

Agency for Cultural Resource Management

Specialists in Archaeological Studies and Heritage Resource Management

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13 November, 2008

Att : Mr Nick Wiltshire
Heritage Western Cape
Private Bag X 9067
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8000



Dear Mr Wiltshire

PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF THE NOOITGEDACHT DAM BONNIEVALE

Heritage Western Cape (HWC) requested that a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of the proposed upgrading of the Nooitgedacht Dam (on Portion 12 of the Farm Jan Harms Gat No.179) near Bonnievale in the Western Cape (Figure 1) be undertaken (HWC Record of Decision attached).

The proposed upgrading will involve raising the existing dam wall and enlarging the full supply capacity from the current 84 000 m³ to 284 000 m³. This will inundate an area of about 7.2 hectares with a wall height of about 10 metres and a length of 380 metres. The upgrade is necessary in order to store the existing water allocation for summer irrigation as the agricultural production moves more into irrigated summer crops from winter crops

A Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) has been completed by the by the archaeologist and submitted to HWC for comment.

A request for exemption from having to undertake an AIA was made by the archaeologist, but this was turned down by HWC.

2. Terms of reference

The Terms of Reference for the archaeological assessment were to:

- Identify and map any heritage resources on the proposed site;
- Determine the importance of heritage resources on the proposed site;
- Determine and asses the potential impacts of the proposed project on the heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed project.

3. The study site

The proposed site (S 33° 56 41.1 E 20° 14 02.7 on map datum wgs 84) is located on Farm Jan Harms Gat No.179 near Bonnievale. Access to the farm is off the R60 running between Ashton and Swellendam (Figure 2). The area to be flooded is set back immediately behind the existing Nooitgedacht Dam (Figures 3 & 4). Much of the area to be inundated comprised disturbed agricultural lands.

4. Approach to the study

The proposed site was searched for archaeological remains.

The site visit took place on 12th November, 2008.

5. Findings

No archaeological remains were documented during the study.

The area to be impacted is already severely degraded.

6. Impact statement

The impact of the proposed project on important pre-colonial archaeological remains is likely to be **low**.

7. Recommendations

The Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed upgrading of the existing Nooitgedacht Dam wall (on Portion 12 of the Farm Jan Harms Gat No.179) near Bonnievale in the Western Cape has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated, prior to proposed development activities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jonathan Kaplan', written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Kaplan

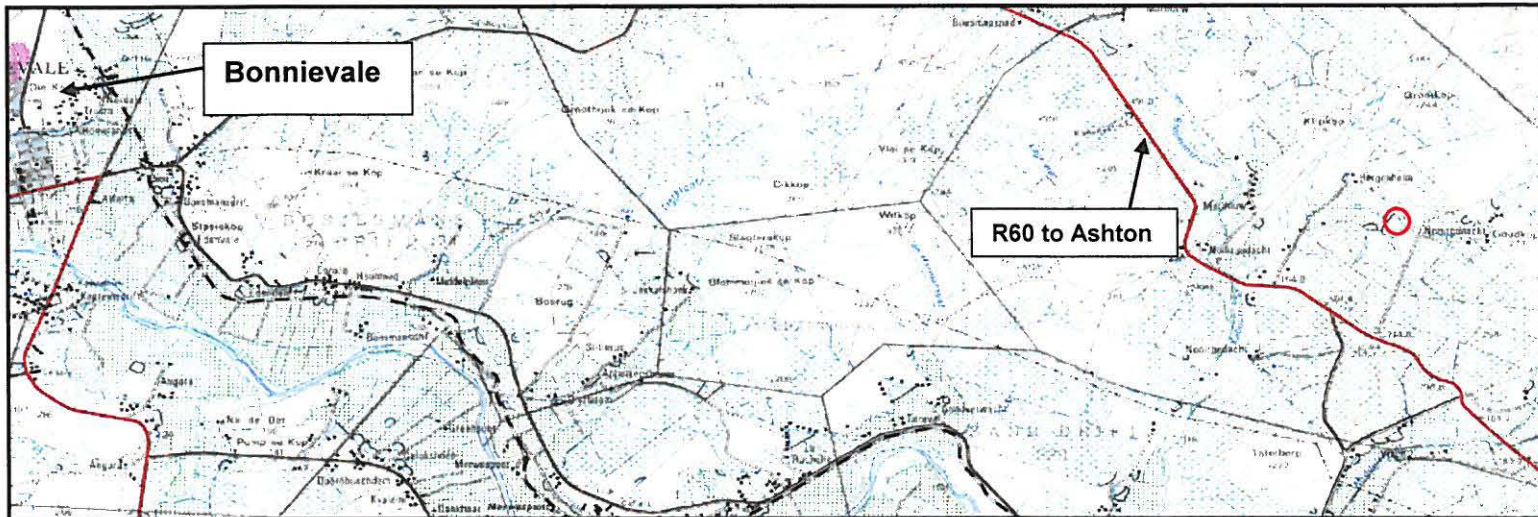


Figure 1. Locality Map (3320 CC Montagu)

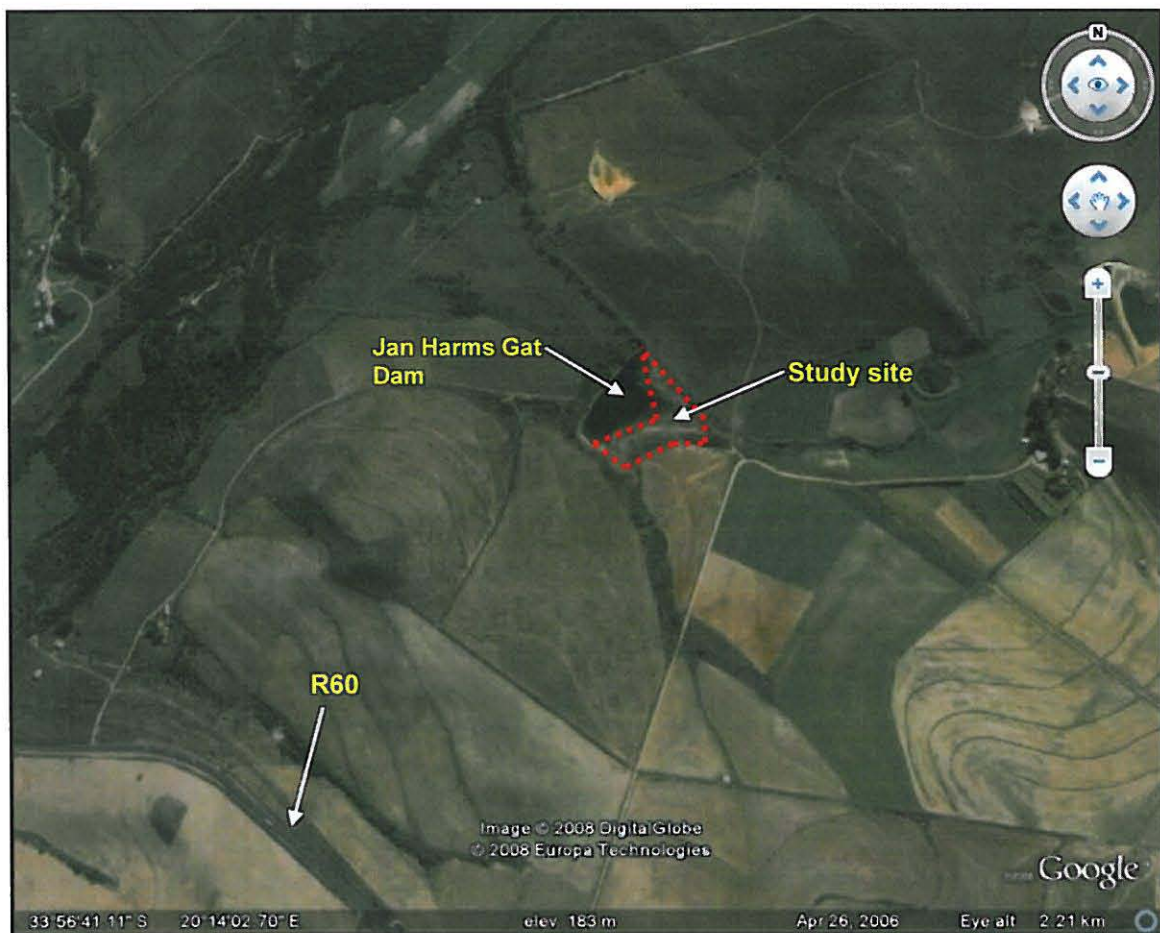


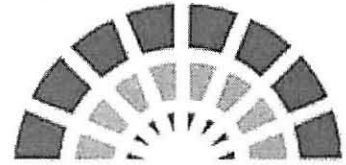
Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the proposed site



Figure 3. View of the Jan Harmsgat Dam facing south



Figure 4. View of the Jan Harmsgat Dam facing north west



Ilifa leMveli iintshona Koloni
Erfenis Wes-Kaap
Heritage Western Cape

Our Ref: HM/BONNIEVALE/PTN 12 OF FARM JAN HARMSGAT NO. 179

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14 August 2008

The Manager
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NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP (NID): NOOITGEDACHT DAM, PORTION 12 OF FARM JANS HARMS GAT No. 179, BONNIEVALE: PROPOSED ENLARGEMENT OF THE EXISTING NOOITGEDACHT DAM

The above matter was discussed at the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Permit Committee meeting held on 5 August 2008:

The following was noted for the proposed project:

1. No heritage information had been included with the Notification of Intent to develop (NID). Section 7.2 had not been completed.
2. The upgrading of the dam would affect 7.2 ha.
3. The area may be archaeologically sensitive.

Heritage Western Cape (HWC) agreed that:

1. An archaeological impact assessment (AIA) to be conducted by and accredited archaeologist is required prior to the commencement of construction activities.

Yours faithfully

Celeste Booth

Heritage Officer (Archaeology)
For: Accounting Authority: Heritage Resources Management Services,
Pp Heritage Western Cape

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