

Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

Project Title: Valley Conference Venue

Project Location: Paarl, Drakenstein Municipality, Western Cape.

Erf Number: 15280. **Size:** 11.7690 ha

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Registered owner : Valley Ministries

Contact person: John Maralack, 25 van der Lingen Street, Paarl 7622. Cell: 082 459 8360. Email: valleycf@iafrica.com

Date:

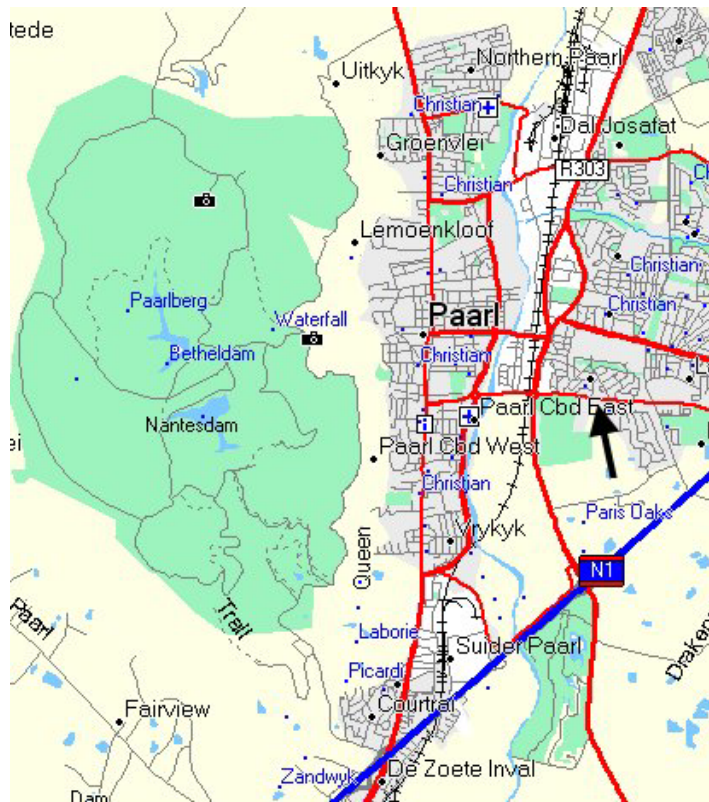


Figure 1. Location

Executive Summary

The property, Erf 15280, was surveyed for archaeological, palaeontological and other cultural resources. None were recorded on this vacant land. No mitigation of cultural resources is recommended.

Background Information

This report is part of an EIA. The application is for a change in land use from public open space to a development by Valley Ministries of a conference venue and accommodation facilities on portion of Erf 15280 on Klein Parys Road, Paarl. The property fronts onto Langenhoven Avenue. It is a new development and a rezoning application will follow after the land use ROD is handed down.

The conference centre will be housed in the main building with additional buildings for guest accommodation. A car park will serve visitors to the centre. The density of development will be 2 ha.

This is an expanding residential area. A large cemetery is adjacent to the property.

Description of the property

The property (33.73864°S; 18.98291°E) is in the valley of the Berg River, which lies one kilometre to the west. It is open flat ground with no structures on it. There are scattered pine trees of a reasonable height indicating the ground has been fallow for a decade and more.

Archaeological potential

The valleys of the Berg and other local rivers are known to have been a focus for Earlier Stone Age occupation. Younger cultural materials could also occur.

Methodology

This is open ground with sparse vegetation that was traversed. A pipeline cuts across the northern portion and an indication of the subsurface materials is in the associated disturbed ground. Along the margin of the cemetery a drainage ditch provided further subsurface exposure.

Observations

No Stone Age artefacts were recorded on the property nor were any other cultural materials. The substrate is not favourable for the preservation of palaeontological remains.

Sources of risk

The risk of the development uncovering buried resources is considered low.

Statement of significance and field rating

The significance for archaeological and heritage resources is rated as low.

Recommended mitigations

No mitigations are recommended with the caveat that should development by chance uncover any archaeological, palaeontological or other cultural remains, including human remains, that Heritage Western Cape be notified (Mr N Ndlovu, Senior Heritage Officer – Archaeologist, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel: 021 483 9687, Fax: 021 483 9842, email: nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za).

Conclusions

The survey of the vacant property, Erf 15280 in Paarl, showed no cultural resources that warranted mitigation.

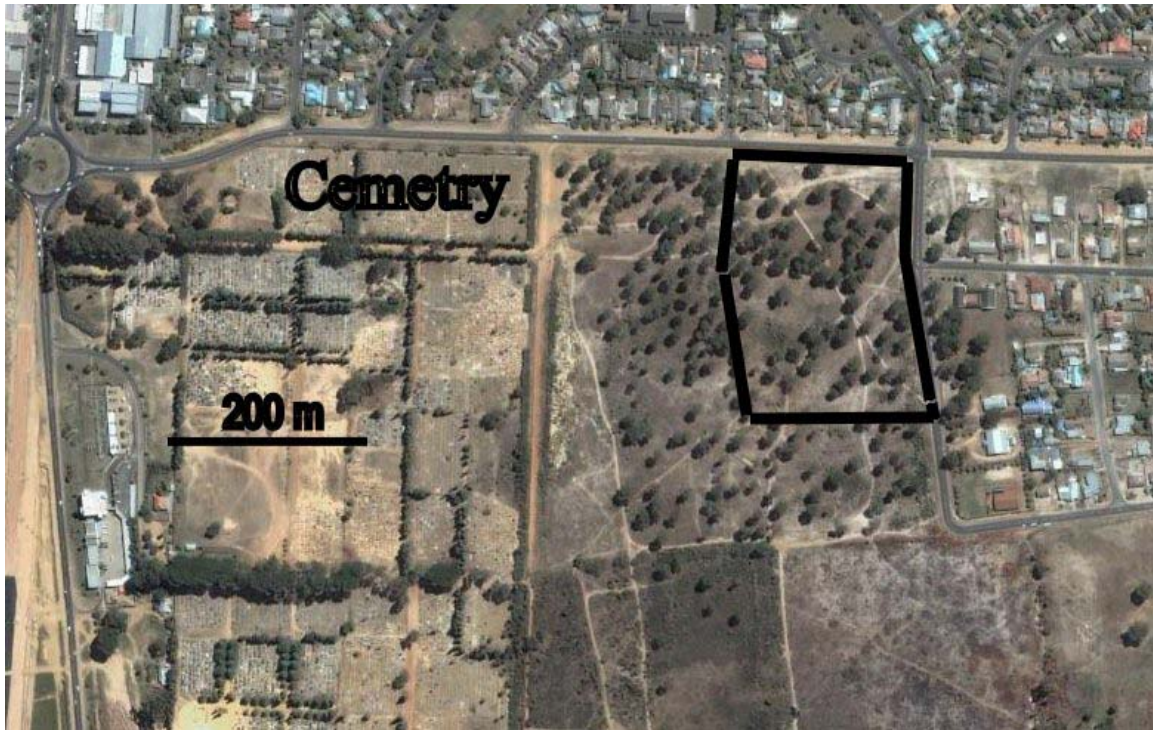


Figure 2. The property to be developed showing the adjacent cemetery and the scattered pine trees surrounded by housing.