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**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR
THE HENLEY-ON-KLIP GENERAL LANDFILL CLOSURE APPLICATION,
MIDVAAL LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, GAUTENG**

For:

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REPORT: APAC012/21

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SUMMARY

APelser Archaeological Consulting was appointed by EcoPartners, on behalf of Envitech and the Midvaal Local Municipality, to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Henley-on Klip General Landfill Site Closure Application.

A desktop study formed part of the Assessment, after which a field survey was conducted in the area. Only one site of a historical nature and heritage significance were identified in the area of the Landfill. This is a known graveyard located within the boundaries of the landfill property. This document represents a report on the findings of the desktop work and physical field survey. It provides recommendations regarding the required mitigation measures that need to be employed to avoid any possible negative impacts of the proposed closure.

From a Cultural Heritage perspective there would be no objection to the continuation of the proposed Landfill Closure, taking into consideration the conclusions and recommendations put forward at the end of this report.

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1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting was appointed by EcoPartners, on behalf of Envitech and the Midvaal Local Municipality, to conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Henley-on Klip General Landfill Site Closure Application.

A desktop study formed part of the Assessment, after which a field survey was conducted in the area. Only one site of a historical nature and heritage significance were identified in the area of the Landfill. This is a known graveyard located within the boundaries of the landfill property. The area has been extensively disturbed in the past by the Landfill operations, and the area is also bounded in very clearly and with the closure being applied for there was no need to focus the assessment over a wider area than just the prescribed property.

The client indicated the boundaries of the area to be assessed and the fieldwork focused on this.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the study were to:

1. Conduct a desktop study regarding the archaeology and history of the area and to undertake a physical survey in the area of the Landfill site. The existence of a cemetery on the property is known and the main focus of the assessment was this site
2. Identify all other possible objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located in the area;
3. Assess the significance of these cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value;
4. Describe the possible impact of the Henley-on Klip Landfill Closure on these cultural remains, and especially the cemetery
5. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources;
6. 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 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 on these resources. 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 to) 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 assessment was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance in the area of the proposed development (in this case Closure of a Landfill Site). The location/position of all sites, features and objects is determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while photographs are also taken where needed.

The assessment was undertaken on both on foot and by driving through the area under scrutiny. With the area under assessment being an existing and bounded Landfill site and largely covered by the landfill, the main focus of the assessment was the existing cemetery on the property.

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 Henley-on Klip Landfill site is located on portions 1320-1323 of the farm Slangfontein 374IR, close to the small town of Henley-on Klip near Meyerton in Gauteng. It is situated in the Midvaal Local Municipality, who is also responsible for the landfill site. EcoPartners are assisting Envitech and the Midvaal Municipality with the application for the Landfill Closure Application, of which this study forms a part.

The area of the landfill has been completely disturbed as a result of the dumping activities, with the area mainly disturbed prior to that by agricultural activities. This is to a large degree still the main activity in the area, and the adjacent farm portions are still used for agricultural activities. If any sites of cultural (archaeological & historical) heritage origin and significance (over and above the existing graveyard) did exist here in the past it would have been completely disturbed or destroyed.



Figure 1: Aerial view of Landfill location and demarcation. The red block show the position of the graveyard (Google Earth 2012 – Image date 6/11/2012).



Figure 2: View of a section of the Landfill.



Figure 3: Another view of the landfill. The graveyard is located on the other side of the trees.



Figure 4: A view of the graveyard with the landfill site visible.

6. DISCUSSION

A basic background to the archaeology of South Africa and the history of the area is given to put any sites, features or objects that could be identified during the assessment in a larger context.

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. 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. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago
Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago
Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

No Stone Age sites or occurrences (Stone Age artifacts) were identified during the survey. ESA and LSA sites, including rock art (engravings) are known from the larger geographical area near Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark, Heidelberg and the Suikersbosrand Nature Reserve (Berg 1999: 4-5).

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce artifacts. In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases according to Van der Ryst & Meyer (in Berg 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.

Once again no Iron Age sites were identified, and if they were present in the past they would have been completely destroyed by development and agricultural activities during the recent past. Late Iron Age settlements are known to occur near Vereeniging and Heidelberg (Berg 1999: 7).

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 or close to the area were the group of hunter and traveler Cornwallis Harris during 1836 (Berg 1999: 13). Meyerton was proclaimed a town in August 1892 (Berg 1999: 21; 147). During the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) there were two concentration camps situated near Meyerton – one for Whites and one for Blacks (Berg 1999: 54).

According to www.henleywatch.co.za, Mattys Wynand Pretorius and his wife Magdalena Gerbrecht bought the farm Slangfontein on the banks of the Klipriver for the purchase price of eight Pounds Sterling on the 12th of September 1860. This farm stretched from beyond the Klipriver to the Meyerton Border. The largest portion of this farm is now known as Henley on Klip. Mattys Wynand Pretorius snr died on the 10 December 1892, and was buried inside the family graveyard on the banks of the river. In accordance with his final will and testament, the farm was divided between his beneficiaries. A portion of this farm was situated on the East Bank of the river and was known as “Bloemhok”. In October 1903 the Small

Farm Company Limited agreed to buy this portion from C.J van der Westhuizen. The company was approached by Mattys Cornelius and Johannes Pretorius who owned some 1250 morgen on the west side of the Klip River and agreed to buy 781 morgen, including 7000 feet of river frontage. Another company known as the Settlers Syndicate bought the residue of 781 morgen with a river frontage of 800 feet, which is now known as Highbury.

In 1904 three Portable buildings were erected, one of these was to be used as the Henley on Klip Hotel. The second building was converted to the townships owner's residence and the third became the Manor Hotel but was originally the Henley Golf Club. The construction of the Kidson weir started in 1904 with the object of impounding 80 acres of water varying in width from 80 feet to 500 feet with a maximum depth of 17 feet. Advocate Horace Kent played a dominant part in the development and expansion of Henley on Klip. He, together with the Small Farms Company, bought the above mentioned properties, and because it reminded him of his birth place he named it the township of Henley on Klip.

During the South African War, British troops were stationed in the village to guard a nearby railway line to Johannesburg. Block houses were constructed normally a thousand yards apart and set in concrete, and aimed down the line of wire were several rifles which could be fired at night without the aid of Very Lights. In the early years the village became a very popular week-end destination with visitors coming in by train from Johannesburg.

Wikipedia indicates that the village was founded in 1904 by Advocate Horace Kent. Born in 1855 in Henley on Thames, England, Kent came to South Africa in 1898. The area where Henley on Klip is located, reminded Kent of his hometown, in England, Henley on Thames. Kent, in conjunction with the Small Farms Company (SFC), bought the land from a Mr. Van Der Westhuizen, for a price of 5000 Pounds, and the land was divided into smallholdings from 1 to 80 acres.

In 1904, the SFC decided to build the Kidson Weir on the Klip River in Henley on Klip. The weir was named after Fenning Kidson, the grandson of an 1820 settler. Fenning was educated in England, but returned to South Africa as a young man and became a transport rider, a contemporary of Sir Percy Fitzpatrick. Soon after the outbreak of the Anglo Boer War, news came to Kidson that a commando was on his way to his farm to arrest him. Under the noses of the Boers he escaped, riding sidesaddle, his burly frame crammed into his wife's riding habit. He finally made his way to Natal, but returned to the Transvaal after the war, settling in Henley on Klip with his wife, Edith. The family home was named Tilham, which is the manor house on the river at the corner of Regatta and Shillingford Roads (www.wikipedia.org).

The only site known to exist on the property, and related to the recent historical time period, is the graveyard recorded here. This is a formal graveyard containing close to 600 graves. The graves have numbers, with the highest number visible 542, with more graves after that without any visible numbers. Many of the graves have formal headstones and dressings, while a large percentage are only stone packed or soil heaps. Many of these are of unknown children. The oldest grave (based on a legible inscription on the headstone) is 1952, with the most recent identifiable one being 1966. A date of death on one of the headstones (a grave with seemingly two individuals) is 1902, but this is probably a reburial of the specific individual. It seems therefore that most of the graves date to between the early 1950's and late 1960's, indicating possible age of more than 60 years for the commencement of the

cemetery. As a result the graveyard should be handled as a Heritage Resource (and is also part of the National Estate).

According to Mr. Phillip Mokgolane (the Landfill Manager) the site existed prior to the start of the Landfill in the 1970's/80's, and that the graves are mainly of farmworkers and their family members from the area. Some descendants apparently still visit the grave from time to time and the Municipality still looks after the cemetery (cutting the grass). He also indicated that the closure of the landfill would not impact negatively on the site (Mokgolane pers.comm. 2012/11/13). Currently there is no fence around the site and some graves are in disrepair, although no vandalism is evident. This situation could however change once the closure of the Landfill has been finalized.

From a Cultural Heritage perspective Graves and Graveyards are always of High Significance, and all efforts should be made to avoid negative impacts on such sites. Although it is not envisaged that the proposed closure will have a direct negative impact, there could be secondary impacts such as neglect once the site is closed and possible vandalism. The following mitigation measures are therefore recommended:

1. Proper recording of each grave in order to establish a Graves Register
2. Re-numbering of each grave
3. Cleaning of the graves and proper fencing off
4. Erecting an access gate to the site so that descendants can still visit their graves without any problems
5. Drafting & Implementation of a Grave Site Management Plan for use by the Midvaal Local Municipality



Figure 5: General view of the graveyard.



Figure 6: One of the legible numbers on the first row of graves.



Figure 7: The oldest visible grave number (542).



**Figure 8: The last row of graves in the cemetery.
These graves are number from 1-18 (visble) and is
possibly those of White farmers and their family members.**



**Figure 9: One of the headstones with a legible inscription.
Note the date of 1902 for the one individual.**



Figure 10: Another legible headstone with a date of death of 1954.



Figure 11: Another “headstone”. This is the only one of this type.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the Heritage Assessment for the Henley-on Klip General Landfill Closure Application done for EcoPartners (on behalf of EnviTech and the Midvaal Local Municipality) was conducted successfully. The area have been extensively changed and disturbed over the years – firstly though agricultural activities and more recently the Landfill operations. Besides the Graveyard located on the property no other sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance were identified in the area.

From a Cultural Heritage point of view therefore the development should be allowed to continue, taking into consideration the following mitigation measures regarding the graveyard:

1. Proper recording of each grave in order to establish a Graves Register
2. Re-numbering of each grave
3. Cleaning of the graves and proper fencing off
4. Erecting an access gate to the site so that descendants can still visit their graves without any problems
5. Drafting & Implementation of a Grave Site Management Plan for use by the Midvaal Local Municipality

Finally the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts are always a distinct possibility, and this aspect needs to be kept in mind at all times. 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.

8. REFERENCES

Aerial view of the Henley-on Klip Landfill and Graveyard Location – Google Earth 2012:
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www.henleywatch.co.za.

www.wikipedia.org.

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

DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Historic value:	Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.
Aesthetic value:	Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.
Scientific value:	Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period
Social value:	Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.
Rarity:	Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.
Representivity:	Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

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.

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

Field ratings:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| i. National Grade I significance | should be managed as part of the national estate |
| ii. Provincial Grade II significance | should be managed as part of the provincial estate |
| iii. Local Grade IIIA | should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance) |
| iv. Local Grade IIIB | should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/ medium significance) |
| v. General protection A (IV A) | site should be mitigated before destruction (high/ medium significance) |
| vi. General protection B (IV B) | site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance) |
| vii. General protection C (IV C) | phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it may be demolished (low significance) |

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

APPENDIX E

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

1. Pre-assessment or Scoping phase – Establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
2. Baseline Assessment – Establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
3. Phase I Impact Assessment – Identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
4. Letter of Recommendation for Exemption – If there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
5. Phase II Mitigation or Rescue – Planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
6. Phase III Management Plan – For rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.