

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCOPING

Proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift, near Upington Northern Cape

Assessment conducted under Section 38 (3) of the National Heritage
Resource Act (No. 25 of 1999)

Prepared for:

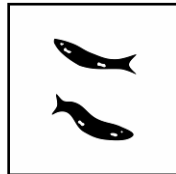
ENVIROAFRICA

Att: Mr Clinton Geyser
PO Box 5367, Helderberg, 7135
E-mail: Clinton@enviroafrica.co.za

Applicant:

SATINSKY 108 (Pty) Ltd

By



ACRM

5 Stuart Road, Rondebosch, 7700
Ph/Fax: 021 685 7589
Mobile: 082 321 0172
E-mail: acrm@wcaccess.co.za

**OCOTBER
2016**

Executive summary

Introduction

ACRM was instructed by EnviroAfrica to undertake Archaeological Scoping for a proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift, near Uppington in the Northern Cape.

The proposed development comprises 32 residential erven, including internal streets and engineering services. The subject property measures 2.93 ha in extent.

The AIA forms part of a Basic Assessment process that is being conducted by EnviroAfrica.

Objectives

The overall purpose of archaeological scoping is to assess the sensitivity of archaeological resources in the affected area and to determine the potential impacts on such resources.

Findings

The following observations were made:

- The proposed development site is severely degraded
- A few Later Stone Age chunks and flakes in banded iron stone were found
- No graves, or grave markers were encountered

Impact statement

Scoping indicates that the proposed activity will not have an impact of great significance on archaeological heritage.

Conclusion

The proposed development site is not a threatened archaeological landscape.

Therefore, there are no objections to the authorization of the proposed development.

Recommendations

1. No further archaeological mitigation is required.
2. Should any unmarked human burials/remains or ostrich eggshell water flask caches be uncovered, or exposed during construction activities these must immediately be reported to the archaeologist (Jonathan Kaplan 082 321 0172), or the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Ms Natasha Higgitt 021 462 4502). Burials, etc. must not be removed or disturbed until inspected by the archaeologist.

Table of Contents

	Page
Executive summary	1
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. HERITAGE LEGISLATION	5
3. TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
4. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	5
5. STUDY APPROACH	6
5.1 Method of survey	6
5.2 Constraints and limitations	7
5.3 Identification of potential risks	7
6. FINDINGS	7
6.1 Graves	8
7. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS	8
8. CONCLUSIONS	8
9. RECOMMENDATIONS	8

1. INTRODUCTION

ACRM was instructed by EnviroAfrica, on behalf of Satinsky 108 (Pty) Ltd, to conduct Archaeological Scoping for a proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift (//Khara Hais Local Municipality), on the outskirts of Upington in the Northern Cape (Figures 1 & 2).

The proposal entails the construction of 32 residential erven, including internal streets and engineering services (Figure 3).

The subject property measures 2.93 ha in extent.



Figure 1. Locality Map. Red polygon illustrates the location of the proposed development site

Archaeological Scoping Assessment proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift near Upington



Figure 2. Google image illustrating the location of the proposed development site (red polygon).

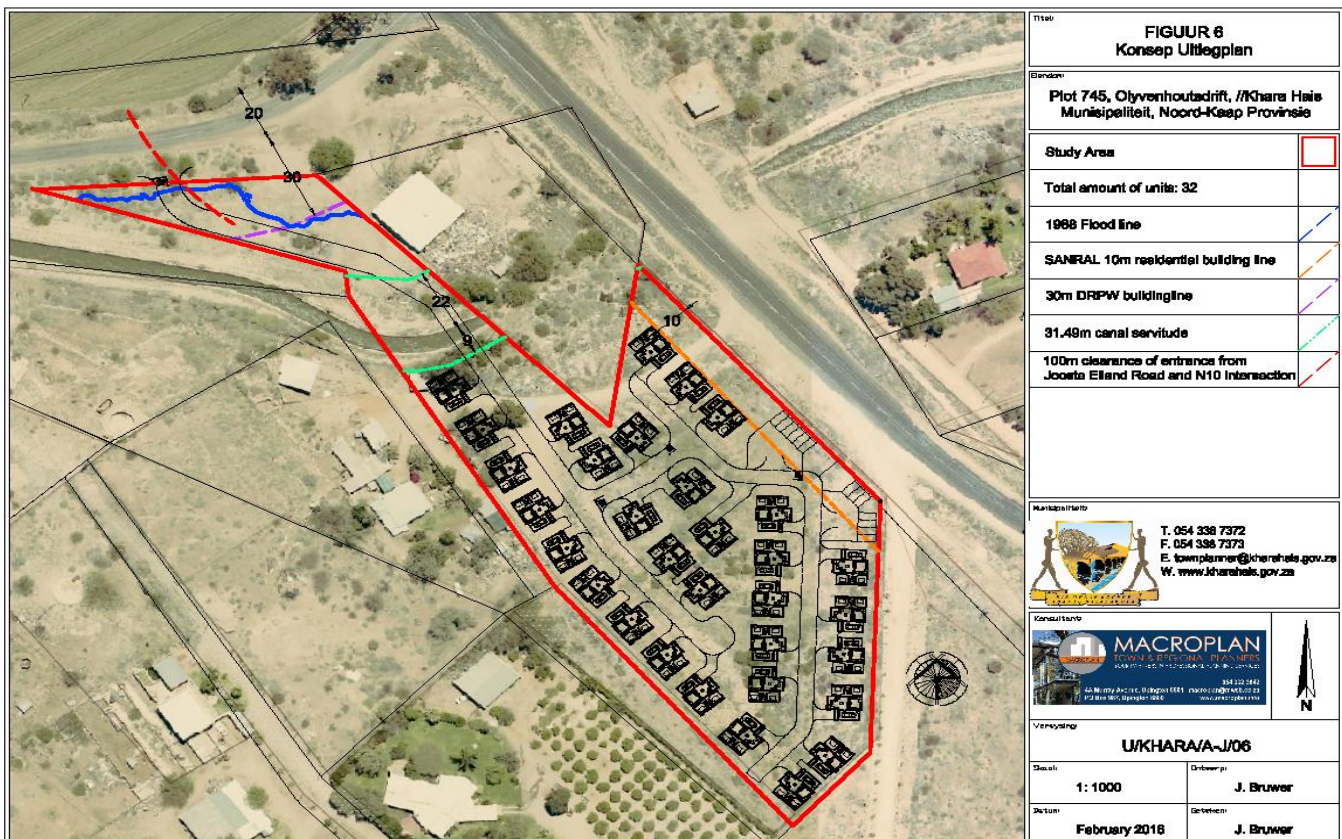


Figure 3. Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift. Proposed site layout plan

2. HERITAGE LEGISLATION

The National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA No. 25 of 1999) protects archaeological and palaeontological sites and materials, as well as graves/cemeteries, battlefield sites and buildings, structures and features over 60 years old. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) administers this legislation nationally, with Heritage Resources Agencies acting at provincial level. According to the Act (Sect. 35), it is an offence to destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original place, or collect, any archaeological, palaeontological and historical material or object, without a permit issued by the SAHRA or applicable Provincial Heritage Resources Agency, viz. Heritage Western Cape (HWC).

Notification of HWC is required for proposed developments exceeding certain dimensions (Sect. 38), upon which they will decide whether or not the development must be assessed for heritage impacts (an HIA) that may include an assessment of archaeological (a AIA) or palaeontological heritage (a PIA).

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were to:

- Determine whether there are likely to be any important archaeological resources that may potentially be impacted by the proposed development;
- Identify potentially sensitive archaeological areas, and
- Recommend any further mitigation action.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The site for the proposed development is located adjacent to the N10 / Groblaarshoop Road, just after the Louisvale Road turn off, about 2kms south east of Upington, across the Orange River.

The site is currently vacant, but is severely degraded and transformed by deep diggings, scraping, and dumping of building rubble and waste (Figures 4-7). The site is also covered in thick grass and a dense stand of Drie doring and Swarthaak vegetation across the southern portion of the proposed development site. A wide gravel road runs alongside the western boundary of the proposed site, while the N10 / Groblaarshoop road defines the eastern boundary. There are no significant landscape features on the proposed site. Surrounding land use is roads (N10), small holdings, agriculture and residential.



Figure 4. Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift. View facing south. Note the N10 road



Figure 6. Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift. View facing north



Figure 5. Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift. View facing south



Figure 7. Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift. View facing north

5. STUDY APPROACH

5.1 Method of survey

The purpose of the study is to assess the sensitivity of archaeological resources in the affected area and to determine the potential impacts on such resources.

A survey track path was captured (refer to Figure 8) and the position of identified archaeological occurrences were fixed by a hand held GPS unit set on the map datum wgs 84.

5.2 Constraints and limitations

There were no constraints associated with the study.

5.3 Identification of potential risks

Indications are that there are no archaeological risks associated with the proposed development. The site is severely degraded and transformed.

6. FINDINGS

Two chunks, a retouched cortex chunk, and a snapped utilized flake were recorded during scoping (refer to Table 1 & Figure 9). All the tools are in banded ironstone. Large piles of gavels (of banded ironstone & jasperlite) line the gravel road as you enter the property from the N10 (refer to Figure 7).

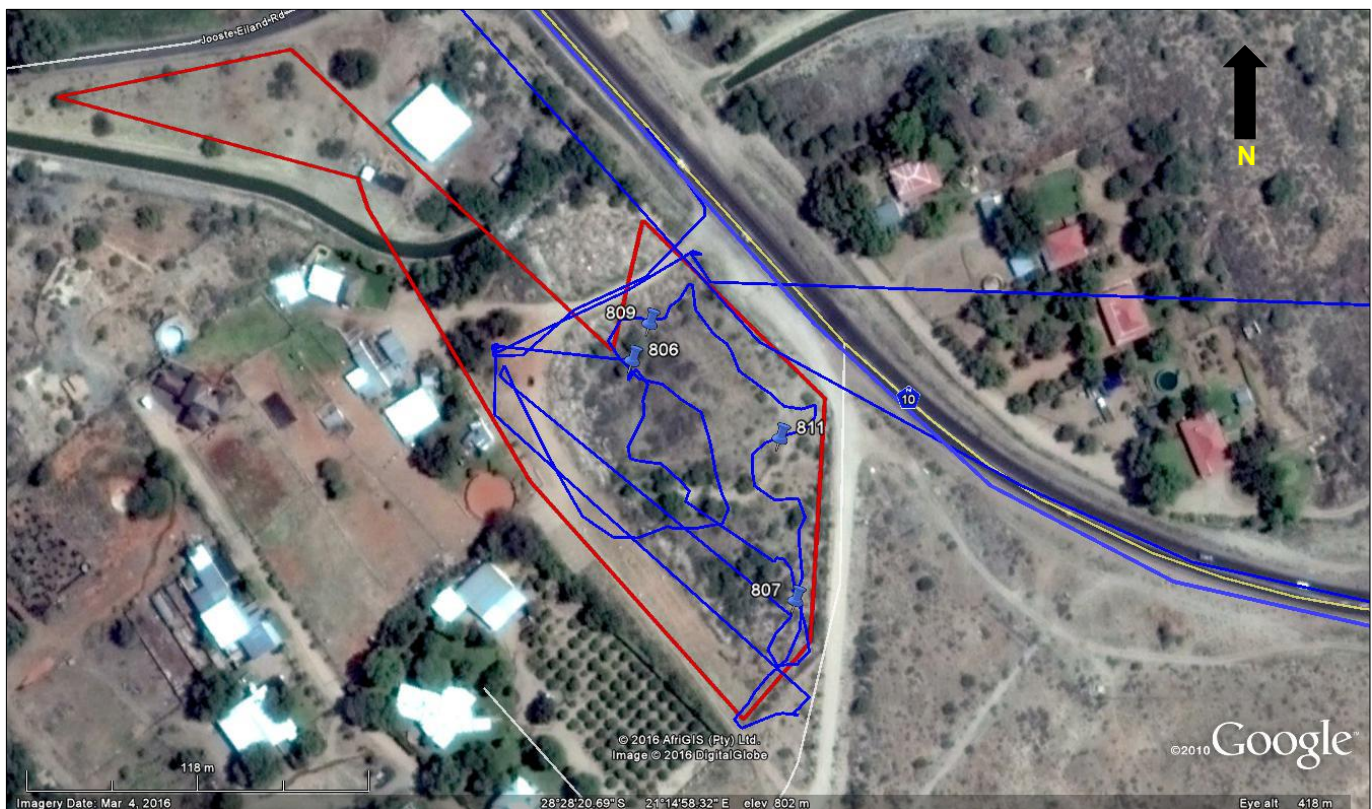


Figure 8. Survey track paths (red) and waypoints of archaeological finds

Site	Farm Name	Lat/Long	Description of finds	Grading	Suggested mitigation
	Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift				
806		S28° 28.335' E21° 14.960'	Chunk	3C	None required
807		S28° 28.380' E21° 14.995'	Retouched cortex chunk	3C	None required
809		S28° 28.343' E21° 14.936'	Chunk	3C	None required
811		S28° 28.328' E21° 14.964'	Snapped utilised flake	3C	None required

Table 1. Spreadsheet of waypoints and description of archaeological finds



Figure 9. Finds from Erf 745. Scale is in cm

6.1 Graves

No graves, or typical grave features or markers were encountered during the study.

7. IMPACT STATEMENT

Scoping indicates that a proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift will not impact on important archaeological heritage.

8. CONCLUSION

The proposed development site is not a threatened archaeological landscape.

Therefore, there are no objections to the authorization of the proposed development.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to a proposed housing development on Erf 745 Olyvenhoutsdrift, the following recommendations are made:

1. No further archaeological mitigation is required.
2. Should any unmarked human burials/remains or ostrich eggshell water flask caches be uncovered, or exposed during construction activities these must immediately be reported to the archaeologist (Jonathan Kaplan 0823210172), or the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Ms Natasha Higgitt 021 4624502). Burials, etc. must not be removed or disturbed until inspected by the archaeologist.