

# Sterkfontein Caves Palaeoanthropological Research and Excavation Permit Renewal

Our Ref: 7994

Enquiries: Ragna Redelstorff  
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CaseID: 7994

Date: Monday October 05, 2015  
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PermitID: 2106



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

## PERMIT: Excavation

### In terms of Section of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Permit Holder: Dr Dominic Stratford  
University of the Witwatersrand - Institute for Human Evolution  
P.Bag 3 Wits 2050  
Johannesburg  
South Africa

**Site:** Sterkfontein Caves, Zwartkrans, Krugersdorp District (9/2/233/0004)

#### Conditions:

1. This permit is issued to Dr Dominik Stratford (Evolutionary Studies Institute ESI, University of the Witwatersrand in collaboration with Dr Bruce Rubidge (second permit holder; ESI, University of the Witwatersrand) and Drs. R.J. Clarke and K. Kuman (Emeriti, University of the Witwatersrand).
2. If the permit holder is not to be present on the site at all times then SAHRA must be provided with the names and qualifications of the authorised representatives.
3. The permit holder must ensure that the necessary environmental authorization/exemption has been obtained from the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site Managing Authority before commencing work on site.
4. Adequate recording methods as specified in the Regulations and Guidelines pertaining to the National Heritage Resources Act must be employed. Note that the position of all excavations and objects collected must be marked on a plan of the site.
5. A standard site record form must be lodged with the ESI, University of the Witwatersrand.
6. All material collected and excavated, as well as field notes and records, will be curated by the ESI (University of the Witwatersrand), who will be responsible for the permanent curation and safekeeping of all artefactual and palaeontological material in a condition that allows ongoing research.
7. An annual progress report on the results of the excavations and analyses must be submitted to SAHRA permit on or before 31 October 2016 and 31 October 2017. A final report is due on or before 31 October 2018. SAHRA reserves the right to withhold further permits if progress is not deemed satisfactory.
8. Reprints of all published papers or copies of theses and/or reports resulting from this work must be lodged with SAHRA.
9. The final permit report can be made available to researchers on request within one year of the lapsing of



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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this permit.

10. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the landowner for each visit, and the excavator is responsible for ensuring that he or she has an understanding with the landowner concerning: the number of visitors and workers; conditions for camping on the property; speed limits on access roads; possible prohibitions on off-road driving; size, type and number of vehicles permitted; possible prohibitions on trespassing beyond the site; disturbing fauna, flora or substrate; erection and demolition of structures on the site; appropriate hours of visiting and working on the site; use of firewood, electricity and water; lighting fires and the prevention of uncontrolled fires and any fencing necessary to protect livestock. Conditions of access imposed by the landowner must be observed.

11. The permitted excavator shall be responsible for the activities and impacts of all colleagues, students and employees under his or her supervision and for their compliance with the terms of the Heritage Agreement and the Management Plan for this site.

12. Excavators must take measures to ensure the safety of any person who may enter the National Heritage Site as part of their excavation team or as their visitor.

13. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to protect sites during and after excavation and to ensure that where appropriate excavations are filled in or stabilised with adequate materials (e.g. Loffelstein blocks or army bags in geotextile) to the satisfaction of SAHRA and the landowner.

14. SAHRA shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities in connection with this permit.

15. SAHRA reserves the right to cancel this permit by notice to the permit holder.

16. This permit is subject to a general appeal and may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.

This permit is valid from **05/10/2015 to 31/10/2018**.

Ragna Redelstorff  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency



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Phillip Hine  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

## Additional Info:

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.



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