

Archaeological Site Report	SiteNo	PLA2162/007
	Site Name	PLA2162_Waterberg_Prospecting_Rights_Project
	Date	09/04/2013 - 07:39
	Project	
	CaseNID	117360
	Coords	-23.196940, 28.826700

Page No: 1 **SiteAutoID:** 60007

AlternateCode: S.34_06 **AlternateName:** PLA2162/2328BB/S....

Site Category: Structures

SiteComments:

Comprised low terrace walling on the contours of the slope towards Blouberg. Although two 'sites' were recorded, this is probably an arbitrary distinction as the sites are separated only by a drainage channel originating up-slope. These sites may be associated with existing structures visible on 1965 historical aerial photographs. As a result, the sites may represent earlier, now-abandoned wards of either one of the named villages. Large concentrations of ceramics were noted at the lowest point of the sites, adjacent to modern, occupied homesteads. Most ceramics were undecorated and all were undiagnostic. However, several fragments were clearly burnished with red ochre and graphite, indicating a late Sotho ceramic tradition. These ceramic concentrations evidently washed down the mountain slope and no context could be determined. The sites are characterised by terraces that divide the sites into individual household units and activity areas, consistent with early historical settlement. Ash middens were noted at the back and sides of households. Hut melt (i.e. remains of unfired mud walls) was noted in most household areas. Site S.34_05 still exhibited existing structures seen in. At least three types of stone walls were noted. Free standing walls in the areas located higher up-slope – and therefore presumably older – comprised double-coursed walls with stone and gravel fill. Terrace and retaining walls in these areas indicated great skill and technique. Walls in the lower areas were predominantly single packed walls. These may either have delineated gardens, or may indicate decreased skill in stone masonry over time.

Damage Types: