

**MFANEFILE COMMUNITY TIMBER PROJECT,  
MELMOTH, KWAZULU-NATAL**

**FOR MFANEFILE COMMUNITY TIMBER PROJECT  
TRUST (MCTP)**

**DATE: 14 April 2015**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This community forestry project is planned for undeveloped land on three farms at Mfanefile immediately south west of the town of Melmoth in KwaZulu-Natal.

The land on which this development will take place—the three farms originally named “Wilhelmina” (No 6122), “Arcadia” (No 6123) and Wilderness (No. 6107). in the original cadastral division of the district—was owned in historical times by the American Board Mission, and later acquired by ancestral members of the Kuzwayo family. The last will and testament of Mbiya Kanyile Mfanefile Kuzwayo stipulated in detail the inheritances each descendent of the family would receive. There have been in recent decades multiple sub-divisions of these farms, the boundaries of which are defined by succeeding title deeds with ownership vested in descendants of the original Kuzwayo family.

All of these areas have at some stage been under either cane, scrub wattle or used for grazing purposes.

The farm lands to be developed adjoins the farms owned by Manzini Estate and it is assumed with good empirical evidence that the soils are similar to the topography and soils on Manzini and are good for timber growing. Some of the plantations on Manzini are known to be amongst the best in the province.

Figures 1 – 3 indicate the location of the proposed line.

Umlando was contracted to undertake the Heritage Impact Assessment for this proposal.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA





FIG. 2A: NORTHERN AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA





FIG. 2B: CENTRAL AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA





FIG. 2C: SOUTHERN AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA

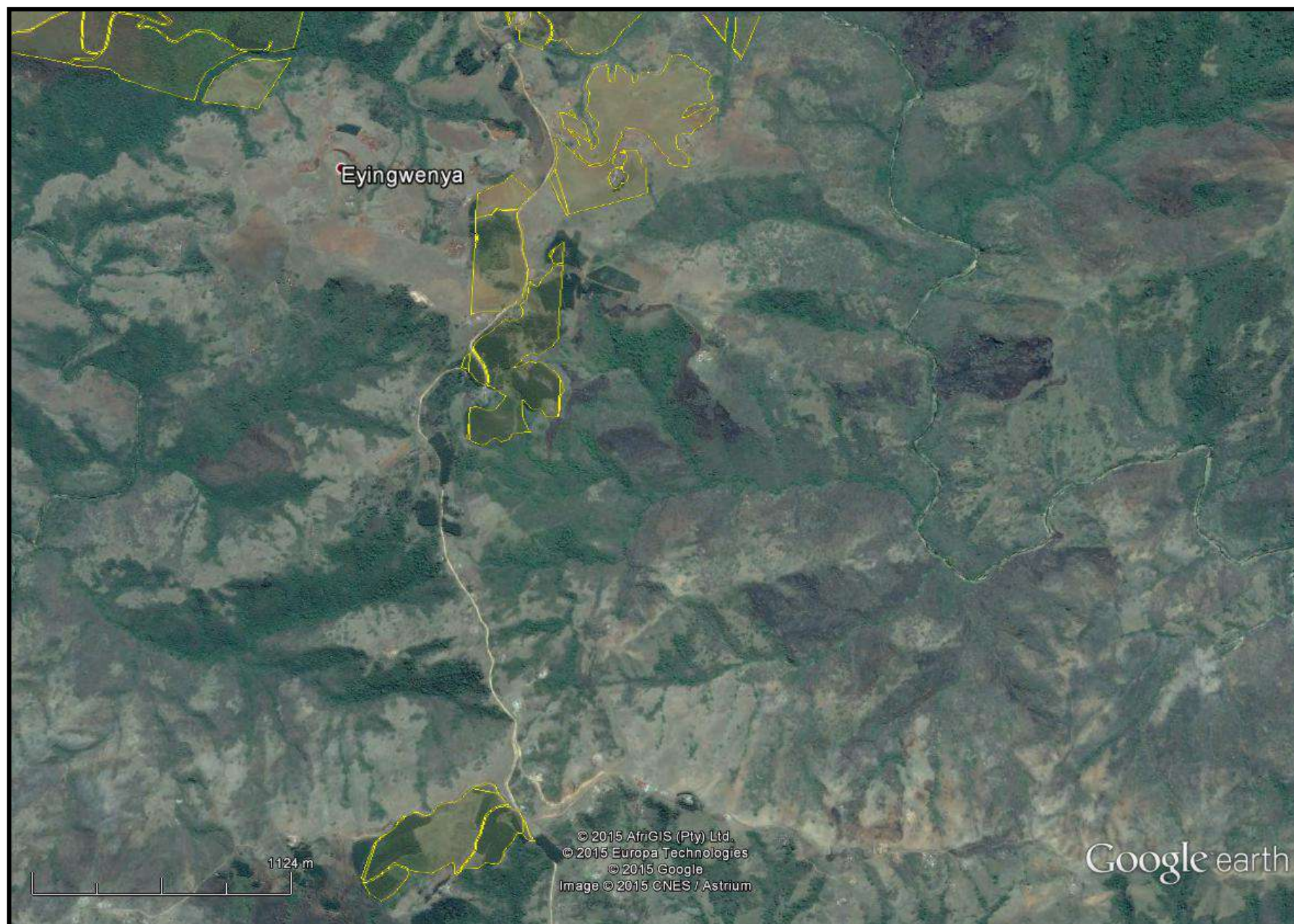
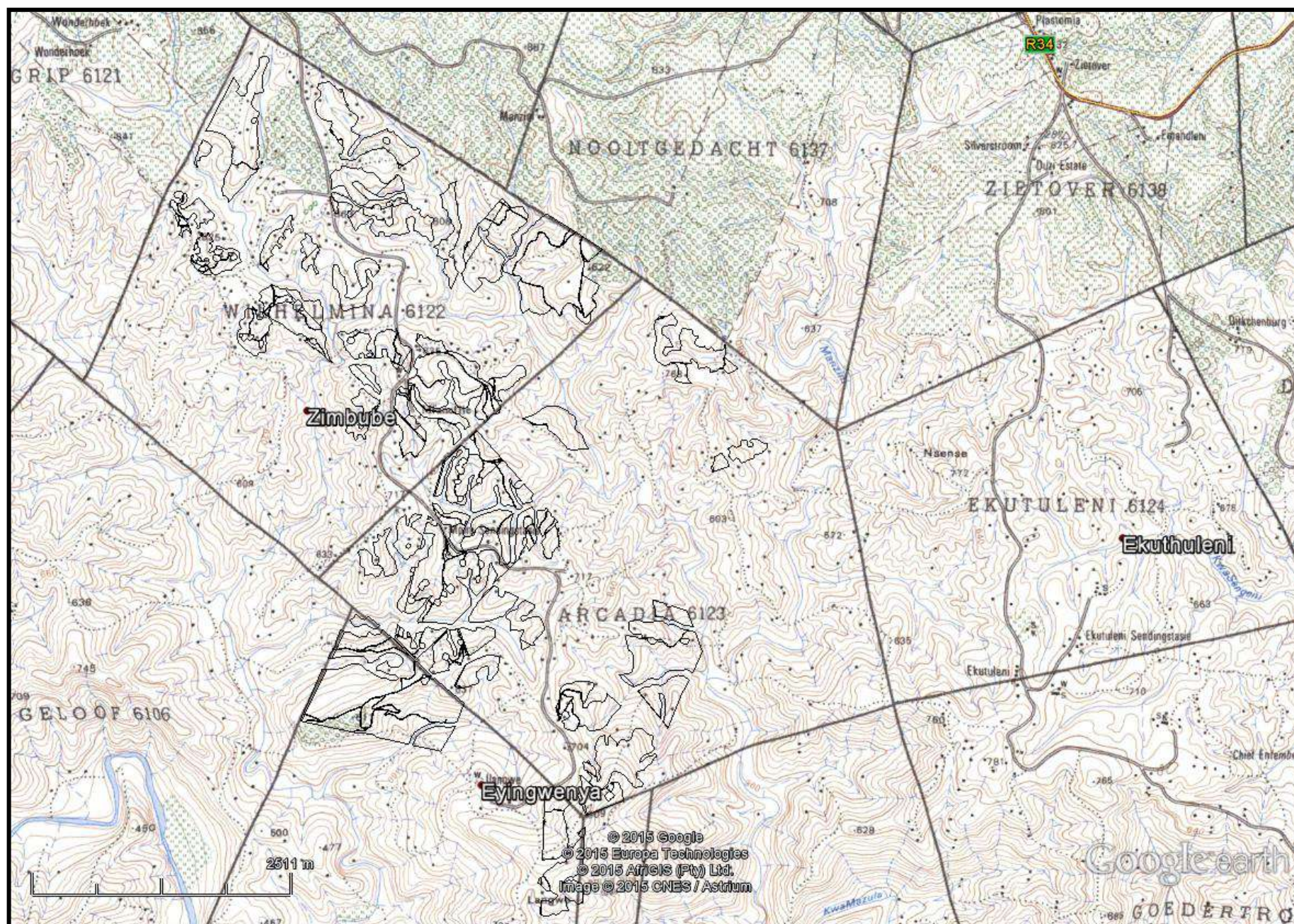




FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE STUDY AREA





## KWAZULU-NATAL HERITAGE ACT NO. 4 OF 2008

### “General protection: Structures.—

- No structure which is, or which may reasonably be expected to be older than 60 years, may be demolished, altered or added to without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Where the Council does not grant approval, the Council must consider special protection in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- The Council may, by notice in the *Gazette*, exempt—
  - A defined geographical area; or
  - defined categories of sites within a defined geographical area, from the provisions of subsection where the Council is satisfied that heritage resources falling in the defined geographical area or category have been identified and are adequately protected in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- A notice referred to in subsection (2) may, by notice in the *Gazette*, be amended or withdrawn by the Council.

### General protection: Graves of victims of conflict.—No person may damage, alter, exhume, or remove from its original position—

- the grave of a victim of conflict;
- a cemetery made up of such graves; or
- any part of a cemetery containing such graves, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- General protection: Traditional burial places.—
  - No grave—
    - not otherwise protected by this Act; and
    - not located in a formal cemetery managed or administered by a local authority, may be damaged, altered, exhumed, removed from its original position, or otherwise disturbed without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.



The Council may only issue written approval once the Council is satisfied that—

- the applicant has made a concerted effort to consult with communities and individuals who by tradition may have an interest in the grave; and
- the applicant and the relevant communities or individuals have reached agreement regarding the grave.

General protection: Battlefield sites, archaeological sites, rock art sites, palaeontological sites, historic fortifications, meteorite or meteorite impact sites.—

- No person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter, write or draw upon, or otherwise disturb any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Upon discovery of archaeological or palaeontological material or a meteorite by any person, all activity or operations in the general vicinity of such material or meteorite must cease forthwith and a person who made the discovery must submit a written report to the Council without delay.
- The Council may, after consultation with an owner or controlling authority, by way of written notice served on the owner or controlling authority, prohibit any activity considered by the Council to be inappropriate within 50 metres of a rock art site.
- No person may exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb, damage, destroy, own or collect any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- No person may bring any equipment which assists in the detection of metals and archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, or excavation equipment onto any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, or meteorite impact site, or



- use similar detection or excavation equipment for the recovery of meteorites, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- The ownership of any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site, on discovery, vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.” (KZN Heritage Act of 2008)

## METHOD

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps.

The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the database that has been collated by Umlando. These databases contains archaeological site locations and basic information from several provinces (information from Umlando surveys and some colleagues), most of the national and provincial monuments and battlefields in Southern Africa (<http://www.vuvuzela.com/googleearth/monuments.html>) and cemeteries in southern Africa (information supplied by the Genealogical Society of Southern Africa). We use 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:50 000 topographical and 1937 aerial photographs where available, to assist in general location and dating of buildings and/or graves. The database is in Google Earth format and thus used as a quick reference when undertaking desktop studies. Where required we would consult with a local data recording centre, however these tend to be fragmented between different institutions and areas and thus difficult to access at times. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

The survey results will define the significance of each recorded site, as well as a management plan.



All sites are grouped according to low, medium, and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips, and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone, and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features.

### **Defining significance**

Heritage sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

These criteria are:

#### **1. State of preservation of:**

- 1.1. Organic remains:
  - 1.1.1. Faunal
  - 1.1.2. Botanical
- 1.2. Rock art
- 1.3. Walling
- 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit
- 1.5. Features:
  - 1.5.1. Ash Features
  - 1.5.2. Graves
  - 1.5.3. Middens
  - 1.5.4. Cattle byres
  - 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

**2. Spatial arrangements:**

- 2.1. Internal housing arrangements
- 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns
- 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

**3. Features of the site:**

- 3.1. Are there any unusual, unique or rare artefacts or images at the site?
- 3.2. Is it a type site?
- 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artefact?

**4. Research:**

- 4.1. Providing information on current research projects
- 4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

**5. Inter- and intra-site variability**

- 5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?
- 5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

**6. Archaeological Experience:**

- 6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

**7. Educational:**

- 7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?
- 7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?
- 7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

**8. Other Heritage Significance:**

- 8.1. Palaeontological sites
- 8.2. Historical buildings



- 8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.5. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

## **RESULTS**

### **DESKTOP STUDY**

The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. The archaeological database indicates that there are archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 4). These sites include all types of Stone Age and Iron Age sites, as well as historical sites relating to the Anglo-Zulu Wars. No sites occur in the study area.

No national monuments, battlefields, or historical cemeteries are known to occur in the study area.

**FIG. 4: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES NEAR THE STUDY AREA**

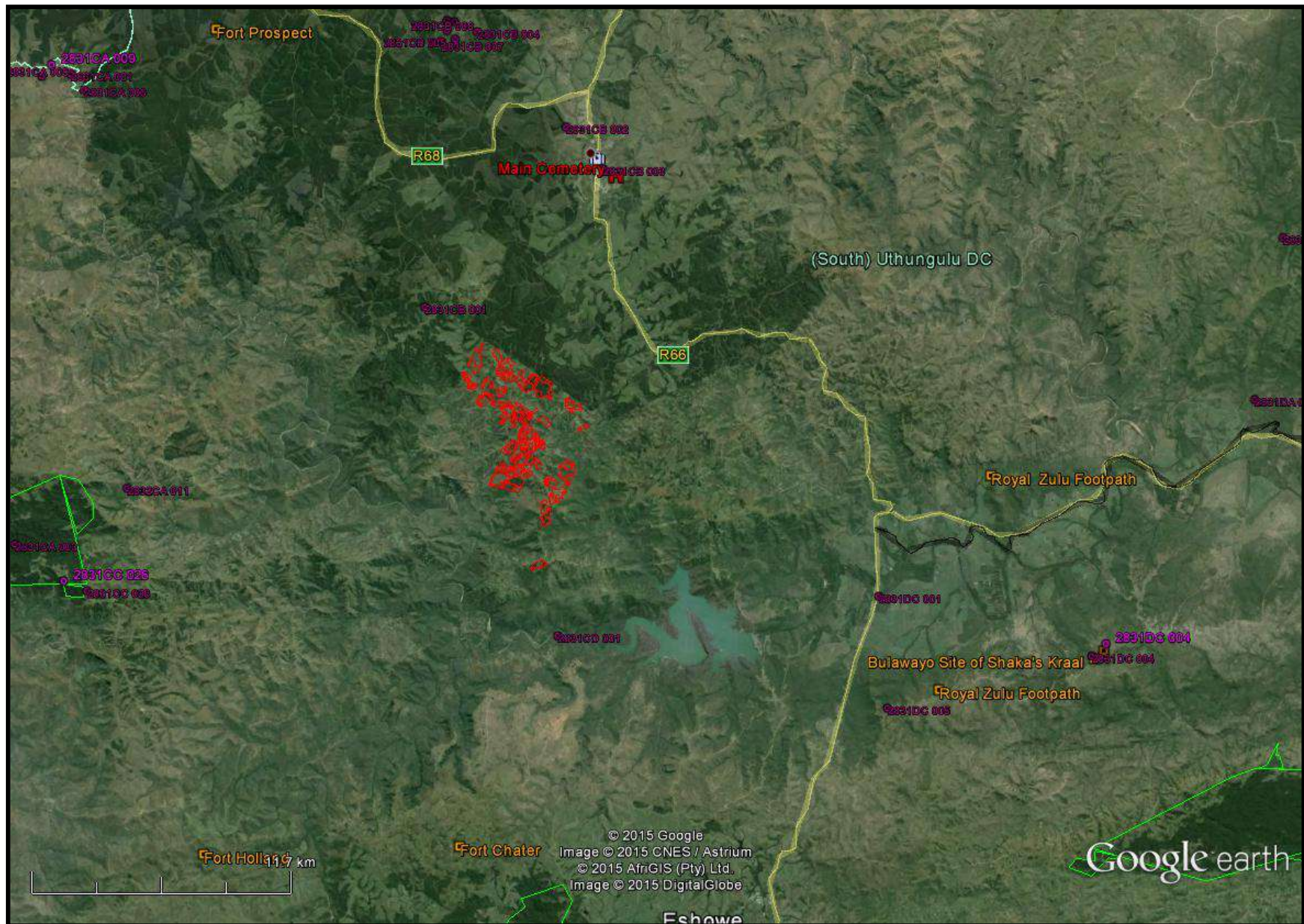




FIG. 5a: NORTHERN STUDY AREA IN 1937

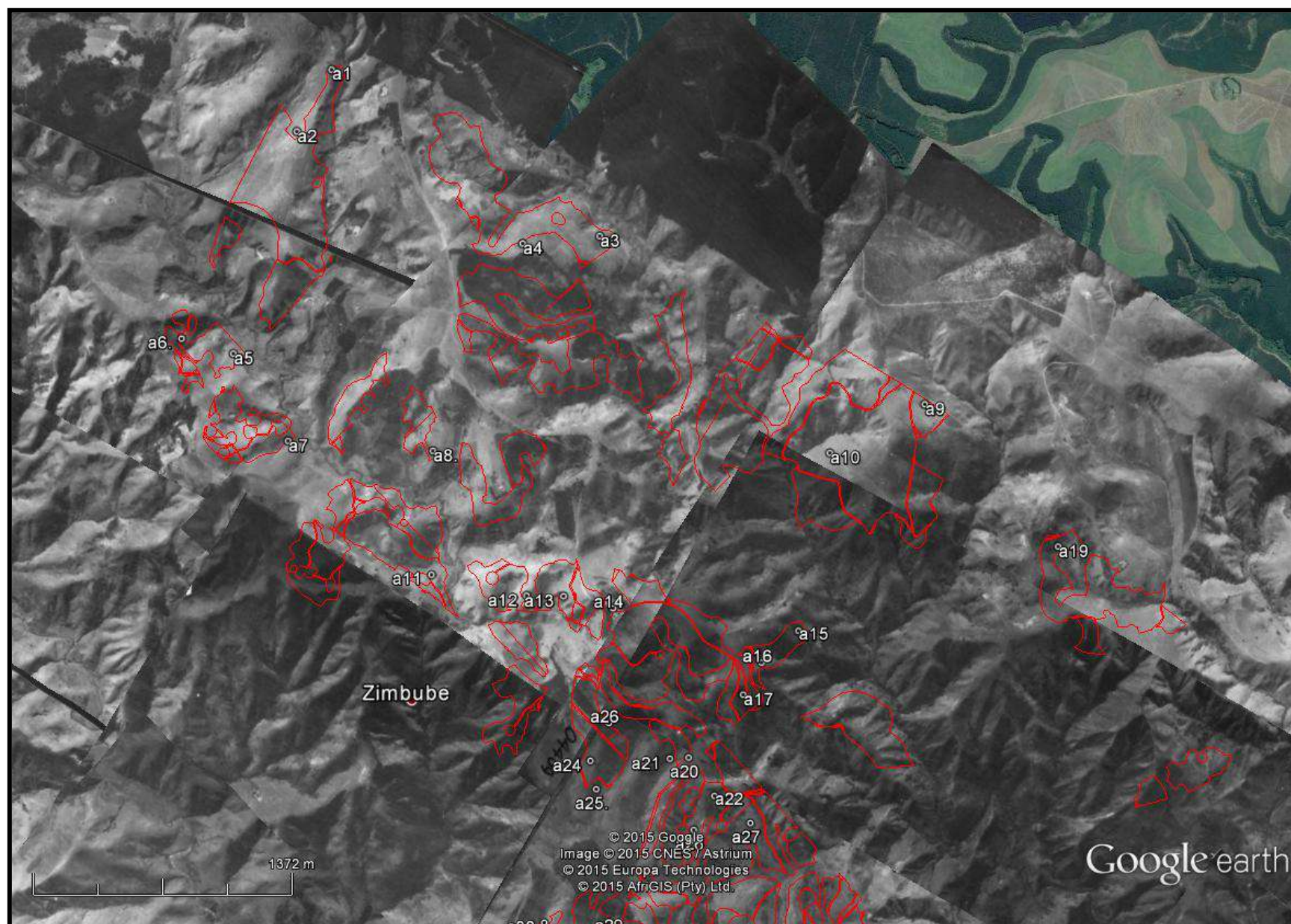




FIG. 5b: CENTRAL STUDY AREA IN 1937

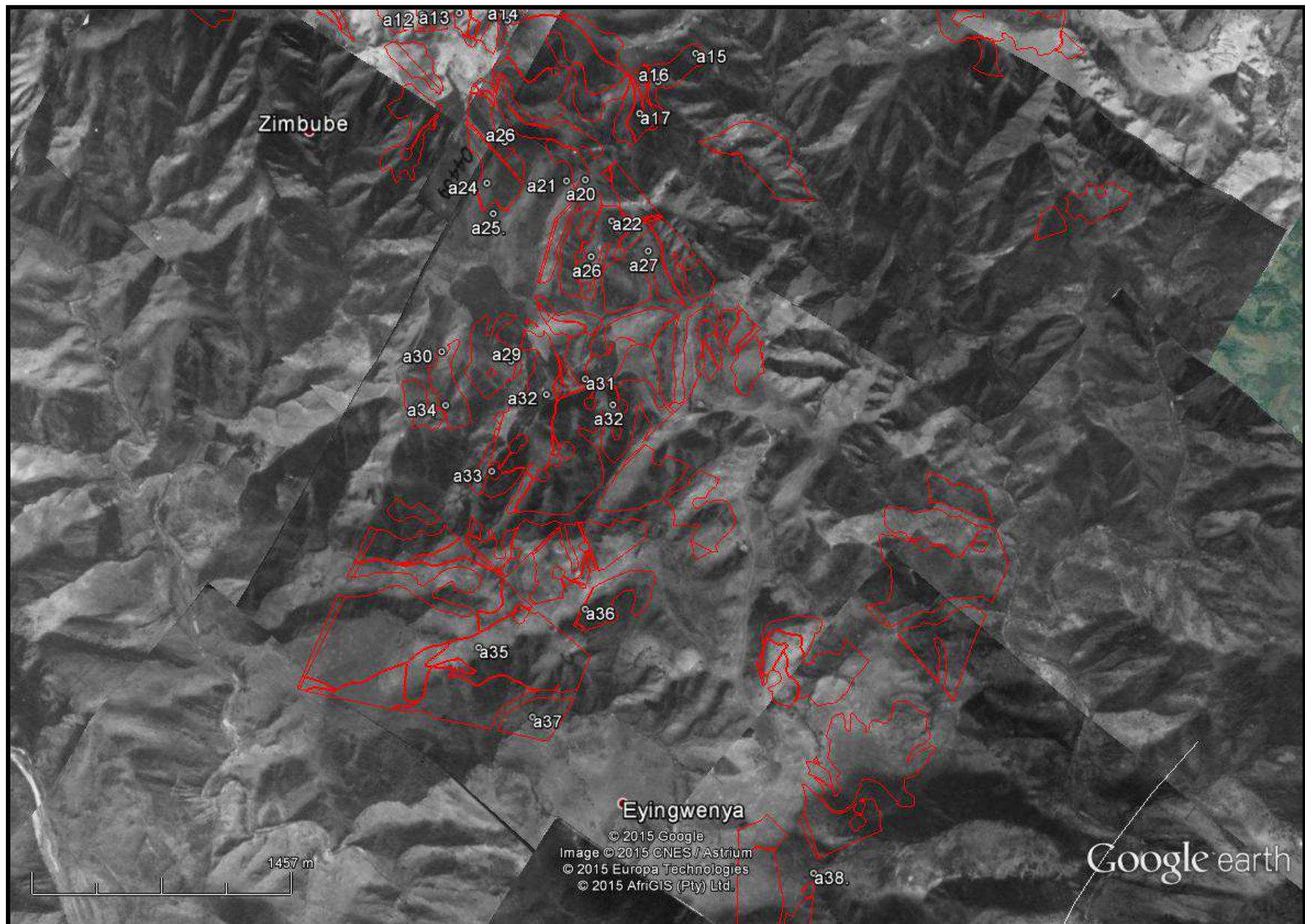




FIG. 5c: SOUTHERN STUDY AREA IN 1937

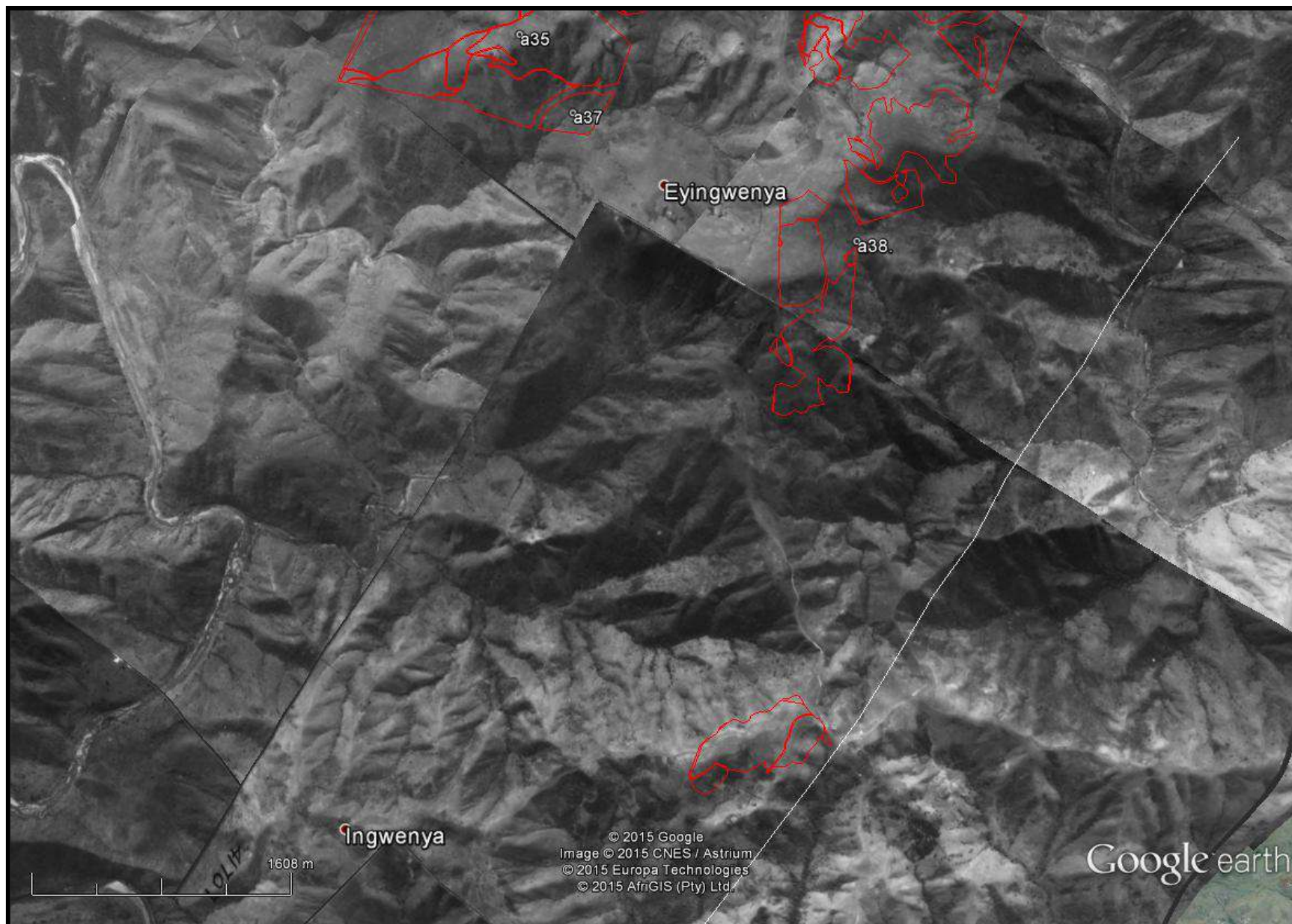
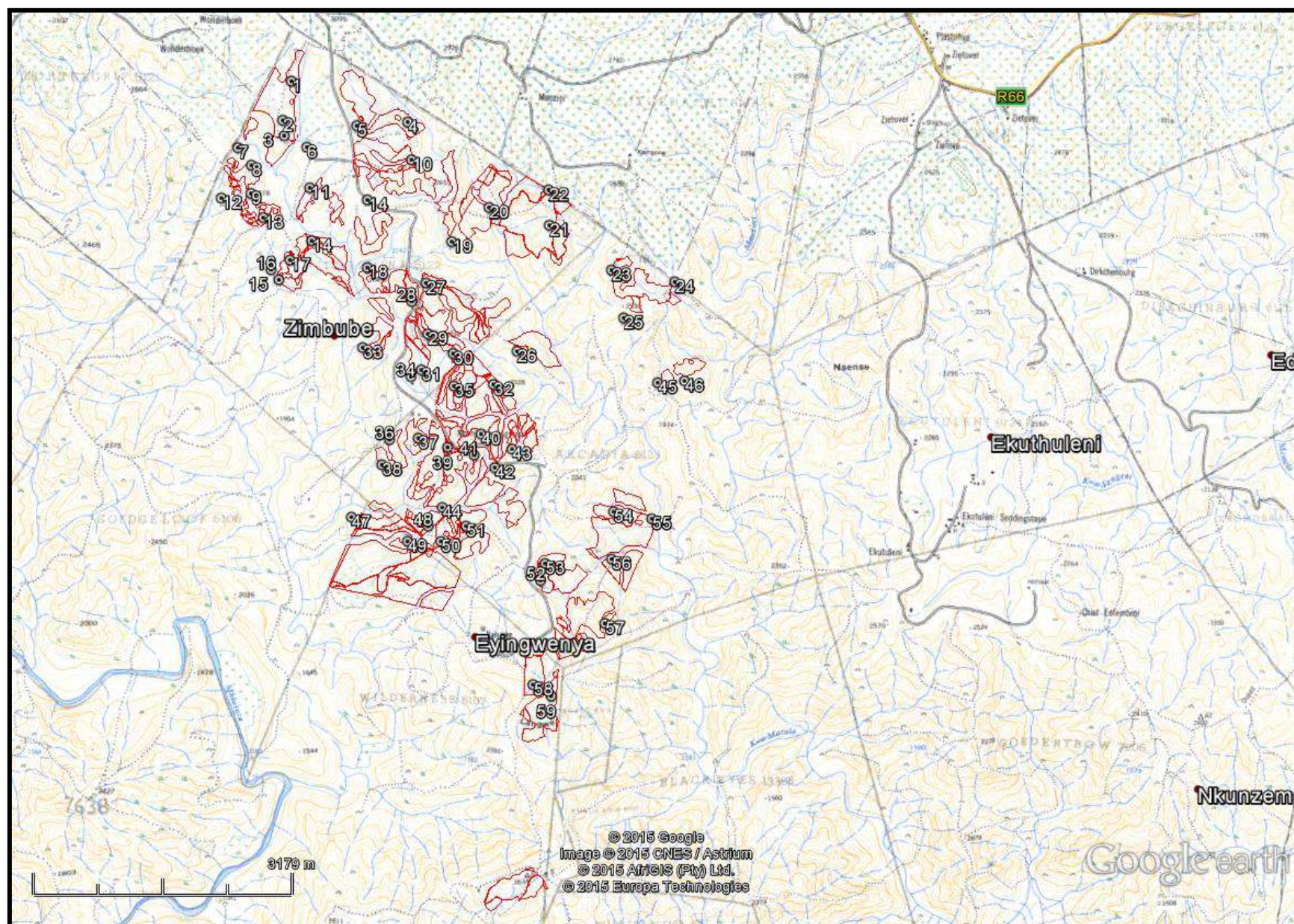




FIG. 6: STUDY AREA IN 1963





The 1937 aerial photographs (fig. 5a-c) indicated that there are 39 settlements in, or nearby, the various proposed afforestation plots. Most of these settlements have been built over by more recent settlements, or continually occupied. These settlements would have traditional burial practices with the graves either inside the house, main kraal, and/or in front of the kraal. Some of the sites are brick structures and could be original farmhouses. Table 1 lists the locations of these settlements.

The 1963 topographical map shows an increase in number of settlements in the study area (fig. 6). Few of these overlap with the 1937 sites, and some are currently still in use. Table 2 lists the locations of these settlements.

**TABLE 1: LOCATION OF SETTLEMENTS IN 1937**

NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESCRIPTION	Settlement occurs on 1963 map	Settlement occurs on 2009 Google Earth
a1	-28.653773709	31.344790517	Settlement	No	No
a2	-28.656580697	31.342902310	Settlement	No	No
a3	-28.661344031	31.358874235	Settlement	No	No
a4	-28.661753088	31.354810876	Settlement	No	Yes
a5	-28.666828558	31.339319527	Settlement	No	Possible
a6	-28.666152881	31.336662495	Settlement	No	No
a7	-28.670919009	31.342188284	Settlement	No	No
a8	-28.671384467	31.349931791	Settlement	No	Yes
a9	-28.669209029	31.376179111	Settlement	No	No
a10	-28.671478014	31.371233111	Settlement	No	No
a11	-28.677250391	31.349743368	Settlement	No	No
a12	-28.678211250	31.354912779	Settlement	No	Yes
a13	-28.678205986	31.356925409	Settlement	No	No
a14	-28.678740788	31.359580881	Settlement	No	Yes
a15	-28.679919483	31.369572580	Settlement	No	No
a16	-28.681376645	31.367551516	Settlement	No	No
a17	-28.682894237	31.366559941	Settlement	No	No
a19	-28.675892264	31.383474097	Settlement	No	No
a20	-28.685938504	31.363634777	Buildings	No	No
a21	-28.685979003	31.362620354	Settlement	No	No
a21	-28.687869438	31.365833398	Settlement	No	No
a22	-28.687832284	31.365042811	Settlement	No	No
a24	-28.686071819	31.358329246	Settlement	No	No
a25	-28.687467226	31.358633817	Settlement	Yes	No
a26	-28.684212330	31.359339432	buildings	No	Yes
a26	-28.689483398	31.363924642	Settlement	No	No
a27	-28.689177035	31.367012921	Settlement	No	No
a28	-28.689931871	31.363716889	Settlement	No	No
a29	-28.694417573	31.359532000	Settlement	Yes	No
a30	-28.693977638	31.355769074	Settlement	No	Yes

NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESCRIPTION	Settlement occurs on 1963 map	Settlement occurs on 2009 Google Earth
a31	-28.695285895	31.363587830	Buildings	No	Yes
a32	-28.696028374	31.361474281	Settlement	Yes	Yes
a32	-28.696512501	31.365086225	Settlement?	No	No
a33	-28.699695541	31.358378145	Settlement	No	Yes
a34	-28.696533504	31.355943672	Settlement	No	No
a35	-28.708222873	31.357658969	Settlement	No	No
a36	-28.706337224	31.363546432	Settlement	No	No
a37	-28.711758644	31.360531677	Settlement	No	No
a38	-28.718587980	31.375881667	Settlement	No	No
a39	-28.673028362	31.353180207	Settlement	No	Yes

TABLE 2: LOCATIONS OF SITES IN 1963

NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESCRIPTION	SETTLEMENT OCCURS ON THE 2009 GOOGLE EARTH MAP
1	-28.656733331	31.343985869	Settlement	No
2	-28.660802715	31.342881068	Settlement	No
3	-28.662375464	31.343001124	Settlement	No
4	-28.660969346	31.357883527	Settlement	No
5	-28.661461375	31.351863959	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
6	-28.663600530	31.345733954	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
7	-28.663642711	31.337424788	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
8	-28.665471833	31.339001833	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
9	-28.668470443	31.338981081	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
10	-28.664914545	31.358312108	Settlement	Yes
11	-28.667886238	31.346063713	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
12	-28.668896303	31.335296756	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
13	-28.671014789	31.340438621	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
14a	-28.669209353	31.353064887	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
14	-28.673414950	31.346186607	Settlement	No
15	-28.677463539	31.342052959	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
16	-28.676415661	31.341143561	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
17	-28.675466723	31.343591831	Settlement	No
18	-28.676216652	31.352832427	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
19	-28.673487428	31.363067545	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
20	-28.669783264	31.367513892	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
21	-28.671869175	31.374924443	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
22	-28.668104282	31.374812905	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
23	-28.676472251	31.382356035	Building	Yes: outside study area
24	-28.677656606	31.390024292	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
25	-28.681532812	31.383832033	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
26	-28.685043098	31.370863736	Settlement	No: outside study area
27	-28.677938101	31.360055357	2x buildings	No
28	-28.679873483	31.358327949	Building	No
29	-28.683284087	31.360193165	Buildings	No: under existing afforestation
30	-28.685327642	31.363181126	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
31	-28.687049637	31.359294782	Settlement	Yes: on border
32	-28.688576337	31.367982301	Settlement	No
33	-28.684634582	31.352092479	Settlement	No: outside study area
34	-28.687758965	31.358013272	Settlement	No: outside study area



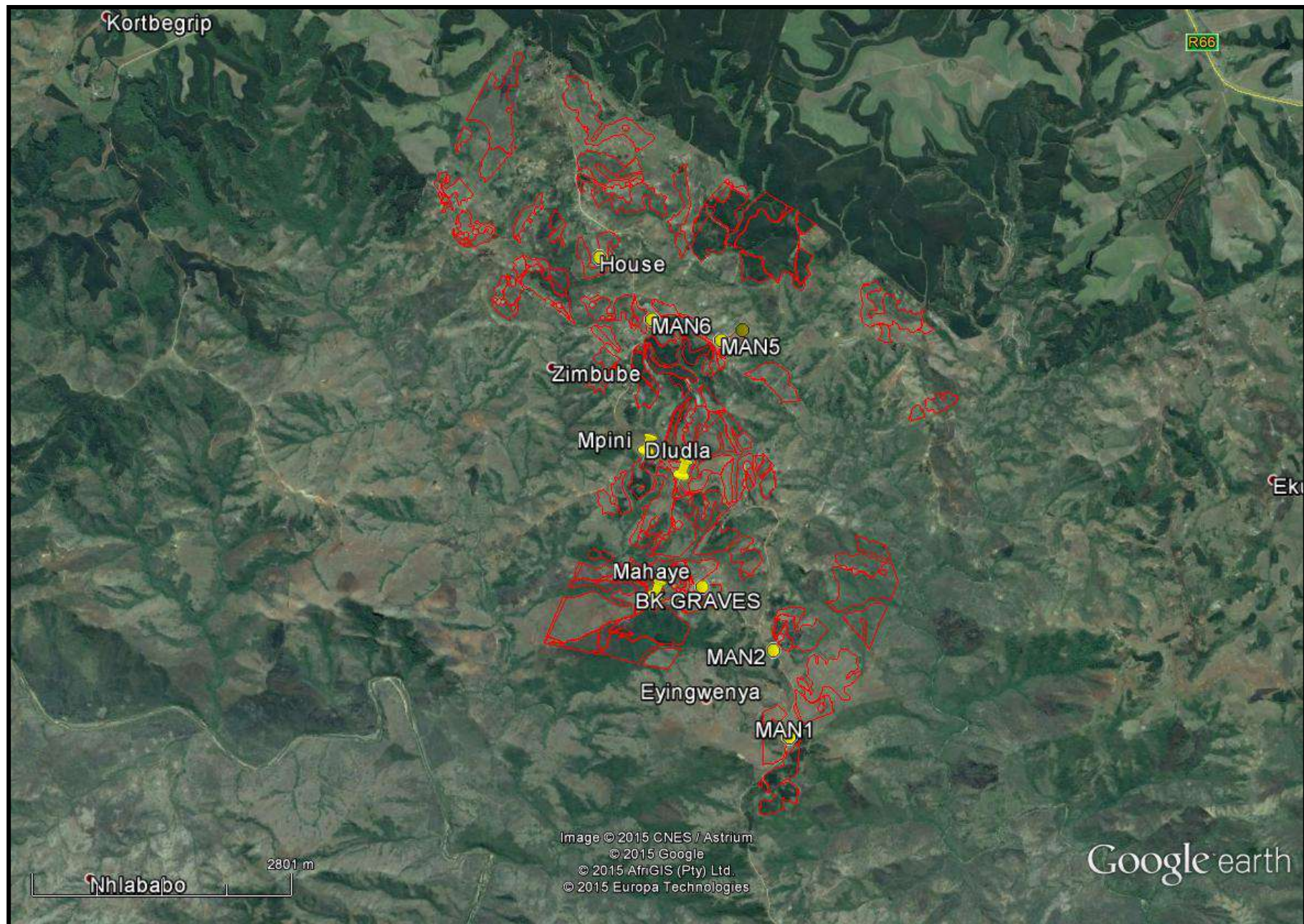
NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESCRIPTION	SETTLEMENT OCCURS ON THE 2009 GOOGLE EARTH MAP
35	-28.688741160	31.363206416	Settlement	Yes: on border
36	-28.694457086	31.355322017	Settlement	Yes: on border
37	-28.694296272	31.358815376	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation
38	-28.697143413	31.354304517	Settlement	No
39	-28.695277504	31.362388786	buildings (mission)	No
40	-28.693857732	31.366456112	buildings (mission)	Yes: on border
41	-28.696101914	31.365608769	Settlement	No
42	-28.697448664	31.368115030	Settlement	No: outside study area
43	-28.695469050	31.370233857	Settlement	No: outside study area
44	-28.701727188	31.361539757	Settlement	No: on border
45	-28.688338868	31.387944898	Settlement	No: outside study area
46	-28.688152921	31.391211068	Settlement	No: outside study area
47	-28.702800808	31.350177772	Settlement	No: outside study area
48	-28.703750415	31.359831054	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
49	-28.705373855	31.357285358	Settlement	No: on border
50	-28.705361152	31.361434893	Settlement	No
51	-28.703717201	31.364508936	Settlement	No
52	-28.709524816	31.373683536	Settlement	Yes: outside study area
53	-28.707702419	31.374198044	Settlement	No
54	-28.702199134	31.382533998	Settlement	No: outside study area
55	-28.702990476	31.387216491	Settlement	No
56	-28.707344617	31.382264769	Settlement	No: On border
57	-28.714096151	31.381510007	Settlement	No
58	-28.720455481	31.372896887	Settlement	No
59	-28.721658435	31.375098550	Settlement	No: under existing afforestation

All of the settlements listed in Table 1 and 2 have the potential to yield human remains as these tend to follow traditional living patterns. A 25m sensitivity buffer should be placed around the location of each site. This does not mean that afforestation may not occur in the area, rather that is should be noted as yielding potential human remains.

## FIELD SURVEY

The survey was undertaken in April 2015. A few heritage sites were observed during the survey, and some of the graves were already known. Figure 7 shows the location of these sites. Table 3 lists the locations and descriptions of the sites. Archaeological visibility was poor in many areas due to the long grass. Most of the afforestation occurs on slopes that would not be used for human occupation.

FIG. 7: LOCATION OF RECORDED HERITAGE SITES





Some sites just outside of the study area were recorded and noted. Settlements in and around an afforestation grouping was not noted as they are not affected. However, if graves and/or cemeteries were observed nearby these were recorded. No historical buildings will be affected – this includes the Missions. Most of the planned afforestation occurs on slopes not conducive for buildings and/or human settlements. Several areas are already under afforestation, and were ignored from the survey.

There are three types of graves in the study area. The first type is the more ornate graves have formal headstones and caskets and are easily visible. These tend to be more recent. The second type of grave consists of a mound of sand often demarcated with sticks (see BK Graves). This type of grave would disappear within 10 years, if not earlier. The third type of grave is the stone cairn (see MAN4). These graves are visible unless they have sunken below the surface and are covered with vegetation. The last two types of graves become 'invisible' very fast; hence the use of historical maps.

Many of the slopes have been terraced (recently) for agricultural purposes. These terraces would have damaged and/or destroyed any previous sites. Figure 8 shows some of the views of the study area. Some of the graves just outside of the study area are noted in the report.

**TABLE 3: LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF RECORDED SITES**

NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESC
<b>Mahaye</b>	-28.706872222	31.359416667	Graves
<b>Mpini</b>	-28.692741667	31.358444444	Graves: outside of footprint
<b>Dludla</b>	-28.695077778	31.362344444	Graves
<b>BK Graves</b>	-28.704753025	31.365146041	Graves
<b>House</b>	-28.672969015	31.353793005	Building A39
<b>MAN1</b>	-28.719041990	31.374666039	
<b>MAN2</b>	-28.710874999	31.373028969	
<b>MAN4</b>	-28.679853994	31.369509995	a15
<b>MAN5</b>	-28.680874994	31.367145963	a16?
<b>MAN6</b>	-28.678932991	31.359545002	

FIGURE 8: SCENIC VIEWS OF THE STUDY AREA





## Mahaye

The cemetery is the family graves from the Mahaye family. The graves are currently downslope of the house (fig. 9). The house does not appear on pre-1963 maps. The cemetery is currently within the boundaries of the afforestation area. The cemetery consists of 10+ graves of which some are formal, and others are mounds of sand.

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. : 9: MAHAYE FAMILY CEMETRITY**



## **Dludla**

The cemetery is the family graves from the family. The graves are currently downslope of the house (fig. 10). The house appears on the pre-1963 maps (site 39 from the desktop study). The cemetery is currently within the boundaries of the afforestation area. The cemetery consists of 10+ graves of which all are formal graves.

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 10: MPINI FAMILY CEMETERY**





### **Mfanefile School Cemetery**

The cemetery is located a few meters southwest of the Mfanile School. The graves are next to two more recent buildings and probably relate to the site of a26 from the desktop study. The graves are formal constructions and appear to be at least older than 50 years. The graves are surrounded by existing afforestation and fall just outside of the planned footprint.

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 11: GRAVES AT MFANILE SCHOOL**



## WILHELMINA HOUSE

The house is on the Erf Wilhelmina 6122, and might be related to the original farmhouse. The house occurs on the 1937 aerial photographs (site a39), but it was omitted from the 1963 topographical map. The house is in a poor state, although the original outer walls appear to be in good condition. The area is just outside of the afforestation footprint. The house is protected by the heritage legislation as it is over 60 years in age.

**Significance:** To be assessed if affected.

**Mitigation:** The house will need to be assessed by an architect historian if affected.

**SAHRA Rating:** N/A

**FIG. 12: WILHELMINA HOUSE**





## **MAN01**

MAN01 is located on a small hill near the road and near the border of the afforestation footprint. The buildings might occur on the 1937 aerial photographs; however, it is not clear. The buildings do not occur on the 1963 topographical map, but do occur on the 1981 map. The houses consist of stone blocks from below the hill, with some form of plaster. The main house is rectangular and has a buttress along the western side (fig. 13). The second house is circular in shape. Both houses are in ruin with vegetation inside the buildings. There is a small connecting wall between the two buildings.

**Significance:** To be assessed if affected.

**Mitigation:** The house will need to be assessed by an architect historian if affected.

**SAHRA Rating:** N/A

## **MAN02**

The cemetery at MAN02 occurs near the footprint of the afforestation. There are ~13 formal graves below the house (fig. 14)

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG.13: BUILDINGS AT MAN01**



**FIG. 14: CEMETERY AT MAN02**





### MAN03

The cemetery is located on the side of the road. The site is named after the initials of female who runs this section of the footprint. The site consists of at least four graves. The graves mounds are made shallow stone cairns covered with sand. Two graves are surrounded by wooden poles while three mounds have no demarcation (fig. 15).

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 15: GRAVES AT MAN03**



## MAN04

MAN04 is located on a spur near the base of the main hill. The site could be related to site a15 on the 1937 aerial photographs. The site consists of the foundations of four to six houses and several fruit trees (fig. 14). Most of the area is overgrown with vegetation; however there has been some recent clearing activity on the hill. One of these activities has exposed a small mound of stone that could be a grave and a small headstone (fig. 15). The possible grave should be treated as a grave until proven otherwise. More graves could on this site. The site occurs within the afforestation footprint.

**Significance:** The grave is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the grave and the afforestation footprint. I suggest the vegetation is cleared before afforestation and the site be re-assessed for more graves.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 14: GENERAL VIEW OF MAN04**





FIG. 15: POSSIBLE GRAVE AT MAN04



## MAN05

MAN05 occurs on the same spur as MAN04, and 200m to the west. The site consists of three to four house foundations, and some sisal plants and fruit trees (fig. 16). The settlement may relate to the site a16 from the aerial photographs. The area was vegetated and I did not observe any graves. The site occurs within the afforestation footprint.

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** I suggest the vegetation is cleared before afforestation and the site be re-assessed for graves.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 16: GENERAL VIEW OF MAN05**





## MAN06

The cemetery is to the west of a house that is probably initially related to the site a16 from the 1937 aerial photographs. (fig. 17). The more recent built house does not appear on pre-1981 maps. The house and cemetery occur between two afforestation footprints, and will not be directly affected.

**Significance:** The cemetery is of high significance

**Mitigation:** There needs to be a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery and the afforestation footprint.

**SAHRA Rating:** 3A

**FIG. 17: CEMETERY AT MAN06**



## MANAGEMENT PLAN

The desktop survey indicated that there are several older settlements in the general area and specifically in the various afforestation footprints. A few of these were noted during the survey. Many of these settlements were not visible due to the vegetation, current afforestation, or poor preservation of the settlements and/or graves. Most of these settlements from the desktop would contain human remains, but there is no indication as to the degree of preservation of the human remains, and if any graves still exist. It is for this reason that all sites noted on the desktop study should have a 50m radius around them and marked as sensitive for possible human remains. This does not mean that afforestation may not occur in the area; rather that the landowner should be made aware of the possibility of human remains in the area. If human remains are uncovered during the course of the initial stages of afforestation, then the SAPS and Amafa KZN need to be informed immediately.

All recorded sites, graves and cemeteries require a 20m buffer between the edge of the cemetery/grave and the edge of the afforestation footprint. The site needs to be clearly demarcated if any construction activity occurs within 50m of the site.

The area at MAN04 and MAN05 needs to be cleared of vegetation before any afforestation occurs. The needs then to be resurveyed for human remains and the appropriate buffers placed around the graves. People from the nearby houses may be asked about the location of these graves. The alternative is that this specific spur is omitted from afforestation.

The owner of each settlement where afforestation will occur should be approached regarding the location of known graves. The 20m buffer should be placed accordingly around these sites.



## CONCLUSION

A heritage survey was undertaken for Mfanefile Community Timber Trust, at Mfaneline, 10km southwest of Melmoth. KwaZulu-Natal. The afforestation occurs over several plots of land. Most of the area has already been disturbed by previous afforestation, ploughing and/or terracing, and sugar cane farming. Much of the proposed footprint occurs in areas that are too steep for human occupation.

The desktop study showed that several settlements occurred in the afforestation footprint in 1937 and 1963. Many of these no longer exist, or have been built upon by newer settlements. These areas should be demarcated as sensitive for possible human remains during the planning phase. Given the nature of afforestation it is unlikely that the graves will be exposed.

There are a few graves on the borders of the afforestation footprint and the footprint will need to be moved accordingly. The norm is for a 20m buffer to occur between the grave and the footprint.

No buildings will be affected by the proposed afforestation.

No further heritage management beyond that of the management plan is required for this project.