# ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED DAL JOSAFAT DEVELOPMENT: THE SUBDIVISION OF ERF 16161 AND REMAINDER OF ERF 17680, PAARL, WESTERN CAPE

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HERITAGE TO ANT ONTVAN



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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeology Contracts Office at the University of Cape Town was appointed by Doug Jeffrey Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of the client, Erf 16161 Paarl Development (Pty) Ltd, to undertake a Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the rezoning, subdivision and development of Erf 16161 and the remainder of Erf 17680 in the Dal Josafat Valley, located between Paarl and Wellington. The erven are located on the corner of Jan van Riebeeck Road and Bartholmeu Street. It is proposed to develop the property for residential and associated purposes with a range of residential units and densities.

The neighbouring farm (Roggeland, Farm 1341), is owned by the South African Heritage Resources Agency. Both HWC and SAHRA will be commenting on the proposal and this Archaeological Impact Assessment forms part of a more extensive Heritage Impact Assessment.

The property is vacant and slopes gently to both south and west. It is covered in low grass. Visibility is good. There is an avenue of Eucalyptus running along the eastern edge. There are a number of footpaths across the property and it is currently being used for livestock grazing. The only structure on the property is a sub-station on Bartholomeu Street. There is a small stream running down past the sub-station.

Following a survey on the 1 September 2009, a number of Early Stone Age implements, including cores, flakes, handaxes and cleavers were found distributed across the northeastern corner of the property. They were concentrated in heaps around some of the Eucalyptus trees on the adjoining property of Roggeland, and had presumably been removed during the ploughing of the fields including Erf 16161 in the past. These types of implements are very ubiquitous in the winelands area and are not considered to be significant.

To summarise:

- There is a distribution of Early Stone Age implements across the north-eastern corner of the property;
- There are no ruins or old buildings on the property. There is only a single sub-station;
- There are no cemeteries or graves on the property. There is a cemetery on the adjoining property of Roggeland which may be visible from the development;
- There is a row of Eucalyptus trees running along the eastern edge of the property. It may represent an earlier avenue leading to the farms Roggeland and Vlakkeland.

No mitigation of the ESA material is required. It is recommended that the row of Eucalyptus trees is retained. If human remains are uncovered during development, earth moving activities in the vicinity should be stopped immediately and Heritage Western Cape should be notified.

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Archaeology Contracts Office at the University of Cape Town was appointed by Doug Jeffrey Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of the client, Erf 16161 Paarl Development (Pty) Ltd, to undertake a Archaeological Impact Assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the subdivision and development of Erf 16161 and the remainder of Erf 17680 in the Dal Josafat Valley, located between Paarl and Wellington.

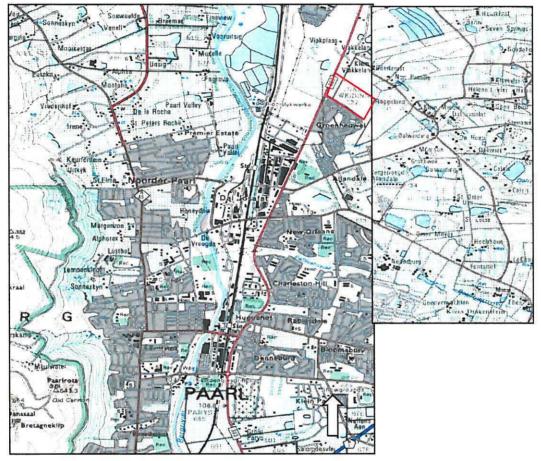


Figure 1: 1:50 000 map sheets 3318 DB Paarl and 3319 CA Bainskloof showing the location of the property. (Mapping information supplied by: Chief Directorate: Surveys and Mapping (web: w3sli.wcape.gov.za)

# 2. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Drakenstein Municipality is dealing with a significant influx of migrants into the Paarl area because of its development potential and this is putting a strain on available housing. It is proposed to rezone Erf 16161 and the remainder of Erf 17680 (currently vacant undeveloped land) from agricultural to residential use and then to develop the property for residential and associated purposes with a range of residential units and densities. This property is located to the north of Fairyland and Groenheuwel and south-east of Mbekweni and is situated on the corner of Jan van Riebeeck Drive and Bartholomeu Street (Figure 2). Erf 16161 is registered in the name of the National Housing Board (Provincial Administration: Western Cape) and the remainder of Erf 17680 is owned by the Drakenstein Municipality.



Figure 2: Location of Erf 16161 and remainder of 17680 on the corner of Bartholomeu Street and Jan van Riebeeck Road. The farm Roggeland is visible to the north-east.

The developer proposes a mix of rental units, semi-detached double storey units, semi-detached single storey units, single dwellings and mixed use units. There is a proposal that the architecture would be in the Bo-Kaap vernacular architectural style. The developer's preferred alternative would include a business site, primary school, 1034 single residential erven, 8 general residential erven, a place of worship, 9 public open spaces, a day hospital, government telecommunications site and public roads (Figure 3).



Figure 3: The preferred layout for the development. The area highlighted in yellow indicates nodes for possible commercial development.

# 3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

An Archaeological Impact Assessment was requested as part of a Heritage Impact Assessment to investigate the possibility that sites might be negatively impacted by the residential development. The assessment includes:

- Identification of archaeological (prehistoric and colonial) sites through a desk top survey and site visit;
- Rating of significance of archaeological sites on the property;
- Assessment of the impact of development on the archaeology of the property;
- Recommendations for mitigation.

# 4. LEGISLATION

The National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (Section 38 (1)) makes provision for a compulsory notification of the intent to development when any development exceeding 5000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent, or any road or linear development exceeding 300m in length is proposed.

The NHRA provides protection for the following categories of heritage resources:

- Landscapes, cultural or natural (Section 3 (3))
- Buildings or structures older than 60 years (Section 34);
- Archaeological Sites, palaeontological material and meteorites (Section 35);
- Burial grounds and graves (Section 36);
- Public monuments and memorials (Section 37);
- Living heritage (defined in the Act as including cultural tradition, oral history, performance, ritual, popular memory, skills and techniques, indigenous knowledge systems and the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships) (Section 2 (d) (xxi)).

The neighbouring farm (Roggeland, Farm 1341) to the north and north-east of the property is the oldest farm in the neighbourhood and its original name, Dal Josafat, eventually spread to the entire district. It was first granted in 1693 and contains a number of important outbuildings as well as the old Cape Dutch farmstead. Roggeland is owned by the South African Heritage Resources Agency and as a result, SAHRA will be an important party in the discussion process around the development. Roggeland, since re-grading of old National Monuments has not yet been undertaken, would be considered a Grade 2 site. Portions of the Dal Josafat Valley, including the area around Roggeland, fall within an area proposed for Grade 1 Cultural Landscape. For this reason both HWC and SAHRA will be commenting on the proposal and further heritage studies have been called for.

# 5. BACKGROUND TO THE ERVEN

According to Clift (in Bauman and Winter 2004), the Berg River formed the eastern frontier of the newly established Colony up until 1690, when the early Huguenots were granted land on the east bank on condition that the VOC would not be responsible for their personal safety. Apparently, Francois du Toit, the owner of Schoongezicht in 1723, "successfully drove off belligerent Khoikhoi hordes determined to defend their time-honoured grazing lands in the Dal Josafat area from encroaching white civilisation" (Simons & Proust 2000).

The first farms in the Paarl valley were awarded by Governor Simon van der Stel in 1687. The first farms in the Dal Josafat valley were awarded in 1692, and the area was settled mainly by Huguenots. The Dal Josafat area is closely associated with the development of the Afrikaans language, as the Society of True Afrikaaners had its origins in the area.

#### 5.1 Archaeological Background

A number of archaeological surveys have been conducted in the area as part of impact assessments and some general comments may be made.

There are many reports, some dating back to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, of scattered Early Stone Age implements in the Cape Winelands Area. These are made on quartzite river cobbles and may include handaxes and cleavers which were initially first recognised on river terraces above the Eerste River in Stellenbosch. These ESA sites are often found near pans and rivers. According to Kaplan (2006) "Acheulian tools are also commonly found on mountain slopes, in degraded areas such as slope washes, cuttings, river gravels, vineyards, and in ploughed fields".

Halkett & Webley (2009) have reported on ephemeral scatters of Early, Middle and Later Stone Age material on the farm Roggeland, which is located adjacent to Erf 16161 and the remainder of 17680. These were all recovered from ploughed lands and were patently not *in situ*.

Webley & Halkett (2009b) have also reported on two flaked quartzite cobbles from a vineyard on the Farm 2/600 (portion of Calais & St Omer) which is very close to the development area.

### 6. DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The highest point on the property is the north-eastern corner. There is a gentle and even slope towards the south and west. The only structure on the site is an existing substation (Plate 5). The property was cultivated in the past but is now covered in low grass. This is being used as communal grazing for a large herd of cattle (Plate 1), which presumably belong to the local community. There is an row of blue gum trees (Eucalyptus sp.) running along the eastern edge (Plate 3), but a second row of blue gum trees crossing the middle of the property has been cut down for firewood. Roggeland, to the north-east (Plate 4), has vineyards and trees on the property.

The property is covered by a number of footpaths and there has been some dumping of rubbish on the edge closest to the houses (Plate 1). There is a small stream running down past the sub-station (Plate 6).



Plate 1: View to the south, with Paarl Mountain and Groenheuwel in the background. Note the rubbish dumped in the foreground and the cattle grazing on the property. Plate 2: View to the west, with Jan Van Riebeeck Road in the foreground.



Plate 3: View of the row of Eucalyptus trees running along the eastern edge of the property. Plate 4: View of the farm Roggeland on the northern border. The white wall is a cemetery which is located inside the Roggeland farm borders.



Plate 5: View of the sub-station on Bartholomeu Drive. Plate 6: The small stream which runs down next to the sub-station.

## 7. SURVEY METHODS

The property was visited by Lita Webley and Jayson Orton on the 1 September 2009. The survey was conducted by vehicle and on foot, and a Garmin GPS unit was used to record sites and track ways. This AIA is concerned with archaeological remains relating to both the pre-colonial and colonial past.

## 7.1 Limitations

There were no limitations to the survey. Certain areas of the property were covered in dense vegetation but since the ground cover was very low, it was possible to examine the soil surface fairly closely.

# 8. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

There is a scatter of Early Stone Age material over most of the north-eastern corner of the property. There are large heaps of quartzite cobbles around a number of blue gum trees on the adjoining field belong to Roggeland, and there are many flaked stones, cores as well as handaxes in these heaps. It would appear that the heaps of river cobbles were removed from the fields in the past when they were cultivated, and piled on the edges of the fields.



Plate 7 & 8: Heaps of river cobbles, which include Early Stone Age implements, around the blue gum tree.



Plate 9 & 10: Handaxes and cleavers, as well as flakes from the property.

There are no old buildings or ruins on the property. The only structure is a sub-station on Bartholomeu Street (Plate 5).

There are no graves or cemeteries on the property. There is a white-walled cemetery on the adjoining property of Roggeland (Plate 4).

#### 9. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A survey of the property confirmed the existence of a scatter of Early Stone Age (ESA) material over most of the north-eastern corner of the property. The artefacts are concentrated around trees on the adjoining property of Roggeland. They are not *in situ*; they have probably been ploughed out of fields in the past and piled in heaps on the edge of the property. A second phase (excavation) of the property, or a metrical examination of these implements, is unlikely to contribute to a further understanding of the ESA. *No further mitigation work is therefore recommended*.

It is possible that during earth moving activities, further sub-surface archaeological remains may be uncovered. It is anticipated that isolated Early, Middle or Later Stone Age implements may be uncovered. These are not considered to be significant.

It is also possible that human remains may be uncovered in unmarked graves although this seems unlikely in view of the history of the property; i.e. its primary use for agricultural purposes. If human remains are uncovered during development, earth moving activities in the vicinity should be stopped immediately and Heritage Western Cape should be notified.

The row of Eucalyptus trees running along the eastern edge of the property are the remnants of an earlier windbreak or possible avenue leading up to Roggeland and Vlakkeland. For this reason, it is proposed that the trees are retained in the development.

#### **10. REFERENCES**

Clift, H. 2004. Historical Overview for Bauman & Winter: Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment for Paarl Mountain Waste Water Treatment Works.

Halkett, D & Webley, L. 2009. Archaeological Impact Assessment of proposed dams on the farm Roggeland, Paarl District, Western Cape (in prep).

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Webley, L & Halkett, D. 2009a. Archaeological Impact Assessment: Dalsig Development on Portions 2, 3 & 4 of the Farm 527 (Dalweiding), Paarl District, Western Cape.

Webley, L & Halkett, D. 2009b. Archaeological Impact Assessment: Dalsig Development on Portion 2 of the Farm 600 (Calais & St Omer), Paarl District, Western Cape.

#### TABLE OF GPS CO-ORDINATES

|                  | south      | east       |  |
|------------------|------------|------------|--|
| artefact         | 33 41 38.2 | 19 00 02.0 |  |
| artefact         | 33 41 37.6 | 19 00 02.3 |  |
| Cluster of tools | 33 41 37.2 | 19 00 03.4 |  |