

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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15 April, 2008

Att: Ms Katy Spalding
Strategic Environmental Focus (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 1330
Durbanville
7551

Dear Ms Spalding

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FARM HAASENDAL 222 PORTION 52 AND ERF 20481 BRACKENFELL SOUTH, CITY OF CAPE TOWN

1. Introduction and brief

Strategic Environmental Focus¹, on behalf of GLC Development (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct an Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing development on Portion 52 of the Farm Haasendal 222 and Erf 20481 Brackenfell South, in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1).

The proposed project entails the development of 94 Single Residential erven and 154 Group Housing erven, with Private Open Space and internal roads and services. Portion 52 of Haasendal 222 is currently zoned Agricultural and will be rezoned and subdivided to accommodate the proposed activities.

Erf 20481 is also proposed to be developed as a guest lodge and the existing Schoongezicht Restaurant on Erf 20481 will be upgraded and renovated.

The extent of the proposed development (about 17 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 to develop (NID) checklist has also been completed and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

¹ Strategic Environmental Focus (Pty) Ltd is represented by Ms Katy Spalding Fax (021) 979 3830.

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 11th April, 2008.

A desk top study was also undertaken.

4. The study site

The subject property (S 33° 53 40.3 E 18° 42 50.7 on map datum WGS 84) is located off Kruis Street in Brackenfell South, City of Cape Town. The northern boundary of the proposed site is Crammix Road (Figure 2). Access to the site is via Bottelary Road. Portion 52 of Haasendal 222 is largely vacant and the receiving environment is severely disturbed, degraded and modified (Figures 3-8). Cattle currently graze on the property which is heavily trampled. Sandy tracks and paths intersect the site. Indigenous Buffalo and Kweek grass covers most of the proposed development area. Occasional exotic and indigenous trees (including two old Wild Olive trees) are also situated on the property. Large piles of building rubble and a farm dam occur alongside Crammix Road. There is a large storm water pit situated in the south western corner of the site. Diggings, scrapings and dune mole rat activity are extensive over the property, which is very sandy with some clay occurring in places. Several residential and industrial buildings and structures occur in the north western portion of the property (Figures 9-12), none of which are considered to be historically important. There are no significant landscape features on the site. The surrounding land use comprises smallholdings, vacant farm land, light industry and residential erven (houses and flats) in a rapidly transforming rural environment.

The existing Schoongezicht Restaurant is situated on Erf 20481, immediately alongside and adjacent to the proposed housing development area (Figures 13 & 14). A large car park and block of flats defines the surrounding open space. The restaurant has been heavily altered and renovated. It has been completely refurbished internally, while externally, the roof has been raised and re-thatched, a concrete stoep and wooden deck has been built on, and dormer windows and sliding doors added. A modern wall and palisade fencing ring the restaurant and renovated outbuildings and lapa. The integrity of the original farm building has been severely compromised and does not retain any architectural value.

5. Results of the desk top study

A Phase 1 archaeological assessment of a proposed housing and golf estate development on various portions of the farm Haazendal 222 (i.e. the existing Kuils River Golf course), failed to locate or document any pre-colonial archaeological heritage remains². An archaeological assessment of a proposed housing development on Portion 86 of the Farm Haasendal 222 also failed to locate any pre-colonial archaeological remains³. Both properties are situated south of Bottelary Road (on the Kuils River side). Several other archaeological studies have been conducted by the archaeologist in the Kuils River/Brackenfell area, but these are located some distance from the subject property.

6. Results of the study

No pre-colonial archaeological heritage remains were documented during the study of Portion 52 of the Farm Haasendal 222 and Erf 20481 Brackenfell South.

None of the surrounding buildings and structures is considered to be important.

7. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed development of Portion 52 of the Farm Haasendal 222 and Erf 20481 Brackenfell South on important pre-colonial archaeological remains is likely to be **low**.

8. Conclusion

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of Portion 52 of the Farm Haasendal 222 and Erf 20481 Brackenfell South 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 'JK' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Jonathan Kaplan

² Kaplan, J. 2005. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of various portions of the Farm Haasendal 222, Kuils River. Report prepared for Jan Hannekom & Partners. Agency for Cultural Resource Management

³ Kaplan, J. 2006 Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed development Portion 86 of the Farm Haasendal 222 Kuils River. Report prepared for Goodwin Development Planning and Management. Agency for Cultural Resource Management

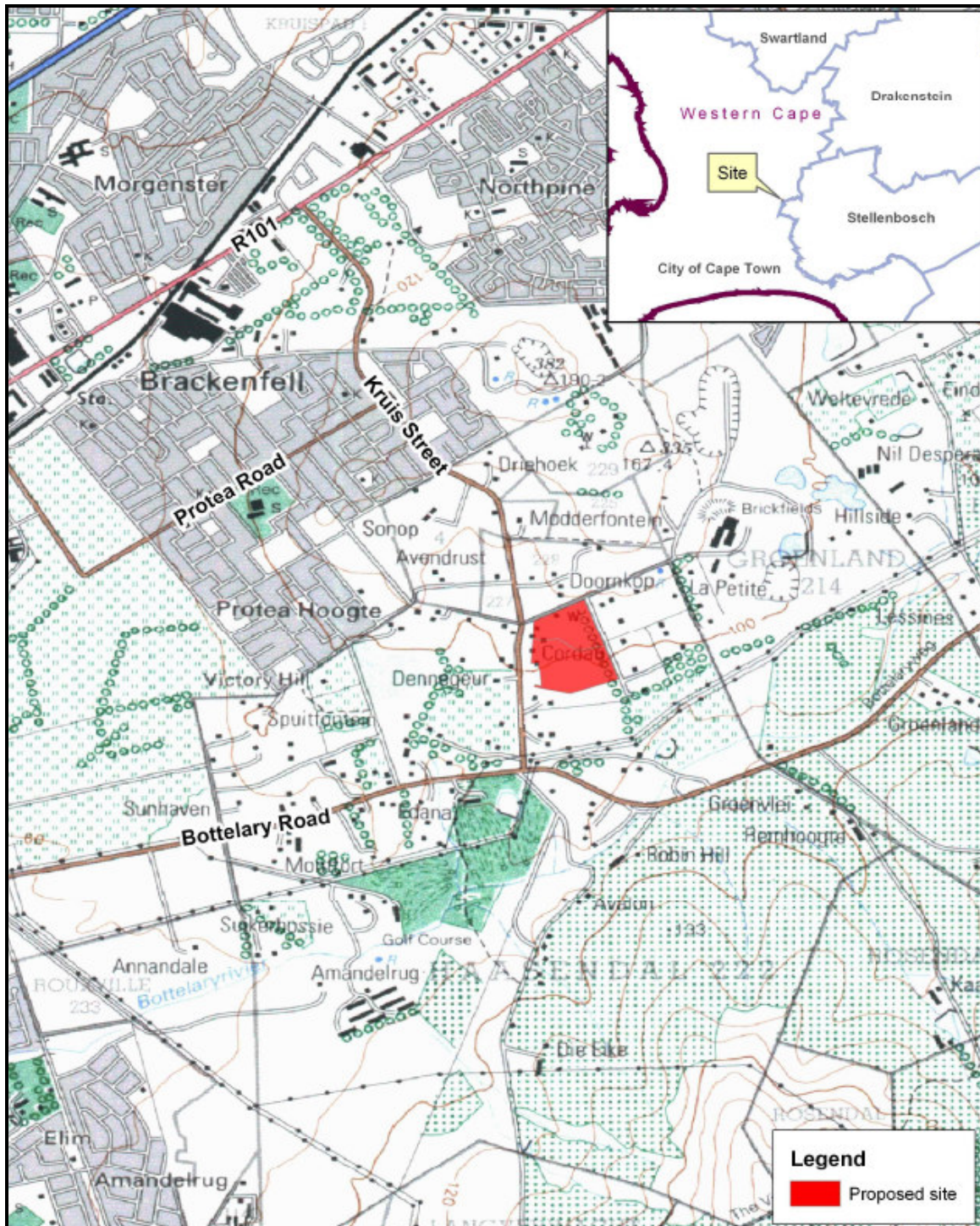


Figure 1. Locality Map (3318 CD Cape Town)

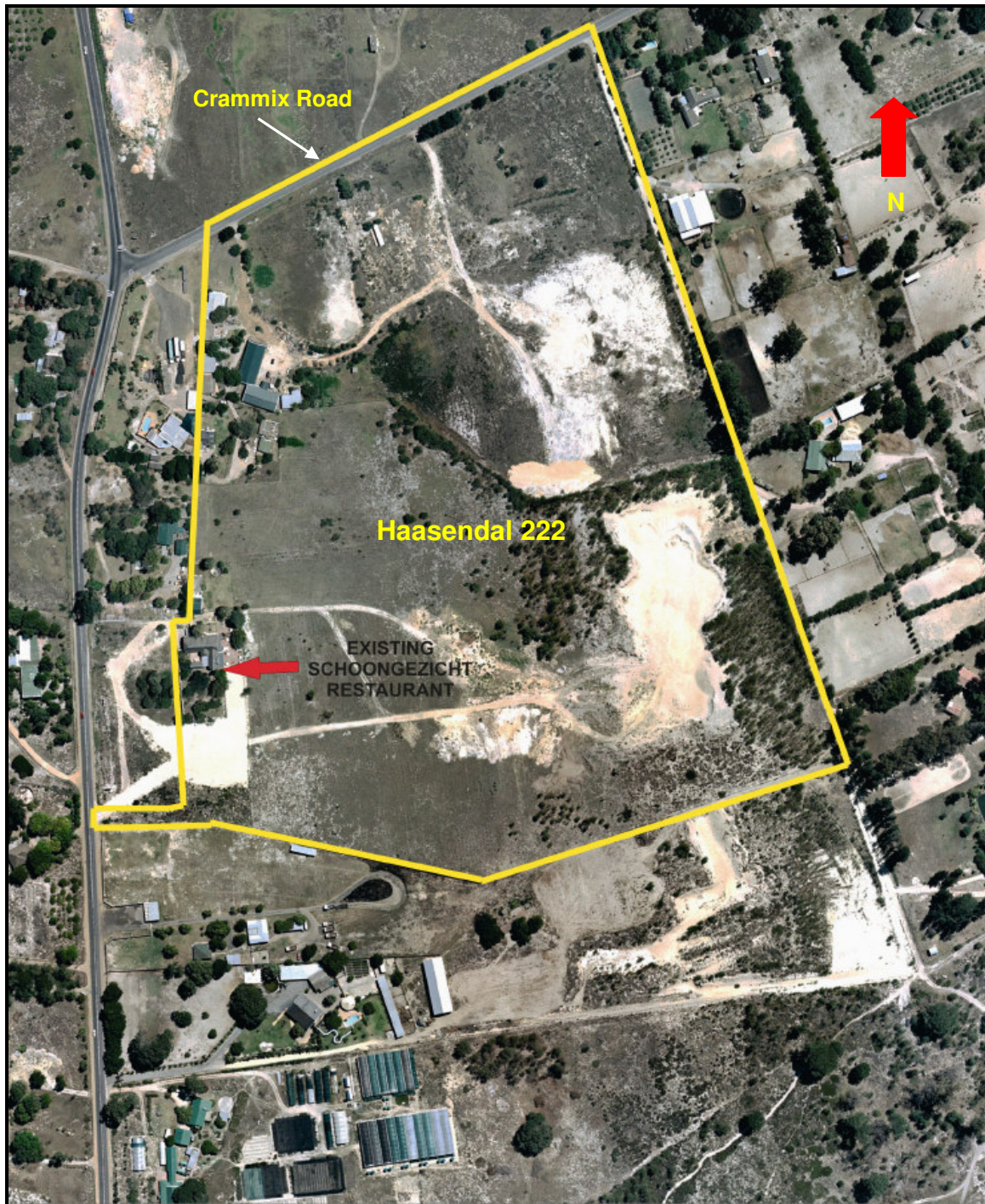


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the proposed site



Figure 3. View of the site facing south east



Figure 6. View of the site facing north



Figure 4. View of the site facing east



Figure 7. View of the site facing west



Figure 5. View of the site facing west.



Figure 8. View of the site facing north east



Figure 9. Houses on Haasendal 222



Figure 12. House on Haasendal 222



Figure 10. Industrial Building on Haasendal 222



Figure 13. View of Schoongezicht Restaurant from Haasendal 222



Figure 11. Houses on Haasendal 222



Figure 14. Schoongezicht Restaurant and outbuildings (Erf 20481)

