

## Archaeological Impact Assessment

### **Title: Melkhoutfontein Housing Project.**

Proposal to develop 550 residential, one crèche, one church and three public space erven on 13.8 ha on portion of Farm 480/15 east of the existing Melkhoutfontein settlement in the municipality of Hessequa, Western Cape.

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### **Commissioned by**

Cape Lowlands Environmental Services. Mr M Duckitt (Contact person) and Mr N Hanekom (Environmental Impact Assessor), PO Box 70, Darling 7345. Tel: 022 492 3435, Fax: 022 492 3435, Cell: 076 851 0476. Email: [mduckitt@cles.co.za](mailto:mduckitt@cles.co.za), [nhanekom@cles.co.za](mailto:nhanekom@cles.co.za)

### **Project Consultant**

ASLA Devco, Contact person: Mr David Douglas, PO Box 118, Gordons Bay 7151. Tel: 021 845 8330, Fax: 021 845 8552. Email: [david@asla.co.za](mailto:david@asla.co.za)

### **Landowner**

Hessequa Municipality, Contact person: Mr J Jacobs, PO Box 29, Riversdale 6670. Tel: 028 713 8000, Fax: 028 713 3148. Email: [riversdal@ezinet.co.za](mailto:riversdal@ezinet.co.za)

### **Municipal Jurisdiction**

Hessequa Municipality.

27 May 2009



**Figure 1. Location of Melkhoutfontein (1:50 000 3421AD; GPS 34° 19' 39.2" S; 21°24'44.8" E) north of Still Bay**

## **Executive Summary**

A survey of the property 480/148 part of Farm Portion 480/15 Riversdale was carried out. No archaeological and palaeontological resources were recorded. It is farmland that has been cultivated. A rectangular farm outbuilding in poor state of repair is the only structure recorded. It is not considered worth rehabilitation.

## **Background Information**

Melkhoutfontein is a dispersed communal settlement, partly on church land, close to the Goukou River, north of Still Bay (Fig. 2). The proposed new development on undeveloped agricultural land west of the main centre of Melkhoutfontein is to provide erven for residential purposes.

This report is part of a Basic Assessment. Rezoning is required.

## **Archaeological and Palaeontological Background**

There are no known archaeological or palaeontological sites in close proximity to the area. The adjacent areas were surveyed recently by the author for a power line and that survey failed to locate any resources.

## **Description of the property**

The property (480/148 which is a subdivision of a portion of Farm 480/15 Riversdale) is bordered on the south by a cemetery and church (Fig. 3). It is cultivated and fallow agricultural land that is in part heavily infested with aliens.

## **Methodology**

The surface disturbances were examined for archaeological and palaeontological materials.

## **Observations and Results**

No archaeological or palaeontological materials were observed on the property. The boundary with the cemetery and church on the south is well demarcated reducing any risks burials on the property.

There is one structure on the property (Figs. 3 & 4), a rectangular shed serving as a dwelling and dilapidated condition. It is not considered conservation worthy.

## **Sources of Risk and Statement of Significance**

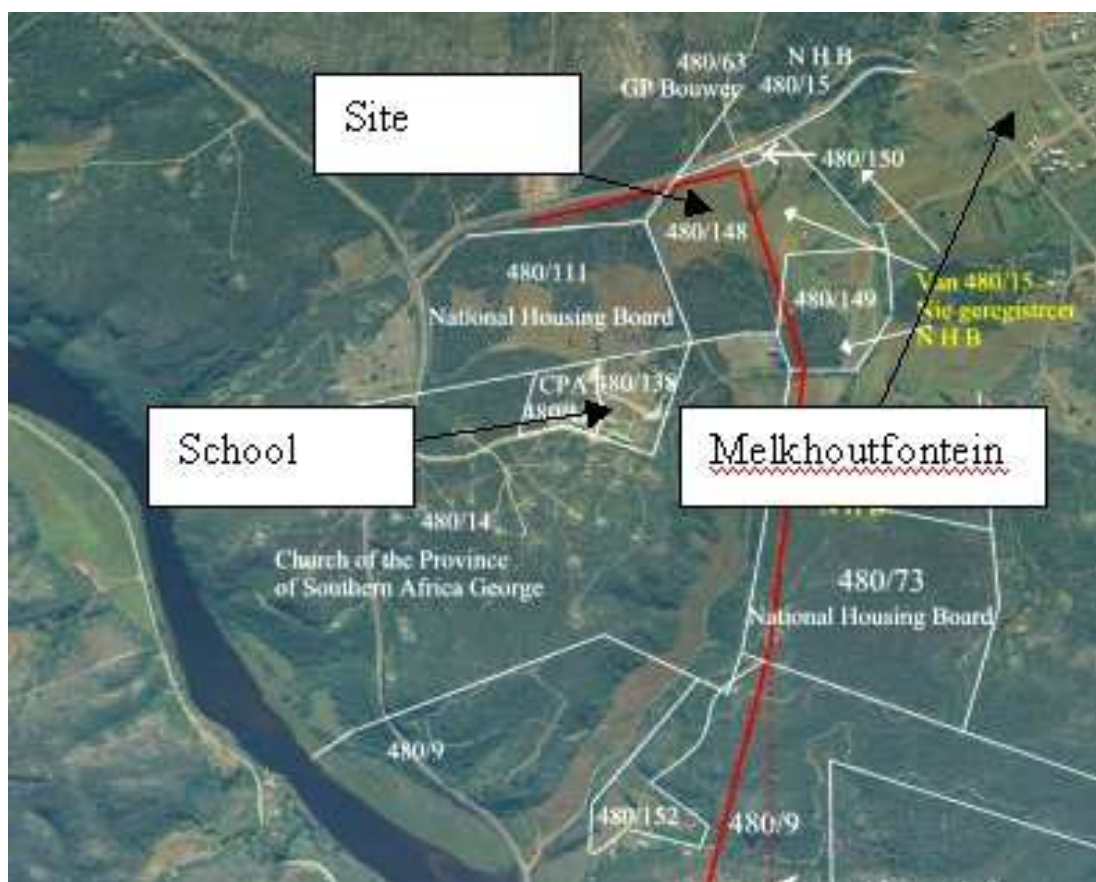
The risks are considered low.

The significance is rated as low.

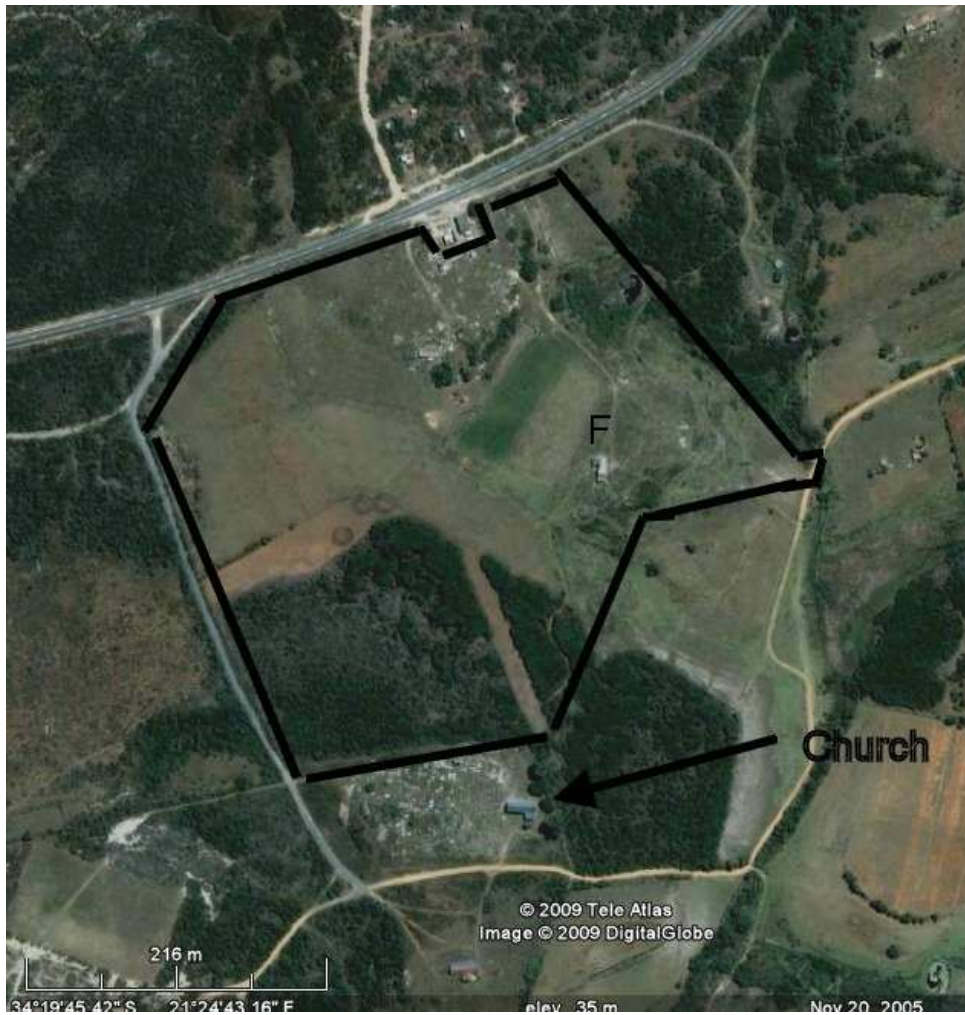
### Recommended Mitigations

There are no specific recommendations.

It is recommended that should any excavations by chance uncover buried palaeontological or archaeological materials including human remains that Heritage Western Cape is notified (Mr N Wiltshire, Heritage Resource Management Services, HWC, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel:021 483 9743, Fax:021 483 9842, [nwiltshire@pgwc.gov.za](mailto:nwiltshire@pgwc.gov.za)).



**Fig. 2. The setting of the site (480/148) east of the Goukou River. The red line marks the proposed position of a power line, which will have to be adjusted if the development goes ahead.**



**Figure 3.** Satellite image of the property showing the position of the church and cemetery on the southern margin. F marks the farm outbuilding on the property.



**Figure 4.** The rectangular farm building on the property, F in Fig.3.