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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL STUDY
PROPOSED BLAUWBERG NATURE
RESERVE**

Prepared for
OVP ASSOCIATES

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Executive summary

The archaeological, historical and cultural heritage of the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve is both rich and varied.

Located between Bloubergstrand and Melkbosstrand on the Cape west coast, the proposed nature reserve represents a snapshot of South Africa's regional history.

Shell middens and archaeological remains along the coastline, as well as to the east of Blouberg Hill, are testament to the indigenous Khoi communities who once peopled this landscape. SAM

The driftsand dunes between the coast and Blouberg Hill contain early, as well as more recent, shell middens. And calcified (fossilised) dunes here may also hold very old cultural material, as well as ancient animal lairs with preserved bone.

Small caves located in the vegetated kloofs on Blouberg Hill served, apparently, as lookout points for the Khoi, to alert them to ships coming into Table Bay.

The World War II buildings on top of Blouberg Hill are of historical significance.

The site of the Battle of Blouberg (1806) is located on the farm Bloubergsvlei, to the east of Kleinberg. The battle marked the start of the second British occupation of the Cape, and the end of final Dutch rule.

And beneath the cold Atlantic ocean, in Table Bay, the remains of shipwrecks, some dating to the mid 17th century, represent an important period of the early maritime history of South Africa and Europe.

This archaeological and historical heritage is a sensitive, fragile and non-renewable cultural resource. Large-scale development between Table Bay and Melkbosstrand has already resulted in the loss of many archaeological and historical sites, including shell middens, forts and trading outposts.

Land-use in the proposed nature reserve must therefore be controlled in order to minimise further destruction and damage to cultural resources, by the integration of protective measures into the planning and development policies, and the active participation of the public.

The proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve presents the city of Cape Town with a unique opportunity to integrate the city's cultural heritage into the overall development and management of the proposed reserve.

A Heritage Management Plan (HMP) is therefore recommended. A HMP will ensure the effective protection and sustainable development of cultural resources in the proposed nature reserve. Such a plan is integral to the overall development and management of the proposed reserve.

With regard to the Battle of Blouberg, the following heritage management proposals are recommended.

- The establishment of a battlefield tour/hiking trail.
- The establishment of a museum or interpretative centre at Bloubergsvlei.
- The implementation of an excavation programme at Bloubergsvlei, the battlefield site.
- The establishment of a memorial to the casualties of war at Bloubergsvlei.
- The establishment of a battlefield viewing site on top of Kleinberg.

With regard to the archaeological heritage, the following management proposals are made.

- Restoration of the seriously degraded coastal dunes between Melkbosstrand and Bloubergstrand will require an archaeological sampling programme of a severely damaged shell midden at Kreeftebaai.
- The establishment of an educational centre at Bontkop, focusing on the cultural history of the region.
- The establishment of an archaeological hiking trail between Bontkop and Kreeftebaai.
- Uncontrolled vehicle activity along the coastal strip has already seriously damaged shell middens, and should be prohibited.

With regard to the World War II buildings on top of the Blouberg Hill, the following recommendation is made.

- The buildings and structures should be retained. Any proposed restoration and/or alteration to the buildings, or structures, is subject to approval by the National Monuments Council Plans Committee.

The implementation of a HMP will enhance the positive benefits of the proposed nature reserve.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

The Agency for Cultural Resource Management has been requested by OVP Associates to undertake a preliminary archaeological and historical assessment of the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve.

The aim of the study is to assess the archaeological, historical and cultural significance and sensitivity of the proposed nature reserve, and to propose measures to integrate the cultural heritage of the site into a development and management plan.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological and historical study were:

1. to provide an overview of the archaeology and cultural history of the site and surrounding area;
2. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological or historical sites of significance on the site;
3. to identify any sites of archaeological and historical significance;
4. to assess the status and significance of the archaeological and historical sites;
5. to determine an archaeological/historical sensitivity rating for the proposed nature reserve; and
6. to identify measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological and historical sites that may exist.

3. THE STUDY SITE

The study site for the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve is illustrated in Figure 1. The study area is located west of the R27 (West Coast road) and immediately south and west of the Johnnic Atlantic Beach golf village. The proposed site also includes privately-owned land to the east of Blouberg Hill, incorporating portions of the farms Blaauwberg, (Joyce's Diary), Bloubergsvlei, and Klein Melkboschplaas.

4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY

A limited field study was undertaken. The field study focused on the coastal strip between Melkbosstrand and Bloubergstrand, Blouberg Hill, and the farms Blaauwberg and Bloubergsvlei. A desk-top study was also undertaken.

5. A REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The archaeological significance of Bloubergstrand and Melkbosstrand has been well established, where more than 90 sites have been recorded and mapped (Kaplan 1993:25, 1997, 1998a).

Rudner (1968) located numerous shell middens and deflated sites with shell and pottery in an almost continuous stretch among the frontal dunes, all the way from Paarden Eiland to Melkbosstrand. Many of these sites have since been lost as a result of land reclamation, and residential and recreational development.

A well preserved shell midden at the junction of Otto Du Plessis Drive and 11th Avenue in Melkbosstrand, was recently destroyed by the Investment Facility company Five Zero Two (Pty) Ltd, the developers of Milkwood Place, a residential housing development within the proposed new Melkbosstrand CBD. Bulldozer cuts into the dune had destroyed the topmost midden horizon, which formed the cap of the dune. All that remained exposed on the surface of the dune and in bulldozer tracks were scattered shell, fragments of bone and rare artefacts (Deacon and Goosen 1997). Ironically, the dune was situated on CMC property outside the area to be developed. A number of seriously damaged sites have recently been recorded in the same area (Kaplan 1998a).

A small portion of the Milkwood Place shell midden was excavated, but the valuable uppermost 'contact period' (i.e. Dutch and indigenous Khoisan) deposits, had already been destroyed (Deacon and Goosen 1997).

The Milkwood Place midden was also used for educational purposes by the South African Museum, Human Sciences Department. It formed part of a practical archaeological excursion for scholars and adults that was aimed at building up a picture of coastal lives of past Khoisan people (Graham Avery, Department of Archaeology, South African Museum, pers. comm.).

An equally large, well preserved shell midden at the end of Birkenhead Drive in Melkbosstrand was also recently destroyed by the developers of a residential property development adjacent to 11th Avenue in Melkbosstrand, who used the sand for fill purposes. This midden, containing grindstones, stone flakes, ostrich eggshell and pottery, was recorded during an archaeological study for the planned Johnnic Properties Atlantic Beach development (Kaplan 1997).

The Milkwood Place and Birkenhead Drive shell middens were two of the last remaining, well preserved shell middens in the shadow of Table Mountain, where large scale development has already destroyed about 90% of the archaeological sites in the

regional perspective
potential?
contextual

= regional significance = excavated sites / sampled

Area of significance = frontal dune area

Milkwood Place

Birkenhead Drive

region. Their loss is a tragedy for archaeological research into the 'contact' and pre-contact period of South African history.

The early Dutch settlers at the Cape would have encountered indigenous Khoisan communities on these shores and living among the dunes, and made contact with them. There are historical accounts of Bushmen and 'Strandlopers' utilising the coastal resources along the beaches at this time. Presumably, some of the remaining shell middens in the area would reflect this 'contact' period.

Excavations of a large, well preserved midden on the Johnnic site, containing pottery, shell pendants, stone tools, bone, ostrich eggshell beads, and rare ostrich eggshell water containers, and perlemoen bowls, and shell scoops, have recently been completed (Kaplan 1998c). A glass core from one of the sample excavations shows that part of the site dates from the 'contact' period. Preliminary analysis of the bone samples indicates that both sheep and cattle are present (Cedric Poggenpoel, Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town, pers. comm.), suggesting that the site is dated within the last 2000 years BP.

Recent excavations of another shell midden in the western portion of the Johnnic site, has suggested that some of the middens in the region may even pre-date 2000 BP (Kaplan 1998b).

Several dozen archaeological sites are also known from Milnerton, Rietvlei, and Koeberg (Rudner 1968; Kaplan 1983, 1994, 1995a, 1995b), including the internationally significant Middle Pleistocene (older than 120 000 years) site at Duinefontein, in the Koeberg Nature Reserve (Deacon 1976; Klein 1976). New excavations by local and international archaeologists have recently been completed at the site.

5.1 Human burials

A relatively large number of Khoisan and non-indigenous burials have also been recovered between Milnerton and Melkbosstrand (Abrahams 1983; Graham Avery, South African Museum, pers comm.). According to Mr Jan Hannekom (pers. comm.) of the Melkbosstrand Paint and Pool Shop, two human burials were recovered when digging the foundations for the Palm Centre shopping complex. And a further four burials were uncovered when excavating foundations for a private house, and a service trench alongside Otto Du Plessis Drive.

A fragment of a fossil human femur bone was also found in Otto du Plessis Drive, just west of the Milkwood Place development. According to Deacon and Goosen (1997:6), the human bone probably originated from a disturbed burial in the Milkwood dune.

Two Bushman skeletons were also removed from a large sand dune on the farm Groot Oliphantskop (close to the old Mamre road) about 50 years ago by Mr D. Drury, a taxidermist at the South African Museum. The skeletons, along with a number of bored stones and ostrich eggshell beads, were later housed in a private collection at Mr Drury's home in Bloubergstrand (Kaplan 1996).

MIDDEN
Johnnic
site
-contact
period

west portion
of Johnnic
site
pre 2000 BP

> 120 000 years
internationally
significant

5.2 Caves

According to Mr Rolf Krige (pers. comm.) of the Blaauw Mountain Nature Reserve, three small caves/shelters are located in a vegetated kloof overlooking the West Coast Road. The shelters served, apparently, as lookout points for the Khoi, to alert them to ships come into Table Bay.

precolonial
colonial
Middelen
Middelen
cave sites

5.3 Battle of Blouberg

Blue Mountain, otherwise known as Blouberg Hill, is the most prominent landmark in the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve. The Battle of Blouberg took place on January 6 1806. In this battle, the Dutch East India Company forces of General Janssens were defeated by a British expeditionary force, heralding the start of the second British occupation of the Cape. The battle was fought mainly around the vleei, on what is today the farm Bloubergsvlei. Some fighting also took place on the eastern slopes of the Kleinberg.

According to Major Tony Gordon (pers comm.), casualties of the war were buried in soft sand on the dunes. The location of the grave sites are, however, unknown.

5.4. Forts, outposts and springs

* Riet Valley

During the Dutch East India Company (VOC) period, a number of forts and trading outposts were established in the Table Bay area, at Blouberg, Riet Valley, Vissershok and Jan Biesjes Craal (Milnerton). The Riet Valley outpost was also used as a camp for the Khoi regiment during the first British occupation of the Cape (1795-1803), and as a base for General Janssens during the Battle of Blouberg (1806).

Historical wells and freshwater springs were also dug at Rietvlei, Bloubergsvlei and Blouberg.

According to Mr Gary Thompson (pers. comm.) of the Melkbosstrand Conservation Society, the old municipal reservoir on top of the large sand dune directly opposite the Caltex garage in Melkbosstrand, has been built on top of the foundations of a British fort dating to the time of the Battle of Blouberg. The remains of the fort are not visible today, but the foundations and remains relating to the fort, may be buried beneath the floor of the reservoir and the surface of the dune.

5.5 World War II buildings

An artillery observation post, diesel station, and accommodation and mess buildings dating to the 2nd World War have been constructed on top of the Blouberg Hill (Tony Gordon, pers. comm.). In addition, a radar station was constructed lower down the slopes of the Blouberg Hill, which was operational by mid-1942 (Cliff 1997:7).

WW II

Radar Station

outposts
springs

Blouberg

[vlei] Kleinberg
battle sites
downwards

5.6 Shipwrecks

shipwrecks

According to Dr Bruno Werz (pers. comm.), maritime archaeologist at the Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town, up to fifteen early shipwreck sites are located in Table Bay, and north of the mouth of the old Salt River. These include the wreck of the Nieuw Haerlem (1647) and the Oosterland (1697). Excavations of the Oosterland were undertaken in 1989. The aim of the excavation was to collect information focusing on the history of the VOC which was instrumental in the shaping of the settlement at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652 (Werz 1990, 1993). The wreck lies about 500 m south of the mouth of Milnerton Lagoon.

Described as 'frozen moments in time', shipwrecks have the potential to inform us about life at sea, vessel construction methods, the material culture of the period, and trade and trade networks, to a degree that written documents are unable to match (Gribble 1996:81). Wrecks constitute a valuable historical-archaeological resource that must be preserved and protected.

6. RESULTS OF THE PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDY - STUDY AREA

6.1 Shell middens

Two shell middens were located during the field study (Figure 1).

BNR 1

Bontkop shell midden

significant proposals

*- period < 2000BP.
- damaged - human / natural*

BNR 1 was located on a large west-facing dune at Bontkop near the northern boundary of the proposed nature reserve (Figure 2). Located about 15 metres south of the beacon on a large partially vegetated dune, the midden has already been damaged by both human impact and natural processes. The relatively small midden comprises quantities of shellfish remains, ostrich eggshell and stone flakes. One piece of pottery was also found. Large quantities of fragmented shellfish remains, and stone flakes, including grindstone fragments, are widely scattered between the large dune and the coastal foredunes behind the exposed rocky coastline.

BNR 2

veeftebaai

*period > 2000BP
damaged*

BNR 2 was located at Kreeftebaai. The midden has been severely damaged by a road/track which cuts through the sand dune (Figure 3). Midden material, including shellfish remains, stone flakes, pottery and ostrich eggshell were found on either side of the track on the low partially vegetated dune. Scattered shell fragments, stone and some pottery were also located on a flat, relatively undisturbed vegetated dune slack overlooking the carpark.

The coastal strip between Bontkop and Eerstestein has been severely degraded by the use of 4 wheel drive and other vehicles. This has resulted in large scale damage to shell middens and other archaeological remains. Fragmented shellfish remains, pottery, ostrich eggshell, and stone flakes, were located along almost the entire coastal strip

- RPT coastal dunes and 1000
potential early field crop sites] 8

between Bontkop and Kreeftebaai. Some of the material occurs in open spaces between the relatively undisturbed low vegetated dunes south of the Cultural Centre at Bontkop, but the bulk of the material closer to Kreeftebaai has been severely disturbed.

Fragmented shellfish remains were found south of Kreeftebaai, but the dunes here are heavily vegetated, resulting in low archaeological visibility. Shellfish remains are associated with extensive dune mole rat activity in the coastal portion of the study area. It has been noted that dune mole rats can bring up archaeological material from depths of up to 80 cm (Kaplan 1997).

Archaeological residues were also located alongside Marine Drive, on the eastern side of the road, as well as in open spaces on the vegetated frontal dunes. Shell remains area also associated with extensive dune mole rat activity. This area is also heavily vegetated, resulting in low archaeological visibility.

6.2 Deflated sites

One deflated Later Stone Age (LSA)¹ site was located on the farm Blaauwberg (Joyce's Diary). The site, comprising a wind-deflated blowout, occurs in a long wide strip about 500 metres south-east of the farm homestead, on the edge of some vegetated land alongside a boundary fence, and adjacent to some wheat fields. The site comprises large numbers of stone tools, including, modified and unmodified flakes, chunks, cores, scrapers, hammerstones, grindstones, ostrich eggshell and pottery. The majority of artefacts are in siltcrete, with some in quartz also occurring. The site, however, lies outside of the preliminary boundaries of the proposed nature reserve.

6.3 World War II buildings

An artillery observation post, diesel station, and accommodation and mess buildings dating to the 2nd World War have been constructed on top of the Blouberg Hill. A radar station was also constructed lower down the slopes of the Blouberg Hill (Figures 4 & 5).

6.4 Battle of Blouberg battlefield site

The battlefield site of the Battle of Blouberg (1806) is located on the farm Bloubergsvlei, although some fighting also took on the eastern slopes of the Kleinberg (Figure 6). According to Mr Gary Thompson (pers comm.), the battle centred around the vlei, on the Bloubergsvlei farm. A portion of the battle site falls outside of the proposed southern boundary of the nature reserve on land owned by Garden Cities.

The original farm house around the vlei has been demolished, but according to Mr Thompson and Ms Pat Matejek (pers. comm.), the building was used as a field hospital for wounded soldiers during the war. Some annular and stone ware, as well as a LSA siltcrete flake and adze, were located around the vlei during the field study. According to Mr Thompson (pers. comm.), pipe stems and musket balls have also been found on the site.

¹ A term referring to the last 20 000 years of pre colonial history in southern Africa.

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, CULTURAL, AND HISTORICAL SENSITIVITY OF THE PROPOSED BLAUWERG NATURE RESERVE

The archaeological and historical sensitivity of the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve is considered to be exceptionally high (Figure 7). 'Hot spots' denote high sensitivity ratings. 'Red flag' areas denote medium-high sensitivity rating.

The sensitivity of the coastal strip between Bloubergstrand and Melkbosstrand has already been recognised (Chittenden Nicks 1995:2). The area has been given a high conservation value with the potential to preserve the cultural environment. Uncontrolled 4 wheel drive activity has already seriously degraded the cultural environment of the coastal strip. Shell middens in this area have been extensively damaged at Kreeftebaai and Bontkop. The remains of severely disturbed archaeological sites were located along the entire coastal strip between Kreeftebaai and Bontkop, as well as on either side of Marine Drive. The frontal dunes south of the Kreeftebaai are heavily vegetated, resulting in low archaeological visibility. Relatively undisturbed archaeological residues do occur, however, on the low vegetated dunes south of Bontkop.

The dune area between the coast and Blouberg Hill is also regarded as sensitive. The area is heavily vegetated resulting in low archaeological visibility. These driftsand dunes may contain ancient as well as more recent shell middens. And calcified (fossilised) dunes here may also hold very old cultural material, as well as ancient animal lairs with preserved bone (Clift 1997).

The proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve is also of immense cultural and historical significance. The proposed reserve includes the site of the Battle of Blouberg (1806), located on the eastern slopes of the Kleinberg, and on a portion of the farm Bloubergsvlei. The historical significance of the Blaauw Mountain Reserve (van den Honert 1998), has already been recognised by the National Monuments Council, who declared a portion of the site a Conservation Area in terms of the National Monuments Act (No. 28 of 1969), in 1996. Information contained in the second draft of the Bloubergsvlei Sub-Regional Plan (1996) also highlights the historical significance of the site of the Battle of Blouberg, as does the Clift (1997) report.

The sense of 'place' of the Blouberg Hill should not be underestimated. The mountain should be considered a cultural resource.

Buildings on top of the Grootberg date back to the 2nd World War (1945-49). The ruins are considered to be historically sensitive.

Later Stone Age (LSA) deflated sites with stone tools, pottery and ostrich eggshell were located east of Blouberg Hill on the farm Blaauwberg (Joyce's Dairy). More LSA sites are likely to be located on the vegetated dunes east of Blouberg Hill within the boundaries of the proposed reserve, particularly where blow outs occur. Such sites have already been found adjacent to the R305, and on the farm Groot Oliphantkop (Kaplan 1996). Calcified (fossilised) dunes east of Blouberg Hill may also contain very old cultural material, as well as ancient animal lairs with preserved bone.

8. LEGISLATION

Archaeological and palaeontological sites are protected by the National Monuments Act (Act No. 28 of 1969 as amended). It is an offence to disturb, remove or destroy from its original site, or excavate any such site without a permit from the National Monuments Council.

Human burial remains, including unmarked war graves, are also protected under the National Monuments Act, and the Human Tissues Act.

Historical sites such as buildings over 50 years of age, are protected under the National Monuments Act, and may not be altered without a permit from the National Monuments Council.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

Land-use in the proposed nature reserve must be controlled in order to minimise further destruction and damage to cultural resources, by the integration of protective measures into the planning and development policies, and the active participation of the public.

The proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve presents the city of Cape Town with a unique opportunity to integrate the city's cultural heritage into the overall development and management of the proposed reserve.

A Heritage Management Plan (HMP) is therefore recommended. A HMP will ensure the effective protection and sustainable development of cultural resources in the proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve. Such a plan is integral to the development and management of the proposed reserve. Conservation policies for heritage sites in South Africa are contained in the ICOMOS report (Deacon 1996).

With regard to the Battle of Blouberg, the following heritage management proposals are recommended.

1. The establishment of a battlefield tour/hiking trail. This would comprise a formal hiking trail from the proposed educational centre at Bontkop, skirting round the northern portion of the Grootberg, and ending up at the proposed battlefield museum at Bloubergsvlei.

Alternatively, or in conjunction with the above trail, smaller battlefield hiking trails behind Blouberg Hill could also be established. These trails, including a trail from Joyce's Diary (Jan Mostert's Farm), could be designed taking account of the positioning of the various battle garrisons (see Figure 6). The trail thus becomes both educational and recreational.

Battlefield tours are a well established tourist resource in KwaZulu/Natal.

2. The establishment of a Battle of Blouberg museum, or interpretative centre at the farm Bloubergsvlei. The centre would be established around the vlei, perhaps making use of the existing buildings. Controlled access to the site would be through a gate (to be called the 'Garden Cities Gate'), from the proposed southern boundary road, with parking, camping and braai facilities. The site could also be a point of departure for the shorter battlefield hiking trails. Such a centre or museum would be site-specific, focusing on the battle, and also incorporating display material.

In the longer-term, the establishment of a small research station at the vlei is also proposed, involving ongoing, controlled, supervised excavations, involving school groups and 'paying' volunteers. The system of paying volunteers is a well established practice in Israel, where volunteers pay to participate in digs. This would help contribute to the financial sustainability of the centre, and the nature reserve. Public participation in the excavation programme is to be encouraged.

3. The establishment of a memorial to the all the casualties of war to be located at the interpretative centre at Bloubergsvlei.

4. The establishment of a battlefield viewing site on top of Kleinberg, where some fighting took place. Recreation of the battle in the form of a relief model would situate the viewing site in context.

With regard to the archaeological heritage, the following management proposals are made.

1. A rescue archaeological excavation of the already seriously damaged midden at Kreeftebaai should be undertaken. This should take place soon, as the midden will continue to deteriorate. The aim of the excavation would be generate a representative sample of archaeological material for research, and possible display purposes.

If, as was proposed at the CMC meeting on 9-10-1998, the proposed 'Blaauwberg Park' nature reserve is phased in, then it makes sense to start at the coast. The shell midden should be excavated, and material used in an archaeological display at a proposed environmental/education centre at Bontkop. Archaeological display material could also easily be augmented by material from other excavations which have taken place in the Melkbosstrand area, for example at the Atlantic Beach golf village.

2. The establishment of an education centre at Bontkop. Such a centre will focus on the archaeology and colonial history of Table Bay, but could also include environmental education. The Bontkop site offers tremendous educational opportunities for school groups, tourists, and local resident. The proposed battlefield hiking trail would also start from this point.

3. The establishment of an archaeological hiking trail from the proposed education centre at Bontkop, to Kreeftebaai. The shell midden at Kreeftebaai should be stabilised, and with appropriate signage, incorporated into the proposed trail.

4. Uncontrolled 4 wheel drive and vehicle activity has seriously damaged middens and sites along the coastal strip and should be prohibited.

With regard to the World War II buildings on top of the Blouberg Hill, the following recommendation is made.

1. The buildings should be retained. Any proposed restoration and/or alteration to the buildings, is subject to approval by the National Monuments Council. 'Historical sites' over 50 years of age are protected by the National Monuments Act (Act No. 28 of 1969 as amended).

Except for the obvious cultural and historical significance of Blouberg Hill itself, the WW II buildings do not retain architectural 'value' or integrity. Proposals for the existing structures, such as tea rooms, and restaurants are, therefore, acceptable.

The historical value of Blouberg Hill and its place in the history of the region should, however, be highlighted.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Council Plans Committee.

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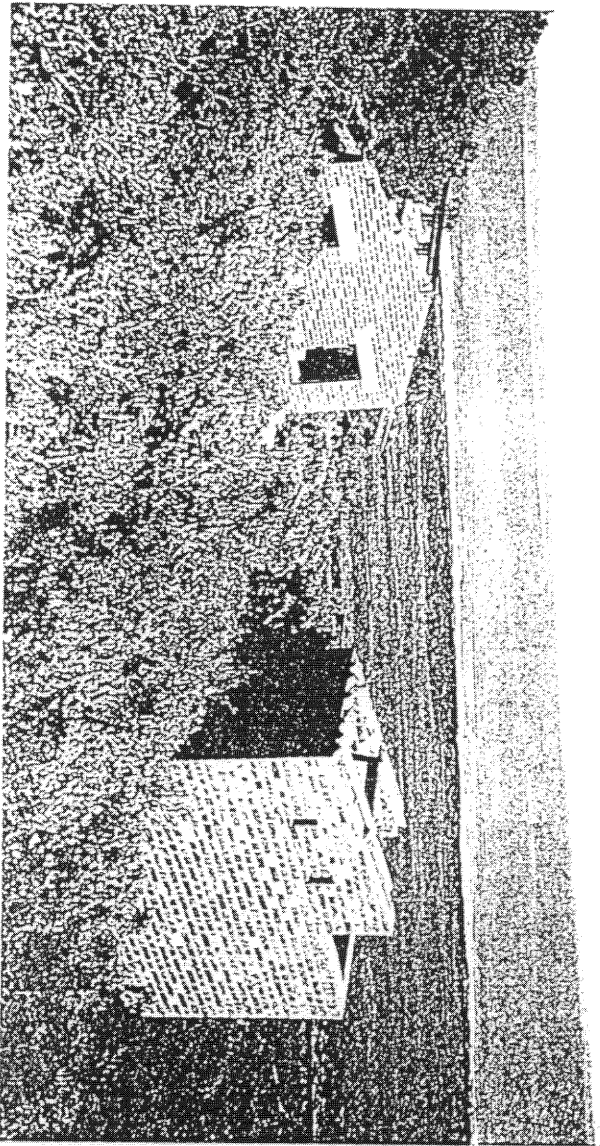


Figure 4. Archaeological study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve: World War 2 buildings.

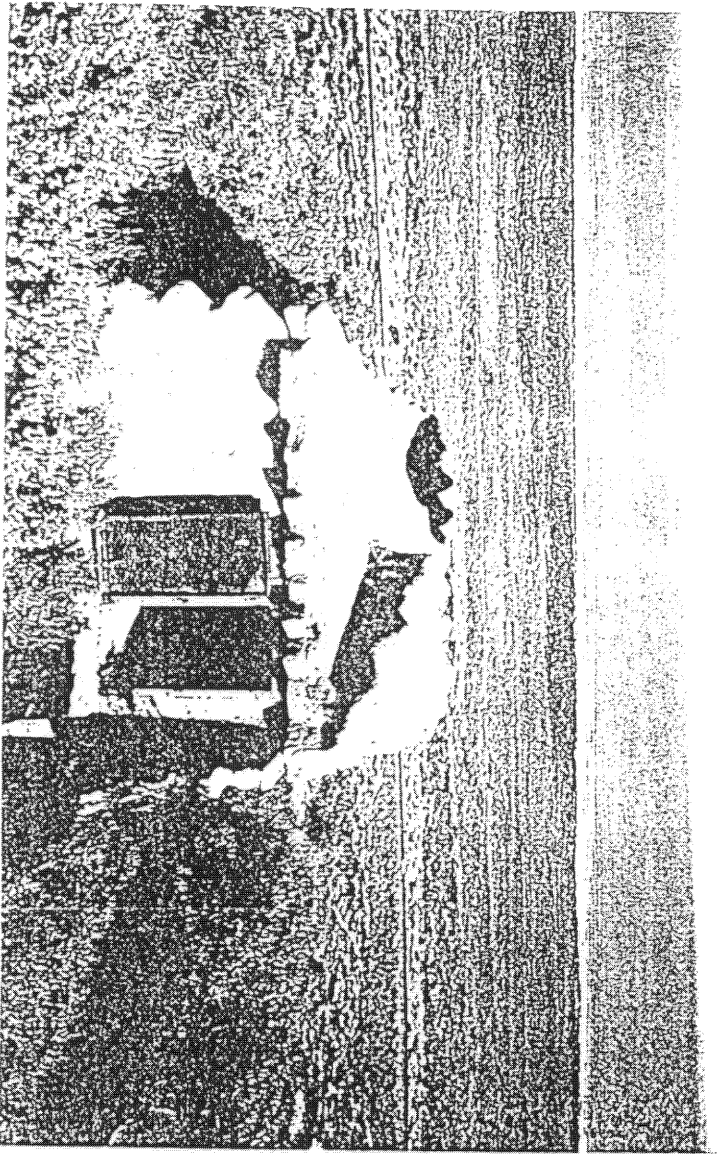


Figure 5. Archaeological study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve: World War 2 buildings.



Figure 2. Archeological study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve: shell midden at Bontkop.



Figure 3. Archeological study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve: severely damaged shell midden at Kreeftebaai.

PROPOSED BLAUWBERG NATURE RESERVE

Figure 1. Archaeological/historical study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve: study site and location of archaeological sites.

DECLARED
CONSERVATION AREA

LEGEND:

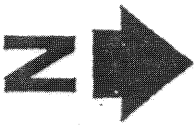
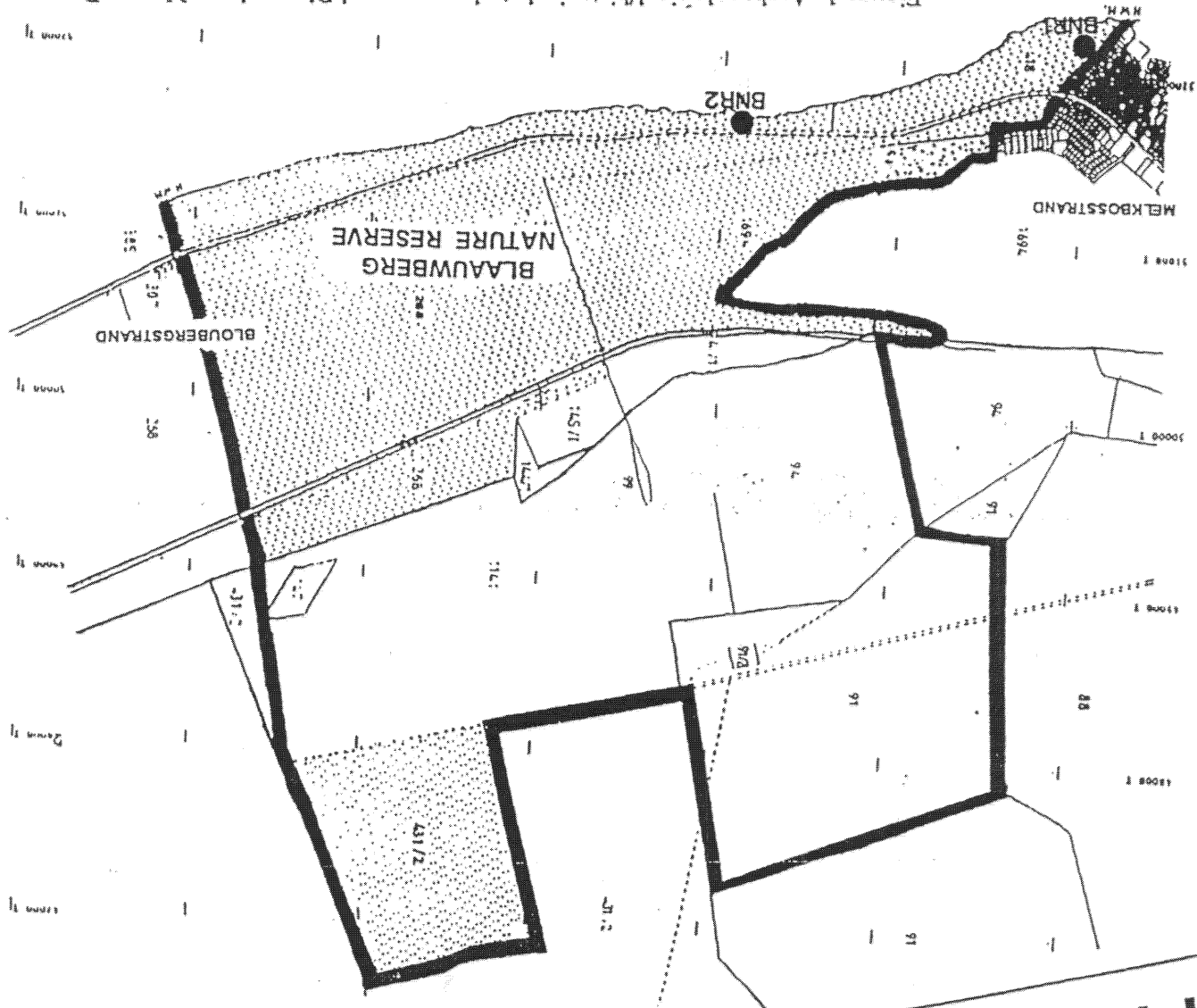
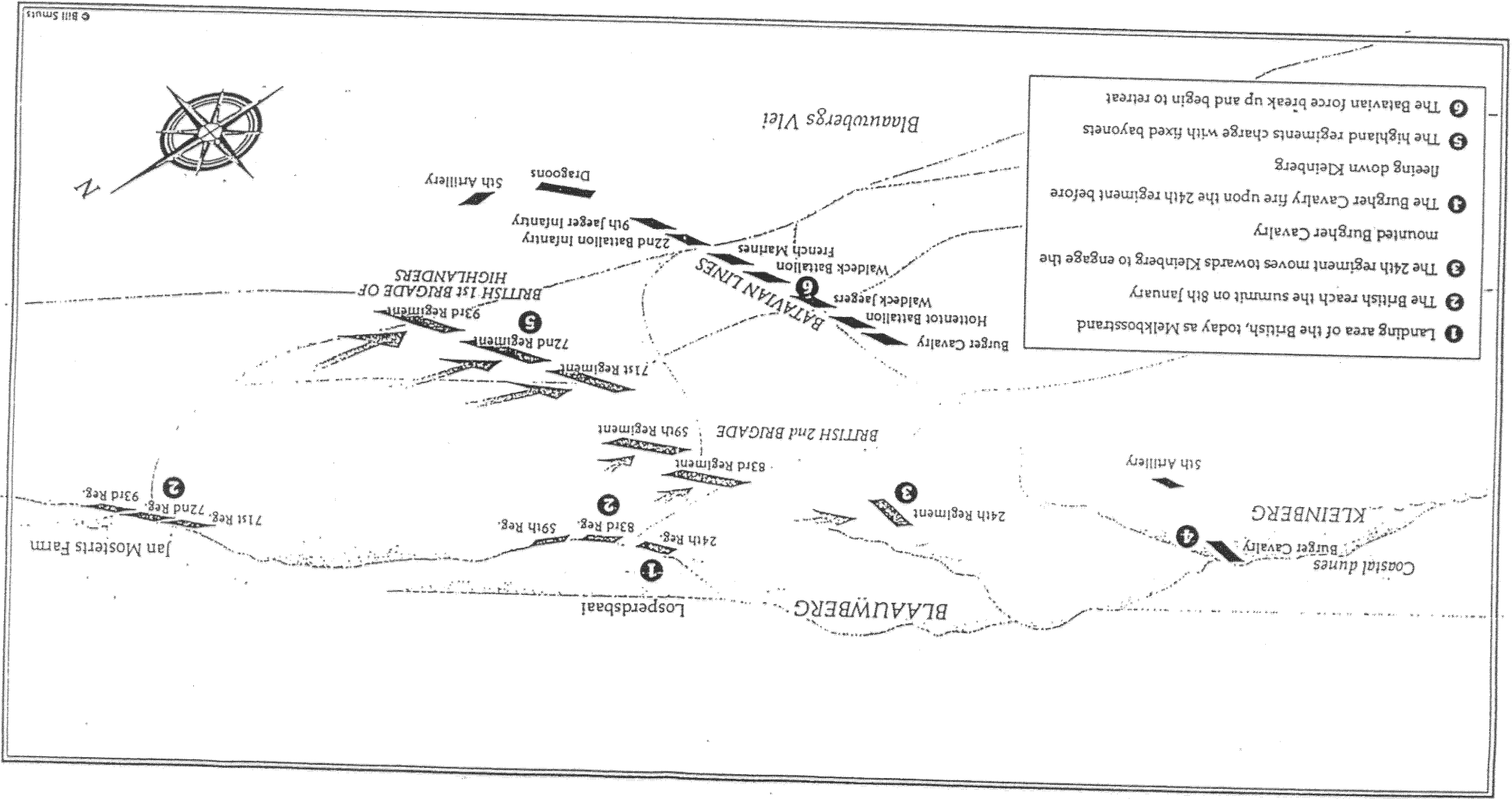
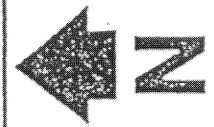
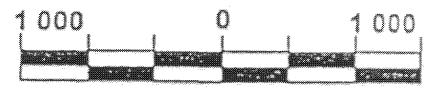
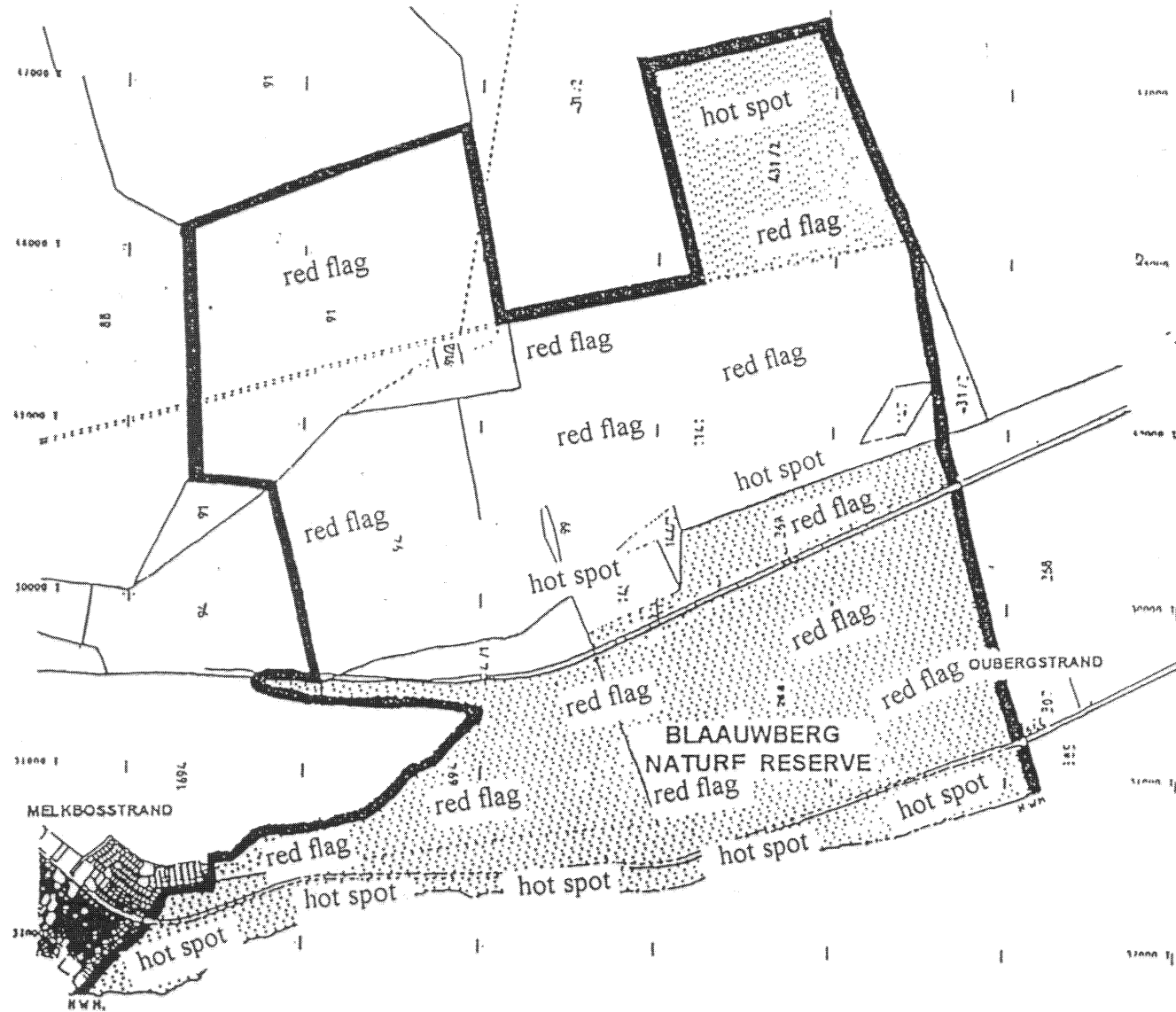


Figure 6. Archaeological study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve (Melkbosstrand).
 Batavian troops and the advance of the British from Losperdsbaai (Melkbosstrand).



PROPOSED BLAAUWBERG NATURE RESERVE



LEGEND:

 DECLARED CONSERVATION AREA

Figure 7. Archaeological/historical study, proposed Blaauwberg Nature Reserve:

(Draft outline)

BLOUBERG CONSERVATION AREA

APPROACH TO DETERMINING THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF HERITAGE RESOURCES AND THEIR SENSITIVITY

A. IDENTIFIED AND POTENTIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

- Archaeological record (precolonial, contact and colonial period)
 - area of archaeological potential
 - identified and potential shell middens
 - potential pre-colonial burial sites
 - potential cave sites
 - identified and potential battle sites
 - potential graves (victims of conflict)
 - potential historical middens
 - potential shipwreck sites
- geographical landmark (Blouberg Mountain)
- historical structures (WW II period)
- historical farmstead (colonial period)
- historical routes (colonial period)

B. DETERMINING CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

B.1. CRITERIA FOR NATURE AND LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Broad categories of significance

- Historical + *Colonial*
- Architectural
- Aesthetic
- Environmental
- Social
- Technological
- Scientific
- Educational

1) Significance of the physical evidence of a place (visible and buried)

Ability for the physical fabric of a place to demonstrate, illustrate or contribute to research about a past period, technique, design, style, way of life, attitude, tradition or association with an event or person/s.

- Age (how early)

Indigenous:

Early Stone Age
Middle Stone Age

*Representativity
representative
of the period
from*

Later Stone Age

Herder period

Colonial:

Contact period

Dutch East India Company

Transitional British/Dutch

British colony

Union of South Africa

Republic of South Africa

Democratic:

Republic of South Africa

- Scarcity value (how rare)
- Intactness/integrity (original features, extent of damage, in situ deposits, degree of organic preservation)
- Historical layering/archaeological sequence (complexity thereof)
- Presence of exceptional elements or features (some interest, considerable interest, outstanding interest)
- Representational value (outstanding, important or typical example)
- Significance of the event or person/s associated with the physical fabric or evidence

2) Associational links between a place and an event, person/s for which there is no known remaining physical evidence

- Significance of the person/s or event associated with the site
- Intimacy of association
- Duration of association
- Intactness and evocative quality of a place relative to period of association

3) Experiential value of a place

This includes the qualities, which give a place historical character, a sense of continuity or connectedness with the past. It encompasses the physical properties (scale, form, edges, materials, landscaping, texture, focal points, views, orientation) of a place and its setting. It also encompasses the non-visual qualities of a place.

- Historical narrative qualities
- Interpretative qualities or potential for public display (presence of visible artifacts or features, intrinsically interesting material, likely to appeal to public imagination)
- Visual spatial linkages between places
- Relationship between a place and its setting
- Physical access to or location of a site

B.2. STATE OF INFORMATION

Information used to substantiate, understand and authenticate significance

This is determined by assessing the type and degree of investigation carried out or information available on the significance of a site, area or immediate vicinity (recorded, tested and/r mentioned in publication/ researched and adequately reported). It is also determined by assessing the method/approach used in the survey or excavation, documentary research oral history, analysis or interpretation of the significance of the site.

- Good
- Good but incomplete
- Limited
- Poor

B.3. GRADING SIGNIFICANCE

- Outstanding
- Significant
- Some significance
- Contributing
- Potential value e.g. potential for future archaeological investigation/public display

B.4. ASSESSMENT AT VARIOUS SCALES

- National context
- Regional (CMA-West Coast) context
- Overall cultural landscape of the BCA
- Site context

B.5. STATUTORY PROTECTION

- Formal protection
 - declared conservation area
- General protection
 - structures older than 60 years
 - archaeological remains older than 100 years
 - shipwrecks older than 70 years

C. CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING SENSITIVITY

- vulnerability to disturbance
- irreplaceability of physical evidence
- vulnerability caused by past damage, physical condition
- in danger or in need of protection

potential to reveal sites of specific interest.

(Draft outline)

BLOUBERG CONSERVATION AREA

PROCEDURES FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD

1. NATURE OF SIGNIFICANCE

High archaeological significance based on criteria above

2. ISSUES

- Limited information about the location and extent of archaeological sites
- J Kaplan report should be seen as a baseline study. Site specific proposals will need to be subject to a archaeological impact assessments.
- Environmental processes may have exposed other sites since survey in 1998
- Need to start implementing proposals

*Impact potential
and proposal*

3. NATURE OF PROPOSALS

- Public access: parking facilities; hiking trails; roads; etc.
- Rehabilitation of natural environment
- Public information on archaeological record (?)

4. NATURE OF INTERVENTIONS (DAMAGE/DISTURBANCE)

- Any activity or structure likely to result in the physical disturbance of the archaeological remains or evidence
- Any activity or structure likely to intrude on the experiential qualities of a site

4.1. Physical impacts (direct or indirect)

- Removal of ~~alien~~ ^{alien} vegetation (*eg alien*).
- Dune stabilization
- Compaction and disturbance of deposits caused by vehicular and pedestrian access
- Any ground leveling for parking facilities, paths, roads etc
- New structures including signage, fencing, ablation facilities, litter bins
- Public awareness about the existence of sites (vandalism, removal of artifacts)

4.2. Impacts on the experiential qualities

- Locating new structures, routes, parking areas, signage or activity which would interfere with the spatial, visual or interpretative qualities of the site and its relationship with its setting.
- Lack of interpretation (on site/off site)

5. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

- Archaeological remains
- Archaeological impact assessment

6. PROCEDURES

6.1. General (unknown sites)

Phase 1 survey

- ~~Specific area to be affected by proposals~~ *not applicable*
- ~~Need to include below ground testing~~

Objective/brief:

- Establish the location of any sites.
 - Establish the extent of the site ~~should be established~~
 - Significance (assessment criteria)
 - Vulnerability of the site (past damage/disturbance)
- ASUB*
- Impact of intervention on significance
- Propose alternatives to mitigate any direct or indirect impact
 - Recommend whether the intervention should proceed and what conditions should apply
 - Recommendations for interpretation and public access to the site
 - Recommendations for monitoring

6.2. Specific sites: Kreeftebaai

Fencing of existing parking area

Recommendations of the J. Kaplan report

- A rescue archaeological excavation of the already seriously damaged midden should be undertaken. Damage has been caused by 4 x 4 wheel drive and natural processes.

- An archaeological display area should be established at the proposed education and environmental center at Bontkop. Material from the Kreeftebaai site could be augmented by material excavated from other sites in the area.
- In situ archaeological remains should be stabilized and with appropriate signage incorporated into the proposed hiking trail.

Further archaeological investigations required:

Phase 1/2 survey

- Specific area affected by proposals
- Review of baseline study information
- Below ground testing

Objective:

- Establish the location of any other sites in the area to be affected by the proposal.
- Determine whether the existing parking area in proximity to the shell midden contributing to its further damage and whether the "formalization" of this area as a parking facility will result in any further damage to this or other sites.
- This assessment should take into account the known and potential scientific and educational significance and the physical and experiential qualities of archaeological remains.
- If there are significant negative impacts, then make recommendations for the mitigation any further or future negative impact
- Establish whether a rescue excavation of the shell midden should be undertaken, whether and how in situ remains should be stabilized and protected from any further damage (or both).
- Assess the potential for and make recommendations for on-site/off site interpretation of the shell midden.
- If necessary, make recommendations for ongoing monitoring

1B. Amount to upgraded TOR

(*)

1B.

National + Provincial Heritage Site.

Three Bars.

Brooks Bend 9/45.

Castle Hill 9/2/073/22.

Fort Harb. 9/2/502/7.

Sigara