

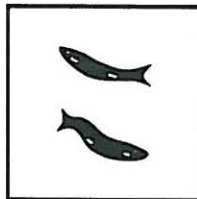
**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
PORTION 11 OF FARM 577 AND PORTION OF FARM 401  
DARLING  
WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Prepared for  
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## **Executive summary**

A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of a proposed residential and golf course development on Portion 11 of Farm 577 and Portion of Farm 401 Darling 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.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background and brief**

CK Rumboll and Partners on behalf of Darling Golf and Country Estate (Pty) Ltd requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the proposed development of Portion 11 of Farm 577 and Portion of Farm 401 Darling in the Western Cape Province.

The proposed project entails a housing development comprising about 323 single residential erven, 227 Group Housing erven and a retirement village. Associated infrastructure includes internal streets and engineering services.

The development also entails a 9-hole golf course that will link up with the existing Darling Golf Course.

The affected erven are currently zoned for Agricultural use and will be rezoned and subdivided to accommodate the proposed development activities.

The extent of the proposed development (about 67 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 and remains 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.

Heritage consultant Mr Graham Jacobs has been appointed to complete the required Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) checklist.

## **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 study site is illustrated in Figure 2.

The subject property (S° 33 23 14.8 E° 18 23 43.2 on map datum wgs 84) is located in Darling, on a portion of the Farm Oudepost No. 577. Access to the site is via the R315 from Malmesbury. The site is located alongside the R307. A railway line defines the eastern boundary, while the existing Darling Golf Course defines the northern boundary. The proposed site slopes gently from west to east and comprises old grazing lands (Figures 3-8). An Eskom, servitude runs through the western portion, alongside the R307. The site is almost completely covered in Kweek grass and there is no natural vegetation occurring. There are no significant landscape features on the proposed site, although a vlei does occur in the northern portion of the site. Other than a concrete water trough, there are no buildings or structures on the proposed site. The surrounding land use comprises agricultural lands, some residential properties west of the R307 and the Darling Golf Course in the north.

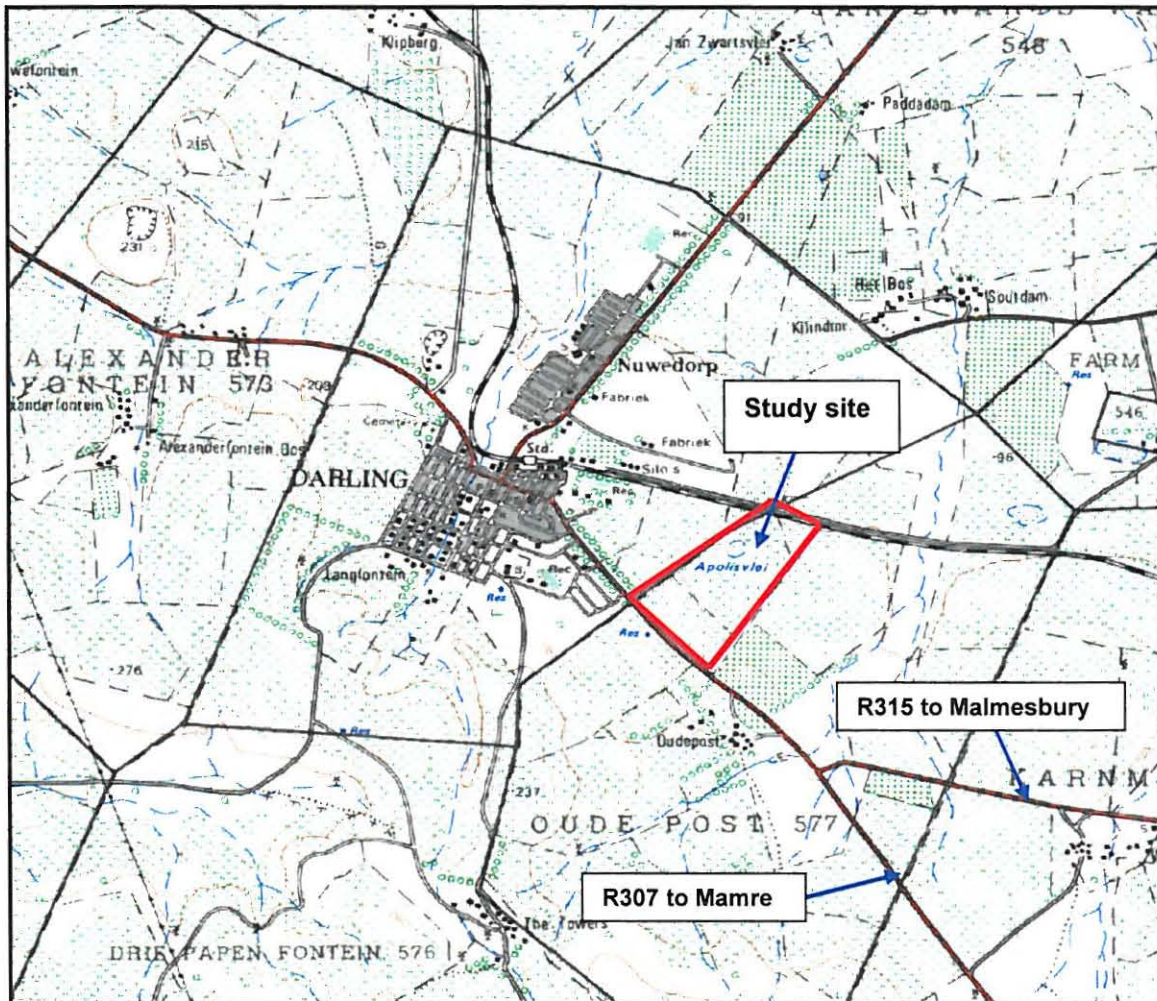
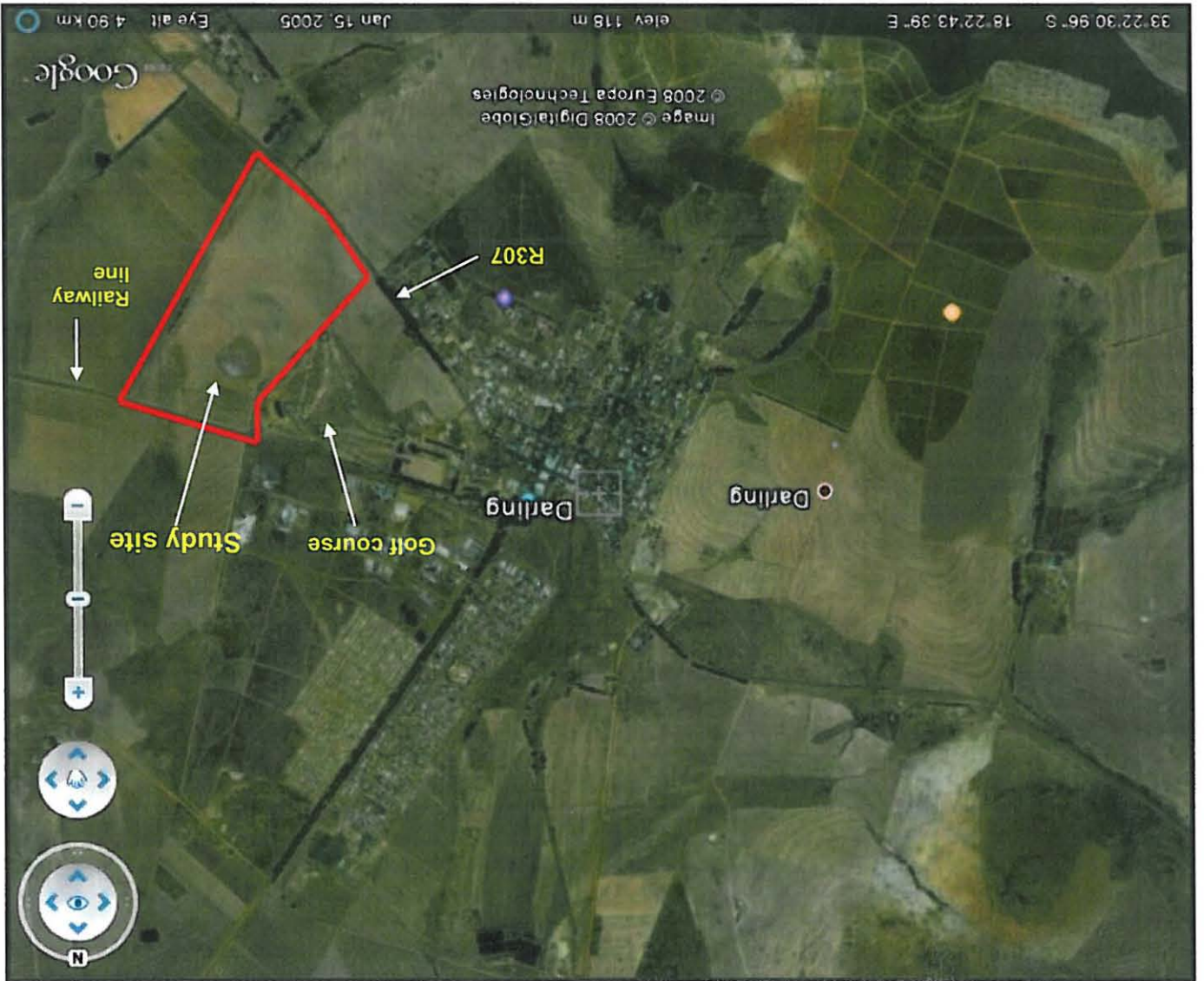


Figure 1. Locality Map (3318 AD Darling)

Figure 2. Aerial photograph of Darling and the proposed study site





**Figure 3. View of the site facing east**



**Figure 6. View of the site facing north**



**Figure 4. View of the site facing north**



**Figure 7. View of the site facing west**



**Figure 5. View of the site facing west**



**Figure 8. View of the site facing east**

## **4. STUDY APPROACH**

### **4.1 Method of survey**

The approach followed in the archaeological study entailed a foot survey of the proposed development site.

The site visit and assessment took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2008.

A desktop study was also undertaken.

### **4.2 Constraints and limitations**

There were no constraints or limitations associated with the study.

### **4.3 Identification of potential risks**

There are no potential archaeological risks associated with the proposed development.

It is highly unlikely, but unmarked human burials may be exposed or uncovered during earthmoving operations.

### **4.4 Results of the desk top study**

A few ESA tools, mainly flakes, chunks and flaked cobbles have been documented on some of the farmlands that occur alongside the R315 between Malmesbury and Darling (Kaplan 2006, 2007, 2008). This region of the Western Cape is dominated by highly modified wheat lands that have been intensively farmed for several hundred years.

## **5 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

### **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 000m<sup>2</sup>, or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m<sup>2</sup>, 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 Structures (Section 34 (1))**

No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or Heritage Western Cape.

### **5.4 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**

One flaked quartzite cobble was found embedded in the soil close to the vlei in the northern portion of the proposed site.

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

## **7. IMPACT STATEMENT**

The impact of the proposed development on pre-colonial archaeological heritage remains is rated as being **low**.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

The Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed development of Portion 11 of Farm No. 577 and Portion of Farm 401 Darling has identified no significant impacts to pre-colonial archaeological material that will need to be mitigated, prior to the proposed development activities.

- Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations, and earthworks for the proposed project, these should immediately be reported to the archaeologist or the South African Heritage Resources Agency (Dr. A. Jerardino 021 462 4502). Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

## **9. REFERENCES**

Kaplan, J. 2006. Archaeological impact assessment proposed construction of chicken houses on portion 4 of the Farm Nieuwe Post No. 706 Malmesbury. Report prepared for Envirodinamik.

Kaplan, J. 2007. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed development Schoonspruit Country Estate Phase 2-5 Malmesbury. Report prepared for CK Rumboll and Partners

Kaplan, J. 2008. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment proposed Elsana Quarry (Portion of the Farm No. 701 Lange Kloof) Malmesbury. Report prepared for Elsana Quarry (Pty) Ltd. Agency for Cultural Resource Management.