



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 21039

Date: Monday June 05, 2023

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Final Comment

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

Attention: Vaalplan Town and Regional Planners

Elandsfontein Extension Township Development Project.

Vaalplan Town and Regional Planners (Pty) Ltd have been appointed to undertake a Scoping & Environmental Impact Assessment application process in support for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) as amended, for activities that trigger the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations, as amended.

A total of 340 full title residential 1 zoned stands are proposed as well as institutional land uses for schools, churches, clinics, social halls etc are also provided for, along with 2 business ervens toward the front of the residential area. The total extent of the proposed development is 34 ha located on Portion 106,107,108 and 109 of the farm Elandsfontein 334 IQ, in Midvaal Local Municipality of the Gauteng Province.

A Heritage Impact Assessment report by Beyond Heritage (Pty) Ltd has been submitted to SAHRA for commenting in terms of section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, no. 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van der Walt, J. February 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment For The Proposed Township Development On Portions 106, 107, 108, 109 Elandsfontein Extension, Located Within The Midvaal Local Municipality, Gauteng Province.

The author undertook a field survey of the proposed development area and identified a few isolated Middle and Later Stone Aged stone tools (4 finds) that are of low significance, and some dilapidated buildings (5 structures and foundation remains) that are not older than 60 years. These buildings are not generally protected by the NHRA. The overall heritage significance is low and the author recommends the following:

Regular monitoring of the development footprint by the ECO to implement the Chance Find Procedure for heritage and palaeontology resources (outlined in Section 10.2) in case heritage resources are uncovered during the course of construction.

The SAHRA issued an Interim Comment dated 24/05/2023 requesting the submission of the PIA report



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mentioned in the HIA report and Final Scoping Report as well as the draft EIA report and its appendices. The PIA report was submitted on 25/05/2023.

Bamford, M. February 2023. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Elandsfontein Extension township development between Grasmere and Walkerville, Gauteng Province.

The study area is underlain by rocks of the Timeball Formation (Pretoria Group, Transvaal Supergroup). The sandstone and siltstone have the potential to preserve trace fossils such as stromatolites or microbialites. The potential impact to palaeontological resources is assessed as low and the author recommends a Fossil Chance Find Protocol included in the report under section 8 should be added to the EMPr.

Final Comment

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final EIA and EMPr:

38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) and the Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit has no objections to the proposed development;

38(4)b – The recommendations provided by the heritage specialists are supported and must be adhered to. There are no additional specific conditions for the project.

38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA DAU (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqalabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;

38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA;

38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:

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i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA; The Final EIA and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes; The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

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

Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/615966>

Terms & Conditions:

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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.