



**Agency for Cultural Resource Management**  
Specialists in Archeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

PO Box 159 Ribbeck West 7306 Phone/Fax 022 461 2755  
Email: acrm@wvnet.co.za Cellular: 082-821 0172

10/06/03

3 June 2003

Ms Megan Anderson  
Megan Anderson Landscape Architects  
37 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Claremont  
7708

Dear Megan

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT ELANDS BAY BORROW PITS**

The site visit took place on Monday 2 June 2003 and no significant archaeological remains were located during the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed Elands Bay borrow pits.

**Background**

The site is located just after the bridge, on the southern side of the Verlorenlei, approximately 2.5 km east of the town of Elands Bay on the Cape West coast (Figure 1).

The proposed project entails the removal of borrow material for road upgrading purposes.

Three borrow areas have been identified. The unshaded areas B, C and D will not be used as they are located within sensitive vegetation areas. Borrow area A is for proposed future use. However, the whole site was searched for archaeological remains.

**Results of the impact assessment**

**Borrow area A**

The site is already quite disturbed. At least three vehicle tracks cut across the site, as well as a number of small footpaths. The site appears to be overgrazed, while trampling is also evident. Dune mole rate activity is extensive across the site. Some erosion also occurs.

A relatively large scatter of fragmented shellfish remains occur in the western portion of the site, within the shaded and unshaded areas. Black Mussels (*Choromytilus meridionalis*) dominate the shellfish remains, while a few fragments of limpets and some whelk also occur. The site is quite disturbed and dune mole rat activity is extensive. Domestic refuse is also evident on the site.

06-2003 08:27 FROM:ACRM 0224612755 TO:0216712989 P:02

The shellfish scatter is confined to the surface of the site. No subsurface material was located in the unconsolidated coarse brown sands. A few Later Stone Age<sup>1</sup> (LSA) quartz flakes, some quartz chunks and a quartz core were found scattered on the site.

**Significance of finds:** low

**Suggested mitigation:** none required.

**Borrow area B**

Overall, Borrow Area B, C and D are already severely degraded and disturbed, as they are located alongside an existing large borrow area (see Figure 1).

No archaeological material was located in Borrow Area B.

**Borrow area C**

The site is well vegetated, with a few open spaces occurring. Some sandstone outcroppings occur on the steep slopes of the site. The outcroppings were searched for rock paintings, but none were located. Two quartz flakes were located on the eroded lower slopes.

**Borrow area D**

A handful of quartz and silcrete flakes and chunks were located in Borrow Area D. Flaked and bashed/crushed quartz pebbles were also noted on the site. A few flakes were located on a talus below a small outcropping of sandstone. Two Middle Stone Age<sup>2</sup> (MSA) flakes and one MSA blade in quartzite were also found on the slopes overlooking the existing borrow pit.

Two MSA and two Early Stone Age<sup>3</sup> (ESA) flakes were located in the existing borrow area.

**Significance of finds:** low

**Suggested mitigation:** none required

<sup>1</sup> A term referring to the last 20 000 years of precolonial history in southern Africa.  
<sup>2</sup> A term referring to the period between 200 000 and 20 000 years ago.  
<sup>3</sup> A term referring to the period between 2 million and 200 000 years ago.

MLA

PHONE NO. : 021 613987

Jun. 11 2003 02:44PM P04

15-2003 08:27 FROM:FCRM

0224612755

TO:0215713989

P:03

**Conclusion**

The study of the proposed project revealed no significant surface or sub-surface evidences of archaeological material.

Overall, the archaeological remains located during the study are not considered to be significant or important.

The impact of the proposed project on archaeological remains is likely to be low to negligible.

The probability of locating any significant archaeological remains during implementation of the project is also likely to be low.

In general, the receiving environment is not considered to be archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable, or threatened.

**Recommendations**

The project should be allowed to proceed as planned.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan



