

## **Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report**

### **Construction of a Citrus Packaging Facility of 13 500m<sup>2</sup> on a Portion of Farm 567 (Ouwerv), Clanwilliam, Cederberg Local Municipality, West Coast District Municipality, Western Cape**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pro-Active Archaeology was requested by Cape Lowlands Environmental Services (CLES) to undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of a portion of Farm 567, also called Ouwerf, Clanwilliam. The landowners, Ouwerf Boerdery cc, intend to build a Citrus Packaging Facility of 13 500 m<sup>2</sup>. Four potential sites were evaluated (Figure ) during the archaeological foot survey. The AIA report forms part of a Basic Assessment Report (BAR). The site will have to be rezoned.

No archaeological resources were found during the foot survey of the property.

The heavy disturbance of the property by years of agricultural activity make it unlikely that any archaeological resources will be found. In the unlikely event that such resources are found, Heritage Western Cape or a professional archaeologist must be contacted to assess the finds.

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# 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Pro-Active Archaeology was requested by Cape Lowlands Environmental Services (CLES) to undertake a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) of a portion of Farm 567, also called Ouwerf, Clanwilliam. The landowners, Ouwerf Boerdery cc, intend to build a Citrus Packaging Facility of 13 500 m<sup>2</sup>. Four potential sites were evaluated (Figure 1) during the archaeological foot survey. The AIA report forms part of a Basic Assessment Report (BAR). The site will have to be rezoned.

## 1.1. Stakeholders

	<b>Project Applicant &amp; Land Owner</b>	<b>Project Consultant</b>	<b>Environmental Practitioner</b>
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## 1.2. Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the specialist Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment are to:

- Identify and map pre-colonial archaeological heritage resources on the proposed sites;
- Determine the importance of pre-colonial archaeological heritage resources on the proposed sites;
- Determine and assess the potential impacts of the proposed development on the pre-colonial archaeological heritage resources, and
- Recommend mitigation measures to minimise impacts associated with the proposed development.

## 1.3. Legislative requirements

The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999) "...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 in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999).

Archaeology (Section 35 (4)) No person may, without a permit issued by the SAHRA or Heritage Western Cape, destroy, damage, excavate, alter or remove from its original position, or collect, any archaeological material or object.

## **2. DESK TOP STUDY**

A desk top study was undertaken surveying recent academic literature and previous archaeological impact assessments pertinent to the area surrounding Citrusdal. Of interest are the Earlier Stone Age, particularly the Acheulian Tradition and the Later Stone Age (LSA). The Middle Stone Age (MSA) is less well represented in the area.

### **2.1. Acheulian Tradition**

The ESA has been divided into two distinct stone tool cultures: the Oldowan Tradition and the Acheulian Tradition. The former is represented by the earliest stone tools (from about 2 million years ago), simple core forms and unmodified flakes (Klien 2000). Geographically, the Oldowan is found in East Africa, and within South Africa, generally limited to the Sterkfontein region. The Acheulian has a more formal, standardised component, illustrated by handaxes and cleavers. This tradition is found across Africa, Western Asia and southern Europe (Deacon & Deacon 1999) and dates from between  $\pm 1.4$  million years ago to 250 000 years ago. Mitchell (2002), describes handaxes as elongated, pear-shaped or triangular forms, terminating in a point. Cleavers are broader, with an axe-like cutting edge. Some informal flakes show evidence of retouch, similar to the MSA scraper. Formal tools may represent less than ten percent of artefacts found in the field (Deacon & Deacon 1999). Such finds generally occur in valley bottoms or wetlands.

In the Citrusdal area, Acheulian finds are relatively common with numerous hand axes located on the eastern bank of the Olifants River at the site of the Tienrivieren Dam (Halkett 2004) which is to the south of Groenvlei (Halkett 2008) and at the site of the Bleskop Dam to the north of Citrusdal (Halkett 2006). Just north of Citrusdal, on the urban edge, Acheulian tools and some MSA material has also been found (Van Pletzen-Vos & Rust 2010).

## **2.2. Later Stone Age**

Sites dating to the LSA are also relatively abundant in the Citrusdal area. These sites date from the last 20 000 years, but for the most part, to the last four thousand years or so. They will often be found close to water sources and may be out in the open, although by far the most common are to be found in caves and rock shelters (Deacon & Deacon 1999). Rock paintings are also a common occurrence in the Cederberg mountains many still waiting to be found and described. The Archaeological Contracts Office from UCT have located a number of rock art sites from the southern end of the Olifants River, for example (Koorlandskloof (Halkett 1996), Farm 567/1 (Halkett 1996), Olifants/Doorn Basin Study (Halkett et al 1997).

Many archaeological sites around Citrusdal have been recorded by the Spatial Archaeology Research Unit at UCT. San hunter/foragers inhabited the area up to 2000 years ago, when pastoralism was introduced to the Cape by the Khoenkhoen (Deacon & Deacon 1999). Evidence of ceramics and domesticated stock is often used as a marker for the arrival of pastoralists in a region. The 17th and 18th centuries saw the European colonial expansion, resulting in the establishment of farms on the frontier of the Cape colony which included the Olifants River valley (Halkett 1996). As colonial influence expanded and more land was settled, indigenous people were forced into economically less viable areas. The effects of diseases and organised extermination led to the eventual dissolution of indigenous society as it had existed, and the survivors were reduced to servitude on European farms (Mitchell 2002, Parkington 1977, Sealy et al 2000)

## **3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY & METHODOLOGY**

Owerf, Remainder of Farm 567, Clanwilliam lies some 5.4 km South of Citrusdal. The Farm is within the Cederberg Local Municipality, West Coast District Municipality, Western Cape. The farm is located on the 1:50 000 topographic map 3219 CA Citrusdal (Figure 2). The Citrus Packaging Facility is to be 13 500m<sup>2</sup>. However four alternative sites have been proposed. All four sites, totalling 54 000 m<sup>3</sup> or 5.4ha were surveyed on foot by two archaeologists on 2011-06-09. The GPS tracking is illustrated in the map in Figure 3. The property has been extensively farmed and ploughed, allowing for excellent archaeological visibility (Figures 4-7). Dune mole rat activity reveals no subsurface archaeological resources (Figure 8).

Data was acquired with Garmin GPS60 and Oregon 450. Digital photographs were taken with a Canon DSLR and a Panasonic Bridge Camera.

#### 4. DESCRIPTION OF SITES & ARTEFACTS IDENTIFIED

The heavy ploughing and farming on the property would have disturbed any archaeological remains. No sites or artefacts were found during the site survey.

#### 5. FIELD RATING

A field rating of Generally Protected C is awarded. This site has been sufficiently recorded. It requires no further recording before destruction and has a generally Low significance.

#### 6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance Criteria	Comment
a. its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;	N/A
b. its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;	N/A
c. its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;	N/A
d. its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;	N/A
e. its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;	N/A
f. its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;	N/A
g. its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;	N/A
h. its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and	N/A
i. sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.	N/A

#### 7. RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSIONS

The heavy disturbance of the property by years of agricultural activity make it unlikely that any archaeological resources will be found. In the unlikely event that such resources are found, Heritage Western Cape or a professional archaeologist must be contacted to assess the finds.

## 8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 9. FIGURES



Figure 1: Layout of proposed alternative for the Citrus Packaging Facilities on Ouwerf Farm.

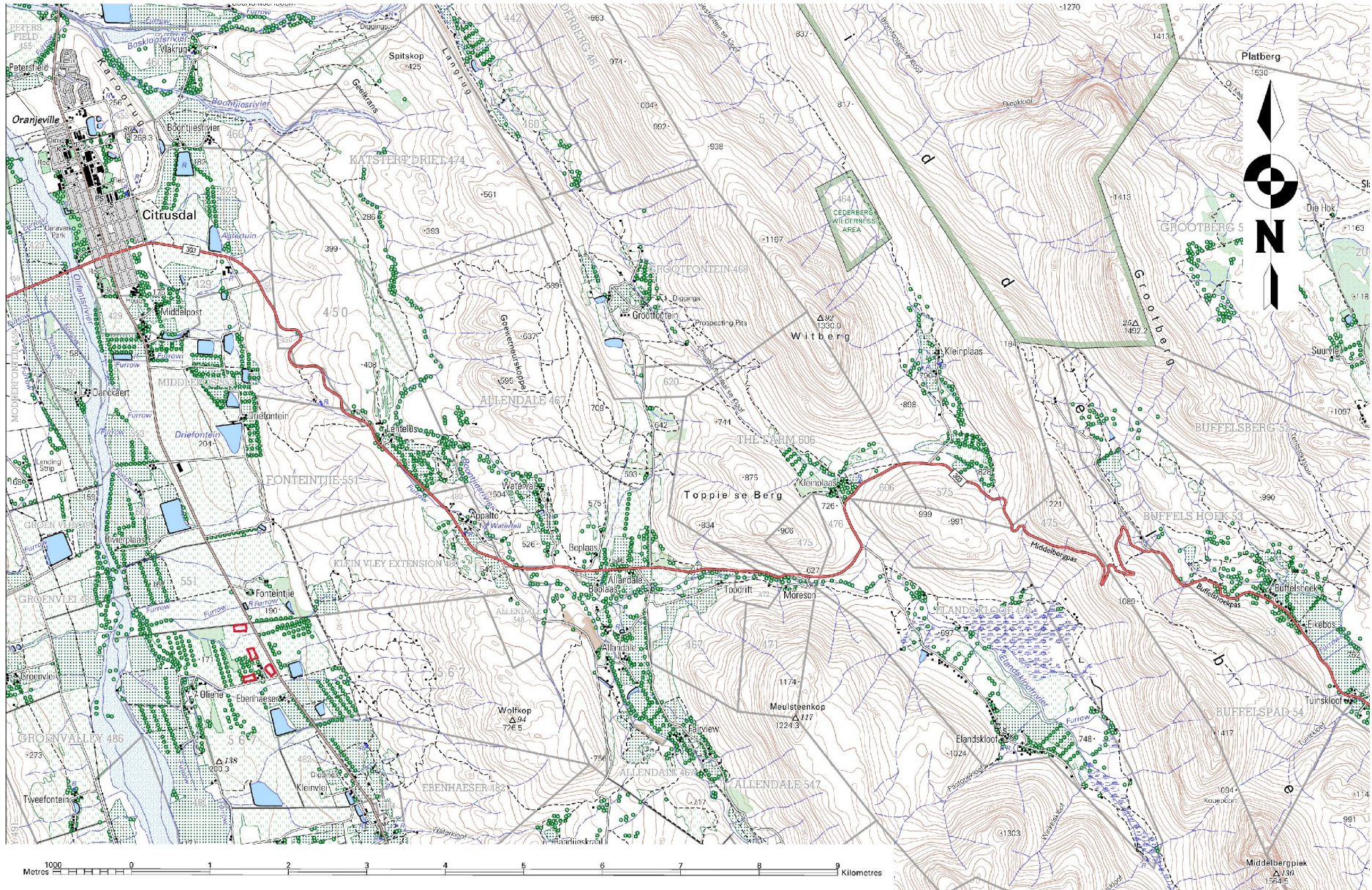
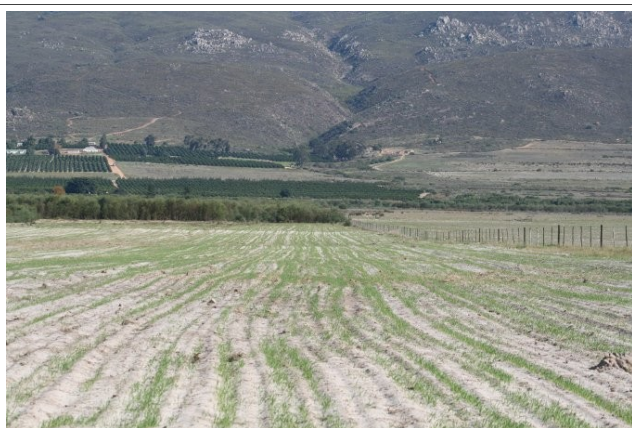


Figure 2: 1:50 000 3219 CA Citrusdal, Topographic Map indicating the location of Ouwerf and the areas surveyed.



Figure 3: GPS tracking of Ouwerf.



*Figure 4: Alternative site 1.*



*Figure 5: Alternative site 2.*



*Figure 6: Alternative site 3.*



*Figure 7: Alternative site 4.*



*Figure 8: Dune mole rat activity - showing sterile subsurface.*