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**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PHASE 2**  
**SECTIONS 36 & 38(1) & (8): NHRA**  
**ERVEN 231 & RE. 478 LAAIPLEK**  
**BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PHASE 2**  
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**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**  
**ERVEN 231 & RE. 478 LAAIPEK**  
**BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Site has a peripheral position to the historic settlement core of the fishing and maritime trading village of Laaiplek at the mouth of the Berg River, on St. Helena Bay, Cape West Coast.

The principal heritage resource on the 12 ha Site, apart from possible archaeological and palaeontological material, is an historic burial ground of the Berg River Mission Church (Anglican), probably in use from c.1865 and in which more than 850 people are believed to be buried according to original church records. Use of the burial ground ceased in c.1961 and it is now in a very degraded state with few headstones and grave remains visible on the surface. Continued neglect will inevitably result in further loss of fabric and remains with consequent loss of heritage significance.

A Phase 1 H.I.A identified the local Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches of Laaiplek as the traditional interested parties in the burial ground which they had been unable to maintain through lack of ownership and means.

Laaiplek is of great local historical and social significance having played a pioneering role in the development of the fishing and coastal trading activities of the West Coast from the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. For a number of reasons very little of the early fabric of Laaiplek remains, which may be summed up as a few structures in the historic core around the Laaiplek Hotel, which includes an earlier Anglican Church, and this burial ground.

This study confirms that the burial ground has high local historical, social and spiritual significance. It also concludes that the “no development” or “no go” option cannot be realistically or fairly entertained in part because development

action can provide for the rehabilitation of the burial ground, and a management programme for its long term care and maintenance. The development proposals are considered sympathetic to the burial ground in terms of layout, urban design and architecture and are supported subject to the recommendations contained in this report.

The findings and recommendations of a Phase One Archaeological Impact Assessment and of a Desktop Palaeontological Assessment are concerned primarily with the monitoring of excavation work during the development phase. The APM Committee wishes to issue a consolidated record of decision after the assessment of this report by BELCOM.

No further heritage assessment is considered necessary beyond the recommendations contained in this report.

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

I have been commissioned by Medmin Project Management, acting on behalf of the owner of the properties, Akubra Trading 34 (Pty) Ltd., to undertake a visual inspection of the Site, together with background research, in order to identify and assess whether any heritage or cultural resources of significance are present thereon, consistent with the National Heritage Resources Act. No. 25 of 1999.

A Level 1 H.I.A. has been prompted by the presence of a burial ground older than 60 years on the Site, which is protected under Section 36 of the N.H.R. Act. This report was submitted to Heritage Western Cape on 7 April 2008. Subsequently BELCOM issued an R.O.D (12 May 2008) requiring a Phase 2 H.I.A. upon formalisation of the development proposals.

This report, together with the Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment prepared by the Agency for Cultural Resources Management, and the desktop Palaeontological study by John Pether, form part of the Rezoning & Subdivision Application to be made to the relevant authorities in terms of the Land Use Planning Ordinance, 1985, and the Environmental Conservation Act, No. 73 of 1989 and their respective regulations.

**2. THE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS**

Subsequent to the preparation of the initial Heritage Impact Assessment in April 2008 and the R.O.D. issued by HWC requiring a Phase 2 H.I.A. on formalization of the development proposals, further discussions have been held both with the developer and his consultants, and with representatives of the local Anglican and Roman

Catholic churches of Laaiplek, who are the traditional interested parties regarding the old burial ground on the Site.

The initial H.I.A. identified the main heritage issues to be considered as:

- Impacts that the proposals may have on the physical extent of the burial ground.
- Impacts the proposals may have on access to the burial ground, especially its relationship with the historic core and the village as a whole.
- Impacts that the proposals may have on the cultural landscape within which the burial ground is sited.

The development proposals acknowledge the above concerns and contain mitigating measures with regard to these impacts.

The proposed development comprises 479 residential and 5 commercial sectional title units, structured about a pedestrian spine with vehicular movement and parking pockets on the periphery.

The layout represents a clear break with the traditional pattern of township subdivision into low density individual residential erven, and responds to and is compatible with the recent Provincial policy initiatives (December 2005) aimed at the densification of urban settlements to a target average gross density of 25 dwelling units per hectare, and to the provisions of the Western Cape Provincial and the Bergrivier Municipal Spatial Development Frameworks 2005 & 2002 respectively.

The development has been subdivided into 10 components under the management of a Home Owners Association with overall landscaping and architectural guidelines. The architectural style is modest, white, wall dominated and flat roofed as is characteristic of west coast architecture. The development is accessible to the public and is not a gated community.

The following specific proposals are made regarding the burial ground;

- The full extent of the burial ground (as known) is set aside as Private Open Space.
- Vehicular access is provided via Garnaal & Groenveld streets.
- A pedestrian link is provided to the historic core on erf 2866 across De Villiers Street.

The Urban Design Framework and the Proposed Plan of Subdivision are annexed to this report.

### **3. THE SITE**

#### **3.1 *Locality and Situation***

The Site is situated in the village of Laaiplek at the mouth of the Berg River, which forms the western part of the town of Velddrif. Uniquely, it has frontage onto both the Berg River and the eastern shore of St. Helena Bay. See the Locality and Site plans overleaf.

#### **3.2 *Legal Description and Title Deed***

- Erf 231 Laaiplek, Bergrivier Municipality, Division of Piketberg, Province of the Western Cape; in extent 7.9762 hectares, and
- Remainder Erf 478 Laaiplek, Bergrivier Municipality, Division of Piketberg. Province of the Western Cape; in extent 4.1028 hectares.

NOTE: Erf 231 includes the unregistered Erf 773 and a portion of De Villiers & Garnaal Streets as shown on the Town Plan. The above erven have a common boundary and may be consolidated to form one Site.

Clause 1C of the Title Deed refers to a servitude with conditions relating to the use thereof for Mission, Church and School purposes, building and trading thereon. I have inspected Deed of Transfer no. 5202/1949 in which these conditions are more fully set out. This clause has no reference to the burial ground situated on Re. Erf 478 adjacent nor does it have any bearing on Erf 477 which is completely encapsulated between Re. Erf 478







and Erf 231. Further there are no clauses or constraints within the title deed which have any bearing upon the N.H.R. Act No. 25 of 1999.

### **3.3 *Legislative Context.***

#### **3.3.1 Town Planning**

In terms of the Bergrivier Municipal zoning Scheme Regulations, Administration Velddrif, the Site is zoned as follows:

- Erf 231, Undetermined, Transport (De Villiers Street) and Business (unregistered erf 773)
- Re Erf 478, Undetermined, Transport (De Villiers & Garnaal Streets)

The properties are also subject to the Bergrivier Municipality Spatial Development Framework Policy Guidelines of 2002, which indicate residential and business (Erf 773) as the appropriate uses for the Site.

The application must also take cognisance of the Provincial Spatial Development Framework published in December 2005, together with the associated research study of the Growth Potential of Towns in the Western Cape (2004), and the Provincial Urban Edge Guideline (2005)

#### **3.3.2 Environmental Affairs**

The development proposals constitute a listed activity in terms of the EIA Regulations 2006. Consequently authorisation is required from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.

#### **3.3.3 Heritage Resources**

The property contains no formally protected heritage Sites neither does it form part of or contain a declared Special, Conservation or Heritage Area. It does contain a burial ground older than 60 years which is protected under Section 36 of the N.H.R.A.

In terms of Section 38(i) of the N.H.R.A, any person intending to undertake a development involving changing the character of a site exceeding 5 000m<sup>2</sup> or rezoning of a site exceeding 10 000m<sup>2</sup> must notify the responsible heritage authority and furnish it with details thereof. This section applies to the subject Site and this report serves as notice to the H.W.C of the proponents intention to develop. However, considering Section 38 (8) the development application is being made to both DEADP and the Bergrivier Municipality in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act No. 73 of 1989 and of the Land Use Planning Ordinance. Thus this report is submitted to HWC in anticipation that this body will then submit their Record of Decision to both DEADP and Bergrivier Municipality for incorporation in their decisions.

### **3.4 *Physical Attributes***

#### **3.4.1 Shape and Access**

The Site is not of uniform shape and is best understood by consulting the Aerial photograph overleaf. The Site may be accessed from De Villiers Street in the south and Garnaal Street in the west.

#### **3.4.2 Topography, Vegetation and Soils**

The Site is a generally level floodplain at about 4m above M.S.L with occasional dune hillocks of between 0.5 to 1.5m rising above it. Vegetation is generally damaged and disturbed sparse scrub covering hydrophobic light sandy soils infested by mole rats. There are a few mature eucalyptus trees on the burial ground (Erf 478) together with low acacias, which are also to be found on the northern portion of Erf 231.





*Panorama – Erf 478 looking east to south*



*Panorama – Erf 478 / 231 boundary looking north*



*Panorama – Erf 478 / 231 looking east to south*

### 3.4.3 Structures

As illustrated on the aerial photograph there are two disused subterranean ash brick tanks, which were constructed by the previous owners, Marine Products during the 1960's. These have no heritage significance. The burial ground is also indicated on the Aerial photograph. A more detailed analysis follows in para 5.2.

### **3.5 Land Use**

#### **3.5.1 The Site**

The Site has not been farmed. The Site forms part of the area of earliest colonial settlement at the Berg River mouth, which began early in the nineteenth century. Early occupiers were subsistence fishermen. In 1952 a pipeline was erected across Erf 478 to transport fish from offshore jetties in St. Helena Bay to the fish factory (Marine Products). These no longer exist but their position is indicated on the aerial photograph. Three circular Concrete watertanks on Erf 231, also erected about this time, were demolished with the pipeline in 1968. The burial ground was almost certainly in use prior to 1887 and burials persisted until at least 1961 and possibly thereafter. Currently the Site lies unutilised except for the burial ground.

#### **3.5.2 Surrounding Land Use**

The surrounding land uses are indicated on the Land Use Plan overleaf.

### **3.6 Heritage Resources**

The Site does not fall within any designated Heritage Area in terms of the NHRA, nor within a Special or Conservation Zone in terms of LUPO. There are no declared sites on the properties nor heritage resources listed on a Register as contemplated in Section 30 of the NHRA. As noted earlier there is a burial ground older than 60 years on the Site; no history related to slavery has yet been discovered thereon.

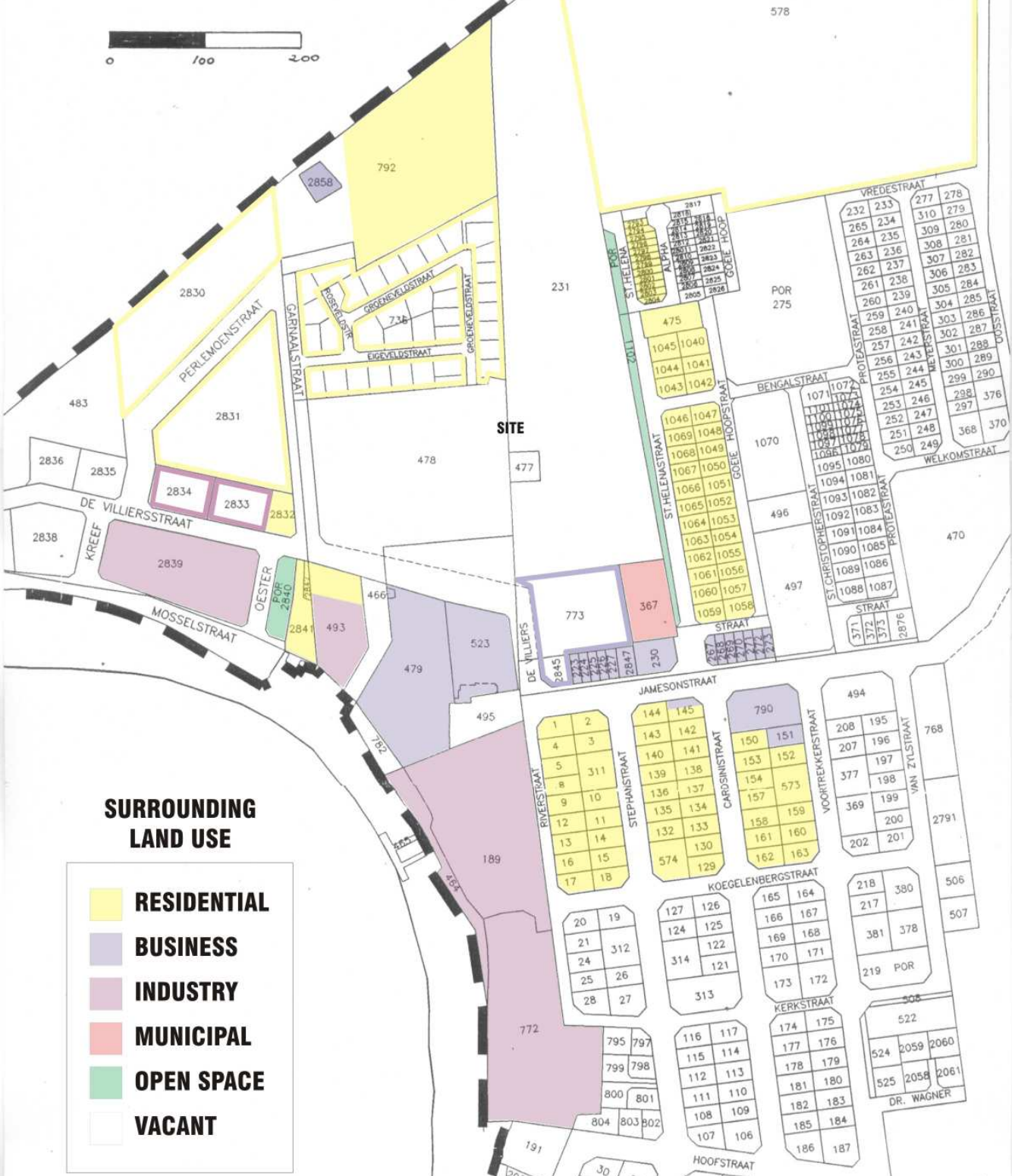
## **4. THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT: THE SANDVELD AND LAAIPLEK**

### **4.1 Settlement Beginnings**

The Marine resources of the West Coast were exploited by the regions' Khoi inhabitants during pre-colonial times; with the advent of colonisation this exploitation was expanded and intensified.

The mouth of the Berg River was used as a harbour by free burghers stationed on the West Coast by the V.O.C to supply the Company with fish before the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century the

# ST. HELENA BAY



## SURROUNDING LAND USE

- RESIDENTIAL
- BUSINESS
- INDUSTRY
- MUNICIPAL
- OPEN SPACE
- VACANT

V.O.C encouraged free burghers to become farmers in the region giving out first licenses (1704) and thereafter loan places (1714) for grazing as far north as the Oliphant's river mouth. These forms of tenure were not freehold.

During his visit to the Cape in 1743, Baron Van Imhoff, in an attempt to encourage permanent settlement, recommended the introduction of 60 morgen loan freehold grants on the outlying farms. These loan freeholds were to be purchased for a "moderate" sum by the tenant who nevertheless must continue to pay his "rekognisie".

By the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century a patchwork quilt of grazing licenses and loan farms (some with loan freeholds) were superimposed on the old cattle walks and hunting grounds of the Khoisan. By the end of the century the Sandveld was an area of marginal mixed farming and seasonal grazing concentrated along the flood plain of the Berg River.

The first British occupation of the Cape saw Sir John Barrow crossing the Berg River into the Sandveld and reporting the existence of a few huts. However Lichtenstein, traveling the West Coast with Governor de Mist in 1803, after the Dutch reoccupation of the Cape, remarked on the importance of fish in provisioning the slave population on the farms in the region. At St. Helena Bay he reported that: "Here, as in Saldanha Bay, such vast quantities of fish are taken that the trade to the inland parts in salted & dried fish contributes very essentially to the support of the inhabitants of the coast".

Thus the origins of the fishing communities that sprang up at the Berg River mouth and elsewhere along the coast of St. Helena Bay may be found in the importance of "ratsoennis" to a growing agricultural economy in the Sandveld and its eastern hinterland. In 1819 the existence of a fish house at Laaiplek is reported, where fishing boats landed their catch, cleaned the fish and salted them down in barrels. Snoek and harders were also salted and dried, the origins of mootjies and bokkoms.



At about this time the name Velddrift came into use. The farm was originally a loan place with two 30 morgen portions of loan freehold given to Martin Melck 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1808. Velddrift covered some 8940 morgen (7657ha), including Laaipek and the whole was granted to Martin Melck 3<sup>rd</sup> under quitrent in 1839. The deed of grant acknowledges the existing fishing rights and access to the river of the public “as heretofore”. All of the above attests to a growing settlement based on fishing in St. Helena Bay and at the Berg River.

Who were the members of these emergent communities? These were the rural underclass of failed or dispossessed farmers, the dispossessed of the indigenous population, runaway slaves, deserters, maroons and other cast offs from the maritime trades, in all a miscellaneous flotsam of humanity cast up in this peripheral backwater of the Cape Colony – who could nevertheless maintain a subsistence existence upon the abundant fish resources of St. Helena Bay.

The Sandveld although peripheral to the agricultural production of the inland districts did provide access to the Cape Town market via the Berg River and the sea coast. By the 1830's merchant ships and cutters were plying a growing trade in grain and other commodities between Cape Town and the West Coast ports, including the mouth of the Berg River. One such merchant enterprise was the Stephan family who established a fishing and trading venture at Soldatens Pos in St. Helena Bay.

The Stephans, opened up the grain trade and established a presence at the Berg River mouth where grain from the hinterland was loaded into schooners and cutters for transport to Cape Town; thus the name Laaiplaats or Loading Place, today Laaipek. By the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Stephans controlled the West Coast farmers' sole road to the Cape Town market, the sea coast. The South African Illustrated News of 9 May 1885 reported: “that the Stephan Brothers carry most of the grain in their hands with several coasting vessels constantly

employed; they operate 80 large fishing boats and over 600 men are employed at their establishments". One would have expected that with all this commercial activity Laaiplek would have supported a considerable permanent population.

#### **4.2 The Settlement Grows**

A great many of the platteland towns and villages of the Cape Colony were established upon land given to the N.G. Kerk by farmers. The land was subdivided into erven in an orderly fashion, which were sold to farmers of the district to help fund the building of the church. Die sogenaamde kerkdorpe. This was not the case with Laaiplek.

The original quitrent farm of Martin Melck 3<sup>rd</sup> stretched along the north bank of the river from the sea to the adjoining farms Doornfontein, and Wegloopenheuvel, a distance of 15 kilometres; and, from near the mouth of the Berg River northwards along the coast to Dwarskerssenbosch, 6 kilometres distant, as shown on the survey diagram overleaf.

As previously noted the original quitrent grant of 1839 acknowledged the existence of fishing rights and access to the river of the public "as heretofore". These people dwelt on the river bank, and with the farmer's permission erected their dwellings and fish houses on payment of an annual ground rent. At what date the Stephans established a permanent base for their operations at Laaiplek is not known. T.E. Smit, the owner of several farms in the Sandveld acquired Velddrift in 1852. Tradition has it that Johan Carel Stephan 2<sup>nd</sup> entered into an agreement with Smit at this time to enable him to build houses, a barn and a shop at Laaiplek. However it is likely that his father Johan Carel Stephan 1<sup>st</sup> had an earlier similar agreement with Martin Melck 3<sup>rd</sup>.

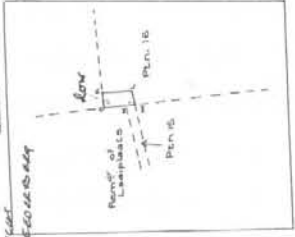
A north westerly gale in Table Bay in 1878 put the French three masted barque "Nerie" on the beach at Roggebaai. She was refloated but was

VELDRIFT 1850 AS TO VELDRIJFING BY BOUNDARY OF ADOOR NUTBAU - WILCOONS HANDELS PLOEG NO 1770

VELDRIFT  
Cape S. 9. 43.  
Figure A-G.

- a) VELDRIFT 1850 AS TO VELDRIJFING BY BOUNDARY OF ADOOR NUTBAU - WILCOONS HANDELS PLOEG NO 1770
- b) NADIN MALLI I BOUWT DOORFONTEIN (1770) CONTINUED USE OF VELDRIFT.
- c) NADIN MALLI II 5000 SEMS ES VELDRIFT AS LEAN AREA 7/12/1808
- d) NADIN MALLI III 5000 SEMS VELDRIFT IN 3 PORTIENS 1850:

27 the  
y has  
al  
diagram



VELDRIFT - J. C. WICHT  
DE PLATT - J. C. J. R. WICHT  
MELCKBLANS - J. R. + J. A. ZEEGERS  
T. E. SMIT BOYS:  
VELDRIFT - 1857  
DE PLATT - 1857  
PRIN. MELCKBLANS - 1858  
(71503 MG.)

t 9000 Morgen (more or less) including  
strict in St. Helena Bay on the North  
surrounding the Loan freehold land  
nus Melk

a Bay  
ch  
vel and Doornfontein

the Plans framed by me in 1837 partly

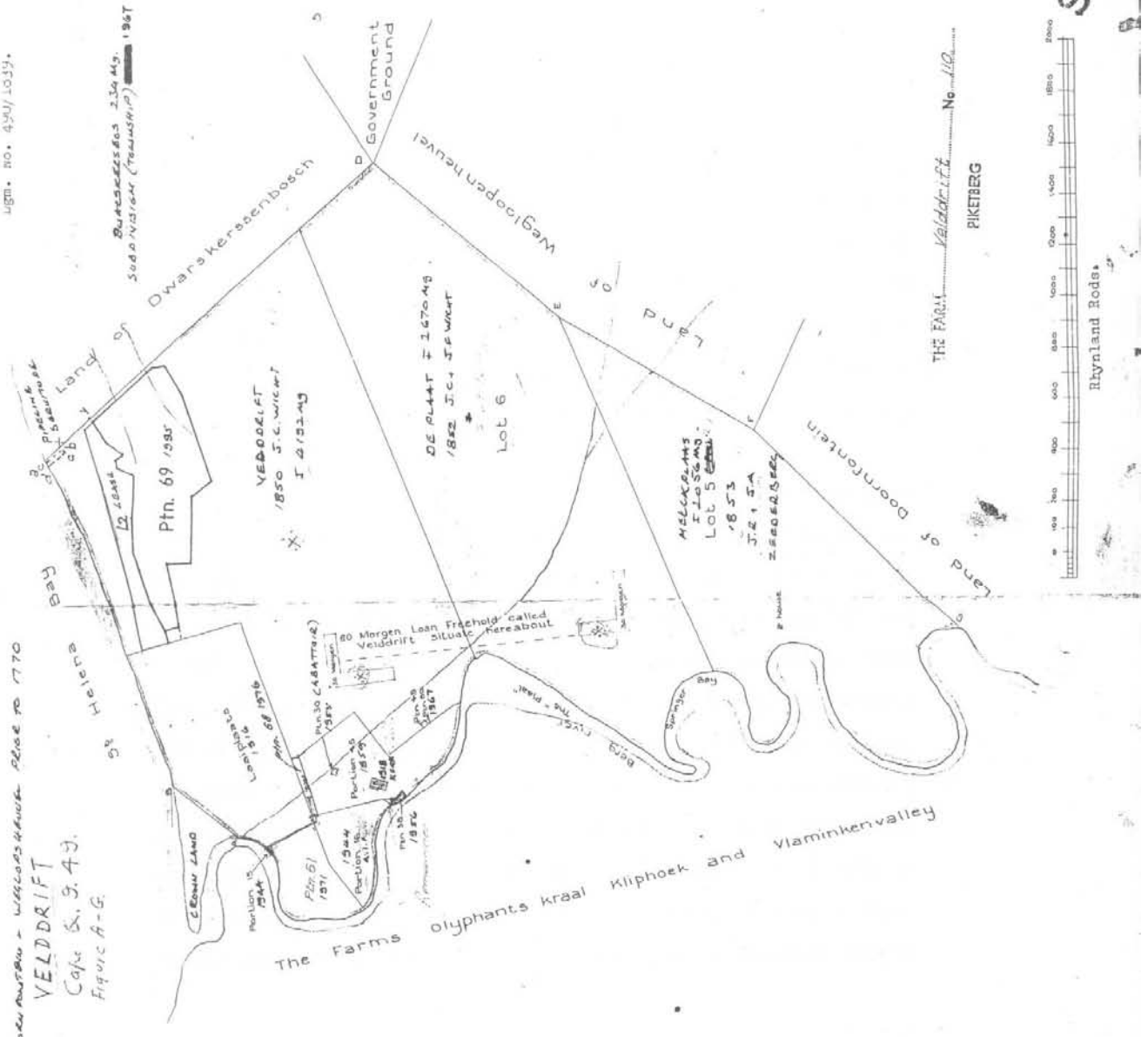
(Sgd.) J. Knobel,  
Swn. Surveyor.  
May, 29 1839.

For list of  
deductions see  
back of diagram

For Grivinde Noting  
See Back of Diagram.

DV/TCM

-7D  
-748  
-748/133  
-748/134  
-8) 4493



THE FARM Valdrift No. 110  
PIKEBERG



Rhynland Roads

in such poor condition that she was condemned. Carel Stephan bought her and with the help of Franscisco Carosini, brought her to Laaiplek and managed to get her into the river at an extreme high tide. The “Nerie” was a large merchant vessel, 2 decked, of 287 tons burden (a measurement of volume not weight or displacement) and probably about 40 metres in length. Moored to the river bank in front of where the Laaiplek hotel stands today (originally Carel Stephan’s house), the “Nerie” was used as home, office and warehouse to Carel Stephan and his enterprises. Sixteen clerks of the company are reported to have worked on board.

Franscisco Carosini was one of the first of the Italian community in Stephans employ to come to Laaiplek. Born in La Spezia Italy he arrived at the Cape as a sailor and was employed by the Stephans. Over the years he encouraged a number of other Italians to work for the Stephans and settle in Laaiplek. He died in 1908 and is buried in the burial ground on the Site.

In 1884 the Stephans acquired a one 1/8th undivided share in the farm Velddrift. They now had freehold rights at Laaiplek. The Stephans housed their employees in reed and mud huts and corrugated iron dwellings, others were also allowed to settle and paid ground rent or were given free accommodation in return for the products of their labour, fish. Stephan Brothers now had virtual total control over the development of Laaiplek.

The Stephans grip on Laaiplek was strengthened when the company agreed with the Smit family to exchange their 1/8th undivided share of the farm Velddrift for a portion thereof known as Laaiplaats, as illustrated on the survey diagram on the previous page.

The economic fortunes of Laaiplek however declined after the coming of the railways, first to Piketberg in 1902 and later to Hopefield thus destroying Stephans monopoly in the transport of grain to Cape Town. Notwithstanding the decline of both trading and fishing activities at

Laaiplek, the Government Fishing Harbours report of 1926/27 observed that “some 6 000 souls were dependent on fishing between Saldanha and Lamberts Bay” and at the Berg river at Roodebaai (Laaiplek) a population of 370 was reported. Dwelling units counts from aerial photographs in 1938 (Govt. Surveys and Mapping) indicate approximately 90 units at Laaiplek.

World War 2 changed the fortunes of Laaiplek completely. The coming of the fish factory revolutionised the fishing industry of the settlement and the lives of it's inhabitants. Marine Products (Pty) Ltd. was established in 1942 and purchased the whole of Laaiplaats from Stephan Brothers. By 1944 the company was operating the first fishmeal plant in South Africa and in 1948 they began to can pilchards, again a first for the country. To accommodate their growing number of employees the first township of Laaiplek was laid out and approved in 1946 and freehold residential erven became available for the first time. Local government was introduced in 1947, the first water scheme (tanks and pipes) in 1950, Eskom power in 1951 and connection to the Berg River Water Scheme and Municipal status in 1961.

### **4.3 *The Anglican Church and the Italian Families***

#### **4.3.1 The Anglicans**

Robert Grey the first Bishop of Cape Town arrived at the Cape in 1848. He was tasked with no less than the creation, organisation and development of the church in Southern Africa which at that time hardly existed. The Bishop soon resolved to extend the church with the establishment of what he called Hottentot Missions. The Bishop's first visit to the West Coast (with his wife Sophy) was in 1857 in the course of which they passed through Lamberts Bay, swam across the Berg River, onto St. Helena Bay and then back to Cape Town via Malmesbury. Robert Grey wished to establish missions at St. Helena Bay; including Berg River Mouth, Steenberg's Cove and Stompneus Baai. Steenberg's Cove appears to have been started between 1858 and 1861 ...“the establishment of a school under a coloured schoolmaster, who also held short services,... drew people from a

distance of 18 miles” – “though the services were on weekdays, the fishermen gave up their days fishing and loaded their boats with people to cross the bays and join in worship”. Quotes from “Two Hundred Years of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel”.

Members of the Anglican Church of St. Christophers at Laaiplek (the Berg River Mouth Mission) consider that their mission dates from this time. Bishop Grey made a further visit to the West Coast in 1862 and at Steenbergs Cove (Chapelry of St. Helena Bay) on 6 April he baptised 28 children, 3 of whom came from the Berg River, their parents Joseph Dominie (fisherman) and Catherine Macdonald. During the period 1862-1878 the baptisms of 84 persons residing at the Berg River are recorded in the Register of St. Mary Magdalene, Steenberg’s Cove.

Bishop William West Jones on a visit to St. Helena Bay in 1880 wrote in his journal: “St. Helena Bay is a wide open inlet of the sea, extending for many miles, and at its south western point, looking nearly north. There are three Church stations on its shores, at Stumpnose Bay, Steenberg’s Cove and Berg River Mouth. Perhaps there are more of our people at the first of these than at either of the other two, but the head-quarters of the mission is at the second of them, where, until lately, the principal number of the people lived. Here there is a very respectable school-chapel, which will accommodate some 200 or 250 people, and here lives Mr. Nicholl, the Deacon in charge of the whole of this district. He holds service here each Sunday, and occasionally at each of the other stations, and during the week he is engaged in superintending a school for the children of the people in the immediate neighbourhood.” --- “As it was important that those to be confirmed today should have an opportunity, before we left, of receiving the Holy Eucharist, we had morning prayer, in order to shorten the later service, at 8 o’clock. The Church was literally crammed, there being, I should think, at least 300 persons present. The candidates were 50 in number, males and females being equally divided; all of them simple

people, mostly sons and daughters of fishermen, or fishermen themselves with their wives.”

Berg River Mouth. Burials in the Parish of Malmesbury in the Division of Piquetberg 1887. J.P. Edwards, Rector.

From the title page of the original document encompassing the years 1887-1978. Oral evidence of the current lay preacher of St. Christophers, William Laubscher, who has lived all his life in Laaiplek and is a leader in his church community, states that the burial ground on Re. Erf 478 is that of the Berg River Mission, St. Christophers. As a child he remembers walking through the ground and noticing old gravestones of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Correspondence between officials of the Diocese, H.J.C. Stephan and Laaiplek Fisheries Ltd. (Marine Products), sourced from the archives of the Anglican Church, between 1922 and 1945 makes it clear that there was an unregistered lease of a plot of ground at Laaiplek, that a church and school existed and that the burial ground was used by the church. Examples of this correspondence are annexed to this report. Inspection of the property also reveals that most of the inscriptions on gravestones or fragments of gravestones are in English, notwithstanding many Dutch/Afrikaans names.

As at Steenberg's Cove, the Berg River Mouth Mission started a school and also required a church. The site of the initial building is uncertain, it is understood to have been a corrugated iron hut. By 1897 however church and school were housed in a substantial building, which still stands today, immediately north of what is now the Laaiplek Hotel, formerly the house of Carel Stephan. The burial ground is a further 200m north of this site. Carel Meyer was the catechist at the BRM mission, conducted church services and taught at the school, which was open to all residents of the village.

The coming of Marine Products and the consequent rapid growth in the fishing industry and of the village required the relocation of the church and school from the factory property to a permanent site held in freehold. This was negotiated with Laaiplek Fisheries and the current St Christophers church was built in 1954. The congregation today numbers 480 persons.

#### 4.3.2 The Italians

The pioneer group of Italians at Laaiplek were Carosini, Colombo, Tallie (Malta) and Viola. They were men of the sea, sailors and in the case of Tallie, a ships carpenter. They were employed by Carel Stephan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Possibly Tallie was the first as the births of two children are recorded in the Steenberg's Cove baptism register in 1874 and 1876, and the death of his wife Cecilia Tallie (Neé Langenveldt) in 1908 age 62 years, suggests a possible arrival in the late 60's. Francisco Carosini was born at La Spezia in Italy in 1854 and he probably arrived in the Cape in the mid 1870's. His delivery of the "Nerie" to Laaiplek in 1878 has been recorded earlier. The direct descendants of the above group are still to be found in Velddrif and elsewhere on the West Coast.

The second group derive from a wave of Italian and Corsican fishermen who arrived at the Cape around 1900. Some of these men had been recruited in Sicily by the fledging canning industry to catch crayfish in Table Bay. Others were recent immigrants forced out of their homeland by drought and poverty. Declining catches at the Cape pushed these men north to St. Helena Bay. The families Casaleggio, Dipaola and possibly Donaggi forged ties with Laaiplek.

The Italian families brought their Roman Catholic religion with them and although they often married into local families and became "Afrikaanered" sufficient did not lose their historic faith and a Roman Catholic Church and Presbytery were built on the Stephans land. The pioneer group of immigrants identified more with the Anglican church in their early years, thus Tallies, Carosinis and Colombos lie in the



Anglican burial ground. Dipaola's, Donaggis and Casaleggios almost certainly there as well.

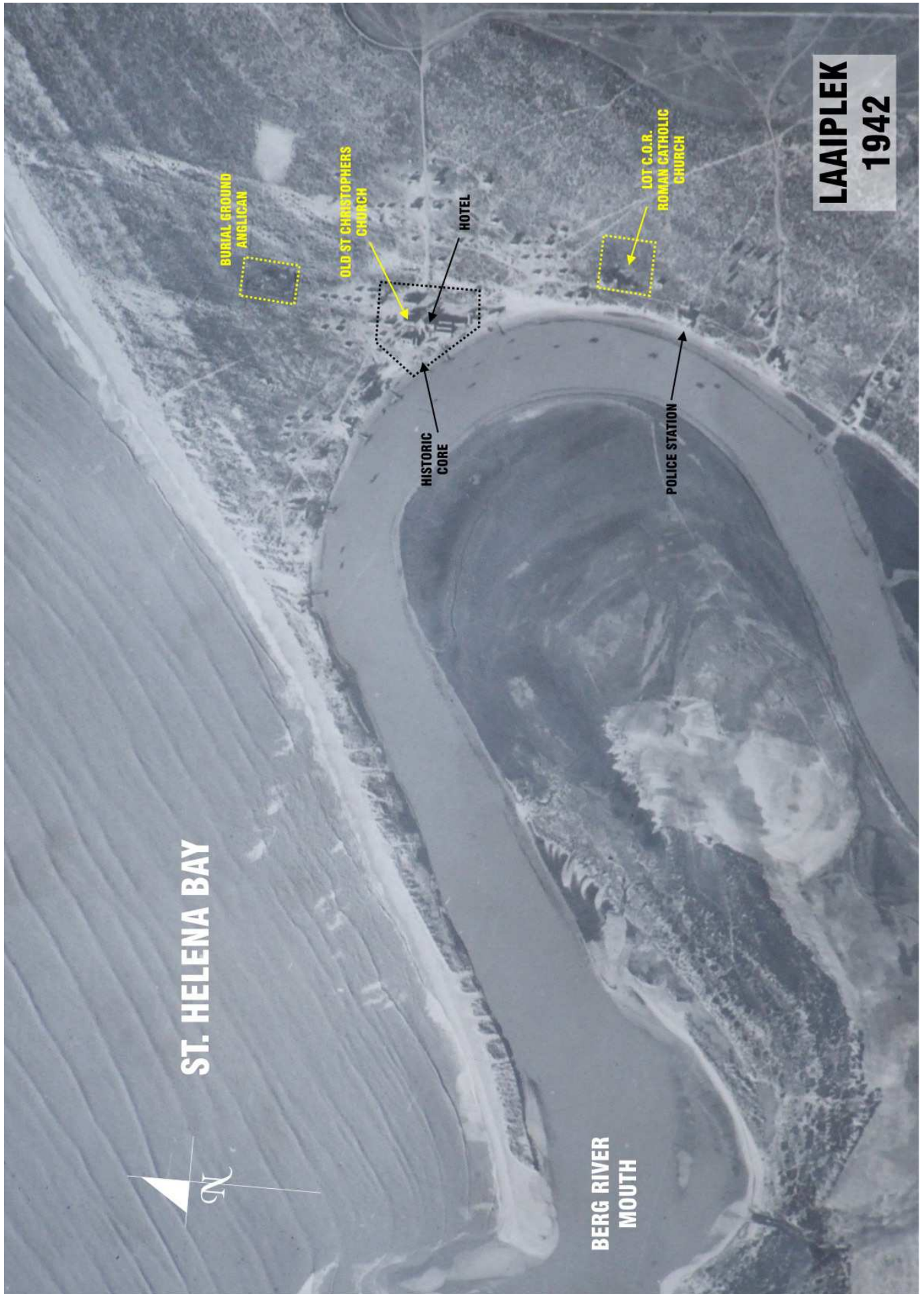
Enquiries amongst the descendants of the above families still living in Velddrif today by the Velddrif Heritage Foundation reveal that; although all now speak Afrikaans, and almost all belong to the Dutch Reformed Church at baptism their children are still given Italian names. They are proud of their heritage and are concerned about that portion of the burial ground that they consider to be theirs.

#### **4.4 *Historical Laaiplek and the Site***

The aerial photograph overleaf shows Laaiplek in 1942 prior to its purchase by Marine Products. The commercial Core of Stephans enterprises is clearly visible and is the heart of the small village. At the time of this photograph the original house, which was built of stone (calcrete), was being used as a boarding house. In this same year the Carosini family acquired the house and its surrounding buildings from the Stephans and turned the boarding house into a hotel. The Anglican church building was within the Core as shown on the photograph. This Core is the oldest group of buildings left standing in Laaiplek, although much altered and extended over the last 65 years.

The situation of this Core on the river bank, and its terminal position at the head of Jameson Street is of heritage and urban design significance to Laaiplek. Any development of the Site should take cognisance of existing and potential developments on Erven 479 and 523 and seek a harmonious and compatible physical relationship with the historic Core.

The 1960 aerial photograph indicates the dominance of the Marine Products factory and the change from informal to formal development. The Site still retains its outlying position in relation to the Core. The offshore jetties and the pipeline which traverses Re. Erf 478 are prominent.





The following diagram of Laaiplaats (Erf 476) shows some of the subdivision since 1916. Note the notation "DO Bergriver represents the position of the Fishing Village". Portion 17 hosts the old burial ground and Re. Erf 478. Portion 21 is the mother of Erf 231. Portion 22 is the unused Anglican Church graveyard. Marine Products purchased the entire Laaiplaats in 1943 with the exception of LOT C.O.R which had been granted to the Roman Catholic Church by the Stephans in 1922. All later subdivisions were made by Marine Products as the village developed.

Diagrams of Portions 17, 21 and 22 indicate how further subdivision of these properties has proceeded since 1947. I have examined all of these subdivision diagrams and some of the title deeds. I find there is nothing of heritage significance in this material that specifically relates to the Site in general or to the old burial ground itself save for the fact that Erf 477 was transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Diocese of Cape Town with the following condition: "That the land hereby transferred shall be used solely as a cemetery and that it shall not be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the said Company (Marine Products) or its successors in title or assigns". The significance lies in the implication that the old burial ground was nearly full of graves and that expansion thereof was considered necessary.

The numerical data of this Diagram are

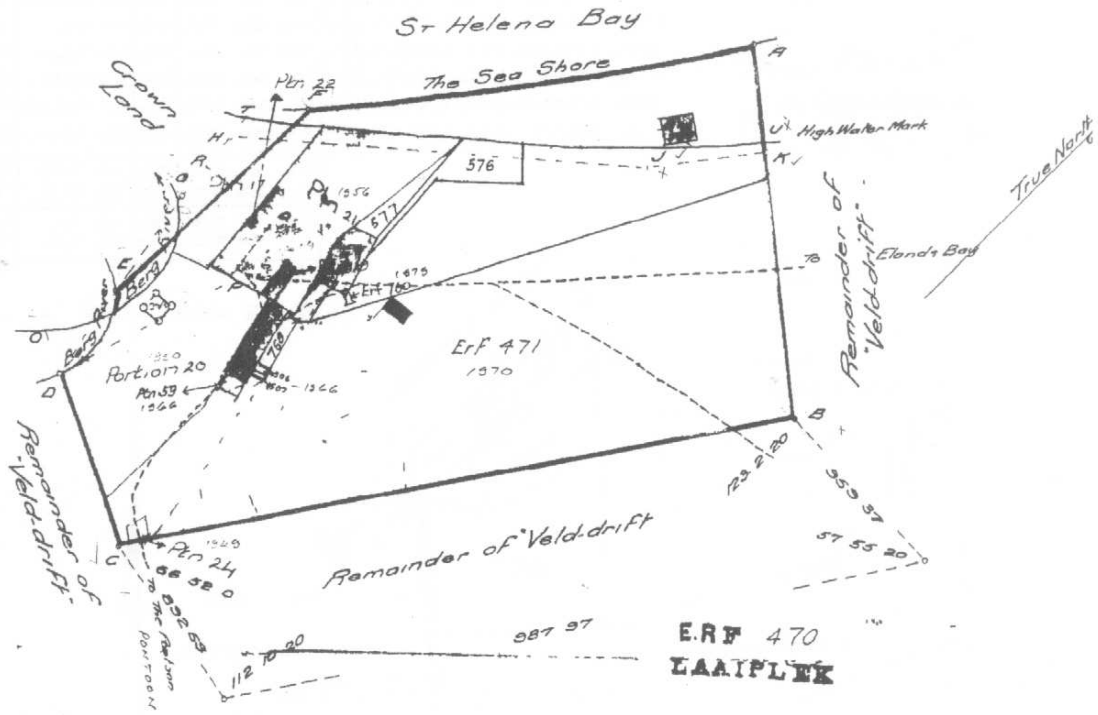
consistent.

No. 534 193  
1554 - 1715 M

1916-26-1-2-1

Examiner.

W. J. J. J. J.  
W. J. J. J. J.

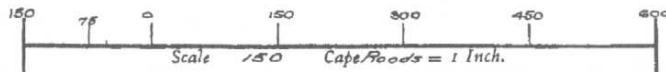


Coordinates Angles Sides

DO Berg River represents  
the position of the Fishing  
Village

O	1445 44	+ 1200 85	D	115. 1. 40	OD	152 03
D	527 57	+ 1029 42	D	126. 5. 20	DC	212 61
C	403 80	+ 856 65	C	38. 57 0	CB	815 46
B	325 01	+ 1222 37	B	34. 4 0	BM	316 09
M	203 61	+ 1514 22	M	89. 30 10	MJ	143 33
J	71 76	+ 1458 03	J	130. 38 40	JH	436 35

Rec<sup>d</sup> Area HGDCBKJ is 509 Morgen 592 Square Roods The Curv<sup>d</sup> Area of  
TG Berg River OCBJ High Water Mark St Helena Bay is 526 Morgen.



The above diagram lettered A B C D Berg River E F The Sea Shore A represents 581 morgen  
square roods square feet of land situat in the Field-Cornetcy of Great Berg River

Division of Piquetberg being LAAIPLAATS portion of the Farm Veld-drift  
granted to Martinus Melk on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1839 . 3040 Mg.

BUT. STEPHAN ALBO  
Buy 1/8 of 4192 Mg  
S.S. 1884.

Bounded NW by High Water Mark, St Helena Bay  
NE, SE }  
& } Remainder of Veld-drift  
SW }  
W } Berg River & Crown Land

Surveyed and beaconed by me according to regulations

*L. J. J. J.*

Government Land Surveyor  
Nov 1914

I certify that this diagram belongs to the Transfer issued this day in favour of

H. J. C. Stephen

Deeds Office,

26 Feb 1916

470

5/9218/4

M2729

S  
C

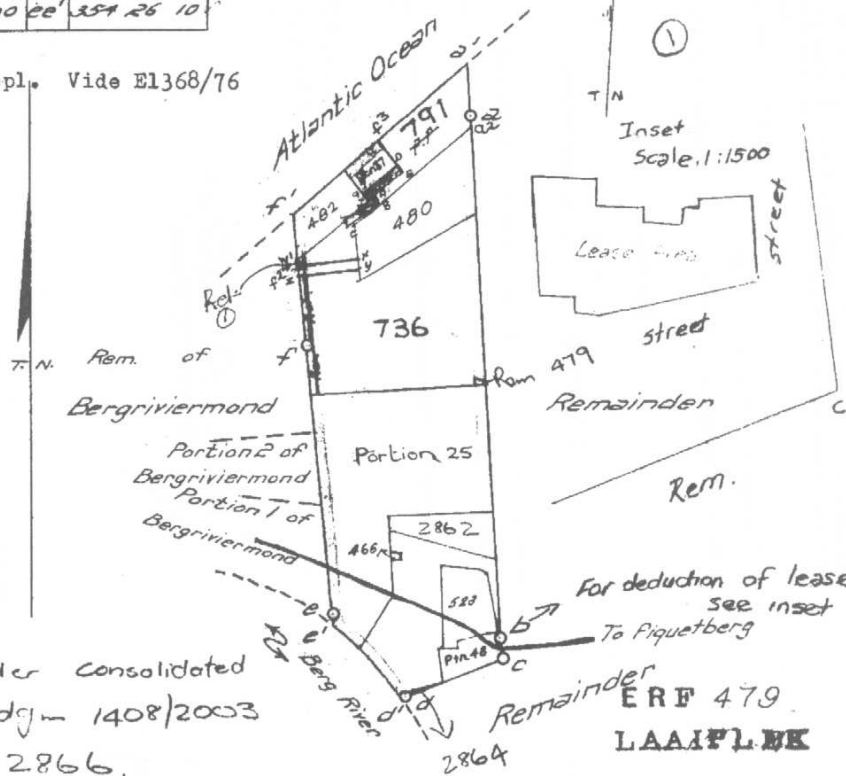
SIDES Cape Feet		ANGLES OF DIRECTION		System Lo 19° COORDINATES	
ab	2035.08	ab	356° 57' 30"	+200000	+1500000
bc	80.00	bc	351 50 30	+52007.24	+18670.44
cd	127.14	cd	68 15 40	+51896.10	+20762.57
de	139.36	de	139 06 50	+51894.75	+20841.76
ef	1076.77	ef	174 26 10	+52281.51	+20399.96
fa	1140.49	fa	215 44 40	+52569.10	+20667.80
aa	210.00	aa	176 57 30	+52673.50	+19596.10
ff	530.00	ff	174 26 10		
dd	10.00	dd	68 15 40		
ee	13.00	ee	354 26 10		

S. G. No. 1693 /45

Approved

*W. van der Merwe*  
Surveyor-General.  
8 AUG 1945

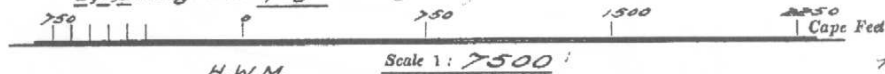
Bcn. a Repl. Vide E1368/76



Remainder consolidated  
Vide dgn 1408/2003  
Erf 2866.

Beacons a.e.f. iron standard proj. 1.  
b.c.d. 3/8" iron peg 2 1/2' long flush.

Replacement of Beacons vide E954/1965



The figure a'bcd' right bank Berg River of H.W.M. Atlantic Ocean  
represents 17,415 Morgen Square Feet of land being

PORTION 17 (portion of LAAIPLAATS) of the farm VELDRIFT  
situate in the

Division of Piquetberg

Province of Cape of Good Hope.

Surveyed in March 1945 by me

*P. A. L. van der Houwel*  
Land Surveyor.

This diagram is annexed to D/T No. 1536 dd. 1.2.47 i.f.o. *Kaiplek Kakenis Ltd.*

Registrar of Deeds.

The original diagram is No. 1534/1915 annexed to D/T 1916-20-1226

C.Q 9-49

S. G. File No. S. 3218.  
S.R. No. E. 406/45  
Degree Sheet C.H. 7

(NS: 2310)

479 B ER.PGT.

S.G. No. 0833/46

SIDES	Feet	ANGLES OF DIRECTION	SYSTEM OF CO-ORDINATES	
			X	Y
46	142.1	77	24	20
20	126.1	49	20	30
50	54.4	53	16.3	04
50	268.00	73	08	00
50	82.2	88	07	30
74	70.2	74	17	37
74	100.00	78	37	30
74	100.00	84	37	30
74	123.4	74	17	04
82	70.0	00	00	00
82	210.00	170	37	30

Approved  
*W. S. S. S.*  
 Surveyor-General.  
 2 - NOV 1948

Description of Bedstone  
 back in m. ... 1' diam pipe ...  
 as E.G.H. ... from standard ...

ERP 473  
 LAIPLIK



The figure 'abscdefghklmnop' High Water Mark St Helena Bay represents 'A' - 2016 Morgan of land being

PORTION 2! (a portion of LAIPLIKATS) of the farm VEGGALIE

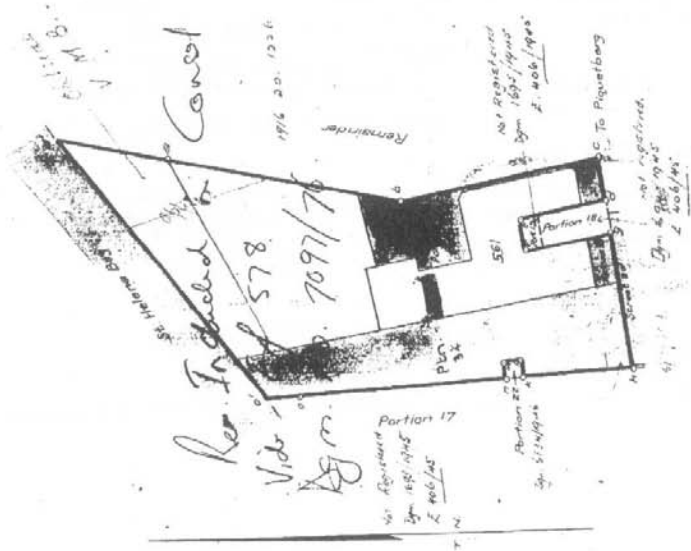
situate in the Division of Piquetberg  
 Surveyed in August 1946 by me  
 Precincts of Cape of Good Hope.

R. C. L. van der Horst  
 Land Surveyor.

This diagram is  
 D/T 7315/1956  
 Registrar of Deeds.

The original diagram is  
 No. 1554, and annexed to  
 D/T 1946/1946  
 CH 718  
 121

S.G. File No. 7021/5  
 S.R. No. E. 1550/4  
 309 Dr. Co. 74  
 Cape G 9-49  
 CH-7  
 C



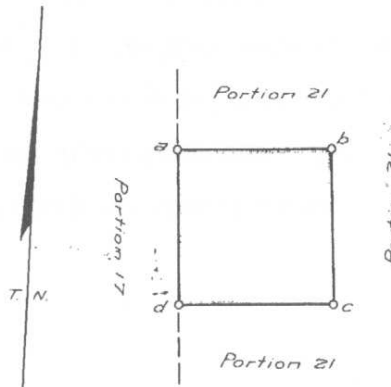
**SUB-DIVISIONAL DIAGRAM,**  
 Sect. 24 of the Survey Act, 1927.

SIDES	Cape Feet	ANGLES OF DIRECTION	SYSTEM L <sup>2</sup> /19 CO-ORDINATES	
			x	y
			+200 000	+11 500 000
ab	100.00	266 57 30	+51338.76	+13353.96
bc	100.00	356 57 30	+51838.20	+13354.63
cd	100.00	86 57 30	+51833.53	+20034.51
da	100.00	176 57 30	+51333.45	+20053.82

S.G. No.

Approved

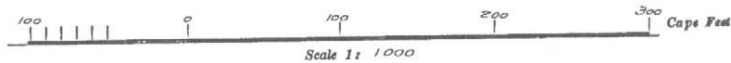
*W. van den Heuvel*  
 Surveyor-General.  
 2 - NOV 1946



**ERF 477**  
**LAAIPLAK**

Beacons:

a, b, c, d. --- 1" diam. pipe 6' long proj. 1'



The figure *abcd*

represents 10000 Square Feet of land being  
 PORTION 22 (a portion of LAAIPLAATS) of the farm

Local Board VELDRIFT  
 area of Valdrift  
 situate in the Division of Piquetberg

Province of Cape of Good Hope.

Surveyed in August 1946 by me

*P. L. van den Heuvel*  
 Land Surveyor.

This diagram is annexed to DT.  
 No. 14304  
 d.d. 7/9/49

Registrar of Deeds.

The original diagram is  
 No. 1554-1915 annexed to  
 2/7. 1916. 20. 1226

S.G. File No. 3218  
 S.R. No. E. 1550/46  
 Annexed diagram No. 14304  
 Cape Q 9.49

A B.E.P.C. 477



## VIEWS OF THE HISTORIC CORE



*Historic Core – Laaiplek Hotel (Left), village square foreground, old Anglican church behind the butchery (centre right).*



*Historic Core - West facade old Anglican Church (right).*



*Historic Core – West facade from Erf 478 passage to Berg River*

#### **4.5 The Historical Context: Conclusions**

- Settlement at Laaiplek has a long history and owes its foundation and growth to the development of the fishing industry and the trading sea route between its agricultural hinterland and Cape Town.
- The Stephan family played a major role in the development of fishing and trading, particularly Johan Carel 2<sup>nd</sup>, and can be considered the founders of Laaiplek.
- Physical development was seriously constrained by the lack of freehold opportunities. This severely limited the building of durable structures. Hence the very few buildings of heritage significance in Laaiplek.
- Laaiplek has a unique history of mixed culture, race and language. Exemplified by the strong Anglican community and the Italian families. This goes to the roots of settlement in the 1850's and 1860's and is a significant heritage resource.
- As the development of modern Laaiplek has really only taken place with the development of the modern fishing industry, there are few heritage resources over 60 years old.
- The Site has a common boundary with the remnants of the historic Core and its heritage resources. The old burial ground on the Site is an outlier but still an indivisible part of old Laaiplek, both physically and culturally. Both the historic Core and the old burial ground are significant heritage places.

### **5. HERITAGE ASSESSEMENT**

#### **5.1 The Significance of the Historical Resources: General Principles**

Chapter 1, Section 3(2) and 3(3) of the NHRA indicates the heritage resources which are of cultural significance or other special value that may be included in the national estate.

The following paragraphs are considered relevant to the Site (relevance is underlined):

2(a) places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance.

- 2(g) graves and burial grounds, including –
  - (v) historical graves and cemeteries.

A place ..... if it has cultural significance because of –

- 3(a) it's importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history.

In assessing the significance of the Site guidance has been obtained from the National Heritage Site Nomination Form.

## **5.2 The Site and the Burial Ground.**

No heritage resources, other than the burial ground have been discovered on the Site. The burial ground has heritage significance in itself as an historical cemetery and also as a place which has a special association with the Anglican and Italian communities of Laaiplek and a general association with the Laaiplek community as a whole.

The borders of the burial ground are not marked. Site inspections with members of the Anglican and Italian communities who have family members buried here indicate the approximate extent of the burial ground. A thorough 5mx5m grid search on foot for surface remains over the whole of Re. Erf 478 north of De Villiers street supports the community members indications. A study of aerial photographs of 1938, 1942 and 1960 also supports the above.

The grid search has revealed a number of graves, some well marked with headstones and in a good state of preservation, others just simple masonry outlines in the ground. Fragments of gravestones occur, many of which are very likely to have been moved about over the years.

The physical and oral evidence suggests that the Roman Catholics were buried at the northern end of the ground within and in proximity to the walled Carosini and Casaleggio enclosure, unmarked Colombo & Tallie graves lie close by. These remains are relatively few in number.

The Anglicans occupy the bulk of the ground. A plan of the burial ground is to be found overleaf.

It should be noted that boundary of the Site bisects the walled enclosure, and also leaves what are believed to be the group of Colombo graves to the north of the Site on a recently developed erf of Open Space.

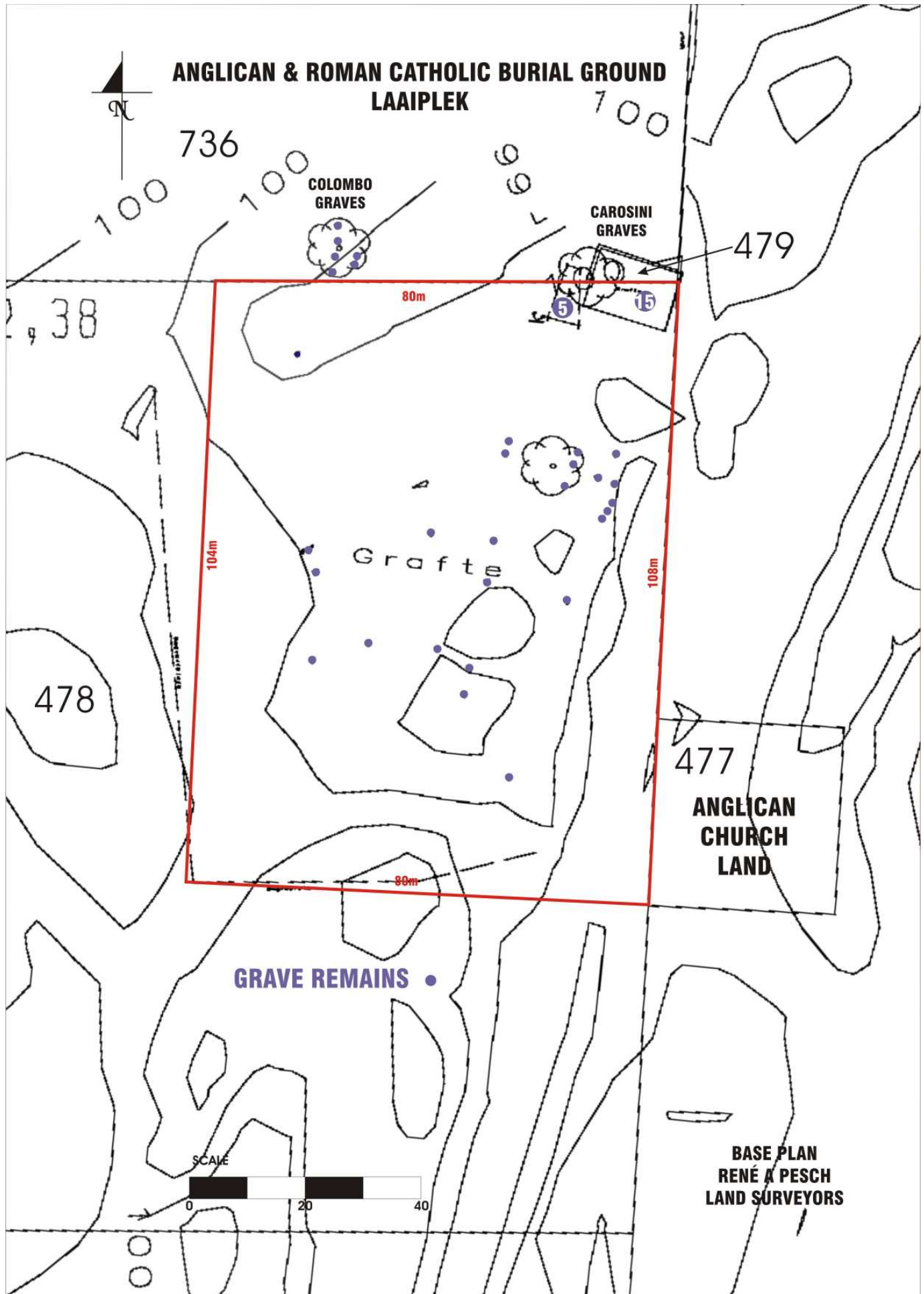


*Roman Catholic Enclosure*



*Cassaleggio*





I have inspected the original Burial Registers of the Anglican churches, St. Mary Magdalene, Steenberg's Cove and of St. Christophers, Laaiplek. These registers name the deceased, the burial date, their age and abode. I think it reasonable to suppose, that given the times, the distances involved and the modest means of the people, that those who appear in the St. Mary's register whose abode was at the Berg River are likely to have been buried at Laaiplek.

Thus:

<u>Anglican Burials at Laaiplek</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>No.</u>
St. Mary's Register	1865-1887	40
St. Christopher Register	1887-1956	798
	1957-1962	<u>21</u>
		859

Note:

A new Municipal Cemetery, Portion 35/Erf 472, was subdivided and transferred in 1957. A portion of this cemetery was set aside for the Anglican Church. Burials however continued at the old ground for some time. The latest dated gravestone in the old burial ground is 1961.

I have conducted a brief analysis of the surnames of the above and find 188 potential families. These names are annexed to this report.

I have not been able to find any early records of the Italian families by the Roman Catholic Church. Some of these family names are in the St. Christopher's register; Carosini, Tallie, Colombo, Donaggi, Casaleggio, number 14 burials together. Oral and physical evidence indicates that there are more of the Italian community buried here. Given the small size of this community I do not expect the number of unmarked Italian graves to be very great.

### **5.3 The Site: Type of Significance**

#### **5.3.1 Archaeological Significance**

Pre-Colonial Archaeology:

Although no archaeological evidence indicating precolonial human occupation of the Site has yet been found the coastal environs of St. Helena Bay are rich in these remains. Excavations on the Site may well reveal such material. The archaeologist considers that the impact of the development on important pre-colonial archaeological heritage is likely to be low.

#### **5.3.2 Historical Significance**

Laaiplek has great local and regional significance. The settlement has played a key role in the history of the South African fishing industry and the economic development of the West Coast. The burial ground is the earliest in Laaiplek and Velldrif. It is important in the evolution and settlement pattern in Laaiplek, both in it's situation and function. It has played a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the local community for more than 100 years.

It has a direct and very strong association with the history of the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches in Laaiplek. However, it has no direct link to the history of slavery.

Targeted discussion with members of St. Christopher's congregation, representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and the Italian community as well as the Velldrif Heritage Foundation confirms that the burial ground has a high degree of local historical significance.

The archaeologist notes that unmarked human burials and historical shipwreck remains may be uncovered during development. The full extent of the burial ground has not been possible to determine due to lack of surface remains, precise archival information and fallible oral history (this applies particularly to the drawing of the southern and

western boundaries). As set out above the burial ground has a high degree of local historical significance.

### 5.3.3 Aesthetic, Architectural/Spatial Significance

The Site has been much disturbed by foot traffic over decades. More recently concrete structures have been erected and demolished leaving ugly remnants. The burial ground exhibits few headstones and related remains, most in very poor condition. The aesthetic and architectural significance of the Site is low.

The burial ground has co-existed with the Historic Core from the beginnings of colonial settlement. As an historic precinct or place the burial ground has a high degree of spatial significance within Laaiplek.

### 5.3.4 Scientific Significance

The palaeontologist reports that the geological features in the Velddrif-Dwarskersbos area have attracted scientific attention in the past. However little detail has been sampled and recorded. Thus opportunities to examine the subsurface geological and fossil record are vital. Excavations may reveal significant material concerning:

- The history of sea level change
- Changes in faunal communities with time.

The palaeontologist considers the likelihood of impacts on the Site to be definite. The area is known to have considerable fossil potential. The nature and degree of impacts is medium to high. Thus the Site rates a medium degree of scientific significance.

### 5.3.5 Social/Spiritual/Linguistic Significance

Laaiplek is regarded as having great local and some regional social significance as an historical West Coast fishing and trading settlement associated with a number of pioneering families and personalities. These include not only the well known Stephans and Smits, but those buried on the Site. Italians such as Carosini, Tallie and Novella, and others, Lucas, Constable, Don, Bleeker, Wiid and Blaauw. Many of whose descendants still live in Laaiplek/Velddrif today. The burial



ground has a strong association with the local community for cultural and spiritual reasons from the beginning of the village. It is further important in contributing to the local community's sense of place. The burial ground has therefore a high degree of local social significance.

As a footnote: the unique combination of the early inhabitants from different backgrounds of nationality, race and language gave rise to a local "dialect" of Afrikaans which has been a source of study for degree theses at Stellenbosch University.

#### **5.4 *The Site: Degree of Significance***

##### **5.4.1 *Rarity***

The degree to which a site or heritage resource possesses uncommon rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage. The palaeontologist considers the Site possesses uncommon and endangered aspects of natural heritage. These have a medium to high degree of significance. As with many old burial grounds in small communities the bulk of the above ground fabric and remains have been lost (partially due to the soft sandy soil). Further neglect and irresponsible development endanger the future of this resource. To the local community of Laaiplek it has a high degree of significance in this category.

##### **5.4.2 *Representivity***

Is the burial ground important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or objects? Yes. The palaeontologist considers the Site important in its representivity of natural geological phenomena. Yes, the characteristics of a burial ground are presented on the Site. However, much of it's visible fabric and structure has been lost. I consider that the burial ground has a low degree of significance in this category. However, this could be strengthened by appropriate remedial measures as discussed later in this report.

In summary:

- The palaeontological significance of the Site is rated medium to high locally.
- The archaeological significance of the Site is rated low locally.
- The heritage significance of the burial ground is rated high locally, and could be accorded a Grade 3A status.

## **6. ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

The main heritage issues to be considered in relation to the proposed development are:

- Impacts that the proposals may have on the physical extent of the burial ground and on unmarked graves in its vicinity.
- Impacts that the proposals may have on access to the burial ground, especially its relationship with the historic core and the village as a whole.
- Impacts that the proposals may have on the cultural landscape within which the burial ground is sited.

The above by no means suggests that the development proposals are incompatible with the burial ground and its heritage significance. Burial grounds are very common, in and quite appropriate to, urban environments. In fact, it can be said that the existing neglected and abandoned state of the burial ground will have a negative impact itself on the development proposals.

The previous owners of the land, Marine Products, were unwilling to take any steps for the enclosure and care of the burial ground, whilst the Church of St. Christophers did not have the means nor the opportunity to take such steps as the land did not belong to them.

### **6.1 *Impacts on the Physical Extent***

The proponent does not wish to disturb, encroach upon, or to utilise the burial ground in any way beyond the implementation of such remedial measures as may be agreed with the traditional interested parties, the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches. These parties have made it

clear that they wish to see rehabilitation and enhancement of the physical surface of the burial ground together with a long term management plan for its care and maintenance.

It is possible that unmarked graves outside of the burial ground may be exposed during development excavations and require exhumation. Again, a modus operandi needs to be agreed with the traditional interested parties and H.W.C. for such eventualities which may include reinterment within the burial ground.

## **6.2 *Impacts Concerning Access***

The traditional interested parties and the general public have enjoyed informal access to the burial ground from its inception. Such access has primarily been pedestrian over sandy pathways. There is no formal vehicular access. A similar condition occurs with regard to erf 477 adjacent, owned by the Anglican Church, which is an unused extension of the burial ground.

The development proposals provide formal access to the burial ground from the periphery of the Site via a network of pedestrian ways, and direct road access off Garnaal Straat which terminates in a parking area on the western border of the burial ground. These proposals will substantially improve the accessibility of the burial ground to the traditional interested parties, the wider Laaiplek and Velddrif community, and to visitors from elsewhere.

The proposed pedestrian ways also provide linkage to the historic core (albeit that this is private property) on erf 2866 across De Villiers Straat.

## **6.3 *Impacts of the Cultural Landscape***

The development proposals encapsulate the burial ground within a new cultural landscape. Previously the burial ground has been somewhat isolated in space and peripheral to the village. Not highly visible and not a landmark site. When considered with the recent subdivision on

its northern boundary (a small part of the burial ground extends into this area), the burial ground becomes a large, dominant, open space almost at the centre of a dense residential precinct and highly visible to it. This confers a heightened cultural significance upon the Site as an urban space which concomitantly strengthens its heritage exposure.

The urban design proposals are still in process of finalisation, however the principle of pedestrian ways surrounding the burial ground to the east, south, and west (together with parking), behind which a frame of residential structures of varying height and facade overlook the burial ground is demonstrated in the attached Urban Design Framework.

Similarly the Architectural Guidelines are still in process of formalisation, however the Urban Design Framework offers sufficient material to demonstrate appropriateness or otherwise of theme and character.

It is considered that the Urban Design Framework and proposed architecture create an appropriate setting for the rehabilitated burial ground. P.15 of the Framework offers the beginnings of an approach to rehabilitation of the burial ground and includes Erf 477 owned by the Anglican Church.

## **6.4 Impact Criteria**

### **6.4.1 The Nature of Impacts**

The impacts on the burial ground will be physical (rehabilitation) and contextual (both visual and non visual), including the generation of significant local pedestrian activity about the heritage resource as well as visitors and tourists. The burial ground could become a landmark site in the village and a tourist attraction.

Should rehabilitation of the graveyard not take place then continued deterioration of the resource is inevitable. This would also impact negatively on the development proposals.

#### 6.4.2 Extent of Impacts

These impacts will be received not only at Site level but throughout the village.

#### 6.4.3 Duration of Impacts

Long term: The burial ground will require long term management and care. To be effective the burial ground should be zoned Private Open Space 2 (Conservation Area) and financially supported by levies accruing to the Home Owners Association of the entire development.

#### 6.4.4 Intensity of Impacts

Should remedial action be taken to improve the condition and circumstances of the burial ground the intensity of this action can be considered to be medium to high upon the heritage resource. Such impacts would depend on the outcome of the deliberations between the proponent and the traditional interested parties, being the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, and have the potential to be positive.

#### 6.4.5 Probability of Impacts

It is highly probable that impacts as outlined will occur in respect of the burial ground. These can be positive or negative depending upon the outcome of the deliberations as referred to in 6.4.4 above.

#### 6.4.6 Confidence

I have a high degree of confidence concerning the impacts.

#### 6.4.7 Impact Significance

I consider the impacts to have a medium to high degree of significance.

#### 6.4.8 Fatal Flaws/No go option

No fatal flaws have been identified at this stage. The “no go” option cannot be realistically or fairly considered. Development presents the opportunity to appropriately rehabilitate in conformity with the wishes of the traditional interested parties.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is concluded that:

- The heritage value and significance of the Site lies primarily in the situation and existence of the old burial ground.
- The historical context of the old burial ground from almost the beginnings of settlement at Laaiplek and the constant role it has played in community life for possibly 120 years confers high heritage significance upon this resource.
- The association of the burial ground through the Berg River Mission with Bishop Robert Gray who established the Anglican Communion in Southern Africa; and with the Stephans and other founding families and through the lives of those who lie buried there, also confers heritage significance upon this resource.
- The development proposals in principle can be considered to have positive impacts upon the burial ground. These will be enhanced by rehabilitation of the resource.
- The burial ground and its heritage significance is endangered by long neglect. Few graves, gravestones and other remains are left visible. Continued abandonment will result in further reduction of heritage value to the detriment of the whole village community.
- No fatal flaws have yet been identified.
- The “no go” option should be discarded.

It is recommended that:

- The burial ground be rehabilitated and enhanced by the proponent.
- The proponent engage with the traditional interested parties, the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches at Velddrif, to obtain their agreement as to the scope and nature of such rehabilitation.
- The proponent appoint an appropriate specialist(s) to administer the agreed rehabilitation process, to obtain such permits as may

be considered necessary by SAHRA/HWC and to develop a protocol with the Traditional Parties for the handling of any human remains exposed during excavation work on the Site.

- The burial ground be zoned as Private Open Space 2 (Conservation Area) controlled by the existing provisions of the Municipal Town Planning Scheme Regulations, Velddrif, as appropriate to a Grade 3A status.
- The rehabilitated burial ground be constituted as a separate erf within the development, to be owned and administered by the Home Owners Association or other Corporate Body responsible for the long term administration of the whole development. The care and maintenance requirements of the burial ground and the funding thereof to be recorded in the constitution of the said Home Owners Association or other Corporate Body.
- The recommendations of the Archaeologist and the Palaeontologist in their respective reports be supported.
- That HWC support the development proposals on the basis of the above.

Robin Ellis

August 2008

## REFERENCES

Van Sittert L. 1992. Labour, Capital and the State in the St. Helena Bay Fisheries. C.1856 - - C.1956

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# ROBIN ELLIS

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E-MAIL: robrooi@telkomsa.net

Heritage Western Cape  
Private Bag X9067  
Cape Town  
8000

26 January 2009

Att: Mr. N. Wiltshire

Dear Sir,

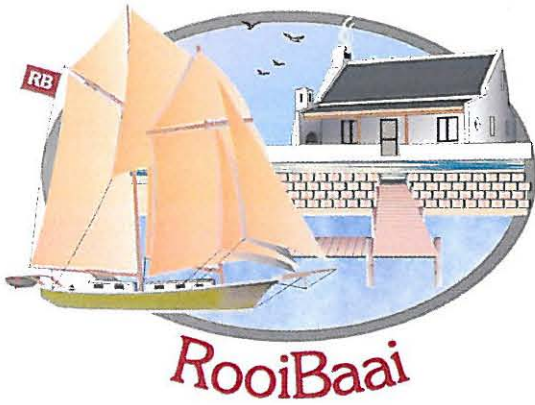
**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: ERVEN 231 & RE. 478, LAAIPLEK –  
SUPPLEMENTARY AIA**

Herewith copies of my report for your attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robin Ellis', is written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

Robin Ellis

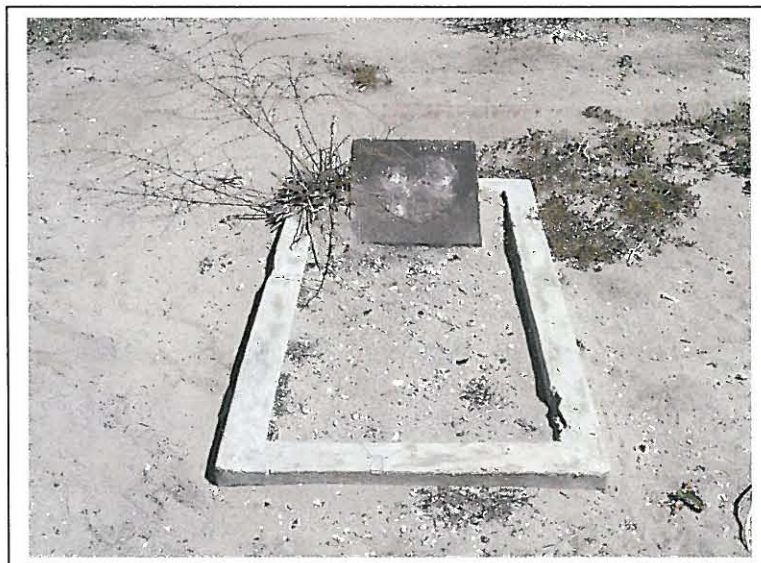


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**SUPPLEMENTARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
SECTIONS 36 & 38 (1) & (8): NHRA  
ERVEN 231 & RE. 478 LAAIPEK  
BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY**



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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Terms of reference**
- 3. Methodology**
- 4. Delineation**
- 5. Conclusions & Recommendations**

**Annexures:           Excavation co-ordinates**  
**HWC ROD's**

**References**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The HIA Phase 2 ROD issued by HWC required that the extent of the burial ground be established through an AIA.

The methodology employed was to excavate trenches from beyond the estimated borders of the burial ground into the burial ground until evidence of human remains were discovered.

The layout of the trenches was assisted, to some degree, by Mr. Doris Carosini (83 years) whose forbears are buried here. Mr. Carosini confirmed that the burial ground had been fenced with posts and wire, of which only some wire remains visible on the surface today.

The first trench unearthed the fence post demarcating the north east corner, confirmed by Mr. Caronisi. Further excavation revealed the south west and south east corner fence post with intermediary posts on the western and eastern boundaries of the burial ground.

Trenches into the burial ground also uncovered human bone and coffin fragment. No remains were found outside the boundaries described in the HIA Phase 2.

A revised plan of the Proposed Burial Ground Conservation Area is recommended for adoption as the final extent of the burial ground for conservation and development purposes.

The recommendations of the reports by the Archaeologist, Palaeontologist, and of the HIA Phase 2 are supported and a combined final ROD should now be forthcoming incorporating the said recommendations with those of this AIA.

**SUPPORTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
ERVEN 231 & RE. 478 LAAIPLEK  
BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

I have been commissioned by Dolphin Whisper 10 (Edms) Bpk, acting on behalf of the owner of the properties, Akubra Trading 34 (Pty) Ltd., to undertake a Supporting Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) with particular reference to the old burial ground situated on Re. Erf 478. This AIA has been requested by BELCOM of Heritage Western Cape by means of an R.O.D. issued on 6 December 2008 after consideration of a Phase 2 Heritage Impact Assessment prepared by Robin Ellis. See Locality and Site Plans overleaf.

**2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The following submissions have been made to HWC in connection with the development proposals for the Site:

- Heritage Impact Assessment: Phase 1. by Robin Ellis – 7/04/2008. BELCOM ROD. 12/05/2008.
- Archaeological Impact Assessment: Phase 1 by Jonathan Kaplan ACRM. 04/2008. APM Committee ROD 20/05/2008.
- Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Desktop by John Pether 4/07/2008. APM Committee ROD. 31/08/2008.
- Heritage Impact Assessment: Phase 2 by Robin Ellis 29/08/2008. BELCOM ROD 6/10/2008

The final ROD read as follows:

“The Committee agreed that an AIA was to be submitted in which the extent of the burials on the Site was established. The AIA is to be submitted to the APM for assessment”.

This AIA does not seek to reiterate the material set out in the above reports. These should be read to gain a proper understanding of the heritage issues, resources and impacts concerning the Site of the

# LOCALITY PLAN

1:50000

O C E A N

## ST. HELENA BAY









development proposals. This AIA concentrates on establishing the physical boundaries of the old burial ground on the Site by archaeological means as required by the ROD.

### **3. THE BURIAL GROUND: INITIAL DETERMINATION**

#### **3.1 *Quote P.35 H.I.A Phase 2***

"No heritage resources, other than the burial ground have been discovered on the Site. The burial ground has heritage significance in itself as a historical cemetery and also as a place which has a special association with the Anglican and Italian (historically Roman Catholic) communities of Laaiplek and a general association with the Laaiplek community as a whole.

The borders of the burial ground are not marked. Site inspections with members of the Anglican and Italian communities who have family members buried here indicate the approximate extent of the burial ground. A thorough 5m x 5m grid search on foot for surface remains over the whole of Re. Erf 478 north of De Villiers Street supports the community members indications. A study of aerial photographs of 1938, 1942 and 1960 also supports the above.

The grid search revealed a number of graves, some well marked with headstones and in a good state of preservation, others just simple masonry outlines in the ground. Fragments of gravestone occur, many of which are very likely to have been moved about over the years.

The physical and oral evidence suggests that the Roman Catholics were buried at the northern end of the ground within and in proximity to the walled Carosini and Casaleggio enclosure, unmarked Colombo and Tallie graves lie close by (Recent note: Dipaolo also). These remains are relatively few in number. The Anglicans occupy the bulk of the ground. A plan of the burial ground is to be found overleaf."

**ANGLICAN & ROMAN CATHOLIC BURIAL GROUND  
LAAIPEK**



736

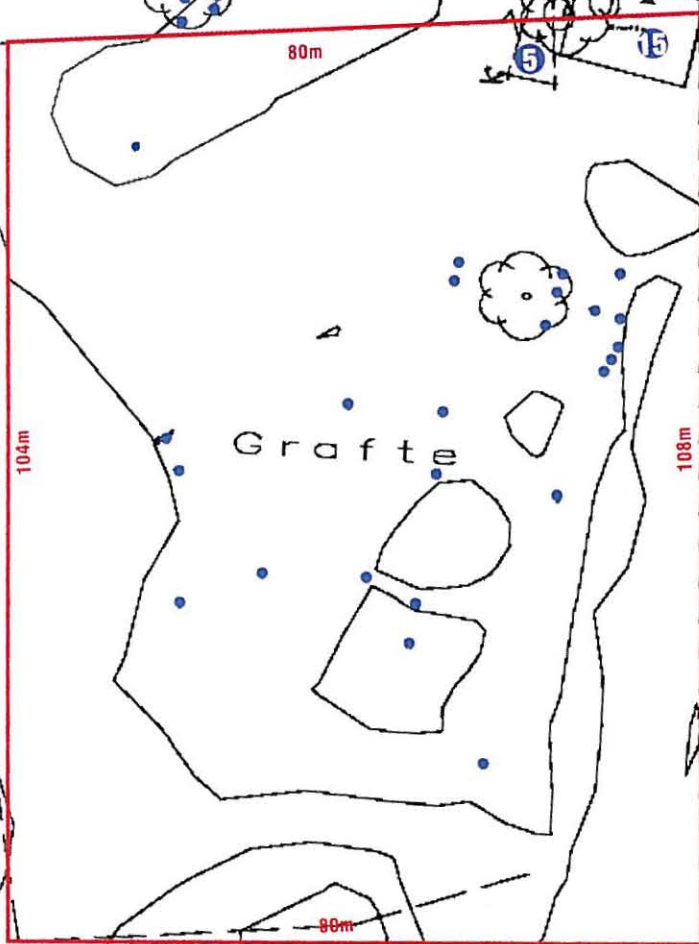
700

**COLOMBO  
GRAVES**

**CAROSINI  
GRAVES**

479

2, 38



478

477

**ANGLICAN  
CHURCH  
LAND**

**GRAVE REMAINS**

SCALE



**BASE PLAN  
RENÉ & PESCH  
LAND SURVEYORS**

### **3.2 Additional Information**

- The early photographs show a pathway along the east side of the burial ground. Remnants of this pathway still exist.
- Both Doris Carosini (Roman Catholics) and William Laubscher (Anglican) clearly remember that the burial ground was fenced. Pieces of barbed and straight drawn wire still lie near the boundaries indicated on the H.I.A. Phase 2 plan of the burial ground.
- Physically the burial ground appears to lie in a slight hollow in the low sand dunes. There are no surface indications of it over flowing the tops of the surrounding dunes.
- Recent development of erf 736 immediately north of Re. erf 478 required the construction of a pipeline along the eastern side of the common boundary of erven 478 and 231 adjacent to the burial ground. The consulting engineers for this project, BTW Consulting (Pty) Ltd., reported on enquiry that no burial remains had been found during the excavation of this pipeline.
- Portion 17 of the farm portion Laaiplaats was subdivided in 1947, when the burial ground was still in use by the Anglican Church (burials ceased here in about 1961). Portion 17 is the mother erf of Erf 478. It seems highly unlikely that this subdivision would have bisected an active burial ground. This supports the previous inference that the eastern boundary of the burial ground did not extend into erf 231.
- The situation of Erf 477, transferred to the Anglican Church also in 1947 out of Portion 21, the mother erf of Erf 231, specifically as an addition to the existing Anglican cemetery also suggests that it abuts the eastern boundary of the burial ground.

None of the above is conclusive however without a physical description of the burial ground in the agreement between Stephan Brothers, and their later successors in title Marine Products, and the Anglican Church. Correspondence referring to this agreement has been sourced from Anglican Church archives but the agreement itself has yet to be discovered.

Hence the need to obtain hard evidence by archaeological means.

#### **4. THE BURIAL GROUND: FINAL DETERMINATION**

##### **4.1 Methodology**

Consultations were held with Tim Hart, (UCT. Archaeology Unit), Nic Wiltshire (HWC Archaeology) and Jonathan Kaplan (ACRM). The accepted approach was to excavate trenches normal to the western and southern boundaries initially determined as set out in 3.1 above and illustrated in the HIA Phase 2 report. These trenches to start initially some 20 metres outside these boundaries and to proceed towards the burial ground at a depth of 1.6m plus until evidence of burial remains should be discovered. Upon discovery of burial remains the excavation should be filled in and the position of the grave marked with a steel peg 900mm long. The co-ordinates of the trench at each end to be recorded by GPS.

##### **4.2 Excavation**

The work proceeded over the 19/20/21/22 January 2009. Excavation was undertaken using a small digger/loader machine driven by an experienced operator. Robin Ellis directed operations and was in attendance at all times. Doris Carosini (83 years old), whose forbears are buried in the walled part of the burial ground (north-east corner) was also in attendance for part of the excavations and was consulted. GPS positions were taken at each end of each trench and of fence posts found.

- Trench W1. Position No.1. Started well out ( $\pm 20$ m) from the established Colombo graves with excavation proceeding eastward along the northern boundary of the Site (erf 498). A few metres short of the most south-easterly Colombo grave the stump of an iron stake (I Section, 50x50mm) was found immediately below the surface. Doris Carosini pronounced this as a corner post of the original fencing surrounding the burial ground. A new peg was

placed next to the old on infilling. Position No.2 (Position No. 3 Colombo grave outside of Site)

- Trench W2. Position No.4. Started under Doris Carosini's direction and terminated in the discovery of fragmentary human remains. No coffin had survived. Position pegged. No. 5.
- Trench W3. Position No.6 produced the remains of a headstone, a coffin and bone fragments. Position pegged. No. 8.
- Trench W4. Position No.9 discovered a fence post just under the surface, identical to the first unearthed. New peg placed next to the original on infilling. Position No. 10.
- Trench S1. Position No.11 Produced a skull fragment. Position pegged No. 12.
- Trench S2. Position No.13. Produced a fragment of bone and coffin. Position pegged No. 14.
- Trench S3. Position No.15. Lined up with the east wall of the Carosini enclosure and almost immediately produced a fence post similar to the others. This trench was continued and produced bone and coffin fragments. Both post and grave site were pegged. No's. 16 & 17.

It now appeared that the likely eastern boundary of the burial ground did not lie on the common boundary of erven 478/231. To test this:

- Trench E1. Position No.18. Produced an intermediate boundary stake similar to others. Position 19. Otherwise nothing. No. 20.
- Trench E2. Position No.21. Produced possible brass plated steel coffin decoration plates at about 1.4m below the surface. Otherwise nothing. No. 22.

Both these trenches were pushed across the estimated eastern boundary line of the burial ground (south east post to Carosini graves walled enclosure).

The GPS co-ordinates of the 22 positions taken were transformed into Lo. (S.A. WG19) co-ordinates and plotted on a map of the burial ground. It was obvious that the fence post at position 10 was likely to be an intermediate rather than a corner post.

- Trench S4. Dug along the extended line of positions No. 2 and 10. The corner post (approximately where Doris Carosini had indicated) was discovered. Position pegged. No. 23.

In order to test that the burial ground did not extend south of the line between positions No's. 16 and 23, a long trench was dug from further south to midway between No's. 16 and 23.

- Trench S5. Position No.24. Produced no burial remains along it's entire length. Position No. 25.

The photographs overleaf illustrate the excavation work. The excavations were entirely in soft sandy medium soil, which collapsed quickly into the trenches. Below the level of 1,5m white mussel shell (see Pether) was occasionally found. No evidence of aeolian, rubbish pits, or other material of archaeological interest was exhibited in any of the trenches, besides the related bone and coffin fragments mentioned above.

### **4.3 Delineation**

It was known, from oral evidence, that the burial ground had a perimeter wire fence in the past. Apart from rusty broken strands of wire on the ground, proximate to where the fence was thought to have been, there are no visible fenced remains on the surface, except for the Carosini walled enclosure. Hence the adoption of the methodology outlined in para. 4.1

The approach began to alter after the finding of the remains of the corner fence post (No. 2) in the company of Doris Carosini. After finding the second post (No. 10) it became a realistic goal to search for more. Shorter trenches were employed, and posts No's. 16 and 23 exposed as a result of trenching on anticipated boundary lines. Post No. 19 was fortuitous but confirmed the eastern boundary line. No graves were found outside the lines between the posts. Neither are there any visible surface graves outside the boundary lines except those north of the common boundary of erven 478 and 736.



**W1 P2**



**W1 P2**



**W1 P2**



**W2 P5**



**W3 P8**



**W4 P10**



**S1 P11**



**S1 P12**



**S2 P13**



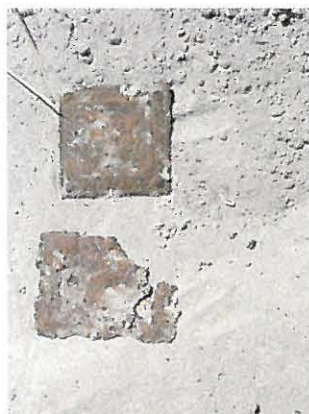
**S2 P14**



**S3 P16**



**S3 P17**



**E2 P22**



**S4 P23**



**S WIRE**



**S5 P24-25**

Thus the perimeter of the old burial ground may be described by joining the discovered fence posts to the Carosini walled enclosure described. The orientation of the long axis of the burial ground corresponds to the orientation of all the observable surface graves remaining i.e. the long axis of the graves is at 90° to the long axis of the burial ground.

The question of whether there were any burials outside the established borders of the burial ground cannot be answered with precision. However, no surface remains (disturbed headstones etc.) were found outside of the burial ground during the grid search conducted during the Phase 1 HIA. Further no burial remains were discovered outside the burial ground in the course of this assessment. It is considered unlikely that there were burial outside of the established borders, however, it is deemed prudent when considering the area to be conserved, that the borders of the burial ground be extended to make allowance for this possibility.

#### **4.4 *The Proposed Burial Ground Conservation Area***

The boundaries of this area described below have been delineated on the basis of the following:

- the discovered perimeter of the old burial ground through excavation.
- The need to provide some extensions to the above to allow for the possibility (considered minor) of burials outside the above perimeter.
- Connection to the unused Anglican cemetery on Erf 477, provided in 1945 as an extension to the old burial ground.
- Connection to the Public Open Space of Erf 3720 upon which the Colombo graves lie.

Thus:

- Northern boundary. The common boundary of the Site (Re. erf 478) with erven 736 and Re. 479 from the south west corner of erf 3720 to the western boundary of erf 231.



- Eastern boundary. The common boundary of the Site (Re. erf 478) with erven 231 and 477 (south west corner).
- Southern boundary. The south west corner of erf 477 to Position peg No. 23. (Given the distance north of this line of grave Positions 12, 14 and 17 a southern boundary extension was not considered)
- Western boundary. Position peg No. 23 to the south west corner of erf 3720.

As illustrated on the plan overleaf. The Proposed Conservation Area is slightly smaller than the original demarcation of the HIA Phase 2 illustrated on page 9 of this report.

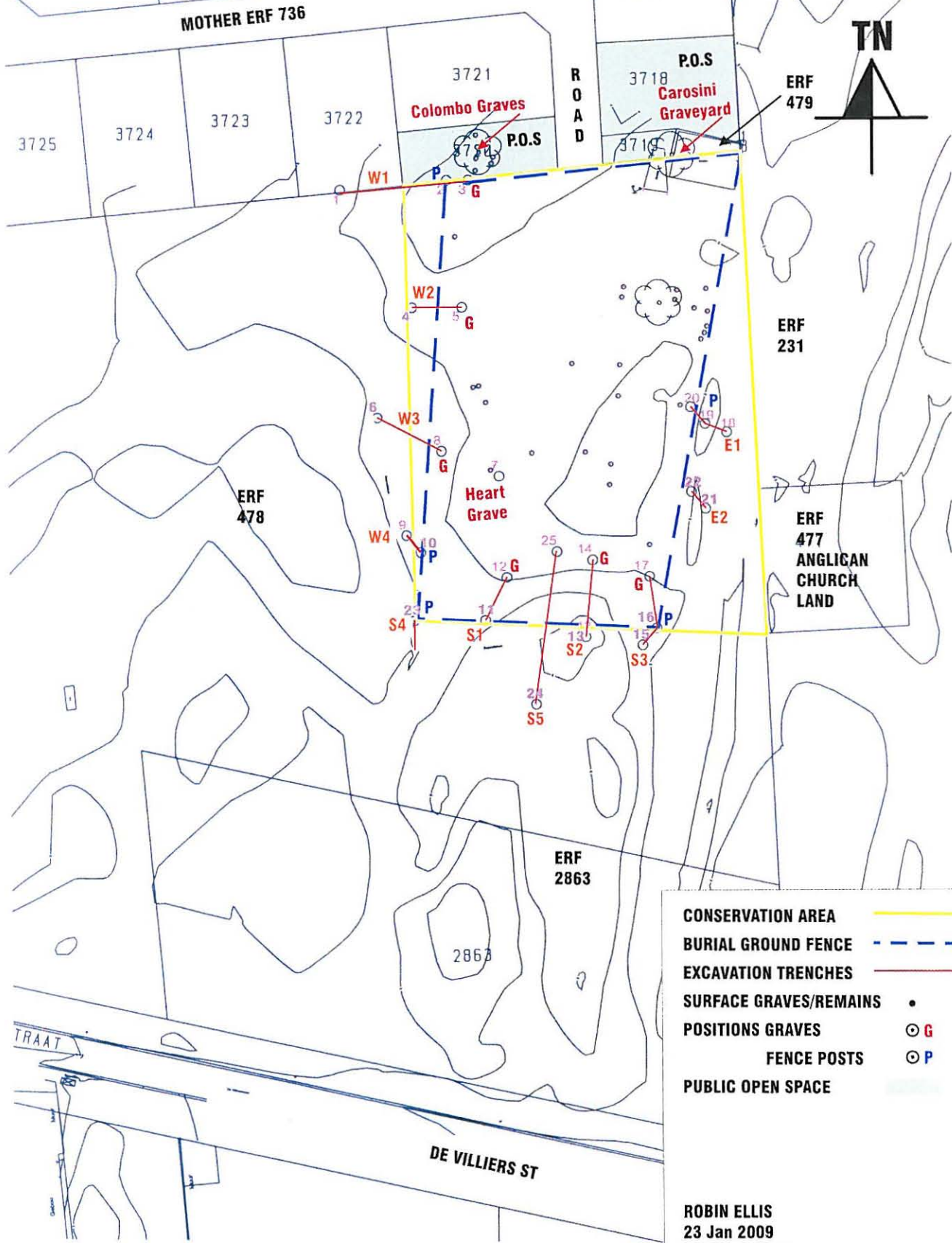
## **5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The HIA Phase 2 and this AIA conclude that:

- The heritage value and significance of the Site lies primarily in the situation and existence of the old burial ground.
- The historical context of the old burial ground from almost the beginnings of settlement at Laaiplek and the constant role it has played in community life for possibly 120 years confers high heritage significance upon this resource.
- The association of the burial ground through the Berg River Mission with Bishop Robert Gray who established the Anglican Communion in Southern Africa; and with the Stephans and other founding families and through the lives of those who lie buried there, also confers heritage significance upon this resource.
- The development proposals in principle can be considered to have positive impacts upon the burial ground. These will be enhanced by rehabilitation of the resource.
- The burial ground and its heritage significance is endangered by long neglect. Few graves, gravestones and other remains are left visible. Continued abandonment will result in further reduction of heritage value to the detriment of the whole village community.

3728

# PROPOSED BURIAL GROUND CONSERVATION AREA LAAIPLEK



<b>CONSERVATION AREA</b>	
<b>BURIAL GROUND FENCE</b>	
<b>EXCAVATION TRENCHES</b>	
<b>SURFACE GRAVES/REMAINS</b>	
<b>POSITIONS GRAVES</b>	
<b>FENCE POSTS</b>	
<b>PUBLIC OPEN SPACE</b>	

**ROBIN ELLIS**  
23 Jan 2009  
SCALE 1:1000

The perimeter and extent of the old burial ground have been adequately discovered through the excavations undertaken in this Supplementary AIA.

- No fatal flaws have yet been identified.
- The “no go” option should be discarded.

It is recommended that:

- The proposed Burial Ground Conservation Area be adopted as the cadastrally defined burial ground as set out in this report.
- The Burial Ground be rehabilitated and enhanced by the proponent.
- The proponent engage with the traditional interested parties, the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches at Velddrif, to obtain their agreement as to the scope and nature of such rehabilitation.
- The proponent appoint an appropriate specialist(s) to administer the agreed rehabilitation process, to obtain such permits as may be considered necessary by SAHRA/HWC and to develop a protocol with the Traditional Parties for the handling of any human remains exposed during excavation work on the Site.
- The Burial Ground be zoned as Private Open Space 2 (Conservation Area) controlled by the existing provisions of the Municipal Town Planning Scheme Regulations, Velddrif, as appropriate to a Grade 3A status.
- The rehabilitated Burial Ground be constituted as a separate erf within the development, to be owned and administered by the Home Owners Association or other Corporate Body responsible for the long term administration of the whole development. The care and maintenance requirements of the Burial Ground and the funding thereof to be recorded in the constitution of the said Home Owners Association or other Corporate Body.
- The recommendations of the Archaeologist and the Palaeontologist in their respective reports be supported.

- That HWC support the development proposals on the basis of the above.

Robin Ellis

January 2009

**EXCAVATIONS – OLD BURIAL GROUND, LAAIPLEK 19-22 JANUARY  
2009 CO-ORDINATES: TRENCHES, PEGS, GRAVES.**

<b>Position No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>GPS Co-ordinates</b>		<b>SAWG19 Co-ordinates</b>	
1	TS	S32°46.092'	E18°09.109'	Y79482.662	X3627359.339
2	PEG	46.091'	09.118'	459.251	357.303
3	G	46.091'	09.121'	454.566	357.266
4	TS	46.106'	09.113'	466.838	385.092
5	G	46.106'	09.120'	455.906	385.005
6	TS	46.119'	09.108'	474.453	409.184
7	G	46.126'	09.125'	447.801	421.910
8	G	46.123'	09.117'	460.339	416.465
9	TS	46.133'	09.112'	468.000	435.012
10	PEG	46.135'	09.114'	464.847	438.684
11	TS	46.143'	09.123'	450.673	453.359
12	G	46.138'	09.126'	446.062	444.079
13	TS	46.145'	09.137'	428.780	456.880
14	G	46.136'	09.138'	427.352	440.232
15	TS	46.146'	09.145'	416.272	458.629
16	PEG	46.114'	09.147'	413.178	454.907
17	G	46.138'	09.146'	414.829	443.829
18	TS	46.121'	09.157'	397.902	412.268
19	PEG	46.120'	09.154'	402.602	410.457
20	TE	46.118'	09.152'	405.755	406.785
21	TS	46.130'	09.154'	402.454	428.941
22	TE	46.128'	09.152'	405.607	425.270
23	PEG	46.143'	09.113'	466.290	453.484
24	TS	46.153'	09.130'	439.593	471.755
25	TE	46.135'	09.133'	435.175	438.446

**NOTE:** TS = Trench Start  
TE = Trench End  
PEG = Original fence post  
G = Grave



iLifa leMveli leNtshona Kaleni  
Erfenis Wes-Kaap  
Heritage Western Cape

Enquiries: M Abrahams  
e-mail: [muabraham@pgwc.gov.za](mailto:muabraham@pgwc.gov.za)  
Tel. (021) 483 99680

Date: 12 May 2008

---

**RECORD OF DECISION**  
Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscapes Committee

---

Heritage Western Cape hereby notifies:

Robin Ellis  
P.O Box 614  
Velddrif  
7365

of its Comments and Recommendations in terms of  
Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)  
and Regulation 3(3)(a) of PN 298 (29 August 2003)

For: Proposed development.

At: Erf 231 & Remainder Erf 478, Laaiplek, Piketberg

Heritage Western Cape has resolved to comment as follows:

The Committee agreed that a Phase II Heritage Impact Assessment required when development gets formalized.

Yours faithfully

For Accounting Officer: Heritage Western Cape

[www.capegateway.gov.za/culture\\_sport](http://www.capegateway.gov.za/culture_sport)

**Street Address:** Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** Private Bag X9067, Cape Town, 8001  
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Our Ref: HW/CAPE WEST COAT/LAAIPLEK/ERVEN 487, 231  
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Mr. J Kaplan  
 Agency for Cultural Resource Management (ACRM)  
 PO Box 159  
 Riebeeck West  
 7306

20 May 2008

**PHASE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF ERVEN 478 AND 231, LAAIPLEK, CAPE WEST COAST**

The above matter was discussed at the Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Permit Committee meeting held on the 6 May 2008:

The following was note for the proposed development:

1. The application is for rezoning and subdivision of a 12 ha property for 380 single residential units, retail and office space, open space and internal streets and services.
2. The Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) is part of an Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) by Robin Ellis that will be submitted to BELCOM.
3. No precolonial archaeological remains were found.
4. Dense patches of shelly beach deposits were noted and Holocene and Late Pleistocene beach deposits are likely to be encountered.
5. There are numerous Christian-style graves.
6. Shipwreck and unmarked graves might be found during earth moving.

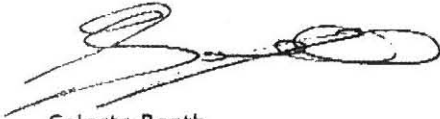
Heritage Western Cape (HWC) agreed that: - - - - -

1. A desktop palaeontological study is required.
2. Bulk earthworks and excavations must be monitored by an archaeologist and a palaeontologist appointed by the developer.
3. Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during earthworks, these should immediately be reported to SAHRA (Mrs Mary Leslie 0214624502) or HWC (Ms Celeste Booth 0214829685).
4. Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist
5. A consolidated record of decision must be issued after assessment of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) by BELCOM.

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3909, 3911, 3913, 3915, 3917, 3919, 3921, 3923, 3925, 3927, 3929, 3931, 3933, 3935, 3937, 3939, 3941, 3943, 3945, 3947, 3949, 3951, 3953, 3955, 3957, 3959, 3961, 3963, 3965, 3967, 3969, 3971, 3973, 3975, 3977, 3979, 3981, 3983, 3985, 3987, 3989, 3991, 3993, 3995, 3997, 3999, 4001, 4003, 4005, 4007, 4009, 4011, 4013, 4015, 4017, 4019, 4021, 4023, 4025, 4027, 4029, 4031, 4033, 4035, 4037, 4039, 4041, 4043, 4045, 4047, 4049, 4051, 4053, 4055, 4057, 4059, 4061, 4063, 4065, 4067, 4069, 4071, 4073, 4075, 4077, 4079, 4081, 4083, 4085, 4087, 4089, 4091, 4093, 4095, 4097, 4099, 4101, 4103, 4105, 4107, 4109, 4111, 4113, 4115, 4117, 4119, 4121, 4123, 4125, 4127, 4129, 4131, 4133, 4135, 4137, 4139, 4141, 4143, 4145, 4147, 4149, 4151, 4153, 4155, 4157, 4159, 4161, 4163, 4165, 4167, 4169, 4171, 4173, 4175, 4177, 4179, 4181, 4183, 4185, 4187, 4189, 4191, 4193, 4





Our Ref: HM/VELDDRIF (LAAIPLEK)/ERVEN 231 AND 478

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13 August 2008

Mr. J. Pether  
PO Box 48318  
Kommetjie  
7976

**PALAEONTOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (PIA): DEVELOPMENT ON ERVEN  
231 AND 487, VELDDRIF (LAAIPLEK)**

The above matter was discussed at the Archaeology, Palaeontology and  
Meteorites (APM) Permit Committee meeting held on 5 August 2008:

The following was noted for the proposed development:

1. The palaeontological impact assessment (PIA) was prepared for Robin Ellis who was compiling the heritage impact assessment (HIA).

Heritage Western Cape (HWC) agreed that:

1. The recommendations of the PIA are approved and must be adhered to.
2. The developer is responsible for costs associated with further heritage related work.
3. Should any human remains be disturbed, exposed or uncovered during excavations and earthworks for the proposed project, all work must cease and immediately be reported to SAHRA (Ms Mary Leslie 0214624502), or HWC Ms Celeste Booth 021 483 9685).
4. Burial remains should not be disturbed or removed until inspected by the archaeologist.

Yours faithfully

Celeste Booth



Heritage Officer (Archaeology)  
For: Accounting Authority: Heritage Resources Management Services.  
Pp Heritage Western Cape

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Tel: (021) 483 9680

Date: 6 October 2008



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**RECORD OF DECISION**  
Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscapes Committee

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Heritage Western Cape hereby notifies:

Robin Ellis  
P.O Box 614  
Velddrif  
7365

of its Comments and Recommendations in terms of  
**Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)**  
**and Regulation 3(3)(a) of PN 298 (29 August 2003)**

**For:** Proposed development

**At:** Erf 231 and Remainder Erf 478 Laaiplek

Heritage Western Cape has resolved to comment as follows:

The Committee agreed that an AIA was to be submitted in which the extent of the burials on the site was established. The AIA is to be submitted to the APM for assessment.

Yours faithfully

For Accounting Officer: Heritage Western Cape

[www.capegateway.gov.za/culture\\_sport](http://www.capegateway.gov.za/culture_sport)

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## REFERENCES

Kaplan J. ACRM. AIA Phase 1. Erven 231 and Re. 478, Laaiplek.

Pether J. Palaeontological Impact Assessment Desktop. Erven 231 and Re. 478, Laaiplek.

Ellis R. HIA Phase 2. Erven 231 and Re. 478, Laaiplek.

\*Carosini D. Mr. Oral Evidence on Site. 19/01/2009.

\* Mr. Carosini (83 years) is the grandson of Franscisco Carosini see p.20 of the HIA Phase 2, who is buried in the old burial ground. Doris Carosini has lived all his life in Laaiplek.