

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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28 May, 2008

Att: Mr Mark Berry
Mark Berry Environmental Consultants
PO Box 1456
Gordons Bay
7150

M.M.
Lod.

Dear Mr Berry

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON ERVEN 1118 – 1126 AND PORTION 50 OF FARM 158 ZOLANI, ASHTON, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. Introduction and brief

Mark Berry Environmental Consultants, on behalf of Breede River Winelands Municipality requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for a proposed affordable housing development on Erven 1118 - 1126 and Portion 50 of Farm No. 158, Zolani, near Ashton, in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1).

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the subject properties will allow for the development about ±187 residential erven and associated infrastructure, including an internal road network, street lighting and engineering services.

Erven 1118 - 1126 are currently zoned Undetermined and Portion 50 of Farm 158 is zoned for Agricultural use.

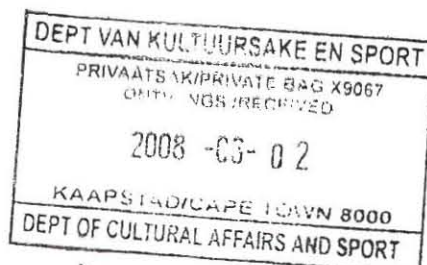
The extent of the proposed development (6 ha) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the South African Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological heritage sites and remains that occur on the site and 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.

A Notification of Intent (NID) to develop checklist has been completed by the archaeologist and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

leeste: letter
Issue an ~~APM~~, requesting
a palaeontological desktop
study. ~~Order~~ No further

~~the~~ This does not need to
come back to BELCOM since
there are no structures on the site - vacant.



2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment were to:

- Identify and map heritage resources within the proposed site;
- Determine the importance of heritage resources within the proposed site;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed project on the heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed project.

3. Approach to the study

The proposed site was searched for archaeological heritage remains.

The site visit and assessment took place on 20th May, 2008.

4. The study site

The subject property (S 33° 50 28.6 E 20° 05 46.5 on map datum WGS 84) is located in a semi-urban environment next to Zolani Township, east of Ashton and alongside the R60 to Swellendam. The site lies inside the Ashton/Zolani urban edge. It is mainly covered by alien grasses, bare soil patches and a few patches of riverine bush veld alongside the Karpad Stream (Figures 3-6). Extensive excavations for services are already in place. The site is currently heavily grazed by cattle. Foundations (for a reservoir) occur at the top end of the site. There is very little surface stone on the site, but spoils dumps containing rounded river cobbles lies alongside the long service trenches. There is a municipal earth dam on the northern side and farmland on the far side of the R60. An abandoned abattoir is found on the other side of the Karpad Stream southeast of the site.

5. Results of the study

A few Early Stone Age (ESA) quartzite flakes and flaked and broken rounded river cobbles were found alongside the tar road in the Township, while several large ESA flaked tools and large flaked and/or broken quartzite cobbles, were noted on the spoil dumps alongside the service trenches.

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

6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed development of Erven 1118 - 1126 and Portion 50 of Farm No. 158, Zolani, near Ashton on important pre-colonial archaeological remains is likely to be **low**.

7. Conclusion

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of Erven 1118 -1126 and Portion 50 of Farm No. 158, Zolani, near Ashton has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that would need to be mitigated prior to proposed construction activities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jonathan Kaplan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jonathan Kaplan

[illegible]



Figure 3. View of the site facing west



Figure 5. View of the site facing east



Figure 4. View of the site facing south west



Figure 6. View of the site facing east