

Archaeological Site Report	SiteNo	9/2/013/0002
	Site Name	Waenhuiskrans (Kassiesbaai) Fishing Village,
	Date	Arniston
	Project	
	CaseNID	
	Coords	-34.663213, 20.231508
Page No: 1	SiteAutoID: 29421	

Site Category: Cultural Landscape

SiteComments:

Archive Import History: Until quite recently the fishermen's villages, most of them hardly more than hamlets, constituted some of the most interesting and picturesque features to be seen along the coast from Saldanha Bay to far beyond Cape L'Agulhas. One comes across them, often quite unexpectedly, in remote and secluded bays. They owed their charm and rustic simplicity especially to the modest little houses with their whitewashed walls, thatched roofs and simple end gables with cumins or jutting-out fireplaces and chimneys. With the increasing popularity of our seaside places these houses are disappearing one after another. It has become urgently necessary to protect some of them not only on account of their particular character and attractiveness, but because they occupy a special place in the history of our vernacular architecture. They are the prototype of the fine Cape gabled houses and of many farm dwellings in the interior. The best surviving examples of these modest, un sophisticated houses may be seen in the Bredasdorp district. Some 32 kilometres from Bredasdorp, at Hotagterklip near Struis Bay, the new macadamized road cuts through one of these villages. A few houses were destroyed in making the road, but there are attractive groups of dwellings on either side of it. The three houses on the grassy slope on the right-hand side are about sixty years old and have recently been well restored by the Divisional Council of Bredasdorp. They have been raised to the status of proclaimed historical monuments. The larger group of houses stand on the left of the road and the Historical Monuments Commission is taking active steps to have as many as possible of them preserved. Proclaimed 1966 On the windswept dunes and rocky coast some 24 kilometres from Bredasdorp, stands the seaside resort of Waenhuiskrans, named after a huge cave in the high cliff near the sea. This resort, also known as Arniston, gains a special character and quiet picturesqueness from a group of fishermen's cottages huddled together on a prominent rise beyond the slipway. To the right of the road from Bredasdorp where it enters the village, one or two more of these cottages can be seen. The example on Erf No. 49 is exceptionally fine and has been selected for protection by proclamation as a national monument. Visual Description: Colours: Site Features: Condition: Varied, poor to fair Construction Date: Materials: Catalogue: , No: , Significance Category:

Damage Types: