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ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF SWARTKRANS 172 IQ

A Phase-1 report prepared for Environmental Outsource

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INTRODUCTION

Jacques Loubser, the landowner of Swartkrans 172 IQ near Krugersdorp, Gauteng, intends to develop about 10 hectares of Portion 55 into a complex that includes a conference centre, chalets and curio shops. In terms of environmental legislation, Loubser contracted Environmental Outsource to coordinate the specialist studies.

METHOD

Mr B Tibbles of Environmental Outsource showed ARM staff the development area on 17 July, 2000. Together they traversed the entire area on foot.

RESULTS

Other than a few isolated piles of stone, there were no historical or archaeological features in the western portion of the property. The piles have no significance.

Elsewhere, lime miners had excavated a small trench into a dolomite exposure in the eastern portion of Swartkrans. This area is not scheduled for development, but in any case the significance of the historic mine is low.

CONCLUSION

The proposed development will not endanger any archaeological or historical sites of significance. Thus, there are no archaeological or historical reasons why the development should not proceed.