



Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Nico Blignaut
Welwyn Town Planners
PO Box 20508
Noordbrug
2522

Proposed Privat Resort Situated on Portion 3 of the Farm Buffelskloof 511 IQ, North West Province

Kusel, U. December 2011. *Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment Of Portions Of Portion 3 Of The Farm Buffelskloof 511 IQ North West Province.*

A private resort is proposed on Portion 3 of the farm Buffelskloof 511 IQ, North West Province. The report submitted is a revised report although it is still dated to December 2011. The area where the proposed development is to take place is situated within the Vredefort Dome, an area which is highly significant and a World Heritage Site.

The author notes that the area is well known for its Late Iron Age Stone Walled sites, dating primarily between the period 1650-1840 and thereafter abandoned. The discovery of gold during the 1880s resulted in the establishment of the town Venterkroon in 1887 which the author indicated have more than 150 buildings older than 60 years of age.

The survey of the area yielded the following heritage resources:

- Three cemeteries,
- A number of small quarries related to gold diggings. The author did not specify the number of quarries,
- A Late Iron Age (LIA) site consisting of a number of low semi-circular stone walls. The author noted that the site is typical of other Late Tswana sites.

According to the report the three cemeteries and the Late Iron Age site will not be impacted by the proposed development. No palaeontological assessment was undertaken for this project.

Decision:

- SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves Unit supports the recommendation of the author that the three cemeteries must be retained *in situ*. For this purpose, a proper fence must be erected around them including entry gates to allow visits from relatives and family friends. The fence must be placed 2 meters away from the perimeter of the graves. No development is allowed within 15 meters from the fence line surrounding the





graves.

- The LIA site is considered to be of low significance although the recommendation that the site should not be disturbed is supported.

-No further action is required for the quarry sites since these have been rated as having a low significance.

- Considering the relatively small size of the property surveyed, a palaeontological assessment will not be necessary for this development.

- If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during the course of development, construction, SAHRA (Mr Phillip Hine/Mrs Colette Scheermeyer, tel. 021 462 4502) and an archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the findings, must be alerted immediately. If the newly discovered heritage resource/s is considered to be significant a rescue excavation may be required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Phillip Hine
Heritage Officer

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:





Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/49887>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

