

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
REMAINDER OF PORTION 16 OF THE FARM RENSBURG
ESTATE NO. 137
GREAT BRAK RIVER**

Prepared for

SHARPLES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES cc

By

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Sharples Environmental Services requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of the remainder of Portion 16 of the Farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River in the Southern Cape.

The proposed development envisages a retirement village of approximately 150 units, a community centre, and associated infrastructure.

The property is approximately 9 ha in extent.

The aim of the AIA is to locate, identify and map archaeological remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed development, and to propose measures to mitigate against the impact.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the study were:

1. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed site;
2. to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance within the proposed site;
3. to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites potentially affected by the proposed development;
4. to assess the significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
5. to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist within the proposed site.

3. THE SITE

A locality plan of the study area is illustrated in Figure 1.

A plan of the proposed development is illustrated in Figure 2.

The property is situated on the western edge of the Great Brak River, north of the N2, on the western entrance to Great Brak River.

The site is currently vacant and undeveloped (Figures 3 & 4).

A large modern home is located on an elevated, heavily wooded ridge in the south-western portion of the property, overlooking the proposed development footprint. (Figure 5). A smaller modern house is located alongside (Figure 6). The existing houses will be renovated and incorporated into the proposed development.

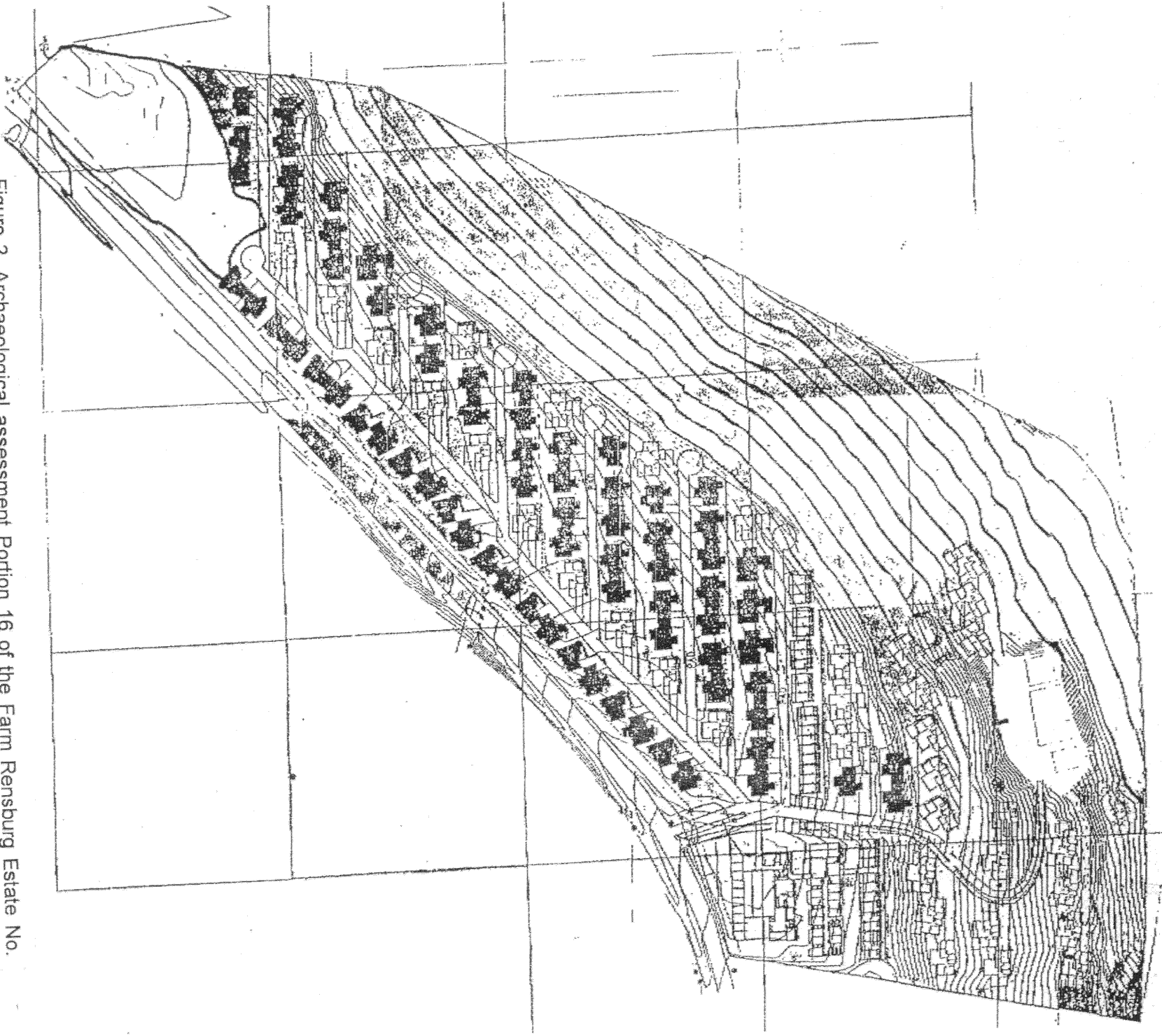


Figure 2. Archaeological assessment Portion 16 of the Farm Rensburg Estate No. 137, Great Brak River. Plan of the proposed development.

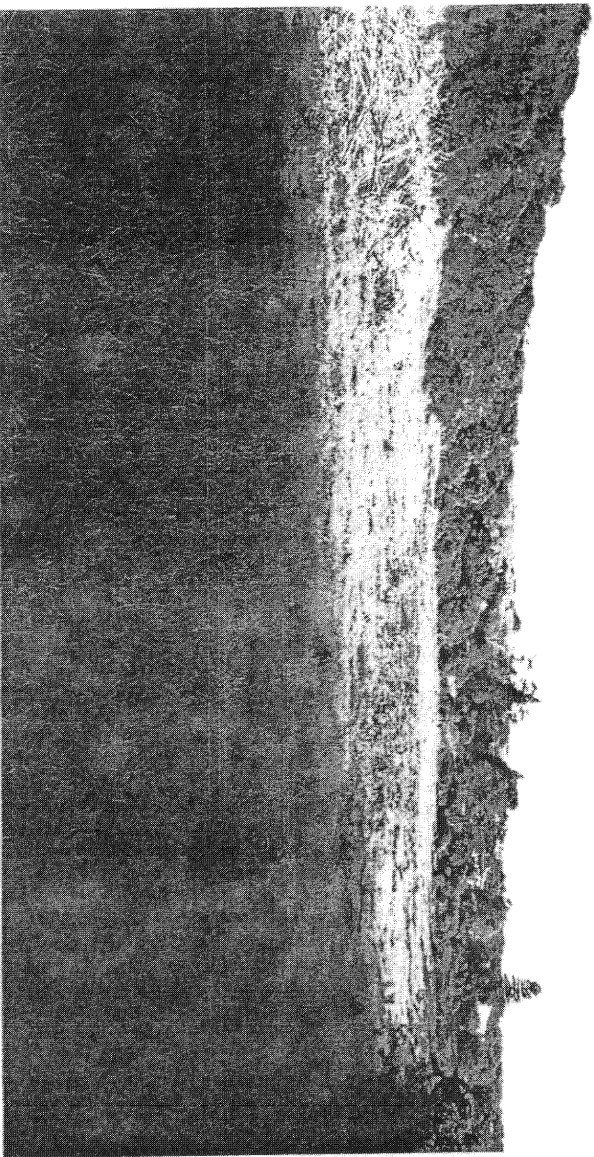


Figure 3. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 16 of the farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River. The site facing south west.

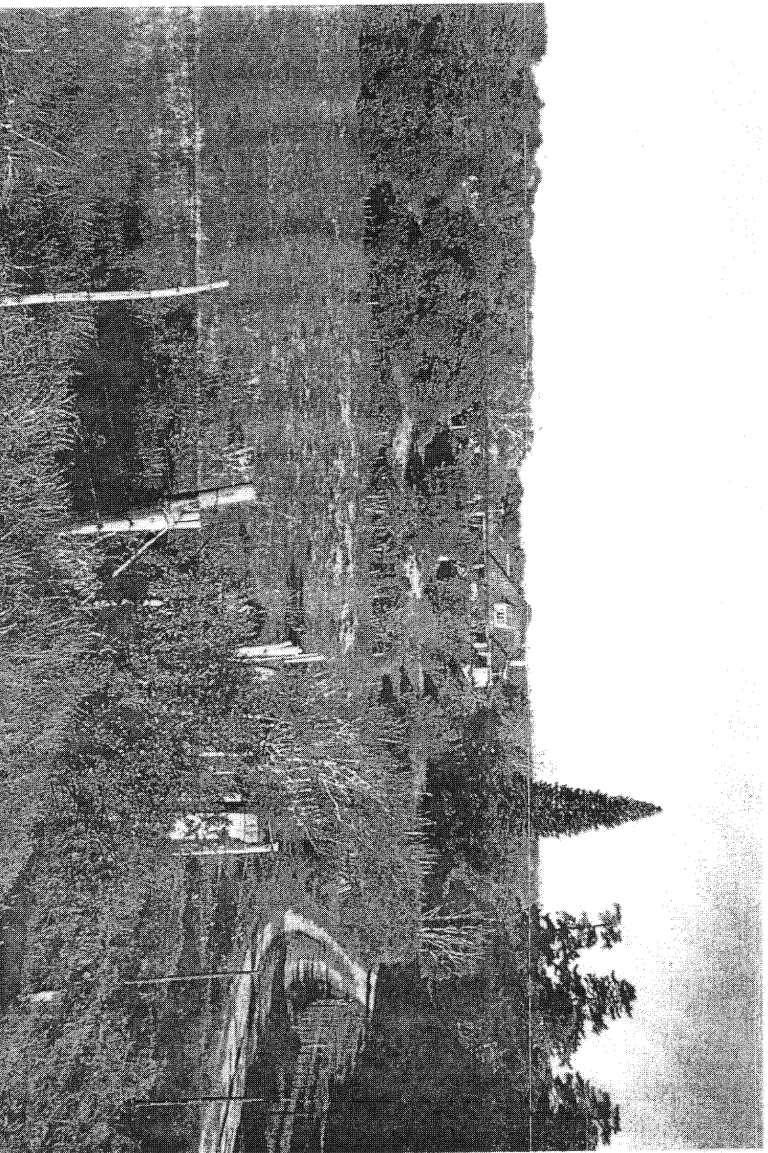


Figure 4. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 16 of the farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River. The site facing south. Note modern home on elevated ridge.

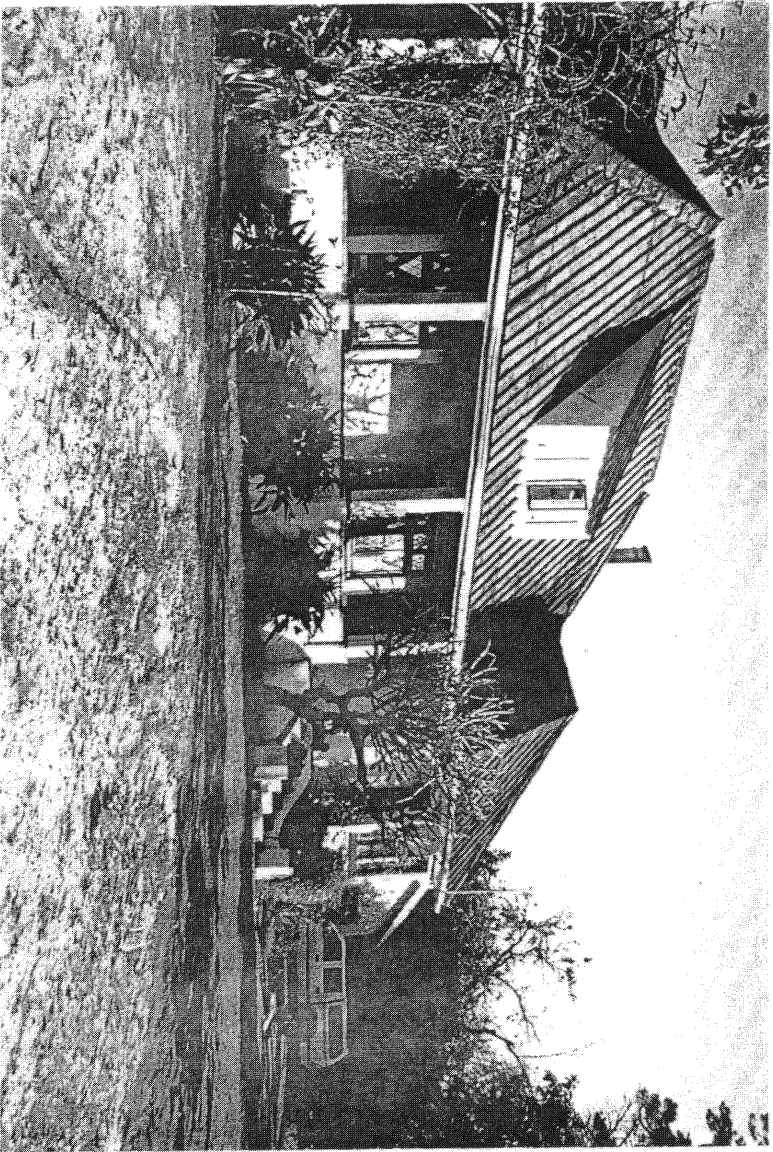


Figure 5. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 16 of the farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River. Modern home.



Figure 6. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 16 of the farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River. Smaller modern home.

4. STUDY APPROACH

The approach used in the AIA entailed a detailed ground survey of the property.

5. RESULTS OF THE STUDY

No archaeological remains were located on the site.

6. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological sites/remains is considered to be low.

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

7. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The receiving environment is not archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable or threatened.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed development of the remainder of Portion 16 of the Farm Rensburg Estate No. 137 Great Brak River, the following recommendations are made:

1. No archaeological mitigation is required.
2. No further detailed studies are required.
3. The project should be allowed to proceed as planned.