

their land, and they wanted to have access to these resources since they utilize them for spiritual activities, as grazing areas and as places where they go to enjoy the creations of ancestors. This means it is necessary to engage them in the formulation of conservation and management strategies as a way of ensuring the sustainability of such measures. See Figure 1.

Incorporating community values requires multidisciplinary research methodologies that facilitate the integration of archaeology with local memories and traditions, thereby creating a platform for a harmonized presentation of contested narratives about the past. Certain aspects need to be considered with regard to integrating communities into the process. These include:

1. What are the community cultural values as they relate to archaeological and cultural resources, and what other community cultural and traditional values can be integrated into the conservation and management plan?
2. Why should communities be involved in archaeological research and heritage management – from the emic point of view of communities? What are the communities’ views regarding the archaeological resources and how can this be exploited to enhance the sustainability of conservation strategies?
3. How can communities be involved and what methodologies are relevant for integrating communities’ concerns in archaeological research and conservation? The research carried out during this study demonstrated that issues of interpretation and the meanings communities attach to heritage resources can best be accommodated through the adoption of both quantitative and qualitative research designs that borrow from science and social sciences. Luxen (2001, p. 25) is of the view that even conservation and management of monuments and sites should now consider the ethical values, social customs, beliefs or myths as they may be expressed

Figure 1. Reasons for integration of community values into archaeological research and conservation.

