

Archaeological Impact Assessment

Project Title: Moorreesburg Golf Estate

Proposal to develop nine golf holes to link with the existing Moorreesburg Golf Course together with approximately 600 housing units, a 20 ha frail care facility, a commercial centre and boutique hotel on some 90 ha of farmland on the south side of the town of Moorreesburg, Western Cape.

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Land Owner:

Leeukuil Trust, Contact Person: Mr D J A Kotze, PO Box 621, Moorreesburg 7310. Tel: 022 433 2486. Fax: 022 433 2486. Cell: 083 270 4736.

Municipal Jurisdiction:

Swartland 'B' Municipality, West Coast District Municipality. Contact Person: Mr Alwyn Zaayman, Private Bag X52, Malmesbury 7299. Tel: 022 487 9400. Fax: 022 487 9440. email: swartlandmun@swartland.org.za

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Fig.1. Location on farmland on the south side of the town (33°09'56.71\"S; 18°39'45.64\" E) adjacent to existing golf course. (1:50 000 sheet 3318 BA).

Executive Summary

It is proposed to develop a golf estate with housing on 90 ha of Farm 970 Malmesbury (Leeukuil), on the southern urban edge of Moorreesburg. A survey of the heritage resources showed there are no structures on the property, which is ploughed land. No archaeological and or palaeontological remains were observed.

This report is part of a Basic Assessment EIA process.

Background Information

The proposed golf estate on 90 ha of vacant farmland will include nine golf holes linked to an existing adjacent golf course. It will make provision for approximately 600 housing units, a frail care centre on 20 ha, a commercial site and a boutique hotel.

This report is part of a Basic Assessment EIA process.

Archaeological Background

There are no major archaeological or palaeontological sites in proximity to the property. However, the possibility of the occurrences of such heritage resources at this location has been considered.

Description of the property

The proposed development on wheat fields (Fig. 2) is bounded on western side by the Moorreesburg-Darling road (R307) and farmland (Fig. 3). The eastern and southern boundaries are adjacent to farmland. A stream runs through the centre of the property. Against the northern boundary, the urban edge, is the Moorreesburg Golf Course, middle-income housing and light industry.

Methodology

The property was examined in the field for archaeological, palaeontological and other heritage materials.

Observations and Results

No heritage resources were observed on the property. The lands are planted with wheat and visibility is low

Sources of Risk and Statement of Significance

It is unlikely that development will impact on any archaeological or palaeontological resources on this portion of Farm 970 Malmesbury. The risks are considered low and the significance is rated as low.

Recommended Mitigations

There are no specific recommendations. However, a general recommendation is that should any excavations by chance uncover buried palaeontological or archaeological materials including human remains that Heritage Western Cape is notified (Mr Calvin van Wijk, Heritage Resource Management Services, HWC, Private Bag X9067, Cape Town 8000, Tel:021 483 9743, Fax:021 483 9842, cvanwijk@pgwc.gov.za). Features like burials for example can occur in unpredictable locations.



Fig 2. View over the property from the northwest corner adjacent the R307. The ground rising to the hill in the distance is on the adjacent property.



Fig. 3. Aerial view showing the ploughed surface of the property. Existing development of light industry, housing and golf links are to be seen along the northern boundary.