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APPENDIX 7

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT ERF 2 GORDONS BAY

Prepared for

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By

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Executive summary

No significant archaeological remains were located during an archaeological sensitivity assessment of Erf 2 in Gordons Bay.

The results of the assessment will be used to guide proposed development of the property, which envisages tourist accommodation, including chalets, a guest lodge, and tourist related activities.

The 13.4 ha site is currently undeveloped and is located on steep slopes overlooking the harbour at Gordons Bay. The site is largely in a natural state, although some areas are infested with alien vegetation.

Some Early Stone Age tools were located in the firebreak, which cuts across the site. A few stone tools were also located on the steep gravel slopes in the northern portion of the property.

The tools are not considered to be significant.

No other heritage remains were located.

The overall impact of development on archaeological and heritage remains on Erf 2 Gordon's Bay is considered to be low to negligible.

The receiving environment is not considered to be archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable or threatened.

With regard to proposed development of Erf 2 in Gordons Bay, the following recommendations are made.

- The site is assigned a low archaeological sensitivity rating.
- The property is suitable for development.
- No further detailed studies are required.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Crowther Campbell and & Associates has requested the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake an archaeological sensitivity assessment of Erf 2 in Gordons Bay.

The aim of the study is to assess the archaeological sensitivity of the site, and to guide proposed development of the property, which envisages tourist accommodation, including chalets, a guest lodge, and tourist related activities.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological assessment were:

1. to provide a broad baseline description of the archaeological/heritage resource potential of the site, placing the site in a regional context;
2. to provide specific information relating to the archaeology and heritage resources of the site, with reference to sites of special concern and their heritage status;
3. to map the site into zones and rank these zones according to their sensitivity from an archaeological and heritage perspective; and
4. to provide a justification as to the ranking of the zones as reported.

3. THE STUDY SITE

The study site for the proposed development is illustrated in Figure 1.

Erf 2 Gordons Bay is located against the mountainside above the Gordons Bay Harbour.

The 13.4 ha site is currently undeveloped and largely in a natural state, although the northern corner of the site is infested with alien vegetation.

4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY

The approach used in the sensitivity assessment entailed a ground survey of the property.

A desktop study was also undertaken.

The sensitivity of the site was determined according to the criteria specified in the Specialist Briefing Document (Crowther Campbell & Associates, 2002).

5. A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE STUDY AREA

A large number of archaeological sites have been documented along the coast on either side of Gordons Bay (Kaplan 1993a). Unfortunately, many of these sites have been destroyed as a result of recreational and residential development along the sensitive coastline.

Later Stone Age¹ (LSA) shell middens were recorded among the sand dunes all the way between Gordons Bay and the Strand (Rudner 1968), while shell middens and ancient fishtraps (*Idognathus*) have been recorded at Kuyalvasi, Rooi Els, Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay (Kaplan 1993a). Rock shelters also occur at the mouth of the Steenbras River (Schapera 1930), and at Rooi Els, while rare rock paintings have been recorded near the Steenbras River Dam (Kaplan 2002a).

6. RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL/HERITAGE SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

6.1 Archaeological finds

A handful of Early Stone Age² (ESA) tools were located in the firebreak which cuts across the site. A few tools were also located on the steep gravel slopes in the northern portion of the property. The tools comprise mainly large flakes, split cobbles and cores, in fine-grained quartzite.

The tools in the firebreak occur in a disturbed context, while those on the steeper slopes are probably in-situ. ESA tools are common in the region and have been located in a variety of contexts, both coastal and inland (Kaplan 1993b, 1995, 1998, 2002a,b).

Importance of finds: **low**

Suggested mitigation: **none required**

6.12 Other Heritage finds

No other heritage remains were located during the study

Jonathan – I'm not entirely clear on the difference between heritage and archaeological sites/remains, and you seem to be using the terms interchangeably here. If my clarification is incorrect, please ignore! Perhaps a brief explanation of the difference would be informative. Thanks.

with comments?

¹ A term referring to the last 20 000 years of precolonial history in southern Africa.

² A term referring to the period between 2 million and 250 000 years ago.

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7. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of proposed development on archaeological and heritage remains is considered to be low.

The probability of locating significant archaeological remains during implementation of the project is also considered to be low.

8. SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

The site has been assigned a low sensitivity rating (Table 1).

Table 1. Archaeological sensitivity assessment, Erf 2 Gordons Bay.

SENSITIVITY	Significance of Development	Intensity & Spatial extent of effect of development on the site	Vulnerability/ Irreplaceability
	Development in the zone would result in no significant impact	Low intensity/Local scale	Low/Low

9. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The receiving environment is not considered to be archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable or threatened.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to proposed development of Erf 2 in Gordons Bay, the following archaeological recommendations are made.

- The site is assigned a low archaeological sensitivity rating.
- The property is suitable for development.
- No further detailed studies are required.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

11. REFERENCES

Crowther Campbell & Associates. 2002. Specialist Briefing Document: Environmental Sensitivity Analysis: Erf 2 Gordon's Bay.

Kaplan, J. 1993a. The state of archaeological information in the coastal zone from the Orange River to Ponta do Oura. Report prepared for the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

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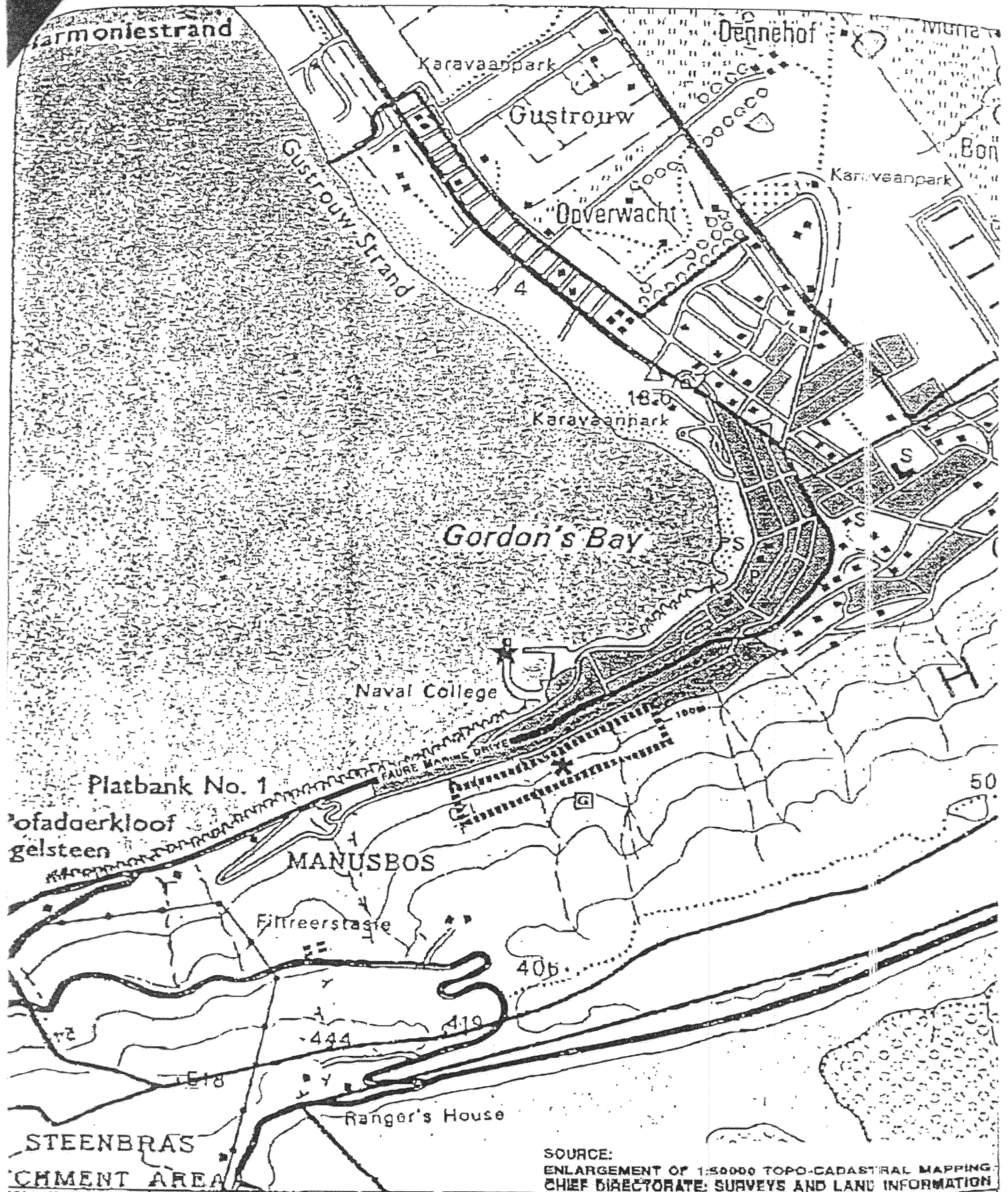
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Rudner, J. 1968. Strandloper pottery from South and South West Africa, Annals of the South African Museum 49:441-663.

Schapera, I. 1930. The Khoisan peoples of South Africa. London:Routledge & Kegan Paul.



SOURCE:
 ENLARGEMENT OF 1:50000 TOPO-CADASTRAL MAPPING
 CHIEF DIRECTORATE SURVEYS AND LAND INFORMATION

LOCALITY PLAN : ERF 2, GORDONS BAY