



## **AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC**

2001/077745/23

**DR. UDO S KÜSEL**

Tel/fax: (012) 567 6046  
Cell: 082 498 0673  
E-mail: udo.heritage@absamail.co.za

P.O. Box 652  
Magalieskruin  
0150

**4 December 2007**

### **CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF PORTIONS 252, 413 & 449 OF THE FARM HARTBEEFONTEIN 297 IP MATLOSANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

#### **1. DEFINITION**

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

#### **2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE ACT, Act. NO. 25 OF 1999**

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- a. Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years
- b. Archaeological sites and objects
- c. Palaeontological sites
- d. Meteorites
- e. Ship wrecks
- f. Burial grounds
- g. Graves of victims of conflict

- h. Public monuments and memorials
- i. Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette
- j. Any other places or object which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance
- k. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- l. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
- m. Objects to which oral traditions are attached
- n. Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

### 3. METHODOLOGY

All relevant maps and documents on the site were studied. The site was visited and evaluated. Visual inspection and evaluation gave rise to the results below.

### 4. RESULTS

The proposed development area lies west of the town Hartbeesfontein at the foot of a mountain. The vegetation is mixed grassland and thorn veldt.

At the foot of the mountain Later Iron Age sites were recorded at the following localities:

1	S26° 45' 58.2"	E26° 24' 34.3"	Stone circle with 25 large ash middens in the site + 15 metres
2	S26° 45' 57.6"	E26° 24' 35.2"	Stone circle and ash middens
3	S26° 45' 56.8"	E26° 24' 36.8"	Stone circle
4	S26° 45' 56.1"	E26° 24' 37.8"	Stone circle
5	S26° 45' 54.5"	E26° 24' 38.7"	Stone circle
6	S26° 45' 53.7"	E26° 24' 39.8"	Stone circle
7	S26° 45' 52.4"	E26° 24' 40.7"	Stone circle
8	S26° 45' 51.2"	E26° 24' 40.4"	Stone circle
9	S26° 45' 50.1"	E26° 24' 40.8"	Stone circle
10	S26° 45' 56.7"	E26° 24' 38.0"	Stone circle and ash midden

The sites consist of a stonewalled circular structure of about 15 metres in diameter. The stone circles consist of two rows of large rocks of which the space between the two rows of rocks is filled with smaller stones. These rudimentary walls are in most cases not higher than 50 centimetres (see photographs 1 & 2).

Sites 2 and 10 have large ash/dung middens of  $\pm$  80 centimetres deep or more. No cultural material could be found on the site except stonewalls and middens (see photographs 3 & 4).

The sites are not the typical Sotho/Tswana type of settlements one would expect in this area as described by Mason 1986 and Maggs 1976 or the sites recorded by Kusel 2003 and 2005 in the Potchefstroom and Hartbeesfontein areas. These sites rather represent Nguni type settlements or can even be difaqane (Mason R J 1986).

According to Huffman T.N. 2007 the area where the sites were found corresponds with his distribution of the so – called Ntsuanatsatsi pottery. This pottery tradition derived from the Blackburn type. As no decorated pottery was found this cannot be confirmed.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

The archaeological sites on the proposed development site are important cultural heritage resources especially as they differ from the Sotho/Tswana settlements, which are typical of the area. Their significance will only become clear after a Phase II investigation

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that a Phase II survey be conducted on the archaeological sites to determine their cultural affinity, age and significance. Here after a decision can be made to either preserve the sites or to apply for a destruction permit.

If during construction any other cultural heritage resources or graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

## **7. SITE INFORMATION**


### **Owners contact details:**

Michael Philippus Jordaan & Aleta Dorethea Jordaan

Address: **PO Box 74** Tel. No: **018 431 1222**  
**Hartbeesfontein** Cell: **083 455 5111**  
2600 Fax: **018 431 1222**

### **Developers contact details:**

**Counterpoint Trading**  
**Christo Conradie**

Address:	<b>PO Box 2357 Potchefstroom 2520</b>	Tel. No: <b>018 290 9696</b> Cell: <b>082 855 3002</b> Fax: <b>018 290 9696</b>
<b>Consultants contact details:</b>		
		<hr/> <p><i>Environmental- &amp; GIS Consultants</i>  <b>21 Bodenstein Street, Potchefstroom</b>  <b>Tel (018) 290-5748 Fax (018) 290-6339</b>  <b>Christo: 083 400 3321</b>  <b>Lorraine: 083 599 6852</b>  <b>E-mail: enviro@antlc.net</b></p> <hr/>
<b>Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc.)</b> Township Establishment		
<b>Whether rezoning and/or subdivision of land is involved:</b> Change of landuse from "Agricultural" so that the site may be utilised for Residential and Business purposes.		
<b>Full location of Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority, property (e.g. farm, erf name and number:</b> Remainder of Portion 252, Portion 413 & Portion 449 of the farm Hartbeesfontein 297, Registration Division I.P Matlosana Local Municipality, North West Province..		
<b>Location map must have the polygon of the area to be surveyed on it and full geographical coordinates for all relevant points and where applicable indication of the area to be developed (footprint):</b>  The proposed township is situated adjacent and to the west of the existing Hartbeesfontein Townships and adjacent to the west of Berg Street.		

## 8. REFERENCES

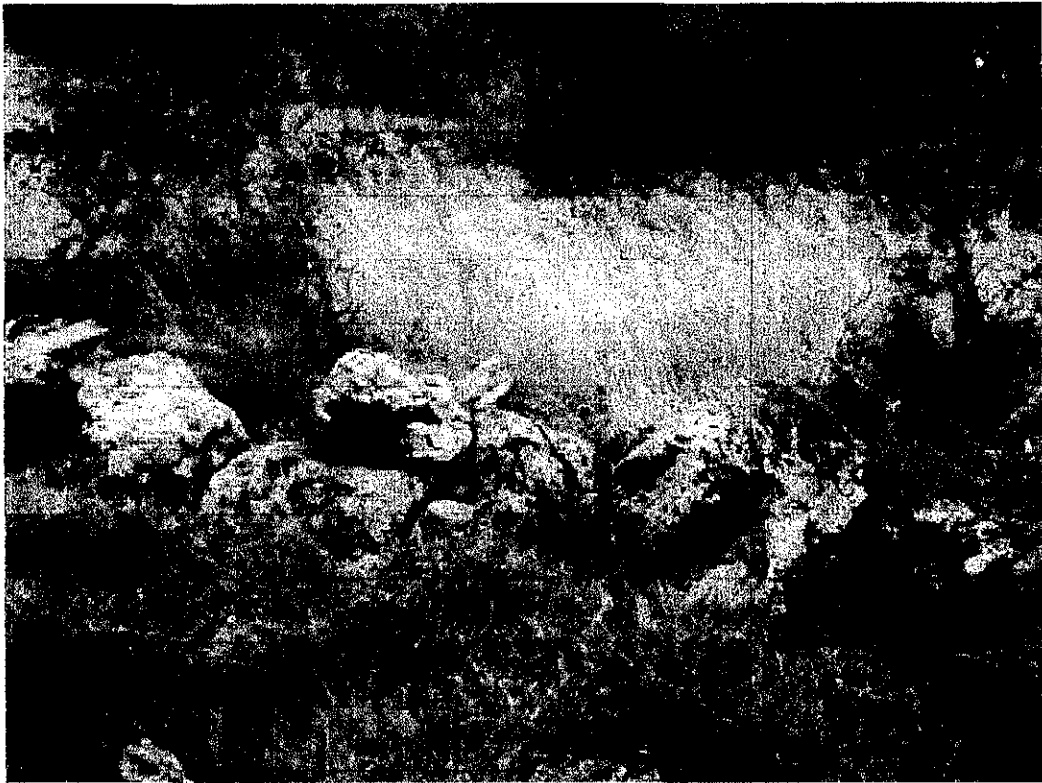
- 1/50 000 Map
- Archaeological database of the National Cultural History Museum Tshwane
- Huffman T.N. 2007 Handbook to the Iron Age University of KwaZulu – Natal Press
- Kusel U.S. 2007 Cultural heritage resources impact assessment of Portion 5 of Prinsloorsrust 489 IQ Potchefstroom District North West Province. (Unpublished report)

- Küsel U.S. 2007 Cultural heritage resources impact assessment of Goedvooruitzicht 242 IP Hartbeesfontein North West Province. (Unpublished report)
- Maggs T.M. 1976 Iron Age Communities of the Southern Highveld (Occasional Publications 2) Pietermaritzburg Natal Museum
- Mason R.J. 1986 Origins of the black people of Johannesburg and the southern western Transvaal AD 350-1880 Occasional papers 16 Johannesburg: University of the Witwatersrand Archaeological Research Unit.

## 9. PHOTOGRAPHS



**No. 1 Low stonewalling with rubble in the middle of the wall**



**No. 2 Single stonewalling**



**No. 3 Ash midden at site 2**



**No. 4 Ash midden at site 10**

**10.           MAPS**

See page 8 and 9.

