

A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of a shopping mall, filling station and associated activities on a piece of land approximately 7.7 ha on a Portion of the remaining extent of the farm Goedverwaching 19LT at Tshakhuma Village within Makhado Local Municipality of Limpopo Province.

HIA

INTEGRATED SPECIALIST SERVICES (PTY) LTD

November 16, 2018

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(ASAPA members)

DOCUMENT SYNOPSIS (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY)

Item	Description
Proposed development and location	A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of a shopping mall, filling station and associated activities on a piece of land approximately 7.7 ha on a Portion of the remaining extent of the farm Goedverwaching 19LT at Tshakhuma Village within Makhado Local Municipality of Limpopo 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 area demarcated for the shopping mall development.
1:50 000 Topographic Map	2230 AA Tshakhuma
Coordinates	23° 03' 52.06" S 030° 18' 27.00" E.
Municipalities	Makhado Local Municipality.
Predominant land use of surrounding area	Residential, commercial, residential, powerlines, road, and transport
Developer/Applicant	Tshakhuma Development Trust Contact person: Davhula N.T (Chairperson) Cell: 082 202 0271
Client	Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd VAT No: 464 027 5964 464 Maple Road Kyalami AH JHB 1684
Size of application area	7.7Ha
Heritage Consultant	Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd, 135 Pitzer Road, Glen Austin 1685 Trust Mlilo, Email: trust@issolutions.co.za , Tel: +27 11 037 1565, Cell: +27 71 685 9247
Date of Report	16 November 2018

This document serves to inform and guide the developer, Tshakhuma Development Trust, and its contractors about the possible impacts that the proposed development of shopping mall may have on heritage resources (if any) located in the study area. In the same light, the document must also inform South African heritage authorities about the presence, absence and significance of heritage resources located in the study area. As required by South African heritage legislation, developments such as this require pre-development assessment by a competent heritage practitioner in order to identify record and if necessary salvage the irreplaceable heritage resources that may be impacted upon by the development. In compliance with these laws Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd appointed Integrated Specialist Services on behalf of Tshakhuma Development Trust to conduct a Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the proposed development of shopping mall and associated infrastructure at Tshakuma Village. Desktop studies, drive-throughs and fieldwalking were conducted in order to identify heritage landmarks on and around the proposed shopping mall development site. The study area is not on pristine ground, having seen significant transformations owing to mainly agriculture, road, and commercial infrastructure. Although the area is known for historical and LIA occurrences, no archaeological resources were identifiable on the surface, even though this may be due to the tall grass that inhibits ground surface visibility. In terms of the built environment of the area, no structures older than 60 years were recorded within the proposed shopping mall development site. In terms of the archaeology of the area under study, no mitigation will be required prior to construction. Nonetheless, sub-surface archaeological material and unmarked graves may still exist and when encountered during construction, work must be stopped forth-with and the finds must be reported to the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) or the heritage practitioner. This report must also be submitted to the SAHRA or LIHRA for review.

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Authorship: This A/HIA Report has been prepared by Mr Trust Mlilo (Professional Archaeologist). The report is for the review of the Heritage Resources Agency (PHRA).

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Geographic Co-ordinate Information: Geographic co-ordinates in this report were obtained using a hand-held Garmin Global Positioning System device. The manufacturer states that these devices are accurate to within +/- 5 m.

Maps: Maps included in this report use data extracted from the NTS Map and Google Earth Pro.

Disclaimer: The Author is not responsible for omissions and inconsistencies that may result from information not available at the time this report was prepared.

The Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment Study was carried out within the context of tangible and intangible cultural heritage resources as defined by the SAHRA Regulations and Guidelines as to the authorisation proposed development being proposed by Tshakhuma Development Trust.

Signed by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. P. M.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

16 November 2018

Acknowledgements

The authors acknowledge Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd for their assistance with project information, and the associated project BID as well as responding to technical queries related to the project.

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1. Abbreviations

AIA	Archaeological Impact Assessment
ASAPA	Association of South African Professional Archaeologists
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIA	Early Iron Age (<i>EIA refers to both Environmental Impact Assessment and the Early Iron Age but in both cases the acronym is internationally accepted. This means that it must be read and interpreted within the context in which it is used.</i>)
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ESA	Early Stone Age
GPS	Global Positioning System
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
ISS	Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd
ICOMOS	International Council of Monuments and Sites
LIA	Late Iron Age
LFC	Late Farming Community
LIHRA	Limpopo Provincial Heritage Resources Agency
LSA	Late Stone Age
MIA	Middle Iron Age
MSA	Middle Stone Age
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998
NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999
PHRA	Provincial Heritage Resource Agency

SAHRA South African Heritage Resources Agency

ToR Terms of Reference

2. Key concepts and terms

2.1 Periodization

Periodization Archaeologists divide the different cultural epochs according to the dominant material finds for the different time periods. This periodization is usually region-specific, such that the same label can have different dates for different areas. This makes it important to clarify and declare the periodization of the area one is studying. These periods are nothing a little more than convenient time brackets because their terminal and commencement are not absolute and there are several instances of overlap. In the present study, relevant archaeological periods are given below;

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)

Early Iron Age (~ AD 200 to 1000)

Late Iron Age (~ AD1100-1840)

Historic (~ AD 1840 to 1950, but a Historic building is classified as over 60 years old)

2.2 Definitions

Definitions Just like periodization, it is also critical to define key terms employed in this study. Most of these terms derive from South African heritage legislation and its ancillary laws, as well as international regulations and norms of best-practice. The following aspects have a direct bearing on the investigation and the resulting report:

Cultural (heritage) resources are all non-physical and physical human-made occurrences, and natural features that are associated with human activity. These can be singular or in groups and include significant sites, structures, features, ecofacts and artefacts of importance associated with the history, architecture or archaeology of human development.

Cultural significance is determined by means of aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual values for past, present or future generations.

Value is related to concepts such as worth, merit, attraction or appeal, concepts that are associated with the (current) usefulness and condition of a place or an object. Although significance and value are not mutually exclusive, in some cases the place may have a high level of significance but a lower level of value. Often, the evaluation of any feature is based on a combination or balance between the two.

Isolated finds are occurrences of artefacts or other remains that are not in-situ or are located apart from archaeological sites. Although these are noted and recorded, but do not usually constitute the core of an impact assessment, unless if they have intrinsic cultural significance and value.

In-situ refers to material culture and surrounding deposits in their original location and context, for example an archaeological site that has not been disturbed by farming.

Archaeological site/materials are remains or traces of human activity that are in a state of disuse and are in, or on, land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains, and artificial features and structures. According to the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) (Act No. 25 of 1999), no archaeological artefact, assemblage or settlement (site) and no historical building or structure older than 60 years may be altered, moved or destroyed without the necessary authorisation from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or a provincial heritage resources authority.

Historic material are remains resulting from human activities, which are younger than 100 years, but no longer in use, including artefacts, human remains and artificial features and structures.

Chance finds means archaeological artefacts, features, structures or historical remains accidentally found during development.

A grave is a place of interment (variably referred to as burial) and includes the contents, headstone or other marker of such a place, and any other structure on or associated with such place. A grave may occur in isolation or in association with others where upon it is referred to as being situated in a cemetery (contemporary) or burial ground (historic).

A site is a distinct spatial cluster of artefacts, structures, organic and environmental remains, as residues of past human activity.

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) refers to the process of identifying, predicting, and assessing the potential positive and negative cultural, social, economic and biophysical impacts of any proposed project

which requires authorisation of permission by law and which may significantly affect the cultural and natural heritage resources. Accordingly, an HIA must include recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures for minimising or circumventing negative impacts, measures enhancing the positive aspects of the proposal and heritage management and monitoring measures.

Impact is the positive or negative effects on human well-being and / or on the environment.

Mitigation is the implementation of practical measures to reduce and circumvent adverse impacts or enhance beneficial impacts of an action.

Mining heritage sites refer to old, abandoned mining activities, underground or on the surface, which may date from the prehistorical, historical or the relatively recent past.

Study area or '**project area**' refers to the area where the developer wants to focus its development activities (refer to plan).

Phase I studies refer to surveys using various sources of data and limited field walking in order to establish the presence of all possible types of heritage resources in any given area.

2.3 Assumptions and disclaimer

The investigation has been influenced by the unpredictability of buried archaeological remains (absence of evidence does not mean evidence of absence) and the difficulty in establishing intangible heritage values. It should be remembered that archaeological deposits (including graves and traces of mining heritage) usually occur below the ground level. Should artefacts or skeletal material be revealed at the site during excavation for building foundations and earth moving activities, such activities should be halted immediately, and a competent heritage practitioner, SAHRA or LIHRA must be notified in order for an investigation and evaluation of the find(s) to take place (see NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 36 (6)). Recommendations contained in this document do not exempt the developer from complying with any national, provincial, and municipal legislation or other regulatory requirements, including any protection or management or general provision in terms of the NHRA. Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd assumes no responsibility for compliance with conditions that may be required by SAHRA in terms of this report.

3. Terms of Reference (ToR)

Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd requested the author on behalf of Tshakhuma Development Trust to conduct an AIA/HIA study addressing the following issues:

- Archaeological and heritage potential of the proposed shopping mall area including any known data on affected areas;
- Provide details on methods of study; potential and recommendations to guide the LIHRA, the provincial heritage agency to make an informed decision with regards to authorization of the proposed development.

3.1 Introduction

Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd appointed Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd to carry out a scoping and Phase 1 AIA/ HIA of the proposed development of shopping mall and associated infrastructure. The study area is at Tshakuma Village within, Makhado Local Municipality in Limpopo Province. The proposed development of a shopping mall is located approximately 40km from Makhado town centre (see figure 1). The proposed development site is predominantly agriculture and residential. However, as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation, an HIA is a pre-requisite for this kind of development. The overall purpose of this heritage report is to identify, assess any heritage resources that may be in the study area and evaluate the positive and negative impacts of the proposed development on these resources in order to make recommendations for their appropriate management. To achieve this, we conducted background research of published literature, maps and databases (desktop studies) which was then followed by ground-truthing by means of drive-through surveys and field walking. Desktop studies had shown that Iron Age and historical sites were a possibility in the study area but no such sites were recorded during ground-truthing. While heritage resources may have been located in the study area, subsequent developments such as agriculture and infrastructure developments have either obliterated these materials or reduced them to isolated finds that can only be identifiable as chance finds during construction. If the recommendations of this report are adopted, there is no archaeological reason construction cannot proceed, taking full cognizance of clear procedures to follow in the event of chance findings.

4. Project Location

The proposed development is located on the remainder of the farm Goedverwatching 19 LT at Tshakhuma Village under the authority of Makhado Local Municipality in Limpopo province. The GPS coordinates for the proposed development site are: 23° 03' 52.06" S and 030° 18' 27.00" E. Access for the proposed development will be gained from R524 that connects Thohoyandou with Makhado (N1); the site can also be accessed through the D1253 road from Livubu. The surrounding areas are dominated by various anthropogenic activities including agriculture (this can be supported by the existence of a large agricultural products market which is adjacent to the site and businesses).

4.1 Project descriptions

Tshakhuma Development Trust is proposing to develop a shopping mall and related future developments that may include a filling station on a piece of land of approximately 7.7 hectares on the remainder of the farm Goedverwatching 19 LT at Tshakhuma Village.

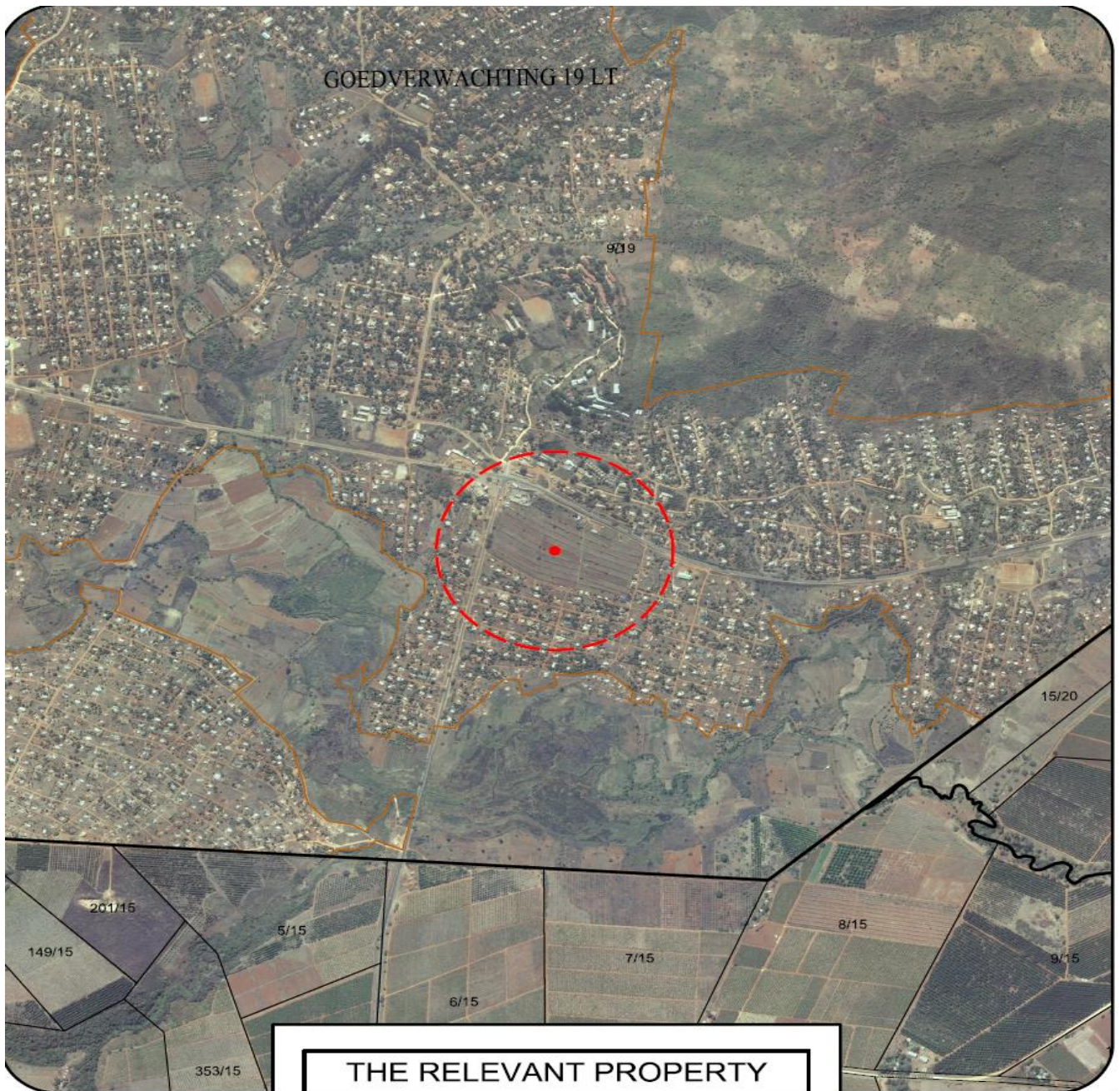


Figure 1: Location of the proposed project area (Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd 2018)



Figure 2: Location showing the project area (Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd 2016)

5. Legislative context

Two main pieces of legislations are relevant to the present study and there are presented here. Under the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) (NHRA) and the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), an AIA or HIA is required as a specialist sub-section of the EIA.

Heritage management and conservation in South Africa is governed by the NHRA and falls under the overall jurisdiction of the SAHRA and its PHRAs. There are different sections of the NHRA that are relevant to this study. The present proposed development is a listed activity in terms of Section 38 of the NHRA which stipulates that the following development categories require an HIA to be conducted by an independent heritage management consultant:

- Construction of a road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other linear form of development or barrier exceeding 300m in length
- Construction of bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- Development or other activity that will change the character of a site -
 - ❖ Exceeding 5000 sq m
 - ❖ Involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions
 - ❖ Involving three or more erven or divisions that have been consolidated within past five years
 - ❖ Rezoning of site exceeding 10 000 sq m
 - ❖ The costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority
- Any other development category, public open space, squares, parks, recreation grounds

Thus any person undertaking any development in the above categories, must at the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development. Section 38 (2) (a) of the same act also requires the submission of a heritage impact assessment report for authorization purposes to the responsible heritage resources agencies (SAHRA/PHRAs). Because, the proposed shopping mall development will change the character of a site exceeding 5000 sq m, then an HIA is required according to this section of act.

Related to Section 38 of the NHRA are Sections 34, 35, 36 and 37. Section 34 stipulates that no person may alter damage, destroy, relocate etc any building or structure older than 60 years, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority. This section may not apply to present study since none were identified.

Section 35 (4) of the NHRA stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object. This section may apply to any significant archaeological sites that may be discovered before or during construction. This means that any chance find must be reported to the heritage practitioner or SAHRA/LIHR, who will assist in investigating the extent and significance of the finds and inform about further actions. Such actions may entail the removal of material after documenting the find site or mapping of larger sections before destruction. Section 36 (3) of the NHRA also stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), 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. This section may apply in case of the discovery of chance burials, which is unlikely. The procedure for reporting chance finds also applies to the unlikely discovery of burials or graves by the developer or his contractors. Section 37 of the NHRA deals with public monuments and memorials but this may not apply to this study because no protected monument will be physically affected by the proposed project.

In addition, the new EIA Regulations (04 December 2014) promulgated in terms of NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) determine that any environmental reports will include cultural (heritage) issues. The new regulations in terms of Chapter 5 of the NEMA provide for an assessment of development impacts on the cultural (heritage) and social environment and for Specialist Studies in this regard. The end purpose of such a report is to alert the developer (Tshakhuma Development Trust in this case), the environmental consultant (EAP), SAHRA and interested and affected parties about existing heritage resources that may be affected by the proposed development, and to recommend mitigatory measures aimed at reducing the risks of any adverse impacts on these heritage resources.

Table 1: Evaluation of the proposed development as guided by the criteria in NHRA and NEMA

ACT	Stipulation for developments	Requirement details
NHRA Section 38	Construction of road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other linear form of development or barrier exceeding 300m in length	No
	Construction of bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length	No
	Development exceeding 5000 sq m	Yes
	Development involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions	No
	Development involving three or more erven or divisions that have been consolidated within past five years	No
	Rezoning of site exceeding 10 000 sq m	Not available
	Any other development category, public open space, squares, parks, recreation grounds	No
NHRA Section 34	Impacts on buildings and structures older than 60 years	Subject to identification during Phase 1
NHRA Section 35	Impacts on archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources	Subject to identification during Phase 1
NHRA Section 36	Impacts on graves	Subject to identification during Phase 1
NHRA Section 37	Impacts on public monuments	Subject to identification during Phase 1
Chapter 5 (21/04/2006) NEMA	HIA is required as part of an EIA	Yes

6. Methodology

This document falls under the screening and basic assessment phase of the HIA and therefore aims at providing an informed heritage-related opinion about the proposed shopping mall development. This is usually achieved through a combination of a review of any existing literature and a basic site inspection. As part of the desktop study, published literature and cartographic data, as well as archival data on heritage legislation, the history and archaeology of the area were studied. The desktop study was followed by field surveys. A survey of the relevant literature was conducted with the aim of reviewing the previous research done and determining the potential of the area. In this regard, various anthropological, archaeological, historical sources and heritage impact assessment reports were consulted (Calabrese 2005; Eastwood & Cnoops 1999; Kuman et al 2005; Hammerbeck & Schoeman 1976; Huffman 2005, 2007, Huffman & Hanisch 1987; Loubser 1991; Van Ewyk 1987; Van Warmelo 1940). The Heritage Atlas Database, the Environmental Potential Atlas, the Chief Surveyor General (CS-G) and the National Archives of South Africa (NASA) were consulted.

The field assessment was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance on the development footprint. Initially a drive-through was undertaken around the proposed development as a way of acquiring the archaeological impression of the general area. This was then followed by a walk down survey in the study area, with a hand held Global Positioning System (GPS) for recording the location/position of each possible site. Detailed photographic recording was also undertaken where relevant. The findings were then analysed in view of the proposed development in order to suggest further action. The result of this investigation is a report indicating the presence/absence of heritage resources and how to manage them in the context of the proposed shopping mall development.

6.2 Consultation

The EIA Public Participation process will be conducted by an independent specialist in collaboration with the EAP and specialists. The EIA Public Participation Process will invite and address comments from affected communities and any registered heritage bodies on any matter related to the proposed project including heritage concerns that may arise as a result of the project. The issues raised by the public with respect to the proposed development will also be included in the Final EIR.

7. The fieldwork survey

The fieldwork survey was undertaken in December 2016 by a team two archaeologists and an environmental assistant. The main focus of the survey involved a pedestrian survey which was conducted across the Project Area. The pedestrian survey focussed on parts of the project site where it seemed as if disturbances may have occurred in the past, for example bald spots in the grass veld; stands of grass which are taller than the surrounding grass veld; the presence of exotic trees; evidence for building rubble, and ecological indicators such as invader weeds.

The literature survey suggests that prior to the 20th century modern residential and on-going commercial developments; the general area where the proposed development is located would have been a rewarding region to locate heritage resources related to particularly Iron Age and historical sites (Bergh 1999: 4). However, the situation today is completely different. The study area now lies on a clearly modified landscape that has previously been cleared of vegetation and placed under intensive agriculture. The entire project area was a well-established banana plantation with irrigation infrastructure still laying idle on the site (Figure Plate 1 to 12).

The following photographs illuminate the nature and character of the Project Area.



Plate 1: Photo **A**. showing intersection of R574 and D1253 which marks the northern boundary of the proposed development site.



Plate 2: Photo **B**. showing ploughed section of the proposed development site.



Plate 3: Photo **C**. showing ploughed fields and irrigation infrastructure running across the field.



Plate 4: Photo **D**. showing grass cover that might have inhibited surface visibility of archaeological remains..



Plate 5: Photo **E** showing a canal cutting across the proposed development site.



Plate 6: Photo **F**, showing powerline and telephone line cutting through the proposed development site.



Plate 7: Photo **G**, showing closer view of ploughed sections of the proposed development site.



Plate 8: Photo **H**, showing recently ploughed section of the proposed development site. Note that this compromised the potential of recovering *in situ* archaeological remains

1



Plate 9: Photo I, showing telephone line and canal cutting across the proposed development site

J



Plate 10: Photo J showing severely disturbed sections of the proposed development site.



Plate 11: Photo **K** showing commercial buidings on the edge of the proposed development site



Plate 12: Photo **L** showing a canal, powerlines and homesteads on the edge of the proposed development site

2.4 Archaeological Context

The project area is located at Tshakuma Village in the Makhado Local Municipality of Limpopo Province of South Africa that boasts a rich traditional history of contemporary Venda people (Huffman 2007, Coetzee 2010). Archaeological and heritage studies in the Limpopo region indicate that the area is of high pre-historic and heritage significance. It is in fact a cultural landscape where Stone Age, Iron Age and Historical period sites contribute the bulk of the cultural heritage of the region (also Calebrese 1996; Huffman, 2007; Murimbika, 2006; Schoeman, 2006; Meyer, 2000; van Doornum, 2008).

Stone Age sites are general identifiable by stone artefacts found scattered on the ground surface, as deposits in caves and rock shelters as well as in eroded gully or river sections. Archaeological sites recorded in the project region confirms the existence of Stone Age sites that conform to the generic SA periodization split into the Early Stone Age (ESA) (2.5 million years ago to 250 000 years ago), the Middle Stone Age (MSA) (250 000 years ago to 22 000 years ago) and the Late Stone Age (LSA) (22 000 years ago to 300 years ago). Stone Age sites in the region are also associated with rock painting sites. From an archaeological perspective, the Makhado area, like most of Limpopo region has potential to yield Stone Age period sites (also see Deacon and Deacon, 1997). However, the specific affected project-receiving environment has low potential for Stone Age sites.

The Iron Age of the Limpopo region dates back to the 5th Century AD when the Early Iron Age (EIA) proto-Bantu-speaking farming communities began arriving in this region, which was then occupied by hunter-gatherers. These EIA communities are archaeologically referred to as the Kwale branch of the Urewe EIA Tradition (Huffman, 2007: 127-9). The Iron Age communities occupied the foot-hills and valley lands introducing settled life, domesticated livestock, crop production and the use of iron (also see Maggs 1984a; 1984b; Huffman 2007). Alongside the Urewe Tradition was the Kalundu Tradition whose EIA archaeological sites have been recorded along the Limpopo region. Limpopo region is known for the famous golden rhino that was recovered from Iron Age settlement site of Mapungubwe in the Limpopo Shashi Valley, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Limpopo region is also known for the Zimbabwe tradition sites such as Thulamela and Dzata to the northeast, in the modern day Venda region. From about 15 00 AD the region was occupied by new coming groups of Late Iron Age farmers of the Kalundu Tradition (ibid). The region was the centre of immigration and migration of different African groups some of which are ancestors of the contemporary Venda predominant in the region.

The period c. A.D 950 – 1350 AD was dominated by ceramics that were derived from the preceding EIA and which have been called the Eiland (Evers 1981) or Herringbone pottery (Denbow 1983). At Eiland itself there is an apparent gap between this final phase of the Early Iron Age and Letaba. Available radiocarbon dates to Letaba ceramics range from the early 17th – 19th centuries (Evers 1981). There were two unrelated ceramic styles in the 12th (Eiland) and 19th century (Letaba). Earlier groups comprised two ceramic styles that are Moloko and Kgopolwe. Moloko and Kgopolwe are contemporary with general similarities to Eiland which is the third development of the

Western Stream Early Iron Age immigrants. Iron Age people started to settle in southern Africa c. AD 300, with one of the oldest known sites at just to the west of the tunnels at Wylies Poort, dating to c. AD 400. By AD 800 people were occupying a number of villages in the Limpopo River valley and, with the East Coast trade, populations rapidly expanded. This resulted in the development of kingdoms that ruled over large tracts of land. However, drought and changes in the trade patterns, forced these people by AD 1250 to abandon these areas, some moving north, other south (Huffman 2005, Huffman & Hanisch 1987; Calabrese 2005). During this period trade flourished in the area, with gold and ivory being exchanged for glass beads, porcelain and cloth.

The occupation of the larger geographical area did not start much before the 1500s. By the 16th century things changed, with the climate becoming warmer and wetter, creating condition that allowed Late Iron Age (LIA) farmers to occupy areas previously unsuitable. Population movements, competition for resources, etc. created tensions amongst different groups and people were forced to congregate into large towns for defensive purposes. These stone-walled villages were almost always located near cultivatable soil and a source of water (Loubser 1991). Throughout the middle of the 1800s the region witnessed the Mfecane migrations and displacements linked to groups such as the Ndebele of Mzilikazi. In 1826 Mzilikazi devastated Sotho and Venda chiefdoms along his way.

From the 1840s the Voortrekker began arriving in the flat lands foothills in the regions spreading north east into modern day Limpopo. They spread establishing settlements, which came to be settler towns such as Schoemansdale, Petersburg, and the Louis Trichardt across modern day Limpopo. The Voortrekkers arrived in Limpopo regions in the shadow of the weakened African kingdoms and chiefdoms in the aftermath of the Mfecane. This effectively ushered in new era of colonial occupation by succeeding Afrikaans and British colonial administration authorities through the last half of the 1800s and into the last 1900s. By 1850s the region witnessed the influx of more settler communities which triggered settler wars between the African chiefdoms and the incoming Afrikaner settlers. Some of these colonial wars and battles lasted into Anglo-Boer wars of 1899-1902. The later effectively led to complete subjugation of African communities to settler administration starting as part of the ZAR of Transvaal. There after the region was subsequently annexed by the British and effectively placed the majority of African communities under the Union of South Africa in 1910, which eventually ended with the establishment of the new South Africa in 1994.

Whites moved into the Makhado area first as hunters, traders and missionaries, with settlers following closely on their heels. The Makhado area has a long history of ivory hunting during the eighteenth century, while prehistoric and historic mines occur across the Makhado area, e.g. on the farms Jooste and Dorothy (Murimbika 2006). From 1898 the Makhado area with the rest of the Soutpansberg was placed under direct control of the ZAR following the defeat of the Venda kingdom. From 1917 most of the farms in the area have been in the hands of commercial family farmers. Today the area is predominantly occupied by Sotho-Tswana and Venda speaking communities (Loubser 1991).

Makhado, known until recently as Louis Trichardt, is the second most northerly town in South Africa and the second last town before the border with Zimbabwe. Beit Bridge Border Post, South Africa's busiest border post, lies on the Limpopo River some 97 km north of Makhado.

2.5 Intangible Heritage

As defined in terms of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) intangible heritage includes oral traditions, knowledge and practices concerning nature, traditional craftsmanship and rituals and festive events, as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated with group(s) of people. Thus intangible heritage is better defined and understood by the particular group of people that uphold it. In the present study area, very little intangible heritage remains because no historically known groups occupied the study area and most of the original settler descendants moved away from the area.

8. SAHRIS Data Base and Impact Assessment Reports in the project area

Several archaeological and heritage studies were conducted within the Makhado area and its vicinity since 2001 and these presents the nature and heritage character of the area. The HIA conducted in the area also provide some predictive evidence regarding the types and ranges of heritage resources to be expected in the proposed project area: (see reference list for HIA reports). The studies include mining, road, water pipeline and powerline projects completed by Pistorius 2008, 2016, Pelser and Van Vollenhoven 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015 for mining and infrastructure development survey also recorded no sites. Van Schalkwyk conducted HIAs for infrastructure developments for example Van Schalkwyk, (2010, 2015). Gaigher, S. also conducted work in the Musina area for mining developments (Gaigher 2012). Other HIA studies by Pelser (2010), Pikirayi *et al* (2012), Murimbika (2006, 2007, 2008), Chirikure, S. & Bandama, F. (2014), Roodt, F. (2008, 2009), Matodzi, S., Matenga, E. & Pikirayi, I. (2013). Pistorius, J.CC (2016) cited prehistoric copper working activities site approximately 29km from Musina. Pelser, 2011 mentioned LIA site around Musina for example an Iron Age site on the farm Messina 4MT (Njebeli Hill). In addition, the Project Area was also studied by means of maps on which it appears (Musina) 2230AA, 1: 50 000 topographical map.

9. Results of the field study

9.1 Archaeological and Heritage Site

The proposed shopping mall development site did not yield any verifiable archaeological sites or material. The affected landscape is heavily degraded from previous and current land use such as agriculture, commercial infrastructure and from residential developments (see plate 1 to 12). This limited the chances of encountering significant *in situ* archaeological sites to be preserved *in situ*. The proposed development is located within a heavily disturbed landscape characterised by ploughed agricultural fields, irrigation infrastructure, bulk water pipelines, powerlines, roads and other associated infrastructures across the entire project area. As such the proposed shopping mall and associated activities will be an additional development on the project area (Figure 1, also see Plates 1 to 12). It is the considered opinion of the author that the chances of recovering significant archaeological materials were seriously compromised and limited due to agriculture and other destructive land use patterns such as deep ploughing, bulk water pipeline, road works and residential areas that already exist on the project area.

Based on the field study results and field observations, the author concluded that the receiving environment for the proposed development is low to medium potential to yield previously unidentified archaeological sites during subsurface excavations and construction work associated with the proposed development. This observation is supported by the fact that no Iron Age sites are indicated in a historical atlas around the Tshakhuma area; however, this may be an indication of a lack of research. Literature review also revealed that no Stone Age sites are shown on a map contained in a historical atlas of this area (Bergh 1999: 4).

9.2 Burial grounds and graves

The field survey did not record any burial site within the proposed shopping mall development site. Tshakhuma Village has formal cemeteries managed by traditional authorities and it is very unlikely to find informal burial sites within the proposed development site. It should be noted that burial grounds and gravesites are accorded the highest social significance threshold (see Appendix 3). They have both historical and social significance and are considered sacred. Wherever they exist or not, they may not be tempered with or interfered with during any proposed development. It is also important to note that the possibility of encountering human remains during subsurface earth moving works anywhere on the landscape is ever present. Although the possibility of encountering previously unidentified burial sites is low at the development site, should such sites be identified during subsurface construction work, they are still protected by applicable legislations and they should be protected.

9.3 Historical Monuments and plaques

The study did not record any listed monument within the proposed development site.

9.4 Buildings and structures older than 60 years

The study did not record any buildings and structures older than 60 years. As such the proposed development does not trigger Section 34 of the NHARA. There are several rural homesteads within the general project area. However, none of them is within the proposed development footprint.

9.5 Cumulative Impacts

Although the project area is heavily degraded by agriculture and other infrastructure developments, the proposed development will contribute to the cumulative impacts of the existing developments such as powerlines and pipelines. The following table presents summary of findings.

Table 2: Summary of findings

Heritage resource	Status/Findings
Buildings, structures, places and equipment of cultural significance	None exists with the development footprint
Areas to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with intangible heritage	None exists
Historical settlements and townscapes	None survives in the proposed area
Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance	None
Archaeological and palaeontological sites	None
Graves and burial grounds	None exists or are identifiable on the basis of a surface survey
Movable objects	None
Other cultural sites	None exist within the development site
Overall comment	The surveyed area has no identifiable heritage resources on the surface but sub-surface chance finds are still possible.

10 Assessment Criteria

The Guidelines to the SAHRA Guidelines and the Burra Charter define the following criterion for the assessment of cultural significance:

Aesthetic Value

Aesthetic value includes aspects of sensory perception for which criteria can and should be stated. Such criteria may include consideration of the form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric; sense of place, the smells and sounds associated with the place and its use.

Historic Value

Historic value encompasses the history of aesthetics, science and society, and therefore to a large extent underlies all of the terms set out in this section. A place may have historic value because it has influenced, or has been influenced by, an historic figure, event, phase or activity. It may also have historic value as the site of an important event. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives in situ, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive. However, some events or associations may be so important that the place retains significance regardless of subsequent treatment.

Scientific value

The scientific or research value of a place will depend upon the importance of the data involved, on its rarity, quality or representativeness, and on the degree to which the place may contribute further substantial information. Scientific value is also enshrined in natural resources that have significant social value. For example, pockets of forests and bushvelds have high ethnobotany value.

Social Value

Social value embraces the qualities for which a place has become a focus of spiritual, religious, political, local, national or other cultural sentiment to a majority or minority group. Social value also extend to natural resources such as bushes, trees and herbs that are collected and harvested from nature for herbal and medicinal purposes.

11 Recommendations

1. From a heritage perspective supported by the findings of this study, the proposed development of a shopping mall and associated infrastructure are feasible. However, the proposed development should be approved to proceed as planned under observation that the development dimensions do not extend beyond the proposed sites.
2. The foot print impact of the proposed development and associated infrastructure should be kept to minimal to limit the possibility of encountering chance finds.
3. Should any unmarked burials are exposed during construction affected families must be trekked and consulted, relevant rescue/ relocation permits must be obtained from SAHRA before any grave relocation can take place. Furthermore a professional archaeologist must be retained to oversee the relocation process in accordance with the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.
4. Should chance archaeological materials or human burials remains be exposed during subsurface construction work on any section of the proposed development laydown sites, work should cease on the affected area and the discovery must be reported to the heritage authorities immediately so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made. The overriding objective, where remedial action is warranted, is to minimize disruption in construction scheduling while recovering archaeological and any affected cultural heritage data as stipulated by the NHRA regulations.
5. Subject to the recommendations herein made and the implementation of the mitigation measures and adoption of the project EMP, other than buildings older than 60 years, there are no other significant cultural heritage resources barriers to the proposed development. The Heritage authority may approve the proposed development to proceed as planned with special commendations to implement the recommendations here in made

12 Chance finds procedures

It has already been highlighted that sub-surface materials may still be lying hidden from surface surveys. Therefore, absence (during surface survey) is not evidence of absence all together. The following monitoring and reporting procedures must be followed in the event of a chance find, in order to ensure compliance with heritage laws and policies for best-practice. This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. Accordingly, all construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds.

- ❖ 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, work must cease at the site of the find and this person must report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
- ❖ The senior site Manager must then make an initial assessment of the extent of the find, and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area before informing ISS.
- ❖ The developer will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will in turn inform SAHRA/LIHRA.

13 Conclusion

Integrated Specialist Services (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Mweusi Mali Maendeleo (Pty) Ltd to carry out HIA for the proposed shopping mall and associated infrastructure, as required by heritage legislation. The proposed development lies on disturbed ground zoned for agriculture. In spite of the rich history and archaeology of the general area prior to several industrial and residential developments after the mid-20th century, field surveys on and around the proposed area did not yield any archaeological material. In terms of the archaeology and heritage in respect of the proposed development site, there are no obvious 'Fatal Flaws' or 'No-Go' areas. However, the potential for chance finds, still remains and the developer and his contractors are advised to be diligent and observant during construction of the land site. The procedure for reporting chance finds has clearly been laid out and if this report is adopted by SAHRA, then there are no archaeological reasons why construction cannot proceed.

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15 APPENDIX 1: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN INPUT INTO THE PROPOSED SHOPPING MALL PROJECT EMP

Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Protection of archaeological sites and land considered to be of cultural value;Protection of known physical cultural property sites against vandalism, destruction and theft; andThe preservation and appropriate management of new archaeological finds should these be discovered during construction.							
No.	Activity	Mitigation Measures	Duration	Frequency	Responsibility	Accountable	Contacted	Informed
Pre-Construction Phase								
1	Planning	Ensure all known sites of cultural, archaeological, and historical significance are demarcated on the site layout plan, and marked as no-go areas.	Throughout Project	Weekly Inspection	Contractor [C] CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
Construction Phase								
1	Emergency Response	Should any archaeological or physical cultural property heritage resources be exposed during excavation for the purpose of construction, construction in the vicinity of the finding must be stopped until heritage authority has cleared the development to continue.	N/A	Throughout	C CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
		Should any archaeological, cultural property heritage resources be exposed during excavation or be found on development site, a registered heritage specialist or PHRA official must be called to site for inspection.		Throughout	C CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
		Under no circumstances may any archaeological, historical or any physical cultural property heritage material be destroyed or removed from site;		Throughout	C CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
		Should remains and/or artefacts be discovered on the development site during earthworks, all work will cease in the area affected and the Contractor will immediately inform the Construction Manager who in turn will inform PHRA.		When necessary	C CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
		Should any remains be found on site that is potentially human remains, the PHRA-G and South African Police Service should be contacted.		When necessary	C CECO	SM	ECO	EA EM PM
Rehabilitation Phase								
		Same as construction phase.						
Operational Phase								
		Same as construction phase.						

16 Appendix 2: heritage mitigation measure table

SITE REF	HERITAGE ASPECT	POTENTIAL IMPACT	MITIGATION MEASURES	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PENALTY	METHOD REQUIRED	STATEMENT
Chance Archaeological and Burial Sites	General area where the proposed project is situated is a historic landscape, which may yield archaeological, cultural property, remains. There are possibilities of encountering unknown archaeological sites during subsurface construction work which may disturb previously unidentified chance finds.	<p>Possible damage to previously unidentified archaeological and burial sites during construction phase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unanticipated impacts on archaeological sites where project actions inadvertently uncovered significant archaeological sites. • Loss of historic cultural landscape; • Destruction of burial sites and associated graves • Loss of aesthetic value due to construction work • Loss of sense of place <p>Loss of intangible heritage value due to change in land use</p>	<p>In situations where unpredicted impacts occur construction activities must be stopped and the heritage authority should be notified immediately.</p> <p>Where remedial action is warranted, minimize disruption in construction scheduling while recovering archaeological data. Where necessary, implement emergency measures to mitigate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where burial sites are accidentally disturbed during construction, the affected area should be demarcated as no-go zone by use of fencing during construction, and access thereto by the construction team must be denied. • Accidentally discovered burials in development context should be salvaged and rescued to safe sites as may be directed by relevant heritage authority. The heritage officer responsible should secure relevant heritage and health authorities permits for possible relocation of affected graves accidentally encountered during construction work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor / • Project Manager • Archaeologist • Project EO 	Fine and or imprisonment under the PHRA-G Act & NHRA	Monitoring measures should be issued as instruction within the project EMP.	PM/EO/Archaeologists Monitor construction work on sites where such development projects commences within the farm.

16 APPENDIX 3: LEGAL PRINCIPLES OF HERITAGE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Extracts relevant to this report from the National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999, (Sections 5, 36 and 47):

General principles for heritage resources management

5. (1) All authorities, bodies and persons performing functions and exercising powers in terms of this Act for the management of heritage resources must recognise the following principles:

(a) Heritage resources have lasting value in their own right and provide evidence of the origins of South African society and as they are valuable, finite, non-renewable and irreplaceable they must be carefully managed to ensure their survival;

(b) every generation has a moral responsibility to act as trustee of the national heritage for succeeding generations and the State has an obligation to manage heritage resources in the interests of all South Africans;

(c) heritage resources have the capacity to promote reconciliation, understanding and respect, and contribute to the development of a unifying South African identity; and

(d) heritage resources management must guard against the use of heritage for sectarian purposes or political gain.

(2) To ensure that heritage resources are effectively managed—

(a) the skills and capacities of persons and communities involved in heritage resources management must be developed; and

(b) provision must be made for the ongoing education and training of existing and new heritage resources management workers.

(3) Laws, procedures and administrative practices must—

(a) be clear and generally available to those affected thereby;

(b) in addition to serving as regulatory measures, also provide guidance and information to those affected thereby; and

(c) give further content to the fundamental rights set out in the Constitution.

(4) Heritage resources form an important part of the history and beliefs of communities and must be managed in a way that acknowledges the right of affected communities to be consulted and to participate in their management.

(5) Heritage resources contribute significantly to research, education and tourism and they must be developed and presented for these purposes in a way that ensures dignity and respect for cultural values.

(6) Policy, administrative practice and legislation must promote the integration of heritage resources conservation in urban and rural planning and social and economic development.

(7) The identification, assessment and management of the heritage resources of South Africa must—

(a) take account of all relevant cultural values and indigenous knowledge systems;

(b) take account of material or cultural heritage value and involve the least possible alteration or loss of it;

(c) promote the use and enjoyment of and access to heritage resources, in a way consistent with their cultural significance and conservation needs;

- (d) contribute to social and economic development;
- (e) safeguard the options of present and future generations; and
- (f) be fully researched, documented and recorded.

Burial grounds and graves

36. (1) Where it is not the responsibility of any other authority, SAHRA must conserve and generally care for burial grounds and graves protected in terms of this section, and it may make such arrangements for their conservation as it sees fit.

(2) SAHRA must identify and record the graves of victims of conflict and any other graves which it deems to be of cultural significance and may erect memorials associated with the grave referred to in subsection (1), and must maintain such memorials.

(3) (a) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial 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, 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 equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

(4) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for the destruction or damage of any burial ground or grave referred to in subsection (3)(a) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has made satisfactory arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such graves, at the cost of the applicant and in accordance with any regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority.

(5) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for any activity under subsection (3)(b) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has, in accordance with regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority—

(a) made a concerted effort to contact and consult communities and individuals who by tradition have an interest in such grave or burial ground; and

(b) reached agreements with such communities and individuals regarding the future of such grave or burial ground.

(6) Subject to the provision of any other law, any person who in the course of development or any other activity discovers the location of a grave, the existence of which was previously unknown, must immediately cease such activity and report the discovery to the responsible heritage resources authority which must, in co-operation with the South African Police Service and in accordance with regulations of the responsible heritage resources authority—

(a) carry out an investigation for the purpose of obtaining information on whether or not such grave is protected in

terms of this Act or is of significance to any community; and

(b) if such grave is protected or is of significance, assist any person who or community which is a direct descendant to make arrangements for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such grave or, in the absence of such person or community, make any such arrangements as it deems fit.

(7) (a) SAHRA must, over a period of five years from the commencement of this Act, submit to the Minister for his or her approval lists of graves and burial grounds of persons connected with the liberation struggle and who died in exile or as a result of the action of State security forces or agents provocateur and which, after a process of public consultation, it believes should be included among those protected under this section.

(b) The Minister must publish such lists as he or she approves in the Gazette.

(8) Subject to section 56(2), SAHRA has the power, with respect to the graves of victims of conflict outside the Republic, to perform any function of a provincial heritage resources authority in terms of this section.

(9) SAHRA must assist other State Departments in identifying graves in a foreign country of victims of conflict connected with the liberation struggle and, following negotiations with the next of kin, or relevant authorities, it may re-inter the remains of that person in a prominent place in the capital of the Republic.

General policy

47. (1) SAHRA and a provincial heritage resources authority—

(a) must, within three years after the commencement of this Act, adopt statements of general policy for the management of all heritage resources owned or controlled by it or vested in it; and

(b) may from time to time amend such statements so that they are adapted to changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge; and

(c) must review any such statement within 10 years after its adoption.

(2) Each heritage resources authority must adopt for any place which is protected in terms of this Act and is owned or controlled by it or vested in it, a plan for the management of such place in accordance with the best environmental, heritage conservation, scientific and educational principles that can reasonably be applied taking into account the location, size and nature of the place and the resources of the authority concerned, and may from time to time review any such plan.

(3) A conservation management plan may at the discretion of the heritage resources authority concerned and for a period not exceeding 10 years, be operated either solely by the heritage resources authority or in conjunction with an environmental or tourism authority or under contractual arrangements, on such terms and conditions as the heritage resources authority may determine.

(4) Regulations by the heritage resources authority concerned must provide for a process whereby, prior to the adoption or amendment of any statement of general policy or any conservation management plan, the public and interested organisations are notified of the availability of a draft statement or plan for inspection, and comment is invited and considered by the heritage resources authority concerned.

(5) A heritage resources authority may not act in any manner inconsistent with any statement of general policy or conservation management plan.

(6) All current statements of general policy and conservation management plans adopted by a heritage resources authority must be available for public inspection on request.

