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Scarcely
Cultural?



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SURVEY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ON THE WILLOWS 340 JR (PTN 72 & REMAINDER OF PTN 34)

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. PHILOSOPHY

Conservation as a worldwide practice stems from a long history of overexploitation made possible by Western technology and science. Conservation developed in reaction against overexploitation of mainly natural and later cultural resources. Western technology became an enemy of nature, leading to discord between nature and development.

In this sense development is a Western cultural expression. In the African context nature is culture. Places, animals and plants have cultural meanings and values. In this report African values with regard to plants and animals will

be taken into consideration. The Western distinction between nature and culture is not made. Intangible heritage is far more important to African people than the tangible heritage, stories about places, legends, beliefs and cultural processes are more important than objects or sites, which is preserved by Western concepts of conservation.

3. METHODOLOGY

The site was visited, inspected on foot and photographed. The map of the area was studied, and other appropriate documents were studied.

4. RESULTS

The following archaeological and historical sites were found.

4.1 Stonewalling

At S25°46'39.3" and E 28°19'09.5" a number of low circular stonewalls occur amongst large rocks. There is little indication of other cultural material except a few undecorated potshards.

This site is probably part of the large Manala Ndebele settlements to the east, and may have been a temporary initiation site. Such sites are used only for a period of three months during the winter (see photograph 1).

4.2 Stone Age Site

At S25°46'38.1' and E28°19'08.9" flaked rocks and flakes occur. Though there are few stone implements the site probably is a manufacturing site, belonging to the so-called Oakhurst complex of the Late Stone Age, dating between 12 000 – 8 000 years ago (see photograph 2).

4.3 Rock Shelter

A very small rock shelter was found at S25°44'39.5' and E28°15'22.5". A stonewall was built to close the entrance on the western side. The shelter is so small that there is hardly space for two people (see photograph 3)

No other cultural remains could be found in or near the shelter. Stone Age or Iron Age people might have used it.

4.4 Farm Stone Wall

On the southern boundary of the property a long stonewall occurs along the top of the rock face, forming the southern boundary of the farm. This is a typical farm stonewall, built before barbed wire became available in

the 1880's. Similar stonewalls existed in Faerie Glen and Olympus (see photograph 4).

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that these sites be preserved and included in the new development as special features. These sites should be properly protected.

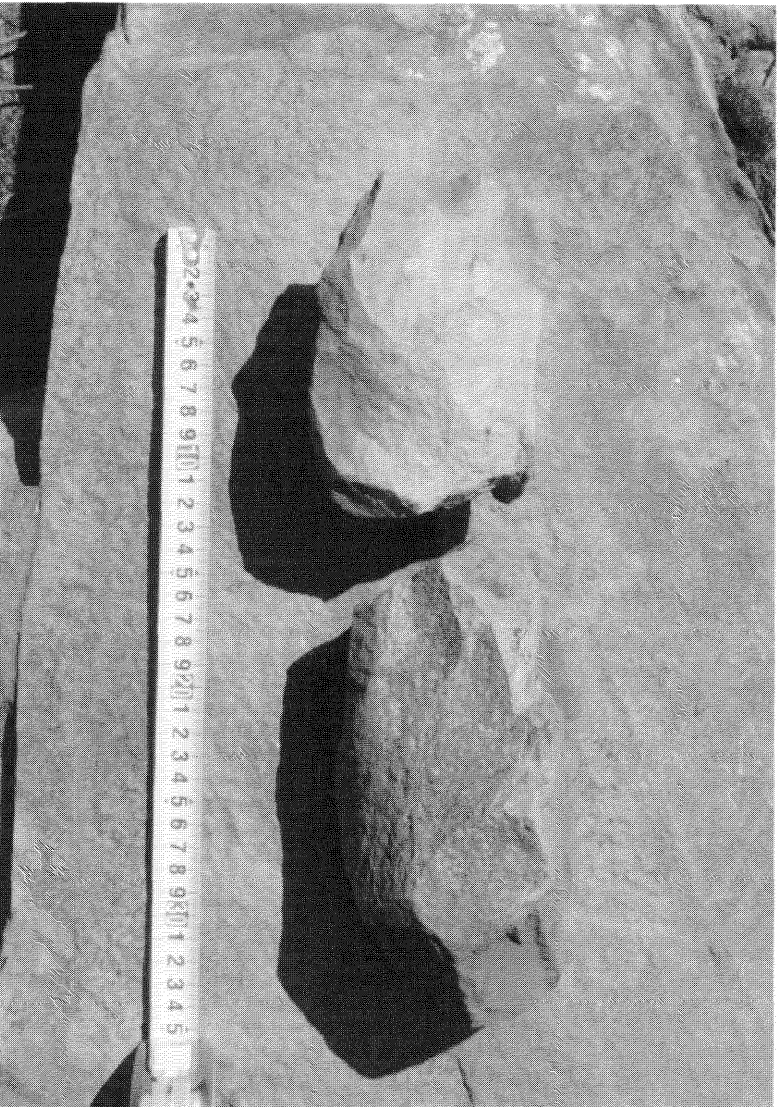
6. REFERENCES

- Deacon H.J. and J., *Human Beginnings in South Africa* 1999.
- Kusel U.S., *Report on the Cultural Heritage Resources of the Bronberg* 2002.
(Unpublished)

PHOTOGRAPHS



No. 1. Circular stonewall of possible Manala Ndebele initiation site



No. 2. Late Stone Age implements of the Oakhurst Complex



No. 3. Small rock shelter with stonewall on the western side



No/ 4. Farm stonewall on southern boundary of property

PHOTOGRAPHS