

# Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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**10 March 2006**

Ms Cornelia van Zyl  
I.C. @ Plan  
Town Planners  
10 A Pastorie Park  
Somerset West  
7130

Dear Ms van Zyl

## **PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF PORTION 18 OF FARM 959 GORDONS BAY WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

### **1. Introduction and brief**

I.C. @ Plan Town Planners, on behalf of P.M. Barnard Boerdery (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed rezoning and subdivision of Portion 18 of Farm 959 Gordon's Bay, in the Western Cape Province.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected property entails the establishment of 13 agricultural smallholdings with a minimum plot size of 1.0 ha each and a private road giving access to the units.

The affected property is currently zoned for Agriculture Zone 1 and is currently being used for smallholding purposes. There are no restrictive conditions of title contained within the Title Deed that inhibit the subdivision of the property.

The extent of the proposed development (about 14 ha) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the South African Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

The site visit and assessment took place on 08 March 2005.

A 1:50 000 locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

A colour aerial photograph of the site is illustrated in Figure 2.

## **2. Terms of reference**

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

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

A 'Notification to Heritage Western Cape of Intent to Develop' checklist has been completed by the archaeologist (on behalf of the applicant) and submitted to Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscape Committee (BELCOM) for comment.

A copy of the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment report has been included with this submission.

## **3. The site (S° 34 08 392 E 18° 54 809 on map datum WGS 84)**

The fairly level property is situated in the Firlands area to the south of the N2 Highway (Figures 3-7). Access to the site is gained from Sir Lowry's Pass Road (off the N2), via an existing gravel road which comprises the southern boundary of the property. Significant landscaping and preparation of the site for subdivision purposes is already in progress. A large area comprising alien vegetation has already been cleared from the site, but the property is still infested with alien vegetation (mainly Pine, Blue Gum and Port Jackson), with some natural vegetation occurring in places. A small dam is located in the north eastern corner of the subject property. Several gravel roads have already been constructed over the site. A modern labourer's cottage is located on the site (Figure 8) as is the main modern homestead (currently under renovation), several outbuildings and large landscaped garden (Figures 9 & 10). Some Buchu has recently been planted in a cleared area, and an old almond orchard occurs in the south western portion of the property, near the entrance to the affected site. There are no significant geographical or landscape features on the site. Surrounding land use comprises small holdings, bed and breakfast facilities, guest lodge establishments and several small cottage industries.

Overall, the site is in a highly degraded and altered state.

#### **4. Approach to the study**

The property was subjected to a detailed foot survey.

#### **5. Results of the study**

No pre-colonial archaeological heritage remains were located on the property.

The impact of the proposed subdivision and rezoning of the property on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be very low.

The probability of locating significant archaeological heritage remains during implementation of the project is likely to be highly improbable.

#### **6. Conclusion**

The archaeological assessment has shown that Portion 18 of Farm 959 Gordon's Bay is suitable for development.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Kaplan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jonathan Kaplan



Figure 1. Locality map (3418 BB Somerset West).

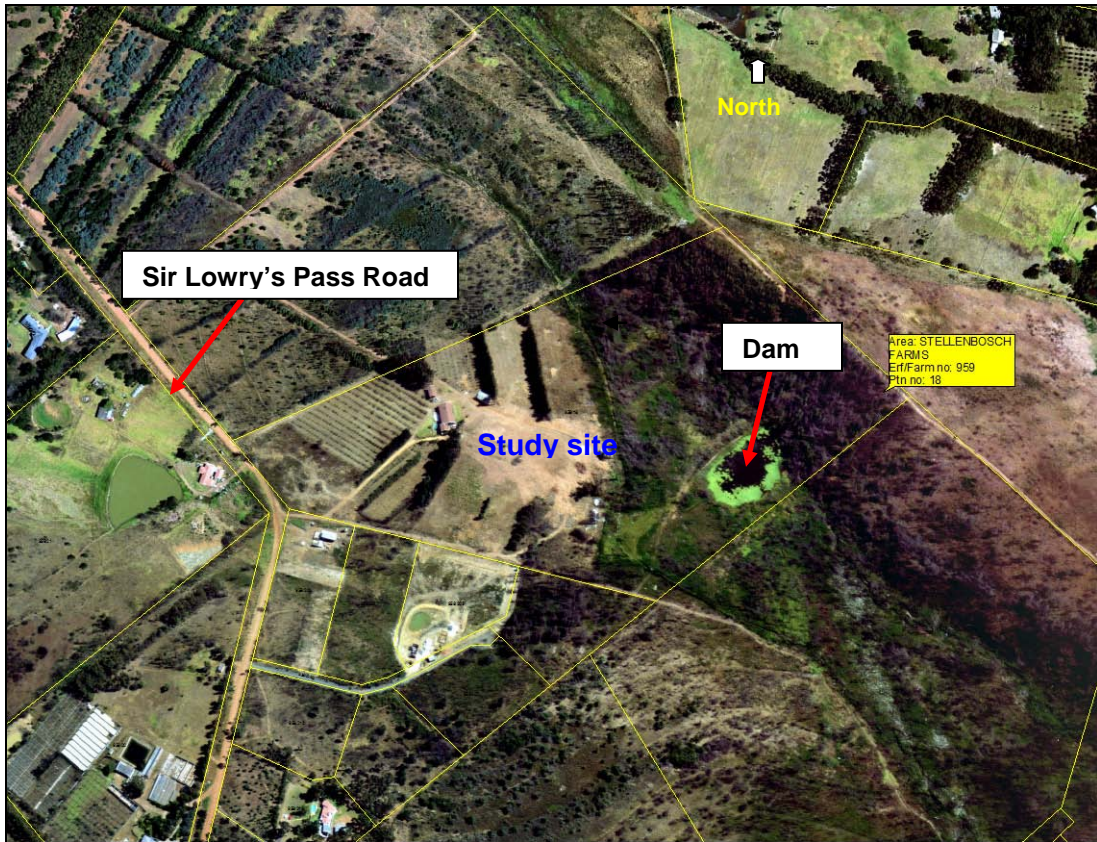


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site



Figure 3. View of the site facing north. The Helderberg Mountains are in the distance. The dam can also be seen.



Figure 4. View of the site facing north west.



Figure 5. View of the site facing south east. Gordon's Bay Mountains are in the distance.



Figure 6. View of the site facing east. Sir Lowry's Pass is in the distance.



Figure 7. View of the site facing south west. Gordon's Bay is in the distance.



Figure 8. Labourer's cottage.



Figure 9. View of the site facing east with modern home and landscaped garden in the foreground.



Figure 10. Main house under renovation.