



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
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**A REPORT ON A CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT AT THE
SITE FOR THE PROPOSED NEW LAYING HOUSE ON THE FARM
BULHOEK 368 JP, NORTHWEST PROVINCE**

For:

***K2M TECHNOLOGIES
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REPORT: **AE747**

by:

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SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was requested by K2M Technologies to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment on the site for the proposed new laying house for Tydstroom Chicken farms. The site is on portion 34 and portion 40 of the farm Bulhoek 389 JP in the Northwest Province. The area was surveyed on foot.

The fieldwork undertaken revealed two (2) sites of a cultural origin. One of these will be directly impacted upon by the development and on the other one there will probably be a secondary impact.

Both sites are of a low cultural significance. This report is therefore seen as ample documentation thereof. The development may therefore continue.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was requested by K2M Technologies to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment on portion 34 and 40 of the farm Bulhoek 389 JP in the Northwest Province. The site is that of a proposed new laying house for Tydstroom Chicken Farms (Figure 1).

The client indicated the area where the proposed development is to take place, and the survey was confined to this area. The survey was done on foot in order to reach areas inaccessible by motorized vehicles.

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 measure 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 done 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. It was limited to the footprint area of the proposed development

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 GPS instrument used has an accuracy factor of 30m. The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The farm Bulhoek 389 JP is situated approximately 45 km northwest of the town of Rustenburg in South Africa. This is in the Northwest Province. The site to be developed consist of portions 34 and 40 of the farm.

The farm was used for pig farming in the past. Thereafter Nu-Laid eggs had a chicken farm on the property. It is now being used by Tydstroom Chicken farms for the same purpose.

It seems as if the mentioned portions have not been disturbed by agricultural activities. However, the footprint area for the proposed laying house shows signs of disturbance. A large building, probably a farm house, was built here. Most of the area therefore is undisturbed, with patches showing recent pioneer species (Figure 2-3).

The area where the laying house is to be built is right against the eastern slope of a hill. This area may have been suitable for human occupation, but as the development will not directly impact thereon, it was not surveyed.

7. DISCUSSION

The fieldwork undertaken revealed two (2) sites and features of cultural origin. One of these will be impacted upon directly by the development. However the development will have a secondary impact on the other one.

Before discussing these sites in detail a background regarding the different phases of human history is needed. This will enable the reader to better understand the sites found during the survey.

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 hill on the property would certainly have provided ample shelter for Stone Age people. However no information regarding the Stone Age in this area could be found in the sources used.

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.

Previous research indicates that Iron Age sites have been identified in the area around Rustenburg, including this area. These date to the Late Iron Age (Bergh 1999: 7).

7.3 Historical Age

The historical age started when the first people that were able to read and write moved into the area. Early travelers have moved through Northwest and Botswana. The area around Rustenburg, including the surveyed area was inhabited by white pioneers as early as 1839 (Bergh 1999: 15). The town of Rustenburg was established in 1851 (Bergh 1999: 17).

Both sites found during the survey date from the Historical Age. This clearly indicates that the area was occupied during the historical period.

7.4 Discussion of sites identified during the survey

Site 1

This site is that of a building right inside the footprint of the proposed development.

GPS: 25°35'20" S
26°54'42"E

The building has been demolished (Figure 4). An indication of the foundation as well as loose bricks, stones, and plaster as well as cultural material was identified in the vicinity.

The cultural significance of the site is **low**. It probably is not older than 60 years and is not very unique.

The development will have a direct impact on this site. This report is however seen as ample documentation thereof and what remains of the structure can be demolished. It is not necessary to obtain a destruction permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

Site 2

No GPS measurement was taken as the site is outside of the area directly to be impacted upon. The site runs along the foot of the hill to the west of the proposed laying house. It is believed to be the remains of various structures including houses and other outbuildings associated with an earlier farming phase on the farm (Figure 5-6).

Due to it being reasonably close to the proposed area for development, there will be a secondary impact. However the cultural significance of the site is **low** and therefore the developer does not have to implement any specific mitigatory measures.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is concluded that the survey resulted in the identification of two sites of a cultural origin. No indication of prehistoric utilization by humans was identified.

The following is recommended:

- Both sites are of minor cultural significance.
- Site no 1 may be destructed without requiring a destruction permit from SAHRA.
- There will be a secondary impact on site no 2, but no specific measures is needed to preserve it.

9. REFERENCES

- Bergh, J.S. (red.). 1999. **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies**. Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.
- Coertze, P.J. & Coertze, R.D. 1996. **Verklarende vakwoordeboek vir Antropologie en Argeologie**. Pretoria: R.D. Coertze.
- Knudson, S.J. 1978. **Culture in retrospect**. Chicago: Rand McNally College Publishing Company.
- Map supplied by the client.

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1998). Pretoria: The Government Printer.

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.

Appendix C

List of Figures:

- 1. Map of the area indicating portion 34 and 40 of the farm Bulhoek 389 JP.**
- 2. General view of the surveyed area.**
- 3. Another view indicating laying houses on the property.**
- 4. Remains of what probably was an old farm house.**
- 5. Circular remains of a structure at site no 2.**
- 6. Another view of the circular structure at site no 2.**