



# AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

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**22 May 2013**

## **A. INFORMATION ON PROJECT:**

### **CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY AND CYCLE PATH AT MABOPANE GAUTENG PROVINCE**

#### **Heritage Report prepared by:**

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**Date: 22 May 2013**

**B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Pedestrian and cycle pathways along the main routes in Mabopane have to be developed. The pathways are next to existing tar roads in the road reserve. The areas have been graded in the past destroying possible heritage sites. The construction work was already in progress during the study.

No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found on or near the proposed pathway routes.

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## **D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT**

**(a) Whether the report is part of a scoping report/EIA/HIA or not**

*No*

**(b) Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc)**

*Walkway & cycle path network in Temba CoT*

**(c) Whether re-zoning and/or subdivision of land is involved**

*No*

**(d) Developer and consultant and owner and name and contact details**

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**(e) Terms of reference**

*To conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment to assess if there is any material of cultural or heritage value under the footprint of the proposed development.*

## **(f) Legislative requirements of Act 25 of 1999.**

PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT, ACT NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Paleontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or objects, which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

## **E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA.**

The most important heritage site near Mabopane is the Tswaing Meteorite Crater originally geologists thought that it was a volcanic crater, but later research found that it was a meteorite crater. The crater is 1.13 kilometre in diameter and originally was 200 meter deep. The crater was formed 200 000 years ago by a meteorite. The sediments in the crater contain salt which has been utilized by Stone Age people as far back as 100 000 years. Iron Age people also used the resources. On the western rim of the crater is a Late Iron Age stonewalls settlement.

In modern times the sediment were mixed to extract soda ash which was transported to Hammanskraal by donkey wagon from where it was transported by train Partridge, T.C. 1999 & National Cultural History Museum information sheet).

To the south of Mabopane lie the Magalies Mountains and Swartkoppies Granite Hills. These hills have hundreds of Late Iron Age Tswana stonewalled archaeological sites (Mason, R. 1962 pp 371, and Küsel U.S. 2007).

The proposed development area lies on the border between Mabopane and Soshanguve townships. This area north of Pretoria originally developed as settlement for Black people who didn't qualified to live in Pretoria according to Act 25 of 1945, which

controlled Bantu labour in white cities. The main settlement for these force fully renewed people was Winterveld. To the south of Winterveld developed Mabopane which later became part of Bo-Phuthatswana in the 1970's. As this was an area of mixed languages groups Mabopane West was reserved for Tswana speaking people. The rest had to move to Mabopane East which was renamed Soshanguve (Sotho, Shangaan, Nguni and Venda). The area was split by new railway line and station where the present development will take place (Wikipedia & Küsel, U.S.)

## CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES OF THE SOUTH WESTERN QUADRANT OF THE TSHWANE MUNICIPAL AREA

### **F. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY OR AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

#### **(a) Details of area surveyed:**

- Full location Data for Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority and property (e.g. farm/erf) name and number etc.;

(i) Location Province Gauteng Province

(ii) Location maps: Name Hammanskraal 2528AC & 2528CA

(iii) Site maps attached pages 11 - 15

*The proposed Pedestrian Walkway and Cycle Path Network development will be established in the Mabopane area of the City of Tshwane Municipality in the Gauteng Province. Pedestrian walkways will be constructed in the existing road reserves of the roads following from a point in Buitekant Street (25° 29' 19.2''S 28° 05' 20.6''E) around Mabopane Station up to Soshanguve Station (25° 31' 16.3''S 28° 04' 51.7''E) and around Giant Stadium (25° 31' 00.3''S 28° 5' 16.8''E). The walkways and cycle paths will also follow in the road reserves of Church Street from point 25° 29' 19.2''S 28° 05' 20.6''E to point 25° 31' 23.6''S 28° 04' 51.6''E to the direct south. See Locality Map. Please Note: The representative topographic map sheet is 2528 AC and 2528CA.*

#### **(b) Description of methodology**

(i) How the area was searched

The area was visited and inspected by vehicle and on foot. Near the station informal shops have been erected on the pavements right up to the edge of the tar. Except for this area the route was easily visible for inspection. The area along the route was photographed.

(ii) Restrictions to the study area

The development area has been bulldozed and graded in the past with the tarring of the roads which would have destroyed any possible heritage sites. During the visit the site construction teams were already working.

(iii) Data acquired

G.P.S. readings were taken. Photographs were taken of the area. No cultural heritage resources or graves are present on the development sites.

## G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES IDENTIFIED AND MAPPED

All the streets along which the walkways and cycle paths will be developed have been tarred. When we visited the site construction teams were already working on the pathways. In some cases excavations had already taken place and paving was installed.

What is important is to note that the road reserve where this paving is being installed has been graded during the building of the present tar roads. This grading would have destroyed any possible heritage sites – see photographs.



During the visit it was found that about half of the distance of the paved walk and cycle paths were still untouched.

Near the station informal shops have been erected illegally and will have to be demolished.



Photographs showing excavations of the pavements for the installation of paving



No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found on or near the development sites.

No archaeological or other important cultural heritage resources were found as the whole development areas have been graded during road construction in the past.

## **H. DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTEFACTS, FAUNA, BOTANICAL OR OTHER FINDS AND FEATURES**

No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found on or near the development sites



## **I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES**

None

## **J. FIELD RATING**

None – no heritage sites were found along the proposed routes

## **K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

None – no heritage sites were found on the sites investigated.

## **L. RECOMMENDATIONS**

There is no objection to the proposed construction of the pathways and cycle paths as the areas have been extensively graded during construction of the tar roads. What is alarming is that construction has already started before the cultural heritage resources impact assessment has taken place. The client should be reprimanded not to start construction before approval from PHRA is received.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

## **M. CONCLUSION**

There are no important cultural heritage resources or graves present on or near the proposed development areas. The client commenced construction before approval was granted and should be reprimanded.

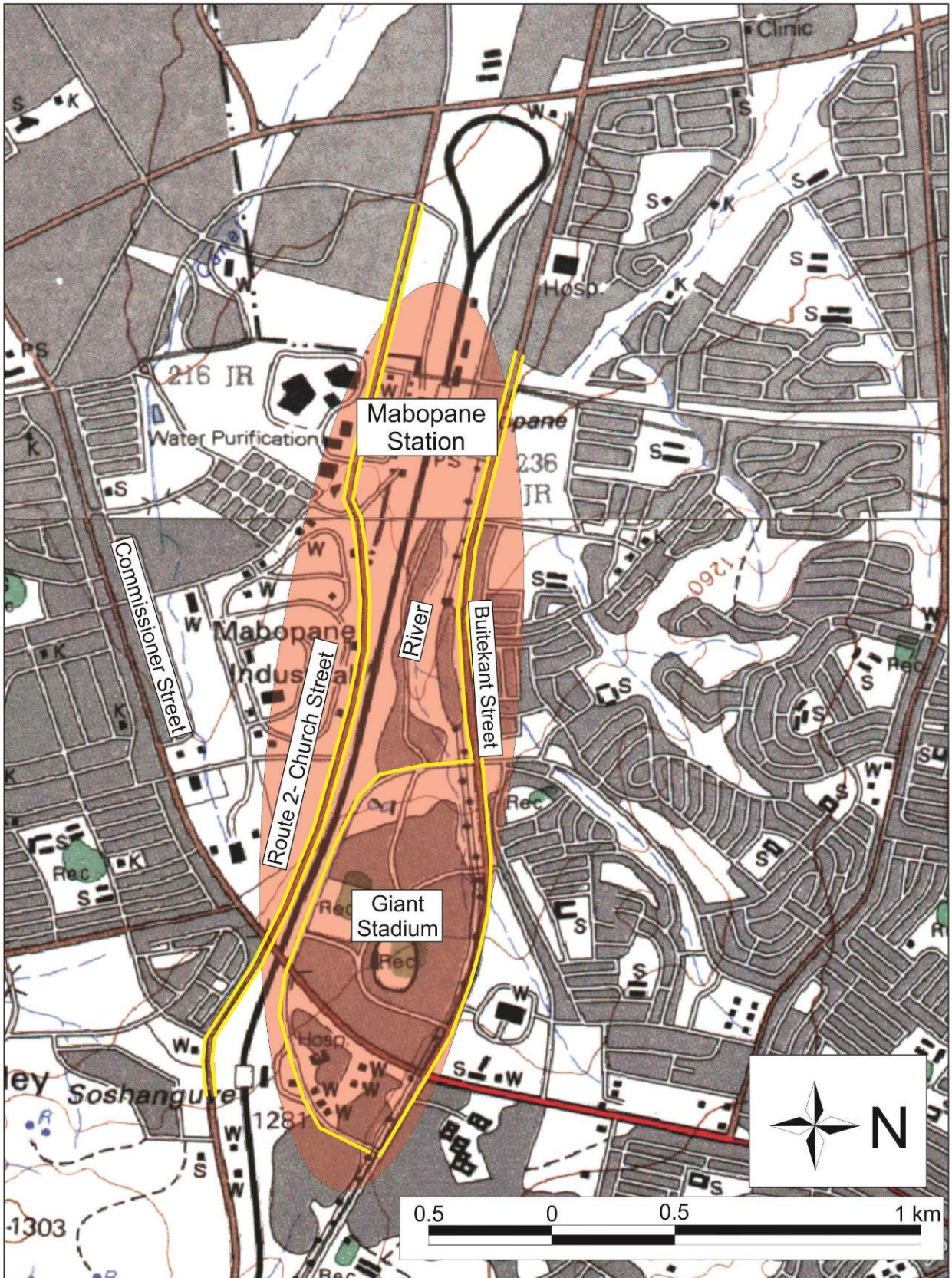
## **N. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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- Google Map
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- Küsel, U.S. 2003. GIS Database for historical and cultural heritage sites in the Bojanala District Municipal area of North West Province Final report
- Mason, R. 1962. Pre-history of the Transvaal

- Partridge, T.C. 1999. Investigations into the origin, age and palaeoenvironments of the Pretoria Saltpan. Memoir 85 Council for Geo - Science
- Tswaing Crater Museum Brochure
- Wikipedia

## **O. APPENDIX**

- Maps pages 11 - 15



**Legend:**

-  Site Area
-  Route Layout

**Project:**

Proposed Mabopane Pedestrian Walkway and Cycle Path Network

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**Client:**

Infrastructure & Programme Management



**Figure 1:**

**Locality Map**













LOCALITY PLAN  
N 15

**STORIA - MABOPANE**

PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS AND CYCLE PATHS GENERAL LAYOUT PLAN

PROJECT NO.	DATE	DATE	DATE
0041P-03U01	15/06/2022	15/06/2022	15/06/2022

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0041P-03U01	15/06/2022	15/06/2022	15/06/2022