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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
LENTJIESKLIP 1, LANGEBAAN,  
CAPE WEST COAST**

Prepared for

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**CROWTHER CAMPBELL & ASSOCIATES**

By

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*Executive summary*

*21/2028*  
Archaeological visibility at ~~Lentjesklip~~ 1, Langebaan, on the Cape West coast, is high.

Numerous scatters and patches of fragmented shellfish remains, some bone, one piece of pottery, and a handful of stone tools were located during a foot study of the site.

The proposed Lentjesklip 1 development comprises a residential development.

Fragmented shellfish remains, including mussel, limpet and some whelk, were located in open spaces on the dune tops, and on both the east and west-facing slopes of the high vegetated sand dune in the north-western portion of the site.

Thin patches of fragmented shellfish remains, comprising mussel, limpet and whelk were also located in a gully, and in open spaces along the large parallel dune ridge in the western portion of the property.

Marginal scatters of shellfish remains in a degraded and disturbed context, were located in the extreme south-western portion of the property.

Patches of fragmented shellfish remains and a few stone flakes were located in the backward portion of the site on compacted gravel and calcrete surfaces.

Shellfish remains are also associated with fairly extensive dune mole rat activity on the site, indicating that archaeological material lies buried beneath the sand.

One piece of pottery, one hammerstone, one utilised flake, three unmodified flakes and some chunks were also located on the site.

The archaeological sites located during the study have been given a medium to low conservation significance rating.

The impact of the proposed Lentjesklip 1 development on archaeological sites is considered to be high to medium. *potentially significant*

The probability of locating of significant archaeological sites during implementation of the project is considered to be medium to low.

The probability of locating human burial remains during implementation of the proposed project is considered to be high.

The following archaeological recommendations are made.

- Should the large sand dune in the north-western portion of the property be removed (as has been proposed), test excavation should be carried out to determine the depth and significance of the archaeological deposit.

- Should any human remains be disturbed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to a professional archaeologist. Burial remains should be treated sensitively at all times.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Council Plans Committee.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background and brief

The Agency for Cultural Resource Management has been requested Crowther Campbell & Associates to undertake an archaeological assessment of Lentjiesklip 1, Langebaan, on the Cape West coast.

The proposed development comprises a residential development, + 572/1V 4 U 5/12  
104th 68 21/12.

The aim of the study is to assess the archaeological significance and sensitivity of the site.

## 2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the study were:

1. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance;
2. to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites;

## 3. STUDY APPROACH AND DOCUMENTATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

### 3.1 Method of survey

The approach followed in the archaeological study entailed a detailed foot survey of the property. A desk top study was also undertaken.

According to the records of the South African Museum Archaeological Data Recording Centre, no archaeological sites have been recorded on the property (Kaplan 1993). Archaeological visibility in the area is, however, extremely high. Forty sites have been recorded between Lentjiesklip 1 and Lynch Point (Parkington, and Poggenpoel 1987).  
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Archaeological excavations have also been carried out at Lentjiesklip 4 (Parkington et al 1988), and Lentjiesklip 2 (Hart 1991). The excavated sites, some of which have been found buried up to three metres below the sand body, date to between 4000 BP and AD 1800, showing that agents of midden accumulation were active in this area until historic times.

A human burial was also uncovered during excavation of a service trench at the Langebaan Waterfront Development (Pty) at Lentjiesklip 2 (Hart 1991).

#### 4. RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY

Archaeological visibility at Lenjieskip 1 is high. Numerous scatters and patches of fragmented shellfish remains, some bone, stone tools and pottery, were located during the foot study.

Fragmented shellfish remains were located in open spaces on the dune top, and on both the east and west-facing slopes of the high vegetated sand dune in the north-western portion of the site.

The scatters comprised mostly fragmented shellfish remains of limpet, black mussel and some whelk. One hammerstone, one quartz flake, and one piece of pottery was found in open spaces on the east-facing slopes of the large vegetated dune.

Thin patches of shellfish remains, comprising mussel, limpet and whelk were also located in a gully, and in open spaces, all along the large parallel dune ridge in the western portion of the site.

Marginal patches of fragmented shellfish remains were located in the extreme south-western portion of the property. This portion of property is severely degraded and disturbed.

Fragmented shellfish remains were located eroding out of a compacted sand bank close to the braai places on the northern side of the sand track in the south-western portion of the property. A few silcrete chunks were also found on the terrace above the sand bank.

A circular patch of fragmented shellfish (mussel, limpet and some whelk), as well as two quartz flakes, were located on a compacted gravel and calcrete surface in the backward portion of the study area.

Fragmented shellfish remains are also associated with fairly extensive dune mole rat activity on the site, indicating that archaeological material lies buried beneath the sand.

Significance of finds: **medium to low**

Conservation rating: **medium to low**

Suggested mitigation: **Should the large sand dune in the north-western portion of the property be removed (as has been proposed), test excavations to be carried out to determine the depth and significance of the archaeological deposit.**

## 5. CRITERIA USED IN THE EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

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~~Lentjesklip-1~~

The criteria used in evaluating the importance of archaeological sites at ~~Lentjesklip-1~~ includes the following:

- \* the state of preservation of the sites;
- \* the range and density of domestic cultural material present on the sites;
- \* type of site; for example cave/shelter, shell midden, open air site;
- \* approximate age of site;
- \* rarity of occurrence; and
- \* regional, national and international importance

## 6. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the proposed Lentjesklip 1 development on archaeological remains in the study area is considered to be high to medium.

## 7. CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE AND SENSITIVITY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN LENTJESKLIP 1

The archaeological sensitivity of the study site is considered to be medium to low.

## 8. LEGISLATION

Archaeological sites, including human burial remains, are protected by the National Monuments Act (Act No. 28 of 1969 as amended). It is an offence to disturb, remove or destroy from its original site, or excavate any such site without a permit from the National Monuments Council.

Human burial remains are also protected under the Human Tissues Act.

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed development of Lentjiesklip 1, Langebaan, on the Cape west coast, the following archaeological recommendations are made.

1. Should the large sand dune in the north-western portion of the property be removed (as has been proposed), test excavation should be carried out to determine the depth and significance of the archaeological deposit.
2. Should any human remains be disturbed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to a professional archaeologist. Burial remains should be treated sensitively at all times.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Council Plans Committee.

## 10. REFERENCES

- Hart, T. 1991. Archaeological excavation at Lentjiesklip 2. Archaeology Contracts Office, University of Cape Town.
- Parkington, J.E., & Poggenpoel, C.E. 1997. An archaeological survey of the Lynch Point Lentjiesklip area. Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town
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