

PHASE 1 HERITAGE RESOURCES SCOPING REPORT

**SECTION 24 G RECTIFICATION APPLICATION FOR
EXISTING DEVELOPMENT ON SECTIONS OF
PORTIONS 16,17 AND 18, OF THE FARM
FRANSCHOEK 593 LT, NEAR HEANERTSBURG,
LIMPOPO**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project encompasses a Section 24G rectification application for areas that have already been developed by the applicant. This encompasses the development of a small camp site, cottage and conversion of stables into a chalet. Ordinarily the size would not warrant an EIA, however it is in a Critical Biodiversity area, thus the application.

The area has been impacted on, however, from previous experience in similar areas very little heritage materials are recorded.

No heritage remains were recorded on site, and no objection to development is lodged.

1. INTRODUCTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Application purpose: To establish tourist accommodation- Section 24G rectification application

Area: Magoebaskloof/Haenertsburg Area

Size: Stables <1000m²
Camp site <1000m²
Cottage <300m²

General GPS: Stables *S23° 52' 43.9" E30° 00' 26.7"*
Cottage *S23° 52' 36.3" E30° 00' 33.9"*
Camp *S23° 52' 44.7" E30° 00' 38.0"*

Map reference number: 2330 CC

This report will enable the Applicant to take pro-active measures to limit the adverse effects that the development could have on heritage resources.

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (1999) the following is of relevance:

Historical remains

Section 34(1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

Archaeological remains

Section 35(4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority-

(a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface, or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite

Burial grounds and graves

Section 36 (3)(a) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority-

(c) destroy, damage, alter, exhume, 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

(b) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in detection or recovery of metals.

Culture resource management

Section **38(1)** Subject to the provisions of subsection (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development* ...

must at the very earliest stages of initiating such development notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature, and extent of the proposed development.

***“development”** means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of the heritage authority in any way result in a change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place, or influence its stability and future well-being, including-

- (a) construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change of use of a place or a structure at a place;
- (b) carry out any works on or over or under a place*;
- (e) any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land, and
- (f) any removal or destruction of trees, or removal of vegetation or topsoil;

***“place** means a site, area or region, a building or other structure* ...”

***“structure** means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to the ground, ...”

2. METHOD

2.1 Sources of information and methodology

The source of information was primarily the field reconnaissance and referenced literary sources.

A pedestrian survey of the area was undertaken, during which standard methods of observation were applied. The area was carefully covered and traversed, and special attention given to any areas displaying soil and or vegetative changes. As most archaeological material occur in single or multiple stratified layers beneath the soil surface, special attention was given to disturbances, both man-made such as roads and clearings, as well as those made by natural agents such as burrowing animals and erosion. Locations of heritage remains were recorded by means of a GPS (Garmin Etrex 10). Heritage material and the general conditions on the terrain were photographed with a Nikon Coolpix L25 Digital camera.

2.2 Limitations

The scoping survey was thorough, but limitations were experienced due to the fact that archaeological sites are subterranean and only visible when disturbed. The area has already been developed, thus the area and those surrounding the development were checked for possible heritage remains.

2.3 Categories of significance

The significance of archaeological sites is ranked into the following categories.

- No significance: sites that do not require mitigation.
- Low significance: sites, which *may* require mitigation.
- Medium significance: sites, which require mitigation.
- High significance: sites, which must not be disturbed at all.

The significance of an archaeological site is based on the amount of deposit, the integrity of the context, the kind of deposit and the potential to help answer present research questions. Historical structures are defined by Section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, while other historical and cultural significant sites, places and features, are generally determined by community preferences.

A crucial aspect in determining the significance and protection status of a heritage resource is often whether or not the sustainable social and economic benefits of a proposed development outweigh the conservation issues at stake. Many aspects must be taken into consideration when determining significance, such as rarity, national significance, scientific importance, cultural and religious significance, and not least, community preferences. When, for whatever reason the protection of a heritage site is not deemed necessary or practical, its research potential must be assessed and mitigated in order to gain data / information which would otherwise be lost. Such sites must be adequately recorded and sampled before being destroyed. These are generally sites graded as of low or medium significance.

2.4 Terminology

- Early Stone Age:** Predominantly the Acheulean hand axe industry complex dating to + 1 Myr yrs – 250 000 yrs. before present.
- Middle Stone Age:** Various lithic industries in SA dating from ± 250 000 yr. - 30 000 yrs. before present.
- Late Stone Age:** The period from ± 30 000-yr. to contact period with either Iron Age farmers or European colonists.
- Early Iron Age:** Most of the first millennium AD
- Middle Iron Age:** 10th to 13th centuries AD
- Late Iron Age:** 14th century to colonial period. *The entire Iron Age represents the spread of Bantu speaking peoples.*
- Historical:** Mainly cultural remains of western influence and settlement from AD1652 onwards – mostly structures older than 60 years in terms of Section 34 of the NHRA, though more recent remains can be termed historically significant should the remains hold social significance for the local community.
- Phase 1 assessment:** Scoping surveys to establish the presence of and to evaluate heritage resources in a given area
- Phase 2 assessments:** In depth culture resources management studies which could include major archaeological excavations, detailed site surveys and mapping / plans of sites, including historical / architectural structures and features. Alternatively, the sampling of sites by collecting material, small test pit excavations or auger sampling is required.
- Sensitive:** Often refers to graves and burial sites although not necessarily a heritage place, as well as ideologically significant sites such as ritual / religious places. *Sensitive* may also refer to an entire landscape / area known for its significant heritage remains.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND TERRAIN

Vegetation: Woodbush Granite Grassland

Terrain: Stable Chalet: Generally flat, amid forest and orchard
Vegetation: Grassed
Cottage: On a flattened area on the side of the mountain
Vegetation: Grassed
Camp Site: On a flattened area on the side of the mountain
Vegetation: Grassed surrounded by forest and orchards

Proposed development: To establish new tourist accommodation



Fig 1: View of chalet



Fig 2: View of chalet



Fig 3: View of cottage



Fig 4: View of cottage



Fig 5. View of camp site



Fig 6. View of camp site

4. RESULTS OF THE SCOPING SURVEY AND DISCUSSION

4.1 SOCIAL and/or RELIGIOUS INTANGIBLE HERITAGE

No areas designated for socio-religious activities were recorded on the site.

Significance: None

4.2 HISTORICAL PERIOD

No remains from the historical period were recorded.

Significance: None

4.3 GRAVES

No formal or unmarked graves were recorded on site.

Significance: None

4.4 IRON AGE REMAINS

No remains from the Iron Age were recorded.

Archaeologically, Huffman (2007) designates the following facies to possibly be present in the area:

Urewe Tradition: Kwale branch-	Silver Leaves <i>facies</i>	AD 280-450	(Early Iron Age)
	<i>Mzonjani facies</i>	AD 450 – 750	(Early Iron Age)
Moloko branch-	<i>Icon facies</i>	AD 1300 - 1500	(Late Iron Age)

Kalundu Tradition: Happy Rest sub-branch -	<i>Doornkop facies</i>	AD 750 - 1000	(Early Iron Age)
	<i>Letaba facies</i>	AD 1600 - 1840	(Late Iron Age)

Significance: None

4.5 STONE AGE REMAINS

No Stone Age remains were recorded. The area was searched for Stone Age materials but none were recorded. The farm does not have overhangs or caves, drainage lines or rocky areas.

4.6 PALAEONOTOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

The area lies within the grey zone on SAHRIS map.

5. BACKGROUND ON THE AREA

In a report by Prof Louis Changuion, in December 2008, he mentions the following points, the report is more in depth than the points listed below. Historically, the area was first used by people of European descent in around 1838 as a way to pass through the mountains to the Lowveld. In the 1860's the area was used to obtain wood for the development of towns such a Polokwane. Thereafter a gold rush ensued during the 1870's. Now the town of Haenertsburg is mainly a tourist attraction with farming in the greater area.

In the wider area, Stone Age Rock art exists in the Wolkberg, approximately 50km from the current development area.

The Mamabolo people also established early settlements on land south and west of the development area- also approximately 50km away.

According to SAHRA website, CaseID 612: Proposed township establishment and associated infrastructure on Portion 2 of the farm Cooyong 1100-LS at Haenertsburg, Limpopo Province. No heritage materials were recorded during survey.

Not listed on the website is the surveys that took place when the area south of Heanertsburg was earmarked for possible diamond mining. Survey in this area- 30km from the development area currently under survey, was found to have mining adits. No such remains were found on the development area currently being surveyed.

6. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From a heritage resources management point of view, we have no objection with regard to the development.

The discovery of previously undetected subterranean heritage remains on the terrain must be reported to the Limpopo Heritage Authority or the archaeologist, and may require further mitigation measures.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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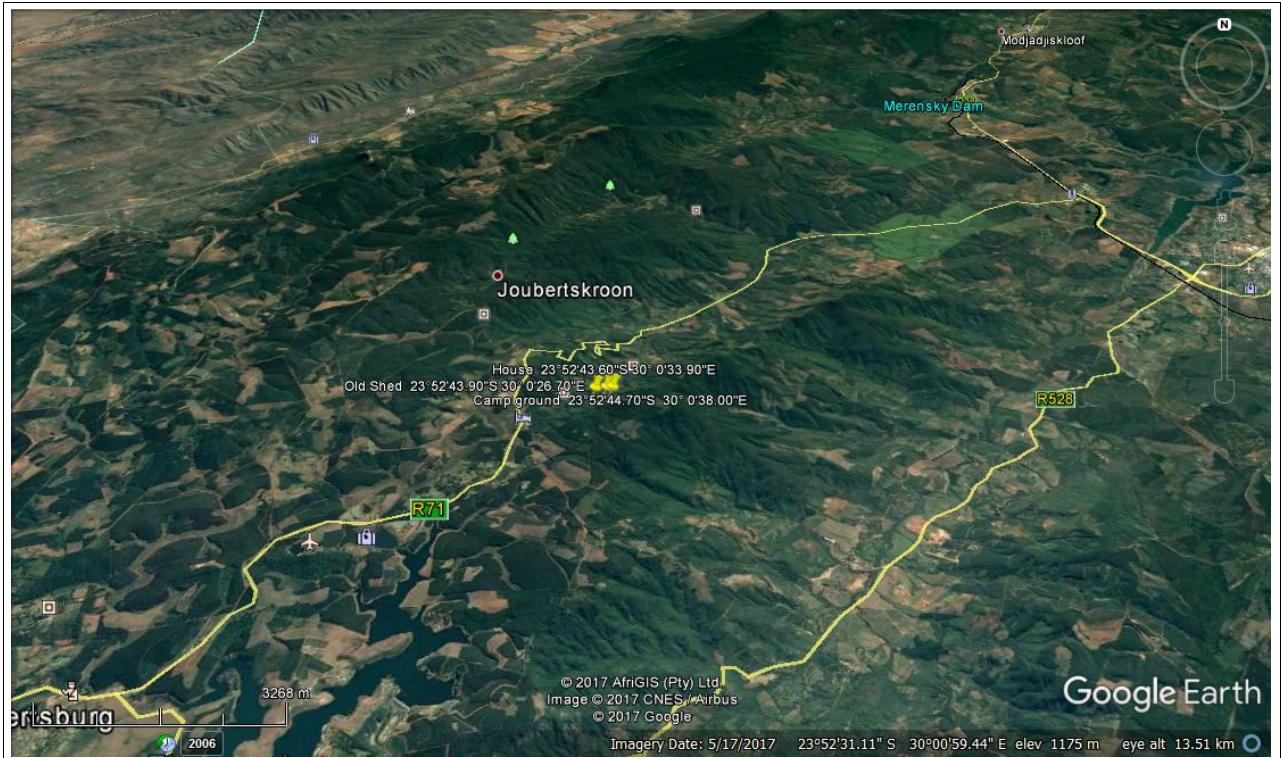
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Map 1:Google map close up



Map 2. Google map project area in relation to Haenertsburg and Modjadjeskloof