

BAROLONG HERITAGE PARK

THE MONUMENT

The identified monument has been recently erected with funds sourced from the Barolong Community, erected in commemoration of the Barolong individuals who lost their lives in the battle site. They were regarded as the heroes who defended their territory against the Boer domination on the 25 of October 1899. Oral history suggests that the monument was erected from stones sourced from grave site (the stones were part of grave dressings) for those who perished their lives during the Anglo Boer war. Although the monument is located outside the proposed development corridor foot print, it forms part of the proposed heritage park and bear permanent testimonies of the role, suffering, death and the enrolment of Africans in the war of independence (The Anglo Boer War of 1899-1902).

THE STONE WALL ENCLOSURE

Historical source suggest that the Sotho-Tswana communities has been established from the early date in small communities scattered throughout the region with the main stream Sotho –Tswana. The most important were various sections of three lineage cluster, Koena, Kgatla, Taung and there appear Kubung who were apparently an offshoot from Rolong.

In short the stone walling fall within the proposed development corridor foot print, and forms part of the historical structures, most of which could be found in the current residential stand of Montshioa Stadt village. The stone wall enclosure covers approximately 20 meters radius, with the height of 1meter, with dilapidated sections, possibly destructed by livestock's rubbing themselves against the stonewall. The area is surrounded by scattered vegetation distribution dominated by Acacia karoo and Acacia tortilis trees.

No associated archaeological/historical surface finds such as pottery fragment, ash midden or livestock dung deposit. Information supplied to us sourced from a village elder shows that the stone walling is still in use as part of the Kgatla (Men's court/gathering area) where they held village issues such as meetings, and funeral arrangements. Women's are not allowed inside the Kgatla area. The stone wall enclosure forms part of the proposed heritage park establishment and will not be impacted by the proposed development. In fact dilapidated stone wall sections will be rehabilitated.