



Archaetnos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
BK 98 09854/23

**A REPORT ON A CULTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED KLIPPOORTIE 112 IR (REIGER PARK X 25) HOUSING
DEVELOPMENT, EKURHULENI, GAUTENG PROVINCE**

For:

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REPORT NO.: AE01513V

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SUBMISSION OF REPORT

Please note that the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or one of its subsidiary bodies needs to comment on this report.

It is the client's responsibility to do the submission via the SAHRIS System on the SAHRA website.

Clients are advised not to proceed with any action before receiving the necessary comments from SAHRA.

DISCLAIMER

Although all possible care is taken to identify all sites of cultural importance during the survey of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites are as such that it always is possible that hidden or subterranean sites could be overlooked during the study. Archaetnos and its personnel will not be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.

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SUMMARY

Archaetnos cc was requested by BIGEN AFRICA SERVICES (Pty) Ltd to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment (HIA) for a proposed housing development on the farm Klippoortjie 112 IR, called Reiger Park X 25. This is in Ekurhuleni on the east Rand of the Gauteng Province.

A survey of the available literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the proposed project area and the surrounding environment. This was followed by the field survey which was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices, aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the project area.

During the HIA survey no sites of cultural heritage significance were identified within the project boundary. Therefore no specific mitigation measures are needed and the project may continue.

It should be noted however that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a possibility. As such, care should be taken when the construction phase of the project commences. If any historical sites, features or artifacts are discovered, a qualified archaeologist should be commissioned to investigate.

It is also important to take cognisance of the applicant's responsibility to submit this report via the SAHRIS System on the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) website. No work on site may commence before receiving the necessary comments from the SAHRA.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Archaetnos cc was requested by BIGEN AFRICA SERVICES (Pty) Ltd to conduct a cultural heritage impact assessment (HIA) for a proposed housing development on the farm Klippoortjie 112 IR, called Reiger Park X 25. This is in Ekurhuleni on the east Rand of the Gauteng Province (Figure 1-3).

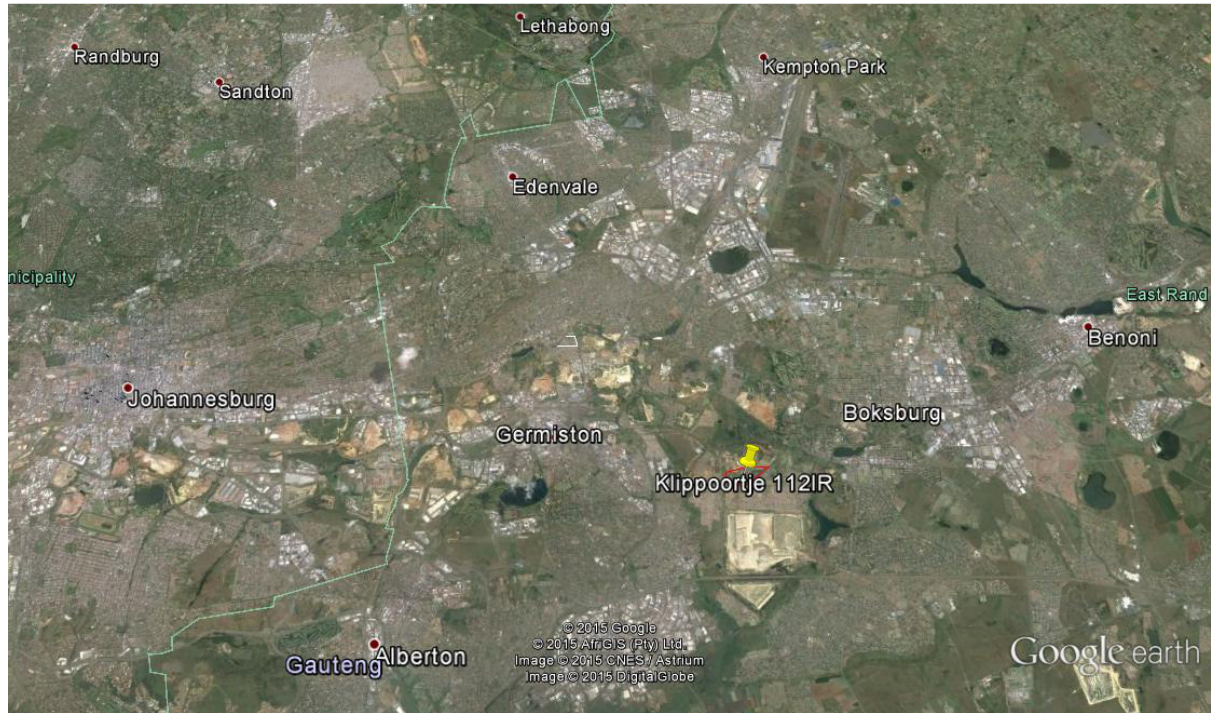


Figure 1: Location of Klippoortjie, close to Boksburg in the Gauteng Province. North reference is to the top.

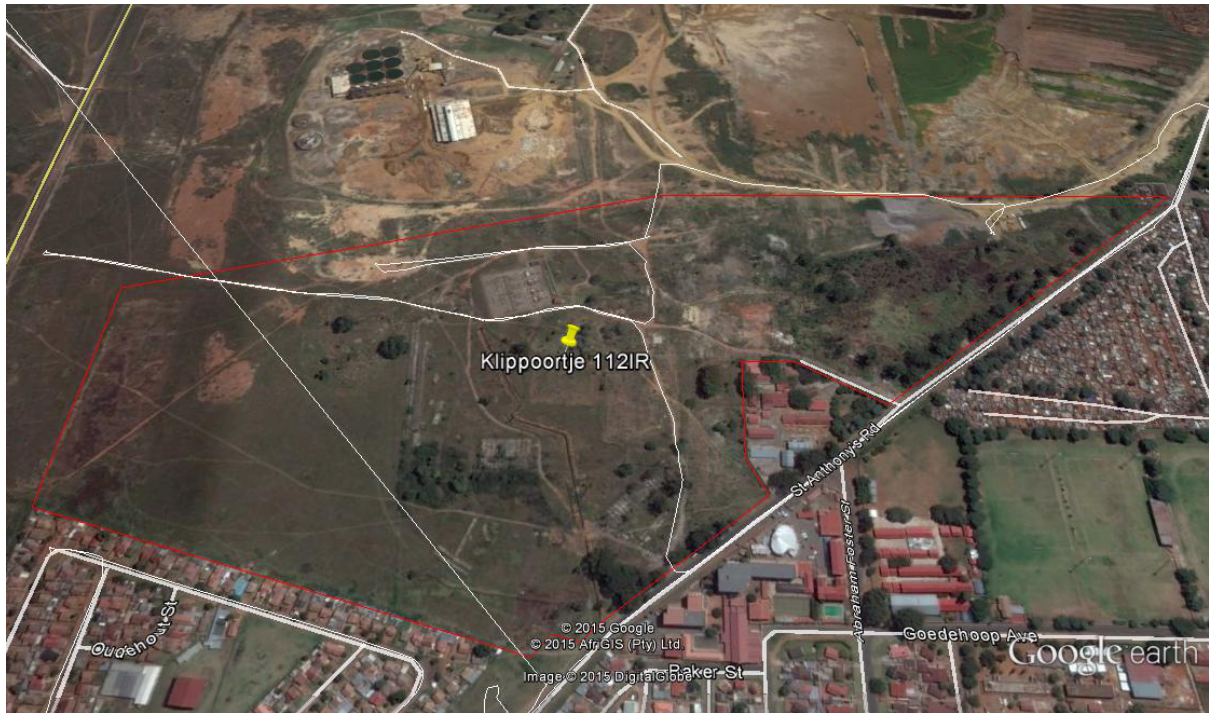


Figure 2: Outline of the Proposed Project. North reference is to the top.

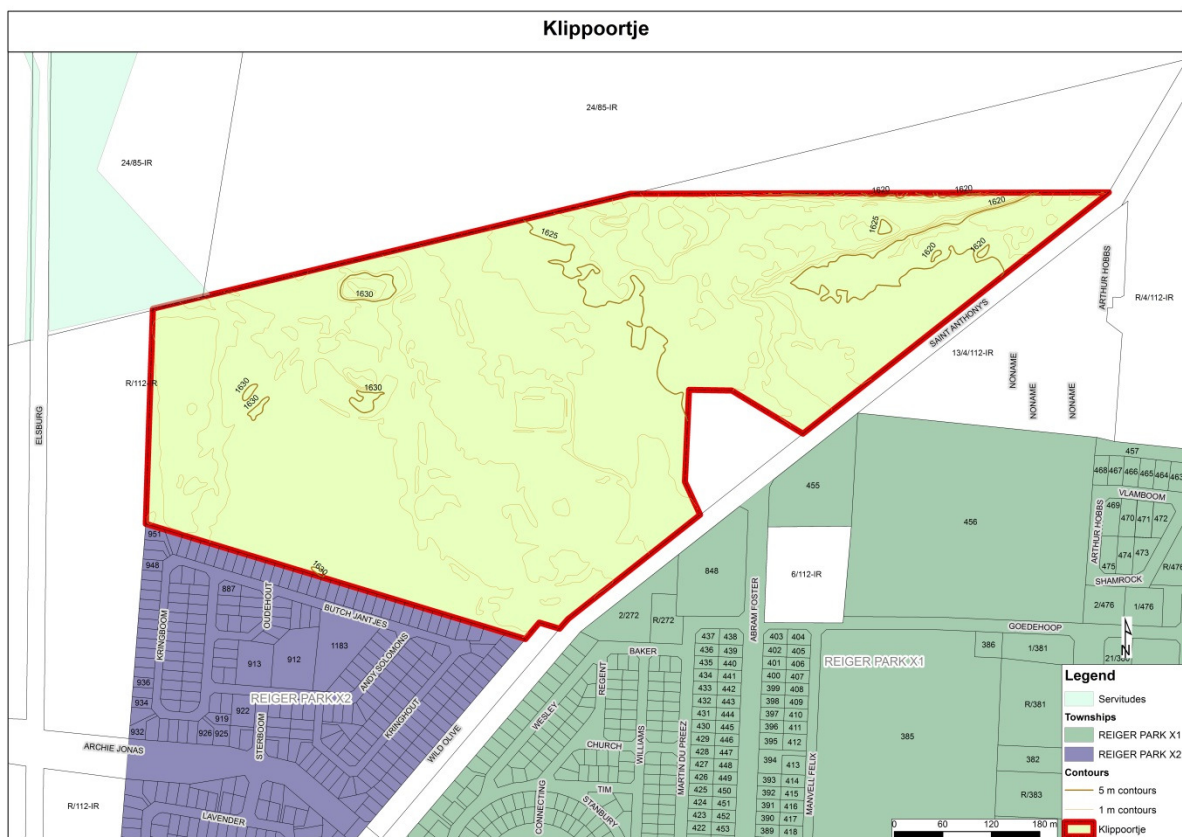


Figure 3: Map of the area to be developed.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the survey were to:

1. Identify objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the property (see Appendix A);
2. Study background information on the site to be developed;
3. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value (see Appendix B);
4. Describe the potential impact of the Proposed Project on cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions;
5. Recommend suitable mitigation measures to minimise potential negative impacts on the cultural resources; and
6. Review applicable legislative requirements.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with primarily through two Acts, namely 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 National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA) the following are considered protected as 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; and
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

The national estate (see Appendix D) 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. Archaeological and paleontological importance;
- g. Graves and burial grounds;
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery; and
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.).

An HIA is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area proposed for development as well as the potential impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment only looks at archaeological resources. The different phases of the HIA process are described further in Appendix E. An HIA should be undertaken 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;and
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of South African Heritage Resource Agency(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.

The act defines a structure as 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.

According to the act 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 NHR 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 paleontological site or any meteorite;
- b. Destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological 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 paleontological material or object, or any meteorite;
- d. Bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and paleontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites; and/or
- 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 a registered archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the SAHRA. In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA is required.

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; and
- f. Human remains.

In terms of Section 36(3) of the NHRA, no person may, without a permit issued by the SAHRA:

- a. Destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or 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; and/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.

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) (HTA) 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) before exhumation can take place. Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the HTA.

3.2 The National Environmental Management Act

The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) 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 minimised and remedied.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATIONS' PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

This standard recognizes the importance of cultural heritage for current and future generations. It aims to ensure that clients protect cultural heritage in the course of their project activities.

This is done by clients abiding to the law and having heritage surveys done in order to identify and protect cultural heritage resources via field studies and the documentation of such resources. These need to be done by competent professionals (e.g. archaeologists and cultural historians). Possible chance finds, encountered during the project development, also needs to be managed by not disturbing it and by having it assessed by professionals.

Impacts on the cultural heritage should be minimized. This include the possible maintenance of such sites in situ, or when impossible, the restoration of the functionality of the cultural heritage in a different location. When cultural historical and archaeological artifacts and structures need to be removed is should be done by professionals and by abiding to the applicable legislation.

The removal of cultural heritage resources may however only be considered if there are no technically or financially feasible alternatives. In considering the removal of cultural resources, it should be outweighed by the benefits of the overall project to the effected communities. Again professionals should carry out the work and adhere to the best available techniques.

It is necessary to engage into consultation with affected communities. This entails that access to such communities should be granted to their cultural heritage if this is applicable. Compensation for the loss of cultural heritage should only be given in extra-ordinary circumstances.

Critical cultural heritage may not be impacted on. Professionals should be used to advise on the assessment and protection thereof. Utilization of cultural heritage resources should always be done in consultation with the effected communities in order to be consistent with their customs and traditions and to come to agreements with relation to possible equitable sharing of benefits from commercialization.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Survey of literature

A review of literature was undertaken in order to obtain background information regarding the area. Sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the list of references.

5.2 Field survey

The survey was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and was aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of cultural significance in the area in which the Project is proposed. Depending on circumstances, one regularly looks at an area which is wider than the demarcated Proposed Project site, as the surrounding context needs to be taken into consideration.

If required, the location/position of any objects, sites and features of cultural significance was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS)¹, while photographs were also taken where needed. The site survey was undertaken by means of an off-road vehicle and on foot (Figure 4). The size of the area surveyed is approximately 38 Ha and took two hours to complete.

5.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. However, it should be understood that this activity is not required under all circumstances as it only comes to the fore once a specific community is directly involved. When applicable, this information obtained is included in the report write-up and linked to the information sources.

5.4 Documentation

All sites, objects features and structures identified are documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. This

¹A Garmin Oregon 550 with an accuracy factor of between 3 and 5 meters.

includes photographic documentation, description of the sites and taking GPS coordinates.



Figure 4: GPS track of the surveyed area.

5.5 Evaluation of Heritage sites

The evaluation of heritage sites is undertaken by applying a field rating to each (see Appendix C) using the following criteria:

- The unique nature of a site;
- The integrity of the archaeological deposit;
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site;
- The location of the site in relation to other similar sites or features;
- The depth of the archaeological deposit (when it can be determined or is known);
- The preservation condition of the site;
- Uniqueness of the site; and
- Potential to answer present research questions.

6. CONDITIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The following conditions and assumptions have a direct bearing on the survey and this report:

1. Cultural Resources are all non-physical and physical man-made occurrences, as well as natural occurrences associated with human activity (Appendix A). These include all sites, structure and artifacts of importance, either individually

or in groups, in the history, architecture and archaeology of human (cultural) development (including graves and cemeteries).

2. The significance of the sites, structures and artifacts is determined by means of their historical, social, aesthetic, technological and scientific value in relation to their uniqueness, condition of preservation and research potential. The various aspects are not mutually exclusive, and the evaluation of any site is undertaken with reference to any number of these aspects.
3. Cultural significance is site-specific and relates to the content and context of the site. Sites regarded as having low cultural significance have already been recorded in full and require no further mitigation. Sites with medium cultural significance may or may not require mitigation depending on other factors such as the significance of impact on the site. Sites with a high cultural significance require further mitigation (see Appendix C).
4. The latitude and longitude of any archaeological or historical site or feature, is to be treated as sensitive information by the developer and should not be disclosed to members of the public.
5. All recommendations are made with full cognisance of the relevant legislation.
6. It should be noted that it is almost impossible to locate all the cultural resources in a given area during a single project specific survey. Developers should however, be aware of the fact that this report outlines how to handle any finds which may take place after the commissioning of the site.
7. In this particular case the vegetation cover was quite high and dense resulting in a negative effect on archaeological visibility.

7. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The entire surveyed area was disturbed by recent human interventions. This mainly consists of old earthworks which is present in most of the surveyed area. Other signs of disturbance are power lines, an electrical substation, dirt roads and illegal dumping (Figure 5-6).

The vegetation clearly consists of pioneer species such as grass and weeds. A few open patches are found. Here the archaeological visibility is good. The vegetation cover in most of the surveyed area however is medium to high and with a very dense under footing, negatively affecting both the horizontal and vertical archaeological visibility (Figure 7-8). The area is reasonably flat and no specific geographical features were noted.



Figure 5:View of illegal dumping in the surveyed area.



Figure 6: General view of the surveyed area including power lines.



Figure 7: Another view of the surveyed area showing long grass and houses on the edge of the area.



Figure 8: Another view of the surveyed area showing pioneer plant species and long dense grass.

8. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

During the survey no sites of cultural heritage significance were identified. Due to the large extent of disturbance, the site is not seen to be a high risk area for finding heritage features. However, in order to understand possible finds that could be unearthed during construction activities, it is necessary to give a background regarding the different phases of human history.

8.1 Stone Age

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic material was mainly used to produce tools (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 293). In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided in three periods. It is, however, important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. The division for the Stone Age according to Korsman & Meyer (1999: 93-94) is as follows:

- Early Stone Age (ESA) 2 million – 150 000 years ago;
- Middle Stone Age (MSA) 150 000 – 30 000 years ago; and
- Late Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 1850 - A.D.

A few Stone Age sites were identified in the vicinity of the surveyed area by other scholars. This includes Middle and Late Stone Age sites in and around Johannesburg (Bergh 1999:4). Rock art is usually also associated with LSA people. The closest to the surveyed area are rock engravings that have been found around Krugersdorp on the West Rand (Bergh 1999: 5).

Although no natural shelter was identified during the survey, the close proximity to a wetland/river makes the area very suitable for human habitation. The area probably provided good grazing and therefore it is possible that Stone Age people may have utilized the site for hunting purposes. One may therefore find Stone Age material lying around in the area.

8.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artefacts (Coertze & Coertze 1996: 346). In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases according to Van der Ryst & Meyer (1999: 96-98), namely:

- Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D; and
- 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.; and
- Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

Previous research indicates 794 Iron Age sites in an area to the south of Johannesburg and the East Rand (Bergh 1999: 7). These date to the Late Iron Age. These would however be closer to hills and areas where building material is found.

Again the presence of water and natural grass cover may have contributed to people settling in the surveyed area during the Iron Age. It is indicated that a Tswana group, the Khudu, inhabited the area to the south of the surveyed area previously as well as during the 19th century. It does not seem if someone settled closer to the surveyed area, but one has to take into consideration that the entire area may not have been researched yet (Bergh 1999: 10).

The subterranean presence of archaeological material is something that should however always be kept in mind. It also should be realized that the area may not have been surveyed before and therefore the possibility of finding new sites, or at least features, is always a reality.

8.3 Historical Age

The historical age began with the first recorded oral histories in the area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were literate. This era is often referred to as the Colonial era or the recent past.

Due to factors such as population growth and a decrease in mortality rates, more people inhabited the country during the recent historical past. Therefore, much more cultural heritage resources from this era have been left on the landscape.

It however is important to note that all cultural resources older than 60 years are potentially regarded as part of the heritage and that detailed studies are required in order to determine whether these indeed have cultural significance. Factors to be considered include aesthetic, scientific, cultural and religious value of such resources.

During the Difaquane, in this case ca. 1827, the Ndebele of Mzilikazi did move through this area (Bergh 1999: 11). The first white people to move through this area were the travellers Moffat and Archbell in 1829 (Bergh 1999: 12). Later other travellers also visited the area, being Harris in 1836 and Livingstone in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 13). The first white people to settle here were Voortrekkers during the 1839 and 1840 (Bergh 1999: 14-15).

The city of Johannesburg was established in 1886. The city of Germiston was established in 1909 and Kempton Park, which originally formed a part of Germiston, in 1977 (Bergh 1999: 21-25).

Historical structures, such as farm houses and infrastructure relating to these times, may be found in the surveyed area. It is also possible that graves, associated with the above, may be present. None of these were identified here as the area has been disturbed to a large extent.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As indicated, no sites of cultural heritage significance were identified. The survey of the indicated area was completed successfully.

The following is recommended:

- No specific mitigation measures are needed.
- The proposed project may continue after comments have been received from the Provincial Heritage Resources Agency of the Gauteng Province (PHRA-G).
- It should be noted that the subterranean presence of archaeological and/or historical sites, features or artifacts is always a possibility. Care should be taken when development commences that if any of the mentioned are discovered, a qualified archaeologist be called in to investigate the occurrence.

10. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

EXPLAINING DIFFERENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL LOCALITIES:

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

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:

- 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 or for sites that will remain in situ and therefore be impacted on indirectly.