

**A PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED SEAVIEW ECO-CEMETERY EXTENSION ON PORTIONS 38/18, 37/18
AND 36/18, GOEDEMOEDSFONTEIN, PORT ELIZABETH, EASTERN CAPE
PROVINCE**

Prepared for: KDMC Projects

Contact person: Mr Alwyn van Rensburg

Cell: 082 890 8905

email: alwyn@kdmco.co.za

Compiled by: Dr Johan Binneman

On behalf of: Eastern Cape Heritage Consultants

P.O. Box 689

Jeffreys Bay

6330

Tel: 042 2960399

Cell: 0728006322

email: kobusreichert@yahoo.com

Date: October 2010

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
PROJECT INFORMATION	2
BRIEF ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	2
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	3
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION.....	4
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	6
GENERAL REMARKS AND CONDITIONS	7
APPENDIX A: BRIEF LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS	7
APPENDIX B: IDENTIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL FROM INLAND AREAS.....	9
MAPS	10-12

A PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED SEAVIEW ECO-CEMETERY EXTENSION ON PORTIONS 38/18, 37/18 AND 36/18, GOEDEMOEDSFONTEIN, PORT ELIZABETH, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Compiled by: Dr Johan Binneman
On behalf of: Eastern Cape Heritage Consultants
P.O. Box 689
Jeffreys Bay
6330
Tel: 042 2960399
Cell: 0728006322

Note: This report follows the minimum standard guidelines required by the South African Heritage Resources Agency for compiling Archaeological Heritage Phase 1 Impact Assessment (AHIA) reports.

SUMMARY

Proposal

The original proposal was to conduct a survey of possible archaeological heritage sites for the proposed Seaview eco-cemetery extension on portions 38/18, 37/18 and 36/18, Goedemoedfontein, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province; to establish the range and importance of the heritage sites, the potential impact of the development and to make recommendations to minimize possible damage to these sites.

The investigation

No visible archaeological sites were found during the investigation, but there is a grave older than 60 years on the property and therefore protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (NHRA). The entire property is covered by dense indigenous dune forest and patches of alien vegetation which may cover sites and/or material. Sites and/or material may be exposed during development.

Cultural sensitivity

Apart from the grave, the area investigated would appear to be of low cultural sensitivity, but important material may be exposed after the top soil is removed (for example human remains).

Recommendations

1. The grave on the proposed property for development is protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 and must not be disturbed (or included in the development) without a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). It must be fenced-off before development starts to prevent any possible damage to the grave.
2. If any concentrations of archaeological material are uncovered during development it should be reported immediately to the nearest archaeologist, museum and/or the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Status

The report is part of an Environmental Impact Assessment.

The type of development

The development entails the establishment of an eco-cemetery and associated infrastructure of 30,927 ha.

The Developer

Legacy Parks (Pty) Ltd.
C/o 67 Meade Street
George, 6529
Tel.: 0861225362
Fax.: 0865110068

The Consultant

KDMC Projects
Contact person: Mr Alwyn van Rensburg
Cell: 082 890 8905
Email: alwyn@kdmco.co.za

Terms of reference

Conduct a survey of possible archaeological heritage sites for the proposed Seaview eco-cemetery extension on portions 38/18, 37/18 and 36/18, Goedemoedsfontein, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province; to establish the range and importance of the heritage sites, the potential impact of the development and to make recommendations to minimize possible damage to these sites.

BRIEF ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Literature review

Little is known about the archaeology of the immediate area, mainly because no systematic research has been conducted there. The oldest evidence of the early inhabitants in this area are large stone tools, called handaxes and cleavers, which can be found amongst river gravels and in old spring deposits in the region (Deacon 1970). These large stone tools are from a time period called the Earlier Stone Age (ESA) and may date between 1,4 million and 250 000 years old. The large handaxes and cleavers were replaced by smaller stone tools called the Middle Stone Age (MSA) flake and blade industries. Evidence of MSA sites occur throughout the region and date between 250 000 and 30 000 years old. Fossil bone may in rare cases be associated with MSA occurrences. (Deacon & Deacon 1999).

The majority of archaeological sites found in the area date from the past 10 000 years (called the Later Stone Age) and are associated with the campsites of San hunter-gatherers and Khoi pastoralists. These sites are difficult to find because they are in the open veld and often covered by vegetation and sand. Sometimes these sites are only represented by a few stone tools and fragments of bone. The preservation of these sites is poor and it is not always

possible to date them Africa (Deacon & Deacon 1999). There are many San hunter-gatherers sites in the nearby Elandsberg and Groot Winterhoekberg Mountains. Here caves and rock shelters were occupied by the San during the Later Stone Age and contain paintings along the walls. The last San/KhoiSan group was killed by Commando's in the Groendal area in the 1880s.

Some 2 000 years ago Khoi pastoralists occupied the region and lived mainly in small settlements. They were the first food producers in South Africa and introduced domesticated animals (sheep, goat and cattle) and ceramic vessels to southern.

The most common archaeological sites along the nearby coast are shell middens (relatively large piles of marine shell) found usually concentrated opposite rocky coasts, but also along sandy beaches (people refer to these as 'strandloper middens') (Rudner 1968). These were campsites of San hunter-gatherers, Khoi herders and KhoiSan peoples who lived along the immediate coast (up to 5 km) and collected marine foods. Mixed with the shell are other food remains, cultural material and often human remains are found in the middens. In general these middens date from the past 6 000 years. Also associated with middens are large stone floors which were probably used as cooking platforms (Binneman 2001, 2005).

References

- Binneman, J.N.F. 2001. An introduction to a Later Stone Age coastal research project along the south-eastern Cape coast. *Southern African Field Archaeology* 10:75-87.
- Binneman, J.N.F. 2005. Archaeological research along the south-eastern Cape coast part1: open-air shell middens *Southern African Field Archaeology* 13 & 14:49-77. 2004/2005.
- Deacon, H.J. 1970. The Acheulian occupation at Amanzi Springs, Uitenhage District, Cape Province. *Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums*. 8:89-189.
- Deacon, H.J. & Deacon, J. *Human beginnings in South Africa*. Cape Town: David Phillips Publishers.
- Rudner, J. 1968. Strandloper pottery from South and South West Africa. *Annals of the South African Museum* 49:441-663.

Relevant impact assessments

- Binneman, J. 2010. A phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment for the proposed rezoning and subdivision of farm 36 and 37, Theesecombe, Port Elizabeth, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, for the development of two residential nodes, lodge and nature reserve. Prepared for CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit, Port Elizabeth.
- Binneman, J. 2010A phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment for the proposed subdivision of portion 3 of farm No. 43 into three separated erven, Theesecombe, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province. Prepared for CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit, Port Elizabeth.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Area surveyed

Location data

The proposed Seaview eco-cemetery extension on portions 38/18, 37/18 and 36/18, Goedemoedsfontein, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape Province, is situated in the Colleen Glen area. The property is located between the Main road to Seaview and the Lower Seaview road just south of Kragga Kamma Road (Maps 1-3).

Map

1:50 000 3325 CD & 3425 AB Uitenhage

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Methodology

The survey was conducted on foot and spots checks from a vehicle. GPS readings were taken with a Garmin Plus II and all important features were digitally recorded. The proposed property for development is covered by dense forest (impenetrable in places) and patches of dense alien vegetation. Dense grass and alien vegetation cover areas where the forest vegetation has been cleared (Figs 1-6). Footpaths from the powerline clearing and other access points into the dense dune ticket were followed where possible to look for sites. Mole heaps and other surface disturbances were also investigated to see if any archaeological materials were pushed to the surface. The dense vegetation made it difficult to find archaeological sites/materials. The development, however, will take place on an old Holocene dune system underlain by a much older Pleistocene/Tertiary fossil dune system, running roughly parallel to the coast (west to east). A survey on the extension of this dune system on a nearby property yielded Earlier, Middle and Later Stone Age stone tools on a calcrete exposed by mining activities (Maps 1-2). It is possible that similar and possibly fossilised bone may be exposed during the development. However, a test pit dug in the dune forest was investigated and indicated that the depth of the dune sand is substantial and it seems unlikely that underlying old land floors will be exposed (Figs. 7-8). The property is approximately five kilometres from the coast (maximum distance coastal related archaeological sites/material will be found) and it is possible that sites such as shell middens are covered by dune sand and vegetation.

The grave of Phillip John Lovemore (died 26th July 1947) is on the property (GPS reading: 33.58.791S; 25.22.980E) (Figs 9-12). It is older than 60 years and situated outside a formal cemetery and therefore protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999. A permit will be required from SAHRA if any development will take place near the grave or if it is include in the development of he area.

Discussion

Apart from the grave, the proposed area for development appeared to be of low cultural sensitivity. The grave is older than 60 years and protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 and must not be disturbed without a permit from SAHRA.

The area investigated is situated approximately 5 km from the coast which is also the maximum distance shell middens are expected to be found from the beach. In general it is unlikely that any archaeological material of any value will be found *in situ* or of any contextual value. Notwithstanding, there is always a possibility that human remains and/or other archaeological material may be uncovered during the development removed. Such material must be reported to the nearest museum, archaeologist or to the South African Heritage Resources Agency if exposed (see general remarks and conditions below).



Figs 1-8. General views of the proposed property for development. The dense dune forest (top two rows), patches of alien trees (third row left), dense grass where the forest has been cleared (third row right) and the test pit dug in the forest which displays substantial depth of the dune sand (bottom row).



Figs 9-12. General views of the grave on the property.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The grave is older than 60 years and is situated outside a formal cemetery and is therefore protected by the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (see Appendix A). It must not be disturbed in any way without a permit from SAHRA. It must be fenced-off before development starts to prevent any possible damage to the grave. If the grave will be included in the development, a permit from SAHRA will be required.
2. In the unlikely event that any concentrations of archaeological material are exposed during construction, all work in that area should stop and it should be reported immediately to the nearest museum/archaeologist or to the South African Heritage Resources Agency so that a systematic and professional investigation can be undertaken. Sufficient time should be allowed to remove/collect such material (See appendix B for a list of possible archaeological sites that maybe found in the area).

GENERAL REMARKS AND CONDITIONS

Note: This report is a phase 1 archaeological heritage impact assessment/investigation only and does not include or exempt other required heritage impact assessments (see below).

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999, section 35) (see Appendix A) requires a full Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in order that all heritage resources, that is, all places or objects of aesthetics, architectural, historic, scientific, social, spiritual linguistic or technological value or significance are protected. Thus any assessment should make provision for the protection of all these heritage components, including archaeology, shipwrecks, battlefields, graves, and structures older than 60 years, living heritage, historical settlements, landscapes, geological sites, palaeontological sites and objects.

It must be emphasised that the conclusions and recommendations expressed in this archaeological heritage sensitivity investigation are based on the visibility of archaeological sites/features and may not therefore, reflect the true state of affairs. Many sites/features may be covered by soil and vegetation and will only be located once this has been removed. In the event of such finds being uncovered, (such as during any phase of construction work), archaeologists must be informed immediately so that they can investigate the importance of the sites and excavate or collect material before it is destroyed. The onus is on the developer to ensure that this agreement is honoured in accordance with the National Heritage Act No. 25 of 1999.

It must also be clear that Archaeological Specialist Reports (AIA's) will be assessed by the relevant heritage resources authority. The final decision rests with the heritage resources authority, which should grant a permit or a formal letter of permission for the destruction of any cultural sites.

APPENDIX A: brief legislative requirements

Parts of sections 35(4), 36(3) and 38(1) (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 apply:

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

35 (4) No person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority—

- (a) destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- (b) destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- (d) bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment which assist in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.

Burial grounds and graves

36. (3) (a) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority—

- (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or

- otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- (b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume, 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; or
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Heritage resources management

38. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsections (7), (8) and (9), any person who intends to undertake a development categorized as –
- (a) the construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;
- (b) the construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length;
- (c) any development or other activity which will change the character of the site –
- (i) exceeding 5000m² in extent, or
 - (ii) involving three or more erven or subdivisions thereof; or
 - (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years; or
 - (iv) the costs of which will exceed a sum set in terms of regulations by SAHRA, or a provincial resources authority;
- (d) the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000m² in extent; or
- (e) any other category of development provided for in regulations by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority, must as the very earliest stages of initiating such a development, notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

APPENDIX A: IDENTIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL FROM COASTAL AREAS: guidelines and procedures for developers

1. Shell middens

Shell middens can be defined as an accumulation of marine shell deposited by human agents rather than the result of marine activity. The shells are concentrated in a specific locality above the high-water mark and frequently contain stone tools, pottery, bone and occasionally also human remains. Shell middens may be of various sizes and depths, but an accumulation which exceeds 1 m² in extent, should be reported to an archaeologist.

2. Human Skeletal material

Human remains, whether the complete remains of an individual buried during the past, or scattered human remains resulting from disturbance of the grave, should be reported. In general the remains are buried in a flexed position on their sides, but are also found buried in a sitting position with a flat stone capping and developers are requested to be on the alert for this.

3. Fossil bone

Fossil bones or any other concentrations of bones, whether fossilized or not, should be reported.

4. Stone artefacts

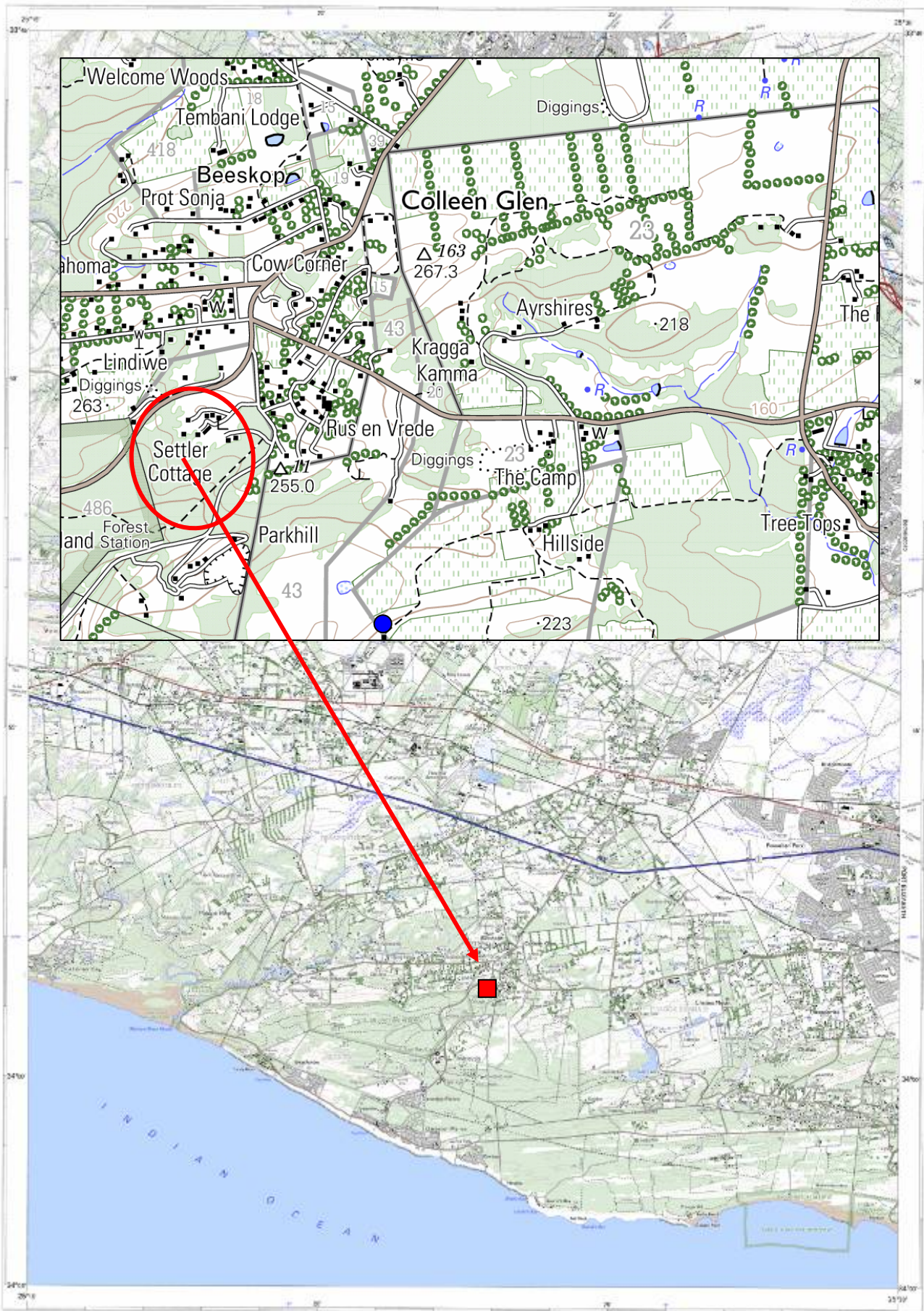
These are difficult for the layman to identify. However, large accumulations of flaked stones which do not appear to have been distributed naturally should be reported. If the stone tools are associated with bone remains, development should be halted immediately and archaeologists notified.

5. Stone features and platforms

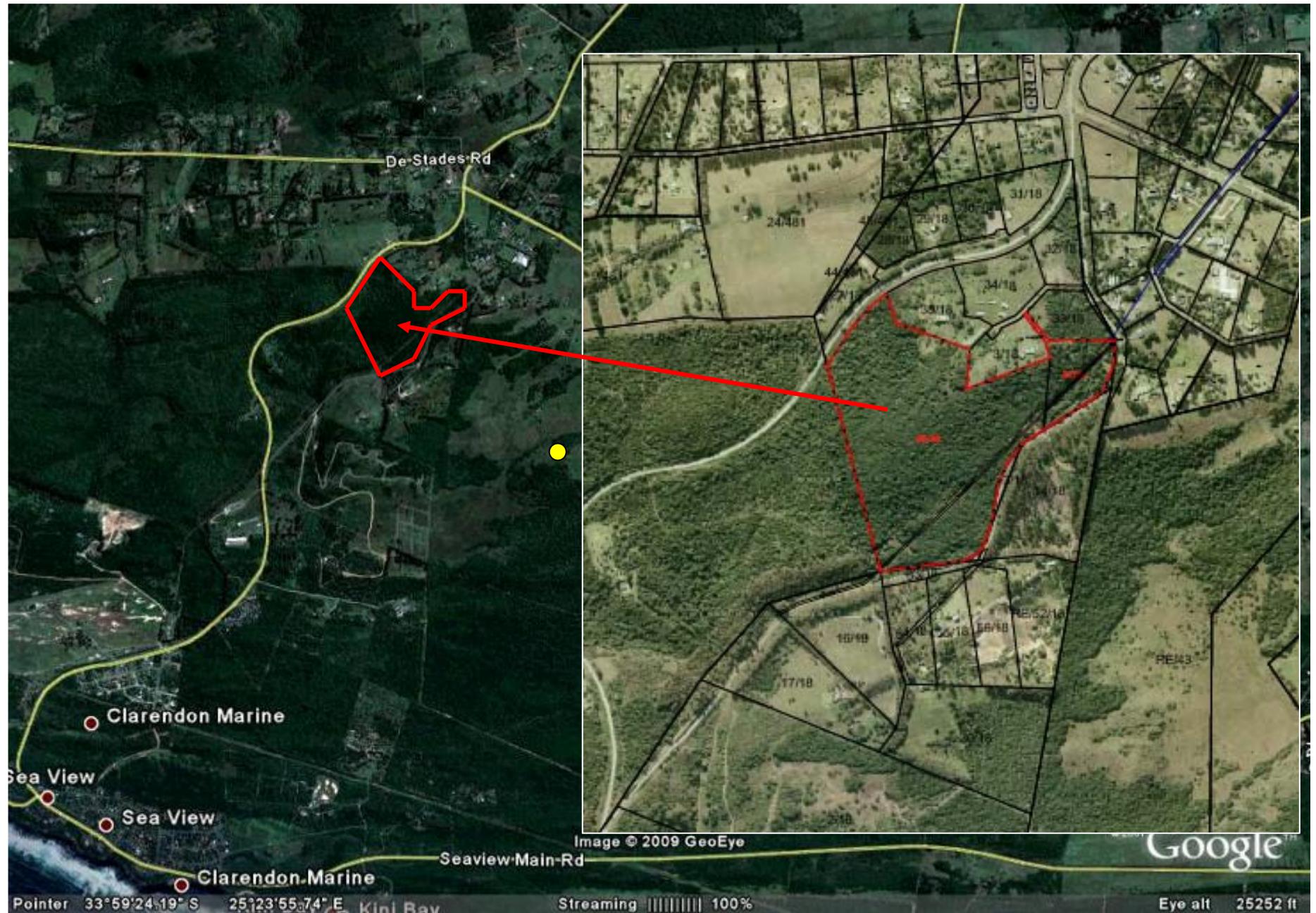
These occur in different forms and sizes, but easily identifiable. The most common are an accumulation of roughly circular fire cracked stones tightly spaced and filled in with charcoal and marine shell. They are usually 1-2 metres in diameter and may represent cooking platforms for shell fish. Others may resemble circular single row cobble stone markers. These occur in different sizes and may be the remains of wind breaks or cooking shelters.

6. Historical artefacts or features

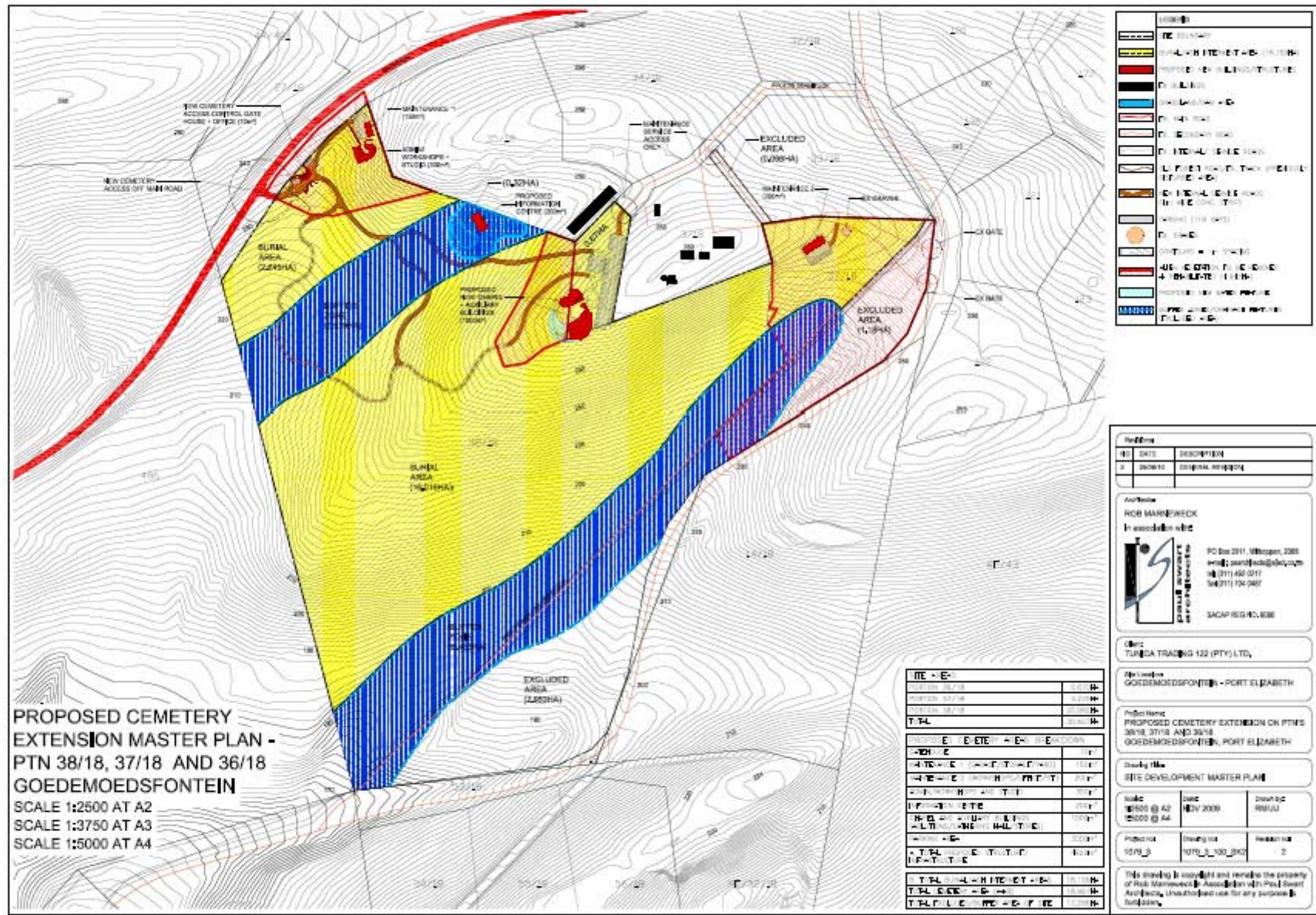
These are easy to identify and include foundations of buildings or other construction features and items from domestic and military activities.



Map 1. 1:50 000 maps indicating the general location of the proposed development. The blue dot marks the area where Earlier and Middle Stone Age stone tools were found on a calcrete ridge.



Map 2. Aerial photographs indicating the location of the proposed Seaview eco-cemetery development (insert map courtesy of the developer). The yellow dot marks the area where Earlier and Middle Stone Age stone tools were found on a calcrete ridge.



Map 3. Plan of the proposed Seaview eco-cemetery development (map courtesy of the developer).