



Archaeos Culture & Cultural
Resource Consultants
BK 98 09854/23

**A FINAL REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF A
LATE IRON AGE (NDEBELE) STONE WALLED SETTLEMENT
ON THE REMAINDER OF HATHERLEY 331 JR,
NEAR MAMELODI, GAUTENG**

For:

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REPORT: AE946

AUGUST 2009

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SUMMARY

During 2008 Archaetnos cc was requested by Dudula Environmental Consulting, on behalf of the Gauteng Department of Housing, to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) on the remainder of the farm Hatherley 331 JR, near Mamelodi in Gauteng. A new housing development project is being undertaken in the area.

During the subsequent survey, done by WITS Heritage on behalf of Archaetnos cc, a number of stone walled sites, related to the Manala Ndebele, were identified. A number of these fall directly in the area that will be developed, and will therefore be negatively impacted upon by the work planned here. It was recommended in the subsequent AIA report that the necessary mitigation measures be carried out on the sites, including mapping and drawing and archaeological excavations. These recommendations were supported by SAHRA in their Archaeological Review Comments (ARC) report, and the client subsequently appointed Archaetnos cc to conduct the archaeological investigations once a permit was obtained.

After a permit was provided by SAHRA (**Permit NO. 80/08/10/008/51**) archaeological fieldwork was conducted by Archaetnos during July 2009 for a two week period. Archaeological work included 4 excavations on two sites, as well as mapping and drawing of all features and individual settlement units, making up the larger settlement complex. This document represents a final report on the archaeological investigation and the findings of the said work. It is clear that the sites belong to the later phase of the Iron Age, and also to the period of contact (Colonial Period) between the Bantu-speaking inhabitants of the area and the first European inhabitants. The sites are similar to ones investigated on other portions of the same farm by the NCHM in 1996, identified as belonging to the Manala Ndebele.

We believe that the work conducted, and the data retrieved through it was adequate enough to enable us to make the necessary deductions and interpretations. The development can therefore continue once a destruction permit has been obtained, taking into consideration the recommendations put forward at the end of this report.

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INTRODUCTION

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During this survey, done by WITS Heritage on behalf of Archaetnos cc, a number of stone walled sites, related to the Manala Ndebele, were identified. Some of these fall directly in the area that will be developed, and will therefore be negatively impacted upon by the work planned here. It was recommended in the subsequent AIA report that the necessary mitigation measures be carried out on the sites, including mapping and drawing and archaeological excavations. The recommendations were supported by SAHRA in their Archaeological Review Comments (ARC) report, and the client appointed Archaetnos cc to conduct the archaeological investigations once a permit was obtained.

After a permit was received (**Permit NO. 80/08/10/008/51**) archaeological fieldwork was planned, and carried out by Archaetnos during July 2009 for a two week period. Archaeological excavations on two sites, as well as mapping and drawing of all features and individual settlement units, were conducted. This is a final report on the archaeological investigations and the findings. The sites belong to the latter phase of the Iron Age, and also to the period of contact (Colonial Period) between the Bantu-speaking inhabitants of the area and the first European inhabitants. The sites are also similar to ones investigated on other portions of the same farm by the National Cultural History Museum (NCHM) in 1996, identified as belonging to the Manala Ndebele.

AIMS

The aims of the archaeological investigation the LIA (Ndebele) stone walled settlements on Hatherley 331 JR were the following:

- (a) to determine the depth and extent of the archaeological deposit
- (b) to determine the extent of the settlement area that will be impacted on by the proposed development through the mapping and drawing of surface features
- (c) to determine possible cultural affiliation, occupational time-frame, settlement organization and domestic economy
- (d) the excavations of features and the documentation of cultural material and features

- (e) the proper curation of the material in a local institution. In this case the National Cultural History Museum (NCHM/NFI) in Pretoria will be responsible for the curation of the archaeological sample
- (f) the drafting of an Excavation report

We were informed by the client about the extent of the area that will be affected by the proposed development. Archaeological work was done in this area, as well as in a section with settlement units that will not be affected by the development. Last mentioned work served as a control measure.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are mainly dealt with in two acts. These are the South African Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

South African Heritage Resources Act

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological 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 palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- (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 an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

The National Environmental Management Act

This act 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.

METHODOLOGY

Documentation

The documentation comprised the following:

Archaeological Excavations

The archaeological excavations comprised four separate excavations, two each on Site 1 and Site 3 respectively. Site 1 will not be impacted by the development. Site 1 Excavation 1 was on an area with a possible hut, Site 1 Excavation 2 was in a livestock enclosure, Site 3 Excavation 1 was on a granary stand and Site 3 Excavation 2 was one another hut area.

Photographic - Photo's of all excavations and features were taken, while individual objects were also photographed for record purposes.

GPS Data - A GPS reading for each site, as well as individual features and excavations, was taken in order to locate it on a map of the area.

Mapping & Drawing

The fieldwork also included physical mapping of the excavations and features with electronic (satellite) mapping equipment. This work was done by a qualified surveyor, in consultation with the Principal Investigator for the archaeological work. Two site maps were produced, while a number of location "maps" were also done on Google Earth.

Analysis & Documentation/Curation of cultural material

This normally includes the cleaning and sorting of all material recovered during the excavations, as well as the expert analysis of ceramics, faunal remains and other material cultural remains. The final curation of the material will be handled by a recognized cultural institution, in this case the National Cultural History Museum (NFI) in Pretoria.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA AND SITE

The sites are located on the remainder of the farm Hatherley 331 JR, near Mamelodi, in Gauteng. Although large portions of the surrounding area has been disturbed in the past by small-scale agricultural activities, residential development, the Mamelodi Landfill and the development of a cemetery, most of the area still retains its original vegetation. Illegal residential dumping, outside of the landfill site, also occurs to varying degrees. Woodcutters are also impacting on the area, constantly moving through the area to obtain wood for local use, while some cattle-grazing is also still being practiced.

The area falls within the Bankenveld vegetation area, with *Acacia caffra* and *Celtis Africana* trees dominating (Acocks 1975: 48; 99). The development of the large Mamelodi Landfill

site necessitated the 1996 archaeological investigation of stone walled sites similar and related to the ones investigated during 2009.

Site 1 consists of at least 3 individual settlement units, or homesteads, containing centrally placed livestock enclosures, hut bays and granary stands, while Site 2 consists of a single settlement unit. Site 3 consists of a large area with surrounding wall enclosing a number of granary stands, as well as a number of “loose standing” circular enclosures or huts.

A detailed description of the settlement organization or layout will follow in the section on the mapping and drawing of the sites.

DISCUSSIONS

ETHNO-HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Southern Ndebele should not be confused with the Zimbabwean Ndebele, also known as the Matebele. The former, also known as the Transvaal Ndebele, were most probably among the earliest Nguni-speaking people in the immediate area north of the Magaliesberg range north of Pretoria. During the chief Musi's rule, the tribe split into four or five separate migrating groups, namely the Manala, Ndzundza, Kekana, Mhwaduba and Sibasa sections (Van Schalkwyk et.al 1996:47-48).

The Manala settled over a wide area towards the east of the present Pretoria. This is roughly north and north east of the Bronberg range (from Wapadrand in the west towards Tiegerpoort and Bapsfontein in the south east), south of the Magaliesberg and Pienaarspoort range (known to the Manala as Ko- or KwaQobongo) and from Mamelodi in the west towards the Cullinan intersection on the N4 in the east.

According to oral tradition this area was geo-politically divided into three regions. It is unclear whether these divisions denoted tribal sub regions, wards or headmanships, whether they were chronologically occupied and deserted, and exactly which rulers or chiefs were linked to these areas. The oral traditions also revealed that since the almost complete destruction of the Manala chiefdom by Mzilikazi in about 1825, remnants of the group regrouped in scattered settlements or clusters of settlements up to recent times. Many Manala became labour tenants on European owned farms in the area. As a result of the destruction caused by Mzilikazi, the Manala underwent a three-fold split, aggravated by internal strife.

The pre-colonial threefold regional divisions, consisted of Ezotshaneni, Embilaneni and KoNonduna, with Hatherley falling within last-mentioned. According to oral records, KoNonduna was occupied between circa 1747 and 1825 at the time of Mzilikazi's destruction of the Manala. The dates are speculative and based on a complex dating system, which combines the notion of regimentation, generation and duration of rule (see Van Vuuren 1993). In terms of Manala Royal Genealogy, the names of all 33 rulers (amakosi), from around 1642 to the present, are known. Of these, Mdibane (11 the ruler and founder of KoNonduna), Matshaba (14th ruler and linked to Hatherley or Emakopana) and Sibindi (18th ruler attacked by Mzilikazi) are the most relevant for our study (Van Schalkwyk et.al 1996:48-49).

In terms of KoNonduna the exact geographical boundaries of this sub-region is not known. It might have overlapped with the adjacent Embilaneni. Oral traditions does however provide the names of farms which formed part of this region, namely Klipkop 396 JR, a section of Zwartkoppies 364 JR, Hatherley 331 JR, a section of Mooiplaats 367 JR and Zwavelpoort 373 JR. The area comprising Hatherley was known as Emakopana and is mentioned in a praise poem of the chief Matshaba (Van Warmelo 1930:76, Van Vuuren 1992:156). It appears that the KoNonduna ward was established at the time of the reign of Mdibane and lasted until the time of the attack by Mzilikazi during Sibindi's reign. It is not clear if Matshaba, the only ruler specifically linked with Hatherley (Emakopana) actually resided there (Van Schalkwyk et.al 1996:49-50).

It is therefore clear that the archaeological sites investigated on Hatherley date to around the mid 18th to early 19th century. Some of the sites might have been re-occupied later on after the first European farmers moved into the area. The sites are linked to the Manala Ndebele, and more specifically to their chide Matshaba.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce tools and weapons (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.

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.

Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

The stone walled sites investigated on Hatherley clearly belong to the last mentioned phase of the Iron Age, namely the LIA, and more specifically to the end of the period when the first Europeans moved into the area during the second half of the 19th century. The site therefore fits in better with the Historical Period of southern African history, and is typical of sites linked to contact of local people with the European newcomers to the interior.

The only other archaeological work carried out in the area was that done by archaeologists of the National Cultural History Museum during 1996. This work was necessitated by the development of the Mamelodi Landfill Site, and included the mapping and drawing of the sites, archaeological excavations on various sections of two sites and the collection of oral traditions on the history and origin of the settlements. The sites investigated and recorded during 1996 is related to and similar to the ones researched during 2009, and formed part of the same settlement complex or ward (Emakopana) as part of the KoNonduna sub-region of the Manala chiefdom.

As with 2009, very little cultural material was recovered during the 1996 archaeological excavations. During the 1996 investigations it was also deduced that there are differences

and similarities between the sites on Hatherley and other Ndebele sites in the region. The stone walling on Zwartkoppies are not as extensive as those on Hatherley. In the Bronberge, particularly on Klipkop and Zwavelpoort, sites are found where the stone walling is similar to that on Hatherley. The cultural deposit on some of the sites on Zwartkoppies included significant amounts of ash, bone, pottery and glass beads, which are not found on Hatherley. The Zwartkoppies site was however destroyed by the so-called Silver Lakes development before it could be scientifically investigated and documented.

MAPPING & DRAWING THE SITE

Detailed knowledge of settlement patterns is of great importance in understanding and reconstructing culture-history and life ways. Many Bantu-speaking groups in southern Africa organized their settlements according to the principles of the so-called Central Cattle Pattern (CCP), an ethnographically derived model of spatial organization based on Adam Kuper's 1982 analysis of Nguni and Sotho-Tswana settlements. Simply put, the model is based on the life view of these groups, where cattle plays a central role in their, mainly patrilineal, communities. Cattle was used for bride-price (lobola), seen as status symbol and as food-source. Therefore, cattle enclosures were normally placed in the centre of settlements, with the homesteads placed around it, creating the circular formation of many of the older, LIA, settlements. This is of course a very simplified explanation of the CCP model, with many other aspects such as male/female, sacred/profane and functional/ritual also playing a role in settlement organization.

The thousands of stone-walled settlements in the Northwest, southern Gauteng and Free State, were built by the close ancestors of people living in South Africa today, making them appealing to Iron Age archaeologists (Mason 1986: 317). Also, there are oral traditions about many of these settlements, and in some case they were vividly recorded by the first European travelers and missionaries, such as Campbell (1822) and Broadbent (1865).

Although there are many different classes and types of settlement identified by researchers, they are all variations on the CCP theme. For discussion purposes we will utilize Mike Taylor's (1979) three Group system. The first, Group 1, dates to the 16th century, and these settlements have simple elliptical boundary walls enclosing groups of smaller enclosures in the centre. Sheep or goat enclosures were sometime located on the outer boundary walls. Group 2 settlements, dating to between AD 1650 and AD 1840, can be divided into Group 2a and Group 2b. Group 2a settlements consist of continuous semi-circular boundary walls, or scallops, enclosing huts. In the centre are both small and large circular enclosures, used for cattle and smaller livestock. Group 2b has discontinuous semi-circular boundary walls made up of scallops containing huts, as well as centrally located enclosures. The final group, Group 3, is an agglomeration of circular enclosures with the outer limit marked by varying lengths of curved walls and small circular enclosures.

It is clear that the stone walled sites on Hatherley conform to the CCP model. Both Sites 1 & 2 has centrally located livestock (cattle) enclosures and surrounding boundary walls forming scallops that probably contained huts. Site 3 is slightly different as it contains no centrally located enclosures, or at least visibly located enclosures. The sites mapped and drawn during 2009 are also similar to those investigated in 1996 by the NCHM.

The sites under discussion were mapped and drawn by a trained land surveyor, under guidance of the Principal Investigator for the project, using an electronic mapping device. All visible stone walling and features were mapped. A GPS reading for each excavation was taken and the excavations drawn onto each map (See Appendix II for maps).

Site 1 consists of at least 3 Settlement Units or homesteads. Settlement Unit 1 (SU1) has a continuous surrounding wall enclosing a single livestock enclosure. To the north of the enclosure there is a large stone heap, possibly a granary stand. This unit has at least 4 areas (scallops) for living and/or cooking huts. Settlement Unit 2 is similar, although certain portions of the surrounding wall seems to have been robbed, and is less visible than the other walling. A single large circular enclosure is located just outside and to the south of this homestead. An upright stone, or monolith, was also recorded further to the south, although no existing stone walling was found close by. Sections of low stone walling were not mapped as they were obscured by very dense vegetation. At least 10, loose-standing stone heaps, varying in sizes up to 2m in diameter, are located to the south and south-west of SU 1 and 2. These either represent granary stands or they are the result of areas being cleared for agricultural purposes.

Site 1 possibly has a third settlement unit or homestead, but the walls have been extensively robbed or destroyed and it's incomplete. It therefore appears as if the features are detached and not enclosed within a formal surrounding wall (see Site 1 Map).

Site 2 has a single homestead, consisting of a continuous surrounding boundary wall, containing at least 5 hut areas (scallops). There is a single livestock enclosure in the centre, while a granary stand is located near and to the north of the enclosure. This is similar to Settlement Unit 1 at Site 1. Site 3 is similar to the stone walling and features at Site 1. The walls are robbed and less visible. It contains a number of stone wall sections and "detached" circular enclosures. These are possibly hut enclosures. Another difference between Site 3 and the others is the large open area with surrounding wall, containing three large stone platforms or granary stands and a number of upper and lower grinding stones. It seems as if this area was used for the storing of cereals such as maize or sorghum. A number of stone heaps, similar to those at Site 1, are also located to the west of Site 3.

Dense vegetation in certain areas of the site made visibility difficult. Therefore more features and sections of stone walling might be present in the vicinity of Sites 1, 2 & 3. These sections of walling is however insignificant. On average the stone walling on the site are less than 0.50m in height and width. Very little archaeological deposit (cultural material) is visible on the surface (scattered pieces of undecorated pottery and broken grinding stones only) and this is reflected in the archaeological excavations. It seems as if agricultural practices played a prominent role, more so than livestock herding. The homesteads contain only 1 fairly small centrally placed enclosure each, while there are numerous granary stands and broken lower grinders present. One at Site 3 seems to have been exclusively used for cereal storage.

A number of settlement units are located within the walls of the new cemetery to the south of Site 1, while there are also more stone walled sites situated south of the ESKOM Power line and Site 1. These do not form part of the area that is going to be developed. South of Site 1 and west of the cemetery wall there is a settlement unit that is very different to the others in the area in terms of layout. It contains a single large circular enclosure, "enclosed" by a

number semi-circular hut bays facing towards the livestock enclosure. This site might have been occupied at a different time period or by a different cultural group.



Settlement Unit 2, Site 1: Livestock enclosure



Site 1: Section of robbed walling



Site 1: Fallen monolith



Site 1: One of numerous stone heaps on the site



Settlement Unit 2, Site 1



Site 3: One of the granary stands on this site



Site 3: Upper grinding stones



Site 3: Broken lower grinder

THE EXCAVATIONS

Four excavations were carried out in total, with 2 at Site 1, Settlement Unit 1 and 2 at Site 3. The aims with the excavations were to determine the depth and extent of the archaeological deposit and to collect as much cultural material as possible to help with determining cultural affiliation of its inhabitants, the time-frame of settlement and domestic economy if possible. Very little cultural material was found, mostly in the form of pottery fragments.

Site 1 - Excavation 1 (S 25.74561 E 28.40569)

Excavation 1 was a 3m x 2m trench measured out in a “scallop” in Settlement Unit 2 where a hut would have been located.

The total depth of the excavation (up to sterile levels) was around 0.30m. The stratigraphy can be described as follows:

1. 15cm of dark brown top soil
2. 5 cm of gravel
3. 2cm of reddish soil
4. 2cm of gravel
5. 3cm of reddish soil
6. and finally a further 3cm of gravel

No hut rubble (clay or plaster) were found, while no definite floor could be discerned as well. It is possible that the 2 thin layers of reddish soil could be the remnants of a floor, but this can not be concluded without a doubt. In the western section of the excavation, near the outer boundary wall we found stones that fell from the wall. Under these, both decorated and undecorated pottery fragments were found, a possible indication of the original “living” floor. A few fragments of pottery were also visible in the profile of the excavation. Most of the pottery was found within the last 15cm of the excavation before sterile levels were found.



Excavation 1, Site 1



Excavation 1, Site 1: Section of fallen wall



Excavation 1, Site 1: Pottery fragment in the profile of the excavation



Excavation 1, Site 1: A section was taken down to sterile levels

Cultural material from this excavation was limited to fragments of undecorated and decorated pottery. No faunal remains (animal bones) or other artifacts were recovered. A total of 71 undecorated body shards were recovered. A few of the pieces have been burnt black, and possibly represent cooking vessels, while others have graphite (black) or ochre (red) burnish on the outside of the fragment. At least 3 different vessels are represented.

Decorated pottery was limited to 20 fragments, with 5 of these rim shards. Seven (7) vessels are possibly represented by the decorated pieces. The rim shards are too small to determine vessel shape or profile, although it seems as if there were mostly pots present in the sample. Decoration layout or motif was also difficult to determine. The types of decoration are mostly incised lines or bands of incised lines, sometimes in combination with graphite or ochre bands above and below these incised bands.

Because of the small pottery sample, most of which are undiagnostic and only a few with decorations, it is difficult to use the pottery to date the site or to place it within a specific pottery tradition without reasonable doubt. However, during the 1996 excavations by the NCHM, with similarly small amounts of pottery, it was deduced that it belongs to the Moloko branch of pottery (Van Schalkwyk et.al 1996:50). The decorated pieces that were recovered during 2009 could be placed more definitely, although this is a tenuous deduction. It seems as if the pottery belongs to the Urewe Tradition, Moloko branch and possibly the Olifantspoort facies (Huffman 2007: 191-193). The decoration pottery from the Olifantspoort type-site has key features such as multiple bands of fine stamping or narrow incision separated by colour. This is very similar to what we found in 2009 at Hatherley.

However, the age range for Olifantspoort settlement is between AD 1500 to 1700, much earlier to what is expected for the Hatherley Ndebele settlement period. It is always possible, however, that earlier Iron Age settlement occurred here before the Manala Ndebele resided here. This is however not possible to determine at this stage, and more research would be needed.



**Undecorated pieces of pottery from Excavation 1, Site 1.
Note the fragments that are burnt black**



One of the decorated rim shards from Excavation 1, Site 1



More decorated pottery from Excavation 1, Site 1

Site 1 - Excavation 2 (S 25.74557 E 28.40581)

Excavation 2 was also at Settlement Unit 2, and was measured out in the livestock enclosure. The aims were to test the depth and extent of the archaeological deposit and to see whether or not we could determine the function of the enclosure through the possible dung deposit that might be recovered. A 3m x 1m trench was dug from the entrance of the kraal (in northern section of enclosure) to the inside of the feature.

Only a few fragments of pottery were recovered and no dung deposit. A 1m x 1m section was dug down to sterile levels. This sterile layer was similar to that of Excavation 1 (gravel). The total depth of the excavation was around 25cm. The pottery pieces were found below stones that fell from the wall.



Site 1, Excavation 2: Livestock enclosure



Site 2, Excavation 2: Fallen stones removed from entrance



Site 1, Excavation 2: Close-up of sterile gravel layer

Only 2 undecorated fragments of pottery were recovered from Excavation 2, while a possible hammer stone was also recovered from here.



Possible hammer stone from Excavation 2, Site 1

Site 3 – Excavation 1 (S 25.73970 E 28.39406)

As Site 2 was similar in layout to Site 1 it was decided to do excavations at Site 3. Site 3 will be destroyed together with Site 2 by the planned development. Site 1 will be left intact. The first excavation on Site 3 was on one of the granary stands inside a large open area enclosed by a surrounding wall. Close by to these we also identified a number of upper and lower grinding stones, and it seems as if this area was used for the use and storage of crops such as maize or sorghum. We decided to excavate one of the circular stone heaps (stands) to see if it

was indeed a stand or a storage pit. A 2.50m x 2m excavation was measured out on one of these features.

Only 3 fragments of undecorated pottery were found in the excavation, and no indication of clay (for a storage pot) was recovered. It seems as if this was granary stand, possibly for a woven grain basket. The organic remains probably were not preserved. We removed all the loose stones from the feature, only revealing the upright stone circle, and dug down to sterile levels on the inside. No indication of plaster or dung, as one would expect with a storage pit, was found. A broken lower grinder was found in the feature as well.



Site 3, Excavation 1: Granary stand



Site 3, Excavation 1: Broken lower grinder that formed part of the feature



Site 3, Excavation 1: Granary stand with loose stones removed



Site 3, Excavation 2: Close-up of granary stand

Cultural material from the excavation of the granary stand on Site 3 was limited to 3 small, undecorated, fragments of pottery.

Site 3 – Excavation 2 (S 25.73957 E 28.39325)

This excavation was on one of the unattached circular enclosures on Site 3, and possibly enclosed a hut. We measured out 3m x 1m trench, stretching right from the outer boundary wall of the structure to the inside. The aims were to see if we could find the remains of a hut and to recover as much cultural material as possible.

We opened up the stone wall and fall of stones on the southern side of the excavation for around 0.80m. The outer boundary wall was approximately 0.80m wide originally, and about 1m in height. The wall construction was a double row of large rocks, filled with smaller

stones for stability. No other binding material was utilized. Approximately 0.40m below the present surface level (PSL) a stone base was found. This is probably bedrock. No cultural material, except for a small sample of charcoal, was found. This sample is too small for dating purposes.

No indication of a hut floor, or hut rubble, was found. This structure probably did function as hut, but no remains were preserved.



Site 3, Excavation 2



Site 3, Excavation 2: Note the fallen wall stones inside the excavation



Site 3, Excavation 2: Fallen wall stones removed



Site 3, Excavation 2: Note the bedrock

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion it is possible to say that the archaeological investigation of the stone walled sites on the farm Hatherley 331 JR was completed successfully. In terms of the aims set out in the beginning we can conclude the following:

- (a) the depth and extent of the archaeological deposit is very limited, at the most a few centimeters deep with few material culture artifacts recovered
- (b) the area that will be impacted on negatively by the development contains two sites (Sites 2 & 3) with numerous features and at least settlement units. A third site (Site 1), containing at least 3 Settlement Units, will not be affected by the development and will be kept in tact. Excavations were carried out at Sites 1 and 3
- (c) it was possible to determine the cultural affiliation of the inhabitants, through oral records. Work done on sites in the area during 1996 suggests that they were occupied by the Manala Ndebele. Pottery found during 2009 indicate the possibility that other groups (Tswana?) might have settled here earlier, although this deductions is very tentative at this stage
- (d) determining an exact time-frame of settlement was also difficult, as no dateable material, such as charcoal, was recovered. The sites more than likely date to between the late 1600's up until around the mid 1800's, when the first Europeans moved into the area
- (e) settlement organization is typical of the so-called Central Cattle Pattern (CCP), and is similar to other LIA stone walled settlements in the interior of southern Africa containing circular stone walled enclosures including huts and livestock enclosures (kraals). At least 3 sites containing up to 5 separate settlement units are present, while features such as granary stands were also recorded
- (f) the domestic economy of the settlement could not be reconstructed with any certainty, as very little cultural material were recovered from the excavations. They were probably agropastoralists, growing crops such as sorghum, millet or maize, and keeping cattle and other livestock such as sheep, goat and pigs. Agriculture, more than livestock herding, probably played the biggest role

The following is recommended:

- 1. That a destruction permit be applied for from SAHRA. This destruction permit will be applicable to Sites 2 & 3, the area where the housing development will be undertaken. This destruction permit needs to be applied for by the client (Department of Housing, Gauteng) in conjunction with the Principal Archaeologist for the project**
- 2. That a Watching Brief be implemented for the development project. It should be remembered that archaeological features and objects have to a large degree a subterranean presence and there is always a possibility that material might be discovered during construction work. This could include unmarked burials. A Watching Brief will entail that the Archaeologist (Principal Investigator) for the project be briefed when construction work**

commences and that all discoveries made be reported to him for investigation. If needed, rescue work will then be undertaken and the development work halted if deemed necessary

3. Because Site 1 will be preserved we recommend the following:

- **that the site be fenced-in to protect it against further damage, destruction and the illegal dumping of building rubble and refuse**
- **that information plaques on the history and archaeology of the sites and area be erected on key points on the site. A Heritage Park for the local residents and greater Mamelodi can thus be created, adding value to the housing development. A Heritage Hiking Trail can be developed, while the site could also be reconstructed and developed for tourism and educational purposes**
- **the writing of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the site**

If these recommendations are approved a plan of action for their implementation can be developed together with all interested and affected parties, including Dudula Environmental Consulting, the Gauteng Department of Housing, the archaeologists involved, the local community and SAHRA.

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Appendix 1 Images: Produced on Google Earth

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PROJECT TEAM

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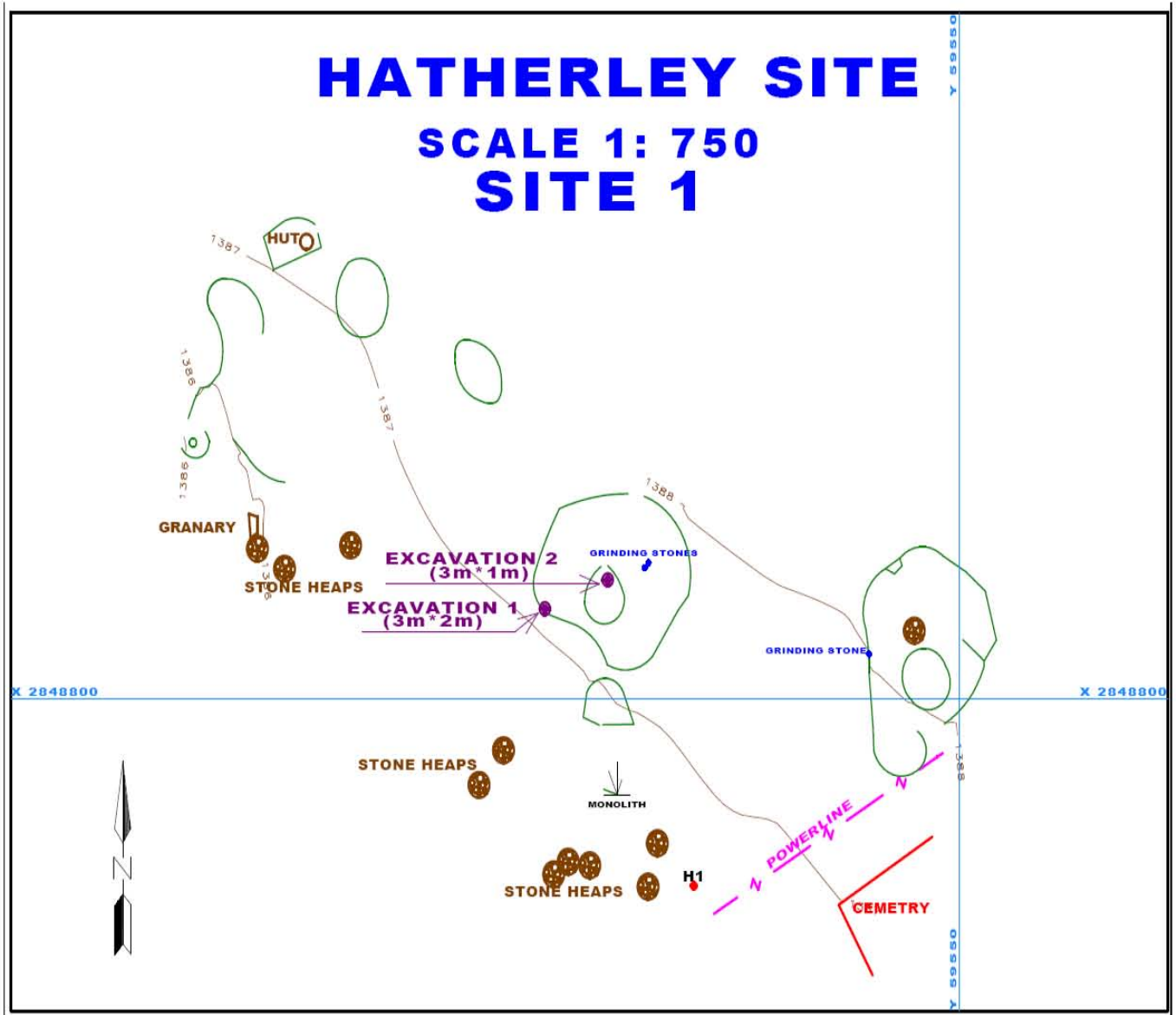
APPENDIX 1 –LOCATION OF SITES







APPENDIX 2 – MAPPING & DRAWING



HATHERLEY SITE 2 & 3

SCALE 1: 750

