

**PHASE ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION
PART 43 (15) OF THE FARM ZWARTE JONGENS
FONTEIN NO 489, RIVERSDAL**

Prepared for

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological impact assessment was carried out on part 43 of 15 of the Farm Zwartejongensfontein, No. 489 near Stillbay. The area is the subject of a rezoning application from Agricultural Zone 1 to Residential Zone 1. No archaeological sites were located and the archaeological significance of the property is rated as low. It is recommended that rezoning be permitted if all other conditions for rezoning have been met. However, the general Stillbay-Jongensfontein region is a sensitive archaeological area. Important Acheulian, Middle and Later Stone Age sites have been recorded, some of which form part of ongoing scientific investigation. It is therefore recommended that a qualified archaeologist inspect all trenches and earth moving activities during the laying of services and construction of residential units.

2. INTRODUCTION

At the request of Prof. B.V. Burger part 43 of 15 of the farm Zwartejongens Fontein near Stilbaai was visited on 16 January 1999. A rezoning application has been lodged from Agricultural Zone 1 to Residential Zone 1 of the above mentioned parts. Residential development is proposed for the area to be rezoned.

The brief was as follows:

- 1.1 survey the proposed development area and locate and record the position of any archaeological sites
- 1.2 assess the significance of such archaeological sites and the impact of the proposed development on them, and
- 1.3 produce a report on the investigation and recommend any mitigatory measures needed.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Stilbaai and surrounding areas are archaeologically significant and sensitive to development. Fourteen sites have been recorded in the immediate vicinity. One is Middle Stone Age (MSA), 12 are Later Stone Age (LSA) and one indeterminate (Kaplan 1993). These sites comprise five open station shell middens, two open-air sites, three fish-traps, two burials and one cave (Kaplan 1993). In the 1920s Heese (1933) collected artefacts from deflation hollows in dunes which included bifacial leaf-shaped points. Subsequently Goodwin and van Riet Lowe (1929) realised that these artefacts that Heese had collected at Nordkapperspunt, Kleinjongensfontein and Blombos School were MSA and adopted the name Stillbay Industry for them. Some Acheulian and MSA artefacts have also been

found on deflation surfaces at Kleinjongensfontein .

Recent and ongoing excavations by Henshilwood and Sealy (1997) at Blombos further west of Jongensfontein have yielded MSA layers associated with the Stillbay Industry. This site is significant for it is the first site where Stillbay bifacial points are found in association with organic material like bone, charcoal, shell and plant material.

4. METHOD

The area was traversed on foot and any archaeological sites located were recorded and the co-ordinates determined with a Global Positioning System (GPS)

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES LOCATED

The area (Beacon GPS co-ordinates: 34°25'03" S 21°21'21" E; 32°25'09" S 21°21'05" E; 34°25'06" S 21°21'16" E; 34°25'02" S 21°21'13" E) (*vide map*) is located above the frontal dune zone of a sand beach flanked by rocky shores and is used as a grazing area for cattle. Due to trampling and grazing, exposures are relatively good. The dunes have been stabilised by fynbos and other vegetation.

No exposed archaeological sites were noted in the area. Cape dune mole-rat (*Bathyergus suillus*) burrows inspected were sterile of any archaeological materials. As residential development will increase human activity in the surrounding areas the sandy beach and frontal dune belt was inspected for the presence of *Donax serra* middens as found at Vleesbaai. None were noted.

The areas above the rocky shores flanking the sandy beach forms part of the Jongensfontein residential area. The fragmentary remains of some middens were noted in these areas. Regrettably, residential development has been insensitive for

all middens located in these areas were largely destroyed.

6. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeological significance of the area is rated as low.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that rezoning be permitted if all other conditions relating to the rezoning application have been met.

7.2 The area is generally archaeologically sensitive and even though there are no surface exposures of archaeological materials, such may be encountered in the laying of services and earth moving activities. It is recommended that such sub-surface excavations be monitored by an qualified archaeologist.

8. REFERENCES

Goodwin, A.J.H. & Van Riet Lowe, C. 1929. The Stone Age cultures of South Africa. *Annals of the University of Stellenbosch*, 11 (b2).

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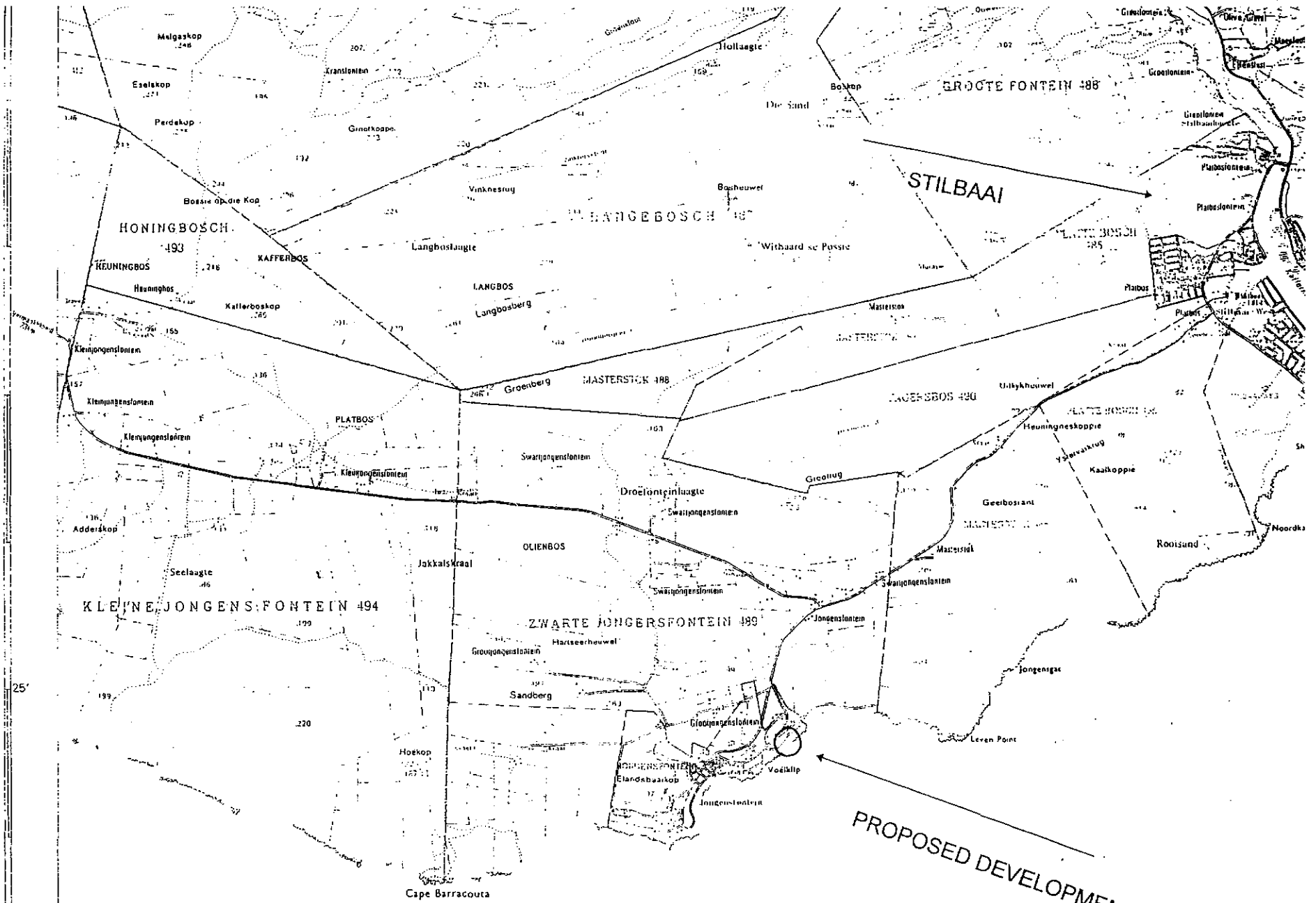
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Gemiddelde magnetiese declinasie 25° 3' Wes van Ware Noorde (1984-7). Gemiddelde hellingsverandering 4° Ooswaarts (1975-1980)



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE

