

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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03 May, 2007

Att: Mr Lieuwe Boonstra

EnviroAfrica

P. O. Box 5367

Helderberg

7135

Dear Mr Boonstra

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WINE CELLAR AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM VREDEHOEK NO 602 WORCESTER WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. Introduction and brief

EnviroAfrica¹, on behalf of Cape Colony Winery requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for the proposed construction of a new wine cellar and associated infrastructure on the Remainder of the Farm Vredehoek No. 602 near Worcester, in the Western Cape Province.

The affected property is currently zoned Agriculture.

An application for consent use is required from Witzenberg Municipality for the proposed activity to proceed.

The affected site is 0.15 ha in extent.

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) 8555 333

3. The site

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

Google was not able to provide a good quality aerial photograph of the study site.

The Farm Vredehoek (S° 33 30 131 E 19° 16 115 on map datum wgs 84) is located approximately 7 km east of the R303 between Worcester and Wolseley. The subject property, on fairly steep south west facing slopes, has been under vineyard production since 1993 (Figures 2-5). The receiving environment is completely transformed. There are no significant landscape features occurring on the proposed site. There are no buildings or structures on the property, either. The surrounding land-use comprises vineyards.

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

No archaeological heritage remains were located on the proposed site.

However, a few Early Stone Age (ESA) quartzite flake tools were documented in a small gravel road on the southern boundary of the proposed site, alongside the Waboomsrivier, that flows through the property.

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

Archaeological heritage remains have been documented at several locations in the surrounding area. ESA flakes were found on the Farm Romansrivier² situated alongside the R43 between Wolseley and Worcester. ESA tools, including a handaxe, were also documented on the Farm de Liefde³ alongside the R43. ESA and Middle Stone Age (MSA) tools were recorded during a study on Portion 25 of the Farm Palmiet Valley No. 318⁴ alongside the R43, while ESA tools have also been found on several farms in the Breede River Valley alongside the R43⁵. The above archaeological remains were all documented in a modified and transformed context.

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.

³ Kaplan, J. 2007. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed construction of chicken houses on Portion 4 of Portion 2 of the farm de Liefde No 323, Tulbagh. Report prepared for EnviroAfrica. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

⁴ 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

⁵ Kaplan, J. 2001. Archaeological study Portion 12 of the Farm de Breede Rivier No. 298, Worcester. Report prepared for EnviroAfrica. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

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 a wine production facility on Remainder of the Farm Vredehoek No. 602 in Worcester 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

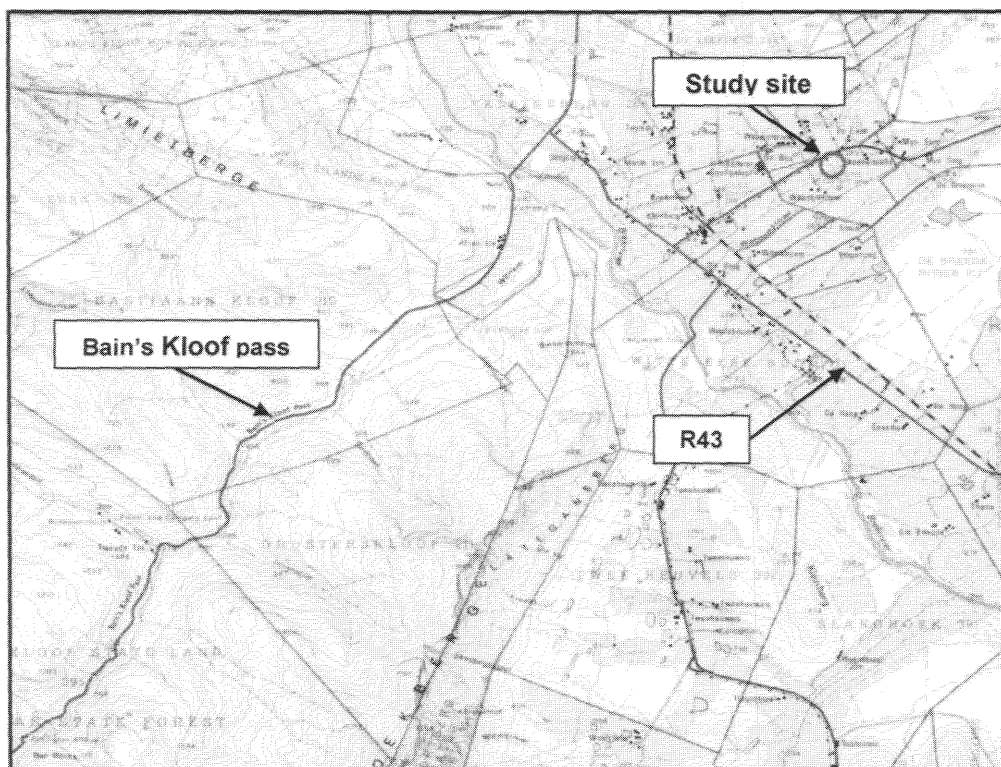


Figure 1. Locality map (3319CA Bains' Kloof)

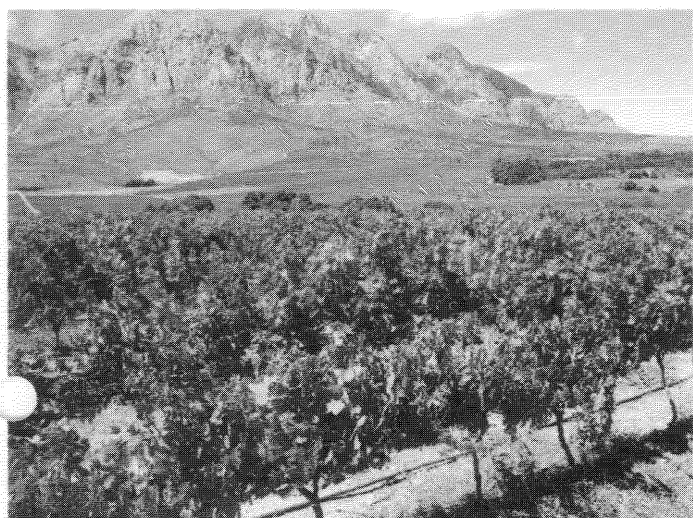


Figure 2. View of the site facing south east



Figure 3. View of the site facing north east

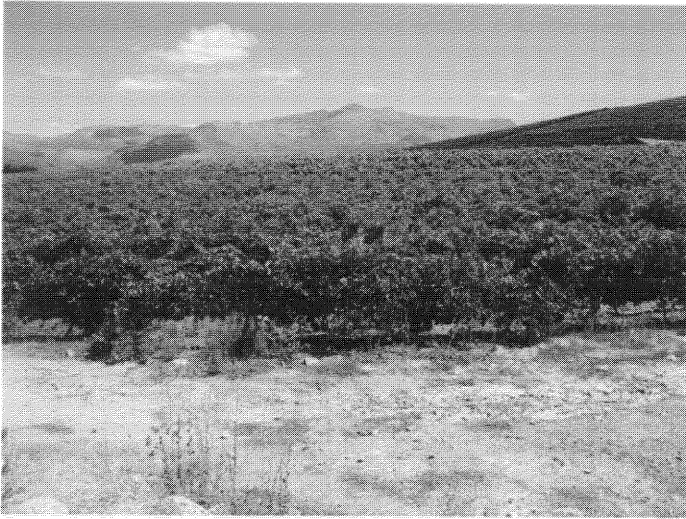


Figure 4. View of the site facing north west



Figure 5. View of the site facing south west