



LUFHERENG INTEGRATED HOUSING PROJECT

Investigation into the possible presence of graves

Issue Date: 21 August 2014

Revision No.: 1

SAHRA PermitID: 1866

Professional Grave Solutions (Pty) Ltd T/A PGS Heritage

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Reg No 2003/008940/07

Declaration of Independence

The report has been compiled by PGS Heritage, an appointed Heritage Specialist for Bigen Africa Services (Pty) Ltd. The views stipulated in this report are purely objective and no other interests are displayed during the decision making processes discussed in this document.

HERITAGE CONSULTANT: PGS Heritage

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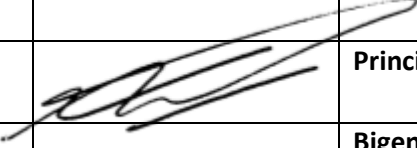


ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

CLIENT: Bigen Africa Services (Pty) Ltd on behalf of City of Johannesburg, Housing

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| | | | |
|---------------------|--|---|--|
| Report Title | <i>Report: Investigation into the reported presence of graves at Phase 1 of the Lufhereng Integrated Housing Project, Protea Glen, Johannesburg</i> | | |
| Control | Name | Signature | Designation |
| Author | Wouter Fourie |  | Principal Investigator |
| Reviewed | | | Bigen Africa Services (Pty) Ltd |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PGS Heritage (PGS) was requested to investigate an area on Phase 1 of the Lufhereng Integrated Housing Project, close to Protea Glen, Johannesburg, after construction workers reported that there might be graves in an area where a previous pipeline was constructed in 2012.

The test excavation conducted for the structures identified as possible graves was conducted on 20 August 2014, by a professional archaeologist and field technicians from PGS Heritage under SAHRA permit 1866. The excavations were done through the following methodology:

- Clear the structures identified of all vegetation
- Document the surface structure by means of measurements, layout sketches and photos;
- Remove the surfaces structures;
- Excavate to a depth of 50cm to determine any ground disturbance and identification of grave pits.

The three structures identified were tested through test trenches and profile analysis. The soil was found to be homogenous, evenly compacted and contained no evidence of previous disturbances. The structures were found not to be graves.

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ANNEXURE A - SITE LAYOUT SKETCH

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1 INTRODUCTION

PGS Heritage (PGS) was requested to investigate an area on Phase 1 of the Lufhereng Integrated Housing Project, close to Protea Glen, Johannesburg (**Figure 1**), after construction workers reported that there might be graves in an area where a previous pipeline was constructed in 2012.

2 LOCATION OF THE AREA INVESTIGATED

The investigated area is located at S26 15 16.9 E27 47 43.3 close to the position of the installed services pipeline (**Figure 2**).

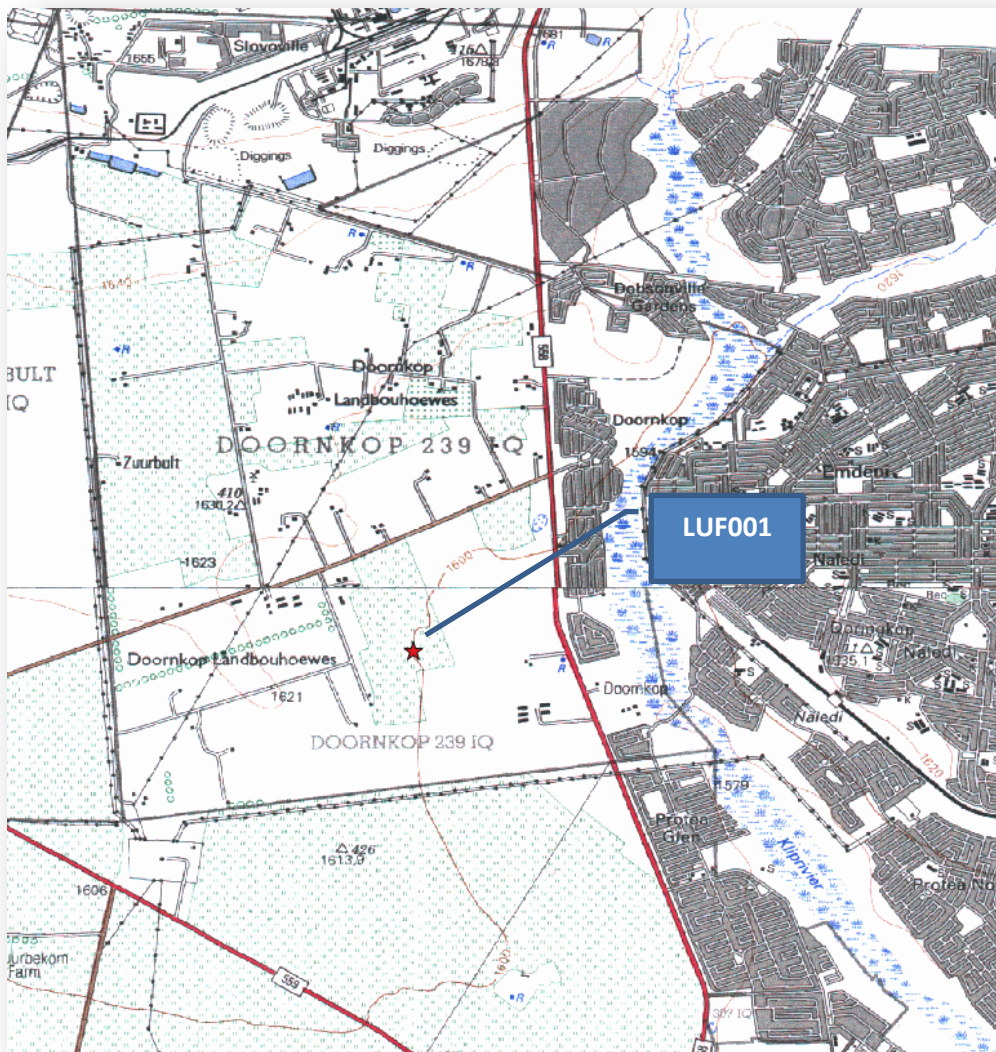


Figure 1 – Locality map showing position of possible graves



Figure 2 - Satellite image of area showing reported location of graves (Blue marker)

| | |
|--|--|
| Province: | Gauteng |
| Magisterial district: | Roodepoort |
| 1:50 000 Map number: | 2627BB |
| Latitude & Longitude: | Latitude: -26.25469641 Longitude : 27.79535794 |
| Recording method (GPS, Trig., Other): | GPS |
| Farm Name and No. | Lufhereng Housing Development, located at boundary of Farm Portion 111 and Farm Portion 110, Remainder of PTN 62 of the farm Doornkop 239IQ, |
| Nearest Town | Protea Glen |

3 BACKGROUND TO TEST EXCAVATIONS

On 16 May 2012, during construction of a bulk sewer main, the contractor on the project identified the possible presence of graves close to the new sewer pipeline (**Figure 3**). The possible discovery was reported to the Ward Councillor, South African Police Service as well as the Department of Environment.

The construction work was however some 15 meters away from the possible grave structures. At that stage the possible graves were barricaded and no further work conducted close to them.



Figure 3 - Satellite image of area showing reported location of graves (Blue marker). The original sewer main trench can be seen to the west of the marker

PGS was contracted in June 2014, to investigate these possible grave structures and determine if these structures were in fact graves, as the next phase of development of the Lufhereng Integrated Housing project was about to start and will require construction in the area in question.

PGS then applied for a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) to do test excavations on the structures in question. The permit application stipulated:

- The scope of the project is only the verification of the presence of graves.
- In the event that it is found that human remains are present the test excavations will be backfilled and a full grave relocation process compliant with Regulation 548 and Section 36 of the NHRA will be initiated.

A permit (**PermitID: 1866**) (**Annexure B**) was issued by SAHRA on 11 August 2014. The test excavations were completed on 20 August 2014 by professional archaeologist of PGS led a team of field technicians to determine the presence of graves.

4 TEST EXCAVATIONS OF THE INDICATED AREA

The area where the structures were located was just east of fallow land and situated in open grass land. The structures as identified in the original report were situated in and on the side of a shallow drainage ditch (**Figure 4**).



Figure 4 – Original photos taken during 2012 construction

The aim of the test excavations was to determine the presence of any soil disturbance that could indicate the presence of grave pits and hence graves. The methodology set out was:

- Clear the 3 structures identified of all vegetation
- Document the surface structure by means of measurements, layout sketches and photos;
- Remove the surfaces structures;
- Excavate to a depth of 50cm to determine any ground disturbance and identification of grave pits.

Refer to **Annexure A** for layout sketches

The report and photographs (**Figure 5** and **Figure 6**) taken in 2012 was used to identify the structures in question, and the structures were documented and investigated.




Figure 5 – Original photos taken during 2012 construction of structure S2



Figure 6 – Photo taken in 2012 of structure – S3


4.1 LUF001 – Structure 1 (LUF-S1)

| | Description |
|------------------------------|--|
| Structure Type | Heap of stones aligned north south with no indication of grave goods or headstone. |
| Structure Size | (L) 2.2m, (W) 1.4m |
| Excavation dimensions | First Trench : (L) 2m, (W) 1.5m, (D) 0.3m Second Trench in T1: (L) 0.5m, (W) 1.5m, (D) 0.2m |
| Findings | The first trench (T1) was dug to a depth of 0.3m with no indication of soil disturbances in the profile. The second trench (T2) was completed inside T1 with no change of soil compaction, or strata evident. No indication of the presence of a grave pit was found. This structure is not a grave. |
| Surface structure |  |

Test excavation



4.2 LUF001 – Structure 1 (LUF-S2)

| | Description |
|------------------------------|--|
| Structure Type | Heap of stones aligned north south with no indication of grave goods or headstone. |
| Structure Size | (L) 2.4m, (W) 1.1m |
| Excavation dimensions | Trench : (L) 1.8m, (W) 1m, (D) 0.6m |
| Findings | The trench was dug to a depth of 0.6m with no indication of soil disturbances or compaction in the profile. No indication of the presence of a grave pit was found. This structure is not a grave. |
| Surface structure |  A photograph showing the surface structure of LUF-S2. It features a long, narrow, low-profile heap of dark grey stones and rocks, oriented north-south. A red and white measuring pole is placed vertically in the foreground for scale. A black marker with white text is visible on the ground near the stones, reading "LUF STR 11" and "20 8 2014". The surrounding terrain is dry, brownish soil with sparse, dry grass and small shrubs. |


Test excavation



Profile



4.3 LUF001 – Structure 1 (LUF-S3)

| | Description |
|------------------------------|---|
| Structure Type | Heap of stones aligned north south with no indication of grave goods or headstone. |
| Structure Size | (L) 6.1m, (W) 1.3m |
| Excavation dimensions | Trench : (L) 2.5m, (W) 1m, (D) 0.6m |
| Findings | The trench was dug to a depth of 0.6m with no indication of soil disturbances or compaction in the profile. No indication of the presence of a grave pit was found. This structure is not a grave. |
| Surface structure |  A photograph showing a low, irregular wall of reddish-brown stones and rocks on a dirt mound. A red and white measuring rod is placed horizontally across the structure. A small black label with white text is visible in the foreground, reading "LUF STR III" and "20 8 2014" with an arrow pointing to the right. The ground is dry and dusty with sparse, dry grass. |

**Test
excavation**



Profile



5 CONCLUSION

The test excavation conducted for the structures identified as possible graves was conducted on 20 August 2014, by a professional archaeologist and field technicians from PGS Heritage under SAHRA permit 1866. The excavations were done through the following methodology:

- Clear the structures identified of all vegetation
- Document the surface structure by means of measurements, layout sketches and photos;
- Remove the surfaces structures;
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The three structures identified were tested through test trenches and profile analysis. The soil was found to be homogenous, evenly compacted and contained no evidence of previous disturbances. The structures were found not to be graves.

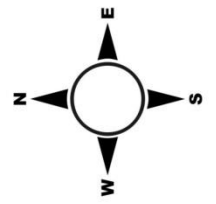
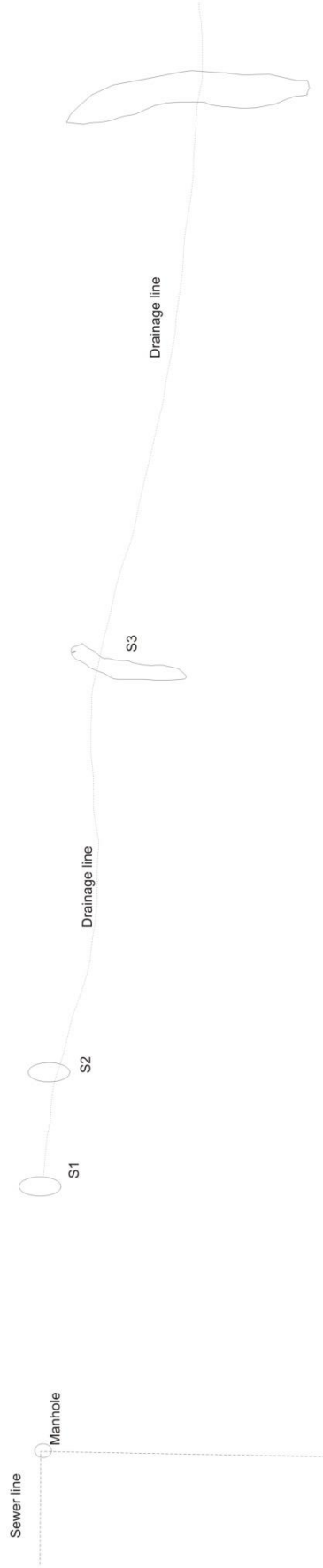
An analysis of the surface area and historic aerial photography (**Figure 7**) indicates that the structures were most probably storm water attenuation packed in a created drainage line.



Figure 7 – Aerial photograph taken in 1997 showing drainage line created in the area where the test excavations were done

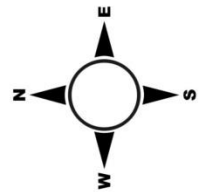
ANNEXURE A
SITE LAYOUT SKETCH

Lufhereng Integrate Housing Project
Test excavations - LUH001
Layout Map





Lufhereng Integrate Housing Project
Test excavations - LUH001
Excavation positions



ANNEXURE B
SAHRA PERMIT

Lufhureng - Grave Investigation

Our Ref: 9/2/228/0002

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 5881

Date: Monday August 11, 2014
Page No: 1

PermitID: 1866



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

PERMIT: Excavation

In terms of Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Permit Holder: Mr Wouter Fourie
PGS Heritage and Grave Relocation Consultants
PO Box 32542
Totiusdal
0134

Site: Lufhureng Possible grave Site 001 (LUFH001)

This permit is issued to Mr Fourie to test for the possible presence of graves along the sewer pipeline route of the Phase 1 of the Lufhureng Integrated Housing Project.

Conditions:

1. If Mr Fourie is not to be present on the site at all times then the heritage authority must be provided with the names and qualifications of the authorised representatives.
2. Adequate recording methods as specified in the Regulations and Guidelines pertaining to the National Heritage Resources Act must be employed. Note that the position of all test excavations must be marked on a plan of site.
3. If any graves are identified, Mr Fourie will fill in the excavation and a new permit for exhumation and relocation will be applied for under s. 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act.
4. A final report on the results of the test excavations must be submitted to SAHRA by the end of August 2015.
5. Reprints of all published papers or copies of theses and/or reports resulting from this work must be lodged with SAHRA.
6. If a published report has not appeared within three years of the lapsing of this permit, the report required in terms of the permit will be made available to researchers on request.
7. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the landowner for each visit, and conditions of access imposed by the landowner must be observed.
8. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to fill in excavations and protect sites during and after excavation to the satisfaction of SAHRA and the landowner.
9. SAHRA shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities in connection with this permit.
10. SAHRA reserves the right to cancel this permit by notice to the permit holder.

This permit is valid from **11/08/2014 to 31/08/2015**.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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* Tel: +27 21 462 4502 * Fax: +27 21 462 4509 * Web: <http://www.sahra.org.za>

Lufhureng - Grave Investigation

Our Ref: 9/2/228/0002

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 5881

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Page No: 2

PermitID: 1866



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

Mariagrazia Galimberti
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Additional Info:

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.



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