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Our Ref/Ons Verw

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Date/Datum

2006KH003

SEF No. 500024

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19 May 2006

Ms D Verster Strategic Environmental Focus P O Box 74785 Lynnwood Ridge 0040

Dear Ms Verster

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: MARKET SQUARE, HALFWAY HOUSE EXT. 4

As requested, we have investigated the site for the proposed residential and retail development, Market Square, Halfway House Ext. 4, Gauteng. The site is located on a portion of the farm Randjiesfontein 405JR, east of the N1 and west of Grand Central Airport (Fig. 1).

The scope of work consisted of conducting a Phase 1 archaeological survey of the site in accordance with the requirements of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). This included:

- Conducting a desk-top investigation of the area;
- A visit to the proposed development site.

The objectives were to

- Identify possible archaeological, cultural and historic sites within the proposed development areas;
- Evaluate the potential impacts of construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed development on archaeological, cultural and historical resources;
- Recommend mitigation measures to ameliorate any negative impacts on areas of archaeological, cultural or historical importance.

The geology is made up of granite and the original vegetation is classified as Rocky Highveld Grassland. Big granite boulders occur on the site. It is known that Stone Age and Iron Age people used to occupy such sites in the area, as was the case at the Boulders Shopping Complex close by.

Rudimentary stone walling was identified on a section of the site and probably date to the Late Iron Age. These walls fall outside the area of development. A few small, non-diagnostic potsherds were identified, as well as a Middle Stone Age point. At some stage in the past, huge holes and trenches were excavated on the site. These are not typical archaeological excavations and the reason why it was dug is a mystery. From the location and extent of these excavations, one can determine that the biggest part of the deposit has already been destroyed and it is anticipated that very little of scientific value would be recovered.

It was therefore decided to recommend that the development can continue on the site, on condition of acceptance of the following:

• An archaeologist should be present when the earthworks for the site development commences. If anything is uncovered, work must stop immediately in that area in order for the archaeologist to investigate it. If it is material of significance, an emergency permit should be applied for and on receiving it, the material should be removed in as scientific manner as possible.

Ms J Kitto of the SAHRA Gauteng office accompanied us on a site visit on 19 May 2006. She concurred with the interpretation of the damage and the resultant recommendations.

Yours sincerely

Behally

J van Schalkwyk Principal Investigator

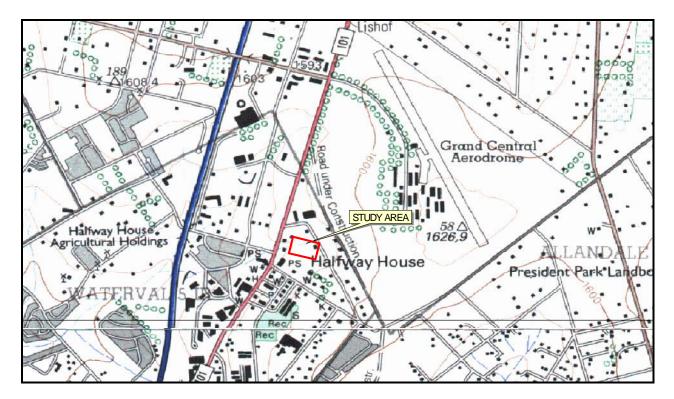


Figure 1. Showing the approximate location of the study area. (Map, courtesy of the Government Printer.)