HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 38(8) OF THE NHRA (No. 25 OF 1999)

FOR THE PROPOSED SYDENHAM MINING PERMIT, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Type of development:

Mining

Client:

Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Developer:

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APPROVAL PAGE

Project Name	Sydenham Mining Permit	
Report Title	Heritage Impact Assessment for Sydenham 445 Mining Permit, Free State Province	
Authority Reference Number	ТВС	
Report Status	Draft Report	
Applicant Name	Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd	

	Name	Qualifications and Certifications	Date
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		APHP #114	
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DOCUMENT PROGRESS

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Amendments on Document

Date	Report Reference Number	Description of Amendment



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REPORT OUTLINE

Appendix 6 of the GNR 326 EIA Regulations published on 7 April 2017 provides the requirements for specialist reports undertaken as part of the environmental authorisation process. In line with this, Table 1 provides an overview of Appendix 6 together with information on how these requirements have been met.

Table 1.	Specialist	Report	Requ	uirements.

Requirement from Appendix 6 of GN 326 EIA Regulation 2017	Chapter
(a) Details of -	Section a
(i) the specialist who prepared the report; and	Section 12
(ii) the expertise of that specialist to compile a specialist report including a	
curriculum vitae	
(b) Declaration that the specialist is independent in a form as may be specified by the	Declaration of
competent authority	Independence
(c) Indication of the scope of, and the purpose for which, the report was prepared	Section 1
(cA)an indication of the quality and age of base data used for the specialist report	Section 3.4 and 7.1.
(cB) a description of existing impacts on the site, cumulative impacts of the proposed	9
development and levels of acceptable change;	
(d) Duration, Date and season of the site investigation and the relevance of the season	Section 3.4
to the outcome of the assessment	
(e) Description of the methodology adopted in preparing the report or carrying out the	Section 3
specialised process inclusive of equipment and modelling used	
(f) details of an assessment of the specific identified sensitivity of the site related to	Section 8 and 9
the proposed activity or activities and its associated structures and infrastructure,	
inclusive of site plan identifying site alternatives;	
(g) Identification of any areas to be avoided, including buffers	Section 8 and 9
(h) Map superimposing the activity including the associated structures and	Section 8
infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the site including areas to be	
avoided, including buffers	
(I) Description of any assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge	Section 3.7
(j) a description of the findings and potential implications of such findings on the impact	Section 9
of the proposed activity including identified alternatives on the environment or	
activities;	
(k) Mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr	Section 10
(I) Conditions for inclusion in the environmental authorisation	Section 10
(m) Monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr or environmental authorisation	Section 10
(n) Reasoned opinion -	Section 10.2
(i) as to whether the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof should be	
authorised;	
(iA) regarding the acceptability of the proposed activity or activities; and	
(ii) if the opinion is that the proposed activity, activities or portions thereof	
should be authorised, any avoidance, management and mitigation measures	
that should be included in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan	
(o) Description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of	Section 6
preparing the specialist report	
(p) A summary and copies of any comments received during any consultation process	Refer to BA report
and where applicable all responses thereto; and	
(q) Any other information requested by the competent authority	Section 11



Executive Summary

Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd were appointed to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) process for the proposed Mining Permit located on The Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445, approximately ±10 km south of Bloemfontein. HCAC was appointed to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the project and the study area was assessed on desktop level and by a field survey. The area is currently mined, and the permit is for the extension of the existing activities for an area of 5 hectares. The field survey was conducted as a non-intrusive pedestrian survey to cover the extent of the mining permit. Key findings of the assessment include:

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- The area is frequented by loiterers and is characterised by temporary shelters for homeless people as well as the remnants of fires and discarded rubbish. The increased influx of people in the study area result in features that are difficult to assign to time periods. Three areas of interest were identified and finds were limited to Stone Cairns (Feature 1), a small stone enclosure (Feature 2) and incisions/scratches on the dolerite boulders (Feature 3).
- No burial sites or graves were recorded however, if any graves are identified in future they should ideally be preserved *in-situ* or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation;
- In terms of the palaeontological component, the area is indicated as of insignificant to very high palaeontological sensitivity on SAHRIS and an independent study was conducted for this aspect (Bamford 2020). Since there is a small chance that fossils could be discovered once quarrying activities commence, a Fossil Chance Find Protocol should be added to the EMPr.
- The impact of the project on heritage resources is considered to be low and it is recommended that the proposed project can commence on the condition that the following recommendations are implemented as part of the EMPr and based on approval from SAHRA:

Recommendations:

- The social consultation team should confirm whether Feature 1 could be part of an initiation site.
- At Feature 2 vegetation clearing must be done under supervision of an archaeologist to determine the extent of the feature. The feature must be mapped and if necessary, a destruction permit applied for.
- Implementation of a chance find procedure as outlined in Section 10.2.



Declaration of Independence

Specialist Name	Jaco van der Walt
Declaration of Independence	 I declare, as a specialist appointed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 108 of 1998) and the associated 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, that I: I act as the independent specialist in this application; I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant; I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work; I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity; I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation; I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity; I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority; All the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.
	flalt.
Date	09/12/2020

a) Expertise of the specialist

Jaco van der Walt has been practising as a CRM archaeologist for 15 years. He obtained an MA degree in Archaeology from the University of the Witwatersrand focussing on the Iron Age in 2012 and is a PhD candidate at the University of Johannesburg focussing on Stone Age Archaeology with specific interest in the Middle Stone Age (MSA) and Later Stone Age (LSA). Jaco is an accredited member of ASAPA (#159) and have conducted more than 500 impact assessments in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, Free State, Gauteng, KZN as well as he Northern and Eastern Cape Provinces in South Africa.

Jaco has worked on various international projects in Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Lesotho, DRC Zambia and Tanzania. Through this, he has a sound understanding of the IFC Performance Standard requirements, with specific reference to Performance Standard 8 – Cultural Heritage.



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ABBREVIATIONS

AIA: Archaeological Impact Assessment
ASAPA: Association of South African Professional Archaeologists
BGG Burial Ground and Graves
BIA: Basic Impact Assessment
CFPs: Chance Find Procedures
CMP: Conservation Management Plan
CRR: Comments and Response Report
CRM: Cultural Resource Management
DEA: Department of Environmental Affairs
EA: Environmental Authorisation
EAP: Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECO: Environmental Control Officer
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment*
EIA: Early Iron Age*
EIA Practitioner: Environmental Impact Assessment Practitioner
EMP: Environmental Management Programme
ESA: Early Stone Age
ESIA: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
GIS Geographical Information System
GPS: Global Positioning System
GRP Grave Relocation Plan
HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment
LIA: Late Iron Age
LSA: Late Stone Age
MEC: Member of the Executive Council
MIA: Middle Iron Age
MPRDA: Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act
MSA: Middle Stone Age
NEMA National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)
NHRA National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999)
NID Notification of Intent to Develop
NoK Next-of-Kin
PRHA: Provincial Heritage Resource Agency
SADC: Southern African Development Community

*Although EIA refers to both Environmental Impact Assessment and the Early Iron Age both are internationally accepted abbreviations and must be read and interpreted in the context it is used.

GLOSSARY

Archaeological site (remains of human activity over 100 years old) 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) The Iron Age (~ AD 400 to 1840) Historic (~ AD 1840 to 1950) Historic building (over 60 years old)



1 Introduction and Terms of Reference:

HCAC is contracted by Greenmined Environmental (Pty) Ltd to conduct a HIA of the proposed mining permit located on the Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445, Registration Division of Bloemfontein RD, Free State province (Figure 1-1 to 1-3). The report forms part of the Basic Assessment (BA) and Environmental Management Programme Report (EMPr) for the development.

The aim of the study is to survey the proposed development footprint to identify cultural heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within local, provincial and national context. It serves to assess the impact of the proposed project on non-renewable heritage resources, and to submit appropriate recommendations with regard to the responsible cultural resources management measures that might be required to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner. It is also conducted to protect, preserve and develop such resources within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999). The report outlines the approach and methodology utilized before and during the survey, which includes: Phase 1, review of relevant literature; Phase 2, the physical surveying of the area on foot and by vehicle; Phase 3, reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey circular stone enclosures, stone cairns of a recent nature but unknown purpose and scratch marks on dolerite rocks were recorded. General site conditions and features on sites were recorded by means of photographs, GPS locations and site descriptions. Possible impacts were identified and mitigation measures are proposed in the following report. SAHRA as a commenting authority under section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) require all environmental documents, compiled in support of an Environmental Authorisation application as defined by NEMA EIA Regulations section 40 (1) and (2), to be submitted to SAHRA. As such the Basic Assessment report and its appendices must be submitted to the case as well as the EMPr, once it's completed by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

1.1 Terms of Reference

Field study

Conduct a field study to: (a) locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points of sites/areas identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources affected by the proposed development.

Reporting

Report on the identification of anticipated and cumulative impacts the operational units of the proposed project activity may have on the identified heritage resources for all 3 phases of the project; i.e., construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Consider alternatives, should any significant sites be impacted adversely by the proposed project. Ensure that all studies and results comply with the relevant legislation, SAHRA minimum standards and the code of ethics and guidelines of ASAPA.

To assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, and to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999).



1.2 Project Description

HIA – Sydenham Mining Permit

The project comprises a mining permit application as described in Table 2 and 3.

Table 2: Project Description

Farm and portions	5 ha on the Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445,
	Registration Division of Bloemfontein, Free State province
Magisterial District	Mangaung Municipality
Central co-ordinate of the development	29°11'53.79"S
	26°11'45.41"E

Table 3: Infrastructure and project activities

Type of development	Mining Permit		
Size of development	5 hectares		
Project Components	The mining activities will consist out of the following:		
	 Stripping and stockpiling of topsoil; 		
	Excavating; Crushing;		
	 Stockpiling and transporting; 		
	 Sloping and landscaping upon closure of the site; 		
	 and Replacing the topsoil and vegetation the disturbed area. 		
	The mining site will contain the following:		
	Excavating equipment; Earth moving equipment:		
	Earth moving equipment;		
	 Mobile crushing and screening plants; Access Roads; 		
	Site office (Container);		
	Site vehicles;		
	 Parking area for visitors and site vehicles; 		
	Weighbridge;		
	Ablution facilities (Chemical toilet).		

1.3 Alternatives

No alternatives were provided for assessment.







Figure 1-1. Regional setting (1: 250 000 topographical map).







Figure 1-2: Local setting (1:50 000 topographical map).



December 2020



Figure 1-3. Aerial image of the proposed impact area.



2 Legislative Requirements

The HIA, as a specialist sub-section of the EIA, is required under the following legislation:

- National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), Act No. 25 of 1999)
- National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998 Section 23(2)(b)
- Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA), Act No. 28 of 2002 Section 39(3)(b)(iii)

A Phase 1 HIA is a pre-requisite for development in South Africa as prescribed by SAHRA and stipulated by legislation. The overall purpose of heritage specialist input is to:

- Identify any heritage resources, which may be affected;
- Assess the nature and degree of significance of such resources;
- Establish heritage informants/constraints to guide the development process through establishing thresholds of impact significance;
- · Assess the negative and positive impact of the development on these resources; and
- Make recommendations for the appropriate heritage management of these impacts.

The HIA should be submitted, as part of the impact assessment report or EMPr, to the PHRA if established in the province or to SAHRA. SAHRA will ultimately be responsible for the professional evaluation of Phase 1 AIA reports upon which review comments will be issued. 'Best practice' requires Phase 1 AIA reports and additional development information, as per the impact assessment report and/or EMPr, to be submitted in duplicate to SAHRA after completion of the study. SAHRA accepts Phase 1 AIA reports authored by professional archaeologists, accredited with ASAPA or with a proven ability to do archaeological work.

Minimum accreditation requirements include an Honours degree in archaeology or related discipline and 3 years postuniversity CRM experience (field supervisor level). Minimum standards for reports, site documentation and descriptions are set by ASAPA in collaboration with SAHRA. ASAPA is based in South Africa, representing professional archaeology in the SADC region. ASAPA is primarily involved in the overseeing of ethical practice and standards regarding the archaeological profession. Membership is based on proposal and secondment by other professional members.

Phase 1 AIA's are primarily concerned with the location and identification of heritage sites situated within a proposed development area. Identified sites should be assessed according to their significance. Relevant conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations should be made. Recommendations are subject to evaluation by SAHRA.

Conservation or Phase 2 mitigation recommendations, as approved by SAHRA, are to be used as guidelines in the developer's decision-making process.

Phase 2 archaeological projects are primarily based on salvage/mitigation excavations preceding development destruction or impact on a site. Phase 2 excavations can only be conducted with a permit, issued by SAHRA to the appointed archaeologist. Permit conditions are prescribed by SAHRA and includes (as minimum requirements) reporting back strategies to SAHRA and deposition of excavated material at an accredited repository.

In the event of a site conservation option being preferred by the developer, a site management plan, prepared by a professional archaeologist and approved by SAHRA, will suffice as minimum requirement.

After mitigation of a site, a destruction permit must be applied for with SAHRA by the applicant before development may proceed.



HIA – Sydenham Mining Permit

Human remains older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, with reference to Section 36. Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of SAHRA. The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36[5]) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in this age category, located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority is not situated inside a formal cemetery, but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws, set by the cemetery authority, must be adhered to.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are protected under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance No. 7 of 1925), as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning; or in some cases, the MEC for Housing and Welfare. Authorisation for exhumation and reinternment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. To handle and transport human remains, the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Literature Review

A brief survey of available literature was conducted to extract data and information on the area in question to provide general heritage context into which the development would be set. This literature search included published material, unpublished commercial reports and online material, including reports sourced from the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS).

3.2 Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments

Google Earth and 1:50 000 maps of the area were utilised to identify possible places where sites of heritage significance might be located; these locations were marked and visited during the fieldwork phase. The database of the Genealogical Society was consulted to collect data on any known graves in the area.

3.3 Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement:

Stakeholder engagement is a key component of any BAR process, it involves stakeholders interested in, or affected by the proposed development. Stakeholders are provided with an opportunity to raise issues of concern (for the purposes of this report only heritage related issues will be included). The aim of the public consultation process was to capture and address any issues raised by community members and other stakeholders during key stakeholder and public meetings. The process involved:

- Placement of advertisements and site notices
- Stakeholder notification (through the dissemination of information and meeting invitations);
- Stakeholder meetings undertaken with I&APs;
- Authority Consultation
- The compilation of a Basic Assessment Report (BAR).



3.4 Site Investigation

Conduct a field study to: a) systematically survey the proposed project area to locate, identify, record, photograph and describe sites of archaeological, historical or cultural interest; b) record GPS points of sites/areas identified as significant areas; c) determine the levels of significance of the various types of heritage resources recorded in the project area.

Table 4: Site Investigation Details

	Site Investigation
Date	7 December 2020
Season	Summer- Archaeological visibility was low due to the high level of disturbance and vegetation cover throughout the study area. The area was sufficiently covered to understand the heritage character of the study area (Figure 3-1).





Figure 3-1: Tracklog of the survey in green.



3.5 Site Significance and Field Rating

Section 3 of the NHRA distinguishes nine criteria for places and objects to qualify as 'part of the national estate' if they have cultural significance or other special value. These criteria are:

- Its importance in/to the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.

The presence and distribution of heritage resources define a 'heritage landscape'. In this landscape, every site is relevant. In addition, because heritage resources are non-renewable, heritage surveys need to investigate an entire project area, or a representative sample, depending on the nature of the project. In the case of the proposed project the local extent of its impact necessitates a representative sample and only the footprint of the areas demarcated for development were surveyed. In all initial investigations, however, the specialists are responsible only for the identification of resources visible on the surface. This section describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The following criteria were used to establish site significance with cognisance of Section 3 of the NHRA:

- The unique nature of a site;
- The integrity of the archaeological/cultural heritage deposits;
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site;
- The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features;
- The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined/is known);
- The preservation condition of the sites; and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

In addition to this criteria field ratings prescribed by SAHRA (2006), and acknowledged by ASAPA for the SADC region, were used for the purpose of this report. The recommendations for each site should be read in conjunction with section 10 of this report.



FIELD RATING	GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	RECOMMENDED
			MITIGATION
National Significance (NS)	Grade 1	-	Conservation; national site
			nomination
Provincial Significance (PS)	Grade 2	-	Conservation; provincial site
			nomination
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3A	High significance	Conservation; mitigation not
			advised
Local Significance (LS)	Grade 3B	High significance	Mitigation (part of site should
			be retained)
Generally Protected A (GP.	-	High/medium	Mitigation before destruction
A)		significance	
Generally Protected B (GP.	-	Medium significance	Recording before destruction
B)			
Generally Protected C (GP.C)	-	Low significance	Destruction

Table 5. Heritage significance and field ratings

3.6 Impact Assessment Methodology

The criteria below are used to establish the impact rating on sites:

- The **nature**, which shall include a description of what causes the effect, what will be affected and how it will be affected.
- The **extent**, wherein it will be indicated whether the impact will be local (limited to the immediate area or site of development) or regional, and a value between 1 and 5 will be assigned as appropriate (with 1 being low and 5 being high):
- The duration, wherein it will be indicated whether:
 - * the lifetime of the impact will be of a very short duration (0-1 years), assigned a score of 1;
 - * the lifetime of the impact will be of a short duration (2-5 years), assigned a score of 2;
 - * medium-term (5-15 years), assigned a score of 3;
 - long term (> 15 years), assigned a score of 4; or
 - * permanent, assigned a score of 5;
 - The **magnitude**, quantified on a scale from 0-10 where; 0 is small and will have no effect on the environment, 2 is minor and will not result in an impact on processes, 4 is low and will cause a slight impact on processes, 6 is moderate and will result in processes continuing but in a modified way, 8 is high (processes are altered to the extent that they temporarily cease), and 10 is very high and results in complete destruction of patterns and permanent cessation of processes.
 - The **probability of occurrence**, which shall describe the likelihood of the impact actually occurring. Probability will be estimated on a scale of 1-5 where; 1 is very improbable (probably will not happen), 2 is improbable (some possibility, but low likelihood), 3 is probable (distinct possibility), 4 is highly probable (most likely) and 5 is definite (impact will occur regardless of any prevention measures).
 - The **significance**, which shall be determined through a synthesis of the characteristics described above and can be assessed as low, medium or high; and
 - the **status**, which will be described as either positive, negative or neutral.
 - the degree to which the impact can be reversed.
 - the degree to which the impact may cause irreplaceable loss of resources.
 - the *degree* to which the impact can be mitigated.



The **significance** is calculated by combining the criteria in the following formula:

S=(E+D+M) P

- S = Significance weighting
- E = Extent
- D = Duration
- M = Magnitude
- P = Probability

The significance weightings for each potential impact are as follows:

- < 30 points: Low (i.e., where this impact would not have a direct influence on the decision to develop in the area),
- 30-60 points: Medium (i.e., where the impact could influence the decision to develop in the area unless it is effectively mitigated),
- 60 points: High (i.e., where the impact must have an influence on the decision process to develop in the area).

3.7 Limitations and Constraints of the study

The authors acknowledge that the brief literature review is not exhaustive on the literature of the area. Due to the nature of heritage resources, the possibility exists that some features or artefacts may not have been discovered/recorded during the survey and the possible occurrence of graves and other cultural material cannot be excluded. Similarly, the depth of the deposit of heritage sites cannot be accurately determined due its subsurface nature. This report only deals with the footprint area of the proposed development and consisted of non-intrusive surface surveys. This study did not assess the impact on medicinal plants and intangible heritage as it is assumed that these components would have been highlighted through the public consultation process if relevant. It is possible that new information could come to light in future, which might change the results of this Impact Assessment.

4 Description of Socio Economic Environmental

According to StatsSA Mangaung has a population of 747 431, of which 83,3% are black African, 11,0% are white, 5,0% are coloured, with other population groups making up the remaining 0,7%. Of those aged 20 years and older, 4,7% have completed primary education, 33,2% have some secondary education, 30,3% have completed matric and 14,2% have some form of higher education. 4,3% of this group have no formal schooling.

Of the 292 971 economically active (employed or unemployed but looking or work) people in Mangaung, 27,7% are unemployed. 37,2% of the 150 128 economically active youth (15 – 34 years) in the area are unemployed.

5 Results of Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement:

5.1.1 Stakeholder Identification

Adjacent landowners and the public at large were informed of the proposed activity as part of the BA process. Site notices and advertisements notifying interested and affected parties were placed at strategic points and in local newspapers as part of the process.



6 Literature / Background Study:

6.1 Literature Review (SAHRIS)

The following reports were conducted in close proximity to the study area and were consulted for this report:

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Author	Year	Project	Findings
Dreyer, C.	2015	First Phase Archaeological and Heritage Assessment of The Proposed Mixed-Use Development on Portion 5 Of Brandkop 702, Bloemfontein, Free State	Historical structures and a graveyard.
Rossouw, L.	2007	Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of a 4000 m2, portion of land demarcated for development by Coca Cola in Bloemfontein	No Sites
Dreyer, C.	2006	First Phase Archaeological and Heritage Assessment of The Proposed Blomanda Development, Bloemfontein, Free State Province.	No sites
Dreyer, C.	2006	First Phase Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment Of The Proposed Developments At The Mangaung Integrated Housing Initiative, Hamilton, Bloemfontein	No sites

6.1.1 Genealogical Society and Google Earth Monuments

No known grave sites are indicated in the study area.

6.2 Background to the general area

The archaeological record for the greater study area consists of the Stone Age, Iron Age and Historical Period.

6.2.1 The Stone Age

South Africa has a long and complex Stone Age sequence of more than 2 million years. The broad sequence includes the Later Stone Age, the Middle Stone Age and the Earlier Stone Age. Each of these phases contain sub-phases or industrial complexes, and within these we can expect regional variation regarding characteristics and time ranges. The three main phases can be divided as follows;

* Later Stone Age; associated with Khoi and San societies and their immediate predecessors. Recently to ~30 thousand years ago

* Middle Stone Age; associated with Homo sapiens and archaic modern humans. 30-300 thousand years ago.

* Earlier Stone Age; associated with early Homo groups such as Homo habilis and Homo erectus. 400 000- > 2 million years ago.

In the Bloemfontein area Stone Age artefacts can be expected around water sources such as rivers and pans including the Modder river and Renosterspruit (Rossouw 2007). Artefacts are mostly made of hornfels. Isolated Stone Age artefacts can be expected but it is not anticipated that these finds will have conservation value. Since there are no caves in the study area nor any water sources no MSA or LSA sites of significance is expected.

6.2.2 Iron Age (general)

The Iron Age as a whole represents the spread of Bantu speaking people and includes both the pre-Historic and Historic periods. It can be divided into three distinct periods:



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The Early Iron Age: Most of the first millennium AD.

The Middle Iron Age: 10th to 13th centuries AD

The Late Iron Age: 14th century to colonial period.

The Iron Age is characterised by the ability of these early people to manipulate and work Iron ore into implements that assisted them in creating a favourable environment to make a better living.



Figure 6-1: Movement of Bantu speaking farmers (Huffman 2007)

No Sites dating to the Early or Middle Iron Age have been recorded or is expected for the study area. In terms of the Late Iron Age ceramics from the Thabeng facies belonging to the Moloko branch of the Urewe tradition were recorded at Oxf 1 and Platberg 32/71 (Maggs 1976, Mason 1986). Similarly, to the east Makgwareng ceramics belonging to the Blackburn Branch of the Urewe tradition was recorded (Maggs 1976). There is however a low likelihood of finding sites dating to this period in the study area.

Known tribes in the area include the Matabele, under Chief Mzilikazi, who settled on Thaba Bosiu in 1824 and the Baralong under Chief Moroka II settle at what was later known as ThabaNchu in 1833 (www.sahistory.org.za).

6.2.3 Historical background of the area

Bloemfontein was officially founded in 1846 by British army major Henry Douglas Warden as a British outpost in the Transoranje region. The original railway line immediately to the west of the site was built in 1890 connecting Bloemfontein to Cape Town and proved be critical to the British in occupying the city in 1900 during the Anglo Boer War. Another historical site is the Sydenham Leper Hospital that was founded in 1899, located at the foot of Slypsteenberg located on the farm under investigation (Rossouw 2007).



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From 1902-1910 Bloemfontein was the capital of the Orange River Colony and ever since as the provincial capital of the Free State. In 1910 it became the Judicial Capital of South Africa.

Since the time that the early pioneers, or Voortrekkers, crossed the Orange River, the Free State developed steadily to the stage where it became an important contributor to South Africa's food supplies. Some of the commodities that are produced here is maize, wheat, oil-bearing seeds, dairy products and meat. The Free State has however only more recently become important for its mining potential. The goldfields in this province lie in the north western Free State, some 240 kilometres southwest of Johannesburg. These gold deposits are of the same geological age as those of the Witwatersrand and occur in the same geological system. It is believed that the reefs in which the Free State gold is found is an extension of the reefs of the Witwatersrand. (Anon 1954: 16)

The Anglo-Boer War, which took place between 1899 and 1902 in South Africa, was one of the most turbulent times in South Africa's history. Even before the outbreak of war in October 1899 British politicians, including Sir Alfred Milner and Mr. Chamberlain, had declared that should Britain's differences with the Z.A.R. result in violence, it would mean the end of republican independence. This decision was not immediately publicized, and as a consequence, republican leaders based their assessment of British intentions on the more moderate public utterances of British leaders. Consequently, in March 1900, they asked Lord Salisbury to agree to peace on the basis of the status quo ante bellum. Salisbury's reply was; however, a clear statement of British war aims. (Du Preez 1977). Some skirmishes took place in the vicinity of the study area namely the battles of Belmont, Graspan, Magersfontein and Paardeberg. Bloemfontein was occupied on 13 March 1900, leaving the way open for Lord Roberts to prepare for the onslaught on Pretoria. Between 15 and 28 March 1900, nearly 40 000 British troops gathered around Bloemfontein, a situation which placed a further impact on the already overloaded infrastructure of the town.

Peace talks between the Boers and the British had started around April 1902 and culminated in the Peace of Vereeniging treaty on 31 May 1902. This event signalled the end of the Anglo-Boer War, as well as the temporary end of the Boer Republics' independence. (Bergh 1999: 251)

6.2.4 Cultural Landscape

The study area has been mined from prior to 1941 (Figure 6-2- 6-4) with the surrounding area sparsely developed and rural in character.



December 2020



Figure 6-2. Aerial image of the study area dating to 1941. Excavations are clearly visible.





Figure 6-3. 1945 Topographical map indicating developments around the study area as well as a road to the study area.





Figure 6-4. 1969 topographic map of the study area. The surrounding area is sparsely developed.

7 Description of the Physical Environment

The study area is marked by a hill in a otherwise flat landscape, located aproximately 10 km south of Bloemfontein. A large section of the hill has been actively mined for gravels and rocky materials and the top of the hill is mostly disturbed and marked by dumped piles of overburden, building rubble and excess rocks (Figure 7-1 to 7-2). The dumped material cover most of the natural topsoil of the hill and are also overgrown with weeds and pioneer plants. The section in the south west is mostly undisturbed. The active mining activity extends around much of the hill and follows the southern edge of the hill.

According to Mucina and Rutherford (2012) the vegetation type of the surrounding natural areas are known as the Bloemfontein Dry Grassland (GH5) that is slightly undulating bottomland landscape covered with tall, dense grassland alternating with patches of karroid scrub occurring especially over calcrete, little of the origenal vegetation remains (Figure 7-3).





Figure 7-1. General site conditions.



Figure 7-2.General site conditions.



Figure 7-3. General site conditions.



8 Findings of the Survey

It is important to note that the survey only focused on the impact area as indicated in Figure 1-3 and was conducted over one day. The area is frequented by loiterers and is characterised by temporary shelters for homeless people as well as the remnants of fires and discarded rubbish. The increased influx of people in the study area result in features that are difficult to assign to time periods. The only section of the hill that has not been extensively disturbed is the south western end of the study area (Figure 7-3) this area is rocky with small shrubs and grass. Three areas of interest were identified within this area (Figure 8-1 & Table 6) and are briefly described below.



Figure	8-1	Site	distribution	man
Figure	0-1.	Sile	usubulon	map.

Label	Description	Longitude	Latitude
Feature 1	Stone cairns and ephemeral		29° 11' 56.3496" S
	stone wall	26° 11' 41.1216" E	
Feature 2	Small stone enclosure	26° 11' 41.8705" E	29° 11' 58.3909" S
Feature 3	Scratches/incisions on		29° 11' 57.5566" S
	boulders	26° 11' 42.2181" E	



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Feature 1 marks an area where multiple stone cairns were recorded. These cairns are stacked in piles approximately 50cm x 50cm, aligned in a row, orientated downhill over an area of 10 m (Figure 8-2). The stones on these cairns show fresh abrasion marks on the patina suggesting that they are of a recent nature. An ephemeral row of single packed stones possibly forming a small enclosure extending into the bushes was also noted adjacent to the cairns (Figure 8-3).

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Heritage Significance – Based on surface evidence and superficial observations these cairns are of recent nature but of unknown purpose and therefore of low archaeological significance. Although unlikely there is a possibility that this could form part of an initiation site and would then be of social significance and will need to be assessed further.

Field Rating - Generally Protected C

Feature 2 is a small, enclosed terrace on the side of the hill (Figure 8-4). The enclosed space is about 4m x 4m in size. The stones were loosely packed next to natural boulders to create the enclosure on the periphery of the hill. No artefacts were identified within the small enclosure.

Heritage Significance – The site is located on the edge of the hill providing a vantage point and could have been utilised as a look out point. The area is covered in dense vegetation and no other structures were noted and it is difficult to assign the site to a specific time period. The site is therefore of Low to medium significance as it can be archaeological or historical. **Field Rating** - Generally Protected B

Several areas were noted with scratches/ incisions on the naturally occurring dolerite and an example of these was recorded as Feature 3 (Figure 8-4 and 8-5). These could be recent or archaeological but is impossible to determine with the extensive disturbances on the hill. No associated cultural material or engravings were noted.

Heritage Significance – The incisions are of an unknown age but correspond to marks made by sharpening metal objects often found at LSA sites. No cultural material was noted and therefore the site is of low significance.

Field Rating - Generally Protected C.

No burial sites were recorded, however, if any graves are located in future they should ideally be preserved in-situ or alternatively relocated according to existing legislation.





Figure 8-2. General view of Feature 1 with stone cairns indicated by blue arrows.



Figure 8-3. Ephemeral stone packed feature at Feature 1.



Figure 8-4. Ephemeral stone packed feature 2.



Figure 8-5.Scratch marks on dolerite boulders.



Figure 8-6: Scratch marks on dolerite boulders.



Based on the SAHRA Paleontological sensitivity map the area is of insignificant to very high paleontological sensitivity (Figure 8-7) and this aspect is addressed in an independent study (Bamford 2020). The study found that the proposed site lies on the dolerites of the Jurassic extrusions and siltstones and fine grained sandstones of the Adelaide Subgroup (Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup). The latter could preserve vertebrates such as therapsids or reptiles. From the site visit survey there are NO fossils visible at the quarry. The site is very disturbed from previous quarrying activities and from dumping of rock and rubble. The existing rock profiles did not reveal any fossils and dolerite (nonfossiliferous) is pervasive.



Colour	Sensitivity	Required Action
RED	VERY HIGH	Field assessment and protocol for finds is required
ORANGE/YELLOW	HIGH	Desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study; a field assessment is likely
GREEN	MODERATE	Desktop study is required
BLUE	LOW	No palaeontological studies are required however a protocol for finds is required
GREY	INSIGNIFICANT/ZERO	No palaeontological studies are required
WHITE/CLEAR	UNKNOWN	These areas will require a minimum of a desktop study. As more information comes to light, SAHRA will continue to populate the map.

Figure 8-7. Paleontological sensitivity of the area as indicated on SAHRIS with the study area marked by a blue polygon.

The proposed development will have a low impact on the surrounding cultural landscape. Visual impacts to scenic routes and sense of place are also considered to be low.



9 Potential Impact

The chances of impacting unknown archaeological sites or burial sites in the study area is considered to be low. Any direct impacts that could occur would be during the construction phase only and would be of very low significance.

9.1.1 **Pre-Construction phase**

It is assumed that the pre-construction phase involves the removal of topsoil and vegetation as well as the establishment of infrastructure needed for the construction phase. These activities can have a negative and irreversible impact on heritage sites. Impacts include destruction or partial destruction of non-renewable heritage resources, if any occur.

9.1.2 Construction Phase

During this phase, the impacts and effects are similar in nature but more extensive than the pre-construction phase. These activities can have a negative and irreversible impact on heritage sites. Impacts include destruction or partial destruction of non-renewable heritage resources.

9.1.3 Operation Phase:

No impact is envisaged for the project during this phase.

Table 7. Impact Assessment table.

Nature: During the construction phase activities resulting in disturbance of surfaces and/or subsurfaces may destroy, damage, alter, or remove from its original position archaeological material or objects.

	Without mitigation	With mitigation
		(Preservation/ excavation
		of site)
Extent	Local (1)	Local (1)
Duration	Permanent (5)	Permanent (5)
Magnitude	Low (2)	Low (2)
Probability	Probable (3)	Probable (3)
Significance	24 (Low)	24 (Low)
Status (positive or	Negative	Negative
negative)		
Reversibility	Not reversible	Not reversible
Irreplaceable loss of	Yes	Yes
resources?		
Can impacts be mitigated?	Yes	Yes

Mitigation:

- The social consultation team should confirm whether Feature 1 could be part of an initiation site.
- At Feature 2 vegetation clearing must be done under supervision of an archaeologist to determine the extent of the feature. The feature must be mapped and if necessary, a destruction permit applied for.
- A chance find procedure must be incorporated for the project.

Cumulative impacts:



The study area has been impacted on by mining from the 1940's onwards and the proposed development will not impact negatively on significant heritage resources and therefore the cumulative impact is low.

Residual Impacts:

Although surface sites can be avoided or mitigated, there is a chance that completely buried sites would still be impacted on but this cannot be quantified.

10 Conclusion and recommendations

The proposed Mining Permit of 5 hectares is located on The Remaining Extent of the farm Sydenham 445 approximately ±10 km south of Bloemfontein. The study area is adjacent to an existing quarry that according to aerial images was mined from the 1940's onwards (Figure 6-2). Disturbances relating to the activities is clearly visible in the study area and would have impacted on heritage resources if any occurred in the study. The only section of the hill that has not been extensively disturbed is the south western end of the study area (Figure 1-3) this area is rocky with small shrubs and grass. The area is frequented by loiterers and is characterised by temporary shelters for homeless people as well as the remnants of fires and discarded rubbish. The increased influx of people in the study area result in features that are difficult to assign to time periods. Three areas of interest were identified and finds were limited to Stone Cairns (Feature 1), a small stone enclosure (Feature 2) and incisions/scratches on the dolerite boulders (Feature 3).

Based on the SAHRIS Paleontological Sensitivity Map, the area is however indicated as of insignificant to very high palaeontological sensitivity and an independent study was conducted. The study found that the proposed site lies on the dolerites of the Jurassic extrusions and siltstones and fine-grained sandstones of the Adelaide Subgroup (Beaufort Group, Karoo Supergroup). The latter could preserve vertebrates such as therapsids or reptiles. From the site visit survey there are NO fossils visible at the quarry. The site is very disturbed from previous quarrying activities and from dumping of rock and rubble. The existing rock profiles did not reveal any fossils and dolerite (non-fossiliferous) is pervasive.

Due to the lack of significant heritage resources in the study area the impact of the proposed project on heritage resources is considered low and impacts can be mitigated to an acceptable level. It is therefore recommended that the proposed project can commence on the condition that the following recommendations are implemented as part of the EMPr and based on approval from SAHRA:

- The social consultation team should confirm whether Feature 1 could be part of an initiation site.
- At Feature 2 vegetation clearing must be done under supervision of an archaeologist to determine the extent of the feature. The feature must be mapped and if necessary, a destruction permit applied for.
- Implementation of a chance find procedure as outlined below.



10.1. Chance Find Procedures

The possibility of the occurrence of subsurface finds cannot be excluded. Therefore, if during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find and therefor chance find procedures should be put in place as part of the EMP. A short summary of chance find procedures is discussed below.

This procedure applies to the developer's permanent employees, its subsidiaries, contractors and subcontractors, and service providers. The aim of this procedure is to establish monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure compliance with this policy and its associated procedures. Construction crews must be properly inducted to ensure they are fully aware of the procedures regarding chance finds as discussed below.

- If during the pre-construction phase, 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 or heritage site, this person must cease
 work at the site of the find and report this find to their immediate supervisor, and through their
 supervisor to the senior on-site manager.
- It is the responsibility of the senior on-site Manager to make an initial assessment of the extent of the find and confirm the extent of the work stoppage in that area.
- The senior on-site Manager will inform the ECO of the chance find and its immediate impact on operations. The ECO will then contact a professional archaeologist for an assessment of the finds who will notify the SAHRA.

Monitoring Programme for Palaeontology – to commence once the excavations or quarrying commences.

- 1. The following procedure is only required if fossils are seen on the surface and when excavations commence.
- 2. When excavations begin the rocks and must be given a cursory inspection by the environmental officer or designated person. Any fossiliferous material (plants, insects, bone, coal) should be put aside in a suitably protected place. This way the mining activities will not be interrupted.
- 3. Photographs of similar fossil plants must be provided to the developer to assist in recognizing the fossil plants in the shales and mudstones (for example see Figures 4, 5). This information will be built into the EMP's training and awareness plan and procedures.
- 4. Photographs of the putative fossils can be sent to the palaeontologist for a preliminary assessment.
- 5. If there is any possible fossil material found by the developer/environmental officer/miners then the qualified palaeontologist sub-contracted for this project, should visit the site to inspect the selected material and check the dumps where feasible.
- 6. Fossil plants or vertebrates that are considered to be of good quality or scientific interest by the palaeontologist must be removed, catalogued and housed in a suitable institution where they can be made available for further study. Before the fossils are removed from the site a SAHRA permit must be obtained. Annual reports must be submitted to SAHRA as required by the relevant permits.
- 7. If no good fossil material is recovered then the site inspections by the palaeontologist will not be necessary.
- 8. If no fossils are found and the excavations have finished then no further monitoring is required.



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10.2. Reasoned Opinion

The impact of the proposed project on heritage resources is low to medium and any impact to accidental finds can be mitigated to an acceptable level with the implementation of the recommendations in this report and based on approval from SAHRA. Furthermore, the socio-economic benefits also outweigh the possible impacts of the development if the correct mitigation measures (i.e. chance find procedure) are implemented for the project.

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10.3. Potential risk

Potential risks to the proposed project are the occurrence of unrecorded or unmarked graves of which surface indicators have been destroyed. If initiation sites occur in the area and are impacted on this could potentially cause discord with communities that use the area. These risks can be managed by the implementation of a chance find procedure as outlined in Section 10.1. The presence of graves should also be confirmed during social consultation for the project.



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12 Appendices:

Appendix A Curriculum Vitae of Specialist

Jaco van der Walt Archaeologist

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Education:

Particulars of degrees/diplomas and/or other qualifications:

Name of University or Institution:		University of Pretoria
Degree obtained	:	BA Heritage Tourism & Archaeology
Year of graduation	:	2001
Name of University or Institution:		University of the Witwatersrand
Degree obtained	:	BA Hons Archaeology
Year of graduation	:	2002
Name of University or Institution	:	University of the Witwatersrand
Degree Obtained	:	MA (Archaeology)
Year of Graduation	:	2012
Name of University or Institution	:	University of Johannesburg
Degree	:	PhD
Year	:	Currently Enrolled

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

2011 – Present:	Owner – HCAC (Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC).
2007 – 2010 :	CRM Archaeologist, Managed the Heritage Contracts Unit at the
	University of the Witwatersrand.
2005 - 2007:	CRM Archaeologist, Director of Matakoma Heritage Consultants
2004:	Technical Assistant, Department of Anatomy University of Pretoria
2003:	Archaeologist, Mapungubwe World Heritage Site
2001 - 2002:	CRM Archaeologists, For R & R Cultural Resource Consultants,
	Polokwane
2000:	Museum Assistant, Fort Klapperkop.



Countries of work experience include:

Republic of South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Tanzania, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho and Zambia.

SELECTED PROJECTS INCLUDE:

Archaeological Impact Assessments (Phase 1)

Heritage Impact Assessment Proposed Discharge Of Treated Mine Water Via The Wonderfontein Spruit Receiving Water Body Specialist as part of team conducting an Archaeological Assessment for the Mmamabula mining project and power supply, Botswana

Archaeological Impact Assessment Mmamethlake Landfill

Archaeological Impact Assessment Libangeni Landfill

Linear Developments

Archaeological Impact Assessment Link Northern Waterline Project At The Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve Archaeological Impact Assessment Medupi – Spitskop Power Line, Archaeological Impact Assessment Nelspruit Road Development

Renewable Energy developments

Archaeological Impact Assessment Karoshoek Solar Project

Grave Relocation Projects

Relocation of graves and site monitoring at Chloorkop as well as permit application and liaison with local authorities and social processes with local stakeholders, Gauteng Province.

Relocation of the grave of Rifle Man Maritz as well as permit application and liaison with local authorities and social processes with local stakeholders, Ndumo, Kwa Zulu Natal.

Relocation of the Magolwane graves for the office of the premier, Kwa Zulu Natal

Relocation of the OSuthu Royal Graves office of the premier, Kwa Zulu Natal

Phase 2 Mitigation Projects

Field Director for the Archaeological Mitigation For Booysendal Platinum Mine, Steelpoort, Limpopo Province. Principle investigator Prof. T. Huffman

Monitoring of heritage sites affected by the ARUP Transnet Multipurpose Pipeline under directorship of Gavin Anderson.

Field Director for the Phase 2 mapping of a late Iron Age site located on the farm Kameelbult, Zeerust, North West Province. Under directorship of Prof T. Huffman.

Field Director for the Phase 2 surface sampling of Stone Age sites effected by the Medupi – Spitskop Power Line, Limpopo Province

Heritage management projects

Platreef Mitigation project – mitigation of heritage sites and compilation of conservation management plan.



MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

- Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists. Member number 159 Accreditation:
 - Field Director Iron Age Archaeology
 - Field Supervisor Colonial Period Archaeology, Stone Age Archaeology and Grave Relocation
- Accredited CRM Archaeologist with SAHRA

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- o Accredited CRM Archaeologist with AMAFA
- Co-opted council member for the CRM Section of the Association of Southern African Association Professional Archaeologists (2011 – 2012)

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A Culture Historical Interpretation, Aimed at Site Visitors, of the Exposed Eastern Profile of K8 on the Southern terrace at Mapungubwe.
 - J van der Walt, A Meyer, WC Nienaber
 - Poster presented at Faculty day, Faculty of Medicine University of Pretoria 2003
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 - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2004
- A War Uncovered: Human Remains from Thabantsho Hill (South Africa), 10 May 1864.
 - M. Steyn, WS Boshoff, WC Nienaber, J van der Walt
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- Field Report on the mitigation measures conducted on the farm Bokfontein, Brits, North West Province .
 - J van der Walt, P Birkholtz, W. Fourie
 - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2007
- Field report on the mitigation measures employed at Early Farmer sites threatened by development in the Greater Sekhukhune area, Limpopo Province. J van der Walt
 - Paper read at the Southern African Association of Archaeologists Biennial Conference 2008
- Ceramic
-]'jnanalysis of an Early Iron Age Site with vitrified dung, Limpopo Province South Africa.
 - J van der Walt. Poster presented at SAFA, Frankfurt Germany 2008

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