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**FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE
ASSESSMENT OF THE BORROW PIT DEVELOPMENTS NEAR
CAMPBELL, NORTHERN CAPE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A borrow pit for the supply of road building material is planned at Campbell in the Northern Cape.

The area proposed for future gravel mining is heavily disturbed and is part of the existing borrow pit. The venture will be part of a large calcrete borrow pit.

A few stone flakes were collected on the floor of the existing pit. These finds originate from a disturbed area and are of minor significance.

There is a large graveyard with many graves right across the road from the proposed borrow pit site. These graves will not be affected by the development at the quarry.

No other cultural or historical remains were found.

I recommend that the planning and development of the borrow pit site may proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

Scope and Limitations of the present project

The present investigation provided the opportunity to examine the area selected for the development a borrow pit. No limitations were experienced during site inspection.

Methodology

1. Standard archaeological survey and recording methods were applied.
2. A survey of the literature was done to obtain information about the archaeology and cultural heritage of the area.
3. The site was inspected on foot.
4. The layout of the site as well as objects and features were plotted by GPS.
5. The main characteristics of the surroundings and features were recorded on camera.

No limitations or obstacles were experienced during the site visit.

INVESTIGATION

A borrow pit for the supply of road building material is planned at Campbell in the Northern Cape. The application is done on behalf of the Siyancuma Local Municipality, P.O. Box 27, Douglas. The area is part of the existing borrow pit and is heavily disturbed (Map 3).

The site was visited on 31 July 2011. Officials from MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, accompanied me at the site.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical material and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

The study aims to locate and evaluate the significance of cultural heritage sites, archaeological material, manmade structures and buildings older than 60 years, and sites associated with oral histories and graves that might be affected by the proposed development.

LOCALITY

The borrow pit site is located several kilometres to the south east of Campbell (Map 1) along the R385 gravel road to Douglas, Northern Cape Province (Map 2). Map 4 illustrates the layout of the proposed borrow pit.

Vegetation cover consists mainly of Haak-en-Steek or Umbrella Thorn (*Acacia tortillis*) and Swarthaak or Black Thorn (*Acacia mellifera*) trees (Figs.3-5).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (Map 3) (2923).

CA	29°49'30"S 023°44'11"E	Altitude 1153m (Figs.1&2)
CB	29°49'26"S 023°44'06"E	Altitude 1154m (Figs.3-5)
G	29°49'28"S 023°44'12"E	Altitude 1149m (Fig.6)

RESULTS

FINDS

The area proposed for the new quarry developments (Map 3) is part of an existing borrow pit (Figs.1&2). Extensive soil excavations resulted in a serious disturbance of the land (Fig.2).

A few stone flakes were collected on the floor of the existing borrow pit (Figs.7-9). The stone flakes and cores are primarily made of Chert and have no secondary trimming. Percussion bulbs are prominent in most cases and prepared platforms are narrow and level. From standard tool typology and basic characteristics, the material could arbitrarily be classified as Later Stone Age.

A large graveyard with many graves (Map 3) is located right across the road from the proposed borrow pit site (Fig.6). These graves will not be affected in any way by the developments at the quarry.

No other, cultural or historical remains were found.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The few scattered stone flakes are of minor significance. I anticipate that the borrow pit excavations will have no impact on any cultural or historical remains.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning of the borrow pit and I recommend that the work may proceed.

MITIGATION

No mitigation measures will be required.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Marguerite Cronjé from MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for taking me to the site.

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



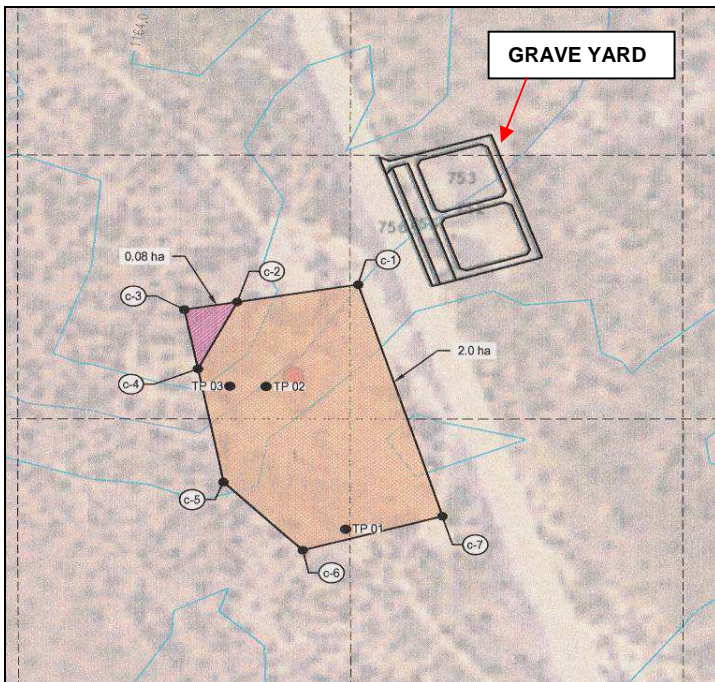
Map 1 Campbell in relation to Douglas along the R385.



Map 2 Locality of borrow pit at Campbell, Northern Cape.



Map 3 Proposed borrow pit site at Campbell. Position of GPS coordinates indicated.



Map 4 Layout of the proposed borrow pit at Campbell.



Fig.1 Point CA at Campbell borrow pit.



Fig.2 Point CA at Campbell borrow pit.



Fig.3 Point CB at Campbell borrow pit.



Fig.4 Point CB at Campbell borrow pit.

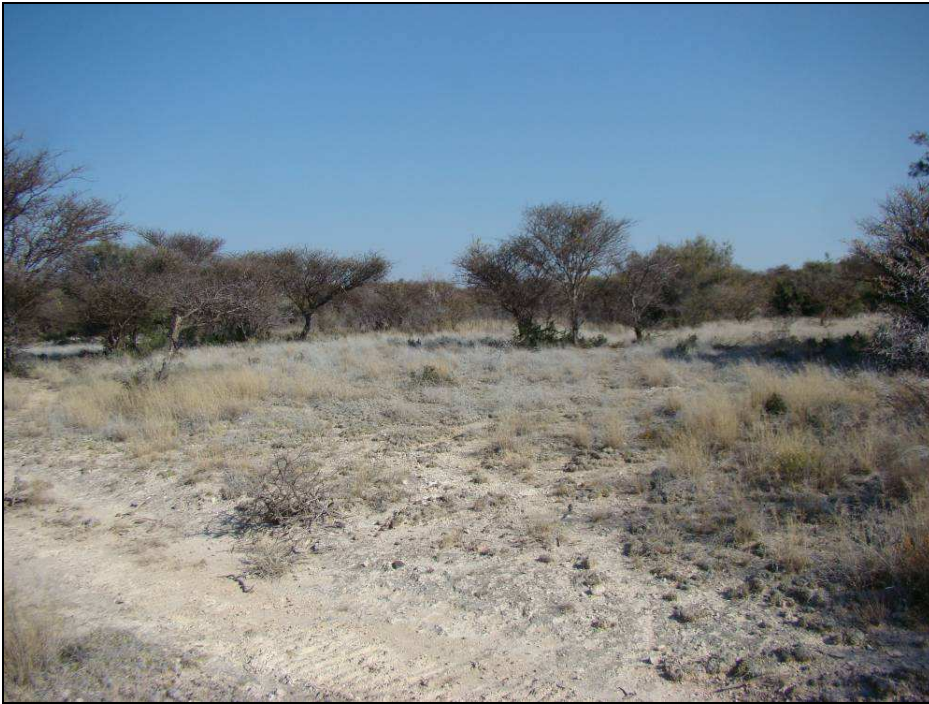


Fig.5 Point CB at Campbell borrow pit.



Fig.6 Graves at Point G near Campbell borrow pit.



Fig.7 Stone flakes at Campbell borrow pit (Pocket knife=84mm).



Fig.8 Stone flakes at Campbell borrow pit (Pocket knife=84mm).



Fig.9 Stone flakes at Campbell borrow pit (Pocketknife=84mm).