

# SAHRIS

The South African Heritage Resources  
Information System – expansions across Africa  
and practical applications of the data

Presented by Nicholas Wiltshire  
of Cedar Tower Services (Pty) Ltd



# Introduction to SAHRIS

- The National Monuments Council (NMC) was replaced by SAHRA in 2000. This followed the promulgation of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)
- The NMC was focused mainly on declaring colonial buildings – around 2500 were declared.
- Only about 50 archaeological sites were declared up to 1999.
- The NHRA followed the White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage in 1996. It was extensively debated over many workshops.
- The NHRA embraced 'New Public Management' ideas from various countries in the 1990s.
- Decision-making powers would be devolved to local level in a three-tiered heritage management system (national, provincial, local).
- The NHRA embraced all forms of heritage, especially as a means to address the gaps created during Apartheid
- There were at least four unsuccessful attempts to develop SAHRIS between 2000 & 2011

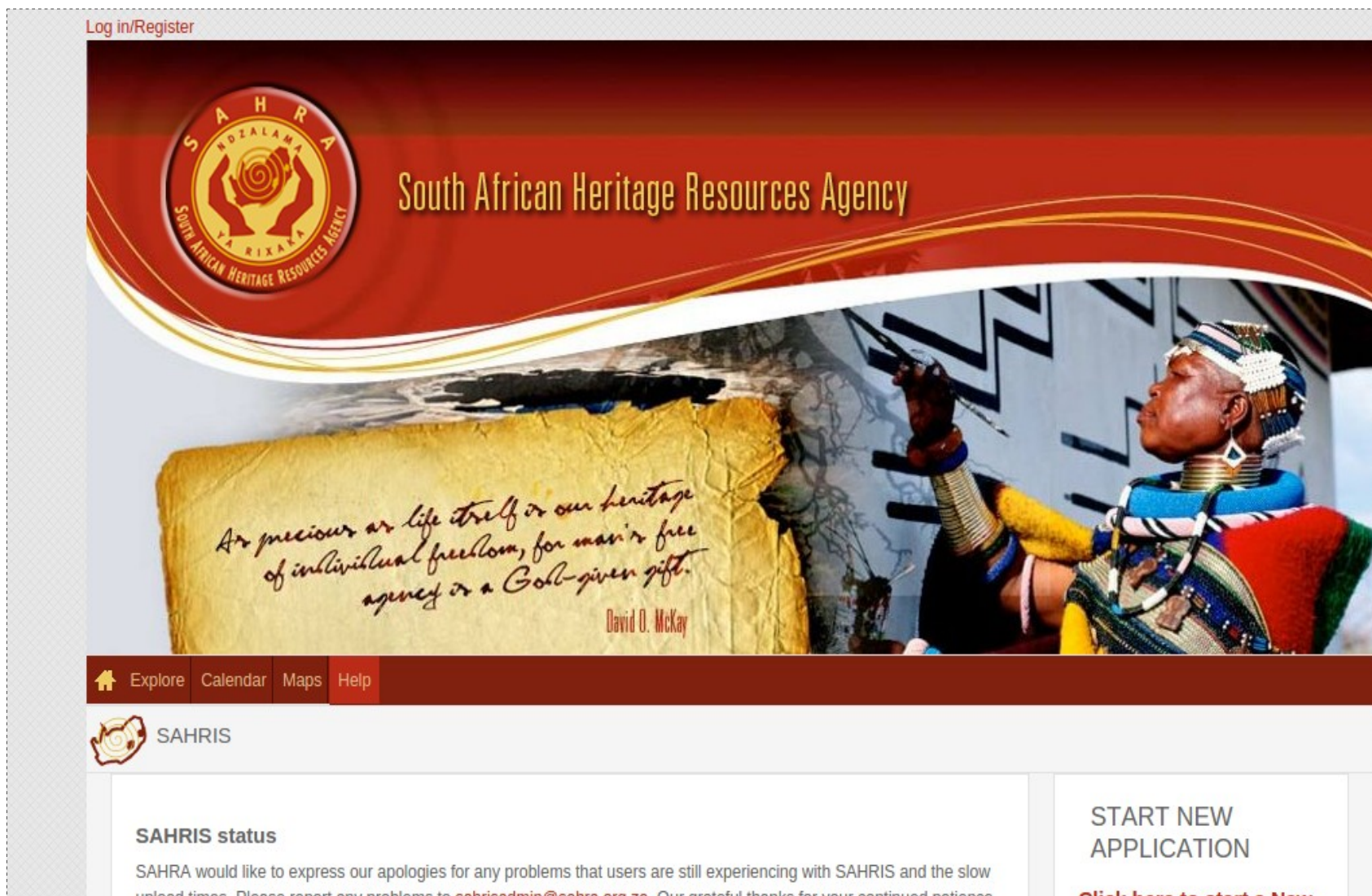
# What is SAHRIS and what is it used for?

- SAHRIS is a national **heritage management** system
- Its overarching purpose is to provide a means to record and disseminate information of heritage resources in South Africa
- It fulfills various legislative requirements stipulated in the NHRA
- It provides a **digital management** system for all heritage management functions such as permits, heritage case management, heritage object management and public participation
- It serves as a **national** sites repository
- It provides a collections management system for museums and other bodies
- It was built on Drupal and Geoserver, both are **free open source** software
- It currently has two NAS Servers with 46 Terabytes of replicated storage available

# Incentives

Data is currently captured onto SAHRIS and disseminated through the following channels:

- **LEGAL** Compliance with the law (data from heritage management processes)
- **RESEARCH** UCT, KZN Museum, eCRAG etc
- **FINANCIAL** Compliance with GRAP 103
- **FUNDED PROJECTS** Genadendal, National Museum Bloemfontein, NALN, Groote Schuur, Parliament, Tuynhuys, Bryntirion, PACOFS



Homepage of  
**SAHRA:**  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

This is also the  
landing page of  
**SAHRIS.**

To login, users go  
to the home page  
and click on Login  
at the top left.

Users viewing  
SAHRIS on  
Internet Explorer 8  
or older (versions  
prior to version 9)  
will see a message  
warning them to try  
another browser or  
update their  
browser.

We recommend  
using **Google  
Chrome.**



Add a block

## My Applications - I am one of the applicants in these cases

Status

Is one of ▼

DRAFT  
SUBMITTED  
Under Investigation  
Pending & Under Assessment  
On Agenda  
Studies Pending  
Studies Submitted  
Pending PP  
Decision Passed



APPLY



RESET

CaseName ▲	CaseID	Post date	Status
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## My Projects - I am listed as a consultant/expert on these cases

Status

Is one of ▼

DRAFT  
SUBMITTED  
Under Investigation  
Pending & Under Assessment  
On Agenda

START NEW  
APPLICATION

[Click here to start a New  
Application](#)

Home page of SAHRIS once logged in - Dashboard

Related content

## Step 1 of 4 DEFINE your Application (CASE INTRO)

This is the start page of your application.

☐ YES \*

Please Choose "YES" if you agree to the terms and conditions for applications on our disclaimer page [click here](#)

### Applicants \*

Search + Create Institutions and Organisations + Create People

**\*\*FOR PERMIT APPLICATIONS THE APPLICANT MUST BE A PERSON, NOT A COMPANY.** The company may be specified in the profile of the person applying.\*\* Please specify the name of the OWNER, DEVELOPER or research APPLICANT from SAHRIS's Profile database of PEOPLE or ORGANISATIONS. First try and select the name from SAHRIS by entering it in the autosearch field without a prefix (ie Mr, Mrs, Prof etc) - just enter the name such as "John Demo". Pick the person or company name from the select list and ensure you have a [nid:xxxx] following the name. This field will allow ORGANISATIONS or PEOPLE as content types and pulls the application through to the MyApplications list in MyDashboard of the associated username of the PROFILE, not necessarily the author of the case. For users working under a group username linked to an organisation profile, first specify the Owner/Developer, click Add Another Item, and add your organisation as the second applicant.

ADD ANOTHER ITEM

## Application Guide

Quick Guide

Checklist



My Content

Content Manager

Cases

Objects

Sites

Heritage Reports

Fossil Heritage Layer Browser

Search + Create Institutions and Organisations

PERMIT APPLICATIONS THE APPLICANT MUST BE A PERSON, NOT A COMPANY. The company may be specified in the profile of the person applying.\*\* Please specify the name of the OWNER, DEVELOPER or research APPLICANT from SAHRIS's Profile database of PEOPLE or ORGANISATIONS. First try and select the name from SAHRIS by entering it in the autosearch field without a prefix (ie Mr, Mrs, Prof etc) - just enter the name such as "John Demo". Pick the person or company name from the select list and ensure you have a [nid:xxxx] following the name. This field will allow ORGANISATIONS or PEOPLE as content types and pulls the application through to the MyApplications list in MyDashboard of the associated username of the PROFILE, not necessarily the author of the case. For users working under a group username linked to an organisation profile, first specify the Owner/Developer, click Add Another Item, and add your organisation as the second applicant.

Declared Sites

Graded Sites

Update Group Fields for Sites

OG Group Sites

Sites with Full Popups

Field Surveys

Observations Report

Site Recordings Report

Sites and Surveys Overlay

The **Create Menu** is where you need to go to add a **new application** on SAHRIS. Applications are all treated as **CASES** – whether they are permit applications, applications for development in terms of Section 38 of the NHRA or even nominations for declaration of heritage sites or objects.

Some menus have a third and even a forth level or tree



To search for **Heritage Reports**, go to Explore > Heritage Reports.

Map reports view up in 2009

MapID  
Is equal to ▼

ReportDate  
Is equal to ▼  
-Day ▼  
-Month ▼  
-Year ▼

ReportTitle  
Is equal to ▼

ReportRef  
Is equal to ▼

Sort by  
ReportDate ▼  
Order  
Asc ▼

Authors  
Is equal to ▼

CommCompany  
Is equal to ▼

AuthorBody  
Is equal to ▼

ReportType  
Is one of ▼

APPLY  RESET

ReportRef	ReportTitle	ReportType	ReportDate	Authors	AuthoringBody	CommissioningCompany
(PPM) PROPOSED ROCK WASTE DUMP EXTENSION	A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) STUDY FOR PILANESBURG PLATINUM MINES' (PPM) PROPOSED ROCK WASTE DUMP EXTENSION NEAR THE PILANESBURG IN THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA	HIA Phase 1	06/06/2009	Julius CC Pistorius	Pilanesberg Platinum Mines (Pty) Ltd	SLR Consulting (Africa)
	Nr. 54 Chiappini Street.					



To search for **Sites**, go to Explore > Sites

You can also search further for Declared sites, Graded sites and Observations

THE VOORTREKKER MONUMENT – site reference

9/2/258/0097

[Declarations](#) [Gradings](#) [SiteVisitReport](#) [Subscribe to: This post](#) 363 reads

#### SiteHeader

#### LocationInfo

SiteID: 26660

FullSiteName: The Voortrekker Monument

SiteCategory: **Monuments & Memorials**

PropertyIsSite: No

ReferenceList:

SiteActions:

Group content visibility: Use group defaults

Author: Anonymous

Post date: 22/06/2012

FeaturedSite?: NO

Post date: 07/08/2012

#### Site Comments:

Archive Import

History:

Visual Description: This typically Art Deco monument is situated on a kopie south of Pretoria and is situated within a 341ha nature reserve. The Monument is surrounded by carefully manicured garden (within the laager wall). The slopes of the kopie have been planted with indigenous plants, mostly succulents.

Colours:

Site Features:

Condition:

Construction Date: 13 July 1937 was turned on "Monument kopie"

Materials:

Catalogue: , No: , Significance Category:

1 of 2

[next >](#)

#### Site Images



#### Declarations

Gazette Date: 05/07/2012

1 of 2

[next >](#)

#### Gradings

**Grade I**


Grading Date: 08/07/2011

1 of 2

[next >](#)

## THE VOORTREKKER MONUMENT – site recording

[Home](#) [MyDashboard](#) [Explore](#) [Create](#) [Calendar](#) [Maps](#) [Help](#)

 SiteRecordings

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#) [MANAGE DISPLAY](#) [MOTIFREPORT](#) [TRACK](#) [UNPUBLISH](#) [LOG](#)

[Tweet](#) 0

[Like](#) 0 [g+](#) 0 [Share](#)

**SiteReference:** 9/2/258/0097

77 reads

**General**

**AutoID:** 9/2/258/0097 - Tue, 2012-08-07 02:00

**Author:** sahrisprojectmanager

**Post date:** 07/08/2012

**PrimaryRecording?:** Yes

**Directions:**

**SiteComments:**

Archive Import

History:

Visual Description: This typically Art Deco monument is situated on a kopie south of Pretoria and is situated within a 341ha nature reserve. The Monument is surrounded by carefully manicured garden (within the laager wall). The slopes of the kopie have been planted with indigenous plants, mostly succulents.

Colours:

Site Features:

Condition:

Construction Date: 13 July 1937 was turned on "Monument kopie"

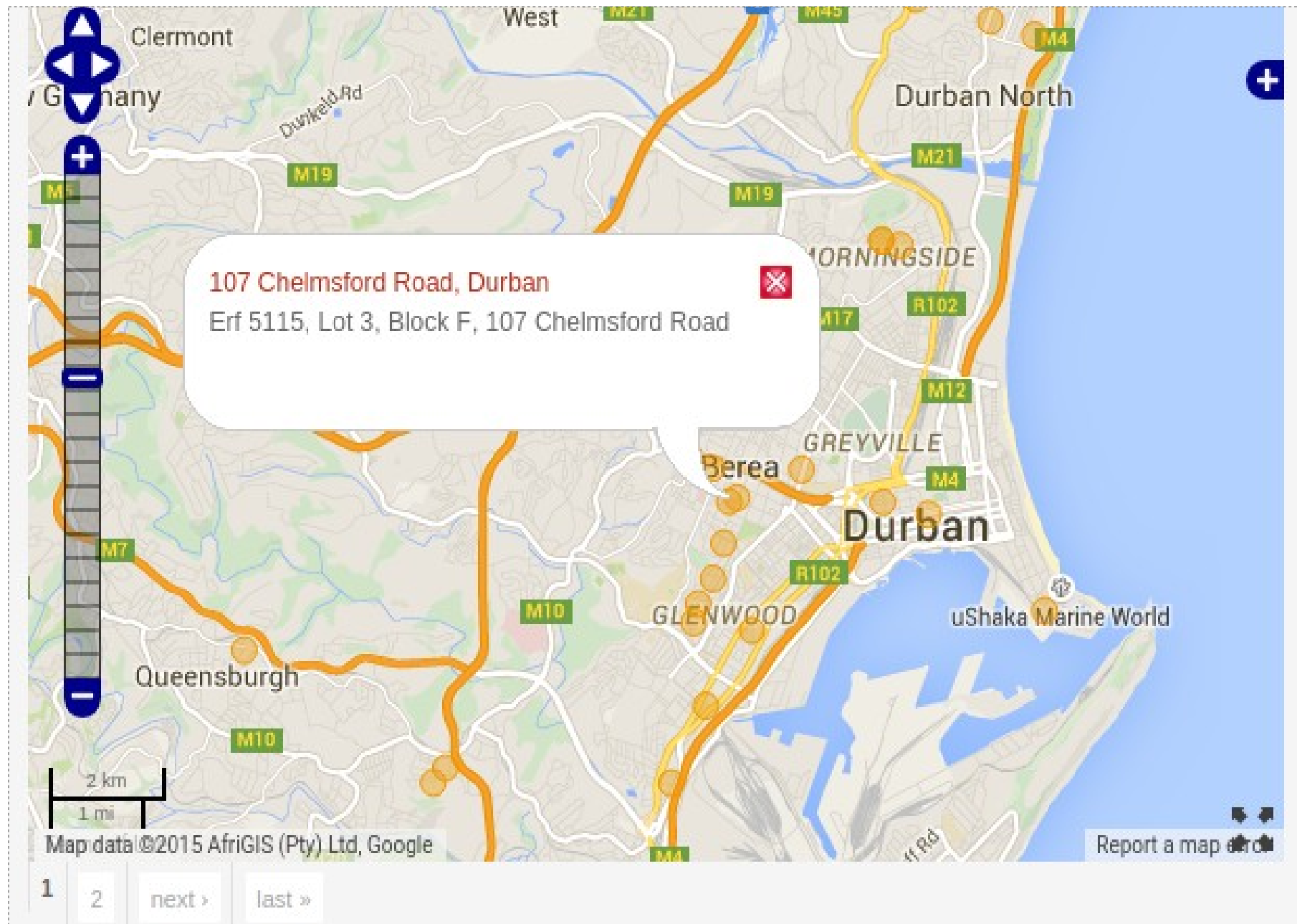
Materials:

Catalogue: , No: , Significance Category:

**AdminComments:**

The current NODEID for this site recording is: 42325

## Map view of sites

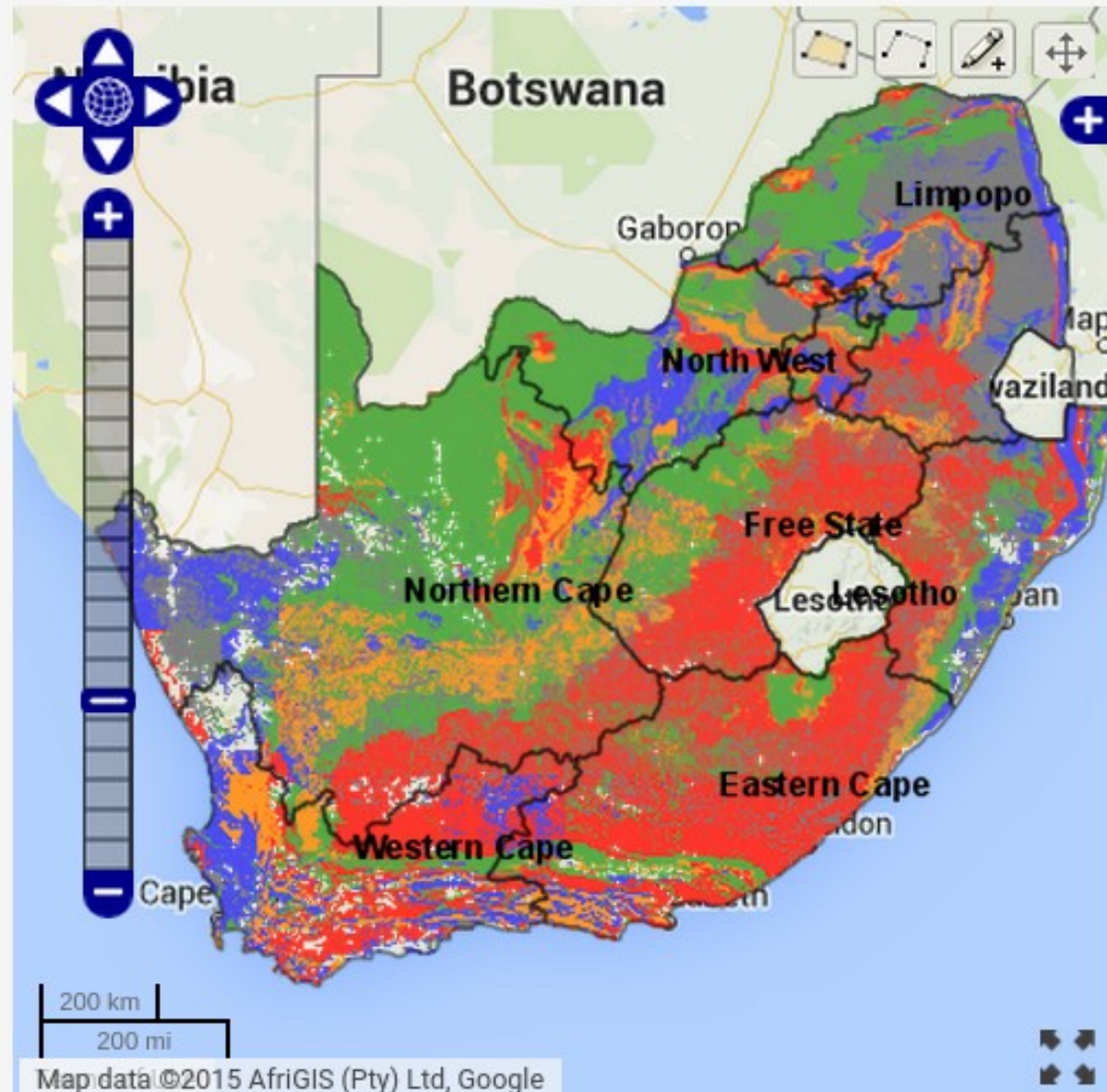




# Palaeontological Sensitivity Map

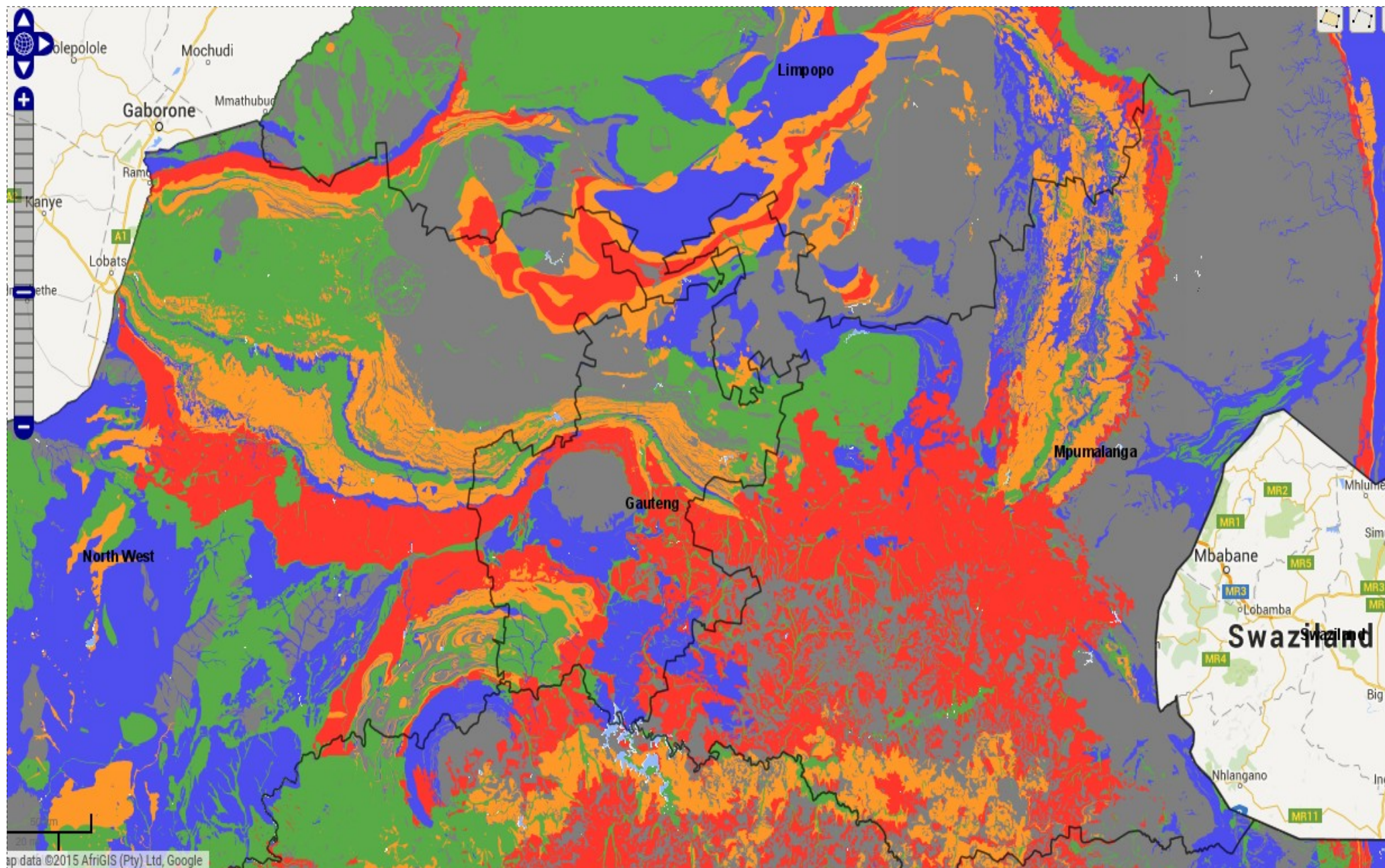
BaseInfo \*

Detailed Mapping





# Palaeontological Sensitivity Map - Gauteng



South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)  
Head Office  
111 Harrington Street  
CAPE TOWN  
8001

PO Box 4637  
Cape Town, 8000  
Tel 021 462 4502/Fax 021 462 4509  
Email [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
Web [www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



An agency of the Department of Arts & Culture

 Powered by Drupal

 Site best viewed using Google Chrome  
[Disclaimer](#)



 Chat (29)

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<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/> Only SAHRA's logos and specific corporate related information is subject to copyright. All cases are subject to the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA, Act 2 of 2000).





Displaying 1 - 19 of 19

Question:

## Which heritage objects are protected and what is the role of expert advisers?

Answer:

Objects listed on the List of Types of Objects are protected and their export regulated by permits obtained from SAHRA which are issued under the advice of relevant experts, in terms of Section 32 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999).

[Read more](#)

Author: regina.isaacs

Post date: Mon, 2015-05-18 12:32

Question:

## How do I register a Conservation Body on SAHRIS, or register as an expert?

Answer:

A guide to registering a Conservation Body on SAHRIS, or registering yourself as an expert

[Read more](#)

Author: katie.smuts

Post date: Wed, 2015-05-13 12:32

Question:

## My permit to export a heritage object was denied. What are the appeal procedures?

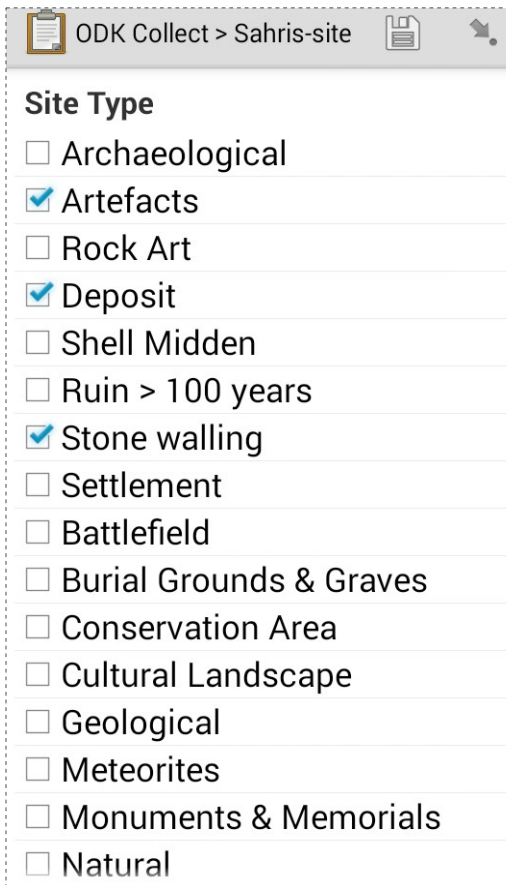
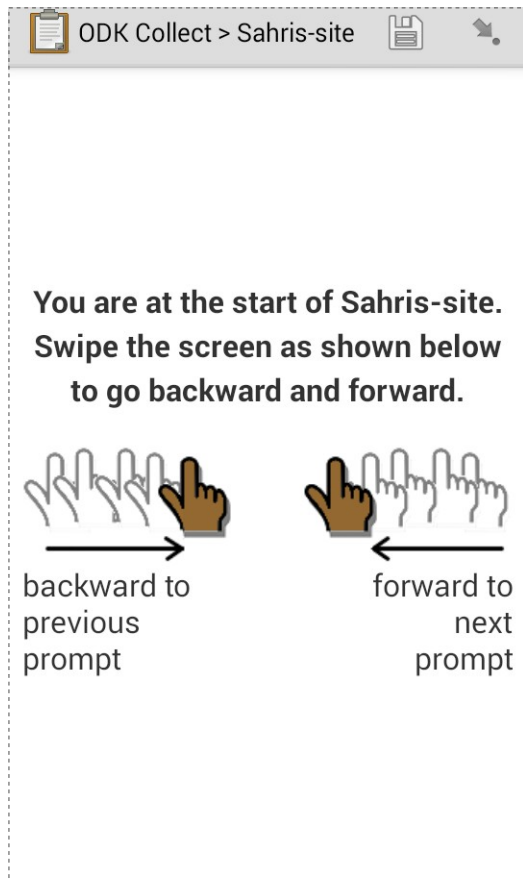
Answer:

In determining whether to issue a permit for the export of a cultural heritage object SAHRA must consider:

The SAHRIS **HELP** page can be accessed via the HELP menu while viewing SAHRIS pages (when the SAHRA banner is not visible everything else defaults to the SAHRIS backend). This page is also accessed by clicking on SAHRIS from the homepage. On it are a number of tutorials separated into chapters for easy download on YouTube.



# The new site recording App



ODK Collect > Sahris-site

**Property Name**

**Street**

**Suburb**

**City**

**Postal Code**

This screenshot shows a form for recording site details in the ODK Collect app. The header bar is the same as the previous screenshots. Below the header, there are five input fields, each with a label: 'Property Name', 'Street', 'Suburb', 'City', and 'Postal Code'. Each field has a text input area with a blue underline.

ODK Collect > Sahris-site

Style

☒ Cape Vernacular

☐ Edwardian

☐ Karoo-style

☐ Natal Verandah/Colonial

☐ Regionalism

☐ Standard House - No particular Style

☐ Union period

☐ UNKNOWN

☐ Victorian

☐ Victorian stone building

ODK Collect > Sahris-site

Type

☐ Agricultural

☐ Arboretum

☐ Army Base

☐ Art Gallery

☐ Avenue

☐ Avenue, Tree

☐ Bakery

☐ Bakkiespomp

☒ Bank

☐ Battery

☐ Battlefield

☐ Battlefield, House

☐ Beacon

☐ Bell

☐ Bell Tower

☐ Blacksmith

ODK Collect > Sahris-site

Condition

☐ Excellent

☐ Good

☐ Good/Fair

☒ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Derelict

☐ Needs attention urgently

# What else does CTS do?

NaHRIS

Kenya, Ghana, Botswana

“A non-profit organisation based in South Africa that implements national digital heritage management systems. OpenHeritage strives for open access to heritage by creating central platforms that integrate data documentation, consultation and knowledge sharing. Our systems are developed using free and open source software (FOSS), such as Drupal and Geoserver, allowing for high customisability whilst remaining sustainable and cost-effective.”



OpenHeritage

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THE FUTURE OF OUR PAST



# National Heritage Council of Namibia

PRESERVING TODAY FOR TOMORROW

MyDashboard

Administration ▾

Explore ▾

Create ▾

Calendar

Maps ▾



## Baboon Head at the Brandberg mountains

The baboon head at the Brandberg mountains just before reaching the famous White Lady Rock painting

[Read more](#)



## Brandberg Mountain ecology

Brandberg Mountain ecology - Ecological variety of rare and remarkable plant species that live in isolation at high altitudes; large variety of animal life due to the numerous water sources, rare birds and insects

[Read more](#)



## Spitzkoppe

# National Heritage Council of Namibia

PRESERVING TODAY FOR TOMORROW

MyDashboard

Administration ▾

Explore ▾

Create ▾

Calendar

Maps ▾

## AllSitesFinder

Displaying 1 - 50 of 148

[Export query to an Excel file](#)

[Map view of sites](#)

SiteID

Is equal to ▾

SiteReference

Starts with ▾

FullSiteName

Contains ▾

Latitude

Is between ▾

Longitude

Is between ▾

And

And

Region

Is one of ▾

SiteType

Apply

Reset

Separate multiple terms with a comma, eg. Rock art, Battlefield

[View](#)[Edit](#)[Manage display](#)[Revisions](#)[Cases](#)[Permits](#)[Log](#)

# Omagongo Festival

[Declarations](#) [Nominations](#) [SiteVisitReport](#) [New Site Recording](#) [Subscribe to: This post](#)[SiteHeader](#)[LocationInfo](#)[General](#)[Images](#)

SiteID: 194

FullSiteName: Oshituthi shomagongo

SiteCategory: [Living Heritage](#)

ReferenceList:

## Citation

NAM-01089, UNESCO Oshituthi Shomagongo Nomination file to the representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

SiteActions:

Group content visibility: Public - accessible to all site users

Author: [mariagrazia.gal...](#)

Post date: 27/04/2015

Featured Site?: NO



## SiteImages

### Site Images



## Gradings

Grading Date: 29/04/2015

## Recordings

RecordingID#	RecordingDate
Omagongo Festival - 27/04/2015	27/04/2015



Tweet

0

Like

0

g+1

0

[+ Share](#)



# Search Cases

Displaying 1 - 5 of 5

Export your list to an Excel file

Heritage Authority

NHC

NMN

CaseName

Contains

CaselD

Is equal to

OfficialReference

Is equal to

Case Type

Is one of

✓ - Any -

Development

Loan

Permits

Nominations & Declarations

Site Management

Object/Collection Management

Rectification

Status

Is one of

DRAFT

SUBMITTED

Pending & Under Assessment

Circulated

Studies Pending

Studies Submitted

Pending PP

Decision Passed

Appeal Lodged

Date such as -1 day or -2 hours

Is greater than or equal to

Apply

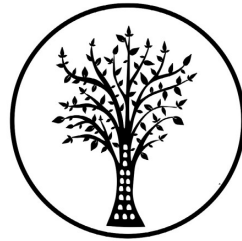
Reset

HeritageAuthority: NHC

CaseName	Post date	CaselD	OfficialReference
05/2015	28/04/2015 - 09:42	12	05/2015



# HERITAGE SCREENERS



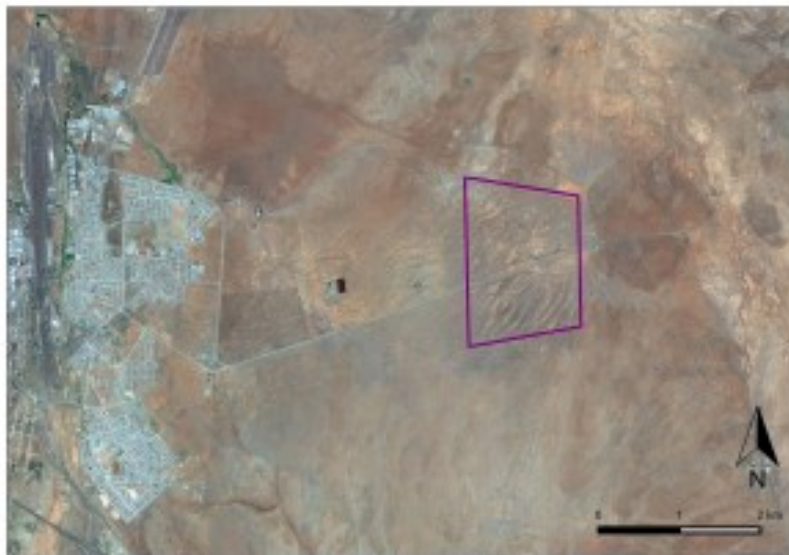
CEDAR TOWER  
SERVICES

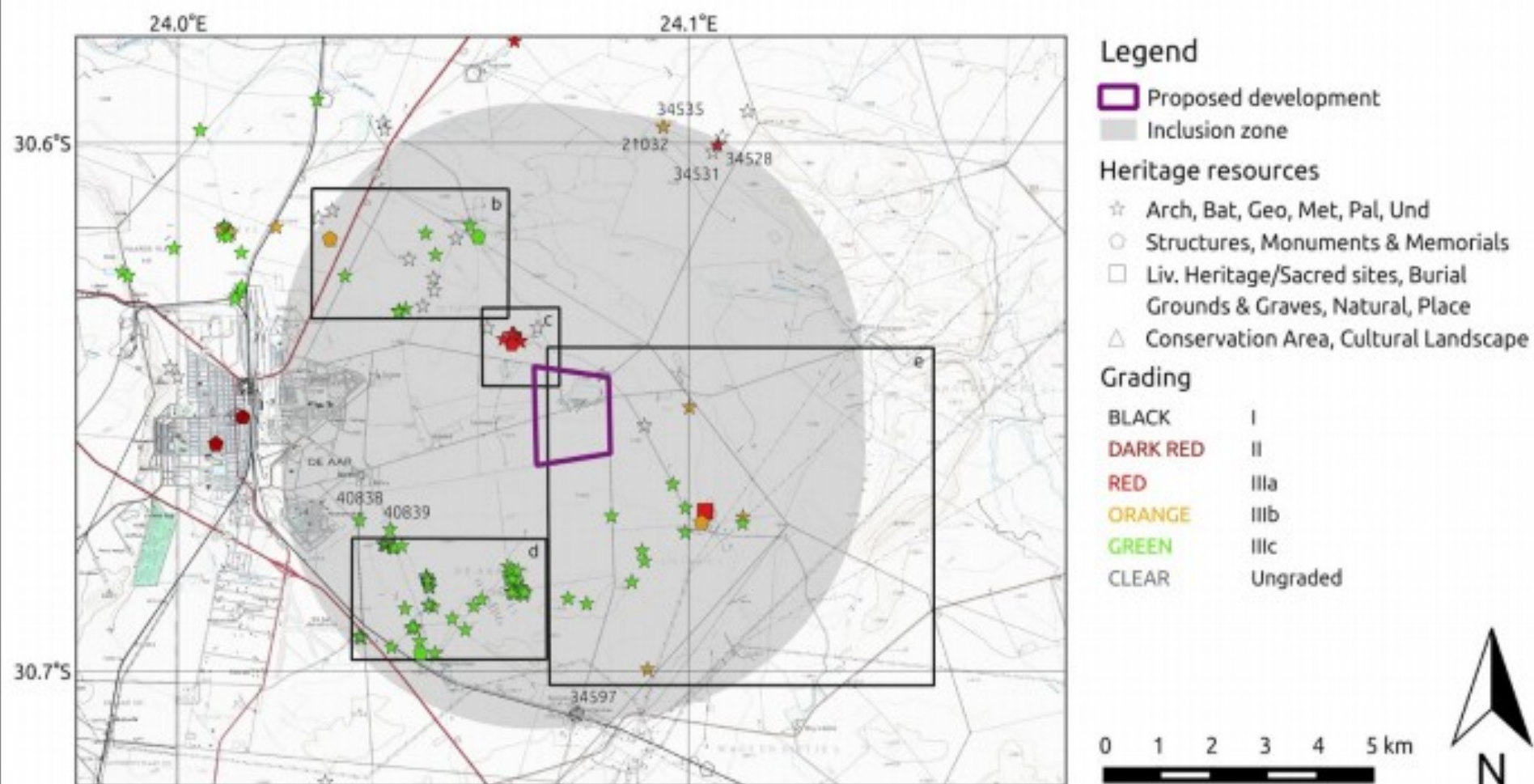
A Heritage Screener is a **summary assessment** of all known heritage resources in an area proposed for development. It contains a set of recommendations, detailed maps and all known heritage data relevant to the proposed application.

Heritage Screeners lead to more predictable outcomes for applicants and are specifically designed in line with the statutory requirements of the **National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**.

We assess heritage impact assessments (HIAs) and research previously undertaken in the area of the proposed development and its surroundings in order to extract and map all heritage resources identified. The heritage resources are described in terms of type and significance according to the original assessment. A screener is delivered within **24 hours** of application.

## HERITAGE SCREENER

CTS Reference Number:	CTS15_001	
Client:	Solaris Power (Pty) Ltd	
Date:	15.05.2015	
Proposed development:	CSP Solar Energy Facility	
Recommendation by CTS Heritage Specialists: (TYPE 2)	<p><b>(2) The heritage resources and the area proposed for development are only partially recorded -</b></p> <p>It is recommended that a heritage impact assessment be undertaken for the proposed development comprising the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>archaeological component: undertaken by a professional archaeologist with Stone Age experience</li><li>the archaeologist should be made aware of the possible presence on the property of structures older than 60 years</li><li>no palaeontological component is necessary, but the Environmental Control Officer be alerted of the possible exposure of fossils during fresh excavations. A protocol for palaeontological chance finds must be included in the Environmental Management Plan for the solar energy facility.</li></ul>	



**Figure 4a. Heritage Sites Map.** Heritage resources previously identified in and near the study area, with SAHRIS Site ID labels indicated (see Figs. 4b-c for inset maps).

### **(1) The heritage resources in the area proposed for development are sufficiently recorded**

**The surveys undertaken in the area adequately captured the heritage resources. There are no known sites which require mitigation or management plans. No further heritage work is recommended for the proposed development.**

This recommendation is made when:

- enough work has been undertaken in the area
- it is the professional opinion of CTS that the area has already been assessed adequately from a heritage perspective for the type of development proposed.

### **(2) The heritage resources and the area proposed for development are only partially recorded**

**The surveys undertaken in the area have not adequately captured the heritage resources and/or there are sites which require mitigation or management plans. Further specific heritage work is recommended for the proposed development.**

This recommendation is made in instances in which there are already some studies undertaken in the area and/or in the adjacent area for the proposed development.

Further studies in a limited HIA may include:

- improvement on some components of the heritage assessments already undertaken, for instance with a renewed field survey and/or with a specific specialist for the type of heritage resources expected in the area
- compilation of a report for a component of a heritage impact assessment not already undertaken in the area
- undertaking mitigation measures requested in previous assessments/records of decision.

### **(3) The heritage resources within the area proposed for the development have not been adequately surveyed yet**

**Few or no surveys have been undertaken in the area proposed for development. A full Heritage Impact Assessment with a detailed field component is recommended for the proposed development.**

The responsibility for generating a response detailing the requirements for the development lies with the heritage authority. However, since the methodology utilised for the compilation of the Heritage Screeners is thorough and consistent, contradictory outcomes to the recommendations made by CTS should rarely occur. Should a discrepancy arise, CTS will immediately take up the matter with the heritage authority to clarify the dispute.