

# PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF ERF 162247, SILLERY, CONSTANTIA, CAPE TOWN.

Prepared for

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Archaeology Contracts Office (ACO) of the University of Cape Town was commissioned by Nicholas Baumann and Sarah Winter (Heritage Resource Consultants) to conduct a phase 1 archaeological impact assessment of erf 162247, Sillery, Constantia. Members of the ACO visited the site to assess it for historical/archaeological features that may be protected by the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999. This study forms part of a broader baseline heritage impact assessment being conducted by N. Baumann and S. Winter. Harriet Deacon is responsible for the archival research component.



**Figure 1 Sillery study area (after map supplied by client)**

### 1.1 Description of the study area

The study area (indicated on Figure 1) consists of a piece of open land presently occupied by Sillery Nursery, a house, several workers houses, and areas used for cultivation of garden plants. The area is presently very wet in places, and has been highly disturbed in the past through cultivation of vines and other activity. There is a spring/dam on the site from which water is abstracted.

## 2. METHOD

The site was searched on foot by two archaeologists. Any material found was to be plotted using a Garmin GPS 3Plus (map datum WGS84), recorded and evaluated.

### 2.1 Restrictions

Moderate restrictions were encountered in some areas where grass cover was too thick to see the ground surface.

## 3. FINDINGS

Very little material protected by the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 was found in the study area. The structures on site have been assessed by Winter and Baumann. There are no surface indications of calcretes or fossil bone.

### 3.1 Ditches and *Leiwater*

A complex of ditches roughly follows the borders of the property and interconnects with the spring/dam. The alignment of the main ditch with the boundaries implies that these are quite old and probably protected by the Act. However firm dating of these is unlikely to be achieved without archival verification.

## 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

Initial indications are that the study area contains few significant material remains protected by the NHRA Act. The water furrows are one of the few features of interest, which may be markers in terms of past landscapes. These should be retained (if at all possible) within any future redevelopment.

### Figure 2

Erf 162247, Sillery. The dotted blue lines indicate the remains of water-courses (leiwater) which approximate the boundary.

(Map supplied by client)

