

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
ERF 460
ST. HELENA BAY**

Prepared for

CK RUMBOLL & VENNOTE

Client: West Coast Miracles (Pty) Ltd

By

AGENCY FOR CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

PO Box 159
Riebeeck West
7306
Ph/Fax 022 461 2755
Mobile 082 321 0172

*Ms Aneliza Coetzee
16 Rainier Str.
Malmesbury
7300
Fax: 022 487 1661*



**JUNE
2006**

Executive summary

CK Rumboll & Partners, on behalf of West Coast Miracles (Pty) Ltd, requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Erf 460 in the St. Helena Bay area.

To be known as Britannia Beach Estate, the proposed rezoning and subdivision of the subject property (currently zoned Indeterminate), provides for the development of about 237 single residential and group housing units, including associated infrastructure such as roads and services. Provision is also made for Public Open Space.

The extent of the proposed development (nearly 16 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).

16 ha

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological heritage sites and 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 Mr Graham Jacobs has been appointed to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed project.

HIA

The Archaeological Impact Assessment forms part of the wider heritage study.

The subject property is located immediately inland of Britannia Bay, on the inland side of Golden Mile Drive. Access to the site is via the entrance to the Boulevard Caravan Park. The western portion of the vacant site is in a fairly severely degraded condition, while the eastern portion is relatively undisturbed. Deep sandy soils dominate the site, derived from a mix of windblown marine sands and weathered granites further inland. No significant landscape features occur on site, which is virtually level, although the remains of remnant sand dunes are aligned close to the western boundary of the property. The northern portion of the property and the remnant dunes are infested with alien vegetation.

Extensive scatters of shellfish remains and low-density scatters of stone tools occur across a large swathe of land in the eastern half of the proposed site, to the north and east of the Boulevard Caravan Park. The remains are spread fairly unevenly over the landscape, however, and it is difficult to isolate single occurrences, although more dense patches of shellfish do occur. The area can be treated as virtually a single archaeological site. One piece of pottery was found.

the best preserved bit

The archaeological heritage remains have been graded provisionally medium-low local significance, subject to verification by trial excavation.

Shellfish remains and relatively large numbers of stone tools occur in the western half of the subject property, but are spread more evenly in the south western portion of the property alongside Golden Mile Drive, with several discreet patches of shell occurring in open spaces. The surface scatters are characterised mainly by shell fragments (dominated by Scutellastra and Cymbula sp), with very few whole shell occurring.

In the western portion of the property, stone tools are dominated by quartzite flakes, chunks, broken and flaked round beach cobbles, upper grindstones, and lower grindstone fragments. Very few formal tools occur. Flakes, chunks and cores in quartz were also counted, including several silcrete flakes and cores. Three bored stones were found, one complete, and two broken. No pottery was found.

provincial?

The archaeological heritage remains have been rated medium-high local significance. Suggested mitigation includes shovel testing, shellfish sampling and dating.

Interestingly and perhaps significantly, the western half of the subject property is also characterised by extensive scatters of well-preserved fossil shell deposits that may possibly be features of Late Pleistocene Last Interglacial shoreline beach deposits. These deposits are at times mixed up with the archaeologically derived shellfish deposits, but are fairly easy to distinguish (by both type and context). Such Late Pleistocene deposits have not been noted in the Britannia Beach region before. Much of the shell is also associated with dune mole rat dumps, indicating that fossil shell deposits occur below ground. Some diggings (for a refuse dump) on the site have also unearthed substantial shell deposits, including conglomerates of calcrete and compacted shell. The fossil shell is dominated by bivalve species (some fossilised to stone), while three fossil bones were also located scattered over the remainder of the property.

— PALAEO

The fossil shell deposits are of considerable palaeontological importance.

The proposed development of Erf 460 will impact negatively on sensitive and fragile archaeological and palaeontological deposits on the subject property.

Unmarked human burials may also be exposed or uncovered during bulk earthworks.

With regard to the proposed housing development of Erf 460 the following recommendations are made.

- Evaluation of the conservation worthiness of the archaeological sites in the eastern and western half of the subject property will require shovel testing before development activities take place. If the sites are found to have depth and undisturbed deposit, they will have to be sampled by way of controlled archaeological excavation.
- Systematic sampling of shellfish and dating of archaeological deposits in the western half of the property is also required.
- A palaeontological assessment at a scoping level must be undertaken by professional palaeontologist to determine the significance of the shoreline deposits in the western half of the property.

does this make justice to it?

✓✓

- Bulk earthworks and excavations must also be monitored by a professional archaeologist.
- Bulk earthworks and excavations must be monitored by a professional palaeontologist
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502) or Heritage Western Cape (Dr A. Jerardino 021 483 9692).

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Executive summary	1
1. INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 <u>Background and brief</u>	5
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
3. THE STUDY SITE	6
4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY	10
4.1 <u>Method of survey</u>	10
4.2 <u>Constraints and limitations</u>	10
4.3 <u>Identification of potential risks</u>	10
4.4 <u>Results of the desk-top study</u>	11
5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	12
5.1 <u>The National Heritage Resources Act</u>	12
5.2 <u>Archaeology (Section 25 (4))</u>	12
5.3 <u>Burials ground & graves (Section 36 (3))</u>	12
6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT & DESCRIPTION	12
6.1 <u>Fossil remains</u>	16
7. IMPACT STATEMENT	17
8. RECOMMENDATIONS	17
9. REFERENCES	18

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

CK Rumboll and Vennote Town Planners¹, on behalf of West Coast Miracles (Pty) Ltd, requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Erf 460 in the St. Helena Bay area.

To be known as Britannia Beach Estate, the proposed rezoning and subdivision of the subject property (currently zoned Indeterminate), provides for the development of about 237 single residential and group housing units, including associated infrastructure such as roads and services. Provision is also made for Public Open Space.

The extent of the proposed development (nearly 16 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 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 Mr Graham Jacobs has been appointed to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed project.

The Archaeological Impact Assessment forms part of the wider heritage study.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the study were:

- to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed site;
- to identify sites of archaeological significance within the proposed site;
- to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites potentially affected by the proposed subdivision and development;
- to assess the 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.

¹ West Coast Miracles (Pty) Ltd is represented by Ms Anelia Coetzee of CK Rumboll & Partners, 16 Rainier Street, Malmesbury, 7300. Fax (022) 487 1661

3. THE STUDY SITE

A locality map indicating the study area is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the Erf 460 and a proposed site layout plan is illustrated in Figure 2.

The subject property is located immediately inland of Britannia Bay, on the inland side of Golden Mile Drive. Access to the site is via the entrance to the Boulevard Caravan Park. The subject property surrounds the Caravan Park, while a small portion is located to the west of Golden Mile Drive (Figures 3-12). The western portion of the vacant site is in a fairly severely degraded condition, while the eastern portion remains relatively undisturbed. Deep sandy soils dominate the site, derived from a mix of windblown marine sands and weathered granites further inland. No outcroppings of rock or other significant landscape features occur on site, which is virtually level, although the remains of remnant sand dunes are aligned close to the western boundary of the property. The northern portion of the property and the remnant dunes are also infested with alien vegetation.

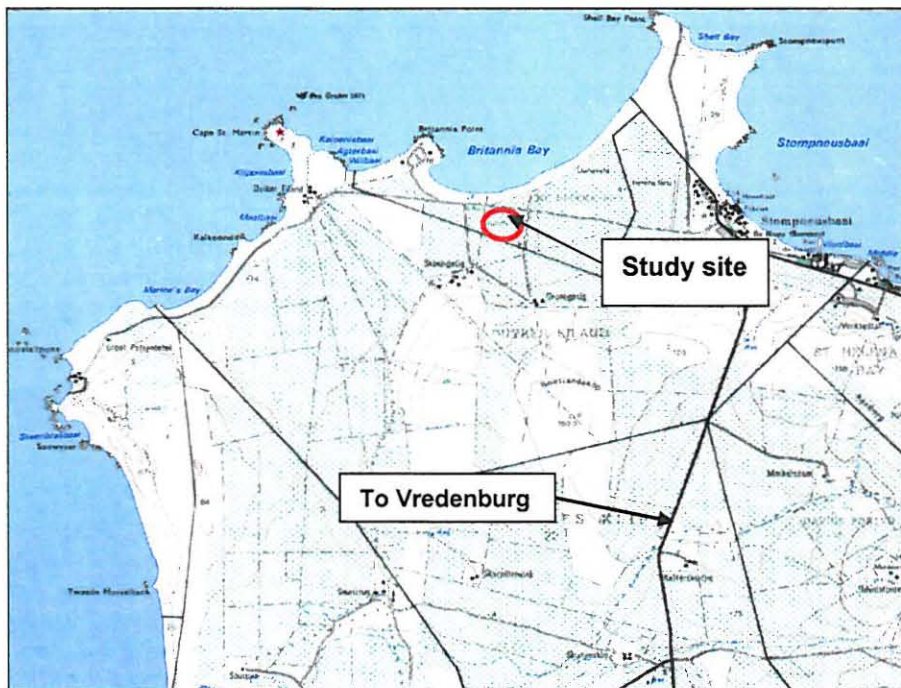


Figure 1. Locality map (3217 DB & DD Vredenburg)

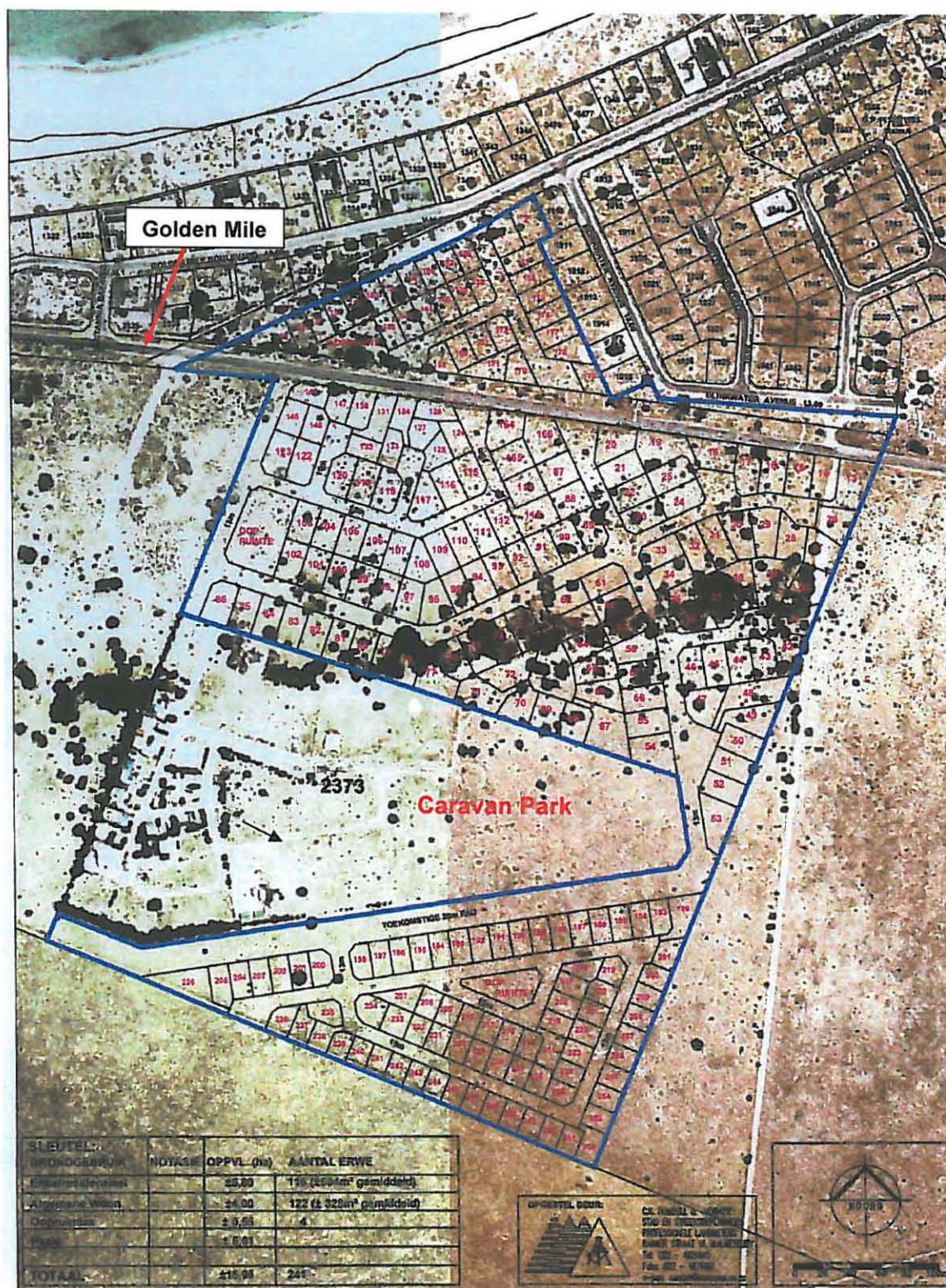




Figure 3. View of the site facing north alongside Golden Mile Drive



Figure 5. view of the site facing directly east from Golden Mile Drive.



Figure 4. View of the site facing north east from Golden Mile Drive



Figure 6. View of the site facing south from Golden Mile Drive



Figure 7. View of the site facing east.



Figure 9. View of the site facing east.



Figure 8. View of the site facing north. The eastern boundary of the Caravan Park is to the left of the plate



Figure 10. View of the site facing south. The trees indicate the western boundary of the Caravan Park

high bush / grass cover



Figure 11. View of the site facing south.



Figure 12. View of site facing south east taken from across Golden Mile Drive

4. APPROACH TO THE STUDY

4.1 Method of survey

The approach followed in the archaeological study entailed a detailed foot survey of the proposed site. The assessment took place over 2 days, on the 5th and 22nd June 2006.

Archaeological heritage sites located during the study have been recorded using a Garmin Gecko 201 GPS unit set on map datum WGS 84.

A desktop study was also undertaken.

4.2 Constraints and limitations

There were no constraints or limitations associated with the study, although large parts of the northern portion of the property, and the remnant sand dunes are infested with alien vegetation, resulting in low archaeological visibility.

4.3 Identification of potential risks

- Bulk earthworks and excavations will impact negatively on archaeological heritage remains in both the eastern and western half of the proposed site.
- Bulk earthworks may also impact negatively on potentially significant Late Pleistocene fossil beach deposits and faunal remains in the western half of the subject property.
- Unmarked human burials may be uncovered or exposed during bulk earthworks and excavations.

4.4 Results of the desk-top study

Archaeological research has shown that the majority of coastal sites in South Africa are located within 300 m of the shoreline, although sites do occur further inland (Kaplan 1993). As development spreads in the coastal areas, archaeological sites have come under increasing threat and many sites have already been destroyed completely. From an archaeological perspective, the coastal zone is highly sensitive and threatened by development.

Planning for the coastal zone must therefore take account of this rich archaeological heritage. With the increased pressure to develop the shoreline area, new settlements are often built on top of much older (pre-colonial) settlements, resulting in the permanent loss of archaeological material. This is very apparent in St. Helena Bay, for example at Shelly Point.

Research undertaken by Kaplan (1993), on behalf of the Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism, identified large numbers of archaeological sites in the St. Helena Bay area. Sites had been recorded at Steenbrasbaai, Marines Bay, Maalbaai, Klippiesbaai, Kaloenibaa, Shelly Point and Britannia Bay (see also Rudner 1968). It is also well known that large numbers of archaeological sites occur alongside the rocky shoreline in the St. Helena Bay area, mostly around Duyker Eiland and Britannia Bay (Kaplan 2003; Halkett & Hart 1995; Thackeray & Cronin 1975).

With its rocky shoreline, the St. Helena Bay region acted as foci that attracted both LSA hunter-gatherers and later Khoekhoe herders as it offered greater opportunities for the exploitation of marine foods, particularly shellfish, while the local shales and granites provided vital nutrients for domestic stock. Shellfish meat was either cooked in pots or on open fires, but there is also evidence to suggest that meat was dried and smoked. Other marine resources exploited included sea birds, fish, crayfish, seal, dolphin, and even occasionally whales.

Research focussing on the Khoekhoe herder economy around 2000 years ago in the Vredenburg Peninsula has, significantly, identified large numbers of sites up to several kilometres from the shoreline (Sadr *et al* 1992). Many of these sites, comprising substantial shellfish deposits with pottery and stone tools, are centred round the many large granite outcroppings that are ubiquitous in Vredenburg, Paternoster and the St. Helena Bay area. Recently, extensive scatters of shellfish, stone tools, pottery and reused colonial-era artefacts have been found on a site in Britannia Bay, providing compelling evidence for the possible presence of previously unknown near-coastal herder sites (Kaplan 2006a).

Since the advent of contract archaeology in the late 1980's and early 1990's, several AIA's have also been undertaken in the St. Helena Bay area. Most of these assessments have focussed on the immediate shoreline area, where mainly large housing and infrastructure developments are taking place (Halkett & Hart 1995; Kaplan 2006b, c, 2005 a,b,c, 2002).

5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

5.1 The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999)

...any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000m², or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m², requires an archaeological impact assessment in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

5.1.2 Archaeology (Section 35 (4))

No person may, without a permit issued by the SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object.

5.1.3 Burial grounds and graves (Section 36 (3))

No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority.

6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND DESCRIPTION

The archaeological heritage remains described below are illustrated in Figure 13.

A (GPS readings between S° 32 43 654 E° 17 56 866 & S° 32 43 691 E° 17 57 030)

how big?
Extensive scatters of shellfish remains and a low-density scatter of stone tools occur across a large swathe of land in the eastern half of the proposed site, to the north and east of the Boulevard Caravan Park. The remains are dispersed fairly unevenly over the landscape, however, and it is difficult to isolate single occurrences, although more dense patches of shellfish do occur in this area. The area can be treated as virtually a single archaeological site. Dune mole rat activity is extensive, but the shellfish remains appear to be confined to the surface. The shellfish is characterised by crushed shell and mainly small fragments of Scutellastra and Cymbula sp., while some Black Mussel (Choromytilus meridionalis) and whelk also occurs.

As indicated, stone tools are very thinly dispersed over the surrounding landscape, comprising mainly quartzite flakes, chunks, broken and flaked cobbles, and some unworked stone. Two hammerstones and one broken upper grindstone were also counted. About 12 'sausage-shaped' quartzite beach cobbles were found, including both snapped, broken, pecked, and end flaked/damaged examples. Large numbers of similar types of tools were recently found during a study of Portion 7 of the farm Duyker Eiland, immediately to the south of the subject property (Kaplan 2006a). A few quartz flakes and chunks were also noted, as well as one small indurated shale core. One small piece of slightly (red) burnished, one piece of ostrich eggshell and one white sand mussel 'blank', was also found.

The archaeological heritage remains have been graded provisionally medium-low local significance, subject to verification by trial excavation.

*medium-high
provisional?*



arrows indicate
shell centres
being thinner
there

Figure 13. Aerial photograph of the study site illustrating location of archaeological heritage remains

B (GPS reading S° 32 43 470 E° 17 56 873)

In contrast with the eastern half of the proposed site, extensive scatters of shellfish and relatively large numbers of stone tools occur in the western half of the subject property alongside Golden Mile Drive, but are spread more densely and evenly in the south western portion of the site, with several discreet patches of shell occurring in open spaces (Figure 14). The surface scatters of shell are characterised mainly by small fragments dominated by Scutellastra and Cymbula sp. A few large whole shells (S. argenvillei and C. granatina) also occur. Small amounts of Black Mussel and whelk were also noted. low big?

Stone tools are dominated by quartzite flakes, chunks, and broken, snapped and flaked rounded beach cobbles. Several (broken) upper and lower grindstones were also found, including one complete lower grindstone, and one conjoined lower grindstone located about 35 m apart. Three heavily retouched side struck quartzite flakes were found. Only two 'sausage-shaped' quartzite beach cobbles were counted, and one anvil. It is interesting to note that three bored stones were found in B. These include one complete example (Figure 15) and 2 broken examples. A small number of quartz flakes, chunks and cores were found, as well as two silcrete flakes. No pottery was found. bored stones

The archaeological heritage remains have been rated medium-high local significance. Suggested mitigation includes shellfish sampling and dating



Figure 14. Scatter of shellfish in B.



Figure 15. Bored stone in B

C (GPS reading S° 32 43 484 E° 17 56 986)
(GPS reading S° 32 43 507 E° 17 57 015)
(GPS reading S° 32 43 487 E° 17 57 034)

Shellfish scatters are more thinly dispersed in the north western portion of the property, alongside Golden Mile Drive, which is partially infested with alien vegetation. But at least three discrete patches of shellfish were recorded (see above GPS co-ordinates and refer to Figures 16 and 17). The shellfish is dominated by fragments of Scutellastra and Cymbula sp, with very small amounts of Black Mussel and some whelk occurring. Several large whole S. argenvillei and S. granatina and a small C. miniata were counted.

how big?

Stone artefacts are very thinly dispersed in C. A few quartzite and quartz flakes, some broken and flaked quartzite beach cobbles, a broken lower grindstone, one complete lower grindstone (refer to Figure 16); one anvil and one sausage-shaped cobble were counted. One round silcrete core was also found.

The archaeological heritage remains have been graded provisionally **low local** significance, subject to verification by trial excavation.

why?
on the basis
of what?



Figure 16. Scatter of shellfish in C. Arrow indicates lower grindstone



Figure 17. Scatter of shellfish in C

6.1 Fossil remains

Interestingly, and perhaps significantly, the western half of the subject property is also characterised by extensive scatters of well-preserved fossil shell beach deposits, that may possibly be features of late Pleistocene Last Interglacial shoreline deposits. These deposits are at times mixed up with the archaeologically derived shellfish deposits, but are fairly easy to distinguish (by both type and context). Such late Pleistocene shoreline deposits have not been identified in the Britannia Beach area before, but are well recognised further north at Dwarskersbos, for example (Kaplan 2006d; Pether 2004). Much of the fossil shell is also associated with dune mole rat dumps, indicating that fossil shell deposits occur below ground. Some diggings (for a refuse dump) in the south western portion of the proposed site have also unearthed fairly substantial fossil shell deposits including conglomerates of cemented calcrete and compacted shell (Figure 18).

The fossil shell is dominated by bivalve species, such as large Trough shells (Lutraria lutraria), Venus clams (Venerupis corrugate) and White Sand Mussel (Donax Serra). Occasionally, some fossilised Black Mussel, Ribbed Mussel and large Barnacle were also noted. Some of the shell is literally fossilised to calcrete.

These (possible) Last Interglacial beach deposits are of considerable palaeontological importance, as they may provide a record of changes in faunal communities with time, record historical sea-level changes, as well as preserve fossil remains. It should be noted that at least three diagnostic fossilised bones were located over the western half of the property.

— which ones?



Figure 18. Fossil shell in B

7. IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed housing development on Erf 460 St. Helena Bay will impact negatively on important archaeological heritage remains, as well as potentially significant Late Pleistocene Last Interglacial shoreline beach deposits.

Bulk earthworks and excavations may also expose or uncover unmarked human burials.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed housing development on Erf 460 St. Helena Bay, the following recommendations are made:

- Evaluation of the conservation worthiness of the archaeological sites in the eastern and western half of the property (Area A and C respectively) will require shovel testing before development activities take place. If the sites are found to have depth and undisturbed deposit, they will have to be sampled by way of controlled archaeological excavation.
- Systematic sampling and dating of archaeological deposits in the western half of the property (Area B) is required.
- A palaeontological assessment at a scoping level must be undertaken by a professional palaeontologist to determine the significance of the shoreline beach deposits in the western half of the property². ✓
- Bulk earthworks and excavations must be monitored by a professional archaeologist. ✓
- Bulk earthworks and excavations must also be monitored by a professional palaeontologist ✓
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Mrs Mary Leslie @ 021 462 4502) or Heritage Western Cape (Dr A. Jerardino 021 483 9692).

- shovel testing tells about depth of site. Can heritage significance be inferred from this information in a straightforward manner?
- possible mitigation will need careful recording of spatial information, requiring surveying equipment, GIS software + data entry, ... etc.
- site visit by HWC and UCT staff before final decision is taken?

² Consulting Palaeontologist Dr John Pether can be conducted to undertake an assessment of the site. He can be contacted at 083 744 6295

9. REFERENCES

- Halkett, D. & Hart, T. 1995. A Phase 1 Archaeological Assessment of Portion 6 of the Farm Dyker Eiland: St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for Beyers A.W. Land Surveyors and Township Consultants. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.
- Kaplan, J. 2006a. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment portion 7 of the Farm Duyker Eiland No. 6. St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for CK Rumboll and Partners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2006b. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed housing development on Erf 4404, 4405 and 2798 St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for Dennis Moss Partnership. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2006c. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed housing development Erf 55 and 462 St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for BCD Town and Regional Planners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2006d. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed housing development on Farm 109 Dwarskersbos. Report prepared for Enviro Dinamik. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2005a. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Erf 2793 St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for BCD Town and Regional Planners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2005b. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Erf 2792 St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for BCD Town and Regional Planners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2005c. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Proposed development Sandpiper Village, St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for Dennis Moss Partnership. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2005d. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the area surrounding the abandoned Die Kop quarry site situated on the Farm Kleinberg 87/1 Vredenburg. Report prepared for Site Plan Consulting. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 2003. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment, proposed subdivision of Farm 1014 St. Helena Bay. Report prepared for Peter Pickford. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 1993. The state of archaeological information in the coastal zone from the Orange River to Ponta do Ouro. Report prepared for the Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.
- Kaplan, J. 1990. An appraisal of the archaeological sensitivity of the West Coast Sub-Region. Report prepared for Dennis Moss Partnership. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.

Pether, J. 2004. Palaeontological mitigation report, coastal marine deposits Dwarskersbos. Dwarskersbos Erf 276 housing development. Report prepared for BKS (Pty) Ltd.

Robertshaw, P.T. 1979. Excavations at Duiker Eiland, Vredenburg District, Cape Province. *Annals of the Cape Provincial Museum (Human Sciences)* 1:1-26

Rudner, J. 1968. Strandloper pottery from South and South West Africa. *Annals of the South African Museum* 49:441-663.

Sadr, K., Gribble, J. & Euston-Brown, G. 1992. The Vredenburg Peninsula survey, 1991/92. In Smith, A.B. & Muti, B (eds) *Guide to archaeological sites in the south western Cape*. Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town.

Thackeray, F & Cronin, M. 1975. Report on archaeological survey within the Saldanha area. Unpublished report, South African Museum, Cape Town.

From: Antonieta Jerardino
To: Kaplan, Jonathan
Date: 2006/10/09 12:41:54
Subject: Herder sites: proposed site visit to St Helena & Britannia Bay

Hi Jonathan,

I will write a formal letter on the following, but am dropping you this email now in order to speed up the process.

Your two Phase 1 AIA reports on, respectively, Erven 55 & 462, St Helena and Erf 460, St Helena (Britannia Bay) were reviewed at the last APM Committee meeting on the 4th October 2006.

As we know, little is known about these types of open herder sites (as opposed to deeper sequences around Kasteelberg granite boulders and shelters), and for this reason, their significance appears to be in my opinion quite high. The APM could not take a final decision on neither of these reports as the heritage significance of these sites is not yet confirmed and could be high enough to warrant special measures.

Thus, final decision on whether to mitigate these sites or not, and if so, what would be the best way to do so, will need to be informed by a site visit. Researchers with an active interest in herder/pastoralist archaeology will be invited to come along in order to assess these sites and advice HWC on the way forward.

I have already emailed a few who could be interested/ willing to assist in this regard. Obviously, we need your presence as well in order to locate the sites and discuss their content. Would it be possible for you to suggest some dates between the 23rd October and mid November? Otherwise a bit later if you are too busy until then. Please bear in mind that this will be an academic/heritage exercise, and the presence of property owners/developers are not needed at this stage. We will need sufficient psychological space to bounce impressions and ideas.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Chopi

CC: Deacon, Janette

From: Antonieta Jerardino
To: charliearthurs@hotmail.com; Mutti, Belinda; Sealy, Judy; Smith, Andrew
Date: 2006/10/09 12:26:01
Subject: Herder sites in the Vredenburg Peninsula: proposed site visit

Dear all,

I would like to ask you whether you would be willing to come along a site visit to St. Helena and Britannia Bay for a site inspection of several sites of apparent late LSA herder affiliation within the next couple of weeks.

These sites were encountered by Jonathan Kaplan during separate Phase 1 surveys of two properties, respectively, in St Helena and Britannia Bay. Two reports were compiled and submitted to the APM Committee of HWC for approval. These were reviewed on Wednesday 4th October by the APM Committee.

The sites appear rather thin on the ground (marine shell, lithics, ceramics...etc) but also very extensive, and potentially could yield valuable spatial information on settlement patterns. As we know, little is known about these types of open herder sites (as opposed to deeper sequences around Kasteelberg granite boundaries and shelters), and for this reason, their significance appears to be in my opinion quite high. Thus, final decision on whether to mitigate these sites or not, and if so, what would be the best way to do so, will need to be informed by a site visit. Ideally, researchers with an active interest in herder/ pastoralist archaeology should also come along in order to assess these sites.

Please let me know whether you would be willing/able to come along for the day to these sites, and if so, please provide me with some possible dates from the 23rd October onwards until about mid-November. I still have to contact Jonathan Kaplan and find out about his time availability. The more possible dates the better.

I will make copies of these reports and make them available on time to those of you who will be able to come along. Please feel free to suggest the names of other researchers in the Western Cape who would be willing to be part of these site visits.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Best wishes

A. Jerardino

Dr. Antonieta Jerardino
SENIOR HERITAGE OFFICER: ARCHAEOLOGIST
HERITAGE WESTERN CAPE
Private Bag X9067
Cape Town 8000
Tel: 021-483 9687
Fax: 021-483 9842

CC: Deacon, Janette; Sadr, Karim



ILifa leMveli leNtshona Koloni
Erfenis Wes-Kaap
Heritage Western Cape

18th October 2006

Our Ref. No. C13/3/6/2/1/1/1/1/C4

Ms Anelia Coetzee
16 Rainier Str.
Malmesbury
7300
(Fax 022-487 1661)

COPY

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, ERF 460, ST HELENA BAY, VREDENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

A Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM) at the above property was discussed by the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Committee of the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority, Heritage Western Cape (HWC), at a meeting on 4th October 2006. The following was noted and decided:

- 1) The proposed development involves 16 ha of land to be rezoned and subdivided for the construction of approximately 237 single residential and group housing units, including roads and services. The land is currently zoned Indeterminate.
- 2) Mr. J. Kaplan surveyed the above property on foot on the 22nd June 2006, encountering no limitations, although low archaeological visibility resulted from infestation by alien vegetation in large sections on the northern extent of the property.
- 3) Three extensive low-density scatters of marine shell and various types of stone artefacts were located during this survey. Depending on their density, content and extent, Mr. Kaplan rated these sites in terms of their heritage significance as follows: scatter A - "medium low"; scatter B - "medium-high"; and scatter C - "low". Mr. Kaplan recommended that trial excavations be conducted in order to verify this grading and to assess the depth and spatial extent of these sites.
- 4) Extensive scatters of well-preserved fossil beach deposits of possible Last Interglacial age (Late Pleistocene) were encountered on the western half of the subject property. According to Mr. Kaplan, these fossil beach deposits have not been identified in the Britannia Bay area before, but are well-known further north between the Berg River mouth and Dwarskorsbos.
- 5) As with other recently discovered sites in the St Helena area, there is a possibility that these sites are the result of relatively brief visits from Khoi groups who frequented the Vredenburg Peninsula in their nomadic seasonal rounds. Research along the West Coast of South Africa over the last 25 years has struggled to identify such transient herder camps, with a small number of deeper aggregation sites being studied instead. If in the opinion of experts these sites were the result of the activity of Khoi groups, these would probably receive a higher grading in terms of their heritage significance. Decisions regarding their management and possible mitigation, which could differ from those proposed by Mr. Kaplan, would be informed by such higher grading.

www.capegateway.gov.za/culture_sport

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • Postal Address: Private Bag X9067, Cape Town, 8001
• Tel: +27 (0)86 142 142 • Fax: +27 (0)21 483 9842 • E-mail: hwc@pgwc.gov.za

Straaladres: Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • Posadres: Privaatsak X9067, Kaapstad, 8001

- 6) Before a final decision regarding the management of archaeological resources in the above property is reached, the undersigned, Mr. J. Kaplan and researchers with an active interest in indigenous herder archaeology must conduct a site visit and assess these sites. Observations gathered during this site inspection and discussion about these sites will be presented at the next APM Committee meeting following this site visit.

Best wishes,



Dr A. Jerardino
SENIOR HERITAGE OFFICER: ARCHAEOLOGIST

COPY

Cc: Mr. Alvan Gabriel, DEA&DP: B2 Directorate: West Coast, Fax: 021-483 4372

Cc: Mr Jonathan Kaplan, ACRM, PO Box 159, Riebeeck West 7306, Fax: 022-461 2755

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1266
 CONNECTION TEL 00224871661
 SUBADDRESS
 CONNECTION ID CK RUMBOLL
 ST. TIME 18/10 15:56
 USAGE T 01'01
 PGS. SENT 2
 RESULT OK

1



ILISA leMveli leNtshona Kolori
 Erfenis Wes-Kaap
 Heritage Western Cape

18th October 2006

Our Ref. No. C13/3/6/2/1/1/1/C4

Ms Anelia Coetzee
 16 Rainier Str.
 Malmesbury
 7300
 (Fax 022-487 1661)

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, ERF 460, ST HELENA BAY, VREDENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

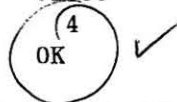
A Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM) at the above property was discussed by the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Committee of the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority, Heritage Western Cape (HWC), at a meeting on 4th October 2006. The following was noted and decided:

- 1) The proposed development involves 16 ha of land to be rezoned and subdivided for the construction of approximately 237 single residential and group housing units, including roads and services. The land is currently zoned Indeterminate.
- 2) Mr. J. Kaplan surveyed the above property on foot on the 22nd June 2006, encountering no limitations, although low archaeological visibility resulted from infestation by alien vegetation in large sections on the northern extent of the property.
- 3) Three extensive low-density scatters of marine shell and various types of stone artefacts were located during this survey. Depending on their density, content and extent, Mr. Kaplan rated these sites in terms of their heritage significance as follows: scatter A - "medium low"; scatter B - "medium-high"; and scatter C - "low". Mr. Kaplan recommended that trial excavations be conducted in order to verify this grading and to assess the depth and spatial extent of these sites.
- 4) Extensive scatters of well-preserved fossil beach deposits of possible Last Interglacial age (Late Pleistocene) were encountered on the western half of the subject property. According to Mr. Kaplan, these fossil beach deposits have not been identified in the Britannia Bay area before, but are well known further north between the Berg River mouth and Dordrecht.

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1269
 CONNECTION TEL 04834372
 SUBADDRESS
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 19/10 08:54
 USAGE T 01'39
 PGS. SENT
 RESULT



FACSIMILE



ILifa leMveli leNtshona Karoni
 Erfenis Wes-Kaap
 Heritage Western Cape

URGENT PLEASE RESPOND CONFIDENTIAL

Disclaimer: This message is intended for the addressee only, as it contains information that is privileged, private and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you are notified that any distribution, use or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately.

TO/COMPANY: DEPT. ENVIRONM. AFFAIRS & DEVELOPM. PLANNING
 FOR ATTENTION: Mr. Alvan Gabriel : B2 Directorate - West Coast
 FAX: 021 483 4372
 TELEPHONE:

FROM: A. Jerardino

FAX No:

TEL No:

DATE: 18 Oct 2006

PAGES: 4

REF: Proposed Development
 (Phase 1AIA)

St Helena Erven 55 & 462

St Helena Erf 460 (Britannia Bay)

Hi Alvan,
 Please find below fax copies of letters re: above
 cases (very similar) for your records.
 Best wishes,

 *** ERROR TX REPORT ***

TX FUNCTION WAS NOT COMPLETED

TX/RX NO 1270
 CONNECTION TEL 00224612755
 SUBADDRESS
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 19/10 09:06
 USAGE T 02'49
 PGS. SENT 2
 RESULT NG

posted instead

FACSIMILE



Ilifa leMveli leNtshona Koloni
 Errenis Was-Kaap
 Heritage Western Cape

URGENT PLEASE RESPOND CONFIDENTIAL

Disclaimer: This message is intended for the addressee only, as it contains information that is privileged, private and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you are notified that any distribution, use or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately.

TO/COMPANY:

ACRM

FOR ATTENTION:

J. Kaplan

FAX:

022 461 2755

TELEPHONE:

FROM:

A. Jervolino

FAX No:

TEL No:

DATE:

18 October 2006

PAGES:

4

REF:

Phase 1 AIA - Sta Helena

Ex 460 (Britannia Bay)

Bven 55 & 462

*Hi Son,
 Please find below fax copy of letters re: above
 cases for your records.*

Best,

DI



ILifa leMveli leNtshona Koloni
Erfenis Wes-Kaap
Heritage Western Cape

11th December 2006

Our Ref. No. C13/3/6/2/1/1/1/C4

Ms Anelia Coetzee
CK Rumboll & Vennote
16 Rainier Str.
Malmesbury
7300
(Fax: 022-487 1661)

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, ERF 460, ST HELENA BAY, VREDENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

A Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM) at the above property was discussed by the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Committee of the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority, Heritage Western Cape (HWC), at a meeting on 4th October 2006.

Before a decision regarding the management of archaeological resources in the above property could be reached, it was requested that the undersigned, Mr. J. Kaplan and researchers with an active interest in indigenous herder archaeology conduct a site visit and assess these sites. This site visit took place on Monday 27th November 2006 and attended by Mr. J. Kaplan, Prof Andrew Smith (UCT), Prof. Judith Sealy (UCT and APM Committee member), Ms Belinda Mutti, and the undersigned. Observations gathered during this site inspection and discussion about these sites were conveyed and discussed at the APM Committee meeting on 5th December 2006. The following was noted and decided:

- 1) The three low-density scatters of marine shell and various types of stone artefacts (A-C) that were initially identified by Mr. J. Kaplan were inspected. Depending on their density, content and extent, Mr. Kaplan had rated these sites in terms of their heritage significance as follows: scatter A - "medium low"; scatter B - "medium-high"; and scatter C - "low". Mr. Kaplan recommended that trial excavations be conducted in order to verify this grading and to assess the depth and spatial extent of these sites.
- 2) It was observed that these three sites exhibit low density of archaeological material, much of which is distributed on and within 6 cm from the land surface as shown by animal burrows. Mitigation in the form of a more detailed survey of these sites and possible collection of material prior any development activities must take place:
 - a) A total station survey of the entire extension of the three stone artefact scatters must be undertaken in order to determine any areas of greater stone artefact density, and site boundaries.

www.capegateway.gov.za/culture_sport

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** Private Bag X9067, Cape Town, 8001
• Tel: +27 (0)86 142 142 • Fax: +27 (0)21 483 9842 • E-mail: hwc@pgwc.gov.za

Straatadres: Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Privaatsak X9067, Kaapstad, 8001
• Tel: +27 (0)86 142 142 • Fax: +27 (0)21 483 9842 • E-pos: hwc@pgwc.gov.za

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1545
 CONNECTION TEL 00224871661
 SUBADDRESS
 CONNECTION ID CK RUMBOLL
 ST. TIME 11/12 10:40
 USAGE T 00'31
 PGS. SENT 2
 RESULT OK

1



11th December 2006

Our Ref. No. C13/3/6/2/1/1/1/C4

Ms Anelia Coetzee
 CK Rumboll & Vennote
 16 Rainier Str.
 Malmesbury
 7300
 (Fax 022-487 1661)

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, ERF 460, ST HELENA BAY, VREDENBURG MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

A Phase I Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM) at the above property was discussed by the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Committee of the Western Cape provincial heritage resources authority, Heritage Western Cape (HWC), at a meeting on 4th October 2006.

Before a decision regarding the management of archaeological resources in the above property could be reached, it was requested that the undersigned, Mr. J. Kaplan and researchers with an active interest in indigenous herder archaeology conduct a site visit and assess these sites. This site visit took place on Monday 27th November 2006 and attended by Mr. J. Kaplan, Prof. Andrew Smith (UCT), Prof. Judith Sealy (UCT and APM Committee member), Ms Belinda Mutti, and the undersigned. Observations gathered during this site inspection and discussion about these sites were conveyed and discussed at the APM Committee meeting on 5th December 2006. The following was noted and decided:

- 1) The three low-density scatters of marine shell and various types of stone artefacts (A-C) that were initially identified by Mr. J. Kaplan were inspected. Depending on their density, content and extent, Mr. Kaplan had rated these sites in terms of their heritage significance as follows: scatter A - "medium low"; scatter B - "medium-high"; and scatter C - "low". Mr. Kaplan recommended that trial excavations be conducted in order to verify this grading and to assess the depth and spatial extent of these sites.
- 2) It was observed that these three sites exhibit low density of archaeological material, much of