

Re-alignment of the National Route 5, Section 4 between km 7.8 and km 9.9, and the construction of a new bridge over the Tom Schutte Spruit, Senekal District: Phase 2 rescue of a Later Stone Age open site by means of surface collection.

The site consists of Later Stone Age stone tool scatter located on an eroded alluvial outcrop, approximately 50 m from the eastern bank of the Tom Schutte Spruit, next of N5 national road. The assemblage represents an *ex situ* lag deposit as a result of long-term surface erosion and has undergone some degree of postdepositional disturbance (vertical and horizontal displacement), but it appears to be relatively well-preserved regardless. The overall distribution of the artifacts is tightly focussed with a spread of about 10 m². The occurrence is in accordance with a single and time restricted, occupation event. A phase 2 rescue of the archaeological material will involve the following steps:

Recording and Surface Collection

To assist with surface recording and collection of artifacts, the locality will be mapped in detail by means of a standard gridline as well as a prism theodolite (Nikon DTM – 332 Total Station). The gridline will be subdivided into nine 1 m² squares and each square will be numbered. All the stone tools will be systematically collected from the surface after it has been plotted with the total station. Topsoil will be sieved for archaeological material smaller than 5mm in length. Digital cameras will be used to record the fieldwork.

Curation

The collection will be stored at the National Museum in Bloemfontein. It will meet the National Museum's required standards for submission of archaeological materials. Artifacts will be labeled in such a way that the site and intrasite provenience data are retrievable. The National Museum will provide a site code and all artifacts will be labeled with the site code followed by a unique number for each artefact. The collection will be stored in zipper-type polyethylene bags in standard-sized storage containers (450x320x190mm). Each container will be marked in pencil with the following minimum information, including Site name, Material or artefact class, Provenience, Accession

numbers of the various artefacts within, and Date. The material will be made available for research purposes after it has been fully accessioned.