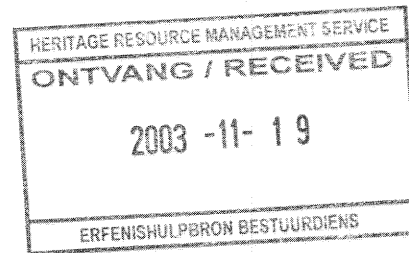


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**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
PORTIONS 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24  
OF THE FARM UITKOMST  
PATERNOSTER**

Prepared for

**BCD TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNERS**

By

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2003**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background and brief**

BCD Town & Regional Planners requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster on the Cape West coast.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected properties is for the purpose of residential housing.

The aim of the AIA is to locate, identify and map any archaeological remains that may be negatively impacted by planning and construction of the proposed development, and to propose measures to mitigate against the impact.

## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The terms of reference for the study were:

1. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed sites;
2. to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance within the proposed sites;
3. to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites potentially affected by the proposed development;
4. to assess the significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
5. to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist within the proposed sites; and

## **3. STUDY APPROACH AND DOCUMENTATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

The approach used in the study entailed a detailed ground survey of Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster.

A desktop study was also undertaken.

A relatively large number of archaeological impact assessments have been undertaken in Paternoster in recent years, in response to an increase in mainly residential development in the area (Halkett & Hart 1992a,b; Halkett & Mutti 1998; Hart & Halkett 1995, 1998a,b; Kaplan 2002). Many archaeological sites have been identified and recorded during the course of these surveys, a number of which have also been excavated (Hart & Halkett 1996; Halkett 1996; Yates 1998). Excavations appear to indicate that the majority of the Paternoster sites date within the last 3000 years and straddle the period both before and after the arrival of Khoekhoe pastoralists with domestic stock and pottery.

#### 4. THE STUDY SITE

Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster is illustrated in Figure 1.

Combined the properties measure about 6.7 ha in extent.

As a whole, the site is very degraded and disturbed (Figures 2-5). A number of informal footpaths and tracks cut across the site. Some earthworks and excavations have also been carried out. Dumping is quite widespread. Dune mole rat activity is extensive across the site, particularly in the eastern portions.

A number of ruined buildings previously occupied by local fisherfolk occur on each of the affected properties. Large amounts of domestic debris and refuse are scattered about the ruined buildings. Modern shell middens (comprising mainly black mussel and white mussel), associated with domestic debris such as glass, bottles, plastic, rubber, rusted metal bits, old clothes, and building rubble, occur among a few of the ruins.

Conservation architect and Heritage Impact Assessment practitioner, Mr Graham Jacobs, will undertake a heritage assessment of the buildings and ruins.

#### 5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

##### 5.1 The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999)

###### 5.1.1 Archaeology (Section 35 (4))

No person may, without a permit issued by Heritage Western Cape (the provincial heritage authority), destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object.

###### 5.1.2 Burial grounds and graves (Section 36 (3))

No person may, without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority.

##### 5.2 Application requirements and procedure

Permit applications must be made on the official form:

- *Application for permit to destroy: Archaeological and palaeontological sites and meteorites;*
- *Application for permit: Burial Grounds and Graves.*

Permit application forms are available from SAHRA, and Heritage Western Cape

## 6. IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL RISKS

The following project actions may likely impact negatively on archaeological sites.

The actions are most likely to occur during the Construction Phase of the proposed development.

- Development will impact negatively on an already severely disturbed and damaged shell midden alongside St. Augustine Road in Portion 23/7 (see Figure 1).
- Bulk earthworks and excavations for services in Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 may expose or uncover buried shell middens and human burials.

## 7. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND DESCRIPTION

### Portion 23/7 (see Figure 1 for GPS readings)

A large, but severely damaged Later Stone Age<sup>1</sup> (LSA) shell midden was located in the extreme south-western portion of Portion 23/7 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster (Figure 6). The midden also extends into Portion 23/17, which does not form part of the current study.

The uppermost deposits of the midden has been largely destroyed by heavy trampling and pedestrian traffic moving over the top of the dune, but some smaller dune hummocks in both Portions 23/7 and 23/7 appear to contain some in-situ shellfish remains. Some well preserved, but damaged and disturbed in-situ layers of shellfish are visible in the road cutting alongside St. Augustine Road (Figure 7).

Black mussel (*Choromytilus meridionalis*) dominates the in-situ shellfish alongside St. Augustine Road, with smaller amounts of white mussel (*Donax Serra*), and limpets species (*Patella argenvillei*, *Patella granatina*, and even smaller amounts of *Patella cochlear*) occurring. Burnt shellfish remains are also apparent in the dune cutting.

Some bird bone and tortoise bone was also noted in the shellfish sections, and spilling downslope into the road reserve. A few stone tools were also noted on the eroding slopes. These include some quartz chunks, flakes and a core, and a silcrete flake.

The damaged top of the midden comprises mainly heavily crushed and fragmented black mussel shell. Some fragmented limpets and white mussel were also noted. One quartz chunk, two rough quartzite flakes and two quartzite cobbles/manuports were also found.

The site is very visible, vulnerable and further threatened by the proposed development of the site.

Importance of find: **HIGH**

Impact: **HIGH**

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

**Mitigation: A representative sample of shell midden material to be excavated from Portion 23/7**

## **8. IMPACT STATEMENT**

The impact of the proposed rezoning, subdivision and development of Portion 23/7 of the farm Uitkomst Paternoster on the archaeological remains alongside St. Augustine Road is likely to be very high.

Bulk earthworks and excavations for services in Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24, may also expose buried shell middens and human burials. Should these be uncovered during construction activities, the impacts could be potentially high.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

With regard to the proposed subdivision, rezoning and development of Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster, the following recommendations are made.

- A copy of this report must be submitted to Heritage Western Cape for the Attention of Dr Janette Deacon, Chairperson Heritage Western Cape, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town, 8000.
- A representative sample of archaeological remains from Portion 23/7 must be excavated/rescued by a professional archaeologist. It is essential that mitigation procedures be negotiated and implemented well before development activities are due to commence – this may require a joint site inspection by Heritage Western Cape, SAHRA, and the proponent/s. It will be necessary plan the mitigation procedures accordingly.
- Human burials or human burial remains uncovered or disturbed during bulk earthworks and excavations on Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24, should not be removed or disturbed until inspected by a professional archaeologist.
- Should any human remains be exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to a professional archaeologist, and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie 021 4624502).

The local police must also be informed. If the burial is deemed to be over 60 years old and no foul play is suspected, an emergency exhumation permit may be issued by SAHRA for an archaeologist to exhume the remains under such provisions as SAHRA deems appropriate.

- An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be briefed by a professional archaeologist what to look out for during the Construction Phase of the project.

The recommendations are subject to the approval of the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee of Heritage Western Cape.

## 10. REFERENCES

Halkett, D. & Hart, T. 1992a. A first phase archaeological survey of Bekbaai, Paternoster. Report prepared for Brandt, Crous, Steyn & Burger. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

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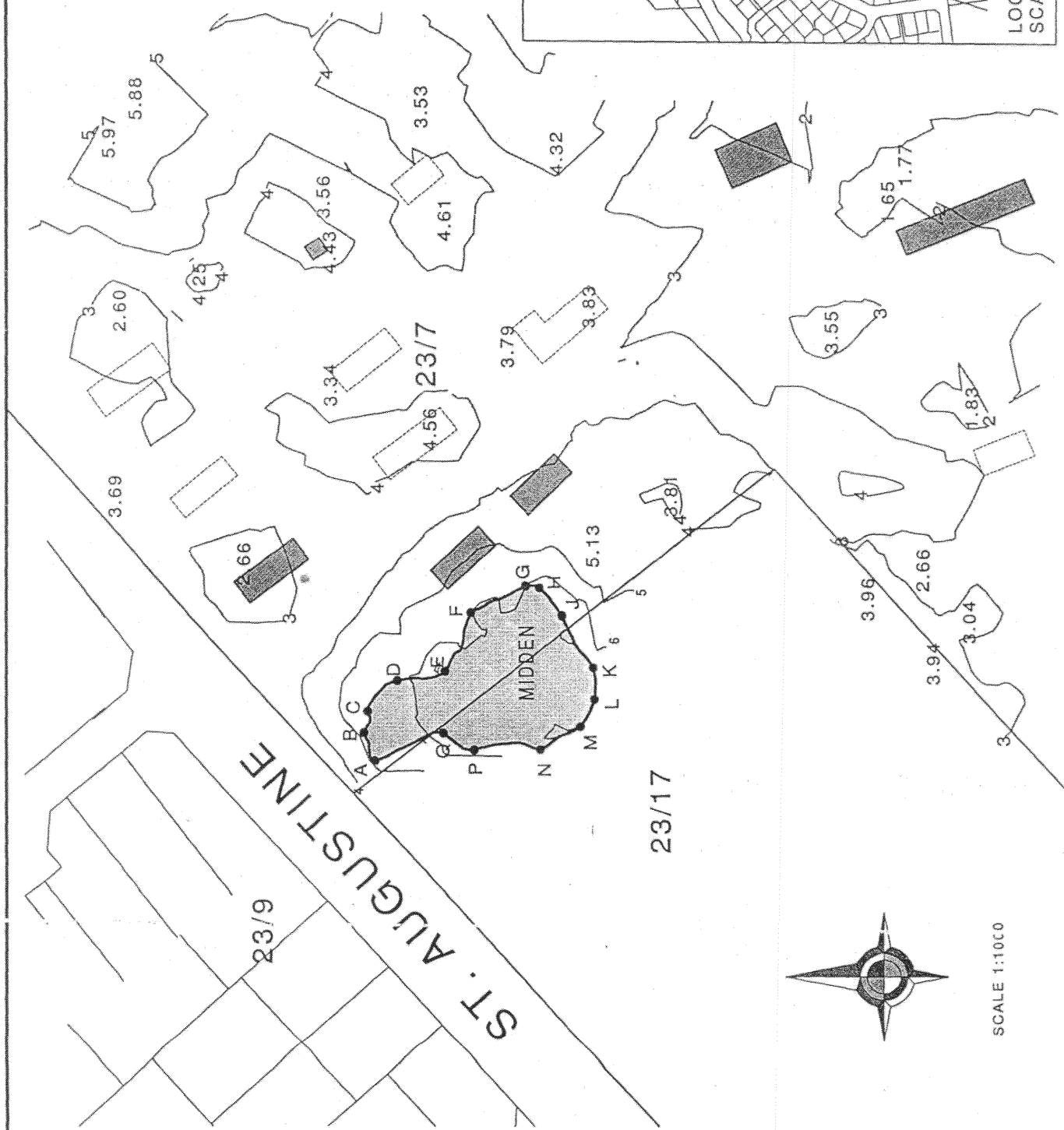
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Kaplan, J. 2002. Phase 1 Archaeological study, proposed development of Paternoster A34, Paternoster Cape West Coast. Report prepared for BCD Town & Regional Planners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Yates, R. 1998. A phase 2 archaeological investigation of Site 1 on Farm 1062 (previously 967), Paternoster, Western Cape. Report prepared for Faros Fisheries. Henshilwood, Yates & Winter Heritage Resource Consultants.

NOTE: SYSTEM LO19

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103210.28	31586.68	G
103210.63	31589.18	H
103215.55	31593.21	J
103224.76	31598.89	K
103230.43	31599.04	L
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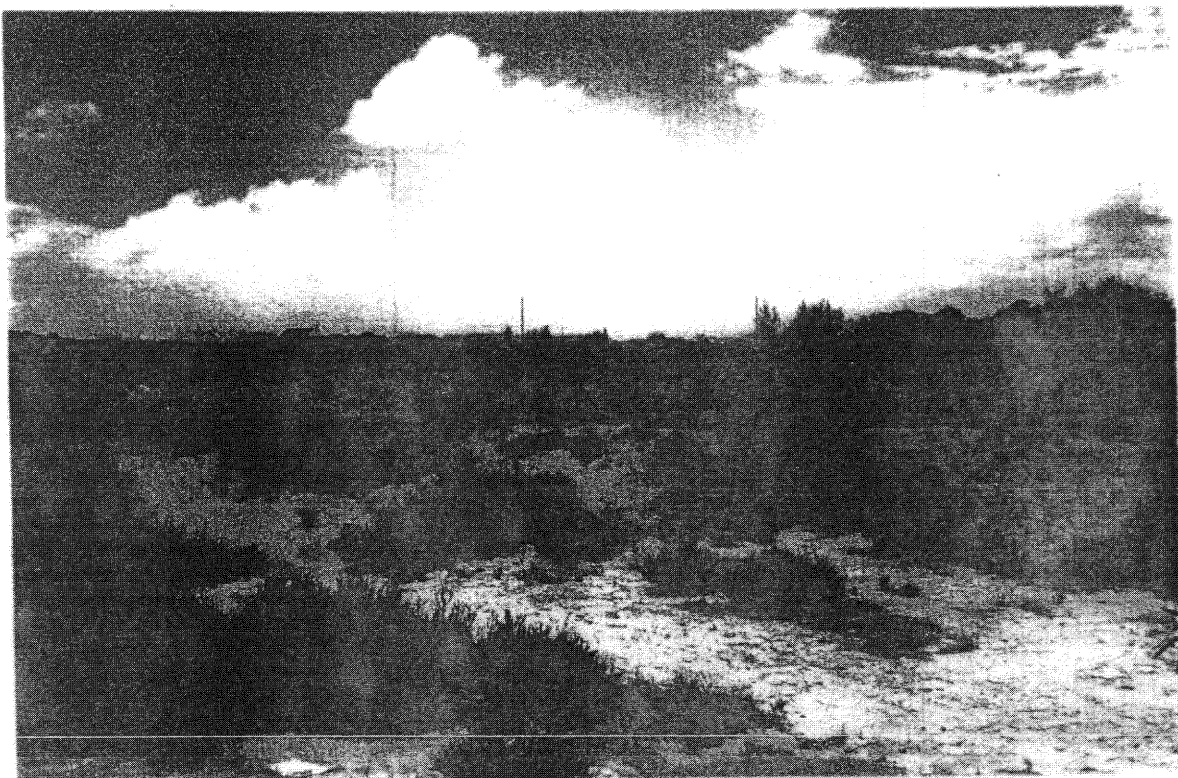


Figure 2. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. View of the site facing north. Note excavations in the foreground.

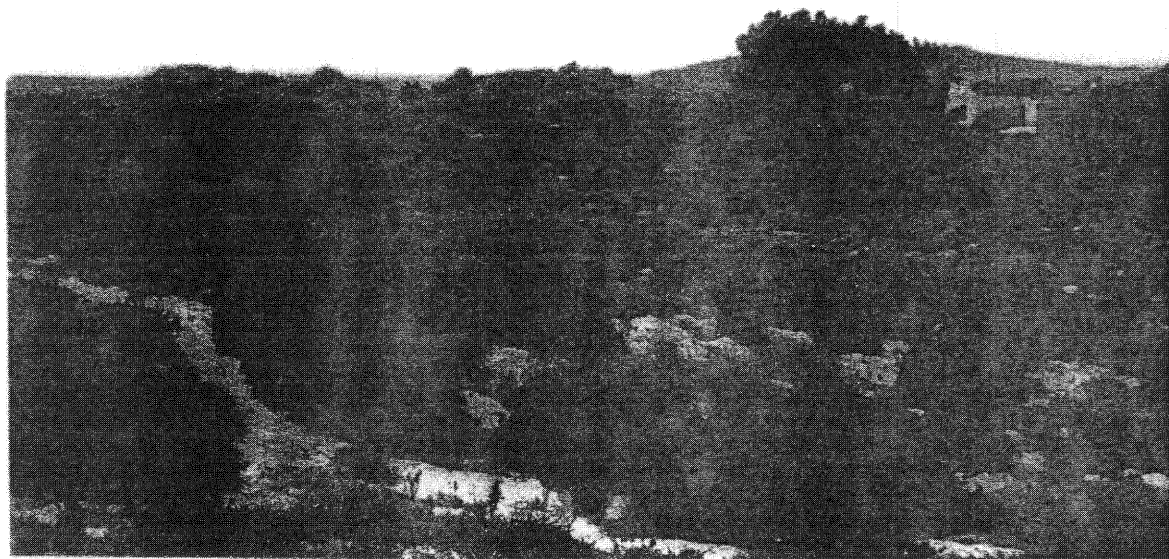


Figure 3. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. View of the site facing north-east.





Figure 4. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. View of the site facing south.

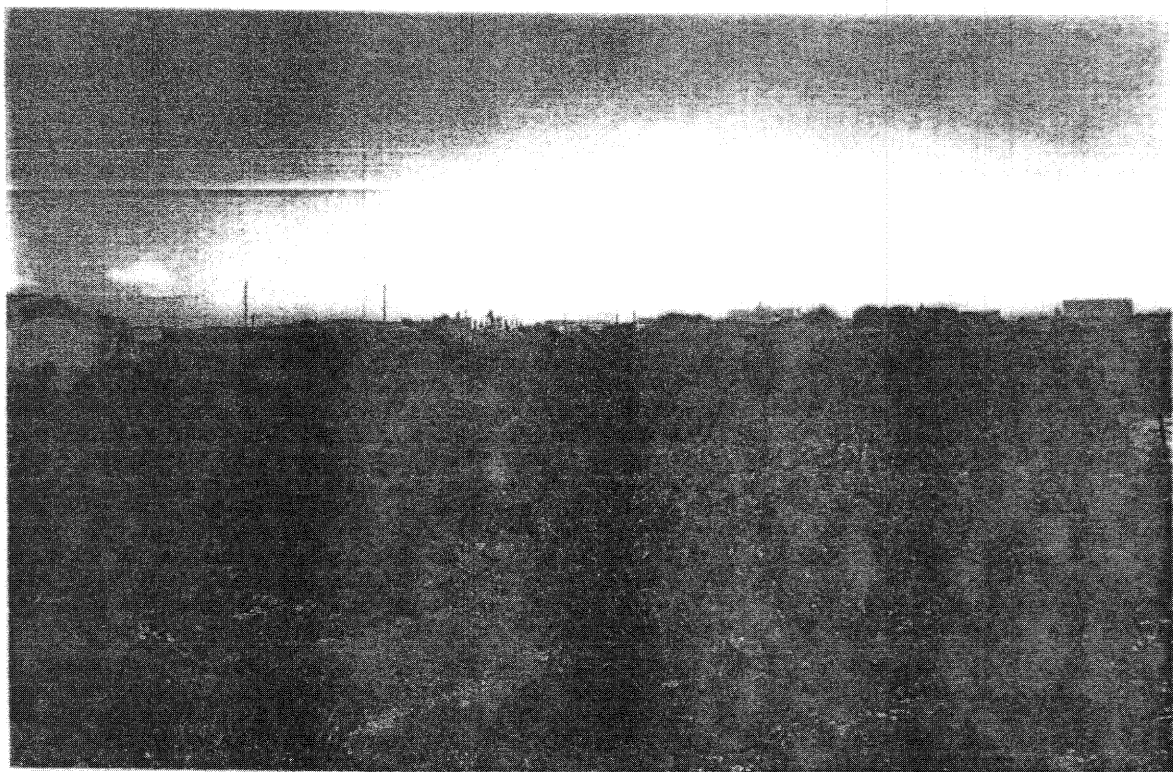


Figure 5. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. View of the site facing west.



Figure 6. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. Shell midden in Portion 23/7.



Figure 7. Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 & 23/24 of the farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. Shell midden in Portion 23/7.