



## Archaeology Contracts Office

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Mr David Pickering  
11036 Steenberg Estate  
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Tokai  
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2 September 2003

Dear Mr Pickering

### **SIMONSTOWN DEVELOPMENT: ERF 2723**

This letter is to inform you that we have inspected the above-mentioned property and surrounds for physical remains of heritage material as protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999. The site has been found not to contain any protected material, however it does lie within a conservation area and remains sensitive in terms of the aesthetics of any planned development.

A full heritage impact assessment of the property is not considered necessary.

Aesthetic considerations are important in that architects must pay due consideration to building style, bulk and visual impacts to ensure that any proposed development complies with local conservation guidelines and does not impact "the sense of place" and historical ambience characteristic of Simonstown. It is strongly suggested that a set of guidelines be developed by a suitably qualified conservation planner/architect for the erf prior to subdivision and sales.

Find included a copy of the technical report written for me by archaeologist, Jayson Orton.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'TJG Hart'.

Tim Hart

## **SIMONSTOWN DEVELOPMENT: ERF 2723**

### **The site**

Erf 2713 is situated between Jubilee Square and Runciman Drive, Simonstown. It is currently undeveloped but lies within the historically sensitive precinct that borders Main Road Simonstown. The site is fairly overgrown and steeply sloping – this factor probably excluded the area from development in historic times.

This plot is disturbed over almost its entire area. However, historical artefacts are present on the site. These include glass (bottle and other), ceramics, enamel pots, bones (bird, fish, and sheep, many of the latter showing saw cuts) and shellfish (periwinkle, alikreukel and perlemoen). Testimony to the degree of disturbance present is the existence of many modern items, including plastic, glass and rubber mixed in with the historical artefacts.

About midway up the boundary on the eastern edge of the plot is what appears to be a “midden” in which most of these remains are concentrated. Much glass, ceramic and bone is found here, although plenty of modern rubbish is mixed in with it making it clear that there is no *in situ* material visible. It seems likely that this material was dumped here, although probably from somewhere nearby. A light scatter of similar material is present over most of the lower portion of the site although, very little bone and few shells were seen away from the “midden”. Three enamel pots were found near the western edge of the plot.

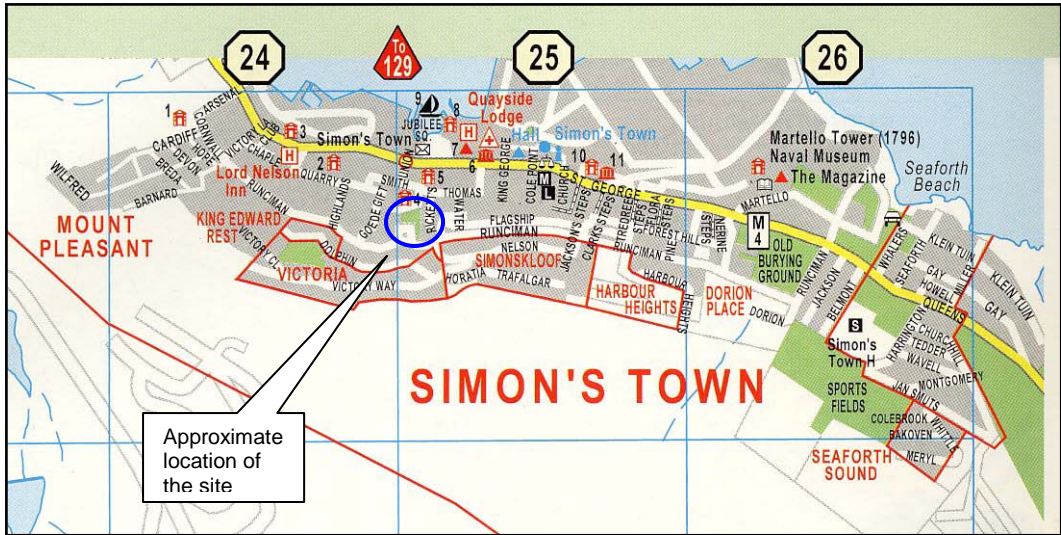
Just above the “midden” on the eastern boundary are the remains of a small brick and cement structure, probably a drain. These are sufficiently modern to be of no importance.

The artefactual material is mostly under 100 years of age and is therefore not legally considered to be archaeological material having been dumped there in the mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Recommendation**

Development may proceed although one further visit to the site after the clearing of vegetation would be useful.

Aesthetic considerations are important in that architects must pay due consideration to building style, bulk and visual impacts to ensure that any proposed development complies with local conservation guidelines and does not impact “the sense of place” and historical ambience characteristic of Simonstown. It is strongly suggested that a set of guidelines be developed by a suitably qualified conservation planner/architect for the erf prior to subdivision.



Approximate location of the site