

# PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

a) **Title:** **Aan De Weber Residential Estate**

Proposed Development in the **Magisterial Distract of Stellenbosch, Western Cape Province.**

b) **Author of this report**

**HJ Deacon** PhD, Consulting Archaeologist

49 Van Riebeeck Street, Stellenbosch 7600. Tel/Fax 021 887 1540, Cell 082 682 7300

Email [hjdeacon@iafrica.com](mailto:hjdeacon@iafrica.com)

c) **Commissioned by**

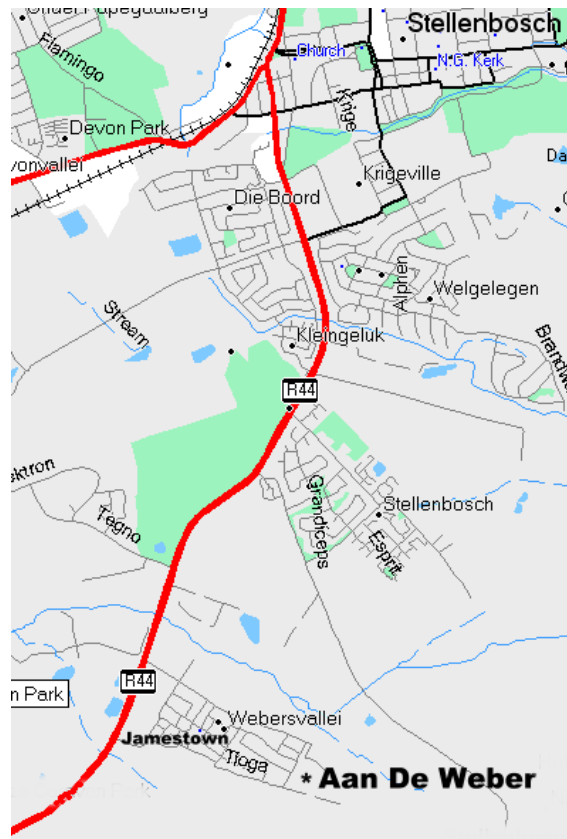
**Mr Inus Kempen**

PO Box 32 Stellenbosch 7599, Cell: 083 275 5411; Fax: 021 887 1363

Email [inus@adept.co.za](mailto:inus@adept.co.za)

d) **Dated**

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## **Executive Summary**

The study was to assess the archaeological impact of the proposed development of a residential estate on some 5 ha of agricultural land at Jamestown, Stellenbosch. The property is ploughed agricultural lands and includes a dam. Ploughing has brought to the surface pebbles and cobbles, heaped into piles in place. Examination of the plough zone and heaps showed few isolated stone artefacts. No other cultural materials were noted. No mitigation in respect of archaeological resources is recommended.

## **Background Information on the Project**

The brief from Mr Inus Kempen was to carry out an archaeological impact assessment as part of an EIA on the property.

## **Background to the archaeological history**

The hills and valleys in the surrounds of Stellenbosch are noted for occurrences of Earlier Stone Age artefacts denoting the activities focussed particularly in these terrains in the Acheulian period. Those earliest settlers can be described as stenotopic meaning they terrain specialists and they did not occupy the whole landscape, as did later peoples. The artefacts are markers of their presence on a landscape scale as over time colluviation and bioturbation have made the context primarily geological rather than archaeological. It was anticipated that Earlier Stone Age artefacts would occur on the Aan de Weber property as they were found on the nearby property recently surveyed (Deacon 2005).

## **Description of Property**

### **Details of the area surveyed**

The property, comprising portions 552 and 38 of farm Blaauklip No 510 in the Stellenbosch District, Western Cape Province. It adjoins the existing Jamestown settlement east of the R44. The Aan de Weber Residential Estate covering an area of 5 ha will be an extension of the existing residential area of Jamestown and the development requires rezoning of the land from agricultural to residential. It shown on the 1:50 000 sheet 3318DD (Figs. 1 & 2).

### **Methodology**

The survey conducted on 12 May from 10h30–12h30 by a one-person team. Access is good. The area was traversed on foot with special attention paid to exposures in the plough zone and the degree of surface disturbance.

## **Description of Occurrences and Exposures (Sites)**

The property is an agricultural field (Fig. 3) that has been ploughed. There is a dam site in the middle of the property. The only structure is a labourers' cottage. Surface disturbance is total. Ploughing has disturbed the ground and brought sub-surface material like pebbles and cobbles to the surface. No artefacts were noted in the plough zone and the class were mainly pebbles of sandstone of 50 mm size and nodules of ferricrete. A rough Acheulian biface was noted in a rubble heap discarded from ploughing activities on the edge of the property at 33°58.964' S 18°51.381' E. A flaked cobble was noted in the plough zone at 33°59.020' S; 18°51.354' E (Fig. 4). The piles of pebbles and boulders heaped on the edge of the dam were not seen to include artefacts (Fig. 5). The conclusion from field observation is that there is a very low density scatter of stone artefacts on the property

### **Sources of Risk**

The development of a residential estate on the property does not pose any threats to cultural resources.

## **Statement of Significance and Field Rating**

Generally low significance

### Recommended Mitigations

None are recommended other than should any excavations in the course of development by chance uncover buried palaeontological or archaeological remains including human remains that Heritage Western Cape is notified (Mr Ndukuyakhe Ndlovu, Senior Heritage Officer – Archaeologist, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town, 8000, Tel: 021 483 9685, Fax: 021 483 9842, [nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za](mailto:nndlovu@pgwc.gov.za)).

### Conclusions

The survey of the property bordering Jamestown showed a very low frequency of stone artefacts and no palaeontological remains. The development is unlikely to have a significant impact on such resources. No mitigation in respect of such resources is recommended.

### Bibliography

Deacon, HJ. 2005. Archaeological impact assessment report, Portions 7 & 8 Blaauw Klip 510 Stellenbosch. File HWC.



Figure 1. Location of the proposed Aan de Weber Residential Estate development bordering on Jamestown, off the R44. 1:50 000 sheet 3318 DD.



Figure 2. Plan of proposed residential development. The development adjoins Jamestown on the western boundary.



Figure 3. General view of the property looking east from the corner adjoining Jamestown, the dam is in the middle distance.



Figure 4. Flaked cobble in the plough zone at 33°59.020' S; 18°51.354' E.



Figure 5. Heap of pebbles and cobbles adjacent to the dam – none artefactual