

### **Oena archaeological mitigation methodology**

Given that the sites are all surface scatters and generally in gravelly contexts, there will be no subsurface excavation required. The methodology will be approximately as follows (obviously minor differences might occur from site to site depending on individual circumstances that I cannot predict now):

- Each location will be examined at the surface in order to visually locate where the archaeological material lies and where it is most dense;
- Photographs will be taken of the scatters;
- A grid will be laid out in 1m by 1m squares to cover as much of the scatter as possible;
- Artefacts would be collected from each grid square either by hand and placed directly into packets or, if some sand is present or there are very small artefacts, deposit will be scraped up and sieved through a 3mm mesh (a 1.5 mm mesh will likely not be feasible because in this type of environment (lots of crumbly metamorphic rocks) the sieve would become far too full and the material unmanageable);
- Mapping of the sites will take place where relevant (some scatters are essentially just denser patches of background scatter and thus there would be nothing to map but LSA scatters are often placed alongside rock outcrops which can provide wind and/or sun shelter and feature mapping is thus relevant);
- Photographs will be taken during and after the mitigation as relevant to record the mitigation process and any particular finds that merit specific photography;
- All materials will be returned to Cape Town for analysis, reporting and detailed photography/artefact drawing as required before being sent to Kimberly for long term storage and curation at the McGregor Museum.