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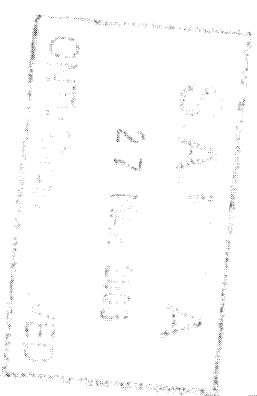
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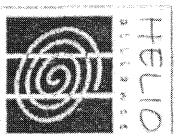
HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT
FOR THE
REZONING OF TWO SECTIONS OF
PORTION 5 OF THE FARM BRAKFONTein
399 JR AND TOWN DEVELOPMENT

IN THE VICINITY OF
ROOIHUISKRAAL

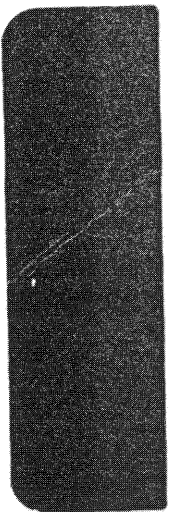
GAUTENG,
SOUTH AFRICA



Report: MPM-2002-09-27 / HIA
Compiled by: P. Birkholtz
Date: 27th of September 2002



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Reference Number:

MEE0028

Project Name:

Rezoning of Portion 5 of Brakfontein 399JR and Town Development

Site location:

The proposed development areas are located directly east of Heuweloord, Centurion, Gauteng, and are situated on the Remainder of the Farm Brakfontein 399JR (Portion 5 of Portion of Portion 1).

The site as defined in this report consists of two sections of the proposed development area which have been designated as future development areas, and for which heritage surveys were undertaken. Refer **Annexure A** for a **Locality Map** and **Annexure B** for the **Site Distribution Map**.

Magisterial or municipal district:

Centurion

Name and contact details of developer:

ABSA Property Development (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 1132
Johannesburg

Name and contact details of environmental consultant:

MPM Environmental Consultants
P.O. Box 7639
Centurion
0046

Cell: 082 464 4354
Fax: 012 346 3862

Name and contact details of landowner if not the same as developer:

N.A.

Date when the development was first mooted:

The application for the proposed development was submitted to GDACEL on 4 October 2001.

Date of this report:

This report was completed during September 2002.

Proposed date of commencement of development:

Although the initial plan was for ABSA to install the services during May 2002, this projected commencement of development had to be extended.

Name and contact details of specialist used to compile any specialist reports:

Helio Alliance (Pty) Ltd
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Findings and recommendations:

This report represents the Heritage Impact Assessment (henceforth referred to as the "additional Heritage Impact Assessment") undertaken on two sections of the proposed residential development on the Remainder of the Farm Brakfontein 399 JR (Portion 5 of Portion 1), Centurion, Gauteng (refer **Annexure A Locality Map** and **Annexure B Site Distribution Map**). The need for this study to be undertaken was necessitated by the fact that during the fieldwork undertaken for the initial Heritage Impact Assessment, certain sections were either not included, or were not fully surveyed. This was largely due to the fact that the available information at the time indicated that these areas would not be developed. As these areas are now also demarcated as residential development areas, additional surveys were undertaken.

It must be noted here, however, that some portions of the eastern section of relevance for the present study was in fact investigated during the fieldwork component of the initial Heritage Impact Assessment. This was largely as a result of the presence of a number of demolished farm buildings on (and near to) the boundary between this section and the section of relevance for the Heritage Impact Assessment already undertaken. The mitigation measures as prescribed by the South African Heritage Resources Agency regarding these demolished buildings were done as part of the Heritage Impact Assessment previously undertaken, and permission for their destruction was given by the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

Although the additional Heritage Impact Assessment for these two sections are submitted and compiled as a separate document, it must not be viewed in isolation. Much of the information gathered during the initial Heritage Impact Assessment is of relevance for this study as well. A short summary of the existing reports and data is therefore provided below:

- Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment. This report represents the fieldwork and research undertaken initially. It also includes the desktop study relating to the Battle of Rooihuiskraal (12 February 1881).
- "Identification of manmade features in the proposed residential area - Rooihuiskraal" consisting of descriptions and identification of the structures located during the fieldwork component of the Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment. This report also contains recommendations on the way to proceed with these identified structures. From here on this report will be referred to as the "M. Naude & Associates report".

¹ Please note that the sections of relevance for this study is indicated on the maps as "Present development areas"

- A report drawn up by Mr. Coen Nienaber of the University of Pretoria's Department of Anatomy containing his assessment of the possible grave mentioned in the M. Naude & Associates report.
- Phase II Mitigation Report compiled by M. Naude & Associates as well as Helio Alliance (Pty) Ltd, consisting of the mitigation documentation of the identified sites.
- Heritage Impact Assessment document containing all the reports and data outlined above. This document is referred to in this report as the "Initial Heritage Impact Assessment".

From the start of the study it was realised that one of the key issues regarding heritage for the proposed development would be the Battle of Rooihuiskraal, which took place on 12 February 1881 during the Anglo-Transvaal War (1880-1881). Portion 22 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Brakfontein 399 JR was also declared as a national monument in 1981. This portion, known as the Rooihuiskraal Historical Terrain, is located to the east of the two sections of relevance in terms of this report (refer **Annexure A** for the **Locality Map** indicating these areas).

As a result of the closeness of the battle site to the proposed development, an extensive desktop study of the events surrounding the battle was made during the Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment. All data relating to the Battle can be consulted in the initial Heritage Impact Assessment Report (Reference Number MPM-2002-08-30 / HIA).

A heritage specialist from Helio Alliance (Pty) Ltd also conducted a foot survey of the two sections of relevance here. The survey resulted in the discovery of two sites (refer **Annexure B Site Distribution Map** for the location of the sites).

According to the available information Site 9 falls within a planned green open space, and as such will not be destroyed. Site 10 falls within the proposed development area, and the impact of the development (if the development plans remain the same) on this site would be a high negative impact. Mitigation measures for the way to proceed with both sites have been made. These mitigation measures are similar to the mitigation measures proposed for the sites located during the initial Heritage Impact Assessment, and consist of photographic documentation, descriptions and recording by means of surveying and measured drawings.

These proposed mitigation measures would have to be reviewed and approved by SAHRA. A copy of this document will be sent to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) for this purpose. Their recommendations and further requirements must be adhered to.

1. INTRODUCTION

Helio Alliance (Pty) Ltd was commissioned by MPM Environmental Consultants to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment of the area to be affected by the proposed construction of residential township on the Remainder of the Farm Brakfontein 399 JR (Portion 5 of Portion of Portion 1), Centurion, Gauteng. During the fieldwork associated with this component only those areas that the available information at the time indicated as being earmarked for development, were in fact surveyed.

This document represents the report on the additional Heritage Impact Assessment undertaken for the small sections of the proposed development area that had not been included in the initial Heritage Impact Assessment.

Refer **Annexure A Locality Map** and **Annexure B Site Distribution Map**.

2. AIM

The aim of this study is to have the relevant areas covered in this report approved by the South African Heritage Resources Agency for development. **However, it is accepted that this document would only be the first step, in that mitigation must still be adhered to.**

3. METHODOLOGY

The methodology consisted of a foot survey of the two sections.

3.1 Foot Survey

On Tuesday, August 27, 2002 and Wednesday, August 28, 2002 the heritage specialist from *Helio Alliance (Pty) Ltd* undertook the foot survey of the relevant sections.

All sites located during the foot survey were documented. This documentation includes photographs and descriptions as to the nature of the located material. A hand-held Garmin eTrex Summit Global Positioning System was used to obtain the site coordinates.

Although this study is submitted as a separate document, the decision was made to carry on with the numbering system used during the initial Heritage Impact Assessment.

4. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

South Africa has a number of legislative measures in place aimed at protecting its heritage resources. Of these the most important is surely the recently promulgated National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.

4.1 National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999

The promulgation of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 brings the conservation and management of heritage resources in South Africa on par with international trends and standards. Replacing the old National Monuments Act 28 of 1969, the Heritage Resources Act offers general protection for a number of heritage related features and objects. In terms of the present study, the Act's stipulations regarding structures and archaeological sites are especially important.

Structures are defined by the Heritage Resources Act as "...any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated with it." In section 34 of the Act the general protection for structures is stipulated. It is important to note that only structures older than 60 years are protected. Section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act reads as follows: "No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority."

The second important general protection offered by the Heritage Resources Act, is the protection of archaeological sites and objects (as well as paleontological sites and meteorites). Section 4 of the National Heritage Resources 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 which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites."

In order to understand exactly what is protected, it is important to look at the definition of the concept "archaeological" set out in section 2(iii) of the Heritage Act:

- (a) material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;
- (b) rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;
- (c) wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa, whether on land, in the internal waters, the territorial waters or in the maritime culture zone of the Republic, as defined respectively in sections 3, 4 and 6 of the Maritime Zones Act, 1994 (Act No. 15 of 1994), and any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which SAHRA considers to be worthy of conservation; and
- (d) features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the sites on which they are found:..."

4.2 Other Legislation

The following legislation also has reference to the protection of heritage resources during development activities:

- National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998

5. FINDINGS

The survey revealed two sites located within the sections relevant to the present study.

5.1 Site 9

25° 53' 14.9" S
28° 07' 17.5" E

The site is located on a small rocky outcrop near the south-western corner of the entire proposed residential area (refer **Annexure B for Site Distribution Map**).

It consists of three stone structures, two of which appear to be associated with one another. This association is based on similarities in building technique, feature

characteristics as well as their closeness to one another. These two associated structures (refer **Annexure C Figures 2 and 3**) are located on a natural terrace approximately twenty meters north of a small stream. The structures are both circular, and are approximately the same size, namely three meters in diameter. The distance between the two structures is approximately one-and-half meters. The walling on both these structures appear to be quite rough. This may be due to the fact that the walling is deteriorated, but may also indicate an unrefined building technique.

The third structure consists of a semi-circular shaped stonewall located on the northern side of a natural boulder. This structure is made up of a single line of stones (refer **Annexure C Figure 1**).

Although some litter and pieces of metal were observed in the direct vicinity of the site, no cultural material could be observed which could directly be associated with the structures.

No indication of age of the structures can also presently be made. The function of the structures is also not clear.

In discussions held with Mr. Greg Beyers of MPM Environmental Consultants it was indicated that the area encompassing the rocky outcrop would fall within a green open space. If this is the case, the impact of the development on the site would be a low negative impact. In fact a positive impact can even be projected in that as the site falls within a green open space its potential for being conserved would greatly increase in relation to the present condition.

As long as the site is not disturbed in any way by the developers during the construction phase, or by the residents of the development during the operational phase, no negative impacts are expected.

Nevertheless, it is recommended that the site be recorded photographically, described and documented by way of surveying and measured drawings.

5.2 Site 10

Rectangular Structure 1	25° 52' 30.3" S 28° 07' 11.4" E
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Rectangular Structure 2	25° 52' 28.8" S 28° 07' 12.0" E
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Description

Site 10 is located near the western bank of the stream known as Rietspruit. The site consists of two rectangular shaped stone-walled structures. Although these two structures are located approximately forty meters apart, a direct association can be drawn between the two in terms of building technique and general appearance.

The function of both structures appears to have been livestock enclosures, or something of that nature. This can be said due to the presence of entrances as well as the general appearance of the two structures.

Rectangular Structure 1 (10.1)

The first of these structures is located on a slight slope leading down to the Rietspruit, some thirty meters away. The structure is also located a short distance from a tarred

footpath and footbridge leading across the stream through the proposed residential area. Based on the on-site observations, the footpath is traversed quite extensively.

The structure is rectangular shaped, and is approximately ten meters in length and nine meters wide, with an entrance located on its southern side (**Annexure C Figure 4**). The entrance is made up of the two walls ending parallel to each other. The entrance width is approximately half-a-meter.

Some portions of the walling of the structure in general appear to be still in a very good condition. Other portions are quite deteriorated. Observations made from the more intact sections seems to indicate that the walling was constructed using larger stones on the outside and bottom, with smaller stones in the middle and on top.

The average width of the stone walling in the intact sections is around 60 cm, whereas the deteriorated or fallen down walling can be more than one meter wide. Although the structure is located on a slope, the soil surface on the inside of the structure is quite level. This terracing effect is also indicated if one looks at the outer and inner heights of the walling. On the western wall (the upslope section) the outside of the wall is approximately 10 cm high, whereas the insides are on average between 30 and 40 cm in height. Terracing is also indicated on the downslope side of the site (the eastern wall), in that the inside of the wall here is approximately 10 cm in height whereas the outside is approximately 40 cm high.

No directly associated cultural material could be observed.

Rectangular Structure 2 (10.2)

The second structure is located some forty meters north of the first structure. It appears to be located on a slight slope in-between naturally occurring rocky outcrops (refer **Annexure C Figure 5**). The shape of this second structure is less formally rectangular, but possesses definite angled corners on most sides. The structure is approximately eight meters by eight meters in extent, and has an entrance (refer **Annexure C Figure 6**) on its western side.

The building technique used in this structure makes use of naturally occurring rocky outcrops and boulders. Apart from this the general building technique of larger stones at the base and outsides and smaller stones on the insides and on top (observed at the first structure) was also found here (refer **Annexure C Figure 7**).

In terms of condition this structure appears to be more deteriorated than the other structure. The intact sections of the wall are again approximately 60 cm in width, whereas the deteriorated or collapsed sections may be much wider.

The terracing function was again observed at this structure, and is especially evident on the walling of the eastern side of the structure, with the inside walling being approximately 10 cm high whereas the outside walling is approximately 40 cm in height.

Again no directly associated cultural material could be observed.

General Comments

Although the age of the structures is unknown, their rectangular appearance seems to indicate a more historical (recent) association. Of course this does not necessarily mean that the structures are younger than sixty years.

If the area in which the site is located is to be developed, adverse negative impacts can be expected in that the site would then be completely destroyed.

✓ At present it is not clear whether any residential development will in fact take place in the area where the site is located. However, on the initial map outlining the proposed development area a road is indicated to pass through (or very near) to the site. Although alternatives, in the sense of moving the road as well as not developing in the area where the site is located, exist, these options are not very realistic at present. As such the best option would certainly be for the necessary mitigation measures to be undertaken for the site to be destroyed.

✓ It is proposed that the two structures be fully documented and photographed, and that recording in terms of surveying and measured drawings be undertaken to allow for approval for destruction.

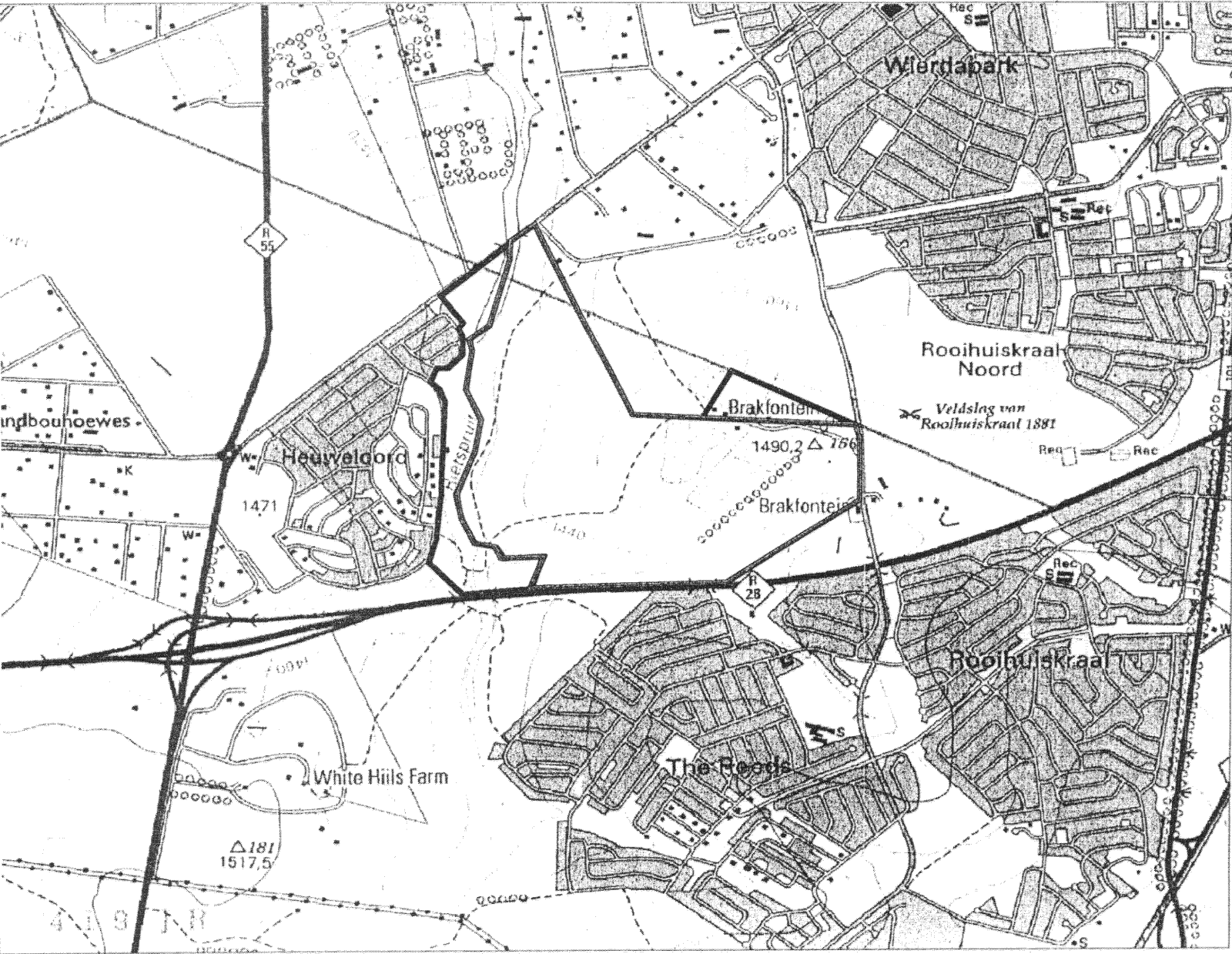
These proposed mitigation measures would have to be reviewed and approved by SAHRA.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Two sites were located during the foot survey. Although the impact of the development on these two sites differ in intensity, it is proposed here that both these sites be documented photographically, described and recorded by means of surveying and measured drawings, similar to the mitigation measures proposed and undertaken as part of the initial Heritage Impact Assessment. These proposed mitigation measures must be reviewed and approved by SAHRA.

The sites found during the field survey do not necessarily represent the full heritage resource manifestation of the area. This may be due, amongst other things, to the vegetation cover prevalent in certain areas of the proposed development area, as well as the subterranean nature of some archaeological sites. As such, whenever heritage material such as structures, archaeological features and objects and graves or burial grounds are observed or uncovered during the course of the development, it is imperative that a heritage specialist be contacted in order for mitigation to take place.

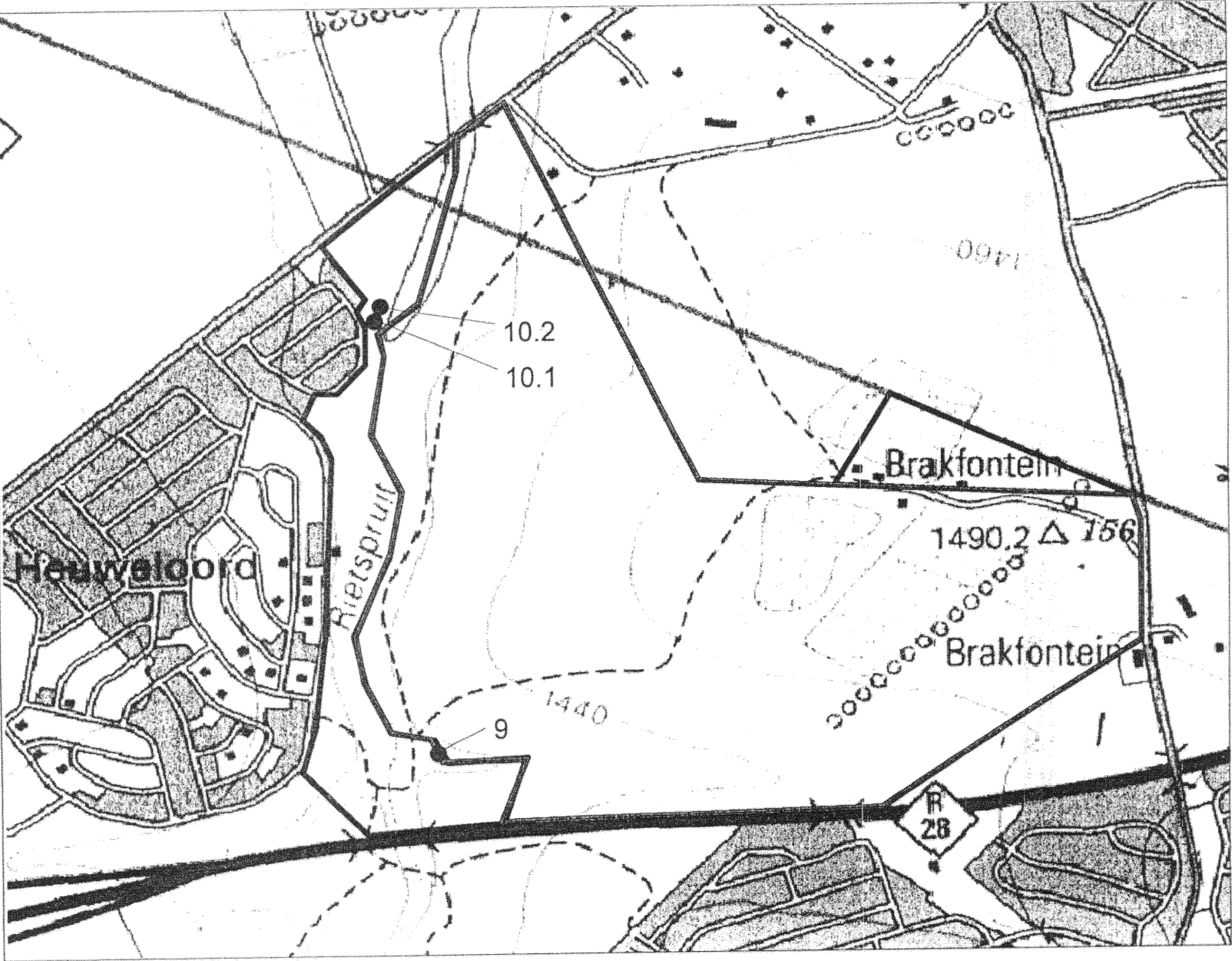
Locality Map






Previous development area
Present development areas



Site Distribution Map



-  Sites
-  Previous development area
-  Present development areas



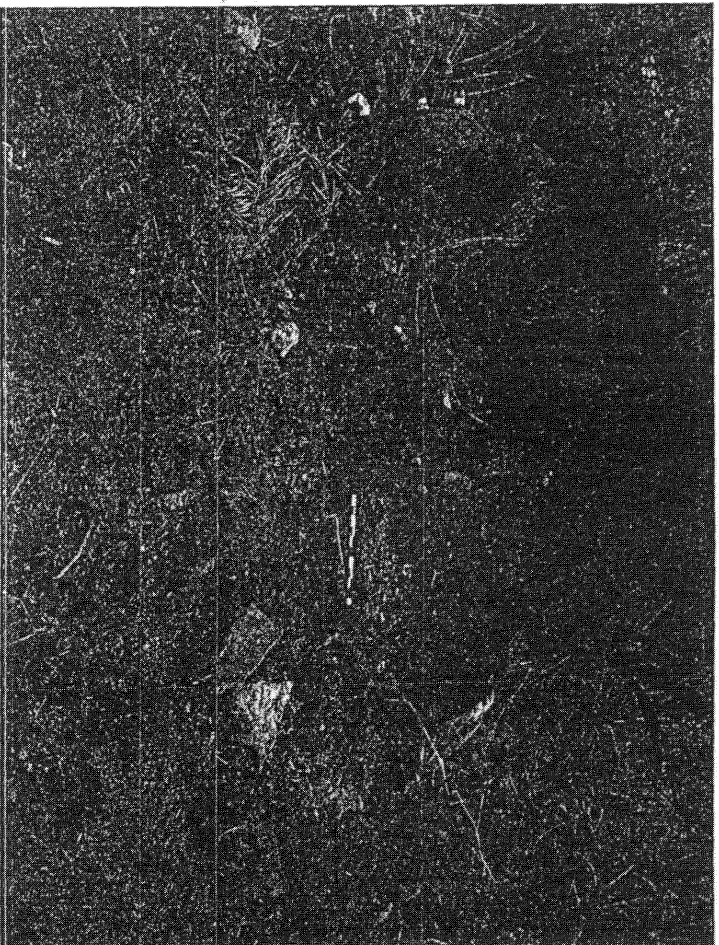


Figure 1. Semi-circular stone structure from Site 9

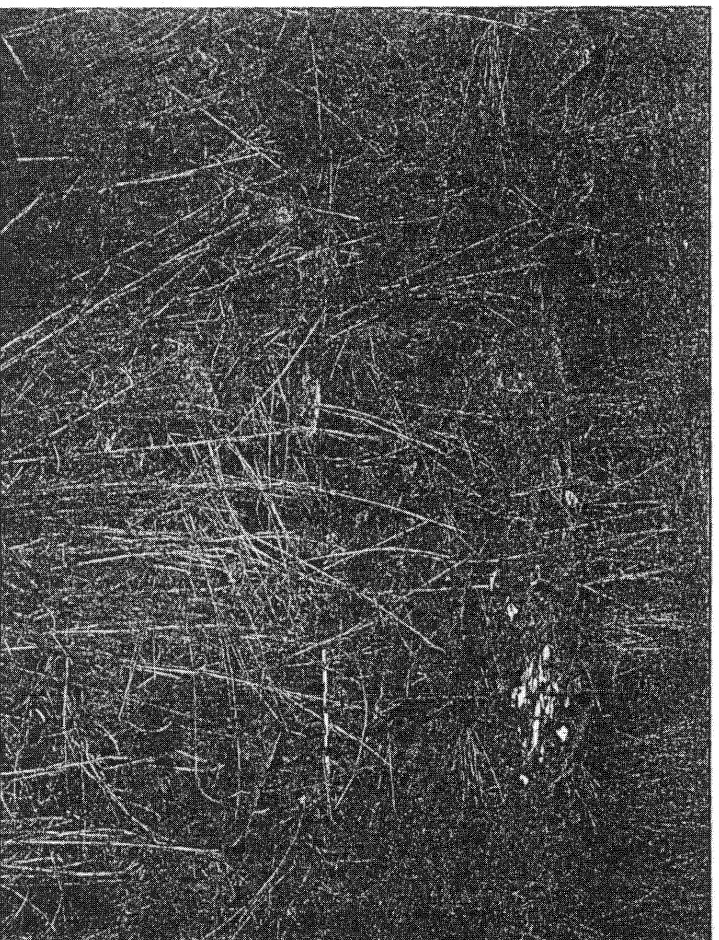


Figure 2. One of the two circular stone structures from Site 9. This structure is the easternmost of the two.

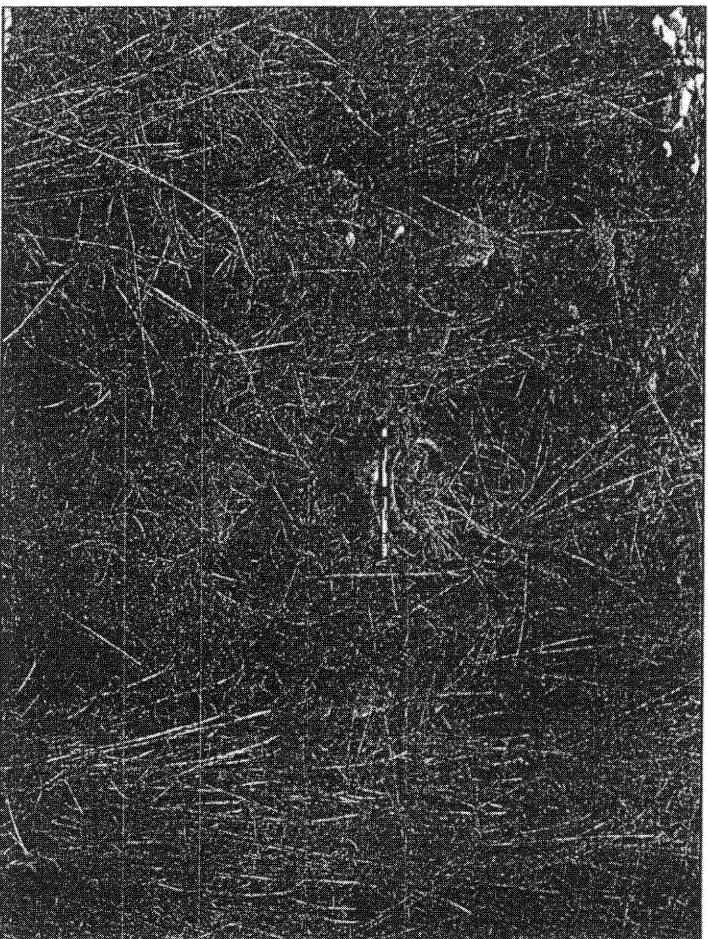


Figure 3. The second circular stone structure from Site 9



Figure 4. Site 10 / Rectangular Structure 1 (10.1). The entrance is clearly visible.

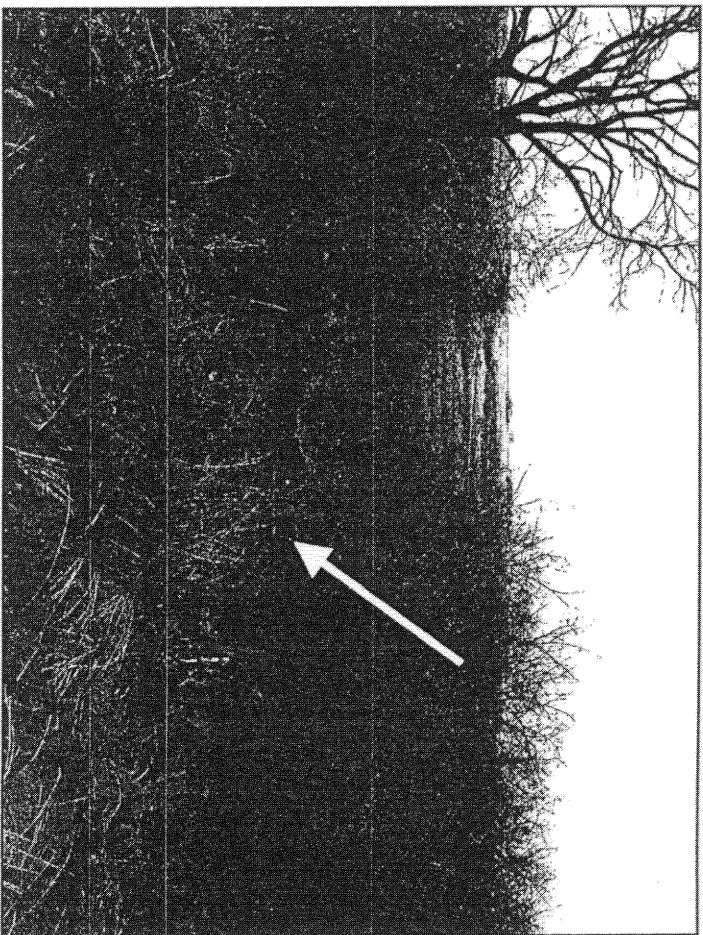


Figure 5. View of Rectangular Structure 2 from Site 10 (10.2).

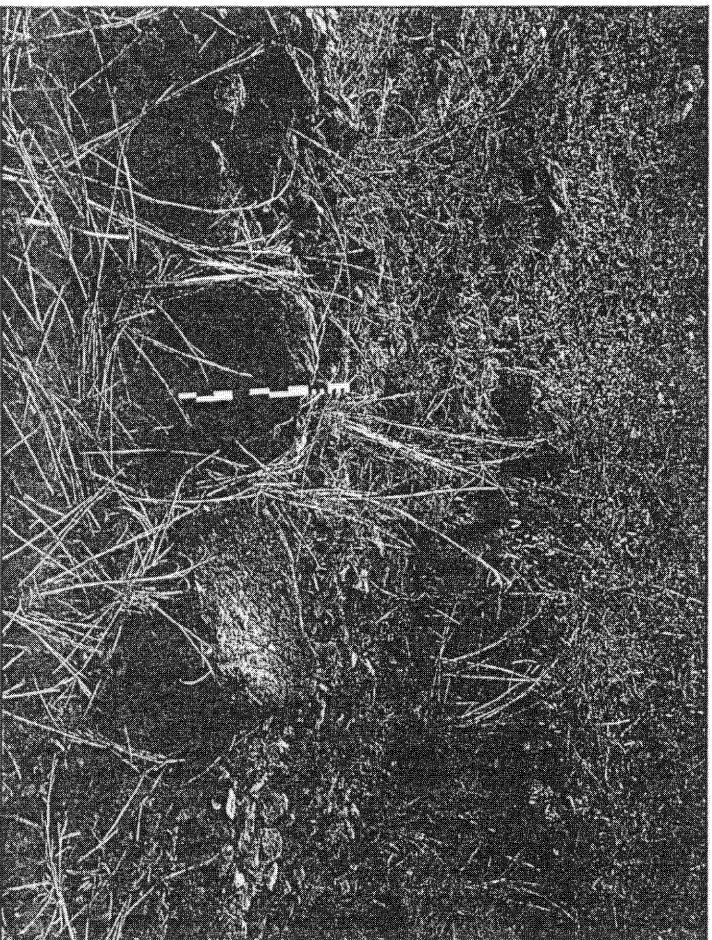


Figure 6. Entrance at Rectangular Structure 2 / Site 10.

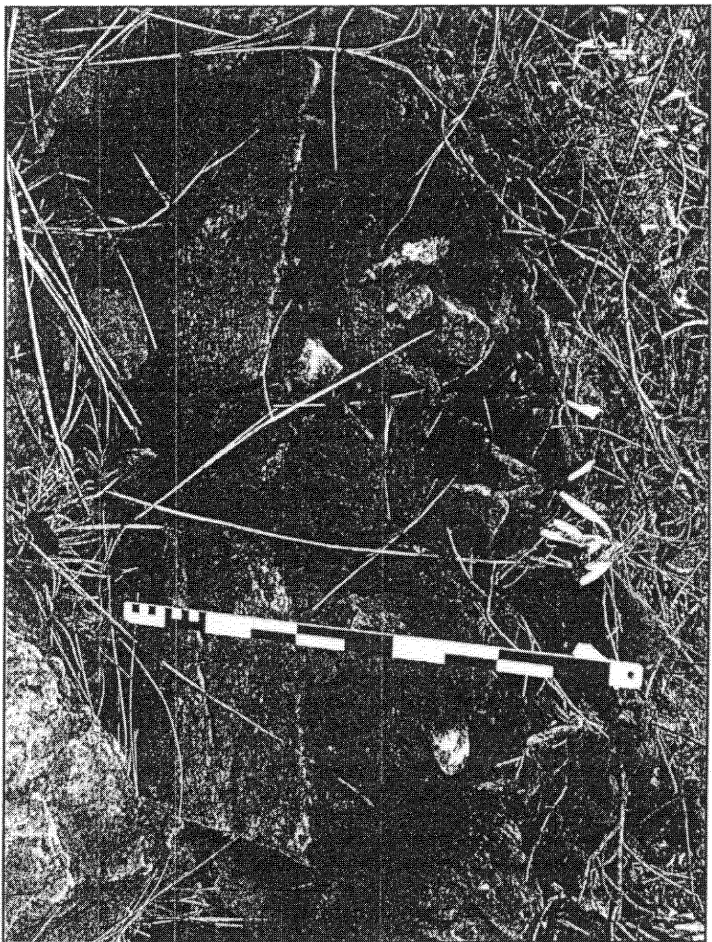


Figure 7. Close-up view of walling from Rectangular Structure 2 / Site 10.