

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF JAN VAN RIEBEECK DRIVE RE-ALIGNMENT, PAARL EAST

Prepared for

Baumann and Winter Heritage Impact Assessors

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Archaeology Contracts Office of the University of Cape Town was appointed by Baumann and Winter (Heritage Impact Assessors) to conduct a phase 1 archaeological assessment of a proposed road alignment in East Paarl, Western Cape Province (Figure 1). The work has been undertaken as part of a broader Heritage Impact Assessment by Bauman and Winter.

1.1 Description of the effected environment

A proposal is in place to enlarge Van Riebeeck Drive, some 2km of which will require realignment through land on the Farms Parys and Klein Parys. The effected land is a swathe approximately 50m wide and 2km long (Figure 2), all of which is under cultivation (vineyards). Soils are sandy throughout, apart from in places where excavations for services (especially at the northern end of the site) have brought cobbles to the surface from buried terraces of the nearby Berg River.

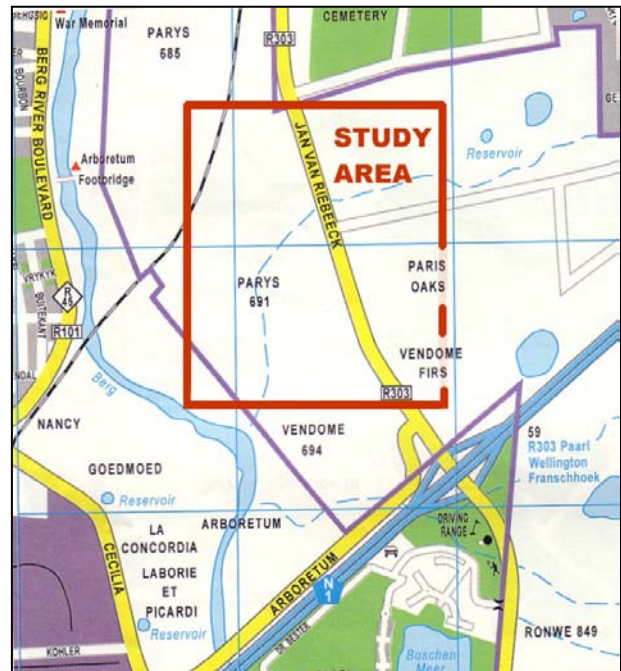


Figure 1. Location of the study area (after map studio: division of Struik)

2. METHOD

The alignment was searched on foot by two archaeologists who slowly walked the length of the study area. Duration of the survey was about 2.5 hours.

Restrictions

Growth patterns of Vinyards (90 degrees to walk paths) made access to some areas cumbersome. Throughout most of the area, surface visibility was adequate.

3. FINDINGS

- A diffuse scatter of colonial period ceramics was noted throughout the vineyards in the study area. These date from 18th-20th centuries. The context of the finds is unknown but probably secondary.
- No pre-colonial archaeological material was found in the study area, however, some of the cobbles brought to the surface by a service excavation (at the northern extreme of the study area) appear to have been flaked. An Early Stone Age origin is suggested.

4. CONCLUSION

None of the material found within the study area is conservation-worthy or requiring of mitigatory work. We are satisfied that the existing alignment will not result in any significant impacts to archaeological material.

Survey conducted by

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