



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Andrew Salomon
Tel: 021 462 4502
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CaseID: 8388

Date: Tuesday January 19, 2016
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Interim Comment

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

Attention: Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality

The Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality is proposing the development of a new mixed housing township on a Portion of the Farm Witpoortje 117IR, Gauteng Province.

Gaigher, S. June 2015. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Van Dyk Park Mixed Housing Project Development

The proposed development entails a project by the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality to develop of a new mixed-housing township and associated infrastructure on a Portion of the Farm Witpoortje 117IR, Gauteng Province.

The assessment identified numerous structures, that the author states, due to the importance of mining in the evolution of the East Rand urban landscape, have significant historic value. The author notes that many of these “mining villages” was also designed by Sir Herbert Baker making them even more significant. The author recommends that the site undergoes a second phase of investigation to determine its architectural and historic significance before any structures are demolished.

No archaeological heritage resources were identified.

No palaeontological assessment has been submitted with this case.

Interim comment

Considering that no significant archaeological heritage resources occur within the study area ,the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, in terms of possible impact on archaeological resources, 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 other categories of archaeological heritage resources are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or significance a Phase 2



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rescue operation might be necessary.

The SA Fossil Sensitivity Map indicates that the palaeontological sensitivity of the area is VERY HIGH, and SAHRA requires that a palaeontological field assessment including a protocol for finds be conducted and submitted to SAHRA for comment, prior to any development activities taking place.

In terms of the structures recorded within the study area, comments must be obtained from the Gauteng Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/329639>

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.



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3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.