



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: John Pakwe
Tel: (063) 894-1979
Email: jpakwe@sahra.org.za
Case ID: 25106

Date: Wednesday, 9 July, 2025

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)/In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Abram Ratlou Malatse
Batlhokomedi Management Service ,
311 Odinburg Gardens
Mabopane
0190

Setala Environmental (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Batlhokomedi Management Service to undertake an Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the proposed Rietfontein Township on a Portion of the Remainder of Portion 27 of Farm Rietfontein 485-JQ within the Madibeng Local Municipality, North-West Province.

A draft Environmental Impact Assessment (dEIA) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA), and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended (EIA). The proposed development includes the construction of a mixed-use township in Rietfontein with associated infrastructure such as stormwater, sewerage, and electricity infrastructure.

Prof. Marion Bamford and Apelser Archaeological Consulting were appointed to undertake specialist Palaeontological and Heritage Impact Assessments in terms of section 24(4)b(ii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Bamford, M., 2025. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed township development on Portion 522 of Farm Rietfontein 485 JQ, north of Hartbeespoort, North West Province: Field Study.

The field study determined that there are no fossil resources that will be impacted by the proposed development as the rocks present are diabase volcanic rocks which do not preserve fossils.

Pelser, A.J., 2024. A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment & Report for Proposed Township Development on a Portion of the Remainder of Portion 27 of Farm Rietfontein 485 JQ Near Hartebeespoort dam in the Northwest Province.

Bricks, rubble and remains of structures with no heritage significance have been identified on site, and an



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occupied homestead that was not surveyed exist on site. The homestead is also considered to be of no heritage significance.

Recommendations made by the specialist reports:

- No mitigation measures are required for the identified structures and ruins.
- Chance Finds Protocols must be implemented for potential finds of significant heritage resources and small chances of Silverton Formation trace fossils.

Final Comment:

The following comments are made as requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the final EIA and EMPr

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA DAU (John Pakwe 0638941979 / jpakwe@sahra.org.za) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offence in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.



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Yours faithfully

John Pakwe
Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/379320>