



ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
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Company profile

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd was established in 2013 as a small business aiming to provide affordable, efficient and high quality archaeological services and heritage assessments in the context of environmental impact assessments and development. These services aim to ensure compliance with the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA; No. 25 of 1999) on behalf of developers and are usually conducted under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) umbrella in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; No. 107 of 1998) and its associated regulations. Our clients are therefore both environmental assessment practitioners and developers alike. The purpose of heritage assessments is to locate and describe heritage resources that have value or significance, be it aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological, and identify ways in which potential impacts to these resources can be minimised or avoided. ASHA operates primarily in the Western and Northern Cape Provinces and specialises in the assessment of archaeology, cultural landscapes and rural heritage resources for all types of developments. Other specialist studies, such as palaeontology and the built environment, can be subcontracted as required so as to provide a rounded service.

The principal consultant, Dr Jayson Orton has an M.A. (UCT) and a D.Phil. (Oxford, UK) in archaeology and has extensive working experience throughout the western half of South Africa. He has been consulting in this region since 2004. He also works in Namibia, while for projects in eastern South Africa he partners with an appropriately experienced practitioner. With a keen interest in research, he has also published widely on various aspects of the Stone Age archaeology of the region making him one of the most knowledgeable archaeologists working there today.

Services

ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd offers the following services to its clientele:

- Heritage screening and scoping studies;
- Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs), either standalone under the NHRA or as part of an EIA or BAR;
- Archaeological specialist studies as part of HIAs conducted by other heritage practitioners;
- Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) form as required by Heritage Western Cape;
- Archaeological test excavations;
- Pre-construction walk-down surveys;
- Pre-construction archaeological mitigation; and
- Emergency rescue exhumation of pre-colonial burials.

Personnel

Dr Jayson Orton: co-director, principal consultant and specialist archaeologist.

Professional accreditation with the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists:

- Principal Investigator (Coastal shell middens, Stone Age archaeology, grave relocation)
- Field Director (Rock art, Colonial period archaeology)

Carol Orton: co-director, historical researcher, field assistant.