

Updated report on the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment for Petra Diamonds Finsch Mine(Case ID 3613)

Report prepared for Petra Diamonds (Pty) Ltd.
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Introduction

The following report was drafted in compliance with the recommendations put forward with regards to a number of heritage resources that were indentified at the Petra Diamonds Finsch Mine during a survey conducted in 2005 (Henderson, Z. September 2005. *Cultural Heritage Assessment for Finsch Mine / Farm Carter Block 458 EMP 102*) (**Fig 1 & 2**). As requested by SAHRA (Interim Comment dated Friday September 2013; ref: 9/2/037/0001) the report provides feedback on the status of the previously identified heritage resources, the implementation of the recommendations provided by the 2005 assessment and how the heritage resources have been impacted by the mining process.

Henderson (2005) provided recommendations for five different heritage resources identified at the mine:

- that an archaeologist should check the valley bottom soils near the New Fine Residue Deposit area (**Fig. 2 & 3A**; coordinates 28°23'20.57"S 23°25'33.48"E) when earth-moving commences in order to determine whether the artefacts in the sands have been washed in over time, or whether they were accumulated differently;
- that the Five Mission Graveyard (**Fig. 3B**; coordinates 28°22'44.38"S 23°28'13.48"E) should be marked on mine maps and indicated as a no-go area and that it should be checked annually to ensure that the fence is still in good condition;
- that the foundations of the historical Bonza farmhouse, outbuildings and possible labourer's cottage (**Fig. 3C**; coordinates 28°24'42.00"S 23°30'46.00"E) should be

left as they are and care should be taken that vehicles do not drive over them or that they are not disturbed;

- that the pepper tree (**Fig. 3D**; coordinates 28°24'43.52"S 23°30'44.93"E) should be left if possible, as it does also relate to the history of the Bonza farmyard;
- that the singular grave site located near the historical Bonza farmyard should either be completely fenced off or filled in (**Fig. 3E**; 28°24'47.70"S 23°30'54.30"E).

Field Assessment

A team of four people conducted a pedestrian survey of the five localities during a day trip in November 2013. Garmin 60 CSx GPS hand models (set to the WGS 84 map datum) and digital cameras were used for recording purposes.

Stone tools near the New Fine Residue Deposit area (valley bottom soils)

The western hillside as well as a section along the valley bottom at the southern wall of the New Fine Residue Deposit area was surveyed (**Figs. 3A & 4**). No artefacts were noted on the hillside (**Fig. 5**). Henderson (2005) noted that the distribution of the artefacts noted in the base of valley seemed to indicate a patchy distribution of lithic material. A number of stone tools (approximately 1 artefact recorded for every 60m covered) were recorded as surface scatters on sheet wash and lag deposits along the valley bottom section (**Fig. 6 & 7**). The majority of stone tools observed during the pedestrian survey were located as individual finds. Typologically, the artefacts are biased towards convergent flake blades, small flakes and scrapers comparable to late MSA and LSA stone tool industries. All the artefacts observed are surface occurrences, showing evidence of patina-formation and because of their exposed state, are most likely derived to a certain degree. The derived context for these finds appears to be largely related to the effects of lag, slope wash and topsoil erosion.

Part of the valley has been covered by the New Fine Residue Deposit area after 2005, but the section along the valley bottom at the southern wall of the New Fine Residue Deposit area indicate that lithic material are generally uncapped and exposed and most likely out of context as a result of lateral as well as vertical (lag deposits) displacement over time. This is also indicated by the co-occurrence of MSA and LSA material on the

landscape. Consequently, the surface scatter of artefacts in the survey area may be derived or mixed. Even so, they remain valid archaeological elements and can still be regarded as meaningful points on a map. GPS waypoints were taken of all the artefacts recorded during the survey.

Five Mission Graveyard

The graveyard is properly marked and fenced off, but it is recommended that the yard is cleaned annually (**Fig. 8**). The site has not been impacted by the mining process.

Bonza farmhouse foundations

The site is isolated and undisturbed (**Fig. 9**). There is no evidence of regular vehicular traffic near or in the vicinity of the foundations. The site has not been impacted by the mining process.

Pepper tree

The tree has died and is left *in situ* (**Fig. 10**) The site has not been impacted by the mining process.

Grave

The site is completely fenced off (**Fig. 11**). Closer inspection during the survey suggest that it probably was not a grave and from discussions with people at the mine we were able to establish that the structure was an old well that had been filling up with material over the years (Sabelo Plaatjies pers. com.). The site has not been impacted by the mining process.

References

Henderson 2005. Cultural Heritage Assessment for Finsch Mine. Unpublished report. National Museum Bloemfontein.

Team responsible for field assessment

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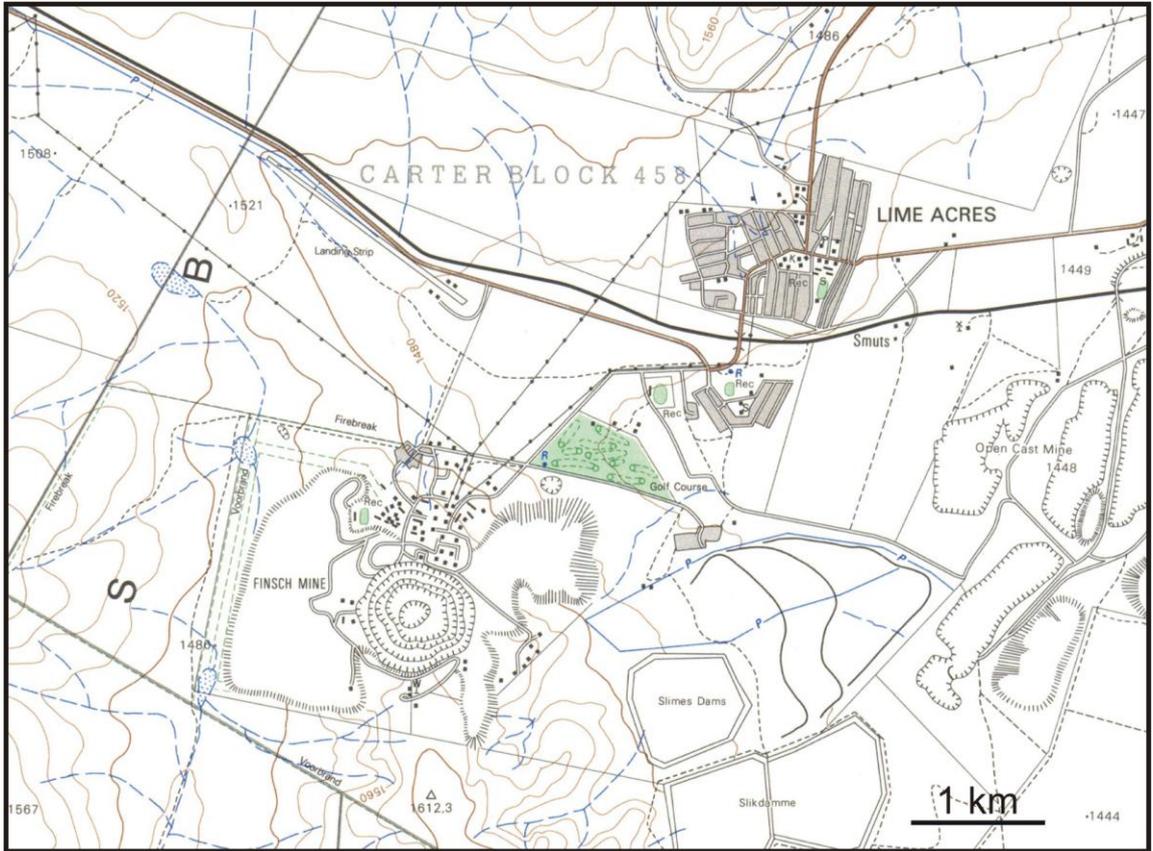


Figure 1. 1:50 000 scale topographic map of Finsch Mine (2823 AD Lime Acres).

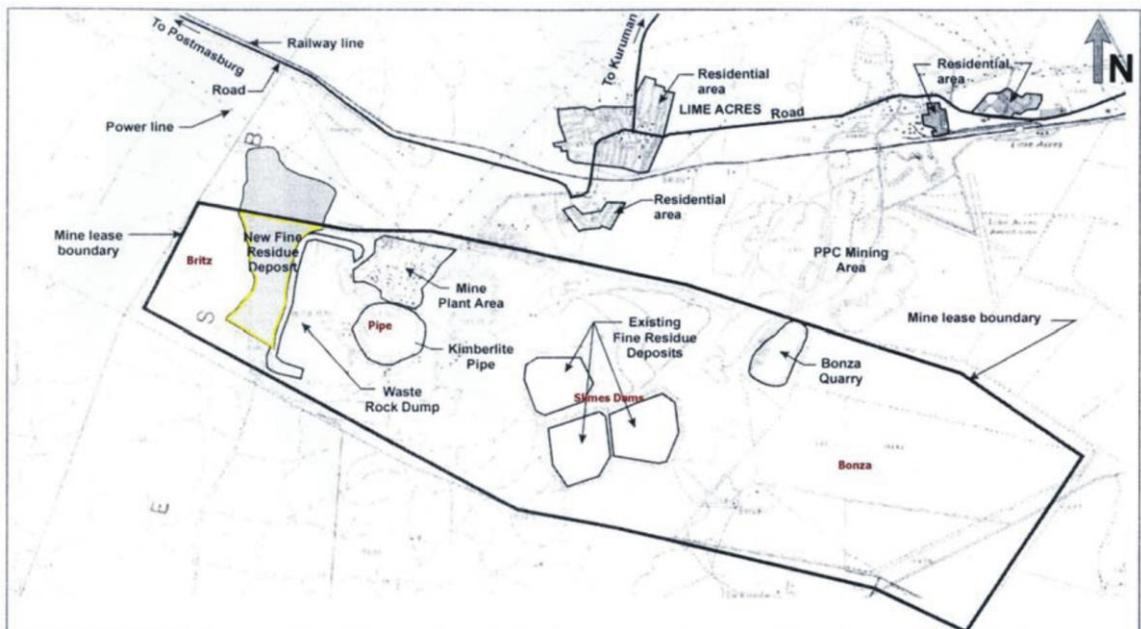


Figure 2. Map of the mine area (after Henderson 2005).



Figure 3. Aerial view of Finsch Mine showing the five heritage resources identified by Henderson (2005).



Figure 4. The New Fine Residue Deposit area, looking east-southeast.



Figure 5. The western hillside flanking the New Fine Residue Deposit area.

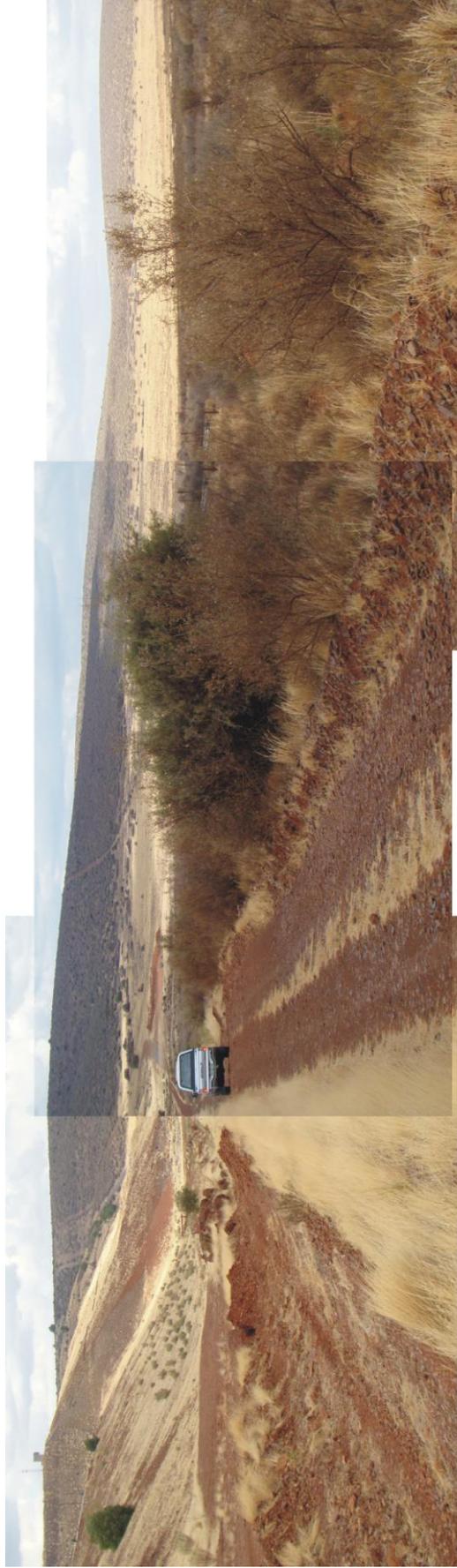


Figure 6. The valley bottom at the southern wall of the New Fine Residue Deposit area, looking east.



Figure 7. Examples of individual lithic artefacts recorded along the valley bottom at the southern wall of the New Fine Residue Deposit area.

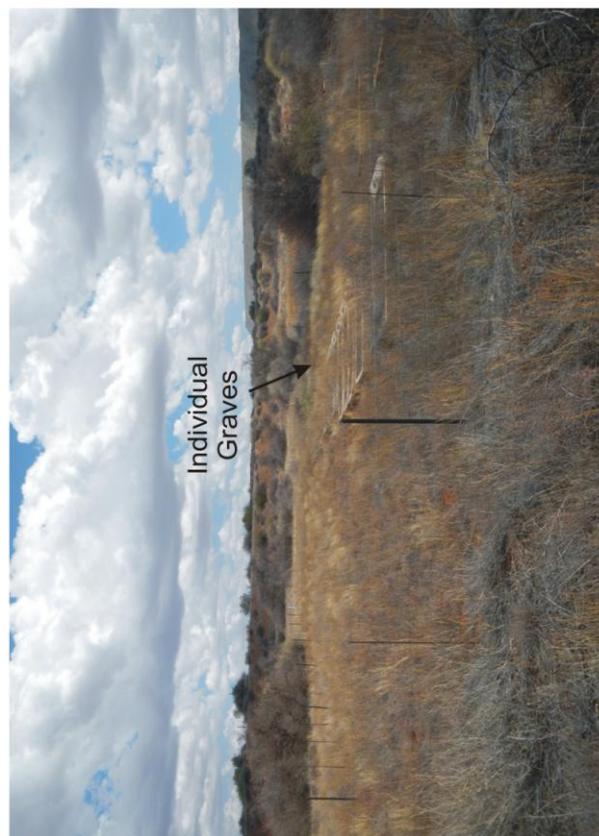


Figure 8. Five Mission graveyard. The signs (above left) are placed near the entrance to the graveyard.

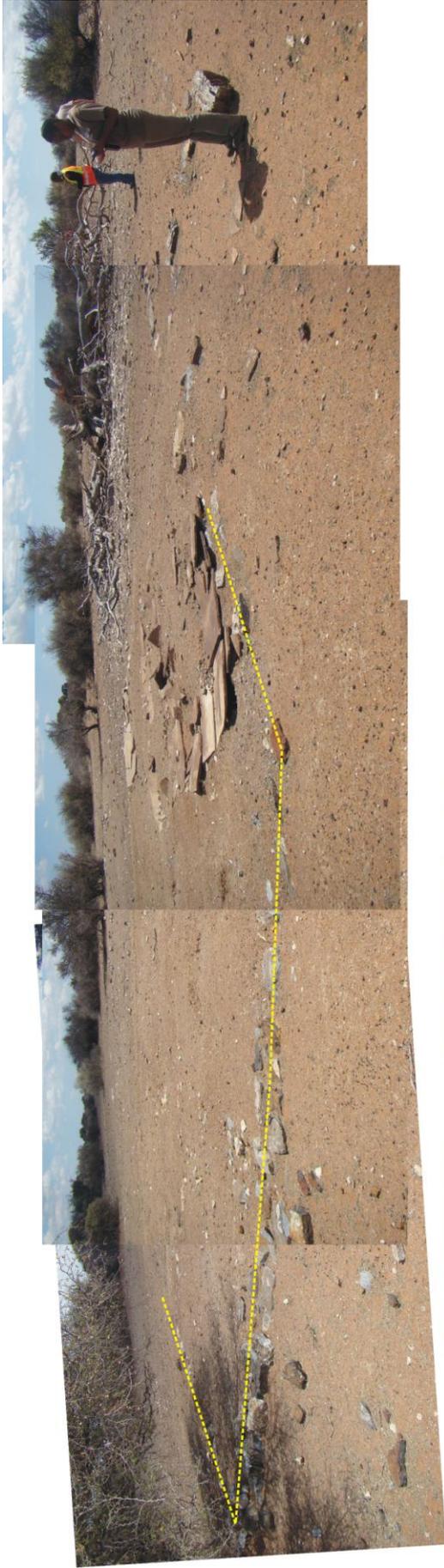


Figure 9. The foundations of the historical Bonza farmhouse, outbuildings and possible labourer's cottage.



Figure 10. The Pepper tree.



Figure 11. The grave site or most likely an old well.