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refer to BELCOM
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**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
PORTION 27 OF FARM NO. 560
YZERFONTEIN**

Prepared for

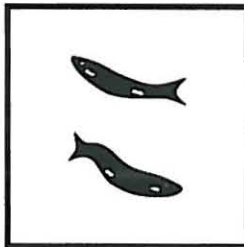
CK RUMBOLL AND PARTNERS

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**JULY
2008**

Proposed Housing and Mixed Use Development

Executive summary

CK Rumboll and Partners requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing and mixed use development on Portion 27 of Farm No. 560 Yzerfontein, on the Cape West Coast.

The proposed site is located east of the town of Yzerfontein and north of Main Road 215 (Yzerfontein - Darling Main Road). The receiving environment comprises mostly old agricultural lands that have not been ploughed for some years.

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological sites that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, to assess the significance of the potential impacts and to propose measures to mitigate against the impacts.

The following findings were made:

Scattered and dispersed fragments of weathered marine shellfish were documented on loose, sandy soils on the proposed site. No cultural remains such as stone flakes were counted.

The archaeological remains have been rated as having low local significance.

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated prior to proposed development activities.

With regard to the proposed development of Portion 27 of Farm No. 560 in Yzerfontein, the following recommendations are made:

- Bulk earthworks must be monitored by a professional archaeologist. Should any important archaeological deposits be exposed, sampling and dating of the deposits will be required.
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the archaeologist and to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Dr A. Jerardino 021 462 4502), or Heritage Western Cape (Ms C. Booth 021 483 9692).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

CK Rumboll and Partners on behalf of Black Ginger 330 (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment for a proposed housing and mixed use development on Portion 27 of Farm No. 560 in Yzerfontein (Swartland Municipality), on the Cape West Coast.

The proposed rezoning and subdivision of the affected property is for the purpose of a group housing development consisting of not more than 143 units (\pm 5.79 ha). Provision is also made for sports fields (\pm 2.30 ha), light industrial development (\pm 2.56 ha), several small business nodes (\pm 1.15 ha), a shopping centre and a medi-clinic (\pm 1.10 ha), Private and Public Open Space (3.34 ha) and associated infrastructure including internal streets and engineering services are also included in the development proposal.

The property is currently zoned Agriculture and will be rezoned and subdivided to accommodate the proposed development activities.

The extent of the proposed development area (about 16 ha) falls within the requirements for an archaeological impact assessment as required by Section 38 of the South African Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

The aim of the study is to locate and map archaeological sites that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed project, to assess the significance of the potential impacts and to propose measures to mitigate against the impacts.

A Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist has been completed by heritage consultant Graham Jacobs and submitted to Heritage Western Cape (Belcom) for comment.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were:

- to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance within the proposed site;
- to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance within the proposed site;
- to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites within the proposed site;
- to assess the status and significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
- to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist within the proposed site

3. THE STUDY SITE

A locality map is illustrated in Figure 1.

An aerial photograph of the proposed site is illustrated in Figure 2.

The subject property ($S^{\circ} 33 20 35.3 E^{\circ} 18 10 10.7$ on map datum wgs 84) is located east of the town of Yzerfontein and north of Main Road (MR) 215 (Yzerfontein - Darling Main Road). The receiving environment comprises mostly old agricultural lands that have not been ploughed for some years, much of it now covered with thick grass, weeds and sporadic bush and scrub (Figures 3-14). Very little surface stone occurs over the site, which is characterised by loose sandy soils. A few scattered bits of soft, weathered limestone does occur over parts of the site, however. Dune mole rat activity and borrowing is extensive over the site. A fairly large patch of relatively undisturbed sensitive, natural veld occurs in the central portion of the property (Figure 7) which will be retained and conserved. A portion of the site alongside the MR215 was previously the site of the Yzerfontein fish market which is now a storage site for concrete dollases (refer to Figure 12). The fish market site has since moved across the road. A cluster of farm labourer cottages and other (modern) farm related concrete structures also occur on the proposed site, alongside MR215 (refer to Figure 2). Several concrete roads and numerous informal tracks and paths intersect the site. The surrounding land use comprises mainly agricultural land and residential development. Several group housing and residential development applications alongside MR215 have been made in recent years (Kaplan 2007).

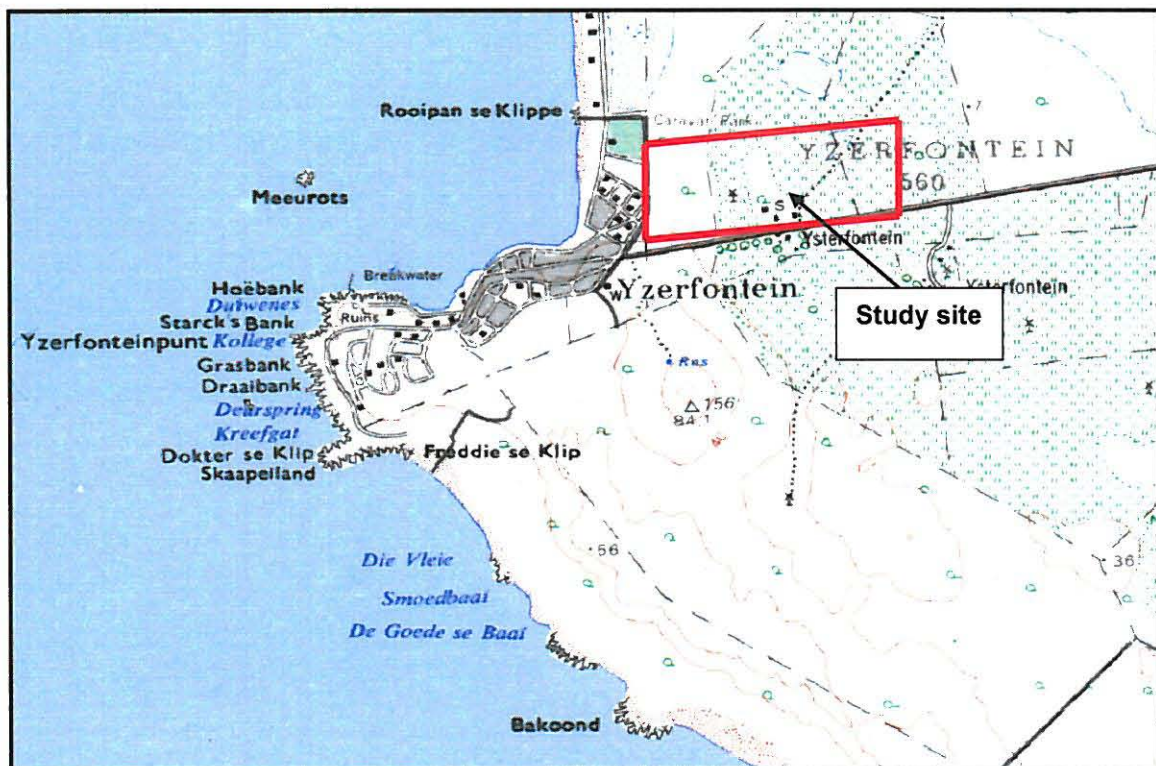


Figure 1. Locality map (3318 AC Yzerfontein)



Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the proposed site.



Figure 3. View of the site facing east.



Figure 6. View of the site facing south west



Figure 4. View of the site facing north east



Figure 7. View of the site facing south



Figure 5. View of the site facing south



Figure 8. of the site facing south east



Figure 9. View of the site facing south east



Figure 12. View of the site facing west



Figure 10. View of the site facing west



Figure 13. View of the site facing north east



Figure 11. View of the site facing south west



Figure 14. View of the site facing north. Note the farm labourer cottages

4.1 Method of survey

The approach followed in the archaeological impact assessment entailed a ground survey of the proposed study site.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 23rd June, 2008

Archaeological heritage remains were recorded using a hand-held Garmin Geko 201 GPS unit set on map datum wgs 84.

A desktop study was also undertaken

4.2 Constraints and limitations

There were no constraints or limitations associated with the study

4.3 Results of the desk-top study

The coastal zone in Yzerfontein is known to contain many archaeological, as well as palaeontological sites (Avery *et al* 1990; Halkett & Hart 1995; Kaplan 1993, 2005a 1999, 1993, 1996; Mabutt 1955; Rudner 1968). Further away from the coast, however, the density of archaeological sites appears to decrease, although the remnants of small sites do occur (Kaplan 1993, 1998, 2007). Several coherent and relatively well preserved sites have also been documented around the salt works north east of the town (Avery 1994; Kaplan.1996).

Shovel testing of shell midden deposits at Bakoond (see Figure 1) has indicated the presence of deposits several metres containing stone tools, bone, pottery, ostrich eggshell beads and pottery (Kaplan 2005b; Orton 2007). According to Orton pers. comm.), occupation at Bakoond is shown to have been in the form of small campsites spread randomly across the peninsula with the marine resources of the vicinity having been the main factor drawing people to the area.

Iziko: South African Museum has also been conducting excavations at a Middle Stone Age shell midden and small limestone cave above the harbour at Yzerfontien, for several years.

Severe disturbance of archaeological sites at Yzerfontein has, however, taken place over a number of years, due mainly to an increase in residential development in the area, and the accompanying physical and human pressures. Many of the archaeological sites in Yzerfontein have been severely disturbed and damaged as a result of these activities. Sadly, some of these sites have been completely destroyed as well (personal observation).

5. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The following section provides a brief overview of the relevant legislation with regard to the archaeology of the subject property.

5.1 The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999)

The National Heritage Resources (NHR) Act requires that "...any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000m², or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m², requires an archaeological impact assessment"

The relevant sections of the Act are briefly outlined below.

5.2 Archaeology (Section 35 (4))

Section 35 (4) of the NHR stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by HWC, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object.

5.3 Burial grounds and graves (Section 36 (3))

Section 36 (3) of the HHR stipulates that no person may, without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years, which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority.

6. FINDINGS

Site 1 (S° 33 20 31.7 E° 18 10 04.3)

A thin and dispersed scatter of fragments of weathered marine shellfish was documented alongside the fence line on loose, sandy soils, in the western portion of the proposed site (refer to Figure 2). The shellfish is dominated by fragments of Black Mussel, White Sand Mussel and some whelk. No limpet species were noted. Some weathered bits of soft calcrete were also noted lying scattered about, including some modern domestic material such as a few pieces of broken tiles, some cut bone and a few glass fragments. No pre-colonial cultural remains such as stone flakes or pottery were found.

The archaeological remains have been rated as having low local significance.

7. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the proposed development on archaeological heritage remains is likely to be **low**.

Unmarked human burials may, however, be exposed or uncovered during earthworks and excavations.

Buried shell midden deposits may be encountered during earthworks and excavations.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the proposed development of Portion 27 of the Farm No. 560 in Yzerfontein, the following recommendations are made:

- Bulk earthworks must be monitored by a professional archaeologist. Should any important archaeological deposits be exposed, sampling and dating will be required.
- Should any unmarked human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Dr A. Jerardino 021 462 4502), or Heritage Western Cape (Ms C. Booth 021 483 9692).

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