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SINGISA ENVIRONMENTAL

WIGWAM ESTATE HERITAGE SCOPING REPORT

Proposed
extension of
Wig-Wam
Residential Estate
on Portion 49 &
RE/portion 38 of
the farm
Modderfontein
332-JQ,
Rustenburg,
North-West
Province
Version 1.0

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As we know from legislation the surveying, capturing and management of heritage resources is an integral part of the greater management plan laid down for any major development or historic existing operation. With the proclamation of the National Heritage Resources Act 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) this process has been lain down clearly. This legislation aims to under pin the existing legislation, which only addresses this issue at a glance, and gives guidance to developers and existing industries to the management of their Heritage Resources.

The importance of working with and following the guidelines lain down by the South African Heritage Resources Agency cannot be overemphasised. This document forms part of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed new residential Township on Portion 49 & RE/portion 38 of the farm Modderfontein 332-JQ, Rustenburg, North-West Province.

The following outline the findings of the report:

During the survey no heritage sites was found within the footprint of the proposed development area. There is from a Heritage point of view no reason why the development can not commence.

General

If during construction any possible finds are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

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1. INTRODUCTION

MATAKOMA-ARM Heritage Contracts Unit was contracted by Singisa Environmental to conduct A Heritage Scoping document for the proposed new residential Township on Portion 49 & RE/portion 38 of the farm Modderfontein 332-JQ, Rustenburg, North-West Province.

The aim of the study is to identify all heritage sites, document, and assess their importance within Local, Provincial and national context. From this we aim to assist the developer in managing the discovered heritage resources in a responsible manner, in order to protect, preserve, and develop them within the framework provided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act 25 of 1999).

The report outlines the approach and methodology utilised before and during the survey, which includes in Phase 1: Information collection from various sources and public consultations; Phase 2: Physical surveying of the area on foot and by vehicle; and Phase 3: Reporting the outcome of the study.

During the survey, no heritage sites was found within the footprint of the proposed development area

This report must also be submitted to SAHRA provincial office for scrutiny.

2. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

The aim of the study is to extensively cover all data available to compile a background history of the study area; this was accomplished by means of the following phases.

2.1 PHYSICAL SURVEYING

Due to the nature of cultural remains, the majority that occur below surface, a physical walk through of the study area was conducted. Matakoma Heritage Consultants were appointed to conduct a survey of the proposed development together with access routes and entrances to the proposed residential development. The total area of impact comprised an area of approximately 20ha in total. The study area was surveyed over one day, by means of vehicle and extensive surveys on foot by Matakoma Heritage Consultants.

Aerial photographs and 1:50 000 maps of the area were consulted and literature of the area were studied before undertaking the survey. The purpose of this was to identify topographical areas of possible historic and pre-historic activity. All sites discovered both inside and bordering the proposed development area was plotted on 1:50 000 maps and their GPS co-ordinates noted. 35mm photographs on digital film were taken at all the sites.

3. WORKING WITH LEGISLATION

It is very important that cultural resources be evaluated according to the National Heritage Recourse Act. In accordance with the Act, we have found the following:

• These sites are classified as important based on evaluation of the National Heritage Recourses Act 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) section 3 (3).

A place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of-

- \circ (a) its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- o(b) its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- o(c) its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;

- \circ (d) its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- o(e) its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- o(f) its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- \circ (g) its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;
- \circ (h) its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and
- \circ (i) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- (Refer to Section 9 of this document for assessment)
- These sites should be managed through using the National Heritage Recourses Act 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999) sections 4,5 and 6 and sections 39-47.
- Please refer to Section 9 for Management Guidelines.

4. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

This chapter describes the evaluation criteria used for the sites listed below.

The significance of archaeological sites was based on four main criteria:

- site integrity (i.e. primary vs. secondary context),
- amount of deposit, range of features (e.g., stonewalling, stone tools and enclosures),
- uniqueness and
- potential to answer present research questions.

Management actions and recommended mitigation, which will result in a reduction in the impact on the sites, will be expressed as follows:

- A No further action necessary;
- B Mapping of the site and controlled sampling required;
- C Preserve site, or extensive data collection and mapping of the site; and
- D Preserve site

Impacts on these sites by the development will be evaluated as follows

4.1 IMPACT

The potential environmental impacts that may result from the proposed development activities.

4.1.1 Nature and existing mitigation

Natural conditions and conditions inherent in the project design that alleviate (control, moderate, curb) impacts. All management actions, which are presently implemented, are considered part of the project design and therefore mitigate against impacts.

4.2 EVALUATION

4.2.1 Site Significance

The significance rating scale is as follows:

HIGH: Must be mitigated or not impacted on at all.

LOW - MEDIUM: May require further work before development can commence.

NO SIGNIFICANCE: Do not require mitigation.

4.2.2 Certainty

DEFINITE: More than 90% sure of a particular fact. Substantial supportive data exist to verify the assessment.

PROBABLE: Over 70% sure of a particular fact, or of the likelihood of impact occurring.

POSSIBLE: Only over 40% sure of a particular fact or of the likelihood of an impact occurring.

UNSURE: Less than 40% sure of a particular fact or likelihood of an impact occurring.

4.2.3 Duration

SHORT TERM: 0 to 5 years MEDIUM: 6 to 20 years

LONG TERM: more than 20 years

DEMOLISHED: site will be demolished or is already demolished

Example *Evaluation*

IMPACT	SIGNIFICANCE	CERTAINTY	DURATION	MITIGATION
Negative	high negative	definite	long	С

5. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF AREA

As heritage surveys deal with the locating of heritage resources in a prescribed cartographic landscape, the study of archival and historical data, and especially cartographic material, can represent a very valuable supporting tool in finding and identifying such heritage resources.

The historical background and timeframe can be divided into the Stone Age, Iron Age and Historical timeframe. These can be divided as follows:

Stone Age

The Stone Age is divided in Early; Middle and Late Stone Age and refers to the earliest people of South Africa who mainly relied on stone for their tools.

Early Stone Age: The period from \pm 2.5 million yrs - \pm 250 000 yrs ago. Acheulean stone tools are dominant.

Middle Stone Age: Various lithic industries in SA dating from ± 250 000 yrs – 22 000 yrs before present.

Late Stone Age: The period from \pm 22 000-yrs before present to the period of contact with either Iron Age farmers or European colonists.

Iron Age

The Iron Age as a whole represents the spread of Bantu speaking people and includes both the Pre-Historic and Historic periods. Similar to the Stone Age it to can be divided into three periods:

The Early Iron Age: Most of the first millennium AD.

The Middle Iron Age: 10th to 13th centuries AD

The Late Iron Age: 14th century to colonial period.

Historic Timeframe

The historic timeframe intermingles with the later parts of the Stone and Iron Age, and can loosely be regarded as times when written and oral recounts of incidents became available.

6 Archival study

The methodology consisted of the study of published and unpublished literature, archival records, as well as maps to compile the available information needed to address the project aims. The following institutions were approached for information:

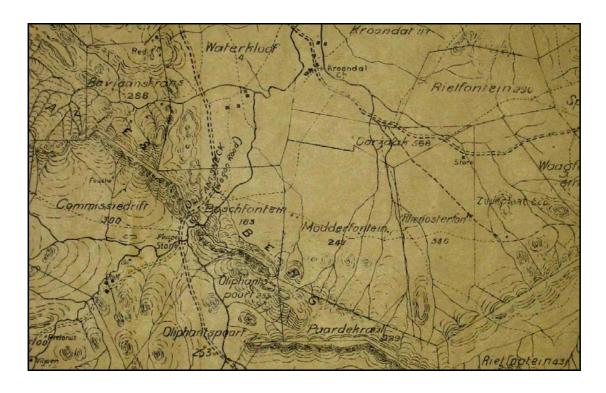
- National Archives, Pretoria
- UNISA Library, Pretoria

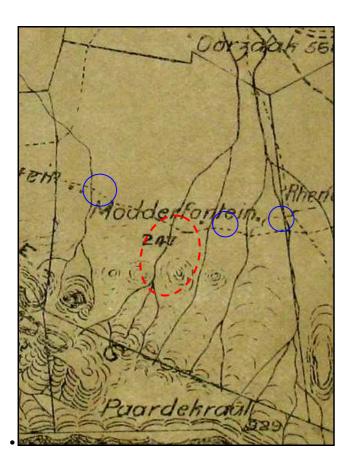
6.1. CARTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

6.1.1 Major Jackson Map, June 1901 (National Archives, Maps, 3/26)

A section of the "Rustenburg" sheet from the Major Jackson Series is depicted in Figure 1. The series was compiled, surveyed and printed during the South African War of 1899 to 1902. The depicted sheet is the Second Revised Edition and dates from the 14th of June 1901. The following observations can be made from the map:

- Four individual farm buildings (marked in blue) are indicated within the boundaries of Modderfontein. None of these appear to be located within the present study area.
- A number of secondary roads are shown crossing over the farm.





• Figure 1: Modderfontein and surrounding farms as depicted on the 'Rustenburg' sheet of the Major Jackson Series dated June 1901. The approximate location of the study area is indicated.

6.2. EARLY FARM OWNERSHIP HISTORY

The farm Modderfontein (first numbered 247 and presently numbered 332-JQ) was inspected on the 2^{nd} of December 1853 by G.J. Snyman. On the 16^{th} of July 1858 it was transferred to Piet Botha. On the very same day the farm was transferred from Botha to L.S. du Plessis, P.G.M. du Plessis and L.S.D. du Plessis. A third transfer took place on the 16^{th} of July 1858 when the farm was transferred from the three Du Plessis owners to Pieter Venter.

On the 21st of April 1869 the first subdivision of the farm took place with the transfer of a portion of the farm (portion A) from Pieter Venter to Daniel Elardus Erasmus. On the same day portion A was transferred from D.E. Erasmus to Pieter Gerrit Wessel du Plessis. The third transfer of the 21st of April 1869 took place when a portion (portion A1) of portion A was transferred from P.G.W. du Plessis to Johannes Godlieb Teunissen.

On the 12th of October 1869 a second portion (portion B) of the remainder of the farm was transferred from Pieter Venter to Philippus Stephanus Snyman. On the 21st of January 1870 portion B was transferred from P.S. Snyman to Anna Maria Dennison (born Hofman).

On the 6th of May 1875 a third portion (portion C) of the remainder of the farm was transferred from Pieter Venter to Sarel Jacob Venter. On the same day the remaining extent of the farm (portion D) was transferred from Pieter Venter to Michael Andries Stefanus Pretorius and Gert Jacobus Kruger. Portion D was again transferred on the same day, namely from M.A.S. Pretorius and G.J. Kruger to Frans Willem Conradie. According to Wulfsohn (1987) Conradie had been a wagon builder and farmer in the Swellendam district before deciding to move into the Rustenburg area.

On the 15th of May 1875 the remainder of portion A was transferred to Daniel Jacobus Roux.

On the 2nd of October 1879 the second portion of the farm (portion B) was transferred to John Turton in his capacity as General Manager of the Transvaal Branch of the *Cape Commercial Bank*.

On the 7th of May 1883 a portion (portion A11) of the first subdivided portion (portion A1) of the farm was transferred from Johannes Godlieb Teunissen to Casper Jan Hendrik du Plessis.

After the liquidation of the *Cape Commercial Bank*, portion B was transferred to Jan Harm Fouché. After his death, the portion of Fouché was transferred from his estate to John James Groome Howes.

On the 7th of April 1905 a portion (D1) of the remaining extent of the farm which had originally been transferred to Frans Willem Conradie was now transferred to the joint estate of Jacobus Albertus Bernardus van Zijl and his deceased spouse Martha Johanna van Zijl (born Conradie). On the same day the remaining portion (D11) of the remaining extent which had been transferred to Frans Willem Conradie was now transferred to the estate of David Hendrick Jeremiah Conradie.

6.3 THE STUDY AREA DURING THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR

The Magaliesberg Mountains saw its fair share of events, skirmishes and battles during the South African War (1899 to 1902). This was especially true

during the latter phase of the war, a period commonly referred to as the guerrilla war period, when smaller mobile groups of Boer commandoes undertook hit-and-run tactics against a numerically superior British Army.

The book by Lionel Wulfsohn titled *Rustenburg at War* describes a number of battles from the surrounding area, including Buffelspoort (3 December 1900), Nooitgedacht (13 December 1900) and Moedwil (30 September 1901). Furthermore, one of the only war-time crossing points over the Magaliesberg Mountains in this area is located directly to the west of Modderfontein on the farm Boschfontein. This pass, which is known as Olifantsnek, was so important that a number of skirmishes were fought here and the British Army also constructed stone forts and blockhouses in its surroundings.

For the farm Modderfontein itself no record of any skirmish or battle could be found. However, Wulfsohn (1987) lists a couple of historic events which took place on the farm during the war years. The first of these took place on the afternoon of 14 August 1900, when General Christiaan de Wet and President M.T. Steyn, both of the Republic of the Orange Free State, had coffee with the Conradie family in their home on the farm Modderfontein.

On the 6th of August 1901 a group of Yeomanry as well as fifty men of the 2nd Norfolk Regiment under command of Major Young of the Royal Field Artillery visited Modderfontein and destroyed the houses and agricultural infrastructure belonging to the Venter and Conradie families. The British force also brought ten women and 24 children back to Rustenburg with them. From Rustenburg these women and children were first taken by ox wagon to the Krugersdorp Concentration Camp and subsequently by train to the Irene Concentration Camp. Eventually they ended up at Howick (Wulfsohn, 1987). The destruction of farm dwellings, livestock, crops and equipments was very much in line with the much debated and widely condemned 'scorched earth' policy adopted by the British Army to destroy any support structures for the mobile Boer commandoes.

The ruins of the Conradie house could still be seen during the 1980s. A photograph of it was published in Wulfsohn (1987:Opp. 206).

6.4. CONSLUSION

The study has revealed that the surroundings of the proposed development area held certain significance during the South African War. Two events during this period provide significance for Modderfontein as well. These

events were the informal meeting of General Christiaan De Wet and President Steyn of the Orange Free State Republic with the Conradie family in their home on the farm, and secondly the destruction of the homes and agricultural infrastructure belonging to the Venter and Conradie families during 1901. Incidentally, both events can be associated with the Conradie homestead. According to Wulfsohn (1987) the ruins of this dwelling could still be seen during the 1980s.

At present it is not certain whether this ruin still exists or whether it is situated within the present study area. However, if the answers to both questions are in the affirmative it is self-evident that a historically significant site is situated within the study area.

7. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

7.1 Locality

The development site is known as H Portion 49 & RE/portion 38 of the farm Modderfontein 332-JQand is located just north of the Buffelspoort-Rustenburg road. The site falls within the jurisdication of the Rustenburg Municipality.

7.2 Development Detail

The proposed development will comprise the subdivision of the property and will consist of the following:

- 163 erven zoned "Residential 1" with a density of 1 dwelling per erf.
- 73 ervenzoned "Residential 2"
- 7 erven zoned "Residential 3" with a density of 30 dwelling units per hectare for 417 units.

The development property measures 80 ha in extent.

8. SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site is characterised by untransformed dense bushveld in the northern sections of the development area. The southern section contains two recently dwellings, labourer housing and the remains of a piggery all constructed during the 1970's.

None of the structures identified during the archival research was identified during the survey and is most probably located to the north of the Buffelspoort Road.



• Figure 2: Modern dwelling on site



• Figure 3: General view of site conditions

9. ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

Due to the nature of cultural remains that occur, in most cases, below surface, the possibility remains that some cultural remains may not have been discovered during the survey. Although MATAKOMA-ARM surveyed the area as thorough as possible, it is incumbent upon the developer to inform the relevant heritage agency should further cultural remains be unearthed or laid open during the process of development.

10. LEGAL AND POLICY REQUIREMENTS

In areas where there has not yet been a systematic survey to identify conservation worthy places, a permit is required to alter or demolish any structure older than 60 years. This will apply until a survey has been done and identified heritage resources are formally protected.

Archaeological and palaeontological sites, materials, and meteorites are the source of our understanding of the evolution of the earth, life on earth and the history of people. In the new legislation, permits are required to damage, destroy, alter, or disturb them. People who already possess material are required to register it.

The management of heritage resources are integrated with environmental resources and this means that before development takes place heritage resources are assessed and, if necessary, rescued.

In addition to the formal protection of culturally significant graves, all graves, which are older than 60 years and are not in a cemetery (such as ancestral graves in rural areas), are protected. The legislation protects the interests of communities that have interest in the graves: they may be consulted before any disturbance takes place.

The graves of victims of conflict and those associated with the liberation struggle will be identified, cared for, protected and memorials erected in their honour.

Anyone who intends to undertake a development must notify the heritage resource authority and if there is reason to believe that heritage resources will be affected, an impact assessment report must be compiled at the developer's cost. Thus developers will be able to proceed without uncertainty about whether work will have to be stopped if a heritage resource is discovered.

According to the National Heritage Act (Act 25 of 1999 section 32) it is stated that:

An object or collection of objects, or a type of object or a list of objects, whether specific or generic, that is part of the national estate and the export of which SAHRA deems it necessary to control, may be declared a heritage object, including –

- objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
- visual art objects;
- military objects;
- numismatic objects;
- objects of cultural and historical significance;
- objects to which oral traditions are attached and which are associated with living heritage;
- objects of scientific or technological interest;
- books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic material, film or video or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1 (xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996), or in a provincial law pertaining to records or archives; and
- any other prescribed category.

Under the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999), provisions are made that deal with, and offer protection, to all historic and pre-historic cultural remains, including graves and human remains.

• Graves younger than 60 years fall under Section 2(1) of the Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ordinance no. 7 of 1925) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the relevant Provincial Department of Health and must be submitted for final approval to the Office of the relevant Provincial Premier. This function is usually delegated to the

Provincial MEC for Local Government and Planning, or in some cases the MEC for Housing and Welfare. Authorisation for exhumation and reinterment must also be obtained from the relevant local or regional council where the grave is situated, as well as the relevant local or regional council to where the grave is being relocated. All local and regional provisions, laws and by-laws must also be adhered to. In order to handle and transport human remains the institution conducting the relocation should be authorised under Section 24 of Act 65 of 1983 (Human Tissues Act).

• Graves older than 60 years, but younger than 100 years fall under Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999 (National Heritage Resources Act) as well as the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983) and are the jurisdiction of the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA). The procedure for Consultation Regarding Burial Grounds and Graves (Section 36(5) of Act 25 of 1999) is applicable to graves older than 60 years that are situated outside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority. Graves in the category located inside a formal cemetery administrated by a local authority will also require the same authorisation as set out for graves younger than 60 years over and above SAHRA authorisation. If the grave is not situated inside a formal cemetery but is to be relocated to one, permission from the local authority is required and all regulations, laws and by-laws set by the cemetery authority must be adhered to.

11. ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A locality map is provided in Annexure A

A summary of the recommendations for each of the main heritage sites follows:

During the survey no heritage sites was found within the footprint of the proposed development area. There is from a Heritage point of view no reason why the development can not commence.

General

If during construction any possible finds are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist be contacted for an assessment of the find.

12. LIST OF PREPARES

Wouter Fourie, BA (Hon) Archaeology (Pretoria) Polke Birkholtz, Archival Study

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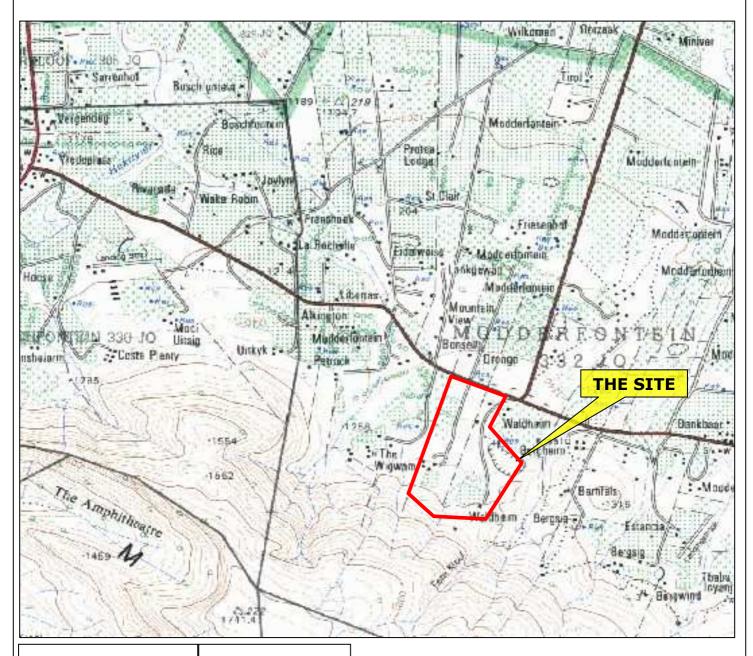
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ANNEXURE A: Locality Map



PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Portion 49 & RE/portion 38 of the farm Modderfontein 332-JQ

PROJECT:

Proposed
extension of
Wig-Wam
Residential Estate

