

**PHASE 1 HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT ON A  
PORTION OF THE FARM KEBOES 37, NEAR KANONEILAND,  
SIYANDA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

**Peter B Beaumont**

c/o Archaeology Department

McGregor Museum

PO Box 316

8300 Kimberley

Tel 053 - 842 0986 or 053 - 839 2700

Fax 053 - 842 1433

e-mail [se@museumsnc.co.za](mailto:se@museumsnc.co.za)

**CONSULTANT**

**Marquerite Geldenhuys**

**MEG Environmental Impact Studies**

Tweedelaan 13

Oosterville

8801 Upington

Tel 054 - 332 2781

Fax 054 – 332 2781

e-mail [megois@intekom.co.za](mailto:megois@intekom.co.za)

*Received: 17 March 2008*

29 January 2008

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this study was to establish if any heritage sites were present on a 900 ha portion of the farm Keboes 37, situated near the Orange River at Kanoneiland, some 30 km south – west of Upington, in the Siyanda District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province. A 1.5 day – long inspection of a slightly sloping gritty beige sand surface, sparsely covered by grass, with bushes mainly along drainage lines, revealed a low density of amorphous lithics, but no sites, fossil bones or graves of any age. It is consequently considered that this ground has no heritage potential and that its proposed use for the growing of grapes, watermelons, spanspek, and animal fodder, will have no impact on the heritage resources of the Northern Cape.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Karsten Boerdery is a sophisticated Northern Cape - based farming enterprise that is particularly focused on the production of table grapes for the European Union market. They latterly decided to expand their Kanoneiland operation by extending the water supply further upslope in stages to eventually cover a 900 ha area on abutting Keboes 37. These new fields are to be used for growing of more grapes, watermelon and spanspek by drip – irrigation, as also animal fodder by means of centre – pivots.

This report is part of an EIA that is being compiled by M Geldenhuys of MEG Environmental Impact Studies on behalf of Karsten Boerdery.

## **REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

About 10 km to the west, on the farm Zoovoorby 458, there are specularite workings and a nearby cave containing LSA and MSA that Andy Smith investigated in 1980 (Smith 1995). And some 35 km to the east is the Kalkgaten site on the farm Ratel Draai, where there is a 4.5 m sequence of calcified marls with sparse *in situ* Late Acheulean (Beaumont, Smith and Vogel, 1995).

## **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

The investigated 900 ha portion of the farm Keboes 37 lies about 30 km south – west of Upington, and just south of the R27 near Kanoneiland in the Siyanda District Municipality of the Northern Cape (Fig. 1). This flat terrain, only occasionally broken by low outcrops, slopes gently for about 50 m southwards from ~837 – 789 m, and is predominately covered by grass, with bushes mainly along a few shallow drainage lines (Figs. 2 – 4). I spent 1.5 days inspecting the full extent of that ground, by driving and walking over it slowly and systematically, on Friday 25 and Saturday 26 January 2008, in the company of Willem van Aarde of Karsten Boerdery.

## **SUPERFICIAL GEOLOGY**

Outcrops, and pits dug by Karsten Boerdery, show that weathered Keimoes Suite granitoids (Kent 1980) are usually directly overlain by 0 – 1 m of gritty beige – brown sand seemingly derived from bedrock decomposition, with a variable admixture of Kalahari sand. However, in other sections, the unconsolidated superficial sediments were seen to be comprised of a upper gritty beige – brown sand and a rather weakly developed, lower calcrete zone that was sometimes up to 0.5 m thick.

## **HERITAGE FINDINGS**

Inspection soon revealed that lithics were very sparse and almost entirely based on easily identifiable brown jasper, thereby making it possible for Willem to help with the search, which he did over the entire period. Recovered specimens were confined to chips, chunks, irregular flakes and cores based on river – rounded cobbles that almost certainly came from a gravel occurrence that is or was located downslope towards the Orange River (Figs. 5 – 9). Those from on or in the gritty beige – brown surface sand were seen to be entirely fresh, and with no clear signs of intentional faceting, which suggests an ascription to some uncertain phase of the LSA. However, a calcrete – coated specimen from the lower sediments in a pit profile, and a few others from eroded areas, do show slight smoothing and may be taken to indicate an earlier human presence too. No actual sites, fossil bones or graves of any age were seen by us within the investigated area.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

My conclusion is that this farm portion is bereft of heritage potential and that its use for farming purposes will have no impact on the heritage resources of the Northern Cape.

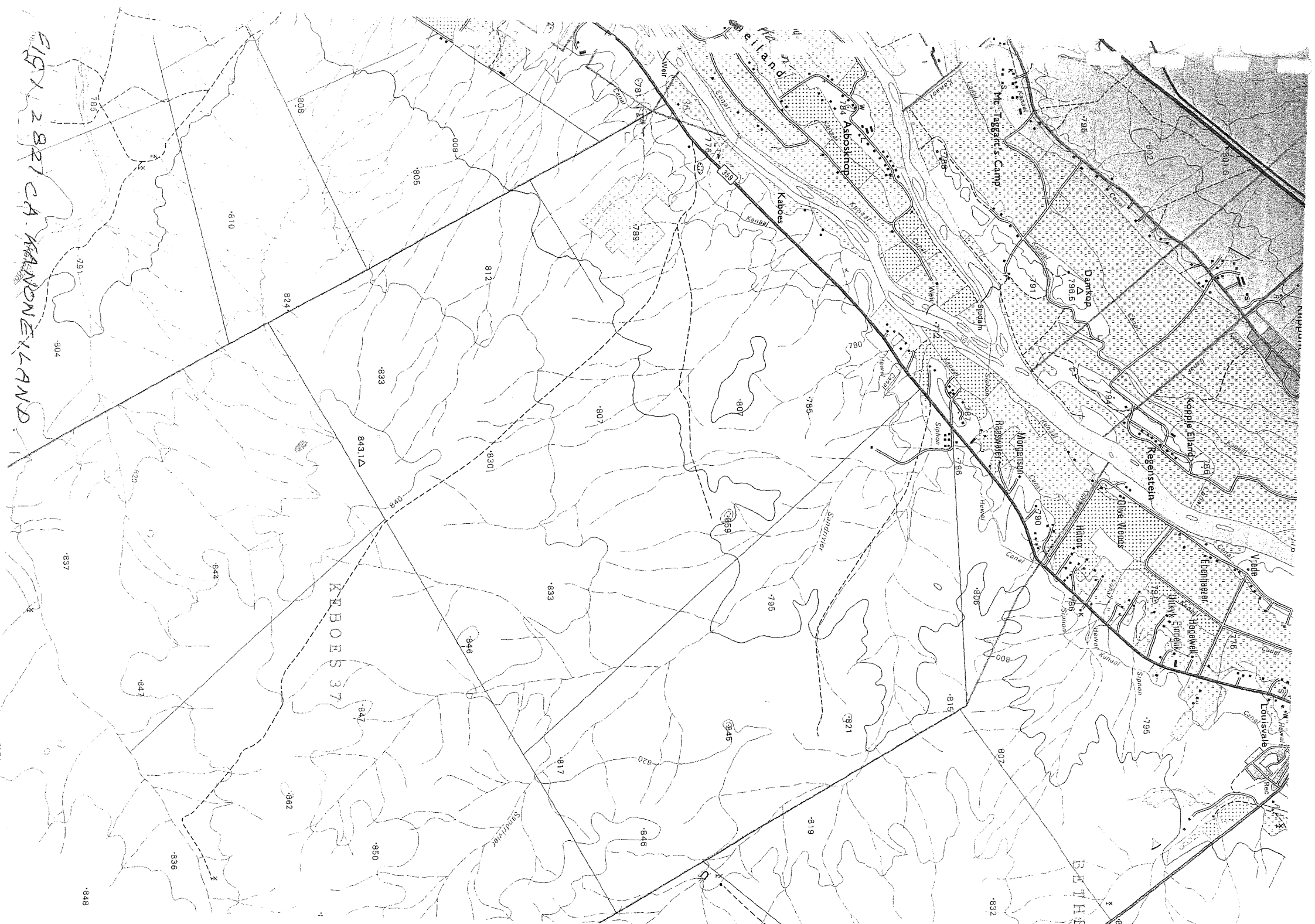
## REFERENCES

Beaumont, P.B., Smith, A.B. & Vogel, J.C. 1995. Before the Einiqua: The Archaeology of the Frontier Zone. In A.B. Smith (ed.) *Einiqualand*, pp. 236 – 264. Rondebosch, UCT Press.

Kent, L.E. (ed.) 1980. Stratigraphy of South Africa. Part 1. *Geol. Survey of S. Afr. Handbook* 8, 1 – 690.

Smith, A.B. Archaeological Observations along the Orange River and its Hinterland. In A.B. Smith (ed.) *Einiqualand*, pp. 265 - 300. Rondebosch, UCT Press.

FIG 1 2821 CA MANONDEILAND



REBOES 37

BETH

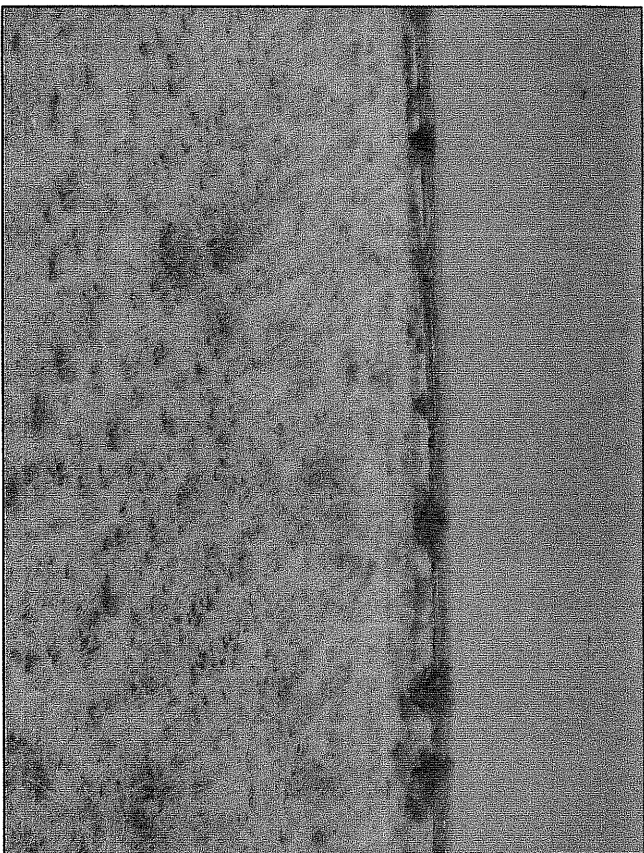


FIG. 2. VIEW TO N

FIG. 3. VIEW TO S

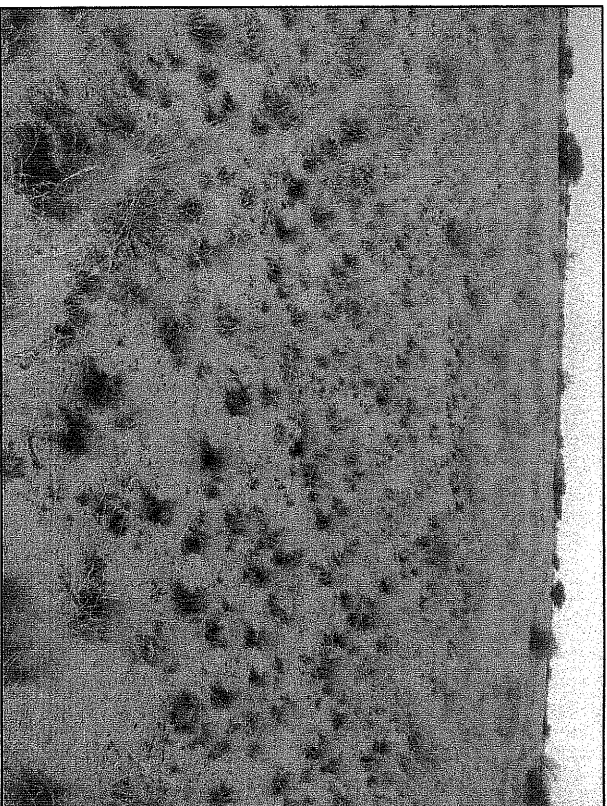
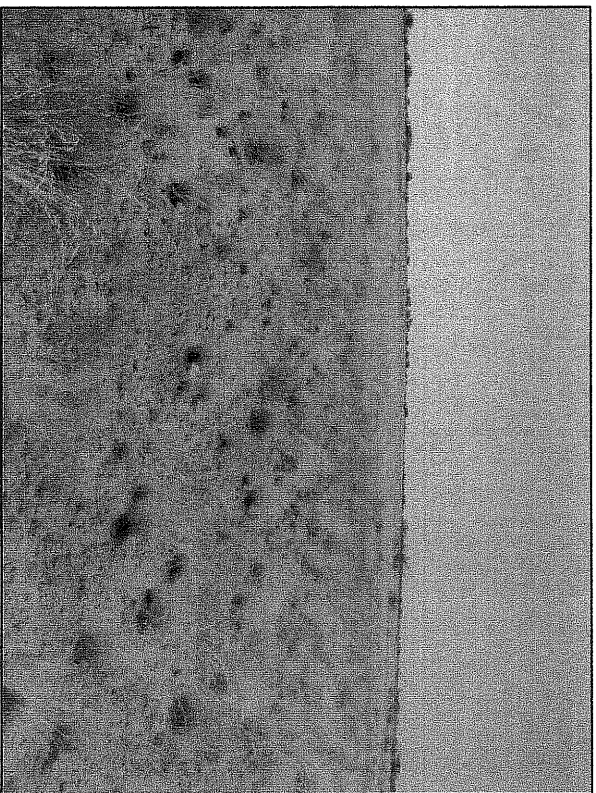


FIG. 4. VIEW TO E



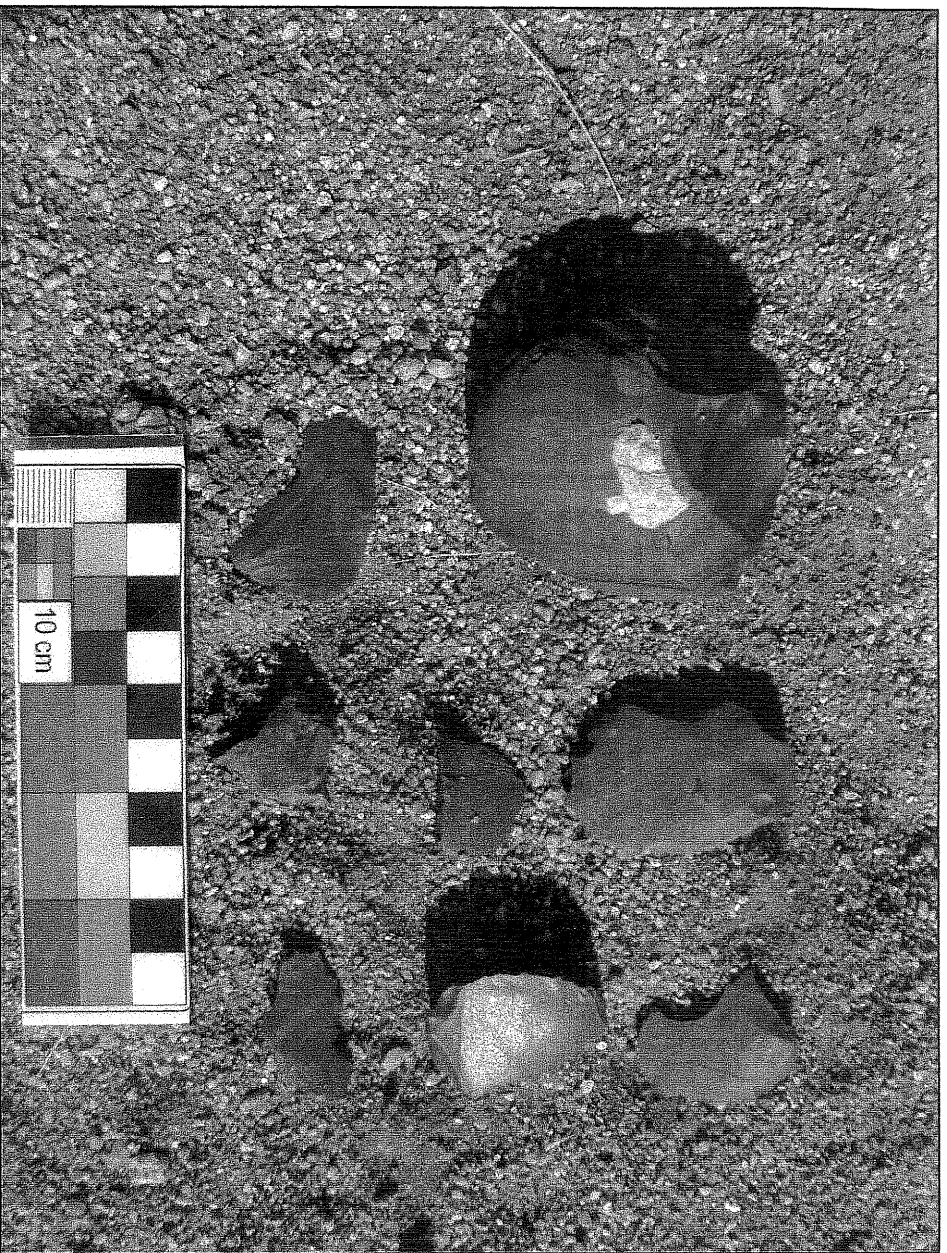


FIG 5

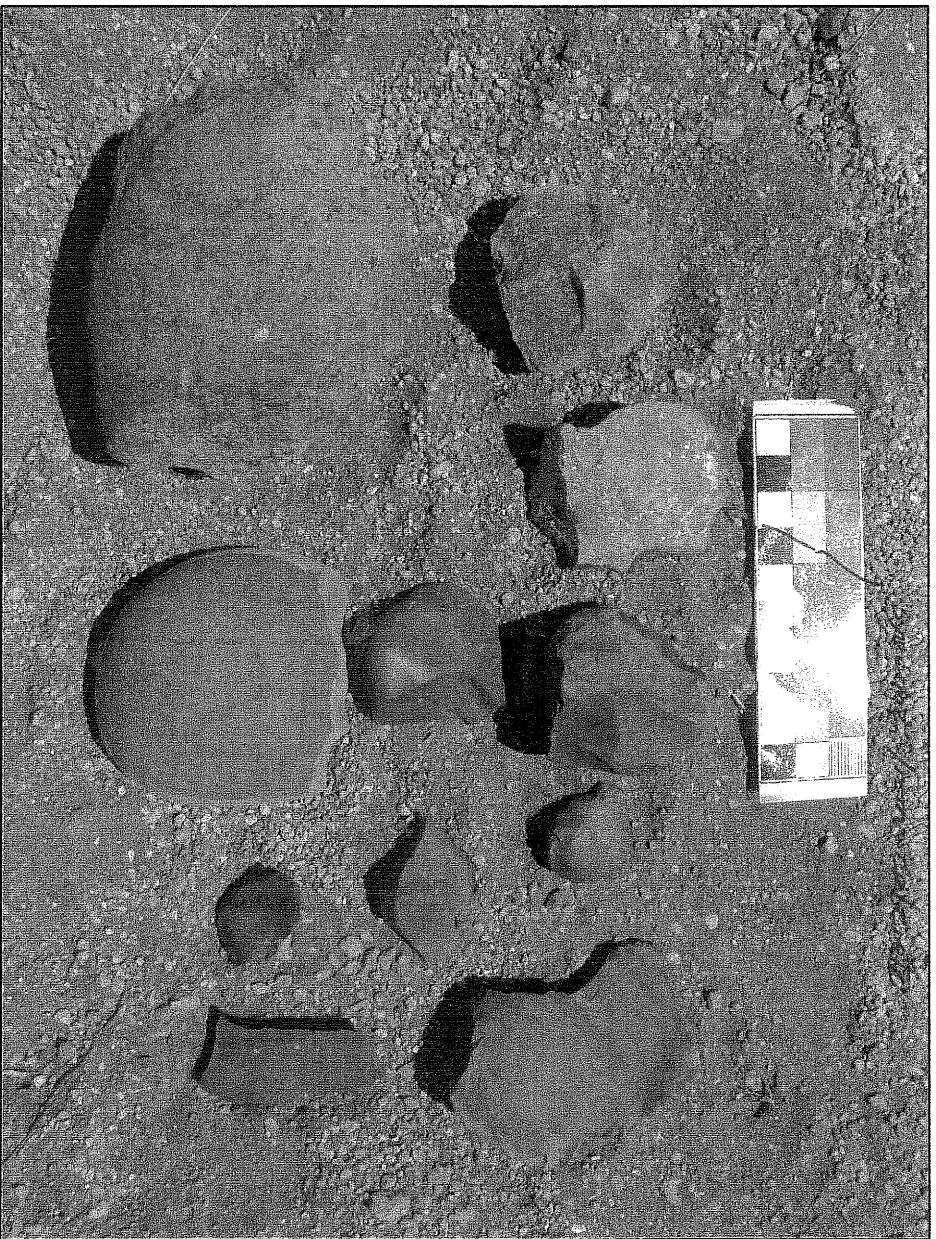


FIG 6



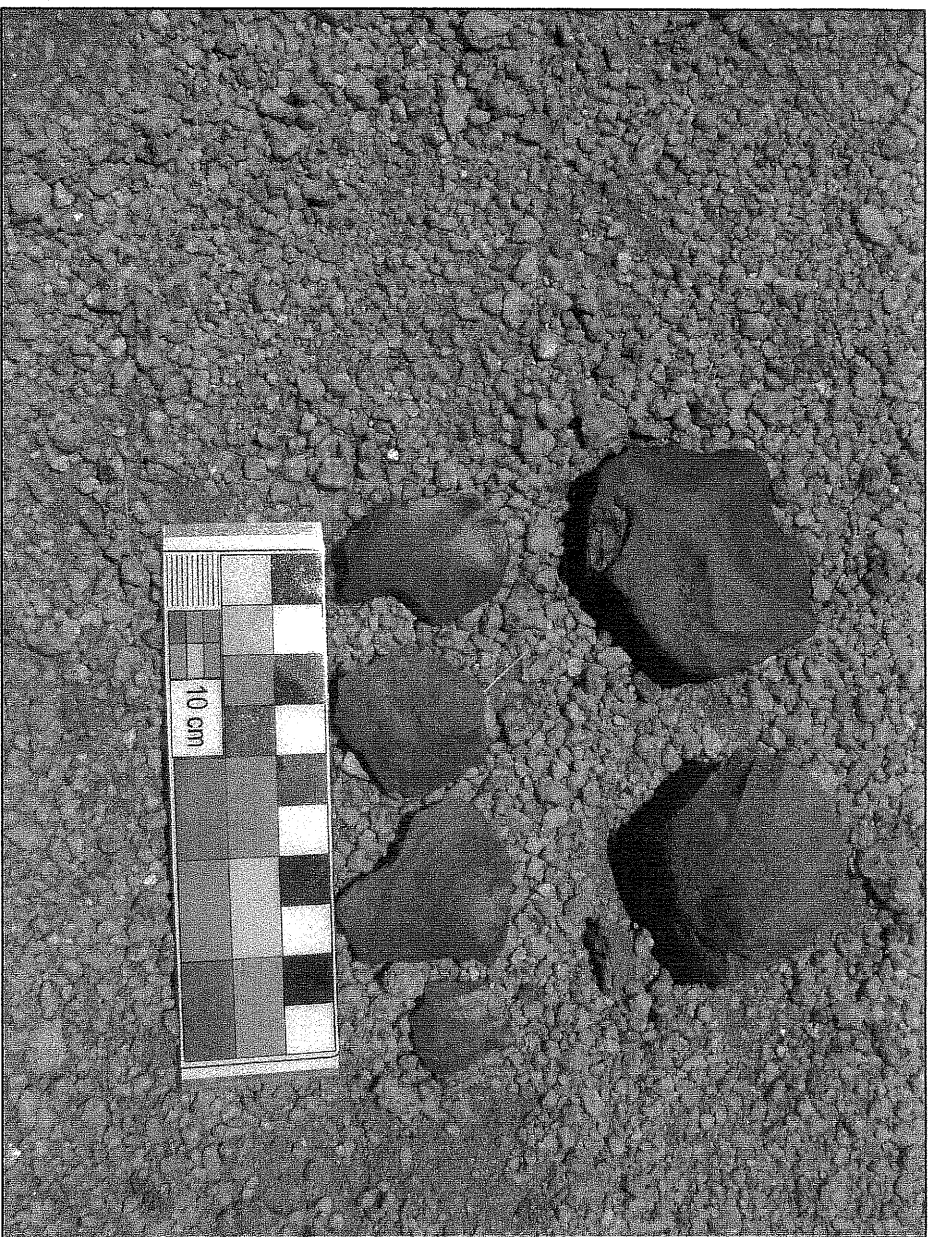


Fig 7



Fig 8



FIG 9.