

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED BRAEMER RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
ON PORTION 2 OF THE FARM KLAPMUTS RIVIER NO.
742 & PORTION 2 OF THE FARM BRONKHORST NO. 748
KLAPMUTS**

Prepared for

WITHERS ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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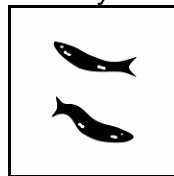
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Withers Environmental Consultants requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Portion 2 of the Farm Klapmuts Rivier No. 742 and Portion 2 of the Farm Bronkhorst No. 748 in Klapmuts, in the Western Cape.

The proposed site is situated south of Klapmuts alongside the R44 and within the Municipal urban edge of Klapmuts. The total area of the property is 64 ha. The proposed development will consist primarily of 427 town housing units (10.5ha) and 264 Single Residential (14.8ha) development opportunities.

Almost all the natural vegetation on the properties has been cleared for vineyard and citrus orchards. The canalised Klapmuts River flows through the property. There are also two large dams that occur on the farm.

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.

Heritage consultant Ms Maretha Geldenhuys has been appointed to complete a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist and compile a Heritage Impact Statement of the proposed development.

The following findings were made:

22 Early Stone Age and Middle Stone Age stone tools were documented over the property, but these are spread very thinly and unevenly over the surrounding environment and occur in a severely disturbed and degraded context. One Later Stone Age silcrete flake was also found. Each artefact has been recorded with a GPS waypoint, and photographed in-situ. The tools comprise flakes, chunks and cores. No formal tools were found.

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

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to proposed construction activities. The property is in a highly disturbed and altered state as a result of many years of intensive agricultural activities and associated practices.

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Executive summary	1
1. INTRODUCTION	3
Background and brief	3
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE	3
3. THE STUDY SITE	4
4. STUDY APPROACH	8
Method of survey	8
Constraints and limitations	8
Identification of potential risks	8
Results of the desk-top study	9
5. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY	9
6. IMPACT STATEMENT	10
7. CONCLUSION	10
8. REFERENCES	11
Appendix	

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

Withers Environmental Consultants, on behalf of Redvanton Property Investments (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Portion 2 of the Farm Klapmuts Rivier No. 742 and Portion 2 of the Farm Bronkhorst No. 748 in Klapmuts, in the Western Cape.

The proposed development falls within the Klapmuts current urban edge. The Structure Plan for Klapmuts suggests that the town can be targeted for rapid, large scale higher density development (Chittenden Nicks & de Villiers 2001). Both properties are currently zoned Agricultural and will be rezoned to Sub divisional to provide for the proposed development activities.

The proposed development consists of 427 townhouse units (10.5 ha) and 264 single residential units (14.8 ha). Private Open Space will be 24 ha or approximately 36% of the property. Associated infrastructure includes private roads (11.1 ha), public roads (3.9 ha) and engineering services. The total area of the property is about 64 ha.

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.

Heritage consultant Ms Maretha Geldenhuys has been appointed to complete a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist and compile a Heritage Impact Statement of the proposed development.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were:

- to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed site;
- to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance within the proposed site;
- to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites within the proposed site;
- to assess the status and 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 farm is illustrated in Figure 3.

The proposed site is situated south of Klapmuts alongside (i.e. west of) the R44. Almost all the natural vegetation on the properties has been cleared for vineyard and citrus orchards. These heavily cultivated lands are surrounded by large Beefwood and Pine trees that act as windbreaks. The farm is in a highly altered state (Figures 4-12). The canalized Klapmuts River flows through the property more or less through the eastern portion. Two large dams are also present on the farm. The surrounding land use comprises mainly farmland. An existing homestead and outbuildings is located on the farm but a proposed buffer excludes the werf from the proposed development. Several farm labourer cottages occur on the property, alongside the River. There are several, large open spaces on the property (Blocks A, B and C) that have been cleared of natural vegetation although Blocks B and C were previously worked fields (Block B is terraced and was previously planted with citrus trees). Block C is covered in a mix of Kikuyu and Kweek grass, thick patches of weeds (Luperns), and sporadic fruit trees, vines and Renosterveld. Block C is also quite waterlogged in the western half. There is virtually no surface stone on any of Blocks A – C (Figures 13-24), while there are fairly extensive diggings across the western portion of Block A, which is also heavily waterlogged (refer to Figure 15).



Figure 2. Locality Map indicating the approximate boundary of the study site



Figure 3. Aerial photograph of the study site



Figure 4. View facing south



Figure 6. View facing south



Figure 5. View facing south west



Figure 7. View facing south



Figure 8. View facing north



Figure 12. View facing south east



Figure 9. View facing north



Figure 13. Block A facing south east



Figure 10. View facing north east



Figure 14. Block A facing south west



Figure 11. View facing north



Figure 15. Block A view facing south



Figure 16. Block A view facing east



Figure 20. Block B view facing north



Figure 17. Block A view facing east



Figure 21. Block C view facing south



Figure 18. Block B. View facing south



Figure 22. Block C view facing south west



Figure 19. Block B. View facing north



Figure 23. Block C view facing north east



Figure 23. Block C view facing south east



Figure 24. Block C view facing west

4. STUDY APPROACH

4.1 Method

The approach followed in the archaeological study entailed a foot survey of the proposed development site. The entire site was not covered on foot because large portions are cultivated and are heavily disturbed. However, several large, open spaces (Blocks A, B and C) on the property were searched in detail (refer to GPS track path). In addition, almost all the gravel tracks and farm roads were searched and transacts between blocks of citrus trees were also done. Test pits, sporadic diggings, off-stream excavation channels and old diggings across the western portion (of Block A) were also searched.

A GPS track path of the archaeological survey was created. This track path has been saved to a CD and submitted with a digital copy of the report.

All archaeological occurrences were plotted (and photographed) in situ, using a Garmin Oregon 300 GPS unit, set on map datum wgs 84. A spreadsheet of the waypoints and a description of each of the artefacts are also included with the CD.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 10th September, 2009.

A desktop study was undertaken.

4.2 Constraints and limitations

There were no constraints or limitations associated with the proposed project. Almost the entire site has already been transformed as a result of intensive farming practices.

4.3 Identification of potential risks

Based on the results of the study, there are no pre-colonial archaeological risks associated with the proposed project.

4.4 Results of the desk-top study

Several archaeological studies have been conducted by the archaeologist in the Klappmuts area.

Relatively large numbers of Early Stone Age (ESA) tools, including several Acheulean handaxes and cleavers were documented in grazing lands on the farm Groenfontein, alongside the R44, north of the study area (Kaplan 2005). Many of the tools were found close the floodplain of the Klappmuts River. A low density scatter of ESA and a few Middle Stone Age (MSA) tools were documented on heavily contoured lands on the farm Klappmutsrivier (Kaplan 2006a). A few MSA tools were also found on Farm 739 alongside Old Paarl Road (Kaplan 2001). ESA and MSA tools were counted in the proposed alignment of the Muldersvlei Safariland 132 KV Powerline that runs alongside the railway line in Klappmuts (Kaplan 2006b). An ESA handaxe and a few MSA flakes were found among blocks of vineyards on the Farm 716 in Klappmuts (Kaplan 2007). ESA tools have also been recorded on the northern slopes of the Klappmutskop (Finnegan and Halkett 2007). All the tools were found in highly transformed and modified farmlands.

5. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

22 Early Stone Age and Middle Stone Age stone tools were documented over the proposed site, but these are spread very thinly and unevenly over the surrounding environment and occur in a severely disturbed and degraded context. As can be seen from the GPS track path, each archaeological find is an isolated occurrence. Most of the tools were found in the gravel farm roads and tracks that intersect and surround the property and in between rows of citrus trees. Only one ESA core (BMF 7) was found in Block A, while five chunks, two flakes and one core were found in Block C (Table 1). No tools were found in Block B, but one chunk (BMF 8) was found embedded in the gravel road alongside Block B on the western boundary of the property. One Later Stone Age silcrete flake (BMF 13) was found alongside a row of Beefwood and citrus trees in the western portion of the farm. Apart from the silcrete flake, all the other tools are in quartzite

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

Site	Name	Long	Lat	Finds
BMF	Portion 2 of the Farm Klappmuts Rivier No. 742 & Portion 2 of the Farm Bronkhorst No. 748, Klappmuts			
BMF 1		S33 48.957	E18 52.674	MSA Flake
BMF 2		S33 48.876	E18 52.634	MSA flake
BMF 3		S33 48.858	E18 52.626	MSA flake
BMF 4		S33 48.825	E18 52.608	Quartz core
BMF 5		S33 48.926	E18 52.623	Broken core
BMF 6		S33 48.991	E18 52.677	MSA flake
BMF 7		S33 48.923	E18 52.236	ESA core
BMF 8		S33 49.076	E18 52.099	Chunk
BMF 9		S33 49.208	E18 52.096	Chunk
BMF 10		S33 49.319 0	E18 52.10	Core

BMF 11		S33 49.300	E18 52.126	Flake
BMF 12		S33 49.311	E18 52.131	Flake
BMF 13		S33 49.243	E18 52.220	LSA silcrete flake
BMF 14		S33 49.272	E18 52.239	MSA flake
BMF 15		S33 49.009	E18 52.290	Chunk
BMF 16		S33 49.066	E18 52.624	Flake
BMF 17		S33 49.095	E18 52.644	Chunk
BMF 18		S33 49.127	E18 52.679	Core
BMF 19		S33 49.090	E18 52.709	Chunk
BMF 20		S33 49.069	E18 52.715	Flake
BMF 21		S33 49.079	E18 52.720	Chunk/flake
BMF 22		S33 49.079	E18 52.729	Chunk
BMF 23		S33 49.066	E18 52.723	Flake

Table 1. Spreadsheet of site observations

6. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be **low**. The subject property is in a highly disturbed and altered state as a result of many years of intensive agricultural activities and associated practices.

The probability of locating significant pre-colonial archaeological remains during implementation of the project is likely to be improbable.

It is highly unlikely given the severely transformed nature of the property, but unmarked pre-colonial burials may be uncovered during bulk earthworks and excavations.

7. CONCLUSION

The Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed Braemer housing development, on Portion 2 of the Farm Klapmuts Rivier No. 742 and Portion 2 of the Farm Bronkhorst No. 748 in Klapmuts has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to proposed development activities.

Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported Heritage Western Cape (Mr Nic Wiltshire 021 483 9692). Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

8. REFERENCES

Chittenden, Nicks and de Villiers. 2001. Draft Spatial Development Framework (SDF) for Stellenbosch.

Finnegan, E. and Halkett, D. 2007. Heritage Impact Assessment of proposed development of the Stellenbosch Wine and Country Estate, Klapmuts, Stellenbosch. Report prepared for Withers Environmental Consultants. Archaeology Contracts Office, Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town.

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Kaplan, J. 2001. Archaeological Impact Assessment Farm 739 Klapmuts. Report prepared for Doug Jeffery Environmental Consultants. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.

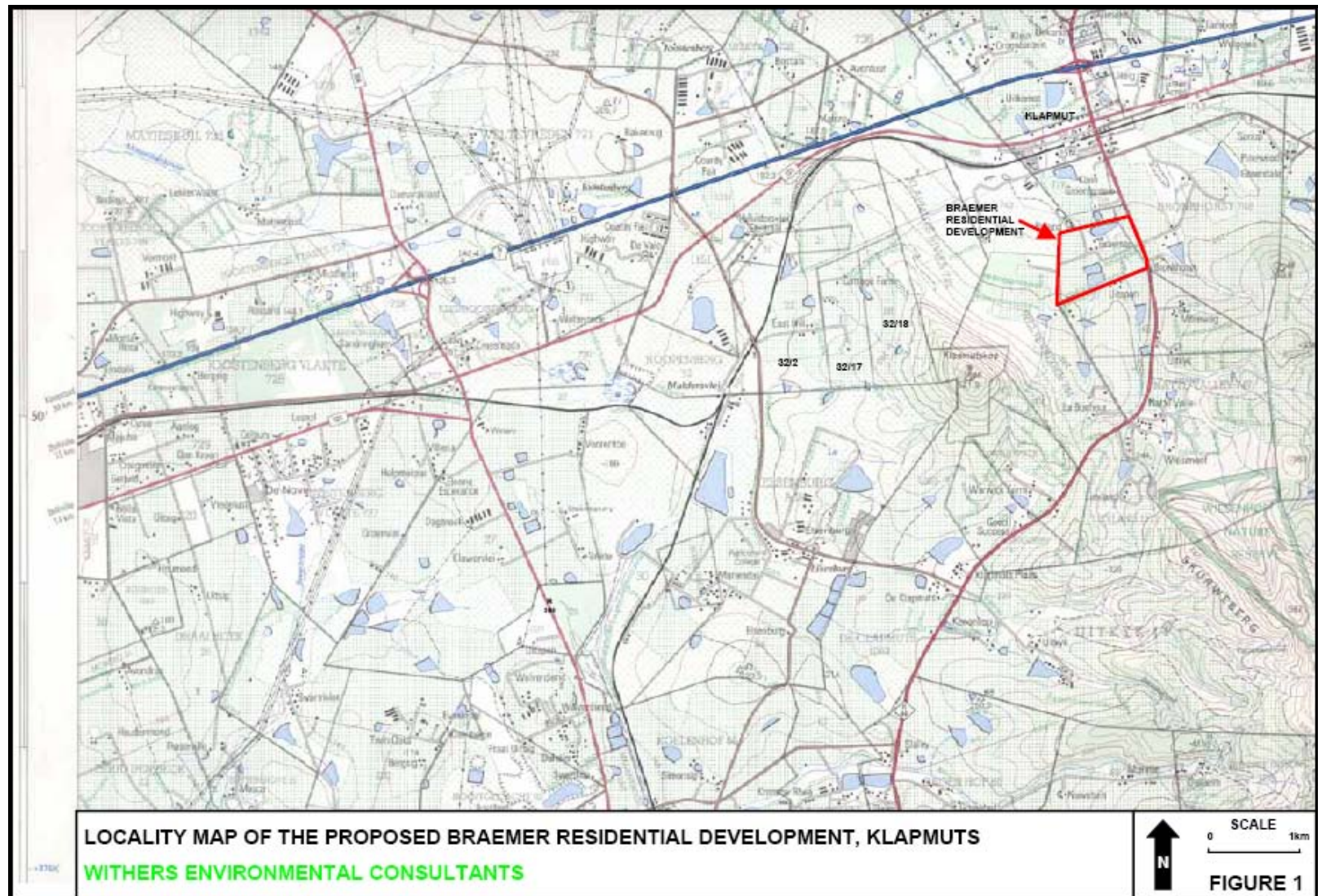


Figure: Locality map (3318 DD Stellenbosch)