

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF LOT 500, BONNIEVALE, SWELLENDAM MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

(AIA conducted under Section 38.2 of the National Heritage
Resources Act)

Prepared for

TPS Town and Regional Planners

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Prepared by

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeology Contracts Office conducted an Archaeological Impact Assessment of Lot 500, Bonnievale, Western Cape province. The study was conducted after the proponent was requested by Heritage Western Cape to commission an AIA (Archaeological Impact Assessment) of the study area. The land is currently zoned *agricultural*, however the proponent wishes to apply for rezoning to sub-divisional area.

The site is approximately 4.1877 hectares in extent. There is a single dwelling house on the property (Op die Koppie) which is situated on the highest part of the land which takes the form of a low hill.

No *in situ* archaeological material of any sort was located on the site. There are not outcrops of any kind on the land that could contain pre-colonial rock paintings.

The dwelling house on the property appears to be a 1950-60's structure and is not protected by the NHRA.

Based on this survey, no further archaeological work is recommended. This finding may be subject to revision from Heritage Western Cape, the official commenting authority for heritage issues in the Western Cape Province.

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	4
3. METHODS	5
3.1. Limitations	5
4. FINDINGS	5
4.1. Stone Age material	5
4.2. Historical material and cultural landscapes	5
5. CONCLUSIONS	6
6. RECOMMENDATIONS	6
7. REFERENCES	7
8. INVESTIGATION TEAM	7

1. INTRODUCTION

The Archaeology Contracts Office was appointed by TPS Consulting (Town and Regional Planners)¹ to conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment of Lot 500, Bonnievale, Western Cape Province as per requirements of Heritage Western Cape. This report contains the findings of the site inspection.

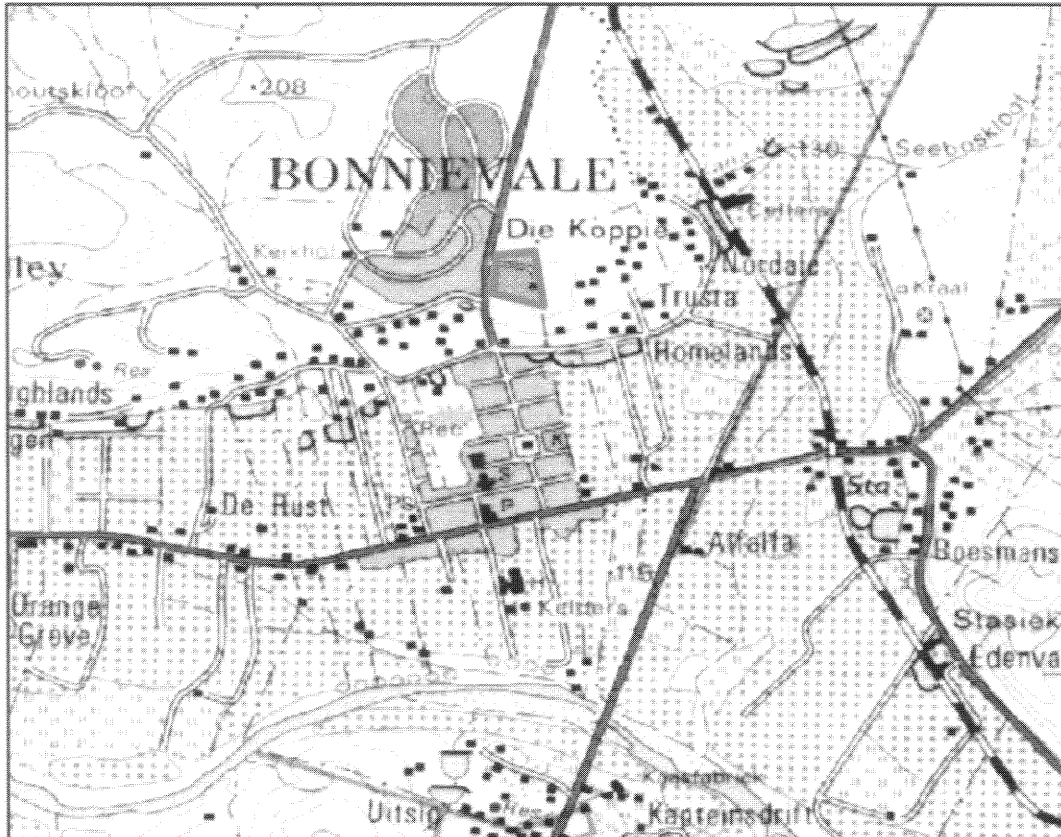


Figure 1: Locations of Lot 500 (marked in orange).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The study area (which is just over 4 hectares in size) lies on the northern outskirts of Bonnievale and has been specifically identified in the Breederiver/Winelands Spatial Development Framework as a being suitable for medium income development. The site lies on the urban edge of Bonnievale, adjacent to Voortrekker Road. The surrounding land is subject to agriculture, mostly vineyards while the newer suburbs of Bonnievale lie immediately to the west.

The site lies on the western side of a low hill (Die koppie), the highest point of which is occupied by a dwelling house and outbuildings. This is accessed via a dirt driveway from Voortekker Road. The property is not cultivated at present, being covered by Fynbos/karoo

¹ TPS Consulting Town and Regional Planners, 78 Bath Street Montague, 6720. Contact Mr R Brunings Tel/Fax 023 6141932, Cell 072 3591874, email brunings@lando.co.za.

vegetation elements. The geology is characterised by Bokkeveld shale and loose quartz nodules.



Plate 1: The existing Dwelling House "Op die Koppie".

3. METHODS

The site was examined on 24 August 2006 by archaeologists Tim Hart, Jayson Orton.

3.1. Limitations

There were no limitations, however at time of inspection it was raining heavily and some areas were muddy.

4. FINDINGS

4.1. Stone Age material

No material was identified.

4.2. Historical material and cultural landscapes

No historical archaeological material was identified. The dwelling house is appears to be a 1950-1960 building and is less than 60 years of age and is therefore not protected by the NHRA (National Heritage Resources Act of 1999). The site is situated in the northern area of

Bonnievale outside of the historical core of the town. Recent suburban development lies to the west.

The site lies on the approach to Bonnievale from the north. This means that it has potential “gateway” qualities in terms of its landscape context. We draw the developer’s attention to this fact as it represents an opportunity to enhance the approach to the town.



Plate 2: View from the highest point of the property towards adjacent suburbs of Bonnievale.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Impacts to archaeological material or other heritage protected by the NHRA is deemed to be very low in the context of the current development proposal.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of this survey indicate that no further work is required at this stage however this is subject to any comments made by Heritage Western Cape who are the official commenting authority for heritage issues in the Western Cape Province.

7. REFERENCES

Lot 500 Bonnievale. Application for rezoning and sub-division: agriculture zone 1 to sub-divisional area. Unpublished rezoning application. TPS Town and Regional Planners.

8. INVESTIGATION TEAM

Fieldwork: T. Hart
J. Orton

Report: T. Hart

APPENDIX

Aerial photographs of study area (Google Earth)

