

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PORTION 6 OF THE FARM WALTERS NO. 33
PATERNOSTER**

Prepared for

PATERNOSTER STRAND (PTY) LTD

By

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

P.O. Box 159

Riebeeck West

7306

Ph/Fax: 022 461 2755

Cellular: 082 321 0172

E-mail: acrm@waccess.co.za

**JULY
2005**

Executive summary

Paternoster Strand (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake a specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33, in Paternoster on the Cape west coast.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected property is for the purpose of a residential housing development.

The extent of the proposed development (4.3 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 aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological heritage sites/remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, to assess the significance of the potential impacts and to propose measures to mitigate against the impacts.

Several discreet scatters of shellfish, stone artefacts and other cultural items were located during course of the baseline study. The archaeological heritage remains occur among remnant sand dunes alongside St. Augustine Road, and in a well-grassed dune slack alongside Kriedoring Road in Bekbaai/Paternoster.

The archaeological heritage remains have provisionally been graded medium-low local significance.

A complex of modern buildings and structures occur to the east of St. Augustine Road, on the affected property. The buildings (including several others which have been demolished) once formed part of the (now defunct) Bekbaai (Pty) Ltd fishing company, established in 1965.

The archaeological assessment of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33 Paternoster has identified potentially significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to development activities.

With regard to the proposed development, the following recommendations are made:

- Shovel testing of shell midden deposits below St. Augustine Road is required in order to determine the significance of the archaeological deposits. Shovel testing is a means of determining the depth and variability of the below ground archaeological remains (both subsistence and cultural), in order to determine the extent of further archaeological investigations of specific areas that may be required on the site.
- Bulk earthworks and excavations for services, must be monitored by a professional archaeologist.
- Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

Mr Nico Latsky, on behalf of Paternoster Strand (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake a specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33, Paternoster, Saldanha – Vredenburg District.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected property is for the purpose of a housing development, comprising 63 single residential units.

The extent of the proposed development (4.3 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 aim of the AIA is to locate and identify 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:

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

3. THE STUDY SITE

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

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

Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33 is located either side of St. Augustine Road in Bekbaai/Paternoster.

The affected property east of St. Augustine Road is highly degraded (Figures 3 & 4). A complex of modern buildings, including ablution and washing facilities, as well as a prefabricated, dormitory-type occupied by seasonal labourers employed by a local crayfish company, occur on this portion of the affected property (Figure 5). These buildings (including several others which were demolished some years ago), once formed part of the (now defunct) Bekbaai (Pty) Ltd fishing company, established in 1965.

The affected property west of St. Augustine Road comprises a series of vegetated frontal sand dunes, alongside St. Augustine Road (Figure 6). These dunes are partially degraded, while several small footpaths also occur over the dunes. Some dumping also occurs in places. A well-vegetated dune slack occurs in the north western portion of the property, alongside Kriedoring Road in Bekbaai (Figure 7).

4. STUDY APPROACH AND DOCUMENTATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

The approach used in the specialist study entailed a detailed foot survey of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33 Paternoster.

Archaeological occurrences were recorded and given a co-ordinate using a Gamin Gecko 201 GPS set on map datum WGS 84.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 13th of June 2005.

A desktop study was also undertaken.

4.1 Assumptions

Since the receiving environment is located within a known archaeologically sensitive area (Kaplan 1993), the assessment assumes that:

- Damage to archaeological heritage resources potentially will occur in the proposed development.

4.2 Limitations

There were no limitations associated with the proposed project.



Figure 1. Site locality (3217 DB & DD Vredenburg).



Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the proposed site. Archaeological sites are also indicated.



Figure 3. The site facing north. St. Augustine Road is to the left of the plate.



Figure 4. The site facing north west.



Figure 5. Buildings and structures east of St. Augustine Road.



Figure 6. The site facing north west. St. Augustine Road is to the right of the plate.



Figure 7. Dune slack facing Kriedoring Road in Bekbaai.

5. RESULTS OF THE DESKTOP STUDY

A number of archaeological impact assessments have been undertaken in Paternoster in recent years, in direct response to an increase in the pace of residential development in the area (Halkett & Hart 1992a,b; Halkett & Mutti 1998; Hart & Halkett 1995, 1998a,b; Kaplan 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005a).

Many sites have been identified and recorded during the course of these surveys, a number of which have also been excavated and sampled (Hart & Halkett 1996; Halkett 1996; Kaplan 2005b, c, d; Yates 1998, 2003, 2004a,b).

Excavations and sampling of archaeological deposits in Paternoster appear to indicate that the majority of the sites date within the last 3000-4000 years and overlap the period both before and after the arrival of Khoekhoe pastoralists with domestic stock and pottery.

Shovel testing on Portion 37 of the Farm Uitkomst 23 also revealed the presence of an indigenous Khoisan burial (Yates 2004a).

6. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

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

6.1.1 Structures (Section 34 (1))

No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure that is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), or Heritage Western Cape.

6.1.2 Archaeology (Section 35 (4))

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

6.1.3 Burial grounds and graves (Section 36 (3))

No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, 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.

7. IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL RISKS

The following project actions will very likely impact negatively on archaeological sites during the course of the proposed development.

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

- The proposed development will potentially impact negatively on archaeological shell midden remains in the coastal portion of the affected property.
- Bulk earthworks and excavations for services may expose or uncover buried shell middens and human burial remains in the western portion of the affected property.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND DESCRIPTION

Archaeological heritage sites located during the baseline study are indicated in Figure 2.

WLT 1 (GPS reading S 32° 48 76.8 E 17° 52 97.8)

The site comprises a fairly extensive scatter of fragmented shellfish remains occurring in a well grassed dune slack alongside Kriedoring Road in Bekbaai (Figure 8 and refer to Figure 7). The dune forms part of a prominent limestone ridge running partially alongside St. Augustine Road. Dune mole rat activity is widespread on the site and many of the shell mounds contain bits of fragmented shellfish. Limpets (genus Patella) dominate the shellfish remains with some Black Mussel shell also occurring in places. Some dumping of building rubble occurs on the site. One snapped silcrete flake, several limestone flakes, one small quartzite hammerstone and one white mussel (Donax serra) scraper were noted on the site. No pottery was found.

The archaeological remains have been graded medium local significance.

WLT 2 (GPS reading S 32° 48 83.6 E 17° 52 94.3)

A thin scatter of fragmented shellfish remains, about 10 x 10 m in extent, occurs in several small patches of sand on the vegetated sand dunes about 25 m west of St. Augustine Road (Figure 9). Large numbers of limestone nodules are littered among the dunes in this area. The shellfish remains are dominated by limpet (genus Patella), while some Black Mussel also occurs in places. Four white mussel scrapers (including two broken), two pieces of ostrich eggshell, one utilised quartz flake, and one silcrete flake were also noted. A metacarpal bone of an unknown animal was also found. No pottery was found despite a widespread search of the surrounding area.

The archaeological remains have been graded low- medium local significance.



Figure 8. Archaeological site WLT 1. Note the shellfish in the foreground of the plate.



Figure 9. Archaeological site WLT 2. Note the shellfish in the open patches.

WLT 3 (GPS reading S 32° 48 84.4 E 17° 52 92.2)

One quartz flake and one quartz chunk were located among a very thin scatter of shellfish on an open patch of ground on the vegetated dunes about 15 m west of WLT 2.

The archaeological remains have been graded low local significance.

Note: WLT 2 & 3 probably represents the remains of a single site comprising several thin scatters of shellfish and cultural remains occurring in open patches among the vegetated dunes located alongside St. Augustine Road.

9. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the proposed rezoning, subdivision and development of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33, Paternoster, on archaeological heritage remains is, potentially, likely to be high.

Buried shell middens and human burials may also be exposed or uncovered during bulk earthworks and excavations for services.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed development of Portion 6 of the Farm Walters No. 33, Paternoster, the following recommendations are made:

- Shovel testing of shell midden deposits below St. Augustine Road is required in order to determine the significance of the below ground archaeological deposits. Shovel testing is a means of determining the depth and variability of archaeological remains (both subsistence and cultural), in order to determine the extent of further archaeological investigations of specific areas that may be required on the site.
- Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502).
- Bulk earthworks and particularly excavations for services must be monitored by a professional archaeologist

11. REFERENCES

Halkett, D. 1996. Report on the investigation of four archaeological sites at Paternoster Bay, south-western Cape. Report prepared for Paternoster Strand (Pty) Ltd. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

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.

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

Halkett, D. & Mutti, B. 1998. A Phase 1 archaeological investigation of Farm 1062 (previously 967) Paternoster. Report prepared for BCD Town and Regional Planners. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Hart, T. & Halkett, D. 1998a. Phase 1 archaeological assessment of a portion of farm 28, Paternoster and Portion 1 of farm 26, Paternoster, Western Cape Province, Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Hart, T. & Halkett, D. 1998b. A Phase 1 archaeological investigation of Farm 1062 (previously 967) Paternoster. Report prepared for BCD Town & Regional Planners. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Hart, T. & Halkett, D. 1996. Phase 2 excavations of Later Stone Age sites, Paternoster Bay, Cape West coast. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Hart, T. & Halkett, D. 1995. Phase 1 archaeological investigation of Portion 1 of the farm 26 Paternoster and Portion 9 of farm 23 Paternoster. Report prepared for BCD Town & Regional Planners. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Kaplan, J. 2005a. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 21 of the farm Uitkomst 23 Paternoster. Report prepared for Mr Paul Freidberg. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2005b. Progress report on archaeological excavation at Test Pit 11, Paternoster. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2005c. Results of archaeological shovel testing undertaken on Portion 23/7 of the Farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. Report prepared for Paternoster Property (Pty) Ltd. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2005d. Results of archaeological shovel testing undertaken on Portion 21 of the Farm Uitkomst, Paternoster. Report prepared for Mr Paul Freidberg. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2004. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Portion 37 of the Farm Uitkomst 23 Paternoster. Report prepared for Envirodinamik on behalf of Mr Deon Brand. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

Kaplan, J. 2003. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Portions 23/7, 23/18, 23/19, 23/23 and 23/24 of the Farm Uitkomst Paternoster. Report prepared for BCD Town & Regional Planners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

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.

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

Yates, R. 2004a. Archaeological Heritage Resources Assessment Portion 37 of the Farm Uitkomst 23, Paternoster. Saldanha Bay Municipality, Western Cape Province. Report prepared for Deon van Zyl Consultants. Iziko: South African Museum.

Yates, R. 2004b. Interim report to Heritage Western Cape on excavations conducted on Portion 1 of Farm 1050 Paternoster on behalf of Rapidough Properties. Iziko: South African Museum.

Yates, R. 2003. Archaeological Heritage Resources Assessment Plot 10 and allied areas of Portion 1 of Farm No. 1050 Paternoster. Report prepared for Rapidough Properties cc. Iziko: South African Museum.

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.