



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
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**A REPORT ON A CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A LODGE ON THE FARM BROEDERSTROOM
481 JQ, NORTHWEST PROVINCE**

For:

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REPORT: **AE834**

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SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was requested by Van Brakel Professional Planning & Property Services to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment for a proposed lodge on the farm Broederstroom 481 JQ, located in the Northwest Province.

The fieldwork undertaken revealed six sites of cultural heritage significance on the property. These will be impacted upon by the development and therefore suitable mitigation measures are recommended.

The proposed development can only continue after these have been implemented.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was requested by Van Brakel Professional Planning & Property Services to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment for a proposed lodge on the farm Broederstroom 481 JQ, Northwest Province. The client indicated the area where the proposed development is to take place, and the survey was confined to this area.

2. 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 (see Appendix A).
2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B).
3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions.
4. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources.
5. Recommend suitable mitigation measures should there be any sites of significance that might be impacted upon by the proposed development.
6. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. 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. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or

may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix B).

4. 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.
5. All recommendations are made with full cognizance of the relevant legislation.
6. It has to be mentioned that it is almost impossible to locate all the cultural resources in a given area, as it will be very time consuming. Developers should however note that the report should make it clear how to handle any other finds that might occur.

4. 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).

4.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned law the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

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)**.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

4.2 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.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

5.2 Field survey

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.

5.3 Documentation

All sites, objects features and structures identified were documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The proposed development area is located on the remainder of portion 145 and portion 213 (a portion of portion 145) of the farm Broederstroom 481 JQ in the Northwest Province (Figure 1). This falls within the local municipality of Madibeng.

The area where the development is to take place can be divided into three geographical localities. The first is a small portion to the north of the R104 road. The other two portions are located to the south of this road and are divided into an eastern and western portion.

The northern portion is almost entirely disturbed. Farm and other buildings as well as graves were identified here. None of these buildings are of a heritage nature. In the eastern portion the grass has been burned making archaeological visibility reasonably easy. In the western area the grass was long and therefore archaeological visibility was not good.

It seems as if both the eastern and western areas have been used for grazing and agricultural purposes in the past and therefore it also shows signs of human disturbance. Evidence of illegal dumping were also found.

The topography of the northern area is flat. The other two areas forms a wedge between two hills. The topography therefore runs down from east to west in the eastern area and then up from east to west in the western area. The vegetation consists of grass, with small bushes and a few large trees.

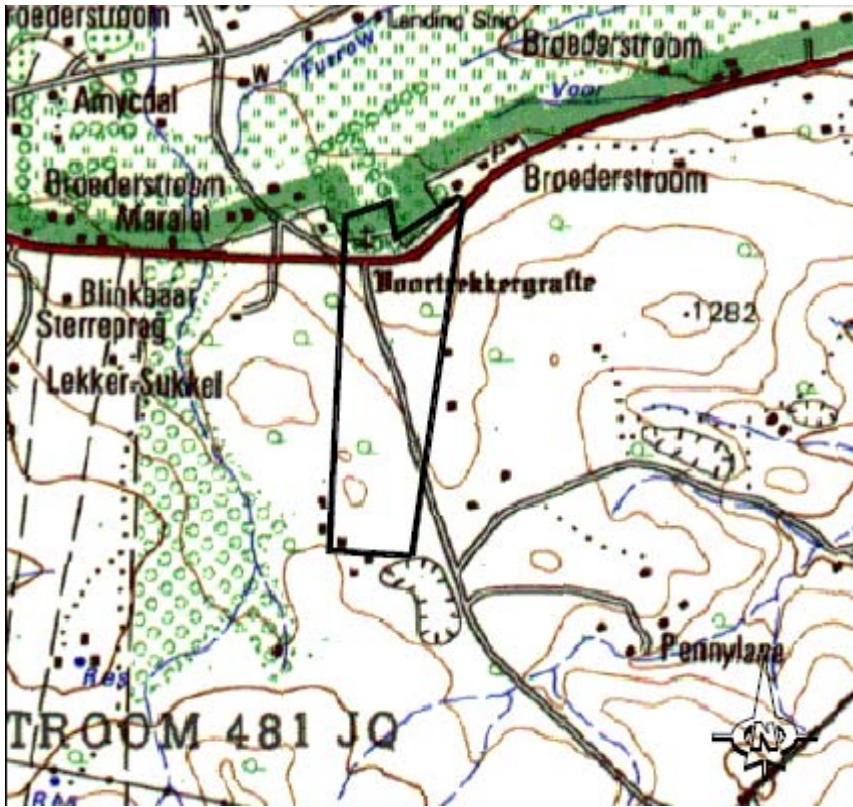


Figure 1 Locality map indicating the surveyed area.

7. DISCUSSION

During the survey six sites of cultural heritage significance were located on the property. This report indicates suitable mitigation measures in this regard.

In order to enable the reader to better understand these objects, it is necessary to give a background regarding the different phases of human history. The found objects will be integrated with this discussion.

7.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 293). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. The division for the Stone Age according to Korsman & Meyer (1999: 93-94) is as follows:

- Early Stone Age (ESA) 2 million – 150 000 years ago
- Middle Stone Age (MSA) 150 000 – 30 000 years ago
- Late Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 1850 - A.D.

The closest known Stone Age in the vicinity of Broederstroom is known as the Magaliesberg Research Area. It consists of nine sites including rock shelters in the Magaliesberg Mountain. These date back to the Middle and Late Stone Age (Bergh 1999: 4; Korsman & Meyer 1999: 94-95). The area does not contain shelters or any other indication of living areas. One can therefore assume that Stone Age people would have stayed somewhere in the hills and would have passed this area during their hunting and gathering activities.

However no Stone Age material was identified during the survey.

7.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce artifacts (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 346). In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases according to Van der Ryst & Meyer (1999: 96-98), namely:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

Huffman (2007: xiii) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.

Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

Previous research indicates that one of the few Early Iron Age sites that have been properly researched, are situated at Broederstroom (Bergh 1999: 6). The site is dated to 350 AD and apart from hut remains indications of iron smelting was also found (Van der Ryst & Meyer 1999: 98).

Late Iron Age sites have been identified in the area around the town of Brits. In a band stretching roughly from Brits in the east to Zeerust in the west many Iron Age sites have been discovered previously (Bergh 1999: 7-8).

During earlier times and in the 19th century different Tswana groups, including the Po, Kwena and Kgatla, inhabited the area (Bergh 1999: 10-11). During the Difaquane these people moved further to the north and northwest and this area was then inhabited by the Ndebele of Mzilikazi (Bergh 1999: 11).

However no indication of Iron Age people was found during the survey.

7.3 Historical Age

The historical age started with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write. Early travelers have moved through this part of the Northwest Province. This included David Hume in 1825, Robert Scoon and William McLuckie in 1829 and Dr Robert Moffat and Reverend James Archbell in 1829 (Bergh 1999: 12, 117-119).

In 1830 the area was again visited by David Hume. The expedition of Dr Andrew Smith traveled through this area in 1835 and William Cornwallis Harris in 1836. The well known explorer Dr David Livingston passed through this area in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 13, 119-122).

The Voortrekkers moved into this area in the 1830's (Bergh 1999: 15). The farm Broederstroom was probably only established after the Battle of Blood River (16 December 1838) and most likely during the 1840's.

All the sites found during the survey date to the historical age.

7.4 Discussion of sites identified during the survey

Site 1

This is a Voortrekker graveyard consisting of fifteen graves and two monuments (Figure 2-15).

GPS: 25°48'10"S
27°52'26"E

Seven of the graves are unmarked. Five of these are packed with stones and two have granite grave dressings, but no headstones. The eight marked graves are of the following people:

- Johannes Lodewyk Pretorius, brother of General Andries Pretorius
- Hercules Albertus Pretorius, brother of General Andries Pretorius, 22/08/1803-25/09/1889
- Christina Catharina Pretorius (born Bodensteijn), 4/08/1823- 7/03/1890. She probably is the wife of Hercules as they are in one grave. The grave also include a memorial for Bart (Herculus) Pretorius).
- Magdalena Johanna Meyer, grand daughter of the Voortrekker leader Piet Retief, 1832- June 1907
- Georg Joseph Barend Engelbrecht, 11/03/1919-16/05/1919
- Johanna Jacoba Engelbrecht, 3/06/1908-9/07/1908
- Maria Catharina Engelbrecht (born Hayward), 17/09/1877-6/09/1928
- Louisa A Pretorius (born Nel), 30/06/1880-30/10/1906



Figure 2 Entrance sign to the Bart Pretorius Voortrekker cemetery.



Figure 3 This plaque indicate that the cemetery is kept in tact by the Bart Pretorius Rapportryerskorps. However it is believed that this is not the case any more.



Figure 4 This plaque indicate that the cemetery was restored in 1996 and that the Voortrekkers from Hekpoort is keeping the site in tact. Again it is believed that this is not the case any more.



Figure 5 View of the Voortrekker graveyard.



Figure 6 Some of the unmarked stone packed graves in the Voortrekker graveyard.



Figure 7 Grave of JLK Pretorius.

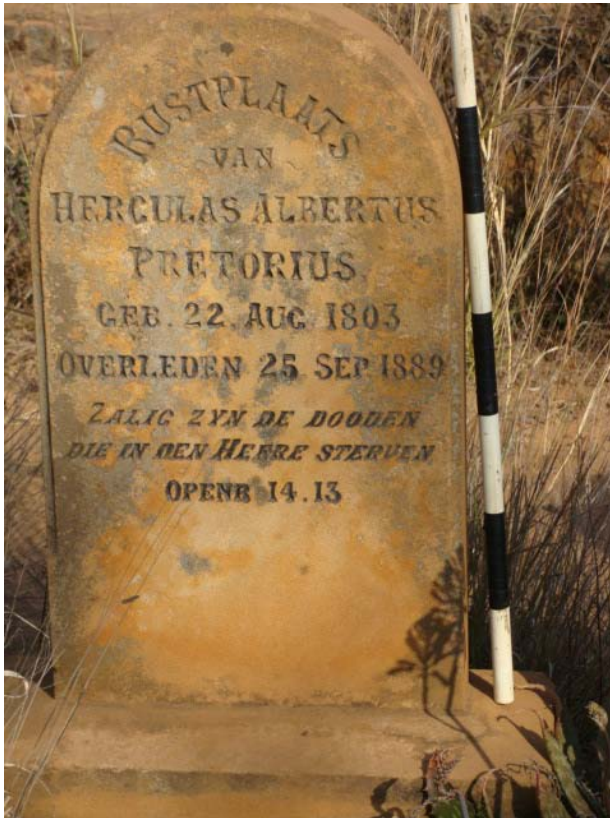


Figure 8 Grave of Bart Pretorius.



Figure 9 Grave of Christina Pretorius.



Figure 10 Monument erected on the grave of Bart Pretorius.



Figure 11 Grave of Magdalena Meyer.



Figure 12 Grave of Georg Engelbrecht.



Figure 13 Grave of Johanna Engelbrecht.

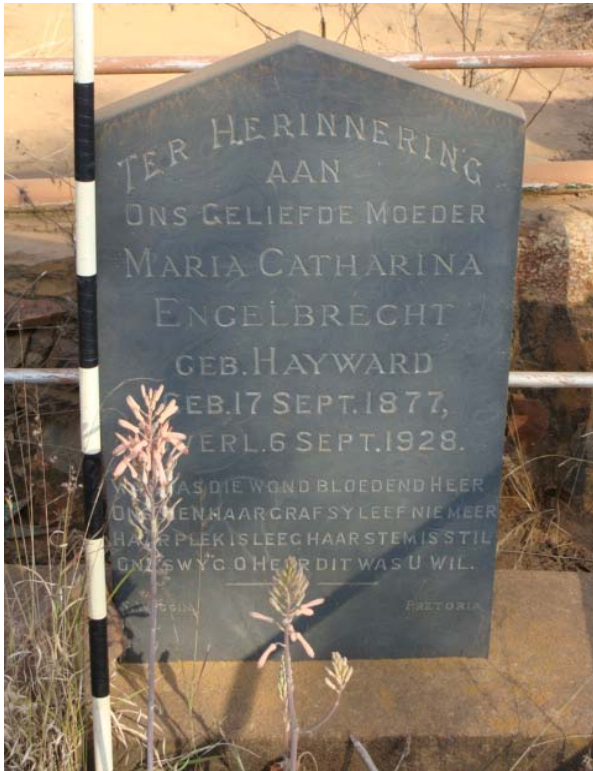


Figure 14 Grave of Maria Engelbrecht.



Figure 15 Grave of Louisa Pretorius.

The second monument seem to be one linked to the 1938 centenary of the Great Trek (Figure 16).



Figure 16 Great Trek commemoration monument dating to either 1938 or 1988.

The cultural significance of the site is **high**. Graves always have a high cultural significance, but these are also important as it is older than 60 years. The Pretorius and Meyer graves can also be linked to important historical figures and therefore the cultural significance of these are increased.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. Due to the importance of the site the graves may not be exhumed and should stay in situ. The necessary measurements should be taken to ensure the safeguarding of the cemetery and to keep it in a good state. Access to descendants should be allowed.

Site 2

This is a graveyard consisting of at least seventeen graves (Figure 17-19).

GPS: 25°48'09"S
27°52'24"E

Seven of the graves are marked with headstones, but four of these are not legible. The other graves are packed with stones. The three legible graves are of the following people:

- Emmanuel Shikwambane, 2/02/1972-13/07/1983
- Paul Mfaladi, February 1921-May 1975
- Titus Joe Molefe, 15/02/1905-18/12/1975



Figure 17 One of the marked graves at site no 2.



Figure 18 A view of the cemetery at site no 2.



Figure 19 Another grave at site no 2.

The cultural significance of the site is **high**. Graves always have a high cultural significance, although these graves are younger than 60 years.

It is uncertain whether the development will have a direct impact on this site. It might indeed fall outside of the property. This should be determined as soon as possible. Should the graves fall outside of the property, this report is seen as ample mitigation. However, should it fall inside of the property the possibility of exhumation may be looked at. However, it would probably be better to keep the graves in tact, take care thereof and allow access to the descendants.

Site 3

This site consist of an old water furrow system, sleuss gate and a dam (Figure 20).

GPS: 25°48'08"S
27°52'23"E



Figure 20 Water furrow system connected to a dam in the northern portion of the surveyed area.

The cultural significance of the site is **low**. The structures seem to be younger than 60 years.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. However this report is seen as ample mitigation in this regard. No destruction permit is needed.

Site 4

This site consist of an old building serving as antique shop (Figure 21).

GPS: 25°48'13"S
27°52'27"E

The cultural significance of the site is **low**. Although the original building may be older than 60 years it has been adapted through the years, therefore limiting its significance.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. However this report is seen as ample mitigation in this regard. No destruction permit is needed. If possible the building should not be demolished and kept in its current state, although it may be changed for another purpose.



Figure 21 Old building used as antique shop.

Site 5

This site consist of rectangular stone walling. It probably was used as a cattle enclosure during historical times (Figure 22).

GPS: 25°48'16"S
27°52'37"E

The cultural significance of the site is **low**. The structure may be older than 60 years, but many such examples (and better ones) are preserved on other farms.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. However this report is seen as ample mitigation in this regard. If the structure are to be demolished, a destruction permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) will be needed.



Figure 22 Remains of a possible cattle enclosure.

Site 6

This site consists of stone walls in some places as high as 1,2 m high. It also includes a rectangular structure of stone and clay. Historical artifacts were identified on the site and a possible grave, packed with stone to the southeast of the building (Figure 23-24).

GPS: 25°48'20"S
27°52'35"E

The cultural significance of the site is **high**. It probably is a farm workers dwelling and older than 60 years. The possible grave increase the cultural significance of the site.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. Mitigation is therefore needed. With regards to the grave this could mean the exhumation of possible remains. The buildings should be mapped and test excavation should be done in order to obtain basic information thereon. As farm workers dwellings are increasingly been ignored and demolished, these steps are necessary to preserve the information it contains.

The necessary permits should be obtained from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).



Figure 23 Farm workers dwelling.



Figure 24 Possible grave close to the above mentioned dwelling.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it can be stated that the assessment of the area was conducted successfully. Most of the cultural heritage sites identified are highly significant. Suitable mitigation measures are therefore needed. The final recommendations are as follows:

- Site no 1 has an extremely high cultural significance. Due to the importance of the site, being linked to important historical figures, the graves may under no circumstance be exhumed.
- The graves at site no 1 should be preserved in situ. The necessary measurements should be taken to ensure the safeguarding of the cemetery and to keep it in a good state. Access to descendants should be allowed.
- The site and lodge may be enhanced by obtaining more information and using it in a display on the site. Further research for this purpose would be necessary.
- Site 2 consist of graves and is therefore highly significant. If the site however falls outside of the property to be developed, this report is seen as ample mitigation.
- Should site 2 fall inside of the property the possibility of exhumation may be looked at. However, it would probably be better to change the development plans and keep the graves in tact, take care thereof and allow access to the descendants.
- This report is seen as ample mitigation for site no 3, 4 and 5. Should these need to be demolished, the necessary permits, as indicated above, should be obtained.
- If the possible grave at site no 6 is in the way of the development, it may be exhumed. The necessary permits and social consultation will however be needed. If it is not in the way the grave should be preserved as indicated above.
- If the buildings at site 6 are in the way of the development, it should be mapped and test excavation should be done in order to obtain basic information thereon. Only thereafter it may be demolished. If the development does not affect the site it can be preserved as it is.
- It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts are always a distinct possibility. Care should therefore be taken when development work commences that if any of these are accidentally discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate.

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APPENDIX A

Definition of terms:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B

Cultural significance:

- Low A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.

- Medium Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.

- High Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.