

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
ERVEN 3002, 3326 & 3327 (HORNLEE)
KNYSNA**

Prepared for

HILLAND ASSOCIATES

Client: **Mr Andrew Wiseman**

By

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*NID
visual impact
assessment as part of
the HIA.*

**JUNE
2006**

Executive summary

Hilland Associates, on behalf of Mr Andrew Wiseman of Own Haven Housing Association, requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for a proposed housing development on Erven 3302, 3326 and 3327 in Hornlee, Kynsna, in the Western Cape Province.

The proposal is for a medium income housing development consisting of a total of 112 units.

Located in the suburb of Hornlee, in Kynsna, the subject property is situated on the upper eastern slopes of the Rykmanshoogte neighbourhood, on Vigilance Drive, the main access link between George Rex Drive, the Kynsna industrial area and the N2. The area is located within an existing middle income residential area and is surrounded by urban and land uses, such as residential and light industrial.

The extent of the proposed development (about 2.4 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.

A 'Notification of Intent to Develop' form has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscape Committee (BELCOM) for comment.

A copy of the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment report has been included with this submission.

Surprisingly, both low and medium density scatters of Middle Stone Age and Later Stone Age tools were located during the archaeological assessment of the proposed development.

Low density scatters of artefacts were located on the lower slopes of the property, while relatively large numbers of stone tools were found on the grass banks alongside Vigilance Drive. The remains occur mostly in a severely disturbed context.

Importantly, however, several MSA stone tools were noted embedded in compact red sands immediately below the sandy overburden in the road cutting at the top end of the Vigilance Drive, on the subject property. This would suggest that more artefacts may occur over the remainder of the proposed site and would be exposed once bulk earthworks and excavations commence.

The archaeological heritage remains have been graded low local significance, but it is likely that undisturbed stone tools may lie buried beneath the overburden on the proposed site.

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

With regard to the proposed development on Erven 3002, 3326 and 3327 in Hornlee, in Kynsna, the following recommendations are made.

- Bulk earthworks and excavations must be monitored by a professional archaeologist
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502), or Heritage Western Cape (Mr Ndukuyakhe Ndlovu @ 021 483 9778). Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

Hilland Associates¹, on behalf of Mr Andrew Wiseman of Own Haven Housing Association, requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for a proposed housing development on Erven 3327, 3326 and 3327 in Hornlee, Kynsna, in the Western Cape Province.

The proposal is for a medium income housing development consisting of a total of 112 units. The area is located within an existing middle income residential area and is surrounded by urban and land uses, such as residential and light industrial.

On Erf 3327 a total of 12 units (three 2-story units) are proposed and on Erven 3002 and 3326 a total of 100 units (2-story and 3-story blocks) are planned.

The extent of the proposed development (about 2.4 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.

A 'Notification to Heritage Western Cape of Intent to Develop' form has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscape Committee (BELCOM) for comment.

A copy of the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment report has been included with this submission.

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.

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3. THE STUDY SITE

A 1:50 000 locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the study site is illustrated in Figures 2 & 3.

Located in the residential suburb of Hornlee, in Kynsna (S° 34 02 913 E° 23 05 245), the subject property is situated on the upper eastern slopes of the Rykmanshoogte neighbourhood, on Vigilance Drive, the main access link between George Rex Drive, the Kynsna industrial area and the N2.

Erf 3227 is bordered by Erf 3002 (zoned General Residential) to the west, Erf 3226 (zoned Educational) to the south and Vigilance Drive to the north, all part of the proposed development. The steep sided site is covered in knee-high grass and bush. A concrete dam is located in the north eastern portion of the property. Several footpaths cut across the property. Dumping of rubble and domestic items is evident alongside the southern boundary. Some diggings and excavations are also visible on the lower north and west facing slopes (Figures 4-7).

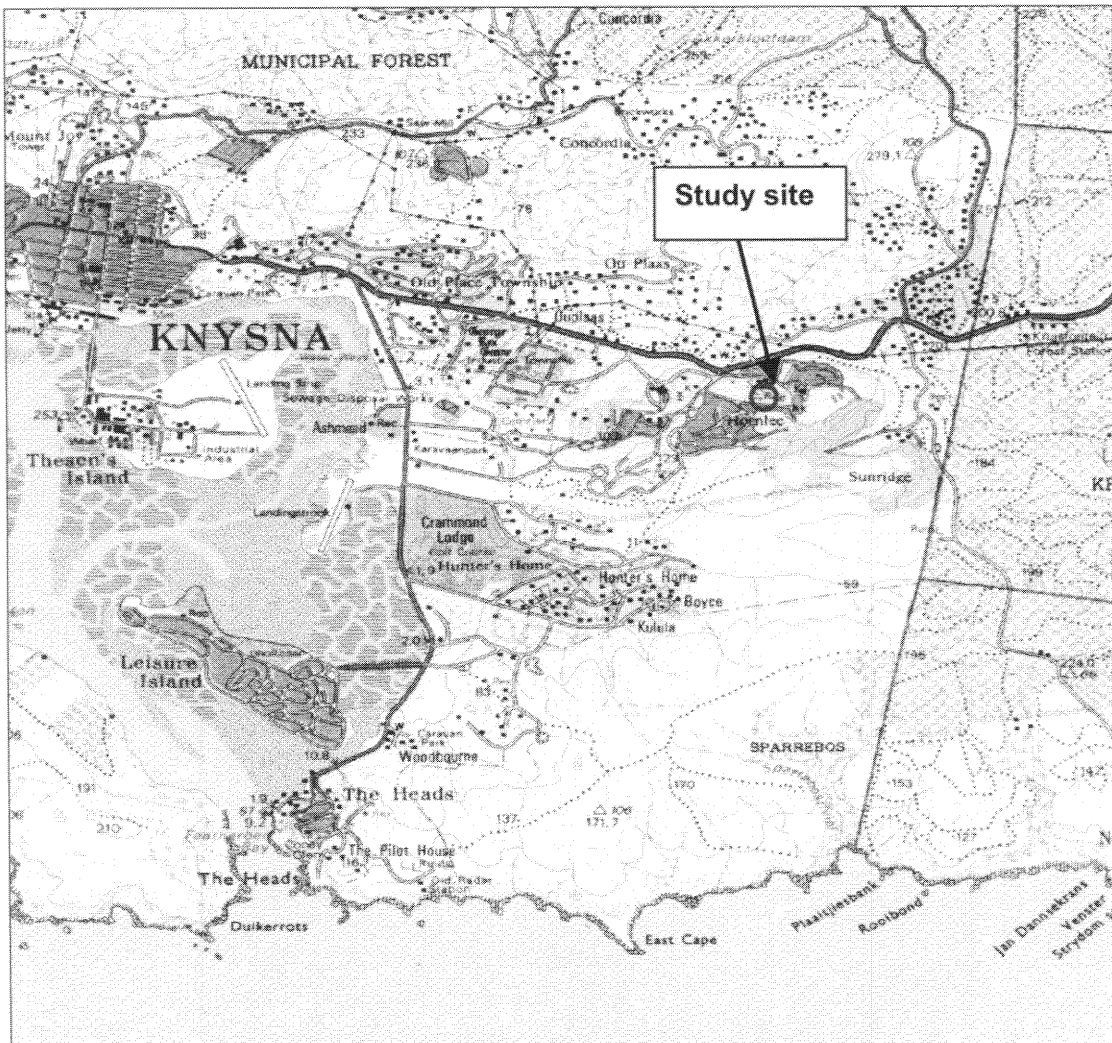


Figure 1. Locality Map (3423 AA Kynsna)

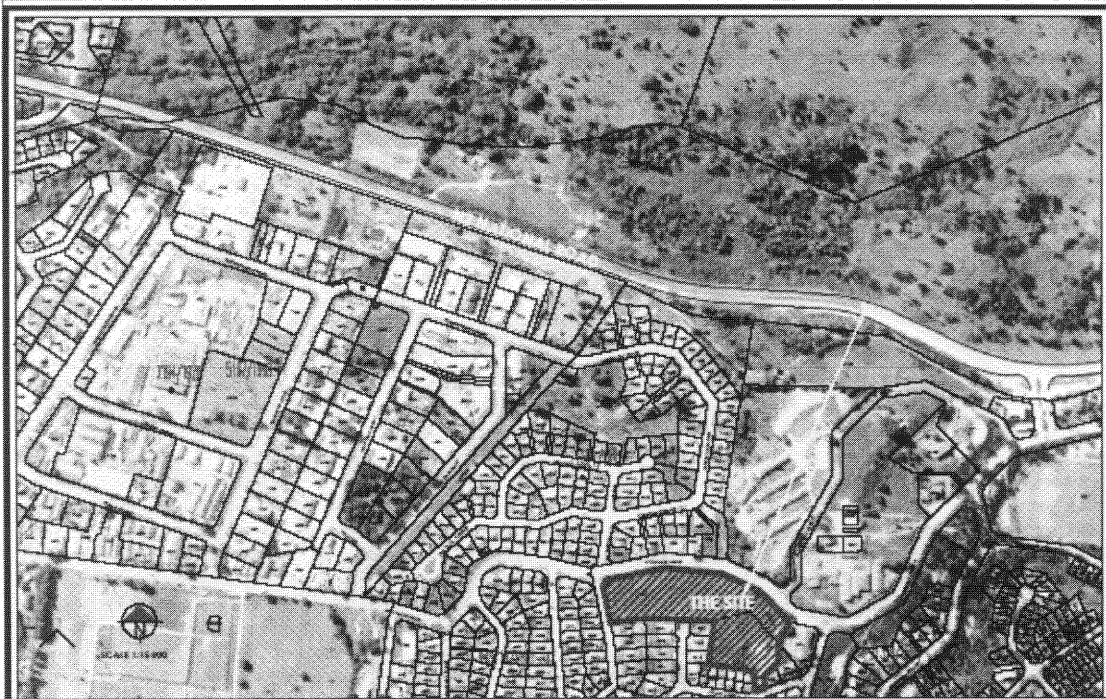


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site in relation to the N2 National Road

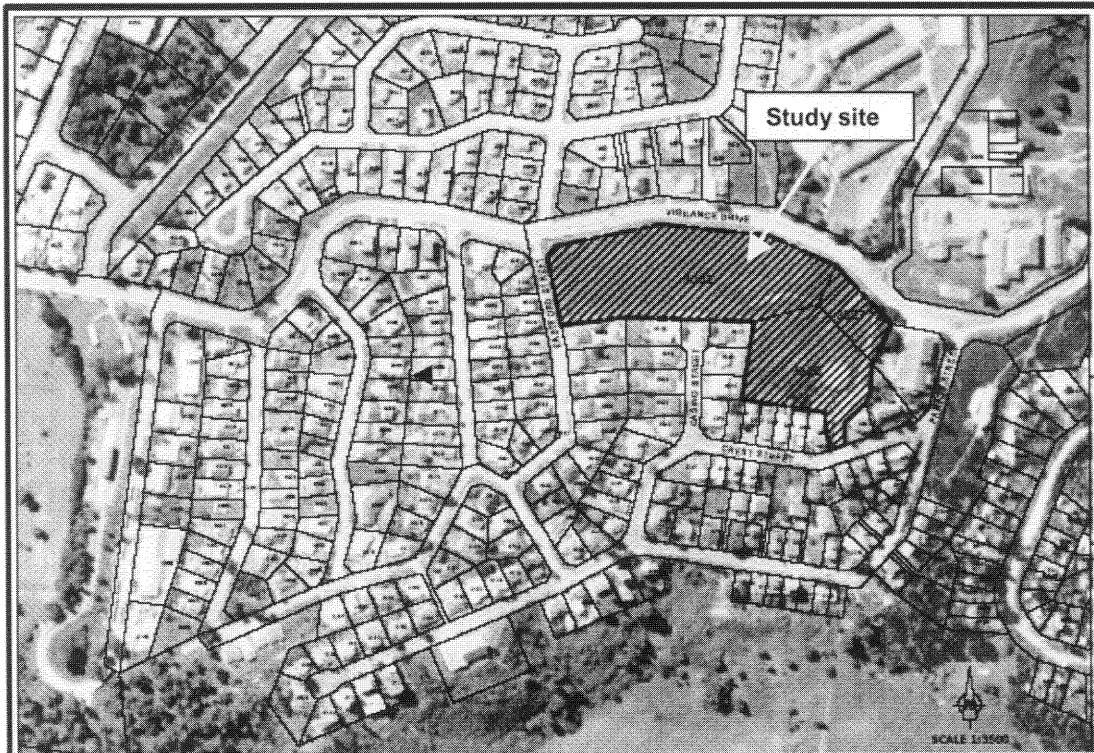


Figure 3. Aerial photograph of the study site

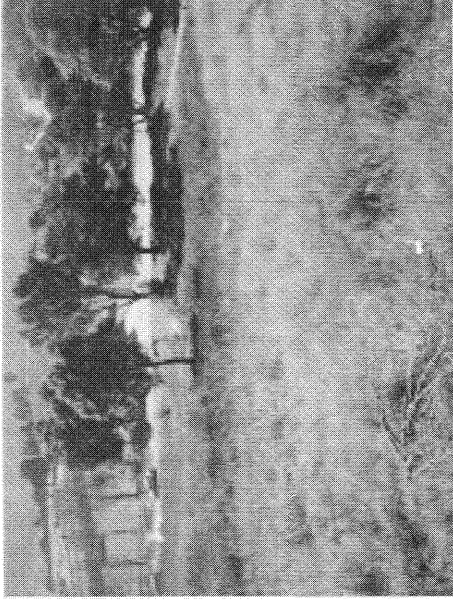


Figure 4. View of the site facing north. Vigilance Drive is in the foreground of the plate



Figure 6. View of the site facing north west.



Figure 5. View of the site facing north west.

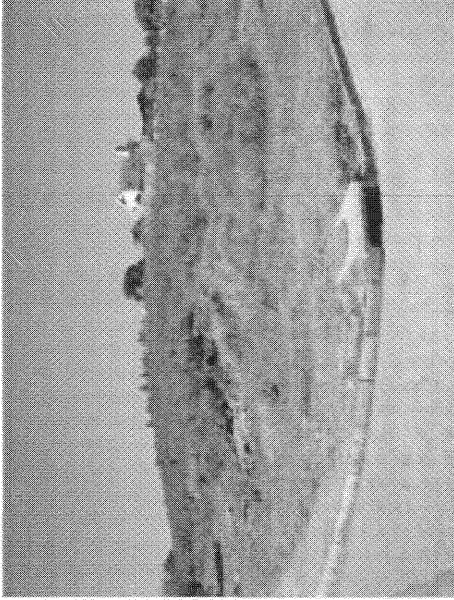


Figure 7. View of the site facing south east, taken from Vigilance Drive

4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY

4.1 Method of survey

The approach followed in the archaeological heritage study entailed a foot survey of the proposed site. A desktop study was also undertaken.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 16th of May 2006.

4.2 Results of the desk-top study

Archaeological remains have been described from the Knysna area. Early Stone Age (ESA) tools have been located at Fernwood Estate overlooking the Knysna Lagoon, about 2 kms south of Hornlee (Kaplan 2001), while ESA stone tools have also been found on the steep coastal cliffs at Noetsie (Kaplan 2002). Large numbers of Middle Stone Age (MSA) tools were also located on Erf 4015 and 4016 on a hilltop overlooking the northern shores of the Knysna Lagoon and the Knysna River (Kaplan 2004a, b). Historically, sites have also been recorded at Diakenhoutblok, Tornybank, Starbuck's Bank, Vaalkom, the Heads, Duikerrots, and Isak se Kloof (Kaplan 1993). Bain (1880) also described the well-known cave at the Eastern Heads near the mouth of the lagoon.

5. CONSTRAINTS AND LIMITATIONS

The proposed site is covered in knee-high grass and bush resulting in low archaeological visibility.

6. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

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

...any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000m², or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m², requires an archaeological impact assessment in terms of the National Heritage Resources 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

Surprisingly, both low and medium density scatters of MSA and Later Stone Age (LSA) tools were located during the archaeological assessment of the proposed development.

A low-density scatter of MSA tools was located on the lower, north facing slopes of the property alongside Vigilance Drive. These include mainly flakes and several blades (some faceted) and chunks, in white, coarse-grained quartzite. One snapped, MSA bifacial point in hornfels was also found. Two large (possibly ESA) flakes struck from large river cobbles were also counted, as well as several round unworked river cobbles. The tools occur in a fairly disturbed context, however, alongside a footpath, some diggings and several excavations.

Relatively large numbers of MSA tools and smaller (LSA) tools were found on the grass bank alongside Vigilance Drive. Clearly originating from the road cutting resulting from the construction of Vigilance Drive, the archaeological remains occur, along with road metal, glass, rubble and domestic items, in a highly disturbed and degraded context. The tools comprise mainly unmodified and several utilised flakes, blade-flakes, and chunks, while three round cores were also counted. Large numbers of small unworked, round quartzite river cobbles are also scattered alongside the road. Most of the tools are derived from the quartzite cobbles, while some are also in grey quartzites.

Importantly, however, several MSA tools were also noted embedded in compact red sands below a sandy overburden in the road cutting at the top end of Vigilance Road (unfortunately no photograph available). This would suggest that more artefacts may occur over the remainder of the proposed site and would only be exposed once bulk earthworks and excavations commence.

The archaeological heritage remains have been graded low local significance, but it is likely that undisturbed remains may lie buried beneath the overburden on the subject property.

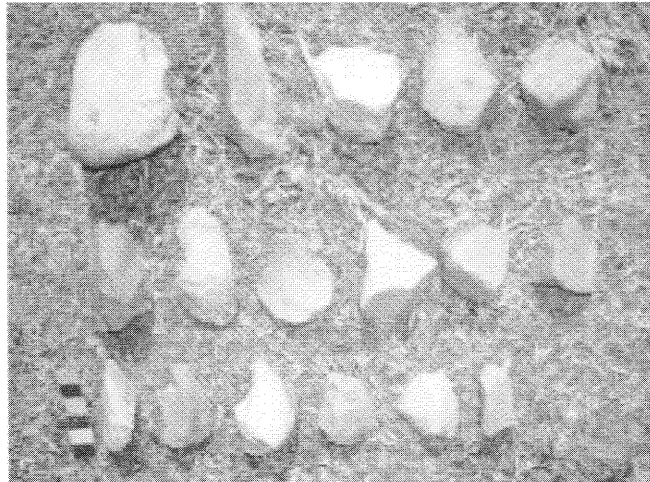


Figure 8. Collection of stone tools made from the grassed bank alongside Vigilance Drive. Scale is in cm.

8. IMPACT STATEMENT

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

However, in-situ stone tools may be uncovered or exposed during bulk earthworks and excavation and preparation of the site for development.

Unmarked human burials may also be exposed or uncovered during earthworks and excavations.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed development on Erven 3002, 3326 and 3327 in Hornlee, in Knysna, the following recommendations are made.

- Bulk earthworks and excavations must be monitored by a professional archaeologist.²
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502), or Heritage Western Cape (Mr Ndukuyakhe Ndlovu @ 021 483 9778). Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

² Map3 – an archaeological consultancy based in Mossel Bay are available for monitoring of excavations and bulk earthworks. Contact Dr. Peter Nilssen on 082 783 5896

10. REFERENCES

Bain, T. 1880. Bone caves at Knysna. Cape Monthly Magazine 2:255-256.

Kaplan, J. 1993. The state of archaeological information in the coastal zone from the Orange River to Ponta do Oura. Report prepared for the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

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Kaplan, J. 2004a. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Erf 4015 Knysna. Report prepared for Hilland Associates. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2004b. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Erf 4016 (Eastford) Knysna. Report prepared for Withers Environmental Consultants. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.