A SURVEY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES AT THE PROPOSED GLEN ERASMIA DEVELOPMENT, KEMPTON PARK, GAUTENG

For:

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SUMMARY

A survey of cultural resources at the proposed Glen Erasmia development, Kempton Park, Gauteng

One site that could be negatively impacted upon by the proposed development was identified during the survey. It is therefore recommended that

- The proposed development can continue but that the identified site (see Appendix 2) should be avoided if possible.
- The developers should be notified that archaeological sites might be exposed during the construction work. If anything is noticed, it should immediately be reported to a museum, preferably one at which an archaeologist is available, so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made.

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1. AIMS OF THE SURVEY

The National Cultural History Museum was requested by **Cave Klapwijk & Associates** to survey a section of the farm borrow pits for upgrading of the N3 highway. The aim of the survey was to locate, identify, evaluate and document sites, objects and structures of cultural importance found within the boundaries of the areas to be developed.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The **Terms of Reference** for the study were to:

- 2.1 Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature located in the areas of the proposed development.
- 2.2 Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their historical, social, religious, aesthetic and scientific value.
- 2.3 Determine the possible impacts on the known and potential cultural resources in the area of interest.
- 2.4 Develop mitigation or control measures for impact minimization and cultural resources preservation.
- 2.5 Develop procedures to be implemented if previously unidentified cultural resources are uncovered during the construction.

3. **DEFINITIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

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

- Cultural resources are all nonphysical and physical human-made occurrences, as well as
 natural occurrences that are associated with human activity. These include all sites,
 structures and artifacts of importance, either individually or in groups, in the history,
 architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development.
- The **significance** of the sites and artifacts are determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. It must be kept in mind that the various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and that the evaluation of any site is done with reference to any number of these.

• Sites regarded as having low significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium to high significance require further mitigation.

• The latitude and longitude of archaeological sites are to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public.

4. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are mainly dealt within two acts. These are the National Heitage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Environmental Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989).

4.1 National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999)

In terms of Section 35(4) of this Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority, destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or material or any meteorite; or 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.

4.2 Environmental Conservation Act

This act states that a survey and an evaluation of cultural resources should be undertaken in areas where development, which will change the face of the environment, is to be made. The impact of the development on the cultural resources should also be determined and proposals to mitigate this impact is to be formulated.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Preliminary investigation

5.1.1 Survey of the literature

A survey of the relevant literature was conducted with the aim of reviewing the previous research done and determining the potential of the area. In this regard, various anthropological, archaeological and historical sources were consulted - see the list of references below. Nothing pertaining to the particular areas was found.

5.1.2 Data bases

The **Archaeological Data Recording Centre** (ADRC), housed at the National Cultural History Museum, Pretoria, was consulted. The **Environmental Potential Atlas** was also consulted.

5.1.3 Other sources

The topocadastral and other maps were also studied - see the list of references below.

5.2 Field survey

The field survey was done according to generally accepted archaeological practices, and was aimed at locating all possible sites, objects and structures. As the area that had to be investigated is quite small, it was easy to survey it by walking it. Special attention was given to outcrops, cliffs were inspected for rock shelters, while stream beds and unnatural topographical occurrences such as trenches, holes and clusters of trees were investigated.

5.3 Documentation

All sites, objects and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Coordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the **Global Positioning System** (GPS)¹ and plotted on a map. This information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

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According to the manufacturer a certain deviation may be expected for each reading. Care was, however, taken to obtain as accurate a reading as possible, and then correlate it with reference to the physical environment before plotting it on the map.