



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
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**A REPORT ON A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE HOMES HAVEN EXT.40 TOWNSHIP
HOLDING 34, DISWILMAR AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS,
KRUGERSDORP, GAUTENG**

For:

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REPORT: AE1131

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SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was requested by Plan2Survey Africa, on behalf of Mr. Rocky Warby, to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed establishment of the Homes Haven Extension 40 Township on Holding 34 of Diswilmar Agricultural Holdings, near Krugersdorp in Gauteng. The area is located on Roodekrans 183 IQ.

No sites, features or objects of a heritage nature or significance were found in the area of development. If any did exist here in the past, recent developments and earlier agricultural activities would have disturbed or destroyed any evidence.

A number of recommendations are put forward at the end of this report. If these are implemented, from a Cultural Heritage point of view, there would be no objection to the proposed township development.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was requested by Plan2Survey Africa, on behalf of Mr. Rocky Warby, to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed establishment of the Homes Haven Extension 40 Township on Holding 34 of Diswilmar Agricultural Holdings, near Krugersdorp in Gauteng. The area is located on Roodekrans 183 IQ.

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 in the area of the proposed development (**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, should this be applicable.
5. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. 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).

3.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act 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.

The national estate (**see Appendix D**) includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Sites of Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- 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 (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. 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.

3.2 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.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Survey of literature

A survey of literature was undertaken in order to place the development area in an archaeological and historical context. The sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2 Field survey

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA/AIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural (archaeological and historical) significance in the area of proposed development. If required, the location/position of any site is determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while photographs are also taken where needed.

The survey was undertaken on foot.

4.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography.

4.4 Documentation

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

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The proposed development area is located on Holding 34 of Diswilmar Agricultural Holdings (Roodekrans 183 IQ) near Krugersdorp (Mogale City) in Gauteng. The establishment of the Homes Haven Extention 40 Township is proposed. The area has been extensively disturbed in the past through agricultural activities, urban development (Hendrik Potgieter drive) and other developments such as the Casino Square Car Wash and Valet, which forms part of the property.

The section of the property that is not developed yet (where the proposed township development will take place) is covered by dense vegetation, which made visibility very difficult. Illegal and informal residential refuse dumping is also taking place in the area. If any cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical sites, features or objects) did exist here in the past it would have been extensively disturbed or destroyed.

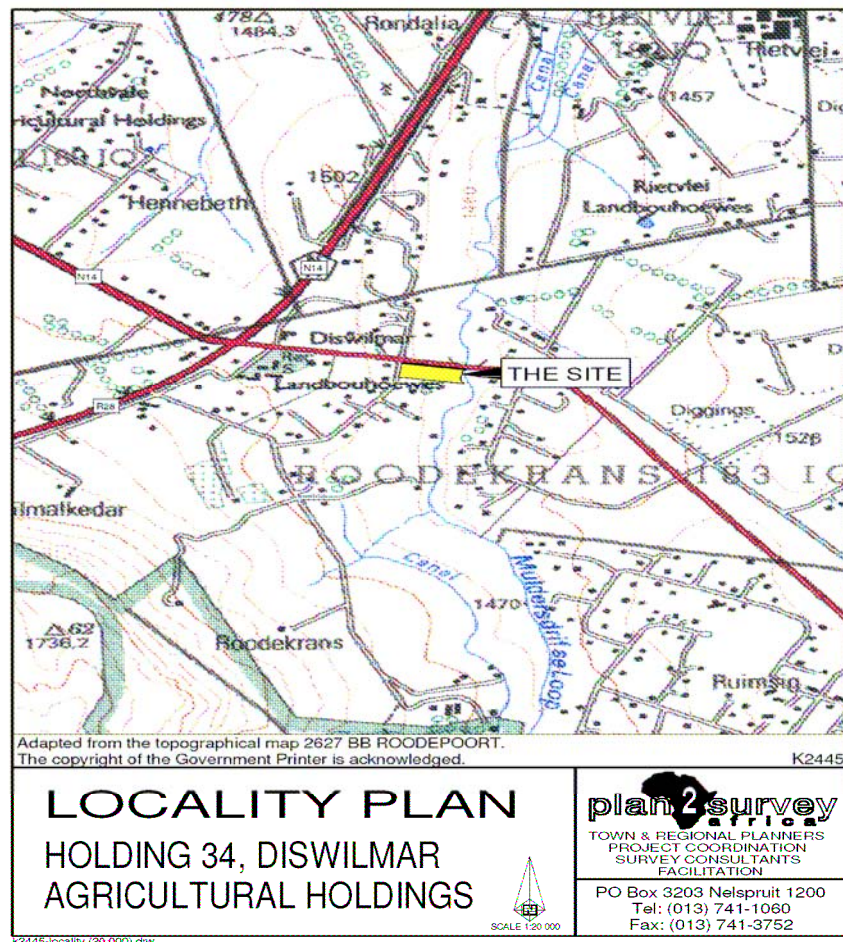


Figure 1: Locality plan (courtesy Plan2Survey Africa)



Figure 2: Aerial view of development location (Google Earth 2011).



Figure 3: A view of the car wash that forms part of the property.



Figure 4: Dense vegetation made visibility difficult.



Figure 5: Illegal dumping taking place in the area.

6. DISCUSSION

A short, general, background to the archaeology and history of the area is given in the following section.

6.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 293). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in basically into 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.

No Stone Age sites or artefacts were found in the area of development. The closest Stone Age sites are at Swartkrans and Sterkfontein, which dates to the Early Iron Age (Berg 1999: 4; 93).

6.2 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.

Again, no Iron Age sites, features or artefacts were identified in the area. The closest Iron Age sites (dating to the Late Iron Age) are located at Melvillekoppies and Bruma Lake (Berg 1999: 7).

6.3 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.

The first Europeans to move through the area were early travelers, including hunters and missionaries. The first were the expedition of Andrew Smith in 1835, who camped at Zeekoegat, close to modern-day Krugersdorp (Berg 1999: 121), followed by Cornwallis Harris in 1836 and David Livingstone in 1847 (Berg 1999: 13). Krugersdorp was established in 1894 (Berg 1999: 146-147).

No historical sites, features or artefacts were identified in the area of development. This includes graves.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the assessment of Holding 34, Diswilmar Agricultural Holdings (for the proposed Homes Haven Extension 40 Township Development) was

conducted successfully. No sites, features or objects of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) origin or significance were identified. Past developments and agricultural activities would have extensively disturbed or destroyed any evidence of these if it did exist here in the past. However, it should be mentioned that visibility was hampered by dense vegetation and it is always possible that, for example, unknown, low stone packed graves might be present in the area.

Finally, 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 during any development activities that if any of these are accidentally discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate. This would include the discovery of previously unknown graves.

8. REFERENCES

Locality map provided by Plan2Survey Africa

Aerial views of the area: Google Earth 2011

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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.

APPENDIX C

Heritage significance:

- Grade I Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance
- Grade II Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate
- Grade III Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

APPENDIX D

Protection of heritage resources:

- Formal protection

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – grade I and II

Protected areas - an area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – for a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – listing grades II and III

Heritage areas – areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

- General protection

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states

Structures – older than 60 years

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Burial grounds and graves

Public monuments and memorials