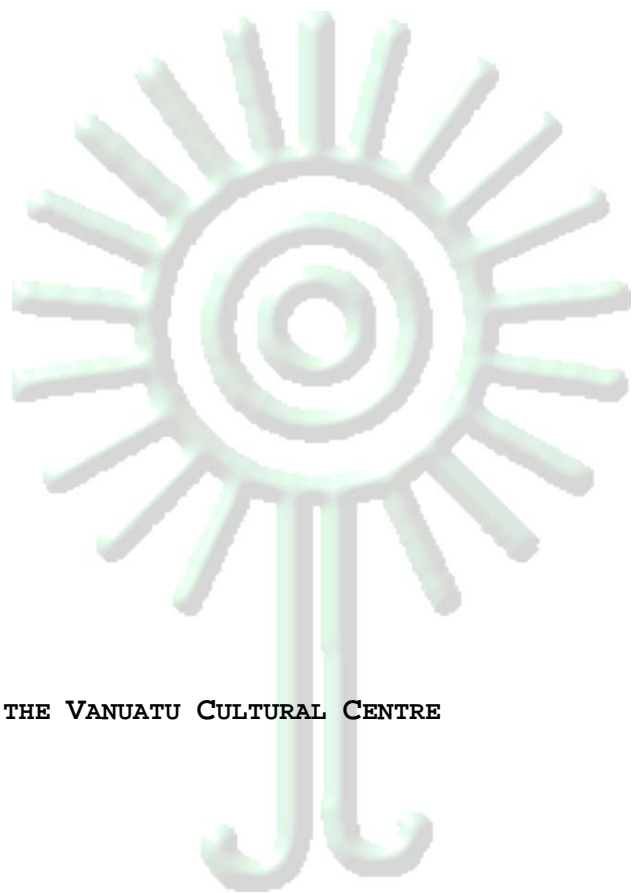


PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
ON
CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITES
ALONG THE LUGANVILLE TO PORT OLRV
ROAD



COMPILED BY THE VANUATU CULTURAL CENTRE



PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ON CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITES
ALONG THE LUGANVILLE TO PORT OLYR ROAD

Content

Introduction	3
<hr/>	
Site Details	
<hr/>	
Natanara	4
<hr/>	
Turtle Bay	4
<hr/>	
Natawa	4
<hr/>	
Manioc	5
<hr/>	
Kohle	6
<hr/>	
Lorum	6
<hr/>	
Revilko	7
<hr/>	
Wantas	7
<hr/>	
Hog Harbour	8
<hr/>	
Port Olry	8
<hr/>	

Introduction

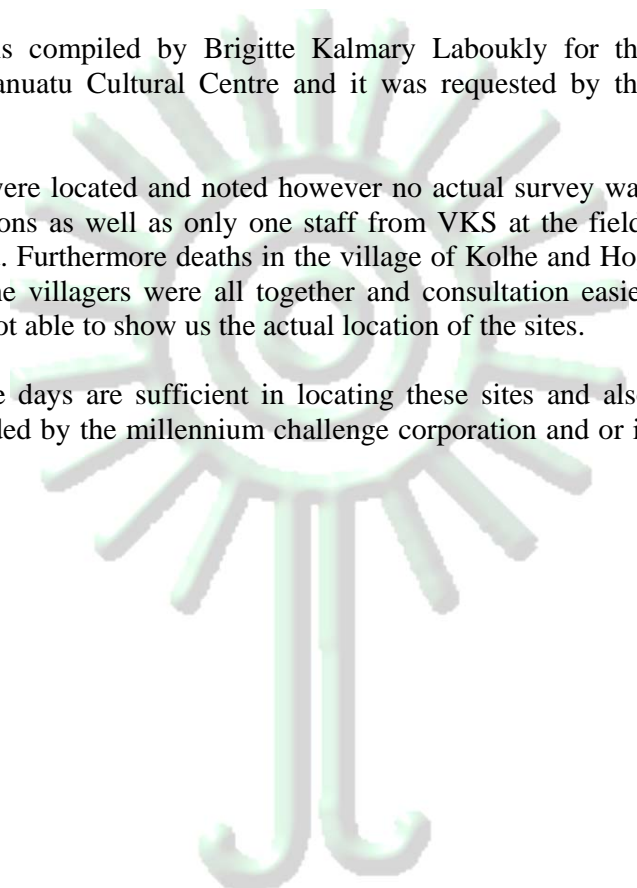
The Vanuatu National Register (VNHR), previously known as the Vanuatu Cultural and Historical Sites Survey (VCHSS) is a unit of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre (VCC) established in 1990 with the goal of registering and protecting the archaeological, cultural and historical site heritage of Vanuatu from damage resulting from development activities. The VNR is a section of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre and exists to serve the needs of the Government and the peoples of Vanuatu.

The VNHR works with the VCC fieldworkers who live in most islands of Vanuatu. Before any development project occurs, this organisation can be called in to register or record all sites of cultural significance, including archaeological, cultural and traditional sites, in order to protect these sites from any damage that may result from activities associated with the development project. The VNHR undertakes site impact assessment studies for projects initialled by private contractors, National or Provincial Governments and local communities. When the VNHR receives a request, a preliminary assessment is made to assess the site. The site is registered and further recommendations are made in this preliminary assessment whether there is a need for a more comprehensive and detailed survey or not. The complete survey (when needed) will consist of detailed plans/maps, photograph and detailed accounts concerning the historical and cultural aspects of the site. Once the site is registered and properly surveyed, all parties become aware of the presence and importance of the site and be aware of the potential damage to these sites, and can work to minimise the damage to these places.

This preliminary impact assessment report is compiled by Brigitte Kalmaly Laboukly for the National Heritage Registry section of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre and it was requested by the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

On the three day trip to Santo several sites were located and noted however no actual survey was done on the site due to limited time restrictions as well as only one staff from VKS at the field, detailed data on the site could not be collected. Furthermore deaths in the village of Kolhe and Hog Harbour have both helped in ensuring that the villagers were all together and consultation easier however it also meant that the villagers were not able to show us the actual location of the sites.

But the data that has been collected on these days are sufficient in locating these sites and also further assessment could be carried out if needed by the millennium challenge corporation and or if requested by the land owners.



Site Details

Area: Natanara

Site Name: Sarapo

Site Type: Tabu area

Informant: Johnny N. (Guide)

Site Description: There have been a lot of traffic accidents in this area by vehicles and a few has resulted in death.

Other information: Site is in a leased land and custom land owner lives in Chapuis however he could not be reached for further details on the site.

Recommendation(s): There are no physical evidence of a cultural site, however this site is respected and is known by transport drivers in the area. Detailed survey can be conducted for further information on the site.

Area: Turtle Bay

Site Name: Nithchiko Plantation

Site Type: Historical Site

Informant: workers in the plantation

Site Description: Directly opposite the new hot Air for the Nitchiko plantation and 5m visible from the road is a classic example of a smoke drier for coconuts that was used before the hot air method of drying coconuts was introduced. This smoke dryer was used in the early 1900s until after the independence when it was deserted for the faster and more efficient hot air.

Other information: Employees in this plantation are from Banks group, many of them have lived in Santo most if not all of there lives.

Recommendation(s): Further research by the Vanuatu National Heritage Registry is needed to confirm if the site is of historical significance or not. This can be done by consulting with the owners of the plantations, the National Library as well as the employees of the plantation.

Area: Natawa

Villagers from this village have confirmed no cultural or historical sites within the 150m from the road. The persons consulted have stated that the area of which the present village is at as well as the areas along the road is all gardening areas. Their Cultural sites are located further inland near their old settlement.

Area: Manioc

Site Name: Jirinbo

Site Type: Ceremonial ground

Informant: Toame Toame

Site Description: This site is located 100m from the village of Manioc and is within a leased plantation and 10m from the road. It is a site where pig killing ceremonies have taken place.

Other Information: The villagers have confirmed that they would like a detailed survey done on their site

Area: Manioc

Site Name: Jitial, located in Shark Bay Plantation

Site Type: Nasara

Informant: Toame Toame

Site Description: No further details could be assembled for this site.

Other information: The villagers have confirmed that they would like a detailed survey done on their site.

Two other sites that are noted in the village are the site of the old church house and also the graves of the founders of the church are found on the side of the church.



*Site of first church house, less than 30m
From road*

*Graves belonging to founders of the church.
Road in background.*

Recommendation(s): Detailed survey is needed for these sites as they are of significance to the land owners and also it is also within leased land so permission from lease holders are needed. Furthermore they are threatened by the road development in terms of the road construction and also development that can arise in the leased land as a result of this infrastructure.

Area: Kolhe

Site Name: Ierfrar

Site Type: Nasara

Site Description: This is site located by the Public works workshop. Evidence of a nasara could be found such as stones. Steve Serr, the assistant chief of Kolhe also mentioned that he has already mentioned these sites to the MCA staff that had previously done consultation at Kolhe.



The site is found around this area shown in these two pictures, no guides were able to show us the actual location due to a death in the village.

Recommendation(s): A detailed survey is needed for this site as it has been previously damaged by the Public Works department and it is possible that it can be further damaged during the road construction.

Area: Lorum

Site Name: Unknown

Site Type: Burial and Nasara

Site Description: These two sites are mentioned at Kolhe village by chief Paul, the chief of Lorum however he was not able to show us the sites because he was at a funeral in Kolhe but he would like these sites to be further assessed.

Area: Lorum

Site Name: Jules and Bernadette Lariserveth's grave

Site Type: Gravesites

Description: Though they cannot be classified as historical sites they are within 150m of the road therefore it is just that they are noted for their location. These sites are within 5m of the road.



Grave belonging to Jules and Bernadette,

Recommendation: The Vanuatu National Heritage Registry recommends a detailed survey in Lorum area as the chief has indicated Cultural sites for assessment within the right of way.

Area: Revilko

There are no sites not located in Revilko.

Area: Wantas settlement (before Hog Habor)

Site Name: Levathrath

Site Type: Nasara

Informant: David Frazer

Site Description: This site was used for grade taking ceremonies.



The first stone and boundary in the background.



The custom owner of the site and the road can be seen in the background.

There are three stones that are found within this well protected area. This site is also only 7m from the road side.

Recommendation(s): The Vanuatu National Heritage Registry recommends a detailed survey on the site as well as close monitoring during the road construction process.

Area: Hog Harbour

This village settlement was established by the early missionaries therefore all cultural sites can only be found in the old village settlements

Area: Port Olry

The people from this village are from other parts of Santo as this settlement was established by Catholic mission. No Cultural Sites are located within the right of way and 150m from the road.

The only Historical figure that is important to the Catholic Church is the statue of Mother Mary that can be found directly on the road site. No one could remember the exact date of which the statue was put up but they could confirm that it was a long time ago. During Easter, masses are held here.

Preliminary Assessment on Cultural and Historical Sites along the
Luganville to Port Olry Road



Recommendation(s): The Vanuatu National Heritage Registry recommends consultation with the Catholic Church in Port Olry for the statue to be relocated.