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Report to the South African Heritage Resource Agency
Concerning permit
No 80/04/07/011/51

Klipriviersberg
Minor excavation for Wits Archaeology
First Year Field School
E 28.05.21/S 26.16.52

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8 March 2005

In early September 2004, the first year archaeology class from Wits University participated in a five day field school at Klipriviersberg. The students were exposed to exercises in laying out an excavation grid, plotting surface artifacts within the grid, mapping stone walled settlements using a dumpy level, surveying the local landscape for archaeological sites as well as minor excavations in the form of clearing a number of small stone circles at one of the sites at Klipriviersberg (E 28.05.21/S 26.16.52).

The excavation exercise in clearing features involved mostly the removal of tall grass and a small amount of soil which had accumulated at the bases of the stone circles. Work was limited to an area of about 10 x 7 meters. The clearing was done with trowel and brush, and the slow pace of work made it unnecessary to sieve the materials. No artifacts were found during this exercise. It appears the small stone circles may have been the bases of storage structures and so the absence of artifacts is not surprising.

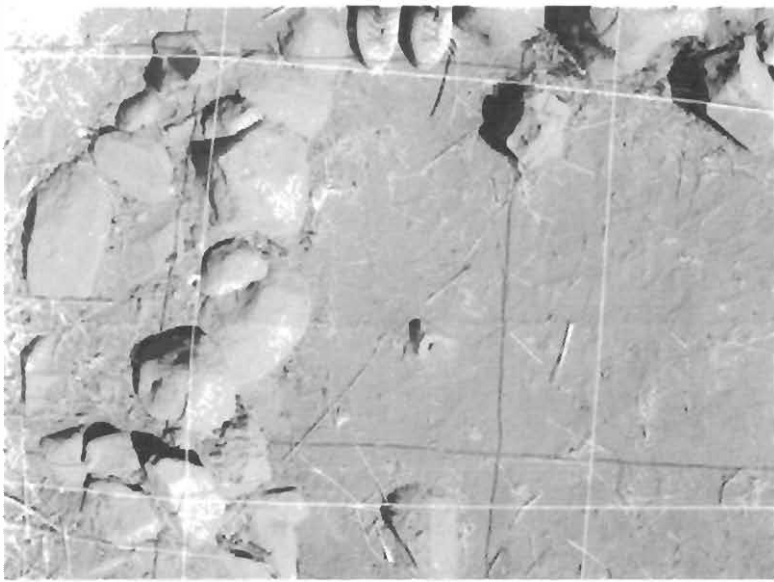
The photographs below give an indication of the excavation carried out.



Students clearing stone circles



Students mapping stone circles



Plan view of cleared stone circle

Parish

08/03/2005