

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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Att: Ms Desireé du Preez
Ecosense
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Dear Ms du Preez

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED RE-ROUTING OF POWERLINES: CROYDEN OLIVE ESTATE (ERF 1274 CROYDEN AND PORTION 7 OF THE FARM 681 KNOWN AS TOPLANDS) SOMERSET WEST

1. Introduction and brief

Ecosense¹, on behalf of JBB Property Developments (Pty) Ltd, requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed re-routing of powerlines at the proposed Croyden Olive Estate development, in Croyden, Somerset West, City of Cape Town (Figure 1).

Three possible alternative routes for the portion of the powerline passing over the development site are illustrated in Figure 2.

Route A would involve rerouting the existing powerline on the site, to follow the eastern site boundary, and then the southern site boundary to link with the existing powerline once again, before it crosses the N2. The portion of the powerline to be rerouted would be approximately 400 m in length.

Route B would follow the northern boundary of the property south of the site in a south westerly direction, crossing over the N2 before being directed westwards to link once again with the existing powerline. The portion of the powerline to be rerouted would be approximately 550 m in length. Route B is the preferred alternative.

Route C would involve rerouting of the powerline from approximately 950 m south east of the site, to cross the N2 and run approximately parallel to the existing powerline, but on property belonging to the City of Cape Town, on the southern side of the N2. The portion of powerline to be rerouted would be approximately 1 800 m in length.

¹ Ecosense is represented by Ms Desireé du Preez. Fax (021) 887 2654

The extent of the proposed development (a linear development exceeding more than 300 m in length) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment are to:

- Identify and map heritage resources in the proposed powerline routes;
- Determine the importance of heritage resources in the proposed powerline routes;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed development on heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed development.

3. The site

The study site (S° 34 02 82.0 E° 18 45 42.6 on map datum wgs 84) is located at the Croyden Olive Estate, whose southern boundary is situated alongside the N2 (refer to Figure 1).

A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed Croyden Olive Estate was undertaken in 2005².

The N2 road reserve and the portion of land either side of the road reserve, through which Alternative Routes A, B and C would be rerouted, is severely infested with alien vegetation (Port Jackson) and Kikuyu grass (refer to Figures 3-5). The existing powerline servitude through the Croyden Olive Estate is covered in thick grasses (Figure 6).

The receiving environment for the proposed project is already disturbed, and is in a highly degraded and altered state.

4. Approach to the study

The property was subjected to a foot survey.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 28th September, 2006.

5. Results of the study

No pre-colonial archaeological heritage remains were located in the existing powerline servitude on the Croyden Olive Estate, nor in proposed Alternative Routes A-C.

² Kaplan, J. 2005. Archaeological Scoping Proposed Croyden Olive Estate Report prepared for Ecosense Consulting Environmentalists. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

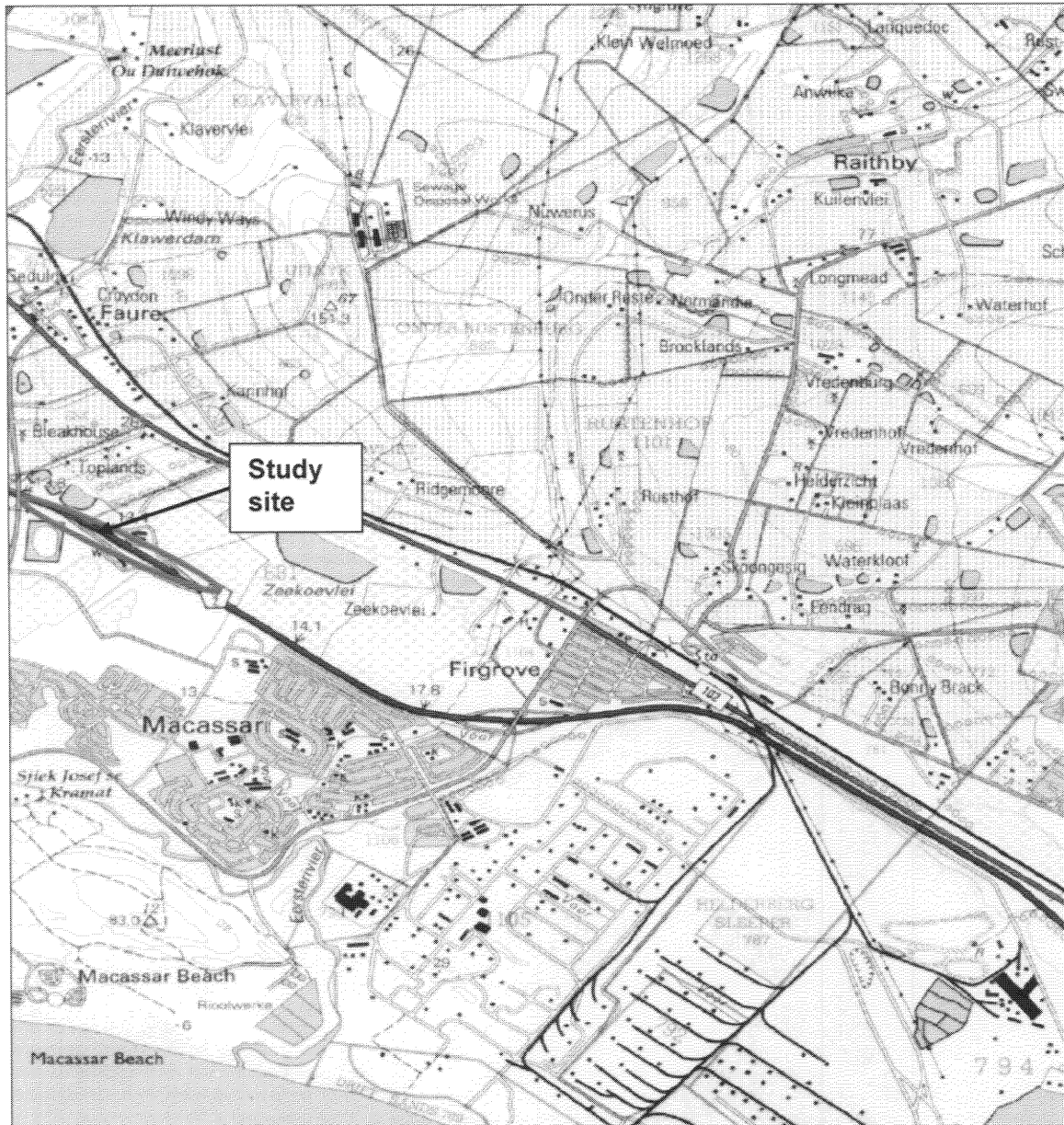


Figure 1. Locality map (3418BB Somerset West)

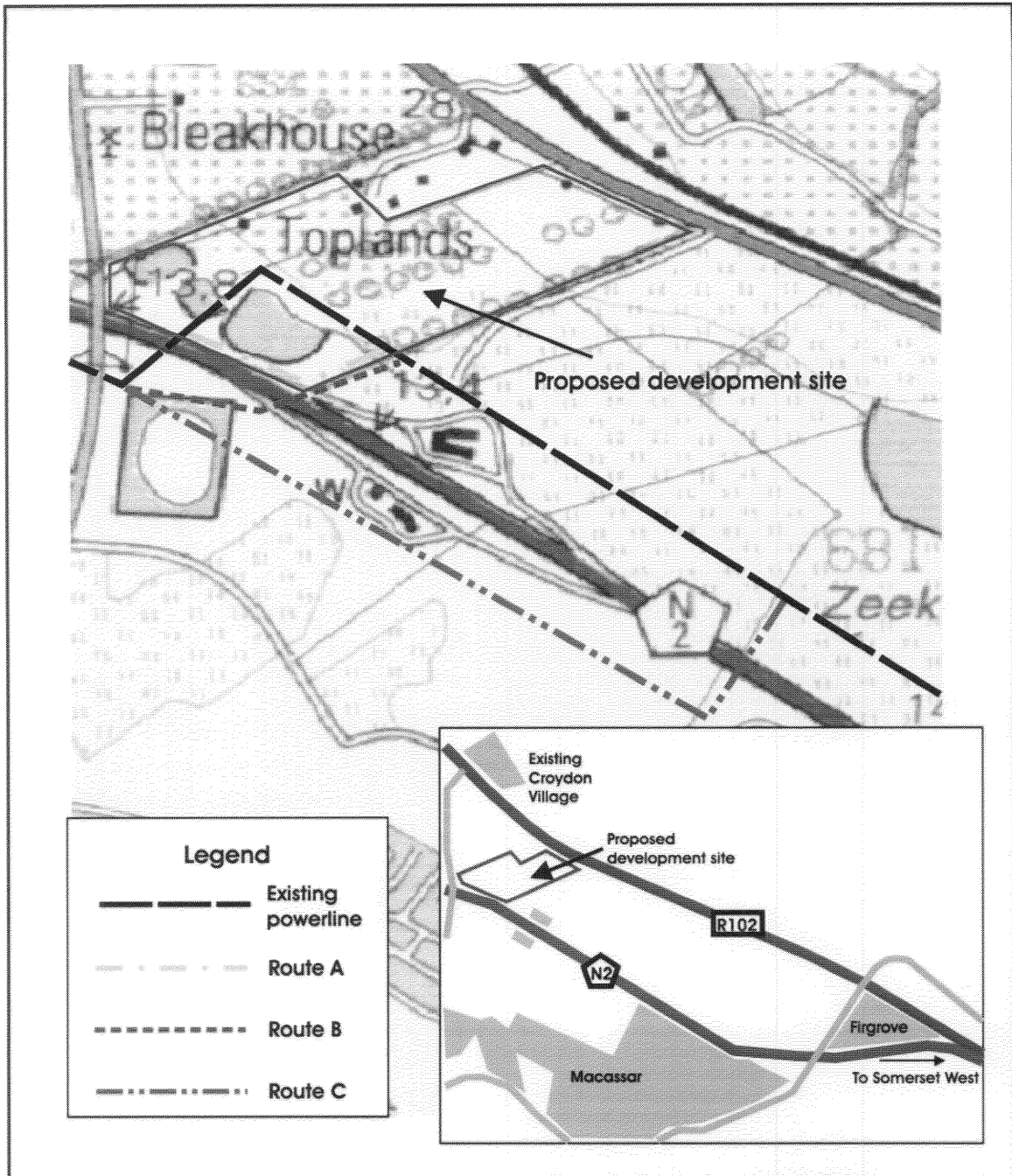


Figure 2. Croyden Olive Estate. Proposed alternative routes for position of powerline



Figure 3. View of the existing powerline and proposed Routes A and B.

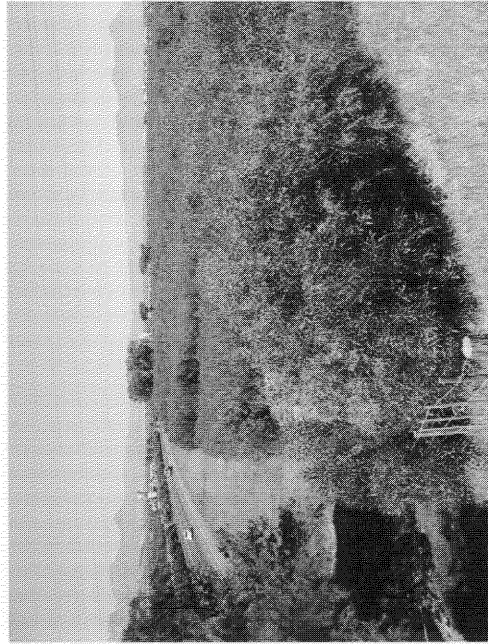


Figure 4. View of the alignment of proposed Routes B and C. The N2 is to the left of the plate.

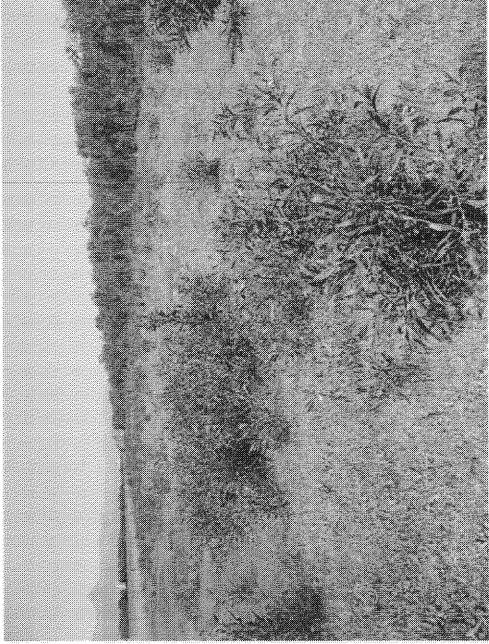


Figure 5. View of alignment of proposed Route C. Note the Port Jackson and Kikuyu grass.



Figure 6. View of existing powerline and servitude in Croyden Olive Estate.

