

9/2/10/14

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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19 January 2005

Mr Bernard de Wit
EnviroAfrica
PO Box 5367
Helderberg
7135

Dear Bernard

REPORT SITE VISIT TO ASSESS SHELL MIDDENS AT THE PROPOSED CAPE ST. MARTIN DEVELOPMENT SALDANHA-VREDENBURG DISTRICT

Following our email and telephonic communication, as well as communication with Dr A. Jerardino of Heritage Western Cape, pertaining to the proposed Cape St. Martin development, I visited the site on Monday 29 November 2004, in the company of the developers, Messrs. C. van Zyl and D. Vrede.

We proceeded to visit each of the shell middens described in the report produced by the Archaeology Contracts Office (ACO)¹, in order to assess their proximity to the proposed development.

Except for sites DE1, DE 2 and DE 9, all the archaeological sites were relocated, taped off, given a GPS co-ordinate (using a Garmin Gecko 2 set on map datum WGS 84) and where appropriate, photographed (Figures 1-3).

Because of their close proximity to each other, DE 3 - DE 5 were treated as a complex of related sites and given a single GPS co-ordinate.

The archaeological sites were subsequently surveyed by a professional land surveyor, and indicated on a site development plan supplied to me by the Axion Architects (Figure 4). For some unknown reason DE 6 and DE 10 were not indicated on this plan, but I have subsequently indicated their location, as well as the probable location of DE 1.

With regard to DE 1 and DE 2, these sites could not be relocated and it appears that the archaeological sites have been destroyed as a result of the construction of some coastal properties. According to one of the developers, Mr. D. Vrede (pers. comm.), a small piece of the affected property (i.e. Portion 6 of the Farm Dyker Eiland), was sold off after the ACO report was completed, in 1995, and subsequently houses and/or associated activities were built on top of the archaeological sites.

¹ Halkett, D. & Hart, T. 1995. A Phase 1 Archaeological Assessment of Portion 6 of the Farm Dyker Eiland: St Helena Bay. Report prepared for Beyers, A.W. Land Surveyors and Township Consultants. Archaeology Contracts Office, Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town.

It must be stressed that such action was illegal on the part of the developers who should have initiated the mitigation measures for DE 1 contained in ACO report, which was accorded a High Importance rating.

I can confirm that except for DE 10, a small, severely disturbed and damaged site on the affected property, none of the other sites described and indicated in the ACO report are in the designated development area. Most are in the Admiralty Zone and will therefore not be directly impacted by the proposed development.

DE 9 is located outside the planned development area, within the fenced boundary of a Perlemoen factory. The factory was sold by one of the developers, Mr. C. van Zyl, some time after the publication of the ACO report (Mr. C. van Zyl pers. comm.).

Concern has, however, been raised by Heritage Western Cape, the delegated Provincial Heritage Authority, with regard to peripheral damage (i.e. Secondary Impacts) which may be caused by the proposed development, and the long-term conservation of the remaining sites in the Admiralty Zone.

This was the primary reason for my site visit; to assess the archaeological sites in relation to the planned development, and recommend appropriate action.

Thus, with regard to the requirements set out by Dr A. Jerardino in her email to Mr Andre Lambrechts of BKS Consulting Engineers, on 22 October 2004, I can therefore confirm that the following has been undertaken by me:

- The archaeological sites DE 3 – 5 and DE 7 & DE 8 have been cordoned off. These sites will remain cordoned off for the entire duration of the Construction Phase of the proposed project.
- DE 6 and DE 10, which are already damaged, and were given Low Importance ratings by the ACO, have not been cordoned off.

Further, the following requirements as indicated by Heritage Western Cape in the same email of 22 October 2004, must, be also met by yourselves (representing EnviroAfrica) and the proponents Messrs van Zyl and Vrede:

- Earth moving activities must be monitored by a professional archaeologist in case any human burials are uncovered or exposed.
- A copy of the required Environmental Management Plan (EMP) must be submitted to Heritage Western Cape for their approval prior to the development commencing.

Two further recommendations are also made:

- Signage/information story boards be should erected close to the complex of shell middens known as DE 3 - DE 5, as well as DE 7 and DE 8, indicating the presence of important archaeological sites on the property and the need to protect and conserve them. Signage must be supplied by the developers. The text and the placement of the signage should be determined by a professional archaeologist, in consultation with HWC. Positioning of the signage must also be determined by a professional archaeologist.
- Prospective property owners should also be made aware, in the form of an official letter, of the presence of important archaeological sites in the Admiralty Zone. A Homeowner's Association could also apply to Heritage Western Cape to become official custodians of the archaeological remains in the Admiralty Zone and thus accept responsibility for their protection. Such an arrangement, in the form of a Heritage Agreement, is provided for in terms of Section 42 (1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999), and is subject to the implementation of a Heritage Management Plan.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Kaplan

CC. Dr Antoinette Jerardino
Heritage Western Cape
Private Bag X9067
Cape Town
8000



Figure 1. DE 3 – DE 5 (GPS reading S 32 43 379 E 17 55 385)



Figure 2. DE 7. (GPS reading S 32 43 145 E 17 55 432).



Figure 3. DE 8 (GPS reading S 32 43 096 E 17 55 413).

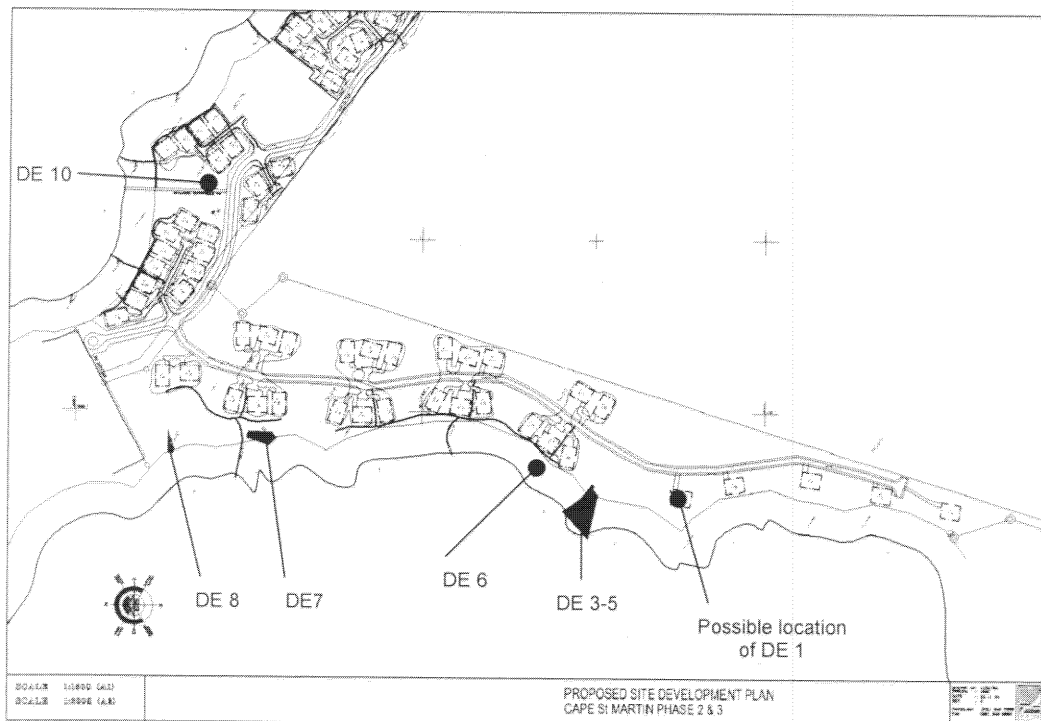


Figure 4. Cape St Martin Site development plan. Location of archaeological sites.

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23 January 2005

Dr A. Jerardino
Heritage Western Cape
Private Bag X9067
Cape Town
8000

Dear Chopi

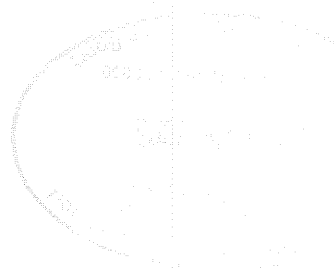
REPORT CAPE ST. MARTIN DEVELOPMENT

Please find a report on my site visit to assess the archaeological shell middens at the Cape St. Martin development.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Kaplan



*** TX REPORT ***

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HERITAGE WESTERN CAPE
Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Western Cape

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11 February 2005

Jonathan Kaplan
Agency for Cultural Resource Management
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Our ref: C13/3/6/2/1/1/1/C4


ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

Dear Mr Kaplan

Heritage Western Cape hereby acknowledges receipt of your correspondence **re: REPORT SITE VISIT TO ASSESS SHELL MIDDENS AT THE PROPOSED CAPE ST. MARTIN DEVELOPMENT SALDANHA-VREDENBURG DISTRICT** received by HWC on 27 January 2005.

Your application has been forwarded to Dr Antonieta Jerardino, Senior Heritage Officer, who can be contacted at (021) 483 9687.

Yours sincerely


Ms Monique Coerecuis
Secretariat – HWC
p.p Heritage Western Cape