

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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02 May, 2007

Att: Mr Lieuwe Boonstra
EnviroAfrica
P. O. Box 5367
Helderberg
7135

Dear Mr Boonstra

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF CHICKEN HOUSES ON PORTIONS 4 AND 18 OF THE FARM SKOENMAKERSFONTEIN NO. 486 RIEBEEK WEST WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. Introduction and brief

EnviroAfrica¹, on behalf of Mr P.H. de Jager requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed construction of 12 chicken houses on Portions 4 and 18 of the farm Skoenmakersfontein No. 486 Riebeeck West, in the Western Cape Province.

The affected property is currently zoned Agriculture. An application for consent use is required from Swartland Municipality for the proposed activity to proceed.

The extent of the proposed development (about 4.5 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).

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment are to:

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

¹ EnviroAfrica is represented by Mr Lieuwe Boonstra. Fax (021) 8555333

3. The site

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

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

Skoenmakersfontein (S° 33 15 229 E 18° 56 212 on map datum wgs 84) is located about 27 kms south of Porterville, and about 12 kms north east of Riebeek West in the Swartland region. The subject property is currently being used for grazing purposes, but before that it was heavily mined for sand on behalf of the PPC Cement Factory, in Riebeek West (Figures 3-6). The receiving environment is therefore completely degraded and transformed. Other than the Berg Rive which is located close by, there are no significant landscape features occurring on the property. There are no buildings or structures on the property, either. The surrounding land-use is mainly rural farmland (wheat, vineyards, grazing and vacant agricultural land).

4. Approach to the study

The proposed site was subjected to a foot survey.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 5th March, 2007.

5. Results of the study

No archaeological heritage remains were located on the proposed site.

Almost the entire overburden of the proposed site has been removed ?

6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be low.

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

7. Conclusion

The study has shown that the no archaeological heritage remains occur on the proposed site.

The proposed construction of chicken houses on Portions 4 and 18 of the Farm Skoenmakersfontein No. 486 near Riebeek West should be allowed to proceed.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan

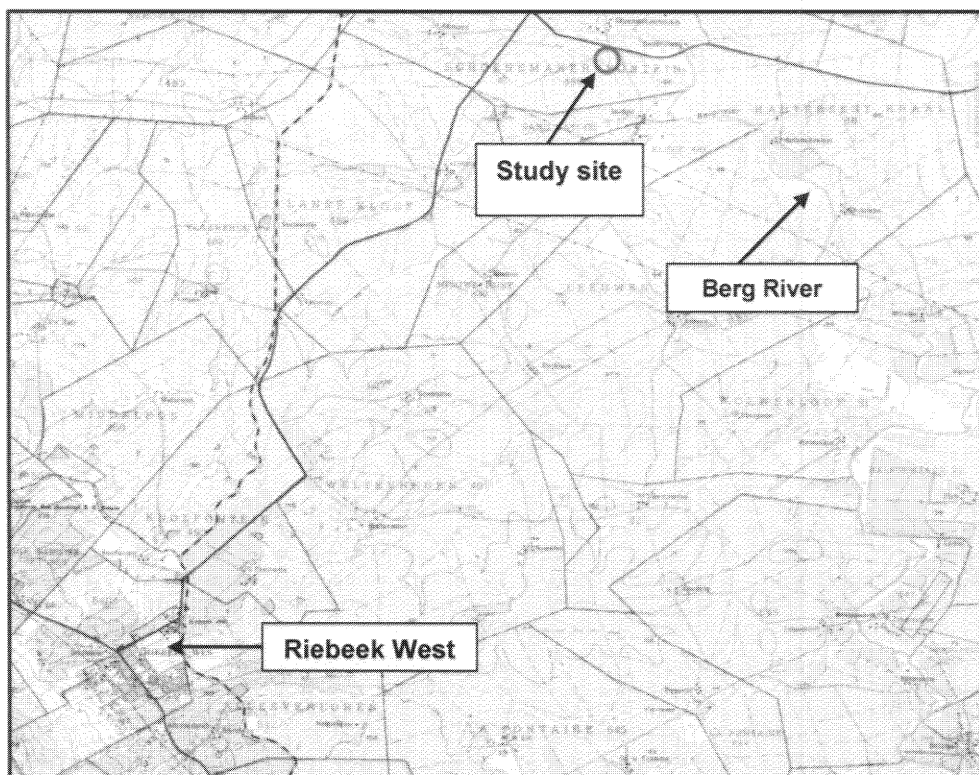


Figure 1. Locality map (3318 BD Riebeek Kasteel)



Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site

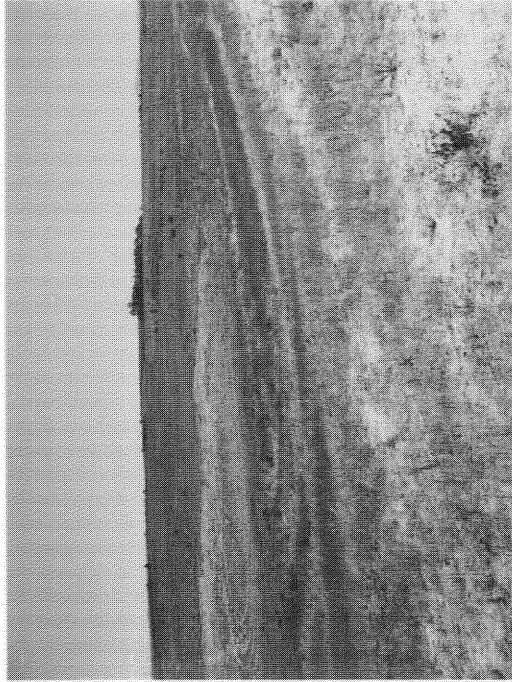


Figure 3. View of the site facing south west



Figure 5. View of the site facing south east



Figure 4. View of the site facing east

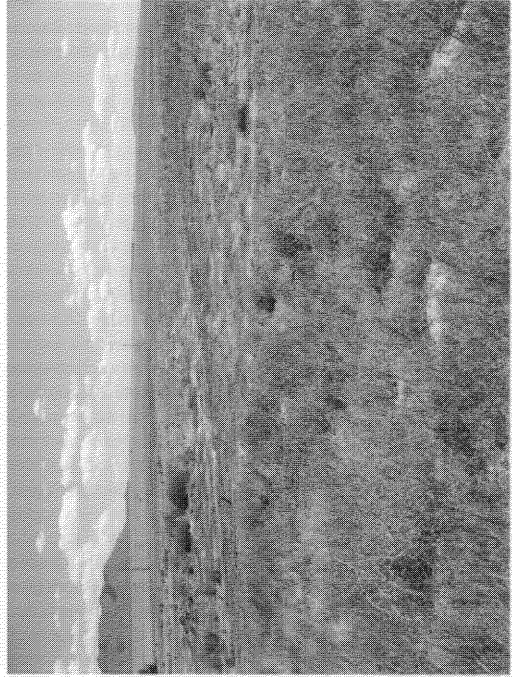


Figure 6. View of the site facing south east