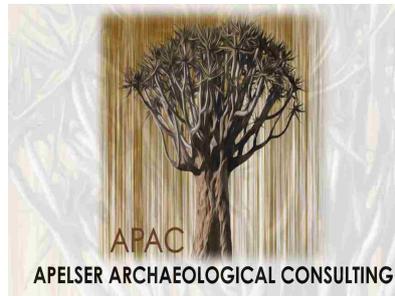


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CK 2006/014630/23 **VAT NO.: 4360226270**

Reference: APAC016/12

2016-03-11

To: Mr. Andrew Salomon

SAHRA
P.O.Box 4637
CAPE TOWN
8000

RE: Letter of Exemption for Full HIA & Short Report: Proposed Walkerville Estate/ Walkerville Mews on Part of the Remainder of Portion 174 (of Portion 29) of the Farm Faraosfontein 372IQ, near Walkerville, GAUTENG

APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING cc (APAC) was approached by EnviroSynergy Consulting to undertake a Basic Heritage Assessment for the Proposed Walkerville Estate/ Walkerville Mews on Part of the Remainder of Portion 174 (of Portion 29) of the Farm Faraosfontein 372IQ, near Walkerville in Gauteng. With the author and APAC having completed an earlier 2012 HIA for the same development (See APAC012/13 – October 2012), he recommended that APAC do a Short Report based on the old information and in relation to the new proposed development footprint and draft a Letter of Exemption for a full HIA to be undertaken. The client, based on this recommendation, then appointed APAC to undertake this.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

The proposed development (a Retirement Village called Walkerville Mews/Estate) is located on Part of the Remainder of Portion 174 (of Portion 29) of the Farm Faraosfontein 372IQ, near Walkerville, GAUTENG. The size of the development is approximately 20 hectares. The original area that was assessed in 2012 by APAC was around 100 hectares, and this “new” development footprint forms part of this original area.

AJ Pelser BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology) [WITS], MA (Archaeology) [WITS]

Beatrix Bed & Breakfast Trading as A Pelser Archaeological Consulting



Fig.1: Aerial view of new development area (Google Earth 2016).

Site Locality Map: *Portion 174 Faraosfontein 372-IQ*



Figure 2: 2012 footprint of original study area (Google Earth 2012, courtesy JW Environmental).

Based on Tom Huffman's research (although there are no known sites in the specific area) it is possible that LIA sites, features or material could be present in the larger area. This will include the Ntsuanatsatsi facies of the Urewe Tradition, dating to between AD1450 and AD1650 (Huffman 2007: 167); the Uitkomst facies of the same tradition (AD1700 to AD1820 (p.171), as well as the Buispoort facies of Kalundu, dating to around AD1700 – AD1840 (p.203).

No Iron Age sites, features or objects were identified during the assessment of the area. If any did exist the extensive disturbance in the recent past would possibly have destroyed all evidence. One small stone walled feature found probably date to the much more recent past.

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 travelling close to this area were the early travellers Schoon (1836) and Cornwallis Harris in the same year. These groups were closely followed by the Voortrekkers after 1844 (Bergh 1999: 12-13). During the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) there were a number of battles/skirmishes in the larger geographical area close to Vereeniging. There were also a number of British Concentration Camps for Boer Women & Children and for Black South Africans at Vereeniging, Kliprivier, Witkop and Meyerton (Bergh 1999: 54).

The oldest map for the farm Faraosfontein found in the database of the Chief Surveyor General dates to 1894 (www.csg.dla.gov.za – **CSG 1393/1894**). It indicates that the farm (portion 1) was surveyed for one J. Jackson in June 1892, and that the plan was approved by G.R.von Wielligh (the Surveyor-General) on behalf of the ZAR's president Paul Kruger in May 1895.

The sites (Refer to Figure 9) identified during the 2012 assessment of the area both dated to the recent historical past. The first site is the remains of very recent farmworker dwellings. They are not of any significance and probably less than 60 years of age as well. The documentation undertaken during the assessment was seen as sufficient mitigation and no further work was recommended.

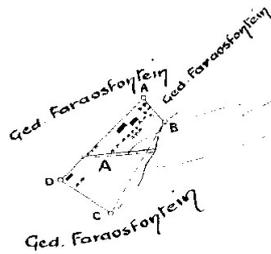
The second site (Refer to Figure 9) consisted of a small and very inconspicuous circular stone walled enclosure located close to the foot of a small ridge and located in close proximity to the foundations of a square-shaped structure (probably farmworker structure). This second site could be the remains of a small livestock enclosure. Once again these sites were deemed as insignificant from a cultural heritage point of view and the documentation done during the fieldwork was deemed as sufficient. Cultural material identified in the area included some pieces of recent glass (bottles), metal (tins) and porcelain

The GPS coordinates for these sites are as follows:

Site 1: S26 26'51.6 E27 58'00.3

Site 2: S26 26'52.1 E27 58'04.0

1393/1894



Sept 1894

AB 486.88 A 78° 15' 40" B 116° 09' 40"
 BC 1623.87 B 116° 09' 40" C 78° 35' 30"
 CD 878.72 C 78° 35' 30" D 87° 08' 40"
 DA 1710.45 D 87° 08' 40" A 78° 15' 40"
 Rechtenwa. 12. 11. 23. 18. 1894.

Registered under:
 No. 372
 REGISTRASIE AFDELING
 REGISTRATION DIVISION

ZIDEN.		HOEKEN.	
AB	486.88	A	78° 15' 40"
BC	1623.87	B	116° 09' 40"
CD	878.72	C	78° 35' 30"
DA	1710.45	D	87° 08' 40"

CO-ORDINATEN			
A +	654.7	80	- 2357.40
B +	7058.40	-	2289.75
C +	1052.55	-	2143.32
D +	1640.44	-	1462.08

Rechi. Grootte 12 my. 425 vk.m. 100 vk.vf.
 Tot. Grootte 12 my. 95 . 100 .

Net in de spij van de spijrit is de grensovergang



De bovenstaande Figuur A tot D stelt voor gedeelte Faraosfontein No. 39
 bevattende 13 Morgen 25 Vierkante Roeden. 100 vke. voeten
 Gelegen in het distrikt Heidelberg wijk Kliprivier
 Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek en grenzende als hierboven vermeld.
 De lakens zijn aangewezen door de eigenaren en zijn behoorlijk opgericht volgens
 wet. Van deze meting is volgens wet aan de aangrenzende grondeigenaren kennis gegeven.
 Afstand van het Dorp Heidelberg omtrent 30 mijlen.
 Gemeten voor J. Jackson in Juni 1892 en Julij 1894
 door mij, Nick Dooling
 Landmeter.

No. 1393/1894 De zijden hoeken en Grootte van deze kaart zijn onderling
 bestaande. *[Signature]*
 Landmeter-Generaal.
 Landmeter-Generaals Kantoor, 10. Sept. 1894.

Goedgekeurd. *[Signature]*
 20. Sept. 1894
 Staatspresident.
 G. P. S. (Walkerstr.)
 Gepubliceerd in "Staatscourant" No. 3725 van 22. Sept. 1894.

Figure 4: CSG map of Portion 1 of the farm Faraosfontein dating to 1894. (CSG document 1393/1894 Reference No.10K43V01).



Figure 5: Ruins of possible farmworker dwellings (Site 1).



Figure 6: Small stone circle (Site 2).



Figure 7: Foundations of square structure at Site 2.



Figure 8: Recent cultural material on Site 2.



Fig.9: Aerial view showing 2016 footprint (purple) in relation to 2012 original footprint (red), as well as the 2 sites identified during the 2012 survey (Google Earth 2016).

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

After the October 2012 assessment it was concluded that the Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of a Retirement Village on Portion 174 of the farm Faraosfontein 3721Q near Walkerville in Gauteng was conducted successfully. Also, that the largest part of the area was extensively disturbed in the past by farming activities (ploughing for crop growing) and some private residential development on the farm. The area is topographically speaking relatively flat and open, making archaeological visibility easy. Some outcrops and a rocky ridge are located in a section of the then proposed development area, and the sites identified during that survey were located here. However, both sites were of recent age and consisted only of the ruins and foundation of structures. No further mitigation work was required, and the documentation done during the assessment was seen as sufficient.

The 2016 Walkerville Mews/Estate (the same Retirement Village) development footprint is a smaller 20ha parcel that forms part of the original study area. No sites were found in the area during 2012, and it is highly unlikely that this will be any different in 2016. It was therefore recommended that a Letter of Exemption from a full HIA be drafted, based on the 2012 assessment and findings, and submitted to SAHRA for comments. It should also be mentioned that the 2012 HIA Report (APAC012/13) was submitted to SAHRA in November 2012.

From a Heritage perspective therefore, there should be no objection to the proposed development taking place. Therefore, from a Cultural Heritage perspective, the development should be allowed to continue without the required Full Phase 1 HIA. Please except this document as a Letter of Exemption for the Full HIA and provide the client with the necessary comments and Record of Decision in this regard as soon as possible so that development actions can be finalised.

Finally the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artefacts 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. This would include the discovery of previously unknown graves.

Should there be any questions regarding this document please contact the author of this letter as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Anton Pelser



REFERENCES

Location Map of the development area – Google Earth 2012: Courtesy John Wilson Environmental Solutions (Pty) Ltd.

Location Map and Layout Plan of Walkerville Estate: Courtesy EnviroSynergy Consulting

Aerial views of Study Area Location & Site distribution in relation to the proposed development area: Google Earth 2016

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Republic of South Africa. 1998. **National Environmental Management Act (no 107 of 1998)**. Pretoria: The Government Printer.

www.csg.dla.gov.za – Database of the Chief Surveyor General

DECLARATION OF CONSULTANTS INDEPENDENCE

The author of this report, **Anton Pelser**, hereby declare that he is an independent consultant appointed by EnviroSynergy Consulting (Pty) Ltd as an Heritage Specialist for Walkerville Village Mews and have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity, application or appeal in respect of which he was appointed other than fair remuneration for work performed in connection with the activity, application or appeal. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of the specialists performing such work. All opinions expressed in this report are his own.

SPECIALIST

Anton Pelser

QUALIFICATION

MA Archaeology – WITS University

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anton Pelser', written in a cursive style.

Anton Pelser