



AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

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A. PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(a) PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF POPO MOLEFE INFORMAL SETTLEMENT ON REMAINDER OF PORTION 16, PORTION 39, PORTION 106, REMAINDER OF PORTION 26 AND PORTION 109 OF THE FARM PAARDEKRAAL NO. 279 JQ RUSTENBURG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY NORTH WEST PROVINCE

(b) REPORT COMPILED BY

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(c) DEVELOPER AND CONSULTANT INFORMATION

Developer and Owner:

Rustenburg Local Municipality, P.O. Box 16, Rustenburg, 0300

Contact person: Tshemolo Mpoboled

Tel: 064 533 9683

Consultant:

Akha Maduna Property Developers

Contact Person: Mr. N. Kubeka, 143 Livingstone Street, Vryburg, 0861

Tel: 018 462 4465; Cell: 072 666 2166

Date of report: 9 September 2019

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The site was visited and recorded. Visibility was good. Half of the site is occupied by informal settlement. The area is densely populated. A large cemetery was recorded in the north-western corner of the site. In the informal settlement are a number of large cattle enclosures some open areas and a soccer field. In the undeveloped area is a large clay dam in the north western corner.

Half of the proposed development site is an informal settlement which would have destroyed any Cultural Heritage Resources. The rest of the site is Bushveld. The only important Cultural Heritage Resources found is a large cemetery. The cemetery must be cleaned, fenced in and protected by the Local Municipality.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or further graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

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D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PROJECT

(a) Whether the report is part of a scoping report EIA/HIA or not

Report forms part of EIA.

(b) Type of Development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc.)

Low cost housing

(c) Whether re-zoning and/or subdivision of land is involved

Consolidation of various Farm Portions

(d) Developer and consultants and owner contact details

Developer:

*Department of Local Government and Human Settlement
Tel: 018 299 2890*

Applicant:

Rustenburg Local Municipality,
Contact person: Mr. Tshemolo Mpoboled
Tel: 064 533 9683

Consultant:

Akha Maduna Property Developers
Contact Person: Mr. N. Kubeka,
Tel: 018 462 4465; Cell: 072 666 2166

(e) Terms and Reference

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

(f) Legislative requirements of Act 25 of 1999.

Protected sites in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Paleontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or objects, which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORY OF THE AREA

The study area was densely settled by mostly the Sotho-Tswana and somewhat later, Nguni groups who later became sothoised. Mason (1968) and Seddon (1968) recorded more than a thousand stone-walled settlements in the drainage area of the Marico, Hex, Crocodile and Elands Rivers in the former Western Transvaal. It is generally accepted that there are countless more stone-walled settlements on the western Bankenveld (Breutz 1953, 1989; Mason 1986; Boeyens 1990, 2000, 2003, 2012; Mitchell 2002; Huffman 2007; Boeyens & Hall 2009). Whereas Sotho-Tswana groups dominate the prehistorical and historical African farmer settlements in the Rustenburg-Pilanesberg region, other ethnic groupings were also present. Importantly, the more recent histories of the Tlokwa, Kgatla, Fokeng, Kwena, Po, and also the Tlhako, have been documented through ethnographic reports and oral histories (Boeyens & Hall 2009).

One of the major early nineteenth-century Tswana capitals, Marothodi as the precolonial capital of the Tlokwa in the present-day Pilanesberg-Rustenburg region, was situated on Vlakfontein and adjacent farms in the greater area of the study region (Ellenberger 1939; Breutz 1989, Hall et al 2008; Anderson 2011; Boeyens 2012). Marothodi and settlements from this region and period are also important for the intensive iron and copper smelting and trade in manufactured items (Anderson 2005,

2011; Hall et al 2006; Boeyens & Hall 2009). Iron workings and copper smelting furnaces have been excavated at Marothodi and the settlement is associated with a copper mine on the borders of Vlakfontein 207 JP and Palmietfontein 208 JP (Boeyens 2012).

Molokwane, the capital of the Modimosana Mmatau Kwena on the farm Selonskraal 317 JQ to the west of Rustenburg, is another of these large mega-settlements (Pistorius 1992). Succession disputes, internal strife and wars resulted in small-scale movements, larger migrations across borders and numerous relocations so that the settlement chronology and demographics of the many groups that frequented this region are extremely complex (Boeyens & Hall 2009). Also refer to Breutz 1989; Mason 1968, 1986; Boeyens 1990, 2000, 2003, 2012; Berg 1999; Huffman 2007; Boeyens & Hall 2009; Anderson 2011; Pistorius 2011 for a synthesis on African farmer occupation during the prehistoric and historical periods. Whereas ethnographies, oral geography and oral testimonies as well as archaeological investigations established a reasonably well-documented overview of the past history, many of the settlements sites have not been investigated at all.

In the following section a selection of heritage studies are briefly summarised to demonstrate the importance of the region in general. So many studies and archaeological investigations have been conducted that it serves no purpose to discuss all of them and in any particular detail. Several of the reports and research projects (e.g. Boeyens & Hall 2009; Anderson 2011; Pistorius 2011; Boeyens 2012; Coetzee 2012) deal with the settlement, movements and relocations as well as the role of the various Sotho-Tswana groups in particular, and demonstrate the complexity of the precolonial and colonial history of the region.

However, some areas seem to be devoid of heritage resources. Nzumbululo Heritage Solutions (2007) recorded no archaeological remains in a HIA for the Sedibelo substation in the Bojanala District area of the Moses Kotane Local Municipality. Roodt (2007) in his survey for a water pipeline within the same municipality recorded stone-walled enclosures (S25° 04.175' E26° 59.616') that were ascribed to either the Tlokwa or Fokeng. He also found a more recent historical stone-walled settlement at Ga Ramosidi (S25° 00.735 E26° 09.588). Coetzee (2008) recorded no visible heritage resources in a cultural heritage survey for of the proposed upgrade of road D52 from Maubane to Brakkuil within the Bojanala Platinum District of the Moses Kotane Local Municipality.

Vhufa Hashu Heritage Consultants (2012) in an AIA for a power line northeast of the Bakubung Platinum mine on the farm Styldrift 90-JQ in the Moses Kotane Local Municipality recorded no heritage resources. Coetzee (2012) in his survey on the farm Styldrift 90 JQ, where a new ventilation shaft Phase 3 was proposed for the Bafokeng Rasimone Platinum Mine, also found no visible archaeological or heritage remains.

Pistorius (2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2010a) in several surveys for platinum mining developments recorded a number and different categories of heritage resources. These included stone-walled sites on the farms Ruighoek 169JP, Witkleifontein 136JP and Tuschenkomst 135JP; informal and formal burial sites from the historical period as well as formal graveyards in current use at most of the rural villages surrounding the mining areas; historical structures at Ngweding, Ntsana-le-Metsing and Motlhabe; an extensive homestead on Witkleifontein 136JP; the remains of prospecting activities and mining at Witkleifontein 136JP and Rooderand 46JQ; and also isolated lithics. Pistorius (2010b) assigned medium to high significance to a Late Iron Age (LIA) site without stone walls (Site LIA01) as the relationship between this site on the plains and the very numerous stone-walled sites near mountains in the region should be investigated. He accordingly recommended Phase 2 mitigation for this locality on Magazynskraal 3JQ near the Pilanesberg.

Pistorius (2011) in his Phase 1 AIA at Marothodi recommended that the main areas should be avoided in view of the importance of this megasite and that an emergency protocol should be established for archaeological remains that may be encountered during any of the proposed infrastructural developments. In his report an overview of the prehistory and history of the region is provided. In another survey Pistorius (2012) recorded several LIA stone-wall localities and a formal cemetery.

Strategic Environmental Focus (2013) in a HIA for the Mareetsane Batho-Batho Solar photo voltaic (PV) Facility and associated power line recorded several burial sites.

It is clear from the above discussion that large and smaller stone-walled sites from the LIA and more recent historic period dominate the archaeology and heritage resources of the Rustenburg-Pilanesberg region.

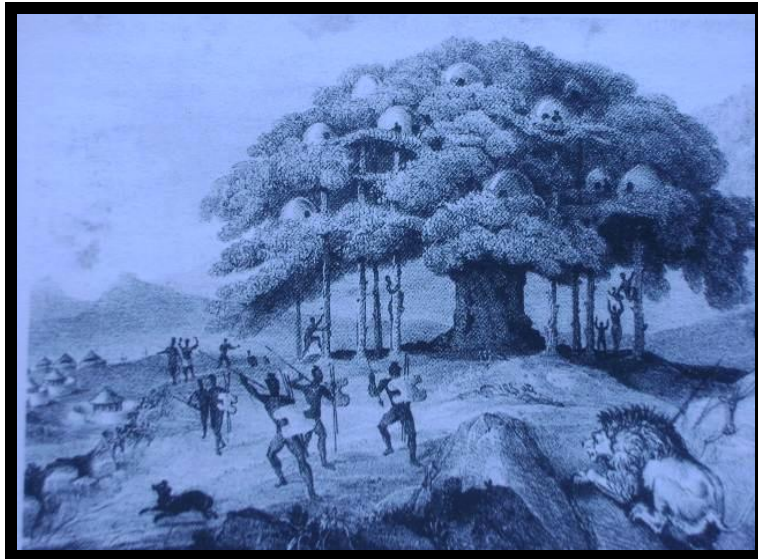
The Pokeng people had no land when they returned to the area after they had fled to Botswana because of Mzilikazi raids in the Tswana. When they returned to their original settlement area the area had been divided into Boer farms. Black people were not allowed to own land in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republic. Missionary Christoph Penzhorn helped the Pokeng to purchase land which he registered in his own name. After the Anglo Boer War when Black people were allowed to own land Christoph Penzhorn's son Ernst registered the land in the name of the Phokeng.

In 1925 Hans Merensky discovered Platinum in the Rustenburg area also on the land of the Phokeng. Impala Platinum now mines Platinum on their land which has made the Bafokeng one of the richest tribes in Africa. (Penzhorn W 2017 pp340; Küsel U 2017 pp 353)

The proposed development site lies in the centre of Rustenburg where no archaeological sites have been recorded in the past (Database National Cultural Heritage Museum).

One of the first Europeans who visited the area was the London Mission Society missionary Robert Moffat. He saw the devastation which the Ndebele of Mzilikazi had brought about. Most Tswana settlements were in ruins. In the western section of the Magalies Mountains he came across a gigantic tree inhabitant by several

BaKwena families. The families had built conical houses in the tree on platforms to protect their children against Lion attacks. The tree is still in existence today (Curruthers, V. 1990: 249).



Old fig tree north of Rustenburg 1835



The above fig tree today

The town of Rustenburg was founded in 1851. Rustenburg is also the birth place of the “*Gereformeerde Kerk*” which was established under a large *Seringa Tree* in the town on 10 & 11 February 1859 (Oberholster 1972:313 & 314). One of the best known National Monuments in the area is the house of President Paul Kruger on the farm Boekenhoutfontein (Oberholster 1972: 315 & 316 and Wikipedia - Colonial history of Rustenburg).



Historic photograph of Rustenburg by Gross in 1888

One of the oldest buildings in the town is the Anglican Church built in 1879.



Anglican Church built in 1879

There is also a monument in front of the Town Hall to commemorate President Paul Kruger.

F. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

(a) Detail of area surveyed:

- Full location Data for Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority and property (e.g. Farm erf) name and number etc.;

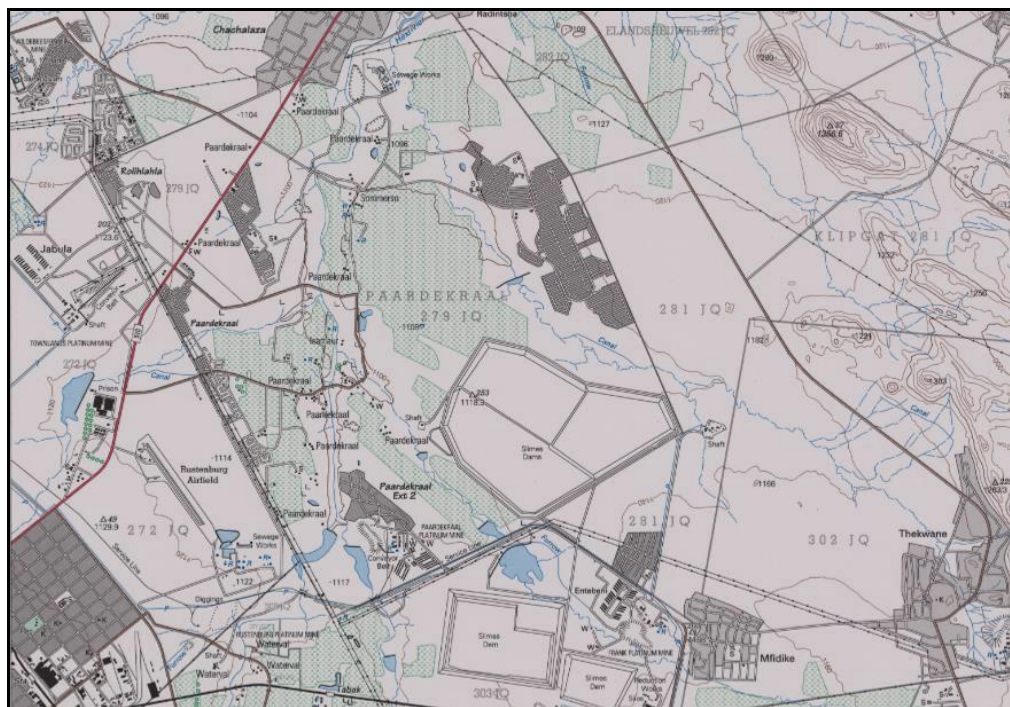
Rustenburg Local Municipality, P.O. Box 16, Rustenburg, 0300

Molefe Township Establishment, Rustenburg Local Municipality, Rustenburg North West Province

- Remainder of Portion 16
- Portion 39

- Portion 106
 - Remainder Portion 26
 - Portion 109
- Of the Farm Paardekraal No.279-JQ

- Location map(s)/orthophotos of the general area. These must include the map name and number (e.g. 3313 DC Bellville). Maps must include at least a 1:50 000 and (if) available also a 1:10 000 (i.e. most detail possible). Large scale colour satellite photos make a useful addition. Maps should be preferable at least A4 size.



1/50 000 Map: 2527CB Rustenburg East

- Either the Location Map or the Site Map must have the polygon of the area surveyed marked on it and full geographical co-ordinates for all relevant points and where applicable, indication of the area to be developed (footprint).

**BOITEKONG EXTENSION
POPO MOLEFE**



Google Map:
S25° 38' 27.83" & E27° 17' 14.65"



(b)Description of the Methodology

The area was inspected on foot and by vehicle. Visibility was good though 50% of the proposed development site is an informal settlement. The site was recorded.

G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES MAPPED

The only important heritage site found on the proposed development site is a very large badly maintained cemetery. S25° 38' 15.56' & E27° 17' 42.85" The cemetery site is several hectares large and still in use – see photographs.



On the western side of the proposed development site is a dry river with dense vegetation. This area is illegally used for dumping – see photograph. A small section of the informal settlement lies west of the river.



The informal settlement is densely build with mainly corrugate iron shacks though bricks buildings also occur – see photographs



An interesting feature of the settlement is that there are a number of large cattle enclosures for example at S25° 38'26.80" & E 27° 17' 25.70" is the largest one - see photograph.



There are also a number of open areas not suitable for building as large rocks and flat rock surfaces are present – see photograph.



At S25° 38' 27.83" & E27 17' 14.65" is a large soccer field in the informal settlement – see photograph.



In the north western corner of the undeveloped area are the remains of a very large modern dam which is dry at present S25° 28' 25.14" & E27° 18' 07.22" – see photograph.



The area not yet developed is mainly clay soils with here and there a rocky outcrop of large flat granite. The vegetation is bushveld grassland with thorn trees – see photograph.



Illegal dumping takes place all along the edges of the informal settlement. There are also areas where gravel has been dumped S25° 39' 03.44" & E27° 18' 15.80" and also at S25° 39' 06.41" & E 27° 18' 26.40" – see photograph.



In the south the site ends next to a mine. On the south eastern side it ends next to a railway and pipe line. – see photograph.



The northern boundary is a dry river – see photograph.



H. DESCRIPTION OF THE ARTEFACTS, FAUNA, BOTANICAL OR OTHER FINDS AND FEATURES

None

I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES

A large cemetery occurs in the north western corner of the proposed development site – S25° 38' 15.56" & E27° 17' 42.85". The site is neglected and portions of it are in a bad state. There are several hundreds of graves – see photographs

J. EVALUATION AND RATING (FIELD RATING)

The only important Cultural Heritage Resources is the large cemetery

This site is of local important and given Field Rating /Grade IIIA significance. The site should be retained as a heritage register site and so mitigation as part of the development process is not advised

K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (heritage value)

The heritage value of the large cemetery is of High significance and important in the local community.

It is also important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africans.

It has a strong association with the local community of Rustenburg.

L. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Half of the proposed development site is an informal settlement which would have destroyed any Cultural Heritage Resources. The rest of the site is Bushveld. The only important Cultural Heritage Resources found is a large cemetery. The cemetery must be cleaned, fenced in and protected by the Local Municipality.

If during construction any cultural heritage resources or further graves are unearthed all work has to be stopped until the site has been inspected and mitigated by a cultural heritage practitioner.

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N. APPENDICES

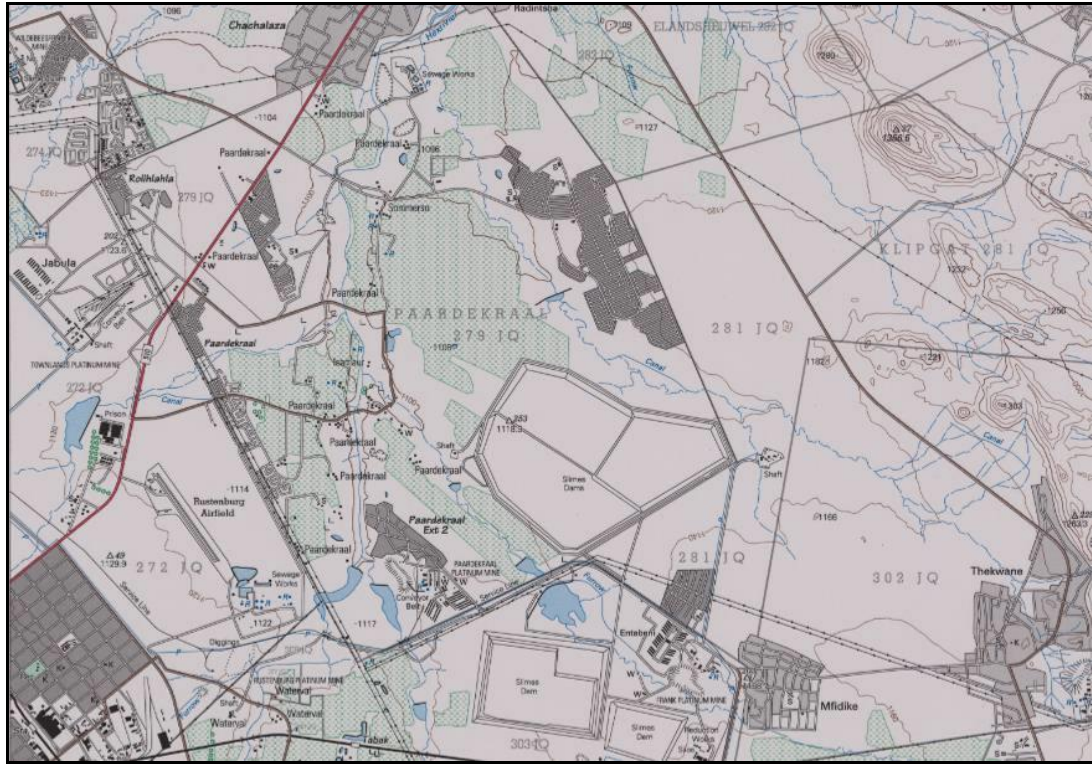
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MAPS

Google Map: Go-ordinates: $S25^{\circ} 38' 27.83'' E27^{\circ} 17' 14.65''$



1/50 000 Map: 2527CB Rustenburg East



BOITEKONG EXTENSION POPO MOLEFE

