



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
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**A REPORT ON A CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON
THE FARM KAREESLOOT 206 JQ, FOR THE PROPOSED LAUGHING
WATERS COUNTRY ESTATE
MADIBENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHWEST PROVINCE**

For:

***K2M TECHNOLOGIES
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SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was requested by K2M Technologies to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment on the farm Kareesloot 206 JQ in the Madibeng Local Municipality, Northwest Province. The development of the so-called Laughing Waters Country Estate is being proposed.

The fieldwork undertaken revealed no sites, features or objects of any significant cultural heritage importance on the property, although a number of Middle to Later Stone Age tools were identified in a number of areas. The areas where they were located will not be impacted on directly by the development, and it is therefore recommended that the proposed development continue.

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INTRODUCTION

Archaetos cc was requested by K2M Technologies to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment on the farm Kareesloot 206 JQ in the Madibeng Local Municipality, Northwest Province. The development of the so-called Laughing Waters Country Estate is being proposed. Around 39 full-title housing units, of around 1 ha each, will be developed here

The client indicated the area where the proposed development is to take place, and the survey was confined to this area.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the survey were to:

1. Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the property
2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical and scientific value
3. Recommend suitable mitigation measure should there be any sites of significance that might be impacted upon by the proposed development

CONDITIONS & ASSUMPTIONS

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and the resulting report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity. These include all sites, structure and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development. Graves and cemeteries are included in this.
2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. The various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these aspects.
3. The latitude and longitude of any archaeological or historical site or feature, is to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public

4. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

South African Heritage Resources Act

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (c) trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- (e) alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

Human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- (b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations.

Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925). Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)**.

The National Environmental Management Act

This act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made

METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area of proposed development. If required, the location/position of any site was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while photographs were also taken where needed.

The survey was undertaken on foot where needed, although large portions were traversed by vehicle. All rocky outcrops, open and eroded areas, stream/river beds and unnatural clumps of trees are also investigated for the presence of cultural sites during surveys such as these. In this case the low granite outcrops located on this property were specifically looked at.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The proposed development area is located on approximately 39 ha of the farm Kareesloot 206 JQ (with a total surface area of around 340 ha). The area is located in the Madibeng (old Brits) Local Municipality in the Northwest Province. The site is located about 40km outside of Brits, and approximately 5 km north of the Rooikoppies Dam.

A number of low granite outcrops occur on the farm, but in general the topography is relatively flat. The Crocodile River forms the eastern boundary of the property. No visible agricultural activities (ploughing) have taken place here in the recent past.

DISCUSSION

The fieldwork undertaken revealed no sites, features or objects of any significant cultural heritage importance on the property, although a number of Middle to Later Stone Age tools were identified on five locations. It is however also our believe that these types of stone tools scatters will occur all over the farm.

Site 1

The site is located on a low granite outcrop. The GPS location is between **25.35050° S and 27.57106° E**. A number of Middle and Later Stone Age (MSA & LSA) tools, such as cores, flakes and hammer stones were found scattered around the area, while a few possible upper grinding stones were also identified. There were no signs of any Iron Age stone walling.

No development will be undertaken near the rocky outcrops.

Site 2

This site is located in the road, next to an outcrop, and consists of a few scattered MSA/LSA stone tools. It is located between **25.35011° S and 27.57018° E**.

Site 3

Similarly to the others, this site is located near a rocky outcrop, between **25.34818° S and 27.56538° E**. A number of MSA/LSA objects, including cores and flake-tools, were identified.

Site 4

Similar to Site 3, this site contains a number of scattered Stone Age stone tools. It is located between **25.34708° S and 27.56523° E**.

Site 5

This is an open site situated near a waterhole/pan, between **25.34747° S and 27.57328° E**. A few MSA/LSA tools were found scattered around the area.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that although a number of sites with Middle and/or Later Stone Age artifacts were identified in the area, these finds have no real archaeological significance. **The areas where they are located (mainly near granite outcrops) will not be impacted on directly by the development, and it is therefore recommended that the proposed development continue.** These finds are however clear evidence of early human presence in and utilization of the area.

It should also be noted that if any artifacts or features are uncovered during the development process (the subterranean presence of these is a possibility) a professional archaeologist should be called in to investigate.

REFERENCES

Northwest Province Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment: Laughing Waters Country Estate. Prepared for Kelbrick Boerdery (Pty) Ltd. Trading as Laughing Waters Country Estate by K2M Technologies

PROJECT TEAM

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APPENDIX 2 – PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION



Fig. 1. Site 1



Fig. 2. Stone tool on Site 2



Fig. 3. Stone tools on Site 4.