

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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13 March, 2007

Att: Mr Lieuwe Boonstra
EnviroAfrica
P. O. Box 5367
Helderberg
7135

Dear Mr Boonstra

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF CHICKEN HOUSES ON PORTION 4 OF PORTION 2 OF THE FARM DE LIEFDE NO. 323 TULBAGH WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. Introduction and brief

EnviroAfrica¹, on behalf of Mr T.G. Erasmus requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed construction of 12 chicken houses on Portion 4 of Portion 2 of the Farm de Liefde No. 323 near Wolseley, in the Western Cape Province. *Chicken Houses*

The affected property is currently zoned Agriculture. An application for consent use is required from Witzenberg Municipality for the proposed activity to proceed. *Municipality*

The extent of the proposed development (about 5.0 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).

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological 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.

¹ EnviroAfrica is represented by Mr Lieuwe Boonstra. Fax (021) 8555333

3. The site

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the study site is illustrated in Figure 2.

The Farm de Liefde No. 323 (S° 33 29 561 E 19° 11 970 on map datum wgs 84) is located about 10 km west of Wolseley, and is adjacent to the R43 between Wolseley and Worcester. The subject property is currently vacant, but was previously utilised for the production of wine grapes. Some grazing has also taken place on the property. A large portion of the site is infested with alien vegetation such as Hakea, while some large Pines are sporadic over the property. The remainder of the property is covered in thick natural veld, overall, resulting in very low archaeological visibility (Figures 3-6). A burnt out area occurs in the north eastern portion of the proposed site, where archaeological visibility is good (Figure 7). The proposed site is fairly flat, and slopes slightly from west to east. There are no significant landscape features occurring on the property. There are no buildings or structures on the property, either. The surrounding land-use is mainly rural farmland (vineyards, fruit orchards and vacant agricultural land). Rassies Chicks Broiler Farm is located directly to the north of the affected property (refer to Figure 2).

Wine grapes
+
grapes
↓
thick natural veld
Burnt out area
the area
Area

4. Approach to the study

The proposed site was subjected to a foot survey.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 5th March, 2007.

5. Results of the study

A low density scatter of Early Stone Age (ESA) tools was located during the baseline study, but these are spread very thinly and unevenly over the surrounding landscape. One large flake, core and chunk was found in a gravel road on the southern boundary of the proposed site. Two large flakes and several chunks, including a flaked chunk was located in the burnt out area in the north eastern portion of the property (refer to Figure 7). One incomplete handaxe and one heavily weathered retouched flake tool was found in a small dried-up dam in the south western portion of the site that is heavily infested with alien vegetation (Figure 8). The tools are all in locally available quartzite and occur mostly in a severely disturbed and degraded context.

Approximately
insignificant
stone tools
discarded
context - poor

The archaeological heritage remains have been rated as having low local significance.

ESA tools have also been documented at several locations close to the subject property, during the course of archaeological baseline studies. ESA flakes and chunks were documented on the Farm Romansrivier², while ESA and Middle Stone Age tools, were recorded during a study of the proposed Rassies Chicks broiler farm situated directly to

Refer to in
context with
stone tools
found in the
Area

² Kaplan, J. 2005. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed construction of the 132/66 Kv substation and tie-in powerlines Romansrivier. Report prepared for Eskom. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

the north, of the subject property³. These materials also occurred in a modified and transformed context.

6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be low.

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

7. Conclusion

The study has shown that the no important archaeological heritage remains occur within the propose site.

The proposed construction of chicken houses on Portion 4 of Portion 2 of the Farm de Liefde No. 323 in Tulbagh should be allowed to proceed.

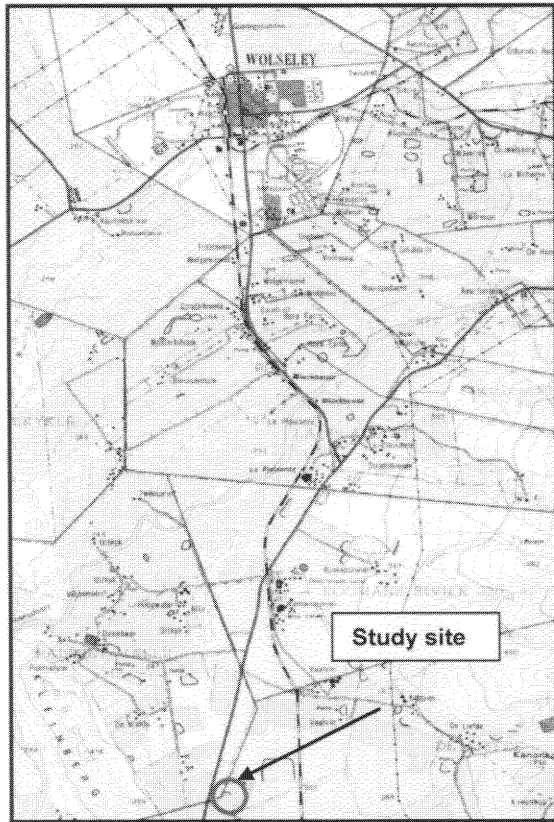
Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie 021 462 4502), or Heritage Western Cape (Mr N. Ndlovu 021 483 9692). Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan

³ Kaplan, J. 2002. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 25 of the Farm Palmiet Valley No. 318 Tulbagh. Report prepared for EnviroAfrica. Agency for Cultural Resource Management



Locality map (3319AC Tulbagh)

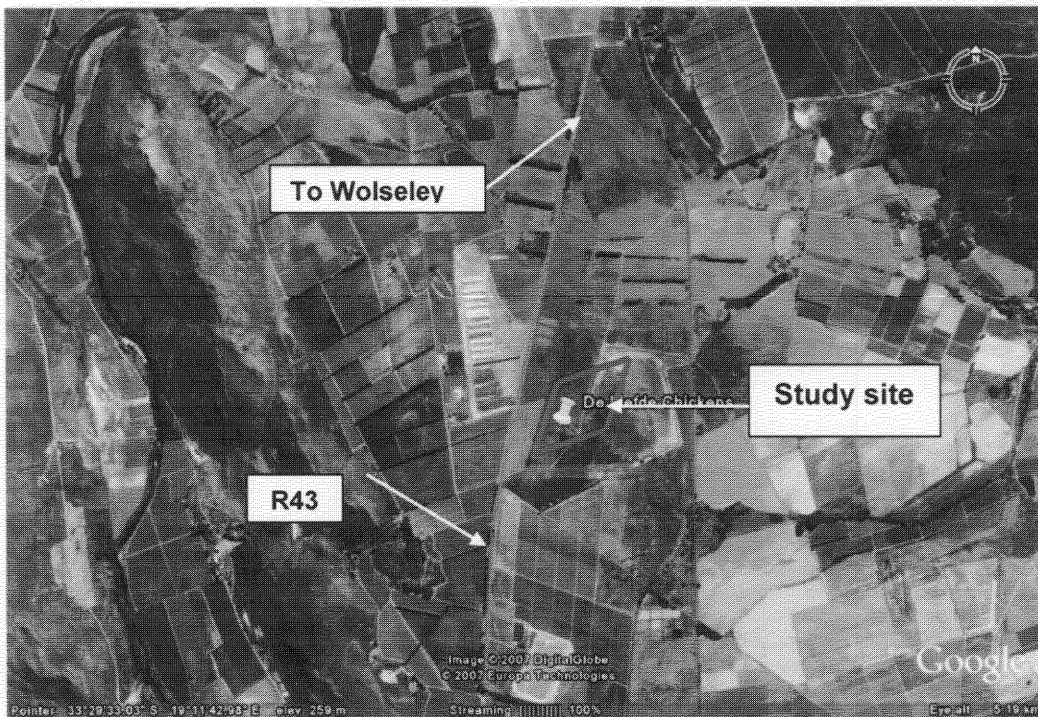


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site



Figure 3. View of the site facing north east



Figure 4. View of the site facing north

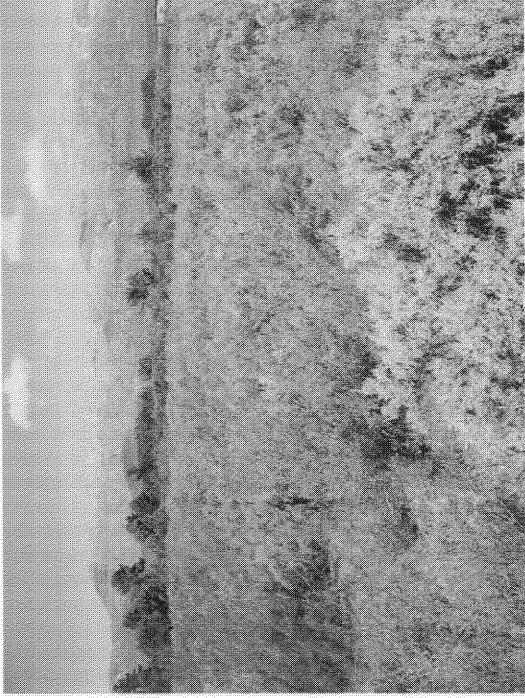


Figure 5. View of the site facing south east



Figure 6. View of the site facing south

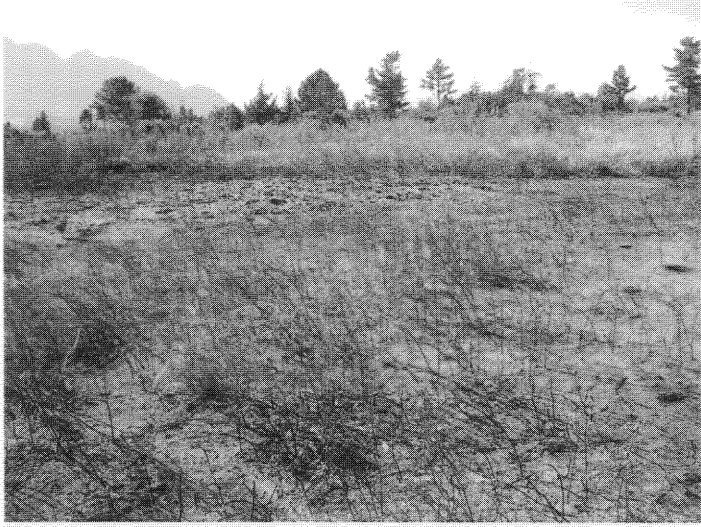


Figure 7. View of the site facing south west

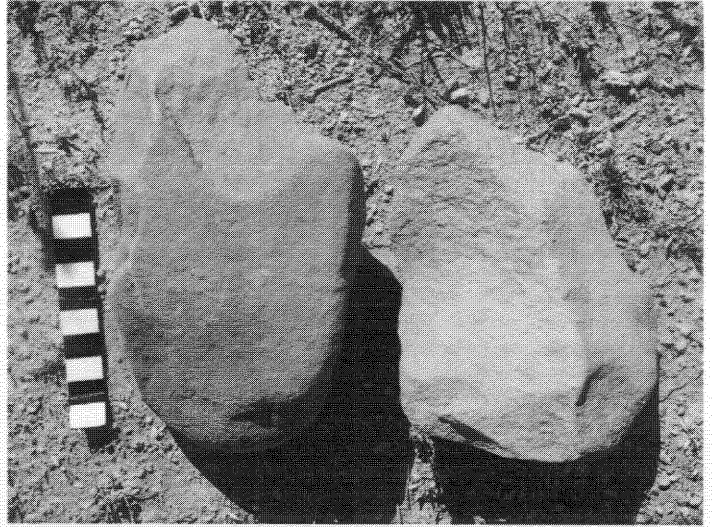


Figure 8. Incomplete handaxe and retouched flake tool. Scale is in cm