

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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11 February 2005

Mr Johan Mathee
Little Swift Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 891
Malmesbury
7299

Dear Mr. Mathee

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A PORTION OF FARM 688 MALMESBURY WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Mr Johan Mathee of Little Swift Developments (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of a proposed residential housing development situated on a portion of Farm 688 Malmesbury, in the Western Cape Province.

The extent of the proposed development (some 13.5 hectares) 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 site visit and assessment took place on 07 February 2005.

Figure 1 shows the location of the proposed development.

A proposed site development plan is illustrated in Figure 2. The development provides for about 232 single residential units.

The Terms of Reference for the specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment are to:

- Identify and map precolonial archaeological heritage resources on the proposed site;
- Determine the importance of precolonial archaeological heritage resources on the proposed site;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed development on the precolonial archaeological heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed development.

Cultural historian Ms Margaret Neethling has been appointed by the developer to undertake specialist Heritage Scoping of the proposed development.

The proposed site (GPS reading S° 33 26 824 E 18° 43 870 set on map datum WGS 84) is located directly alongside the gravel road to Moorreesburg, about 1 km north of the town of Malmesbury in the Western Cape Province. The gravel road to Moorreesburg defines the western boundary of the property, while a small stream on Farm 688 defines the eastern boundary of the property.

The receiving environment is degraded and disturbed and comprises old agricultural and grazing lands, which have been ploughed and partially terraced (Figures 3 & 4). A small excavation pit occurs in the central portion of the property, while a few small outcroppings of rough quartzite also occur (see Figure 4). Some small informal footpaths cut across the site.

The extreme southern portion of the property once contained vineyards that are now infested with exotic Rooikrantz (Figure 5). This area has been extensively terraced and is severely disturbed. A gravel access road to the main farmstead cuts across the southern portion of the property.

Other than a small, modern pump house, and two small ground-level concrete drinking dams, there are no other built structures on the affected property.

The affected property was subjected to a detailed foot survey.

No precolonial archaeological heritage remains were located on the property.

The assessment of the proposed project has rated the potential impacts to archaeological material as being low.

The probability of locating significant archaeological heritage remains during implementation of the project is likely to be highly improbable.

The study has shown that the proposed site is suitable for development.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Kaplan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jonathan Kaplan

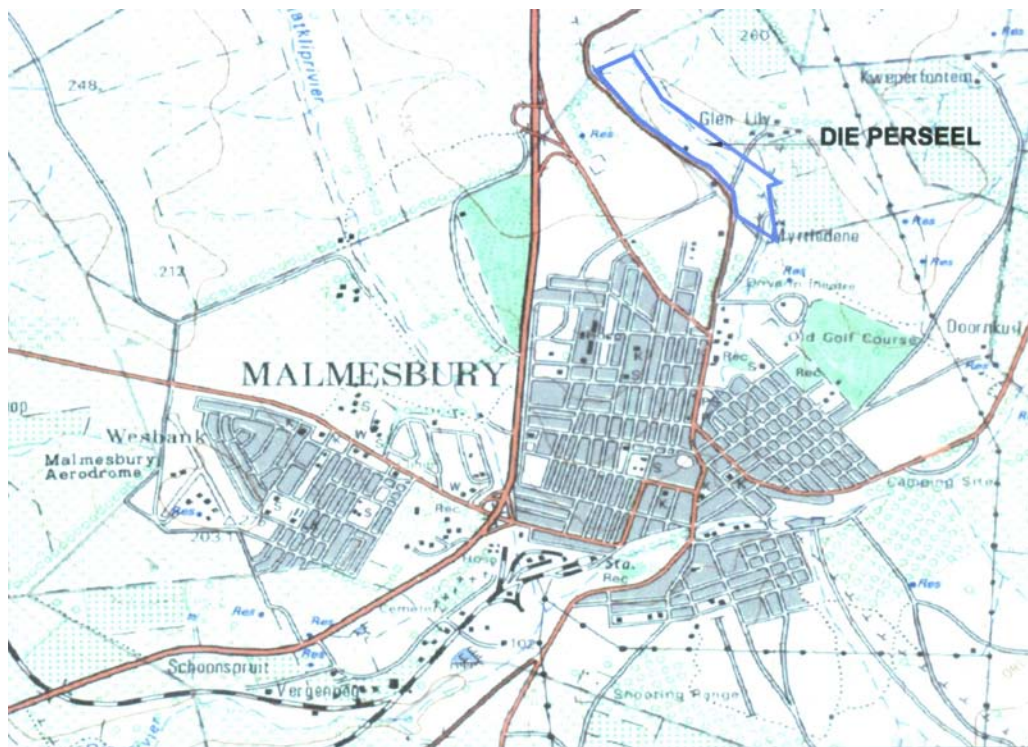


Figure 1. Locality Map. 'Die Perseel' is the effected property.

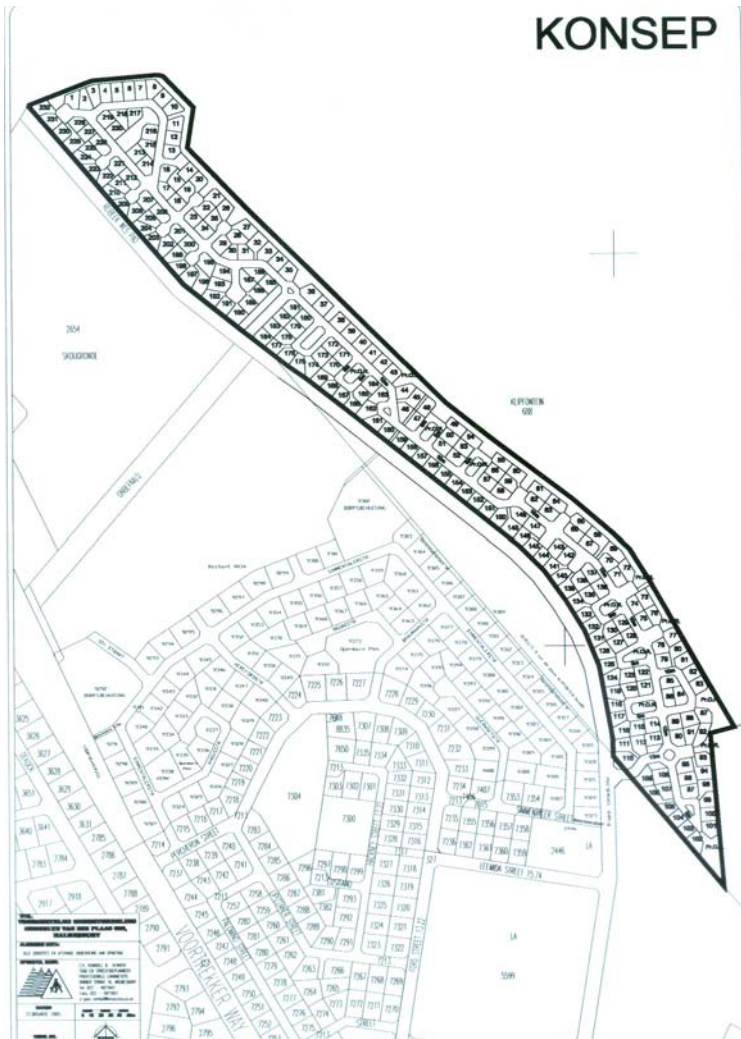


Figure 2. Proposed site development plan.



Figure 3. View of the site facing south.



Figure 4. View of the site facing north. Note the excavation pit and outcroppings of quartzite in the foreground.



Figure 5. View of old vineyards in the extreme southern portion of the property.