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Our Reference: AE859

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LETTER FOR EXEMPTION FROM FULL PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR PALAEOANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PLOT 46 ROAD 6 IRON SIDE AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (APPLE ORCHARDS), NEAR WALKERVILLE, GAUTENG – DEVELOPMENT OF CHICKEN ABATTOIR ON PLOT

During October 2008 correspondence between your office and Mr. Thokozani Madondo, owner of above mentioned property and Marketing Manager for Royal Birds, regarding the development of an abattoir on Plot 6 Apple Orchards, indicated that he should employ a Heritage Specialist to conduct an assessment of the property to ensure that no cultural heritage resources are present and would be impacted on negatively by the development. If found that the area was extensively disturbed and that no significant heritage resources are present a letter asking for exemption from a full Phase 1 Assessment should be written by the Heritage Specialist to SAHRA. Mr. Madondo approached an Environmental Impact Assessment specialist, Mr. Eben van Schalkwyk of Route 2 Strategies, to obtain the services of a Heritage Specialist. He then contacted us and Mr. Madondo contracted Archaeos cc to conduct the assessment.

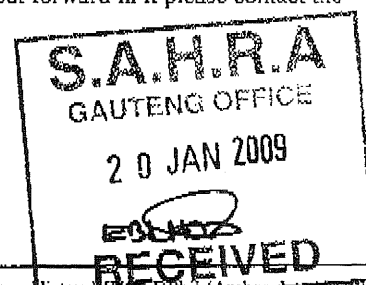
The site is located on Plot 6 Road 6 of the Iron Side (or Apple Orchards) Agricultural Holdings, near Walkerville in Gauteng (see Figure 1). The area has been extensively disturbed in the past through agricultural activities (ploughing), while recent residential and farming construction also impacted on the site (Figure 2). Any archaeological or historical (cultural heritage) sites, features or objects that might have existed here in the past would have been disturbed or destroyed through these activities. The only archaeological finds on the property were a few scattered Middle and Later Stone Age stone tools, including flakes, cores and possible scrapers (Figure 3). Some of these were found in the ploughed furrows and in foundation trenches dug for an earlier structure. However, as these are out of context, it is uncertain whether an intact site exists here.

Therefore, it is our believe that the assessment of the site was completed successfully. Although some stone tools were found scattered throughout the area, these are not significant and out of context. We therefore recommend that the proposed development can continue without a Full Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment having to be undertaken. The area has also been extensively disturbed through past agricultural activities. The development will not entail deep excavations, with fairly shallow trenches being dug for the foundations of the abattoir. Deep-lying rock bed will therefore not be disturbed. However, the subterranean presence of archaeological and historical objects, features and sites should always be considered. Should any of these be discovered during the process of development, a professional archaeologist and heritage specialist should be called in to investigate.

If there are any questions regarding this short report and the recommendations put forward in it please contact the author as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Anton Pelser: Co-director and Archaeologist - Archaeos cc



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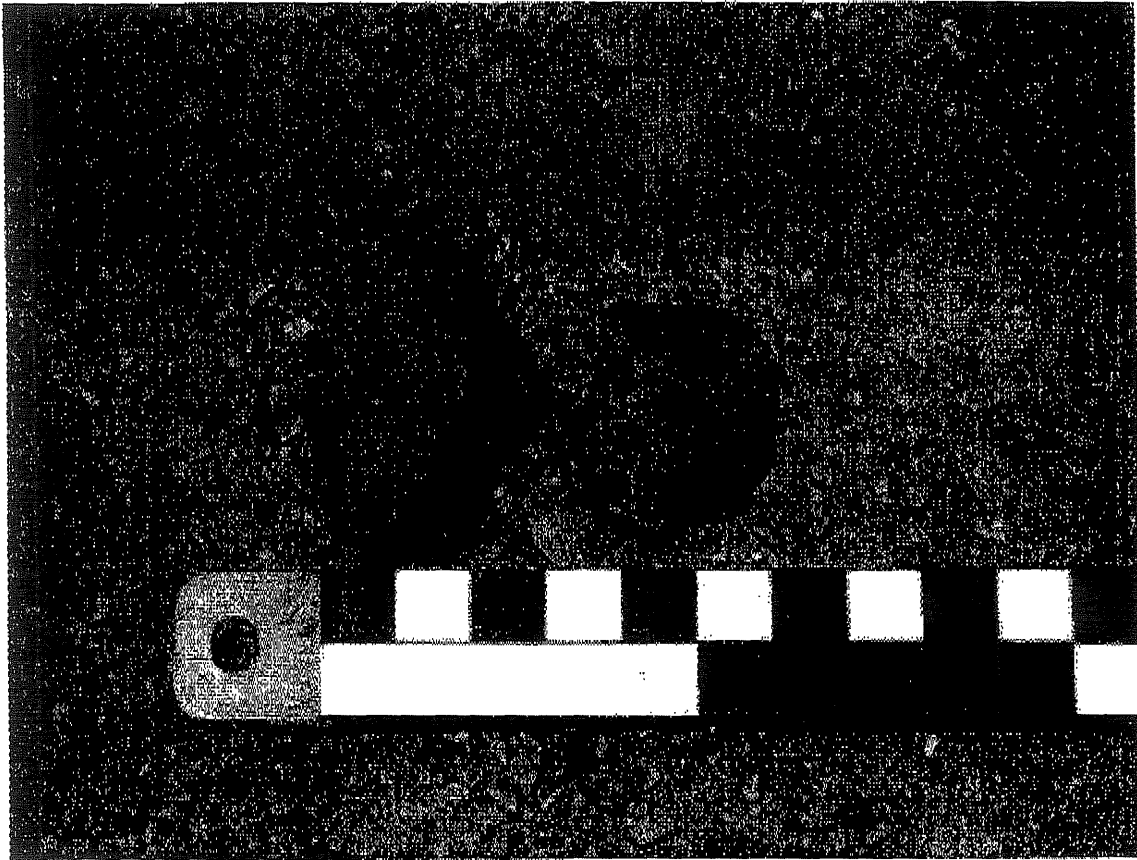


Figure 3: Some of the Middle Stone Age stone tools found in the area

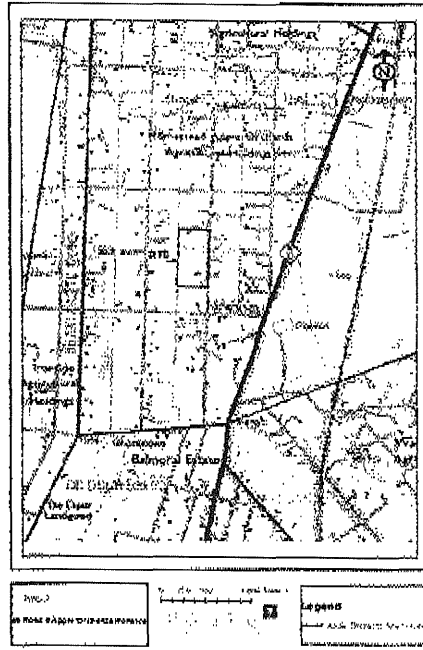


Figure 1: Location of the development



Figure 2: General view of the area. The area has been ploughed extensively in the past