

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
A PORTION OF PORTION 2 OF THE FARM  
KRANSVLEI NO 205/11  
CLANWILLIAM**

Prepared for

**ENVIRODINAMIK**

By

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## **Executive summary**

Envirodinamik Western Cape Environmental Consultants requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of a Portion of Portion 2 of the Farm Kransvlei No. 205/11 Clanwilliam, in the Western Cape Province.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected property envisages the development of a nine-hole Golf Estate and residential housing development comprising approximately 344 units.

The extent of the proposed development (some 100 ha) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the South African Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological heritage sites and remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, to assess the significance of the potential impacts and to propose measures to mitigate against the impacts.

Stone Age tools were located during the baseline study, but are very thinly dispersed over the surrounding landscape.

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to development activities.

The specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of a Portion of Portion 2 of the farm Kransvlei No. 205/11 Clanwilliam, has rated the potential impacts to archaeological material as being low provided that.

- Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502).

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background and brief**

Envirodinamik Environmental Consultants requested the Agency for Cultural Resource Management to undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of a Portion of Portion 2 of the Farm Kransvlei No. 205/11 Clanwilliam, in the Western Cape Province

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the property envisages the development of a nine-hole Golf Estate and residential housing development comprising approximately 344 erven.

The extent of the proposed development (some 100 ha) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the South African Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

The aim of the study is to locate, identify and map archaeological remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, and to propose measures to mitigate against the impact.

## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were:

- to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed site;
- to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance within the proposed site;
- to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites within the proposed site;
- to assess the status and significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
- to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist within the proposed site

### **3. THE STUDY SITE**

A site locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the proposed site is illustrated in Figure 2.

The site is located alongside the Clanwilliam Dam, about 5 kms south of the town of Clanwilliam. Access to the property is via a gravel road off the N7.

The site is currently vacant, with relatively steep, north-north-east facing vegetated slopes overlooking the dam (Figures 3-6). Some old diggings for road gravel occur alongside the main access road through the property, while several two-track gravel roads lead to the top of the kopje.

A modern, ruined farmhouse and several outbuildings are located on the northeastern edge of the farm, on land currently owned by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (Figure 7).

The lands over the entire top of the property are severely disturbed and degraded. Large-scale quarrying has occurred over a large area to the south of the proposed site, resulting in extensive erosion, while farming of dry land crops occur to the southwest (Figures 8 & 9).

There are no rocky outcroppings that occur on the affected property.

### **4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY**

#### **4.1 Method of survey**

The approach followed in the archaeological study entailed a detailed foot survey of the proposed site.

The disturbed and degraded lands southwest and south of the proposed site were also searched for archaeological heritage remains.

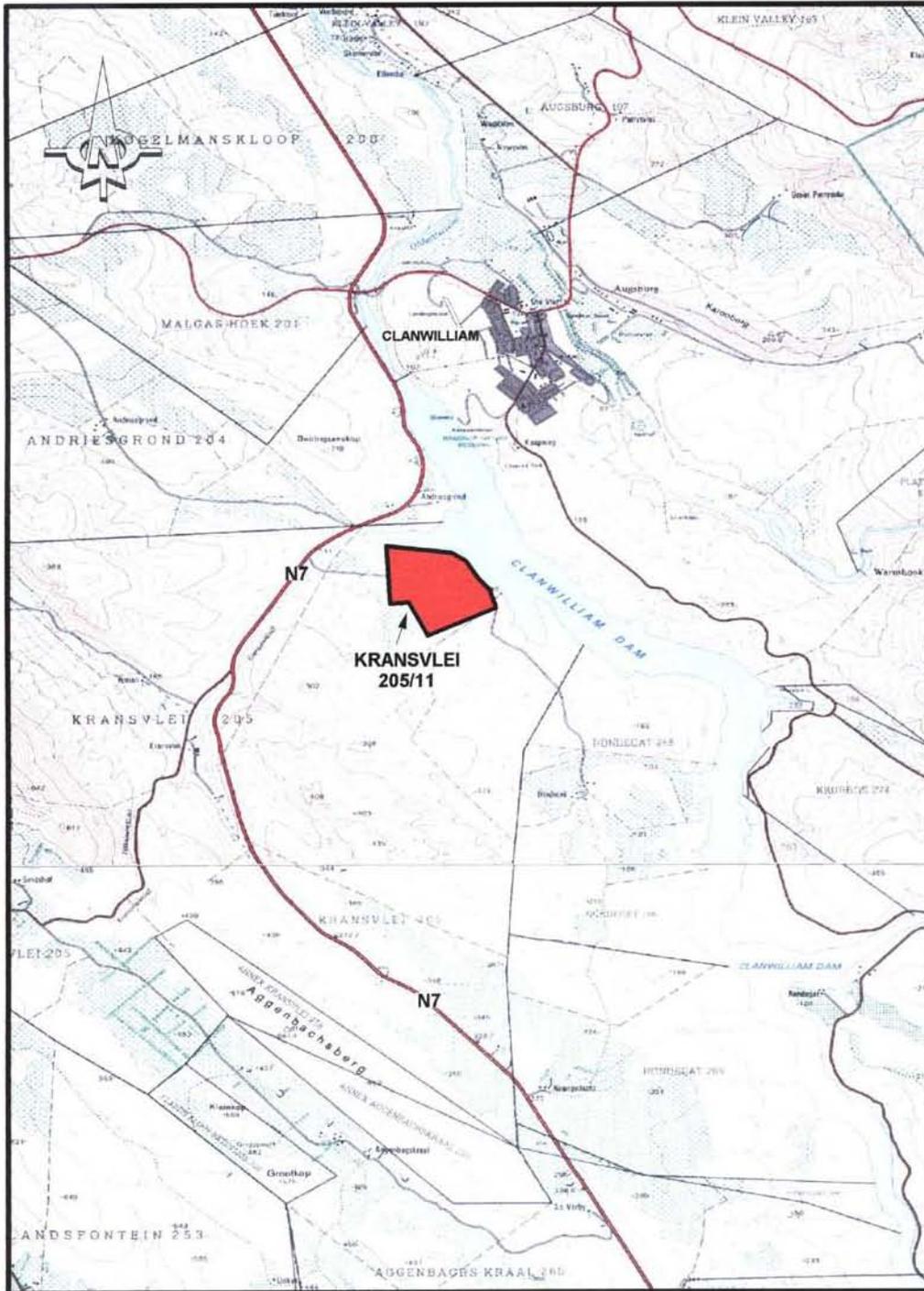
The site visit and assessment took place over 2 days, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2005.

More visible archaeological occurrences were recorded and given a co-ordinate using a Gamin Gecko 201 GPS set on map datum WGS 84.

A desk-top study was also undertaken.

### **5. LIMITATIONS**

There were no limitations associated with the proposed project.



**LOCALITY PLAN**  
**Farm 205/11 (portion of portion 2)**  
**Kransvlei, Clanwilliam**  
**1 : 50 000 TOPOGRAPHICAL**  
**INFORMATION**



Figure 1.



**AERIAL PHOTO**  
**FARM 205/11 (PORTION OF PORTION 2)**  
**KRANSVLEI, CLANWILLIAM**



Figure 2.



Figure 3. View of the site facing north with Clanwilliam Dam in the background.



Figure 4. View of the site facing north east with Clanwilliam Dam in the background.



Figure 5. View of the facing east site with Clanwilliam Dam in the background.



Figure 6. View of the site facing north east.



Figure 7. Ruined remains of the modern farmhouse.



Figure 8. View of the highly disturbed lands south of the proposed site.



Figure 9. View of the highly disturbed lands southwest of the proposed site.

## **6. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

### **6.1 The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999)**

#### **6.1.1 Structures (Section 34 (1))**

No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), or Heritage Western Cape.

#### **6.1.2 Archaeology (Section 35 (4))**

No person may, without a permit issued by the SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object.

#### **6.1.3 Burial grounds and graves (Section 36 (3))**

No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority.

## 7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND DESCRIPTION

### Kransvlei 1 (GPS reading S 32° 12 788 E 18° 52 970)

Eight Later Stone Age<sup>1</sup> (LSA) tools, including five quartz flakes, one quartz chunk, one quartz irregular core, and a silcrete miscellaneous retouched piece were located in several open sandy clearings on the flatter, vegetated north facing slopes overlooking the Clanwilliam Dam, immediately below the main access road (Figure 10).

Several more quartz flakes and chunks were noted in open patches of ground on the same slopes some 30-40 m east of the Kransvlei 1.

***The site has been graded low local significance and no mitigation is required.***

### Kransvlei 2 (GPS reading S 32° 12 927 E 18° 52 490)

Seven Early Stone Age<sup>2</sup> (ESA) and Middle Stone Age<sup>3</sup> (MSA) tools, including three large quartzite flakes, two chunks, and two smaller (MSA) triangular flakes were located among a fairly extensive, flat outcropping of quartzite close to a small footpath immediately alongside the southern bank of the Clanwilliam Dam (Figures 10 & 11). A few more tools were noted further along the gravel bank.

***The site has been graded low local significance and no mitigation is required.***

#### 7.1 Other finds

The occasional stone tool was located in the surrounding landscape during the baseline survey.

One LSA silcrete scraper was found on the higher north facing slopes of the property, near the top of the property, while several more LSA tools were located on the steep, loose gravelly east facing slopes of the property.

Two ESA quartzite flakes were found in one of several borrow pits alongside the main gravel road, while one MSA flake was located alongside a small eroded stream bank in the northwestern portion of the property.

The highly disturbed and degraded areas lying immediately outside of the proposed site (refer to Figures 2, 8 & 9) were also searched for archaeological remains, where the occasional flake tool was found.

No rocky outcrops occur on the affected site, or in the immediate surrounding landscape that may indicate the presence of protected Bushman paintings. Renbaan Cave (Kaplan 1987) is located about 5 kms south of the proposed site.

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<sup>1</sup> A term used to describe the last 20 000 years of pre-colonial history in southern Africa

<sup>2</sup> A term used to describe the period between 2 million and 200 000 years ago.

<sup>3</sup> A term used to describe the period between 200 000 and 20 000 years ago.



Figure 10. Collection of stone tools. Scale is in cm.



Figure 11. Context in which the stone tools were found.

According to Mr. Royden Yates of the Pre-colonial Archaeology Division at Iziko:SA Museum, ESA tools have been found on the Farm Andriesgrond, immediately northwest of Kransvlei.

Andriesgrond Farm also contains several well-known LSA sites that have been investigated by the University of Cape Town, Department of Archaeology (Parkington 1980).

There are other archaeological sites (including rock art sites) in the surrounding region, but these also located some distance from Kransvlei.

## **8. IMPACT STATEMENT**

The impact of the proposed development of a Portion of Portion 2 of the farm Kransvlei No. 205/11 Clanwilliam on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be low.

The probability of locating significant archaeological heritage remains during implementation (i.e. the Construction Phase) of the project is likely to be improbable.

Human burials may be exposed or uncovered during earthworks and excavations.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The archaeological impact assessment of a Portion of Portion 2 of the Farm Kransvlei 205/11 Clanwilliam, has rated the potential impacts to archaeological material as being low provided that:

- Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502).

## 10. REFERENCES

Kaplan, J. 1987. Settlement and subsistence at Renbaan Cave. In: Parkington, J. & Hall, M. (eds). Papers in the prehistory of the Western Cape, South Africa. 350-376. Oxford. British Archaeological Reports International Series 332

Parkington, J, E. 1980. Time and place: some observations on spatial and temporal patterning in the Late Stone Age sequence in southern Africa. South African Archaeological Bulletin 35:73-83.