



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 13715

Date: Friday June 05, 2020
Page No: 1

Final Comment

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

Attention: Onai Property Group (Pty) Ltd

Onai Property Group (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a golf course and residential estate to be known as Hidden Hills Golf Estate, on Portions 43, 184, 224, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230 and the Remainder of Portion 20 of the Farm Nooitgedacht 534 JQ, Lanseria.

Pelser, A. March 2019. Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment Report For The Proposed Hidden Hills Golf Course Development On Various Portions Of The Farm Nooitgedacht 534 JR, Lanseria, Gauteng

The proposed development entails a golf course and residential estate to be known as Hidden Hills Golf Estate, on Portions 43, 184, 224, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230 and the Remainder of Portion 20 of the Farm Nooitgedacht 534 JQ, Lanseria.

The assessment revealed a number of sites and features dating to the Late Iron Age (LIA) and more recent historical period were identified in and around the study area during the assessment. Of these Sites 1 to 3 (Grave Sites) and Site 8 (LIA stone walling) are the most significant. The author notes that Sites 2 and 3 occur off site and will thus not be impacted by the proposed development. Site 1 and Site 8 requires mitigation measures due to their significance. The other sites date to more recent time periods and are associated with recent farming activities in the area.

Site 1 contains between 50 and 60 graves which are mostly stone-packed. Five graves have formal headstones, with only one legible inscription that provides a date of death of 1960. One of the graves have recently been cleaned and is therefore being visited it seems. Site 1 is located within the development footprint and if it to be impacted. suitable mitigation measures to protect it or to exhume and relocate the graves will have to be implemented. Considering the graves at Site 1 is clustered and occurs on the boundary of the proposed development site, it is recommended that the graves be fenced off and made accessible to relatives of the deceased, and managed through a Graves Management Plan within the development. Site 2 contains a single grave with cement headstone. It is located outside the development footprint and will therefore not be impacted by the proposed development. A date of death of 1-2-1975 is inscribed on it. Site 3 is also located outside of the development area, but fairly close to Site 1. It contains 10 graves of which 2 have formal headstones with inscriptions. The one is of Me. Anna Mathibe (died in 1974) and the other of Mr. Abiner



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Page No: 2

Mathibe who died in 1980.

The author states that Site 8 consists of a number of low stone-walled sections of enclosures (cattle kraals and hut features) typical of the Late Iron Age. Although the stone-walls are not well preserved and no cultural material (in the form of pottery and others) were noticed on the site, the site is unique in the sense that very few similar sites have been recorded before in the specific area. This site is located close to the rocky ridge in the south western portion of Portion 230 of the farm that is zoned as Zone 2: High control zone (within the urban development zone) due to the presence of a ridge. No development is allowed on slopes steeper than 8.8% and therefore the ridge must be conserved. This area appears to be undisturbed and could be zoned as Private Open Space as part of the golf course development. Based on the above it is assumed that the archaeological site will not be directly impacted upon by the proposed development. The author recommends that the site be fenced-in and protected and that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan be drafted and implemented as part of the development.

The SA Palaeontological Sensitivity Map indicates that the study area has Insignificant fossil sensitivity.

Final Comment

In terms of archaeological and palaeontological heritage, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit supports the recommendations of the author that:

Site 1 be fenced off and made accessible to relatives of the deceased, and managed through a Graves Management Plan within the development.

Site 8 be fenced-in and protected and that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan be drafted and implemented as part of the development.

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and in addition, on the following conditions:

- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase

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Page No: 3

2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/522634>



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Page No: 4

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.