

Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Report

**Proposed Extension of the Napier Cemetery, Portion of Erf 513,
Napier, Cape Agulhas Local Municipality, Overberg District
Municipality, Western Cape.**

PHS Consulting

Paul Slabbert

PO Box 1752

Hermanus

7200

028 312 1734 Cell: 082 7408 046 Fax:086 508 3249

phsconsult@telkomsa.net

June 2011
Pro-Active Archaeology

Dr Liezl van Pletzen-Vos
083 2785 125
liezlvpv@gmail.com

PostNet Suite 168
Private Bag X15
Somerset West
7129

Dr Reneé Rust
021 844 0949
rrust@sanggic.co.za

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Cape Agulhas Municipality wishes to extend the Napier cemetery by about 2ha. No archaeological resources were found during the foot survey of the property by Pro-Active Archaeology. 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.

STAKEHOLDERS

	Owner & Developer	Project Consultant	Environmental Practitioner
Name	Cape Agulhas Municipality	Town & Country	PHS Consulting
Contact Person	Bertus Hayward	Louna du Toit	Paul Slabbert
Address	P O Box 51 Bredasdorp 7280	P O Box 1085 Bredasdorp 7280	PO Box 1752 Hermanus 7200
Tel	028) 425-5500	028-424-1545	028 312 1734
Cell	083-632-7367		082 7408 046
Fax	(028)-425-1019	028-425-2085	086 508 3249
Email	bertush@capeagulhas.com	towncountry@vodamail.co.za	phsconsult@telkomsa.net

Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	2
1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	4
1.1. Stakeholders.....	4
1.2. Terms of Reference.....	4
1.3. Legislative requirements.....	4
2. DESK TOP STUDY.....	5
2.1. Earlier Stone Age.....	5
2.2. Middle Stone Age.....	5
2.3. Later Stone Age.....	6
3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY & METHODOLOGY.....	6
4. DESCRIPTION OF SITES & ARTEFACTS IDENTIFIED.....	6
5. FIELD RATING	6
6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.....	7
7. RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSIONS.....	7
8. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	7
9. FIGURES.....	9

Figures

Figure 1: Plan of proposed extension of the Napier Cemetery.....	9
Figure 2: Topographic map 1:50 000 3419BD Napier, showing the location of the proposed cemetery extension.....	10
Figure 3: GPS tracking of the property.....	11
Figure 4: General view of the ploughed property.....	11

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) report forms part of a Basic Assessment report. PHS Consulting requested that Pro-Active Archaeology undertake this survey, on behalf of the Cape Agulhas Municipality. The municipality wishes to extend the Napier cemetery by about 2ha (Figure 1). The property is currently zoned as agricultural.

1.1. Stakeholders

	Owner & Developer	Project Consultant	Environmental Practitioner
Name	Cape Agulhas Municipality	Town & Country	PHS Consulting
Contact Person	Bertus Hayward	Louna du Toit	Paul Slabbert
Address	P O Box 51 Bredasdorp 7280	P O Box 1085 Bredasdorp 7280	PO Box 1752 Hermanus 7200
Tel	028) 425-5500	028-424-1545	028 312 1734
Cell	083-632-7367		082 7408 046
Fax	(028)-425-1019	028-425-2085	086 508 3249
Email	bertush@capeagulhas.com	towncountry@vodamail.co.za	phsconsult@telkomsa.net

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 000m², or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m², 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

The Overberg region has seen very little academic archaeological investigation. Orton (2008) found no archaeological remains on the property investigated. However, some Earlier Stone Age (ESA) material was observed on a neighbouring property. Kaplan (2006) found a few isolated ESA flakes.

2.1. Earlier Stone Age

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 hand axes and cleavers. This tradition is found across Africa, Western Asia and southern Europe (Deacon & Deacon 1999) and dates from between ± 1.4 million years ago to roughly 250 000 years ago. Mitchell (2002), describes hand axes 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.

2.2. Middle Stone Age

The Middle Stone Age (MSA) is sandwiched between the ESA and Later Stone Age (LSA) and dates from between 250 000 B.P. To about 20 000 years ago (Deacon & Deacon 1999, Mitchell 2002). The technology is characterised by the absence of hand axes and cleavers, the presence of prepared core techniques (e.g. Levallois technique). The stone flakes are generally triangular in shape with faceted striking platforms. Elongated blades and blade flakes are also common.

2.3. Later Stone Age

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). 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 17 and 18th centuries saw the European colonial expansion. 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

The proposed ±2ha extension of the Napier Cemetery is to take place on Portion of Erf 513, Napier, Cape Agulhas Local Municipality, Overberg District Municipality, Western Cape. This area is adjacent to the existing cemetery of ±1.63ha. The site is located on the southern edge of the town, on a hill top. The property can be found on the topographic 1:50 000 map 3419 BD Napier (Figure 2). Two archaeologists, in the company of Mr Paul Slabbert of PHS Consulting visited the site on 2011-05-16. A map of the GPS tracking illustrated in Figure 3. The property has been extensively ploughed and archaeological visibility was therefore excellent (Figure 4).

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

Due to the highly disturbed nature of the property no archaeological resources were located.

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

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

Deacon, HJ. & Deacon, J. 1999. *Human beginnings in South Africa*. Cape Town: David Philip Publishers.

Goodwin, AJH. 1930. Chronology of the Mossel Bay Industry. *South African Journal of Science*

27:562-72.

- Kaplan, J.M. 2008. Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment Proposed Jagersbos - Greyton 66 kV Powerline and Greyton Substation, Western Cape Province. Agency for Cultural Resources Management.
- Mitchell, P. 2002. The archaeology of Southern Africa. Cambridge World Archaeology. Cape Town: Cambridge University Press.
- Orton, J. 2008. Heritage Statement for Proposed Caledon Flight Park, Caledon Magisterial District, Western Cape. Archaeology Contracts Office.
- Parkington, J. 1977. Soaqua: Hunter-Fisher-Gatherers of the Olifants River Valley Western Cape. *The South African Archaeological Bulletin*, 32(126), 150-157.
- Sealy, J., Pfeiffer, S., Yates, R., Willmore, K., Manhire, A., Maggs, T. & Lanham, J. 2000. Hunter-Gatherer Child Burials from the Pakhuis Mountains, Western Cape: Growth, Diet and Burial Practices in the Late Holocene. *The South African Archaeological Bulletin*. 55(171):32-43

9. FIGURES




Town & Country Creative Land Solutions Professional Land Survey & Town Planning P. O. Box 1085 Bredasdorp 7280 Tel. 028 424 1545 Fax. 028 425 2085 E-mail: towncountry@vodamail.co.za	PROJECT PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE NAPIER CEMETERY PORTION OF ERF 513, NAPIER	DRAWN LdT	CHECKED LdT
		SCALE 1:2500	DATE FEBR 2011
	DWG No. #719B	REVISION	Notes: All areas and distances subject to survey

Figure 1: Plan of proposed extension of the Napier Cemetery.

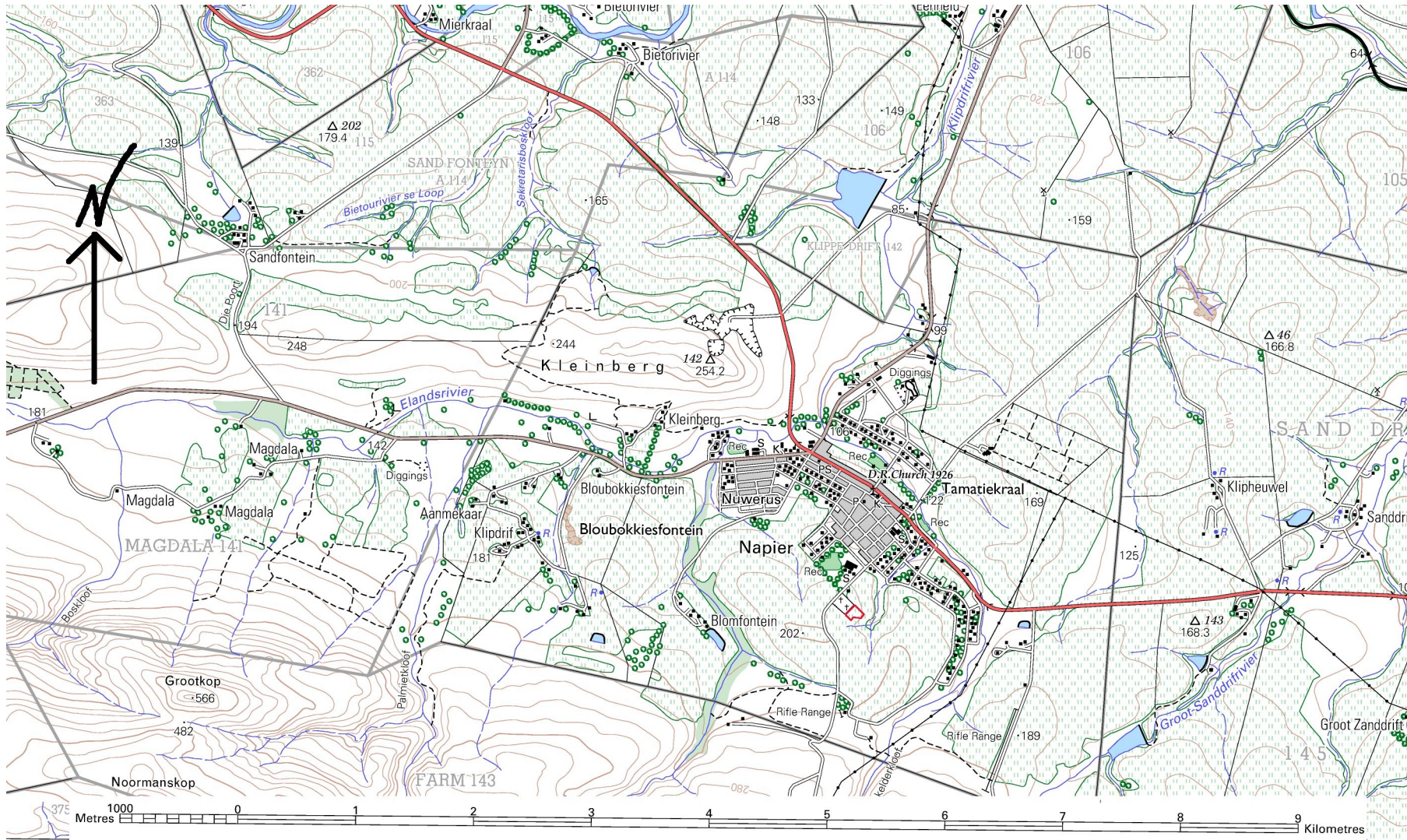


Figure 2: Topographic map 1:50 000 3419BD Napier, showing the location of the proposed cemetery extension.



Figure 3: GPS tracking of the property.

Figure 4: General view of the ploughed property.