

SPECIALIST REPORT:

PALAEONTOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF 191
LYTTELTON AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

Client: Pro Direct Investments 1 30 (Pty) Ltd
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SKARAB CC

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Date: 13 June 2008

Methodology:

A surface survey of the rocky outcrops and the surrounding alluvium was done on Holding 191 Lyttleton Agricultural Holdings on 12 June 2008.

Scope:

For the purposes of this assessment the surface area and the structures built with natural rock from the area were studied. The study area is underlain by dolomite that could contain cave breccia containing fossil bones (2-3 mya) and stromatolites (2.5 bya).

Results:

The geology of the area is dominated by massive dolomite with some shattered chert belonging to the Malmani Subgroup. The geology on the property is mostly covered with alluvium and grass. The dolomitic areas that are exposed were studied. No cave breccia or fossiliferous material were found *in situ* or loose on the surface. Neither cave breccia nor bone fossils were observed in the dolomite exposed, on the surface or in the rocks used as building material on the property. Fragments of stromatolites were however observed in the rocks used in the construction of the walls of a homestead that has been ruined and the wall surrounding the property.

Recommendations:

The only fossiliferous material that was found during the field survey was weathered fragments of stromatolites in a few of the rocks that were used as building material on the property. None of the samples were particularly well preserved or extraordinary and because they were found out of context, have little scientific value. Although the rocks probably came from somewhere in the vicinity, there is no indication that the source of the rocks is on the property.

It is recommended that a palaeontologist should be called in if any fossiliferous material is exposed during excavations when construction work commences.

Specialist:

Dr JF Durand

BSc Botany & Zoology (RAU), BSc Zoology (WITS), Museology Dipl. (UP),
Higher Education Diploma (RAU), PhD Palaeontology (WITS)

Experience:

Palaeontological assessments:

- COHWHS: Letamo, Honingklip, Windgat, Sundowners
- Vereeniging: Goose Bay
- Road reserve R21 between Hans Strijdom & N12

Palaeontological research:

- Gauteng: Wonder Cave
- KwaZulu/Natal: Newcastle, Mooi River, Rosetta, Impendle, Himeville Underberg, Polela & Howick Districts, Sani Pass
- Eastern Cape: Cradock District, Algoa Basin
- Western Cape: Clanwilliam District
- Free State: Memel & Warden Districts
- Limpopo Province: Nyalaland (KNP), Vhembe, Pont Drift
- Zimbabwe: Sentinel Ranch

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JF Durand', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr JF Durand (Sci. Nat.)