

# AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

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# (A) INFORMATION ON PROJECT

# CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CYCLE PATH AND SIDEWALK AT OLIEVENHOUTBOSCH 389 JR CENTURION GAUTENG PROVINCE

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**Date: 22 May 2013** 

# **B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Pedestrian and cycle pathways along the main routes in Olievenhoutbos Centurion Gauteng Province have to be developed. The pathways are next to existing tar roads in the road reserve. The areas have been graded in the past destroying possible heritage sites. The construction work was already in progress during the study.

No important cultural heritage resources or graves were found on or near the proposed pathway routs.

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## D. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT

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

None

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

Walkway & cycle path network in Olievenhoutbos CoT

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

No

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

# **Project applicant:**

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# (e) Terms of reference

To conduct a Heritage Impact Assessment to assess if there is any material of cultural or heritage value under the footprint of the proposed development

# (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.

Olievenhoutbos is a relative new black township in Centurion. It started off as a scatter camp in the early 1980 and eventually developed into a properly planned township. On the outskirts of the formal town are still pockets of scatter settlements.

The area originally was Highveld grassland. The Highveld was largely avoided by Stone and Iron Age people because of a lack of trees. The nearest archaeological sites are in the Fountain Valley where staff of the National Cultural History Museum (Pretoria) have investigated a small rock shelter and the remains of the Bronkhorst house – Van Vollenhoven A.J. 1992. City Council of Pretoria, Fountains Valley, Pretoria's in Spring of life. J.A. Van Schalkwyk, S.M. Moifatswane: 1993. 'n Argeologiese Ondersoek van die Fonteinedalgebied, geleë op die Plaas Groenkloof 358-JR, Pretoria, Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese Museum

To the south of Centurion in the dolomite areas lime mining has occurred. The remains of lime works were recorded by U.S Küsel 2009.

In Olievenhoutbos itself M. van der Ryst undertook a cultural heritage resources impact assessment and found no archaeological remains (Van der Ryst, M. 2009)

# F. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY OR AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

## (a) Detail of area surveyed

- (i) Location Province Gauteng Province
- (ii) Location maps: Name Centurion 2528CC
- (iii)Site map pages 11 14
- Cycle Path and Sidewalk about 2200m in length and the width varies from 1.5m wide to 3.0m wide from 1st Street (25° 54' 01.9"S 28° 05' 21.0"E) up to crossing first and Umhlume Street (25° 54' 01.9"S 28° 05' 21.0"E);
- Upgrading of gravel to surfaced road and Cycle Path about 850m in length and 2.0m wide from Imbongolo Avenue (25° 54' 40.9"S 28° 05' 50.3"E) from Legong Street up to Ikati Avenue (25° 55' 23.5"S 28° 05' 30.4"E);
- Pedestrian walkway and cycle path from the crossing of Imbongolo Avenue (25° 54' 53.3"S 28° 05' 47.2"E) to Oak Street (25° 54' 43.6"S 28° 05' 28.7"E) and from there to Cycad Cresent (25° 54' 39.7"S 28° 05' 26.1"E)
- Cycle Path about 800m in length and 2.0m wide from the corner of Cycad Cresent and Oak Street (25° 54' 39.7"S 28° 05' 26.1"E) to Naledi Street (25° 54' 54.2"S 28° 05' 39.5"E);
- Cycle Path about 650m in length and 2.0m wide from (25° 54' 53.2" S 28° 05' 28.7"E) to the connection with the R55 at point (25° 55' 26.6"S 28° 05' 30.4"E) See Locality Map. <u>Please Note:</u> The representative topographic map sheet is 2528CC.

The proposed development work is the building of sidewalks and cycle paths along a number of busy streets (see attached maps)

## (b) Description of methodology

(i) How the area was searched

A literature searched was done with little success. The sites were visited and inspected on foot and by vehicle. The development area where recorded through photographs.

(ii) Restrictions to the study area

The development area has been bulldozed and graded in the past with the tarring of the roads which would have destroyed any possible heritage sites. During the visit the site construction teams were already working.

No important cultural heritage resources or graves have been found on or near the development sites.

(iii)Data acquired

G.P.S. readings were taken. Photographs were taken of the area. No cultural heritage resources or graves are present on the development sites.

## G. DESCRIPTION OF SITES IDENTIFIED AND MAPPED

When the sites were visited it was found that construction had already commenced. In the attached maps there are sections of the development areas coloured red and others yellow. In the case of the red line the whole street is rebuilt and tarred and the sidewalks paved at the same time. In the case of the yellow lines the roads have already been tarred and contractors are at present installing the pavements. The pavements are paved with cement paving bricks.

From a heritage point of view the contractors should have waited till permission from PHRA was received. Secondly all the streets were graded and excavated before being tarred. This action would have destroyed any possible heritage sites – see photographs.



Paving will be installed next to the tar road.





Tar road where construction has commenced on the right hand site of the road



Typical dirt road before tarring and paving has commenced.





Construction of new tar road with paving on both sides of the road

No archaeological or other important cultural heritage resources were found as the whole development area has been reconstructed in the past.

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

None

# I. CLEAR DESCRIPTION OF BURIAL GROUNDS AND GRAVES

None

# J. FIELD RATING

None –no heritage sites were found along the proposed routes

## K. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

None – no heritage sites were found on the sites investigated.

#### L. RECOMMENDATIONS

There is no objection to the proposed development from a cultural heritage point of view, but the client has to be reprimanded for having commenced with the work before approval from PHRA.

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 are no important cultural heritage resources or graves present on or near the proposed development sites. The client commenced construction before approval was granted and should be reprimanded.

## N. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1/50 000 map Centurion 2528 CC
- Database of the National Cultural History Museum Pretoria
- Küsel, U.S. 2009. Cultural heritage resources impact assessment of the proposed extension of Midrand Estate Portion 35, 39, a Portion of Portion 48 and 148 remainder of Portion 34 and the remainder of the Farm Olifantsfontein 410 JR Ekuruleni Gauteng
- Google Map
- Van der Ryst, M.M. 2009. Archaeological Impact Assessment of potential heritage resources on Portion 61 of the farm Olievenhoutbosch 389 JR Centurion Gauteng Province
- Van Vollenhoven, A.C. 1992.
- Van Schalkwyk, J.A. & Moifatswane, S.M. 1993. 'n Argeologiese ondersoek van die Fonteinedalgebied, geleë op die Plaas Groenkloof 358 JR Pretoria, Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese Museum

# O. APPENDIX

Maps pages 11 - 13





