

MILLENIUM HERITAGE GROUP (PTY) LTD

PHASE 1:
SAHRA Case ID: 14597

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT
RELATING TO THE PROPOSED MAKAPANSTAD AGRIPARK ON
PORTION 2 OF THE FARM GEODGEWAAGD 60 JR WITHIN MORETELE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY OF THE BOJANALA DISTRICT, NORTH WEST
PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA



Compiled by: Millennium Heritage Group (PTY) LTD

For: Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

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Updated 26 August 2019 Report

i. Technical and Executive Summaries

Property details	
Province	Northwest Province
Magisterial District	Bojanala District
Topo-cadastral map	2528 BB
Coordinates	S25°.13. 49.01 "& E 28°.05.44.09").
Closest town	Hamman kraal
Farm name	Portion 2 of the Farm Geodgewaard 60JR

Development criteria in terms of Section 38 (1) of the NHR Act 25 of 1999	Yes	No
Construction of road, wall, power line, pipeline, canal or other linear form of development or barrier exceeding 300m in length		No
Construction of bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length		
Development exceeding 5000 sqm	yes	
Development involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions		No
Development involving three or more erven or divisions that have been consolidated within past five years		No
Rezoning of site exceeding 10 000 sq m	yes	
Any other development category, public open space, squares, parks, recreation grounds		No

Development	
Description of development	Development of Agripark
Project name	Development of Makapanstad Agripark on Portion 2 of the farm Geodgewaard 60 JR.
Developer	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
Heritage Consultant	Mr. Mathoho Ndivhuho Eric, Millennium Heritage Pty Ltd
Purpose of the study	Heritage Impact Assessment to identify and assess significance of sites (if any) to be impacted by the proposed Makapanstad Agri park.

Land use	
Previous land use	Open communal area (used for Livestock grazing area)
Current land use	Open communal area (used for Livestock grazing area)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the results of a heritage impact assessment study conducted as part of the full EIA process for the proposed Makapanstad Agripark near Hammanskraal in the Moretele Local Municipality of the Bojanala District, North West Province (SAHRA Case ID 14597). The study area is located on the outskirts northwest of Makapanstad village roughly 28.02 kilometers Northeast of Hammanskraal Central Business District (CBD) and 500metres from Nchaupe high school. The proposed development will affect approximately 40 hacters of communal owned land previously used as livestock grazing area. Section of the proposed area had recently erected palisade fence, while the vast area is slightly flat covered by natural vegetation. Generally, this area is known for a very long historical record of Ndebele occupation.

Plantago Lanceolate Environmental consultants requested Millennium Heritage Group (Pty) Ltd, an independent heritage consulting company to assess the heritage sensitivity of area proposed for the development of Makapanstad Agripark. A multi-stepped methodology was used to address the terms of reference. To begin with, a desktop study was carried out to identify any known heritage sites and their significance. This involved consulting contract archaeology reports filed on SAHRIS, research reports and academic publications. Finally, the study was guided by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 and SAHRA Minimum Standards for impact assessment. A systematic sampling approach was developed resulting in a total coverage of the entire proposed study area. No archaeological/ historical sites of heritage significance were identified during the initial site

survey. As part of SAHRA recommendations the proposed study area fall within a very highly sensitive (red) so a Palaeontological survey was a prerequisite.

In response to the recommendation a field Palaeontological Impact Assessment survey was performed by Prof Marion Bamford on the 22 August 2019 to comply with Section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resource Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999). The study was based on a combination of random sampling and inspection of exposed rocks and the stratigraphy of exposed areas of the property. Below is a palaeontological sensitivity map in relation to the proposed study area.

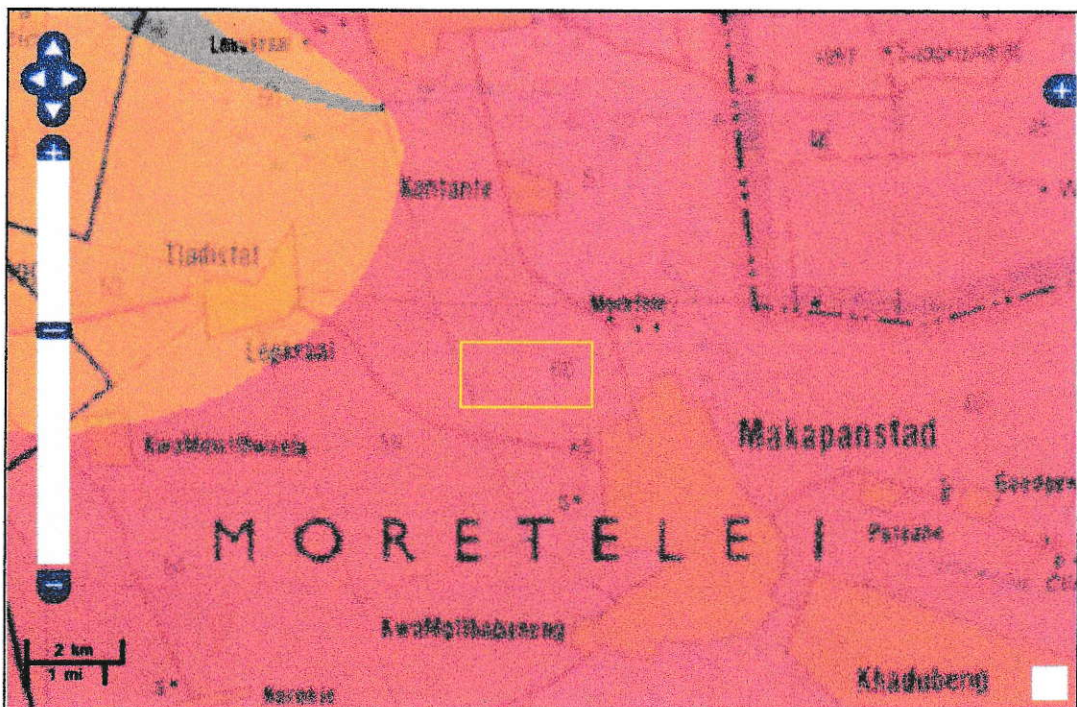


Figure 1: SAHRIS palaeosensitivity map for the site for the proposed Agripark on Farm Goedgewaagd shown within the yellow rectangle. Background colours indicate the following degrees of sensitivity: red = very highly sensitive; orange/yellow = high; green = moderate; blue = low; grey = insignificant/zero.

Based on the Archaeological and Palaeontological study, the following conclusions were reached:

- ✓ Ground truthing of the area and its subsequent infrastructures found no archaeological materials or heritage remains.
 - ✓ The proposed site lies on the shales, mudstones, sandstones and marls of the Irrigasie Formation, Springbok Flats Basin Group, Karoo Super group. No fossils and no shales were observed throughout the site, only sandy and loamy soils, scattered thorn bushes and small trees with a variable covering on grasses. Soils do not preserve fossils but there is a very small chance that shales and sandstones below the surface could preserve fossils of the *Dicroidium* flora or vertebrates of dicynodonts or early dinosaurs. None has been reported from the Irrigasie Formation (See PIA report).
 - Although no archaeological or Paleontological remains were found, it is possible that some significant features may be buried beneath the ground. Should buried archaeological/Paleontological materials and burials be encountered during the process of development, the following must apply:
 - Work must stop immediately
- A professional archaeologist or nearest heritage authority must be contacted.

Based on this assessment which found no archaeological resources in the study area, we recommend that the heritage authorities approve the project as planned.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CLIENT NAME: Department of Rural development and Land Reform

Contact person: Ms Karabo Raphasha

Email: karabo.raphasha@drdlr.gov.za

Declaration of Independence and CV

I Eric Mathoho declare that I am an independent consultant and have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development, application or appeal in respect of which I am appointed other than fair remuneration for work performed in connection with the activity, application or appeal. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of me performing such work.

Signed:

Handwritten signature of Eric N. Mathoho in black ink, appearing as 'EM' followed by 'Mathoho NE'.

Eric N. Mathoho, BA (Hons) in archaeology (Univen) MPhil. In Archaeology (UCT) PhD Candidate (UCT), ASAPA Member, Archaeologist and Heritage Expert

REPORT AUTHOR: Mr. Mathoho Ndivhuho Eric

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1. INTRODUCTION

Department of rural development and land reform commissioned studies for the proposed Makapanstad Agripark project in the Moretele Local Municipality of the Bojanala Capricorn District, North West Province. The study area is located on the outskirts of Makapanstad village roughly 28.02 Kilometers Northeast of Hammanskraal Central Business District (CBD) and 500m from Nchaupe high school. The proposed project will require 40 hectares of communal land to develop the Agripark. To ensure that the proposed development meets the environmental requirements in line with the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 as amended in 2010, they appointed Plantago Lanceolata Environmental Consultants as an Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner, who then appointed Millennium Heritage Group (PTY) LTD to undertake archaeological impact assessment of the proposed project.

The development triggers listed activities under the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) (NEMA) EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended in April 2017). As a result the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform requires environmental Authorization from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and is required to undertake a scoping and EIA study before it can commission the project. Triggered listed activities forming part of the application include Activities 3 & 4 under GNR327, Activities 4, 8 & 43 under GNR327 and Activity 15 under GNR325. To comply with relevant legislations, the applicant (Department of rural development and land reform) requires information on the heritage resources that occur within or near the proposed site and their heritage significance. The objective of the study is to document the presence of archaeological and historical sites of significance to inform and provide guidance on the

proposed Agripark development. Apart from contributing towards the preservation of the heritage resources, the studies provides information and awareness of the types of archaeological and heritage sites that occur within the proposed study area. The document enables the developer to align their functions and responsibilities to advance project activities and at the same time minimizing potential impact on archaeological and heritage sites. Heritage Impact Assessment is conducted in line with the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999). The Act protects heritage resources through formal and general protection. The Act provides that certain developmental activities require consents from relevant heritage resources authorities. In addition to heritage legislations, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) has developed minimum standards used in impact assessment, while these local standards, are operational they area strengthened by the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) published guideline for assessing impacts. The Burra Charter of 1999, requires a cautious approach to the management of sites; it sets out firmly that the cultural significance of heritage places must guide all decisions.

The National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA - Act No. 25 of 1999) protects all structures and features older than 60 years (Section, 34), archaeological sites and materials (Section 35) and graves and burial sites (Section, 36). To comply with the legislation, the applicant requires information on the heritage resources, that occur in the area proposed for development and their significance. This will enable the Applicant to take pro-active measures to limit the adverse effects that the development could have on such heritage resources.

2. RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Two sets of legislation are relevant for the purposes of this study in as far as they contain provisions for the protection of tangible and intangible heritage resources including burials and burial grounds.

2.1. The National Heritage Resource Act (25 of 1999)

This Act established the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) as the prime custodian of the heritage resources and makes provision for the undertaking of heritage resources impact assessment for various categories of development as determined by section 38. It also provides for the grading of heritage resources (Section, 7) and the implementation of a three-tier level of responsibility and functions from heritage resources to be undertaken by the State, Provincial and Local authorities, depending on the grade of heritage resources (Section, 8)

In terms of the National Heritage Resource Act 25, (1999) the following is of relevance:

Historical remains

Section 34 (1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure, which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant Provincial Heritage Resources Authority.

Archaeological remains

Section 35 (3) Any person who discovers archaeological and paleontological materials and meteorites during development or agricultural activity must immediately report the find to the responsible heritage resource authority or the nearest local authority or museum.

Section 35 (4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority-

- destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or paleontological site or any meteorite;
- destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological material or object or any meteorite;
- trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from republic any category of archaeological or paleontological material or object or any meteorite; or
- bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assist with the detection or recovery of metal or archaeological material or object or such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

Section 35(5) When the responsible heritage resource authority has reasonable cause to believe that any activity or development which will destroy, damage or alter any archaeological or paleontological site is underway, and where no application for a permit has been submitted and no heritage resource management procedures in terms of section 38 has been followed, it may

- serve on the owner or occupier of the site or on the person undertaking such development an order for the development to cease immediately for such period as is specified in the order

- carry out an investigation for obtaining information on whether an archaeological or paleontological site exists and whether mitigation is necessary;
- if mitigation is deemed by the heritage resources authority to be necessary, assist the person on whom the order has been served under paragraph (a) to apply for a permit as required in subsection (4); and
- recover the cost of such investigation from the owner or occupier of the land on which it is believed an archaeological or paleontological site is located or from the person proposing to undertake the development if no application for a permit is received within two weeks of the order being served.

Subsection 35(6) the responsible heritage resource authority may, after consultation with the owner of the land on which an archaeological or paleontological site or meteorite is situated; serve a notice on the owner or any other controlling authority, to prevent activities within a specified distance from such site or meteorite.

Burial grounds and graves

Section 36 (3) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority:

- (i) destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- (ii) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in detection or recovery of metals.

Subsection 36 (6) Subject to the provision of any person who during development or any other activity discover the location of a grave, the existence of which was previously unknown, must immediately cease such activity and report the discovery to the responsible heritage resource authority which must, in co-operation with the South African Police service and in accordance with regulation of the responsible heritage resource authority-

- (l) carry out an investigation for obtaining information on whether such grave is protected in terms of this act or is of significance to any community; and
- if such grave is protected or is of significance, assist any person who or community which is a direct descendant to decide for the exhumation and re-interment of the contents of such grave or, in the absence of such person or community, make any such arrangement as it deems fit.

Cultural Resource Management

Section 38(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development*.

- must at the very earliest stages of initiating such development notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

development means any physical intervention, excavation, or action, other than those caused by natural forces, which may in the opinion of the heritage authority in any way result in a change to the nature, appearance or physical nature of a place, or influence its stability and future well-being, including:

- (i) Construction, alteration, demolition, removal or change of use of a place or a structure at a place;
- (ii) Any change to the natural or existing condition or topography of land, and
- (iii) Any removal or destruction of trees, or removal of vegetation or topsoil;

place means a site, area or region, a building or other structure

structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to the ground.

2.2. The Human Tissue Act (65 of 1983)

This act protects graves younger than 60 years, these falls under the jurisdiction of the National Department of Health and the Provincial Health Department. Approval for the exhumation and reburial must be obtained from the relevant provincial MEC as well as relevant Local Authorities.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the study were to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed Agripark and submit a specialist report, which addresses the following:

- Executive summary
- Scope of work undertaken
- Methodology used to obtain supporting information
- Overview of relevant legislation
- Results of all investigations
- Interpretation of information
- Assessment of impact

- Recommendation on effective management measures
- References

4. TERMINOLOGY

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) referred to in the title of this report includes a survey of heritage resources as outlined in the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999(Act No25 of 1999) Heritage resources, (Cultural resources) include all human-made phenomena and intangible products that are result of the human mind. Natural, technological or industrial features may also be part of heritage resources, as places that have made an outstanding contribution to the cultures, traditions and lifestyle of the people or groups of people of South Africa.

The term 'pre – historical' refers to the time before any historical documents were written or any written language developed in a area or region of the world. The historical period and historical remains refer, for the project area, to the first appearance or use of 'modern' Western writing brought South Africa by the first colonist who settled in the Cape in the early 1652 and brought to the other different part of South Africa in the early 1800.

The term 'relatively recent past' refers to the 20th century. Remains from this period are not necessarily older than sixty years and therefore may not qualify as archaeological or historical remains. Some of these remains, however, may be close to sixty years of age and may soon, qualify as heritage resources.

It is not always possible, based on the observation alone, to distinguish clearly between archaeological remains and historical remains or between historical remains and remains from the relatively recent past. Although certain criteria may help to make this distinction possible, these criteria are not always present, or when they are present, they are not always clear enough to interpret with great accuracy. Criteria such as square floors plans (a historical feature) may serve as a guideline. However circular and square floors may occur together on the same site.

The 'term sensitive remains' is sometimes used to distinguished graves and cemeteries as well as ideologically significant features such as holy mountains, initiation sites or other sacred places. Graves are not necessarily heritage resources if they date from the recent past and do not have head stones that are older than sixty years. The distinction between 'formal' and 'informal' graves in most instances also refers to graveyards that were used by colonists and by indigenous people. This distinction may be important as different cultural groups may uphold different traditions and values regarding their ancestors. These values should be recognized and honored whenever graveyards are exhumed and relocated.

The term 'Stone Age' refers to the prehistoric past, although Late Stone Age people lived in South Africa well into the historical period. The Stone Age is divided into an Early Stone Age (3Million years to 150 000 thousand years ago) the Middle Stone Age (150 000 years ago to 40 years ago) and the Late Stone Age (40 000 years to 200 years ago).

The term 'Early Iron Age' and Late Iron Age respectively refers to the periods between the first and second millenniums AD.

The 'Late Iron Age' refers to the period between the 17th and the 19th centuries and therefore includes the historical period.

Mining heritage sites refers to old, abandoned mining activities, underground or on the surface, which may date from the pre-historical, historical or relatively recent past.

The term 'study area' or 'project area' refers to the area where the developers wants to focus its development activities (refer to plan)

Phase I studies refer to survey using various sources of data in order to establish the presence of all possible types of heritage resources in a given area.

Phase II studies includes in-depth cultural heritage studies such as archaeological mapping, excavating and sometimes laboratory work. Phase II work may include documenting of rock art, engravings or historical sites and dwellings; the sampling of archaeological sites or shipwrecks; extended excavation of archaeological sites; the exhumation of bodies and the relocation of grave yards, etc. Phase II work may require the input of specialist and require the co-operation and the approval of SAHRA.

5. METHODOLOGY

Source of information

i. Desktop studies

A desktop study was performed to gain information on the heritage resources in the area. This region is well known for its Late Iron Age sites comprising of Ndebele, Sotho- Tswana cultural groups who settled on the plateau at different periods. However, most studies were performed further north and west of the study. Some of these sites dated back to 1650 (Loubser 1994:67). Several Ndebele stone walled sites has been recorded further north of the area with high density ever documented at locale such as Polokwane,

Mokopane and Tshwane area. The expectation from this desktop study is that it is highly possible to identify heritage sites that dated to the late Iron Age period dominated by stone walling sites.

ii. Field surveys

To identify sites on the ground and to assess their significance, a dedicated field visit was performed to the site of the proposed development. The fieldwork was performed on the 02nd of July 2018 by Mr. Mathoho Eric. The fieldwork followed systematic inspections of predetermined linear transects which resulted in the maximum coverage of the entire site. The sampling method selected was the stratified random technique. The proposed sites for development were taken as strata with random field walking around them. Standard archaeological observation practices were followed; visual inspection was supplemented by relevant written source, and oral communications with local communities from the surrounding area. Identified sites were recorded by hand held GPS and plotted on 1:50 000 topographical maps. Archaeological/historical material and the general condition of the terrain were photographed with a Canon 1000D Camera.

Assumption and Limitations

It must be pointed out that heritage resources can be found in the unexpected places, it must also be borne in mind that survey may not detect all the heritage resources in each project area. While some remains may simply be missed during surveys (observation) others may occur below the surface of the earth and may be exposed once development (such as the construction of the proposed facilities) commences.

6. ASSESSMENTS CRITERIA

This section describes the evaluation criteria used for determining the significance of archaeological and heritage sites. The significance of archaeological and heritage sites was determined based on the following criteria:

- The unique nature of a site.
- The amount/depth of the archaeological deposit and the range of features (stone walls, activity areas etc.).
- The wider historic, archaeological and geographic context of the site.
- The preservation condition and integrity of the site.
- The potential to answer present research questions.

6.1 Site Significance

The site significance classification standards as prescribed in the guidelines and endorsed by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (2006) and approved by the Association for Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, were used in determining the site significance for this report.