



## **AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC**

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# **CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE REMAINDER OF FARM BOSCHHOEK 3345 NEW CASTLE KWA ZULU NATAL PROVINCE**

## **1. DEFINITION**

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of paleontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

## **2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE KWA ZULU NATAL HERITAGE ACT, ACT NO. 10 OF 1997**

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- 2.1 Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- 2.2 Archaeological sites and objects.
- 2.3 Paleontological sites.
- 2.4 Meteorites.
- 2.5 Ship wrecks.
- 2.6 Burial grounds.
- 2.7 Graves of victims of conflict.
- 2.8 Public monuments and memorials.

- 2.9 Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- 2.10 Any other places or object, which is considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- 2.11 Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- 2.12 Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- 2.13 Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- 2.14 Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The site was visited and inspected on foot. All appropriate documents on the area were studied. Interviews were conducted with local residents and farm workers.

### 4. RESULTS

The proposed development area is typical Kwa- Zulu Natal mountain grassland with indigenous and exotic trees, with a stream running through the farm. The following cultural heritage resources were recorded:

- **Farm settlement (S27° 47' 13.4" & E 29° 55 14.4)**

The original farmhouse was most probably built in the 1940/50`s. According to the present person living in the house, his father bought the farm in 1960. At that time the house was neglected and had to be renovated. The house was extended by adding a new room and veranda on the northern side and a new kitchen on the southern side (see photograph)



His father also built a dairy and outbuildings (see photographs).



**1960`s Dairy**



**1960`s Outbuildings**

The original house was built with dressed sandstone. On the southern side of the house is also a sandstone rondavel, as well as a stone cattle kraal and ruins of outbuildings (see photographs)



**Sandstone rondavel**



**Ruins of cattle kraal and original outbuildings**



- **Cattle dip (S27° 47' 8.2" & E29° 55' 5.6")**

Near the stream is an old cattle dip. These dips were made compulsory by the government to control ticks. According to the local farmer the dip dates to the 1940/50`s



**Cattle Dip**

- **Farm workers cemetery (S27° 47' 2.69" & E29° 54' 56.2")**

This large cemetery is where local farm workers were buried. At present the Ngwenja family lives near the cemetery. The oldest dated grave is that of James Khumalo who passed away in 1931. A total of twenty eight graves were counted (see photograph).



**Farm workers cemetery**

- **Informal settlement cemetery (S27° 46' 54.1" & E29° 55' 02.3")**

On the northern border of the proposed development site squatters have settled. Just south of this settlement amongst tall grass some fifty graves were found. The grass in this area is very tall and there might be more graves scattered throughout the area (see photograph).



**Modern cemetery near squatter settlement**

- **Old Waterworks**

In the north-western corner of the property are the remains of the town's old water purification works. The area consists of a number of large dams built of stone and bricks. From a construction and engineering point of view this is an interesting site. From the material used it seems if the site dates to the 1940/50's



## **5. EVALUATION**

- Farm settlement – Most of the structures are older than sixty years and representative of a typical farm settlement of the 1940/50`s. Very few of these settlements have survived. The settlement is of regional importance.
- Cattle dip – The cattle dip is typical of the dips of the 1940`s where farmers had to dip their cattle on a regular basis under supervision of government dip inspectors. Today the dips are not in use any more. The dip represents an interesting part of farm practice. The dip is at least of local interest.
- The cemeteries are important and have to be dealt with according to legislation.
- Old waterworks – The old waterworks are an interesting site from an construction and engineering point of view. The site is at least of local interest.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

The farm settlement and dip represent farming practice in the 1940/50`s and are protected by the Kwa Zulu Natal Heritage Act No 10 Of 1997 and may not be demolished or altered without prior approval of the Heritage Authority.

The graves are a sensitive matter and should be dealt with according to grave legislation (see appendix A). A section of the farm workers cemetery is older than sixty years and is also protected by Act 10 of 1997.

## **7. RECOMMENDATION**

A full phase II cultural heritage resources impact assessment should be done on all the recorded heritage resources older than sixty years. Only hereafter a decision has to be taken on whether to retain or demolish the resources.

The graves should be dealt with according to legislation dealing with cemeteries.

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.

## 8. SITE INFORMATION

Owners contact details:  Willoughby Leger Denny P.O. Box 2648 Faerie Glen 0043 Cell No: 082 320 5537 E-mail: <a href="mailto:wldenny@investec.co.za">wldenny@investec.co.za</a>
Developers contact details:  St. Leger Denny Developments P.O. Box 2648 Faerie Glen 0043 Cell No: 082 320 5537 E-mail: <a href="mailto:wldenny@investec.co.za">wldenny@investec.co.za</a>
Consultants contact details:  LEAP: Landscape Architect, Environmental Planner No 1 Ivy Street Clydesdale Pretoria, 0001 P.O. Box 13185 Hatfield 0028 Tel: 012 344 3582 Fax: 086 606 6130 Cell: 083 302 2116 cell E-mail: <a href="mailto:gwen.theron@telkomsa.net">gwen.theron@telkomsa.net</a>
Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc.)  Low cost housing project in collaboration with City of Newcastle
Whether rezoning and/or subdivision of land is involved:  Rezoning is required
Full location of Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority, property (e.g. farm, erf name and number):  Remainder of Farm Boschhoek 3345 Newcastle
Location map must have the polygon of the area to be surveyed on it and full geographical coordinates for all relevant points and where applicable indication of the area to be developed (footprint):  Attached
If possible an aerial photograph of the specific area showing the location of all site.  Attached



## **9. MAPS**

See pages 12 to 14

## **10. REFERENCES**

- 1/50 000 Map 2729 DD
- National Cultural History Museum – 2005, Aspects of architectural conservation for the Museologist – Research by the National Cultural History Museum Pretoria
- Jooste J & Pienaar L 2005, Recording old farm buildings pp 52 – 66 Vol. 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2005 Research by the National Cultural History Museum Pretoria
- Kwa Zulu Natal Heritage Act, Act No. 10 of 1997

## **APPENDIX A**

### **ARCHAEOLOGY, GRAVES AND THE LAW**

- In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:
  - (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
  - (b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or 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
  - (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.
- Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations.
- Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980) (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925). Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place.
- A registered undertaker can only handle human remains or an institution declared under the Human Tissues Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended).
- Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise

### **THE PROCESS/STEPS THAT ARE TAKEN**

#### **SITE VISIT: WHAT IS DONE DURING THIS SITE VISIT?**

Physical documentation of graves prior to exhumation: Photographic, GPS, Site Maps, Final counting etc...

Determining context of graves: If any, are they associated with other sites such as farmhouses/structures etc...

## **SITE SIGNS AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Notices (in compliance with the National Heritage Resources Act) must be placed on the site/s, indicating the intent of relocation. This must be in at least 3 languages and has to be up for a minimum of 60 days.

As part of the preliminary social consultation, newspaper ads as well as radio announcements has to be made as well

This is in order that family members/descendants, if any, can reply/come forward to indicate if any of the graves belong to them

## **SOCIAL CONSULTATION**

If any individuals responded during initial consultation/public participation, then full social consultation undertaken. This will include speaking to individuals regarding graves, their family wishes, getting consent for relocation/reburial etc...

It could also include an Open Day/Traditional Ceremony (or more than one if necessary)

## **PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

Undertakers permits applied for and obtained during social consultation

Only after all necessary documents, family consent obtained, landowner letter, can SAHRA Permit be applied for and obtained. A few weeks should be budgeted for this.

## **EXHUMATION & RELOCATION**

When permits obtained physical exhumation, investigation and reburial commences

## **THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF BURIALS:**

### **DOCUMENTATION FORM**

This form contains the following information for each burial:

<b>Feature/Burial No</b>	<b>Site Name/No</b>	<b>GPS Reading</b>	<b>Farm Name/No</b>
<b>Province</b>	<b>Location of new cemetery</b>		

**It also includes information on the**

**Burial Type**

**Burial Dimensions**

**Grave Type**

**Grave Dimensions**

**Associated sites/features**

**Specimens or grave goods found**

**The state of preservation and percentage completeness of the human skeletal material**

**Sex and Age of the individual**

**Further Remarks**

**Information on the headstone and grave dressing (if any)**

Photographs of each grave, headstone (if any), the skeletal remains, grave goods etc... are also taken and used in the final documentation



**Google Image**



## Affected properties

Location: Remainder of the Farm Boschhoek 3345, New Castle, Kwazulu Natal

Extent: Approximately 202 ha

Project Name: New Castle Development

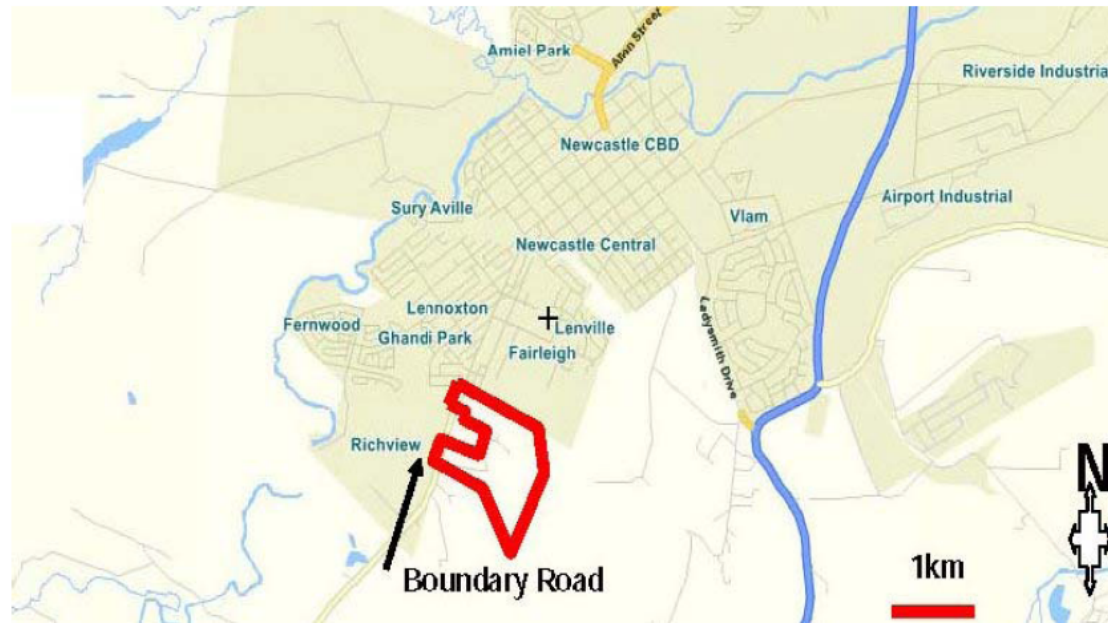
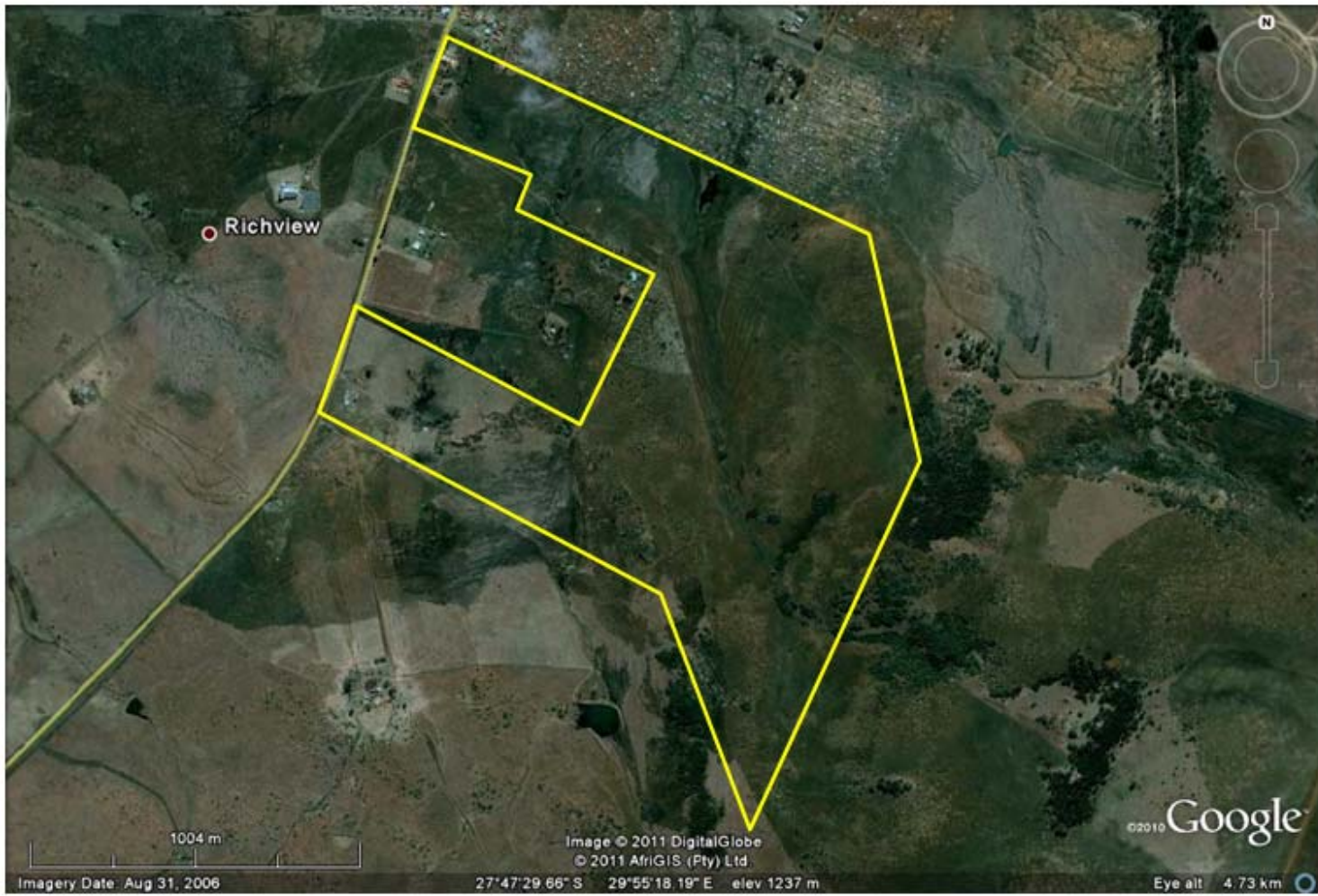


Figure 1 Location of Properties



Google image of site