

Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment

Title: Tomis Abattoir Compost Facility.

Proposal to develop a composting facility on 1.1 ha of the farm Annex Schoongezicht 254/5, Division Tulbagh, Drakenstein Municipality, Western Cape. The property is some 6 km north of Hermon on the R44 road to Gouda.

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Owner & Developer

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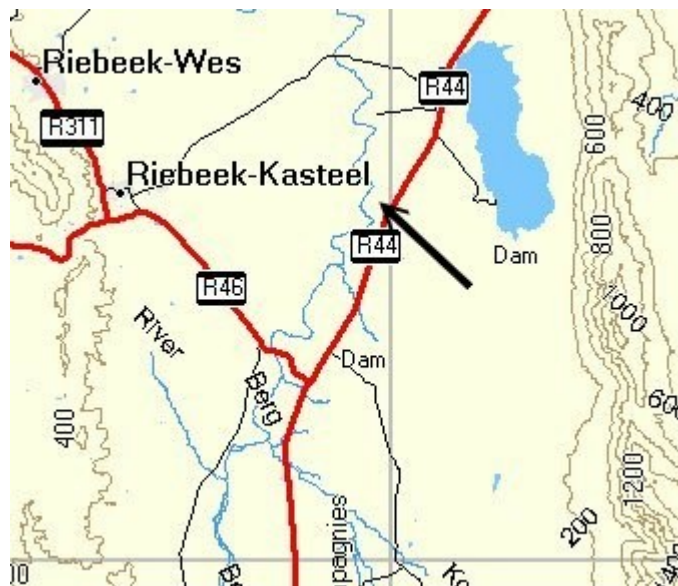


Figure 1. Location of development on Annex Schoongezicht, 33°23'16.9"S: 18°59'46.5"E. (1:50 000 sheet 3318 BD Riebeeck-Kasteel)

Executive Summary

A survey of the 1.1 ha property to be used as a composting facility was undertaken. This is old agricultural land with no structures. There are no significant heritage, archaeological or palaeontological resources that will be impacted by this development.

Background Information

The purpose of the development is to provide an area where waste from the abattoir can be composted. In size just over 1 ha, the area is marginal to that requiring heritage impact assessment.

This report is part of a rezoning application.

Archaeological Background

The property is close to the Berg River and was a focus for prehistoric and historic settlement. No major archaeological sites are known in close proximity to the property.

Description of the property

The property is part of a ploughed agricultural field adjacent to the railway line and the R44.

Methodology

The exposures in the plough zone and surface disturbances were examined for archaeological and palaeontological materials.

Observations and Results

The property is level ground, part of a terrace of the Berg River. There are no built structures. The surface has been disturbed by agricultural activities and ploughing has exposed river pebbles and cobbles locally. A single flaked pebble core was the only artefact recorded. As gravels are a source of raw materials for making stone artefacts such finds would be expected in this situation. However, there is no indication of any dense scatter of artefacts that would indicate the occurrence of an archaeological site. No palaeontological materials were observed.

Sources of Risk and Statement of Significance

The composting facility will be an above ground development and will not impact the deeper substrate. It is unlikely that development will disturb any buried materials and the risks are considered low.

The significance is rated as low.

Recommended Mitigations

It is recommended that should any excavations by chance uncover buried palaeontological or archaeological materials including human remains that Heritage Western Cape is notified (Mr N Ndlovu, Senior Heritage Officer – Archaeologist, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel: 021 483 9687, Fax: 021 483 9842, nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za). Features like burials for example can occur in unpredictable locations.



Figure 2. Location of the composting facility at a distance from the abattoir.



Figure 3. Aerial view of the property showing the agricultural setting.



Figure 4. Southern part of the property showing the degree of surface disturbance.