

P.O.BOX73703

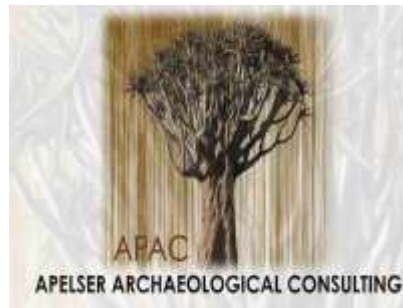
LYNNWOOD RIDGE

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Comprehensive and Professional Solutions for all Heritage Related Matters  
**CK 2006/014630/23** **VAT NO.: 4360226270**

**DATE: 2014-08-21**

To: Me.Mariagrazia Galimberti  
SAHRA APM Unit

**RE: APPLICATION FOR HISTORICAL-ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION OF LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> TO MID 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ASH MIDDEN (SITE 3) IMPACTED ON BY THE PROPOSED WILKOPPIES EXT.108 TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT ON HOLDINGS 19-23 AND 48, WILKOPPIES AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ELANDSHEUVEL 402IP) IN KLERKSDORP, NORTHWEST PROVINCE**

Dear Me.Galimberti,

This motivation is in response to a request by your office in terms of the above. The Phase 1 HIA on the development identified and recorded the historical ash midden (Site 3) and indicated its significance in this report as follows:

Cultural Significance: Medium to High

Heritage Significance: Grade III - Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

Field Ratings: General protection B (IV B) - Site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance)

Mitigation: Limited excavations and sampling of material.

It actually does - taking a picture of "the complete midden" was made difficult as a result of the mentioned. Hence and I don't have any references in this regard, and my motivation

The site is a fairly large refuse midden estimated at around 10m in diameter, containing glass, porcelain, metal objects and other material possibly dating to between the late 19th and mid20th centuries. The exact size was difficult to determine because of a fence that cuts through a section of the midden (a small section is on the other side of this fence which is on a different property not impacted by the development). The cultural deposit is believed to be around 50cm in depth or so, but without excavating it is difficult to say if this is 100% correct. The excavation will be measured out in the centre of the midden, with a trench cutting through the midden towards its edge. The archaeological investigations would include excavations and the sampling of material from the site. Only through the Phase 2 investigations will we be able to determine the extent of the midden, depth of the deposit and age of the cultural material

**AJ Pelser BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology) [WITS], MA (Archaeology) [WITS]**

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recovered completely. The origin and history of the midden could not be traced through archival and historical research, but it is believed that it is possibly related to earlier farming (and more likely farm labourer) activities in the area.

I believe that archaeological excavations on the site, as well as the surface sampling of exposed cultural material, will contribute towards our knowledge of the earlier farming, and most likely farm-labourer, history the Klerksdorp area. Historically not much is known about this aspect of the region's history and the material recovered will provide us with the opportunity to contribute to this knowledge base. This deduction is based on the mere fact no information on the site and this aspect of local history could be found in any sources. The cultural material recovered will also be returned to its area of origin in the Klerksdorp Museum, which will give a wider audience the opportunity to view the material and play a role in the educational program of the Museum.

I therefore urge that the application for the permit be favourably considered and that the permit be issued as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Anton Pelser  
APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING cc  
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**A view of a section of the midden.**



**Some of the cultural material from the site.  
Included here is a pocket knife and a bottle stopper typical  
of the late 19th/mid 20th century.**