

Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment

Title: Majuba Cattle Housing.

Proposal to develop two sheds to house 1000 cattle and an evaporation pond for wastewater on the farm Majuba, 10 km outside Malmesbury.

Author of this report:

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Commissioned by

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Owner & Developer

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Local Authority

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Mr Alwyn Zaayman, Tel: 022 487 9400, Fax: 022 487 9440.
West Coast District Municipality, PO Box 242, Mooresburg 7310.
Me B Allies, Tel: 022 433 8400.

Date: 28 April 2008

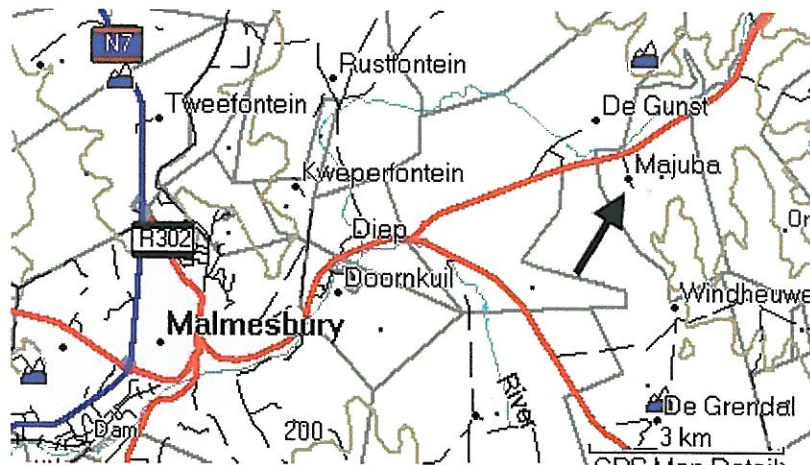


Figure 1. Location of development on Majuba Farm (1064/0 Malmesbury), 33°26'24.0"S: 18°48'00.1"E. (1:50 000 sheet 3318 BD Riebeeck-Kasteel)

M.A.
P.O.D.

Executive Summary

A survey of the land to be used for housing cattle on Majuba Farm 1064/0, Malmesbury, was undertaken. It is ploughed agricultural land with no structures. There are no significant heritage, archaeological or palaeontological resources that will be impacted by this development.

Background Information

The purpose of the development is to provide housing for 1000 cattle on Majuba, Farm 1064, 10 km from Malmesbury, off the R46 leading to Riebeeck-Kasteel (Fig. 1). The development entails the erection of two sheds each some 48 by 180 m in size (Fig. 2). One shed has already been constructed (Fig. 3) and planning permission is being sought for the construction a second shed and a 2500 m² evaporation pond. The total development is 11140 m².

This report is part of a Basic Assessment EIA process. Rezoning is not required.

Archaeological Background

No major archaeological sites are known in close proximity to the property.

Description of the property

The development will be on agricultural land adjacent to the farmyard.

The farmyard has a complement of older buildings (marked H on Fig. 2) that include an original house and large outbuilding that are late 19th or early 20th century (Figs. 3&4). They show interesting detail and are conservation worthy. In conservation terms the condition of these older structures is medium. The main farmhouse is a modern structure (marked M on Fig. 2). None of the buildings will be directly impacted by the proposed development.

Methodology

The exposures in the plough zone and surface disturbances were examined for archaeological and palaeontological materials.

Observations and Results

The property is sloping ground that has been contour ploughed and was previously planted with grain. There is a thin cover of soil over Malmesbury metasediments. No archaeological or palaeontological materials were observed. There are no built structures on the ground to be developed.

Sources of Risk and Statement of Significance

It is unlikely that development will disturb any buried materials and the risks are considered low.

The significance is rated as low.

Recommended Mitigations

The metal roofs of the sheds should be painted to blend into the landscape.

Further it is recommended that should any excavations by chance uncover buried palaeontological or archaeological materials including human remains that Heritage Western Cape is notified (Ms Celeste Booth, Heritage Resource Management Services, HWC, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel:021 483 9743, Fax:021 483 9842, omandlen@pwc.gov.za). Features like burials for example can occur in unpredictable locations

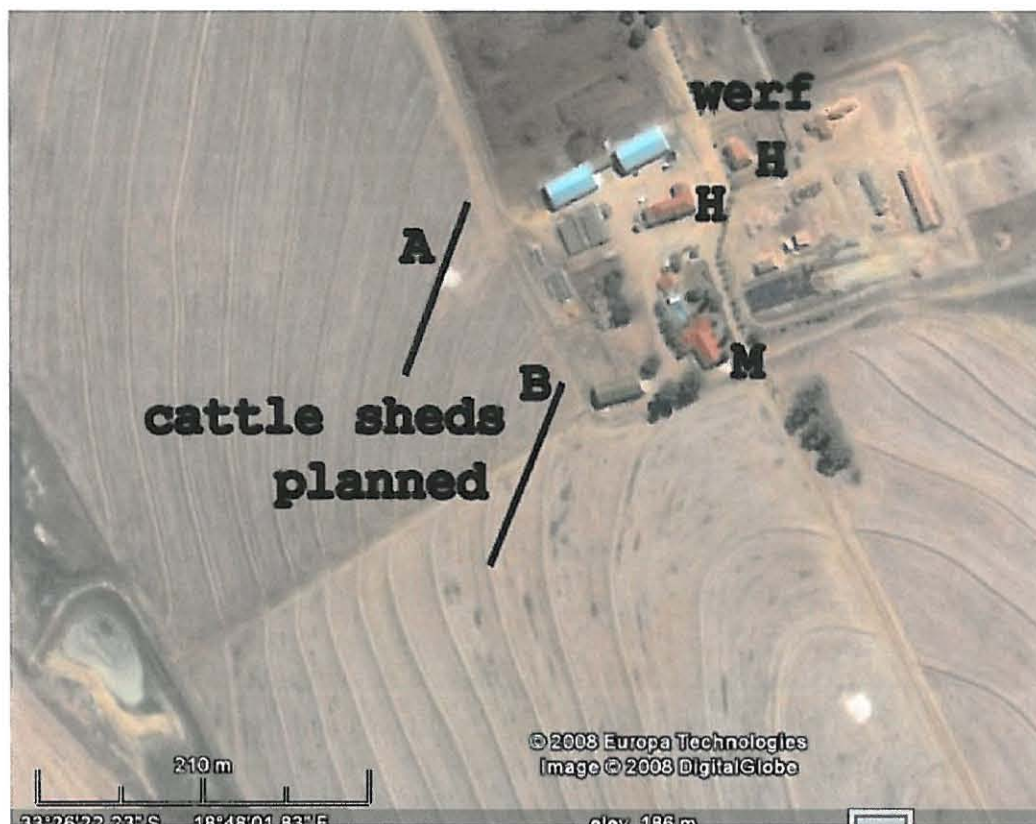


Figure 2. Location of the cattle sheds in relation to the werf. Shed A (Fig. 3) has been constructed and B is to be a similar structure. H marks older structures and M is the modern homestead.



Figure 3. One shed has been constructed. The second will be constructed from the position of this photograph.



Figure 4. Farm outbuilding on the older part of the werf.



Figure 5. Older farmhouse on the property