

# Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

PO Box 159 Riebeeck West 7306 Phone/Fax 022-461 2755

E-mail: [acrm@wcaccess.co.za](mailto:acrm@wcaccess.co.za) Cellular: 082 321 0172

17 September, 2007

**Att:** Mr Nik Wullschleger  
Boland Enviro  
PO Box 250  
Worcester  
6849

Dear Mr Wullschleger

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ERF 660 DE DOORNS, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

### **1. Introduction and brief**

Boland Enviro, on behalf of Grasmere Trust requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Erf 660 De Doorns (Breede River Municipality), in the Western Cape Province.

The proposed De Doorns Estate, on Portion A, of Erf 660 provides for the development of 38 single residential units, including Private Open Space, internal streets and associated infrastructure.

The affected property is currently zoned Agriculture and will be rezoned and subdivided to accommodate the proposed development activities.

The extent of the proposed development (about 10 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).

A Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist will be prepared by heritage consultant Mr Ron Martin.

### **2. Terms of reference**

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment are to:

- Identify and map pre-colonial archaeological resources on the proposed site;
- Determine the importance of pre-colonial archaeological resources on the proposed site;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed development on the archaeological heritage resources, and

- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed development.

### **3. The site**

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the study site is illustrated in Figure 2.

Erf 660 De Doorns (S° 33 28 682 E 19° 39 653 on map datum wgs 84) is located about 30 km north east of Worcester. Access to the site is via the N1. The Farm is situated just outside the urban edge. The historic De Doorns farmstead (1769) is situated on the property and has National Monument status. Current agricultural activity comprises mainly cultivation of export quality table grapes. Some wine is also produced on the farm. Surrounding land use comprises agricultural land, De Doorns Township, High School, Golf Course and the town sewerage works (refer to Figure 2).

Portion A of Erf 660 comprises several large blocks of vineyards (Figures 3-6). The proposed site has been entirely transformed by agricultural activity. A farm dam is situated alongside the proposed development (Figures 3 and 4).

### **4. Approach to the study**

The proposed site was searched on foot.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

### **5. Results of the study**

One Early Stone Age (ESA) quartzite cobble flake and several possible ESA chunks were found in the north eastern block of vineyards alongside the farm dam. No formal tools were found.

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

### **6. Impact statement**

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be **low**.

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

### **7. Conclusion**

The study has shown that the no important archaeological remains occur within the propose site.

The proposed development of Portion A, Erf 660 De Doorns 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jonathan Kaplan', written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Kaplan

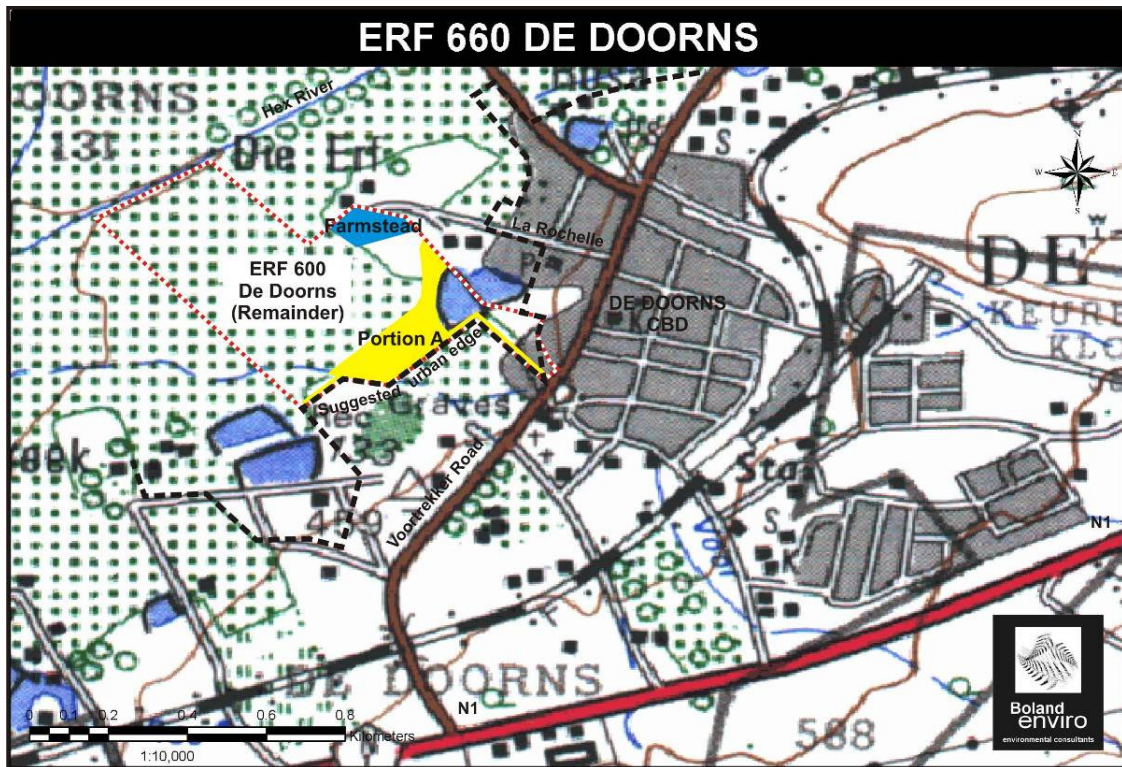


Figure 1. Locality map (3319 BC De Doorns)

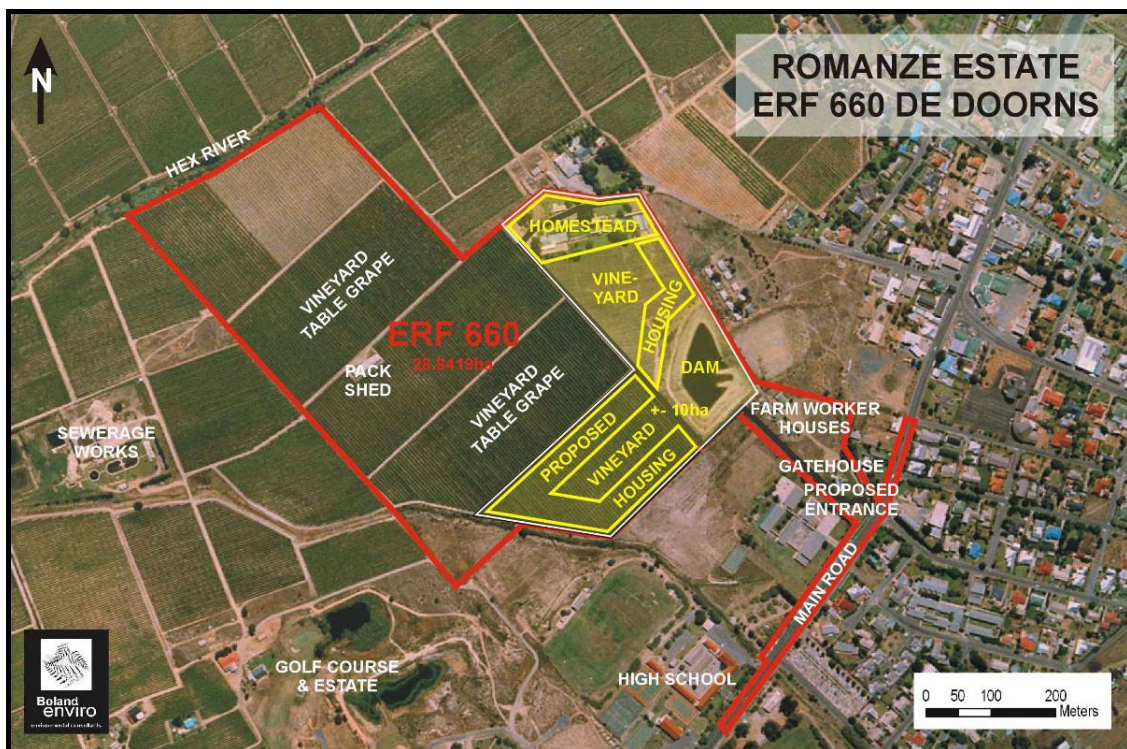


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the study site





**Figure 3. Block of vineyards closest to the farm homestead. View of the site facing south**



**Figure 4. View of the site facing north west. Arrow indicates the historic farm homestead**



**Figure 5. View of the site facing south taken from the dam wall**



**Figure 6. View of the site facing south west taken from the dam wall**