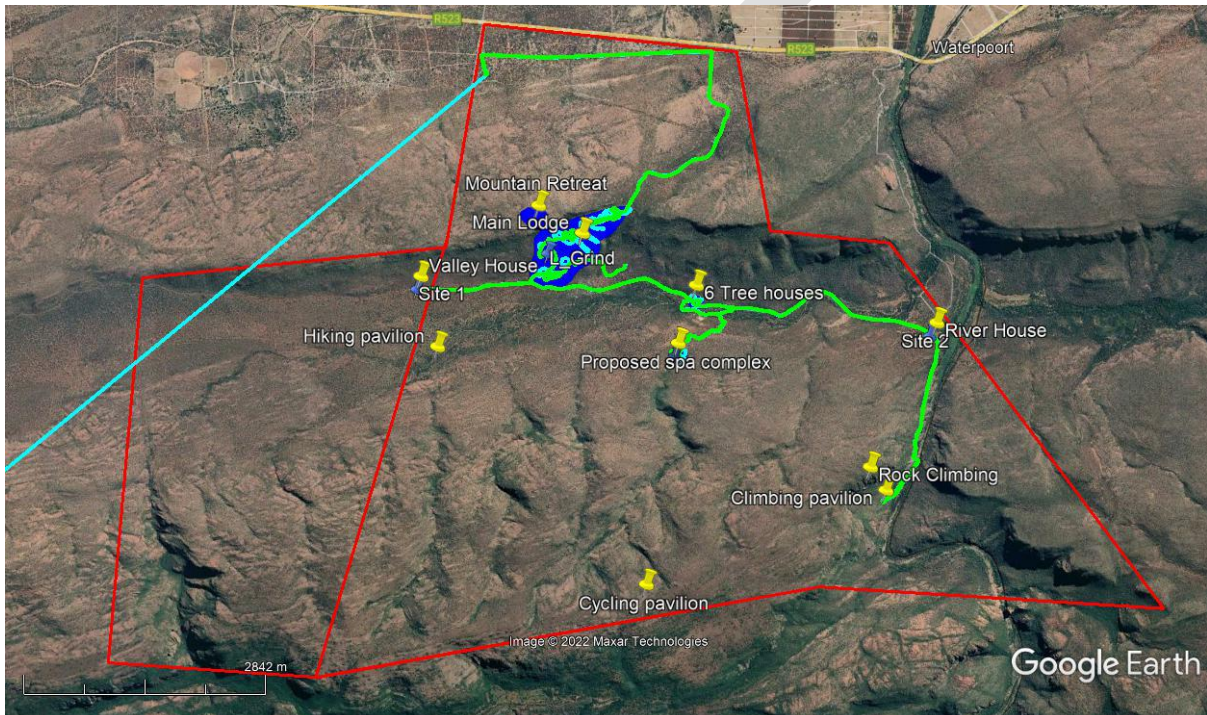


Figure 5: GPS track of the surveyed area.

6.4 Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the GPS. The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

6.5 Evaluation of Heritage sites

The evaluation of heritage sites is done by giving a field rating of each (see Appendix C) using the following criteria:

- The unique nature of a site
- The integrity of the archaeological deposit

- 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 or is known)
- The preservation condition of the site
- Uniqueness of the site and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

7. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

No sites of cultural heritage significance were located during the survey. Some background information is given in order to place the sites and the surveyed area in a historical context and to contextualize possible finds that could be unearthed during construction activities.

The history of southern Africa is divided into three chronological time periods. These are the Stone Age, the Iron Age and the Historical Period. These will be discussed separately. It has to be mentioned that many sections of the district has not undergone an archaeological or historical (heritage) survey in the past and therefore is mostly terra incognita.

7.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze, 1996). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. The division for the Stone Age according to Korsman & Meyer (1999) is as follows:

Early Stone Age (ESA) 2 million – 150 000 years ago
 Middle Stone Age (MSA) 150 000 – 30 000 years ago
 Late Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 1850 - A.D.

Many Stone Age sites have been identified previously in the Vhembe District (Figure 6). During heritage surveys on farms in the Musina region, different scatters of Stone Age material were identified. These mainly belong to the Middle and Later Stone Age (SAHRA SAHRIS database).

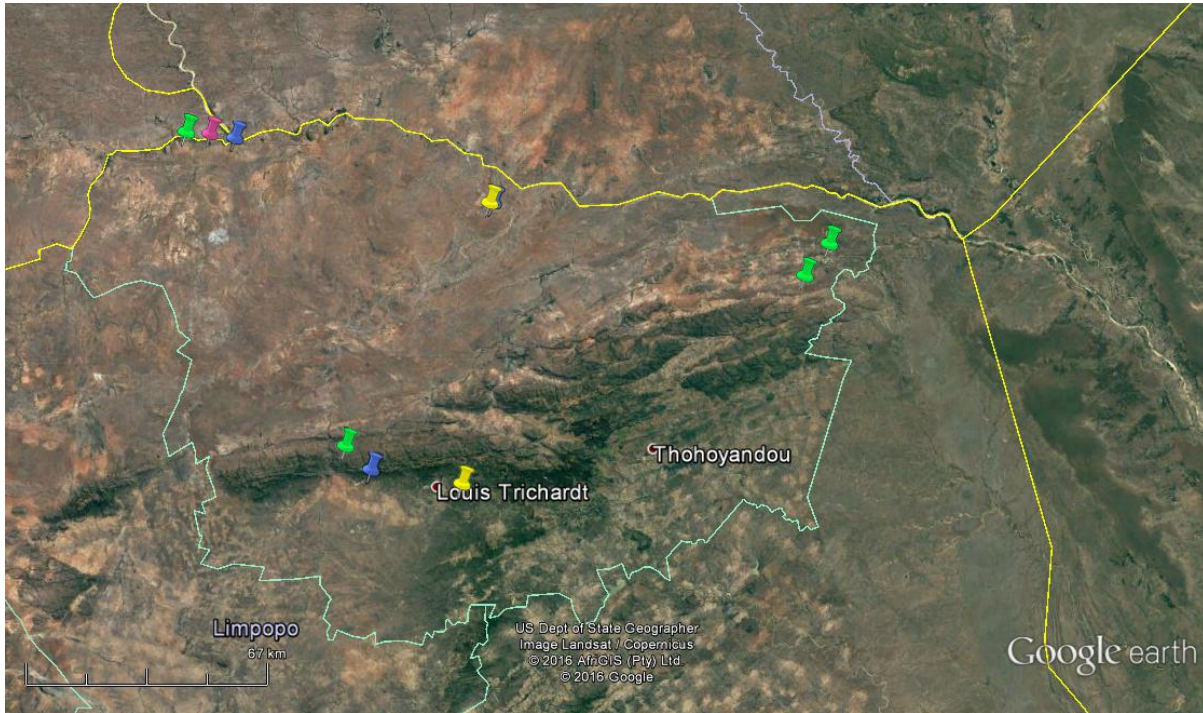


Figure 6: Distribution of Stone Age sites in the Vhembe district.

- Red - Early Stone Age**
- Yellow - Middle Stone Age**
- Blue - Later Stone Age**
- Green - Rock paintings**
- Purple - Rock Engravings**

Only one Early Stone Age site is known from the Vhembe District. This is the Kalkbank site to the south of Schoemansdal (Bergh, 1999). At the same site, Middle Stone Age material were also found (Bergh, 1999; Phillipson, 1985). Middle Stone Age tools were also found during a heritage survey on the farm Tanga in the Makhado area (SAHRA SAHRIS database).

Late Stone Age sites have been identified at Kalkbank to the south of Schoemansdal and in the Greefswald area (Bergh, 1999; Inskip, 1978). Rock art are also associated with the Late Stone Age. Such sites were found in abundance in the Limpopo Province. Rock paintings are located along the Limpopo River and the Soutpansberg, and the areas in between these. Rock engravings were found along the Limpopo River (Bergh, 1999). In the Pafuri region, rock art has also been identified at different sites, such as Xantangalane (Pienaar, 2007).

No Stone Age site in the area was declared a national heritage site. It is clear that the mentioned sites were identified in rural areas and therefore there is a good chance of finding Stone Age sites in this environment, especially close to rivers and mountains. These natural features create an environment suitable for human habitation. The farm manager did mention that apparently there are rock paintings present on the farm, but they have never identified the site.

From the above mentioned it is clear that Stone Age people did utilize and settled in the broader geographical area. There however are large hiatuses due to certain areas not having been researched before.

7.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artifacts (Coertze & Coertze, 1996). In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases according to Van der Ryst & Meyer (1999), namely:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D.
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

Huffman (2007) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which are now 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.

Iron Age sites are found in abundance in the area (Figure 7). Very few Early Iron Age sites have been identified. In the Vhembe District these include sites at Kommando Kop, Pont Drift, Mapungubwe and Schroda in the Limpopo Valley. Other sites are Happy Rest/ Matakoma close to Schoemansdal and Klein Afrika and Eiland to the north of Makhado (Bergh, 1999; Huffman, 2007; Phillipson, 1977; Phillipson, 1985; Mitchell, 2002)

Middle Iron Age sites include the World Heritage site at Mapungubwe as well as K2, Kommandokop and Schroda in the Limpopo Valley (Bergh, 1999; Huffman, 2007; Hall, 1987). More Middle Iron Age sites that was identified are Leokwe close to Musina (Huffman, 2007), Skutwater, Little Muck, Tshitakatsha-Makolani and Tshirululuni (Mitchell, 2002).

Late Iron Age sites are found in abundance throughout the Limpopo Province. In the Vhembe District it includes sites along the Sand and Levuvhu Rivers. This include sites in the Kruger National Park, such as Thulamela and Makahane (Bergh, 1999). Other LIA sites in The Park include various sites in the Pafuri and Punda Maria regions, such as Shaluka, Matekevele, Matjigwili, Dongadziva and Dzundweni (Pienaar, 2007).

Specific sites relating to archaeo-metallurgy were also identified. Sites where copper smelting were identified include some to the west and south of Musina. Sites where iron were worked include those at Tshimbupfe to the east of Makhado. Signs of gold working were only found at three sites namely Mapungubwe, Thulamela and Machedema (Bergh, 1999). More sites known are sites at Tavhatshena and the farm Stayt (Huffman, 2007), Icon and Eiland (Mitchell, 2002). Sites were also identified via heritage surveys on the farm Tanga in the Makhado area (SAHRA SAHRIS database).

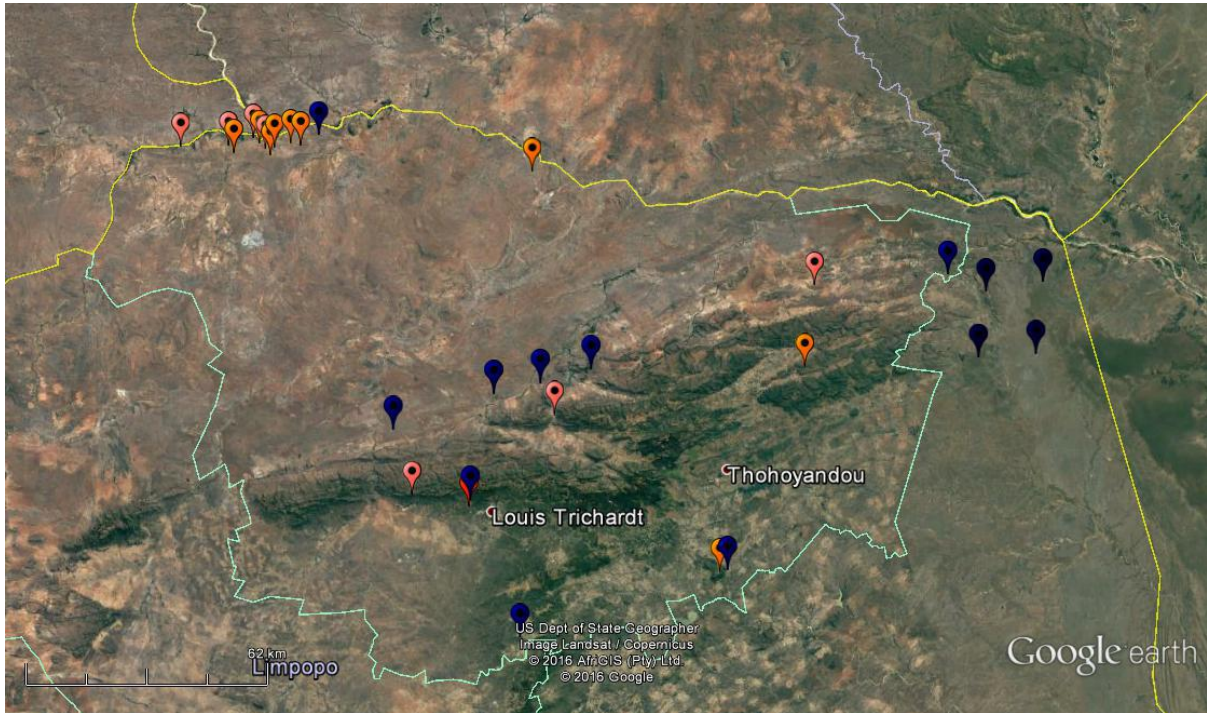


Figure 7: Distribution of Iron Age sites in the Vhembe district.
Red - Early Iron Age
Orange - Middle Iron Age
Blue - Late Iron Age

Declared national heritage sites include the following:

- Iron Age site on the farm Verdun north of the Soutpansberg.
- The Dzata ruins in the Soutpansberg.
- Bavenda ruins at Machedema Hill north of the Soutpansberg.
- The K2 archaeological site mentioned earlier.
- Mapungubwe mentioned above (Oberholster, 1972; SAHRA SAHRIS database; Bergh, 1999).

One site has been developed into a museum. This is the Tsonga Village open air museum in the Hans Merensky Nature Reserve (SAMA 1991; Fransen, 1978; Bergh, 1999).

Although a number of sites are known, there is large areas which have not been surveyed before. The lack of known sites in the project area is therefore merely an indication that these have not been surveyed in the recent past. Therefore chances are good that more Iron Age material and sites will be identified.

Late Iron Age sites are normally found on the foot or against slopes of hills. These sites can be identified by extensive stone walled complexes that served as homesteads and cattle kraals. Sometimes these sites can be identified by only a few potsherds. The lack of known sites closer to the project area may only indicate that little research has been done in this area.

The farm manager did indicate that that stone terraces are present on the farm but these are outside of the study area and will thus not be impacted by the development. A lower grinding was discovered in the middle of the surveyed road. It however is out of context being in the road and which is frequently used (Figure 8). No other Iron Age artefacts were found around the area of the grinding stone.



Figure 8: Lower grinding stone found in the middle of the road.

7.3 Historical Age

The historical age started with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. This era is sometimes called the colonial era or the recent past. Due to factors such as population growth and a decrease in mortality rates, more people inhabited the area during the recent historical past. Therefore much more cultural heritage resources have been left on the landscape. It is important to note that all cultural resources older than 60 years are potentially regarded as part of the heritage and that detailed studies are needed in order to determine whether these indeed have cultural significance.

White farmers settled in the Soutpansberg area during the 1840's and established the town of Schoemansdal (Bergh 1999: 14; Mitchell, 2002). They were followed by the Berlin Missionaries and later other missionaries (Nel et.al. 2013: 21; Bergh 1999: 57).

It would be impossible to list everything older than 60 years. Sites, features and structures that were found in the sources are however included (Figure 9). Due to the large amount of information, these are only listed below:

- Schoemansdal Voortrekker town and graveyard (Stoffberg, 1988).

- Goedewensch, farm of Joao Albasini.
- Battle sites in the Soutpansberg.
- Mission stations, including Mhinga, Malokong, Goedgedacht, Mara, Gertrudsburg, Molema, Elim, Georgenholtz, Ha Schewasse, Tshakoma and Valdezia.
- Battlefields from the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) including Fort Edward close to Makhado.
- Monuments indicating Voortrekker routes between Elim and Levubu and at Punda Maria.
- The place where Louis Tregardt met Portuguese Askari's and site of the State Artillery in Makhado Bergh, 1999).
- Hans Merensky Geological Museum (SAMA, 1991; Bergh, 1999)
- Police statue in Makhado
- Statue of Commandant-General AH Potgieter in Makhado (Van Tonder, 1974)
- Musina Public Library Museum (Fransen, 1978)
- Ruins and graves of travelers in the north of the Kruger National Park (KNP)
- Ruin of the shop of Alex Thompson at Makhuleke, KNP
- Ruin Of the shop of John Fernandez, KNP
- Crook's Corner, KNP
- Prospectors graves in the Pafuri area, KNP
- Ruin of W Borchers' shop in Pafuri, KNP
- WNLA post, Pafuri, KNP
- The Potgieter-Bronkhorst monument, Pafuri, KNP
- Anglo-Boer War graves, northern KNP (Pienaar, 2007)

Declared national heritage sites include the following:

- Fort Hendrina in Makhado.
- Schoemansdal, mentioned earlier (SAHRA SAHRIS database).
- Stonehenge, a residential farm house on the farm Bergvliet close to the Soutpansberg.
- BaVenda ruins – Machedema, Dzata I, Dzata II and Verdun between Makhado and Musina.
- Baobab trees close to Musina on the farms Vogelzang, Messina, Singelele, Berkenrode, Prinzienhage and Toynton (SAHRA SAHRIS database, Oberholster, 1972)
- Fossilised animal footprints at Pont Drift
- Lake Funduzi, Nzhelele (SAHRA SAHRIS database)

From heritage surveys it is also known that graves and historical ruins are to be found on different farms. The farm Tanga, close to Makhado is one such example. One may therefore expect to find buildings and structures of a similar age (i.e. mid-19th century) on the farms and towns within the project area. This would also include graves. In fact, many graves have been identified by Archaetnos during different surveys in the area (Archaetnos database).

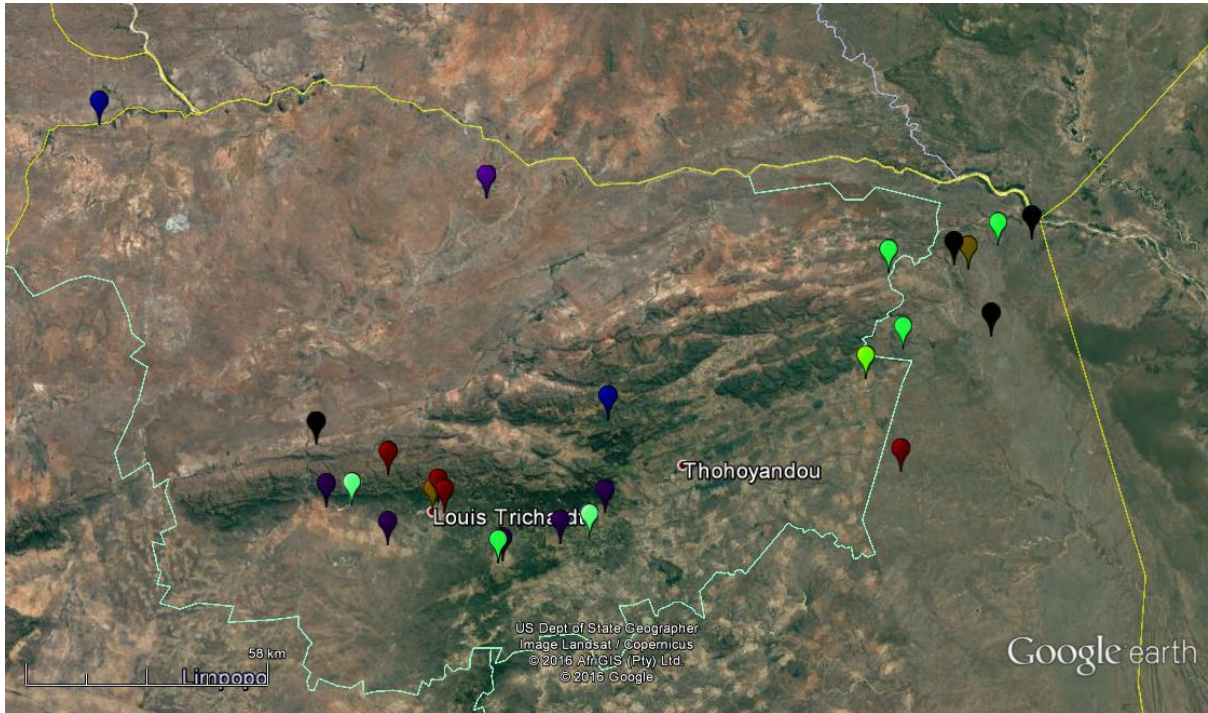


Figure 9: Distribution of Historical sites in the Vhembe district.

- Black – Buildings**
- Green – Pioneer**
- Lilac – Museums**
- Orange – Monuments**
- Red – Military**
- Purple - Mission stations**
- Blue - Natural**

8. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The study area is located on the Soutpansberg mountain and the areas that was surveyed was relatively undisturbed. The proposed road is located on an already existing farm road (Figure 10). The road runs through the Main Lodge area and the area alongside the road is disturbed, becoming undisturbed and rockier the further you move from the road. Mountain cliffs cuts through the Main Lodge area and certain areas were too steep to climb down safely (Figure 11-12). The vegetation is open around the road and gets dens and high the further you move from the road.

The proposed Spa complex is located on a cliffside and a man mad dam younger than 60 is located close by (Figure 13). The Proposed Tree House area is located on a hilltop with baobab trees. Here the the vegetation is dense and high (Figure 14). The proposed Climbing pavilion and the Rock climbing is located at a cliff face (Figure 15-16).

There are several structures located in the proposed development areas. All the buildings and structures are younger than 60 years of age (Figure 17-19)

The topography of the study area is rocky and mountainous with the Limpopo River Valley to the north of the study area. The Sand River runs through the Van Collers Pass in the eastern part of the study area. Several dry runs are in the study area and joins up with the Sand River. There is a dam close to the proposed spa complex (Figure 20). The soil is loosely compacted and rocky.



Figure 10: View of exiting road in study area.



Figure 11: General view of proposed Main Lodge area.



Figure 12: Vegetation growth and mountainous terrain in proposed Main Lodge area.



Figure 13: View of rocky terrain at the proposed area for Spa complex.



Figure 14: View of vegetation growth of the proposed Tree House area.



Figure 15: View of Cliff of proposed Rock-climbing area.



Figure 16: View of vegetation growth in proposed Climbing pavilion area.



Figure 17: View of Valley House.



Figure 18: View of River House.



Figure 19: View of old hunting lodge.



Figure 20: Dam located close to the proposed Spa complex.

9. DISCUSSION OF SITES FOUND DURING THE SURVEY

No sites of cultural heritage significance were identified during the survey.

10. SOCIAL CONSULTATION

Social consultation was done by the Environmental Practitioner and will be added as a separate report.

11. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the survey, no sites of cultural heritage significance were identified within the project area.

The following is recommended:

1. The reasoned opinion of the heritage consultant is that the proposed development may continue but only after receiving comments from the relevant heritage authority.
2. It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a distinct possibility. Due to the density of vegetation in certain areas, it also is possible that some sites may only become known later on. Operating controls and monitoring should therefore be aimed at the possible unearthing of such features. Care should

therefore be taken when development commences that if any of these are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.

In this regards the following 'Chance find Procedure' should be followed:

- Upon finding any archaeological or historical material all work at the affected area must cease.
- The area should be demarcated in order to prevent any further work there until an investigation has been completed.
- An archaeologist should be contacted immediately to provide advice on the matter.
- Should it be a minor issue, the archaeologist will decide on future action, which could include adapting the HIA or not. Depending on the nature of the find, it may include a site visit.
- SAHRA's Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit may also be notified.
- If needed, the necessary permit will be applied for with SAHRA. This will be done in conjunction with the appointed archaeologist.
- The removal of such archaeological material will be done by the archaeologist in lieu of the approval given by SAHRA, including any conditions stipulated by the latter.
- Work on site will only continue after removal of the archaeological/ historical material was done.

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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).

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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

Cultural significance:

- Negligible – The site has no heritage significance, although it may be older than 60 years.
- Low - A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings. A site with minimal importance which is decreased by its bad state of decay.
- Low-Medium - A site of lesser importance, which is increased by a good state of preservation and contextual importance (e.g., a specific community).
- 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.
- Medium-High - A site that has high importance due to its age or uniqueness, but which decreases due to its bad state of decay.
- High - Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Also, any important object found within a specific context.
- Very High - A site of exceptional importance due to its age, uniqueness and good state of preservation.

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:

National Grade I significance: The site should be managed as part of the national estate, should be nominated as Grad I site, should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score above 50.

Provincial Grade II significance: The site should be managed as part of the provincial estate, should be nominated as Grade II site, should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score between 40 and 50.

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Local Grade IIIA: The site should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance), should be maintained in situ with a protected buffer zone and a CMP must be recommended. Score between 37 and 40.

Local Grade IIIB: The site should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance). Mitigation is subject to a permit application lodged with the relevant heritage authority. Score between 6 and 36.

Local Grade IIIC: The description in the phase 1 heritage report is seen as sufficient recording (low significance) and it may be granted destruction at the discretion of the relevant heritage authority without a formal permit application, subjected to the granting of Environmental Authorisation. Score below 5.

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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.

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