

AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

2001/077745/23

DR. UDO S KÜSEL

Tel/fax: (012) 567 6046 P.O. Box 652 Cell: 082 498 0673 Magalieskruin

E-mail: udo.heritage@absamail.co.za 0150

24 February 2014

This report was originally completed on the 27 January 2009 but feedback from SAHRA was never received though the report was send to them twice.

A. PHASE I CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF REMAINDER OF PORTION 4 OF THE FARM ROODEPOORT 504 JR BRONKHORSTSPRUIT GAUTENG PROVINCE (37.2 hectare)

(a) REPORT COMPILED BY

Dr. Udo S. Küsel; African Heritage Consultants CC

P.O. Box 652, Magalieskruin, 0150

Tel: (012) 567 6046; Fax: 086 594 9721; Cell: 082 498 0673

E-mail: ido@nconnect.co.za

(b) DEVELOPER AND CONSULTANT INFORMATION

Developer:

Godrich Flour Mills (Pty) Ltd; Mr. John Godrich

Tel: 012 344 3582; Fax: 086 672 3887 P.O. Box 25, Bronkhorstspruit 1020

Consultants:

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: LEAP

Dr. Gwen Theron;

Tel: 012 343 2751; Fax: 086 606 6130

P.O. Box 13185, Hatfield, 0028

Date of report: 6 February 2014

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed development site lies north of the town Bronkhorstspruit. It is typical highveld grassland. No archaeological sites are present on the site. The only structure present is a late 1950's home and some 1970/80 sheds. Just north of the development site are the remains of a sandstone bridge dating to 1890's which formed part of the NZASM railway line to Lourenço Marques.

The exact date of the 1950's house is not known but most probably was built in the late 1950's. The other structures recorded are also younger than sixty years and fall outside the jurisdiction of Act 25 of 1999.

There is no objection to the development of the site from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view.

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

C. TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
A. Title Page	01
B. Executive Summary	02
C. Table of Contents	03
D. Background Information on the Project	04
E. Background to the Archaeological History	05
F. Description of the Property or Affected Environment	06
G. Description of sites	06
H. Description of the Artefacts, Faunal, Botanical or other Finds and Features	08
I. Clear Description of Burial Grounds and Graves	08
J. Field Rating	08
K. Statement of Significance (Heritage Value)	08
L. Recommendations	13
M. Conclusions	09
N. Bibliography	09
O. Appendices	10
. Maps: Pages 11 - 14	

D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PROJECT:

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

Report is part of EIA

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

Shopping centre and associated land-use activities)

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

No

(d) Developer and consultant and owner and name and contact details;

Developer:

Godrich Flour Mills (Pty) Ltd; Mr. John Godrich

Tel: 012 344 3582; Fax: 086 672 3887 P.O. Box 25, Bronkhorstspruit 1020

Consultant:

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: LEAP

Dr. Gwen Theron;

Tel: 012 343 2751; Fax: 086 606 6130

P.O. Box 13185, Hatfield, 0028

(e) Terms of 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.
- 1.1 Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- 1.2 Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- 1.3 Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- 1.4 Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

E. BACKGROUND TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA

The town of Erasmus originally was established in 1860's. The name later was changed to Bronkhorstspruit when it was formally established as a town. In 1880 it was the scene of the Battle of Bronkhorstspruit in the First Anglo Boer War (Wikipedia) and Pöhl N & R 2005 p7 -15).

The town of Bronkhorstspruit lies south and east of the Farm Hondsrivier 508 JR in typical Highveld grassland. Two major heritage recording studies have taken place in the area. In 2001 the Dr. U.S. Küsel undertook a heritage survey for the Dinokeng area (Küsel U.S. 2001). A similar heritage survey was conducted for the Metsweding District Municipality in 2011 (Küsel U.S. 2011). Dr J van Schalkwyk also undertook a desktop study of heritage resources (Van Schalkwyk J. unpublished).

The town to a large extent served the surrounding farming communities and has only seen real development since the 1970's especially with the nearby development of industries at Kwa Ndebele.

The town itself has good examples of 1930/40 architecture including houses and churches. (Küsel 20011 p 14 etc) As far as archaeology is concerned major Stone Age sites are absent. The Iron Age is well represented with Late Tswana Iron Age sites south of the town and Ndebele sites north and west of the town (Küsel U.S. 2011 p 5 -6)

From the above studies it is clear that very few Stone Age sites occur in the district. A number of Late Iron Age sites are present to the south and north of the town. The district and towns most important heritage resources are architecture both on farms and in Bronkhorstspruit. Two heritage impact assessments were done on adjacent farms Hondspoort 625 JR (Küsel U.S. 2006) and Roodepoort 504 JR Küsel U.S. 2009). On both farms graves as well as ruins of farmhouses and farm workers houses were found. No archaeological material was found.

F. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

(a) Details of area surveyed:

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

Remainder of Portion 4 of the Farm Roodepoort 504 JR City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality - Gauteng Province.

• 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.

Attached pages: 11 - 14

• 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).

Attached page: 11 - 14

(b) Description of the Methodology

The site was visited and inspected on foot. All appropriate documents on the area were studied.

G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES MAPPED

The proposed development site lies west of the road to Groblersdal and south of the Bronkhorstspruit. The site is largely covered in grass and patches of Eucalyptus trees.

In the middle of the site are a number of very large quarries where gravel for road building was quarried in the past - see photograph.



The Quarries

On the southern corner of the property is an old house and outbuildings (S25° 48' 16.2" and E 28° 45' 5.8"). The house dates to 1950's and is still in a relative good condition (see photograph 2).



The 1950's house

Just North West of this house is a number of sheds of which the largest two have corrugated iron sides. The structures themselves are build with timber and are at present being used as workshop for repair work on vehicles (S25° 48' 12.5" and E28° 45' 01.5" (see photograph 3)



The Sheds

According to the owner of the site they bought the property in 1950. The house and sheds were built some years later. The old house as well as the sheds are younger than sixty years and fall outside the jurisdiction of Act 25 of 1999.

Just north east of the northern section of the property are the sandstone pylons of an old railway bridge. These pylons originally formed part of the Pretoria – Lourenco Marques railway line built by the NZASM railway company in the 1890's. During

the Anglo Boer War the bridge was blown up by the Boers while they retreated to the Eastern Transvaal after the British had taken over Pretoria - see photograph below. Though the bridge falls outside the proposed development area it is important and should not be damaged during construction (S25° 47' 44.1" and E28° 45' 02.9"). Though the bridge was later rebuilt it falls out of use as a new bridge was built.



The Remains of the NZASM Bridge

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

None

I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES

No graves were found on the proposed development site.

J. EVALUATION AND RATING (FIELD RATING)

None as all structures on the development site are younger than sixty years.

L. RECOMMENDATIONS

The exact date of the 1950's house is not known but most probably was built in the late 1950's. The other structures recorded are also younger than sixty years and fall outside the jurisdiction of Act 25 of 1999.

No archaeological site or graves where found

There is no objection to the development of the site from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view.

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

M. CONCLUSION

There is no objection to the proposed development from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view.

Caution should be taken not to damage the remains of the old NZASM Bridge, which falls outside the development area during construction.

N. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1/50 000 Map 2528 DD
- Archaeological database of the National Cultural History Museum Pretoria
- Berg, J.S. (1998). Geskiedenis Atlas van Suid Afrika. Die Vier Noordelike Provinsies p 57–70,fig 227.
- Carelsen, A. (1995). Interieurs van boerewonings (1900–1950) op die terrein van die Willem Prinsloo Landboumuseum 'n vergelykende kultuurhistoriese studie.
- De Jong, Van de Waal G.M. and Heydenrych D.H. 1958 NZASM 100. The buildings, steam engines and structures of the Netherlands South African Railway Company
- Küsel, U.S.2001 Dinokeng Project Cultural Heritage Resources
- Küsel U.S. 2008 Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment of the proposed Haterley Agri Estate on the Farms Roodepoort 504 JR and Resurgam 515 JR Bronkhorstspruit Gauteng
- Pöhl, N. & R. 2005 100 Years from Erasmus to Bronkhorstspruit
- Rayton Biblioteek, Inligtingstuk oor geskiendenis van Rayton.
- Roodt, A.G. Prinsloo MM & Storm JD (1949) Die wordings geskiedenis van Bronkhorstspruit
- Van Schalkwyk, J, Desktop survey of cultural resources for purposes of eco-tourism development in the Gauteng region north-east of Pretoria. (Unpublished)

- Van Vollenhoven, A.C. EN Carelsen, A. 'n Argeologiese ondersoek van 'n gedeelte van die plaas Kaalfontein (Ongepubliseerde verslag van Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese Museum).
- Van Vuuren, C.J. (1992) Die aard en betekenis van etnisiteit onder die Suid Ndebele. D Phil UP
- Van Warmelo, N.J.(1936) A preliminary survey of the Bantu Tribes of South Africa

o. APPENDICES

- Locality Map page 11
- Countour Map page 12
- Detail Map with structures page 13
- Map of Town Layout page 14







