

Comprehensive and Professional Solutions for all Heritage Related Matters

CK 2006/014630/23

VAT NO.: 4360226270

REPORT ON A PHASE 1 HERITAGE ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON PORTION 175 (A PORTION OF PORTION 168) OF THE FARM VYF BRAKKE FONTEINEN 220 (ERF 21244) IN MOSSEL BAY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

For:

AB Enviro Consult
7 Louis Leipoldt Street
Potchefstroom
2531

REPORT: APAC018/73

by:

A.J. Pelser Accredited member of ASAPA

November 2018

Amended Version: May 2021

P.O.BOX 73703 LYNNWOOD RIDGE 0040

Tel: 083 459 3091 Fax: 086 695 7247

Email: apac.heritage@gmail.com

Member: AJ Pelser BA (UNISA), BA (Hons) (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology) [WITS]

©Copyright APELSER ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

The information contained in this report is the sole intellectual property of APELSER Archaeological Consulting. It may only be used for the purposes it was commissioned for by the client.

DISCLAIMER:

Although all efforts are made to identify all sites of cultural heritage (archaeological and historical) significance during an assessment of study areas, the nature of archaeological and historical sites are as such that it is always possible that hidden or subterranean sites, features or objects could be overlooked during the study. APELSER Archaeological Consulting can't be held liable for such oversights or for costs incurred as a result thereof.

Clients & Developers should not continue with any development actions until SAHRA or one of its subsidiary bodies has provided final comments on this report. Submitting the report to SAHRA is the responsibility of the Client unless required of the Heritage Specialist as part of their appointment and Terms of Reference

SUMMARY

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by AB Enviro Consult to undertake a Phase 1 HIA for proposed residential development on Portion 175 (a Portion of Portion 168) of the farm Vyf Brakke Fonteinen, in Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province. The study area is also known as Erf 21244, and is located in Aalwyndal in Mossel Bay.

A number of significant known cultural heritage sites (archaeological and/or historical) exist in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. There are no known sites on the specific land parcel, but Stone Age archaeological material were identified in the study area during the assessment. The report will discuss the results of the desktop and field assessment and provide recommendations on the way forward at the end of the document.

A Visual Impact Assessment for the proposed development was undertaken in April 2021, and is included in this amended version of the report (See Appendix F).

From a Cultural Heritage point of view the proposed development should be allowed to continue once the recommended mitigation measures proposed in the report has been implemented.

CONTENTS

page
SUMMARY3
CONTENTS4
1. INTRODUCTION5
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE5
3. LEGLISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS5
4. METHODOLOGY8
5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA9
6. DISCUSSION
7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
8. REFERENCES
APPENDIX A – DEFINITION OF TERMS
APPENDIX B – DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE27
APPENDIX C – SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING 28
APPENDIX D – PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES29
APPENDIX E – HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES
APPENDIX F – VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by AB Enviro Consult to undertake a Phase 1 HIA for proposed residential development on Portion 175 (a Portion of Portion 168) of the farm Vyf Brakke Fonteinen, in Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province. The study area is also known as Erf 21244, and is located in Aalwyndal in Mossel Bay.

A number of significant known cultural heritage sites (archaeological and/or historical) exist in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. There are no known sites on the specific land parcel, but Stone Age archaeological material were identified in the study area during the assessment. A Visual Impact Assessment for the proposed development was undertaken in April 2021, and is included in this amended version of the report (See Appendix F).

The client indicated the location and boundaries of the Project Area, and the assessment focused on this area.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the study was to:

- 1. Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located on the portion of land that will be impacted upon by the proposed development;
- 2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value;
- 3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions;
- 4. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources;
- 5. Review applicable legislative requirements;

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

3.1 The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography

- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

The National Estate includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Sites of Archaeological and paleontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, paleontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial)

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or paleontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or paleontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and paleontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;

- b. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations** (**Ordinance no. 12 of 1980**) (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated to) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act** (**Act 65 of 1983 as amended**).

3.2 The National Environmental Management Act

This act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Survey of literature

A survey of available literature was undertaken in order to place the development area in an archaeological and historical context. The sources utilized in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2 Field survey

The field assessment section of the study was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and aimed at locating all possible objects, sites and features of heritage significance in the area of the proposed development. The location/position of all sites, features and objects was determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS), while detailed photographs were also taken where possible.

4.3 Oral histories

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography. Mr. Allman, owner of the property, provided some information on the study area.

4.4 Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to a general set of minimum standards. Co-ordinates of individual localities were determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information was added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by AB Enviro Consult to undertake a Phase 1 HIA for proposed residential development on Portion 175 (a Portion of Portion 168) of the farm Vyf Brakke Fonteinen, in Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province. The study area is also known as Erf 21244, and is located in Aalwyndal in Mossel Bay.

The topography of the study is fairly hilly with rocky ridges our outcrops present. Vegetation (fynbos, shrubs) was very dense and visibility during the assessment was hampered as a result. The study area is bordered by urban residential settlements and related developments.

Although visibility during the assessment was hampered by the dense vegetation and access to certain areas was also made difficult as a result, a fairly high number of Stone Age material (flakes and tools) was identified throughout the area. Most of these scatters were located in more open sections (especially footpath areas and areas where vegetation was removed or trampled). It is therefore also envisaged that more unidentified archaeological material exist in the study area. The results of the assessment and the recommended mitigation measures are discussed in the next section of this report.



Fig.1: General location of the study area (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.2: Closer view of the study area (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.3: A view of a section of the study area.



Fig.4: Another view of the study area.

Note the dense vegetation cover.



Fig.5: Another general view. Note the neighboring developments.



Fig.6: A view of a section of the study area.



Fig.7: Recent impact on a section of the area.

Trench for pipeline or fibre optics?



Fig.8: A view of a section of the area showing the Neighboring residential developments and a residence on a part of the study area.

6. **DISCUSSION**

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided basically into three periods. It is however important to note that dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

The larger geographical area within which the study area falls is well-known for its Stone Age sites, such as the significant Cape St.Blaize & Pinnacle Point sites.

The Mossel Bay Archaeology Project (MAP) is a long-term field study of the Middle Stone Age (MSA) in the Mossel Bay region. Our primary research goals are to test several competing models concerning the behavioral modernity of MSA people in Africa and thus contribute to our knowledge of the origins of modern humans. In particular, the plan is to focus on resolving several chronologic and chronometric questions about the South African MSA, raw material exploitation strategies, and faunal exploitation strategies. To that end a longitudinal study that will involve two missions were planned. The first was to conduct survey (both archaeological and geological for raw material sources) and test excavations of discovered sites, and this mission has already begun. The second involves intensive excavations at those previously tested sites identified as having high potential for helping to resolve the research problems.

Archaeological research in the Mossel Bay region has not been intense, despite the early initiation of work by George Leith in 1888 (Leith 1898) at the large Cape St. Blaize Cave, located in the town of Mossel Bay. Last excavated by Goodwin in 1932 (Goodwin & Malan 1935), this site yielded a series of selected lithic collections central to the definition of the Mossel Bay Industry. Goodwin argued for the presence of an inter-stratified Howieson's Poort (HP) occupation at Cape St. Blaize cave, but this was based on the presence of point-types thought at that time to be characteristic of the HP, while more recent definitions tend to rely on the presence of backed pieces.

In 1997 Kaplan and Nilssen conducted an environmental impact surface survey of the Pinnacle Point area, a section of coastal cliffs about 4 km west of Mossel Bay. MSA research in the Mossel Bay region effectively stopped after these investigations. They covered an area of approximately 2 km of the coast at Pinnacle Point and about 1 km inland and discovered 28 archaeological sites (21 MSA), 15 of which are caves/shelters. In March of 1999 Nilssen and Marean revisited Pinnacle Point and Mossel Bay to survey the area and investigate the potential of the sites. Since then Nilssen and Marean have re-visited several times for mapping and survey, and in July of 2000 conducted excavations for 21 days with an excavation team of about 10 people and a laboratory team of 3. Pinnacle Point had not been archaeologically investigated previously, primarily because the coastal cliffs are dangerous to access.

There is no doubt that this stretch of coastline is one of the richest sources of MSA archaeological remains anywhere in Africa. Caves, rock shelters, and open air MSA sites are abundant and well preserved and this provides the opportunity to develop an integrated picture of landscape use. Calcretes and caliches are abundant in and around the surface sites, flowstones and dripstones are abundant in the caves and some seal MSA deposits, leading to the possibility of uranium-series dating. Some of the caves are well above the stage 5e high

sea stand and thus may preserve stage 6 MSA material. Stage 6 MSA is rare in South Africa, and stage 6 is a critical time for the origins of the MSA and modern people. Raw materials are diverse and include local quartzites, non-local quartzites, silcretes of various types, and even non-local hornfels. Fossil bone is well preserved in the deposits, and this is expected as the geology of the sites is very similar to that at Klasies River.

The above information is from: THE MOSSEL BAY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT (MAP) BACKGROUND AND RESULTS FROM TEST EXCAVATIONS OF MIDDLE STONE AGE SITES AT PINNACLE POINT, MOSSEL BAY (Dr. Curtis W. Marean & Dr. Peter Nilssen, March 2002: p.4-5)

A large number of Stone Age artifacts were identified during the assessment of the study area. These are found scattered throughout the area, in single locations as well as in denser scatters. The results of the assessment will be discussed in more detail in the section below.

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce metal artifacts. In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases (Bergh 1999: 96-98), namely:

```
Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.
```

Huffman (2007: xiii) however indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which now seem to be widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

```
Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D.
Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D.
Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.
```

There are no known Iron Age sites in the larger area and none was found during the assessment of the area.

The historical age generally starts with the first recorded oral histories in an area. It includes the moving into the area of people that were able to read and write.

The origin of the name Mossel Bay (the Bay of Mussels) has to do with the ascendancy of the Dutch shipping merchants in the late 16th and the early 17th Centuries. In one account, the explorer Cornelis de Houtman named the place Mosselbaai when he stopped there in 1595, whilst in another, the Dutch Admiral Paulus van Caerden named it when he came ashore on 8 July 1601. Whatever the case, though, the mussels and oysters on the shore would have been a welcome addition to the limited diet on which ship's crews were expected to survive in those days.

Although it is today best known as the place at which the first Europeans landed on South African soil (Bartolomeu Dias and his crew arrived on 3 February 1488), Mossel Bay's human history can - as local archaeological deposits have revealed - be traced back more than 164,000 years. The modern history of Mossel Bay began on 3 February 1488, when the Portuguese explorer Bartolomeu Dias landed with his men at a point close to the site of the

modern-day Dias Museum Complex. Here they found a spring from which to replenish their water supplies. Dias had been appointed to search for a trading route to India by King John II of Portugal, and, without realizing it, actually rounded the Cape of Good Hope before landing at Mossel Bay - which he named Angra dos Vaqueiros (The Bay of Cowherds). Dias is also credited with having given the Cape the name Cabo das Tormentas (the 'Cape of Storms'), although King John II later changed this to Cabo da Boa Esperança (the Cape of Good Hope).

Dias' excursion ashore ended hastily when the local people chased him off in a hail of stones. By the time the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama reached the area in 1497, the Bay had been marked on the maps as Aguada de São Brás, (the Watering Place of St Blaize - whose feast is celebrated on 3 February). Da Gama bartered successfully for cattle with the local Khoi people in what is generally regarded as the first commercial transaction between Europeans and the indigenous people of South Africa.

In 1501, another Portuguese navigator, Pedro d'Ataide, sought shelter in Mossel Bay after losing much of his fleet in a storm. He left an account of the disaster hidden in an old shoe which he suspended from a milkwood tree (Sideroxylon inerme) near the spring from which Dias had drawn his water. The report was found by the explorer to whom it was addressed - João da Nova - and the tree served as a kind post office for decades thereafter. João da Nova erected a small shrine near the Post Office Tree, and although no traces of it remain, it is considered the first place of Christian worship in South Africa.

Although the Dutch governor of the Cape Colony, Jan de la Fontaine, visited Mossel Bay and erected a possession stone here in 1734, the first permanent European building - a fortress-like granary - was built only in 1787. In July of the following year, the first shipment of wheat grown in the area was shipped from the Bay. Although a British force had invaded the Cape in 1806, and Britain had taken permanent possession of the Colony in 1814, the Mossel Bay area retained its Dutch-given name until its declaration as a magistracy in 1848, when it was renamed Aliwal South, after the Battle of Aliwal in India, where the then governor of the British-held Cape Colony, Harry Smith, had won victory over the Sikhs on 8 January 1846. The name Aliwal South never stuck, however - even when the town was officially proclaimed in 1848, and when it became a Municipality in 1852.

From the earliest days of the Dutch settlers, Mossel Bay acted as the major port serving the Southern Cape region and its hinterland, the arid Klein (or Little) Karoo, and during the ostrich feather boom of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, more than 800,000 kg of feathers were exported through the port every year - which may have been the impetus that led to the construction of the first breakwater in 1912. Fishing and farming remained the main activities of the area during the early years of the 20th Century, and the growth of the port reflected this. The discovery of natural gas fields offshore in 1969, of the FA gas field in the Bredasdorp Basin (also off the Southern Cape coast) in 1980, and of the nearby EM field in 1983, led to the development of the Mossgas gas-to-liquids refinery (commissioned in 1987 and renamed the PetroSA Refinery in 2002). This changed the nature of the port so that its major business now comes from serving supply ships for PetroSA's offshore platforms, and from export via its offshore single point (or single buoy) mooring, which is located in about 21 meters of water in an unsheltered roadstead at Voorbaai, in the lee of the St Blaize Peninsula.

The development of the refinery led to a marked increase in property development in Mossel Bay, with the number of houses growing rapidly to accommodate the work force during the construction period. Many of the people who came to work on the project remained in the town after commissioning, and it would appear from the changing economy of the town that they found work in tourism, light industry or commerce.

Whilst the Port and the Refinery have, of course, had a major influence on the development of Mossel Bay, they have always worked in tandem with the growth of tourism and general commerce so that the town now boasts a balanced and vibrant economy. Tourism in particular has influenced much of the growth since 1994, although the town has been a popular resort destination for South Africans since as early as the late 1800s.

The Afrikaans: Taal en Kultuurvereniging (ATKV or Afrikaans Language and Cultural Society) bought the farm Hartenbos, east of what was then the town of Mossel Bay, in 1936, and developed it as a holiday resort (now known as the ATKV Hartenbos Resort, and considered the biggest self-catering resort in the Western Cape Province). This was a significant step in the development of the town's tourism economy as it positioned Mossel Bay as a beach holiday destination - and beach tourism remains a major focus for incoming tourism in the 21st Century.

South Africa installed its first democratically elected government in 1994, which brought about sweeping changes in the structure of local government throughout the country - one of the results of which was that Mossel Bay merged with the smaller, neighbouring villages of Friemersheim, Great Brak River and Herbertsdale to form the present-day Municipality of Mossel Bay in December 2000.

The above information was obtained from (www.wikipedia.org.za).

The oldest map obtained from the Chief Surveyor General's database (www.csg.dla.gov.za) for the farm Vy-Brakke-Fonteinen (Portion 1), dates to 1900. It shows that farm was then located in the Field Cornetcy and Division of Mossel Bay. It was a portion of the Freehold place "Vyf-Brakke-Fonteinen" alias "Voor-Baai". It was re-granted under an Amended Title to one P.B. Coetzee on the 1st of December 1870 and was surveyed in September 1900 (www.csg.dla.gov.za - Document 10163076).

No sites or features of historical origin or significance were visible on this map, and none were found during the November 2018 assessment in the study area.

17

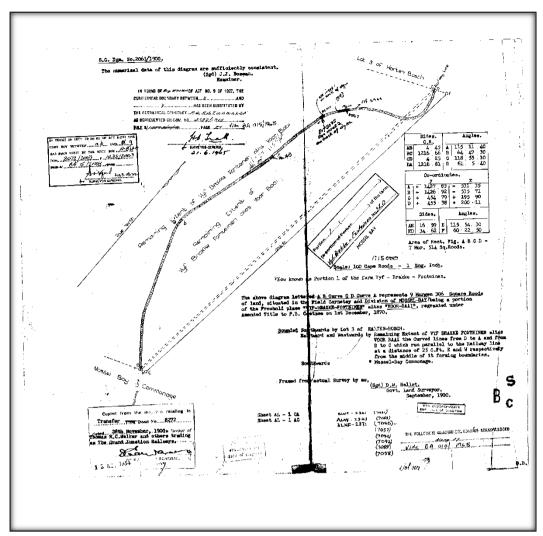


Fig.9: 1900 map of Portion 1 of Vyf-Brakke-Fonteinen 220 (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

Results of the November 2018 Fieldwork

The assessment's visibility was hampered by the very dense vegetation covering the area, which also made accessing certain sections difficult. However, existing footpaths in sections of the area could be used, while small open sections with cleared or trampled vegetation also assisted. A fairly large number of Stone Age artifacts (flakes, cores, tools) were in the process identified located throughout the area. These were either as single objects or in denser scatters of objects in these locations. It is envisaged that many more of these locations are situated throughout the study area, but that due to the dense vegetation they are not visible as a result.

In light of the relatively high number of Stone Age artifacts identified in the area, and in relation to the significant Archaeological sites (such as Cape St. Blaize & Pinnacle Point) located in and around Mossel Bay, the finds made during the November 2018 assessment should be viewed as significant from an Archaeological perspective. Although the site/s and material is situated in an open-air surface context, and not in a stratified cave or shelter context, the material located in the study area could provide valuable information related to the Stone Age archaeology of the area. The following is therefore recommended:

- 1. That a detailed Phase 2 archaeological assessment be conducted on the study area
- 2. This work needs to be undertaken by a qualified Stone Age archaeologist and needs to be done in conjunction and in sympathy with the ongoing Mossel Bay Archaeological Project (MAP) mentioned earlier
- 3. The work will included detailed mapping of the area and the Stone Age material located here, as well as the systematic collection of representative Stone Age material from the development area
- 4. It is also recommended that once development commences in the area that an Archaeological Watching Brief be implemented to ensure that if any possible stratified archaeological remains are exposed that these could be studied by specialists of the MAP.

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) was also commissioned for the proposed development, and is included as Appendix F in this report. The VIA was undertaken in April 2021 and considered the following (Steyn & Van der Walt 2021:3).

- The areas surrounding the older existing urban edge which is not well developed
- The impact of the proposed development on the side-slope of the hill
- The impact of the lighting on the landscape at night
- Architectural Guidelines

The results and details of the VIA will not be discussed here, but a number of mitigation measures are provided. It is concluded that any new buildings and/or developments will have an impact on its environment in many ways, but especially on the existing visual and scenic environment. The mitigating measures recommended therefore aims to find a balance to integrate the new development in its environment and further enhance the existing landscape to an acceptable visual level. Furthermore, these mitigation measures will need to be implemented and monitored throughout the planning, design development, construction, maintenance and operation of development if the mitigation of the visual impact of this development is to be significantly and successfully achieved (Steyn & Van der Walt 2021: 52).

Based on the Phase 1 assessment it is recommended that the development be allowed to continue, once the recommended mitigation measures have been implemented.

Furthermore it should be noted that although all efforts were made to cover the total area and therefore to identify all possible sites or features of cultural (archaeological and/or historical) heritage origin and significance, that there is always the possibility of something being missed. This will include low stone-packed or unmarked graves. This aspect should be kept in mind when development work commences and if any sites (including graves) are identified then an expert should be called in to investigate and recommend on the best way forward.



Fig.10: Stone tools found during the assessment.



Fig.11: A Stone Age core found in the area.



Fig.12: MSA & possible ESA stone tools found.



Fig.13: A broken MSA point.

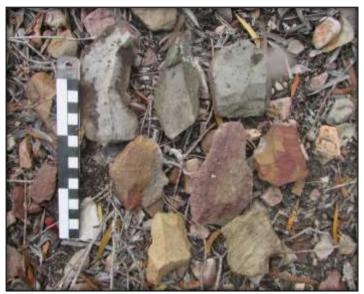


Fig.14: A range of flakes and tools found during the assessment in one area.



Fig.15: Cores and flake-tools from another area.



Fig.16: A large core found during the assessment.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

APelser Archaeological Consulting (APAC) was appointed by AB Enviro Consult to undertake a Phase 1 HIA for proposed residential development on Portion 175 (a Portion of Portion 168) of the farm Vyf Brakke Fonteinen, in Mossel Bay, Western Cape Province. The study area is also known as Erf 21244, and is located in Aalwyndal in Mossel Bay.

A number of significant known cultural heritage sites (archaeological and/or historical) exist in the larger geographical area within which the study area falls. There are no known sites on the specific land parcel, but Stone Age archaeological material were identified in the study area during the assessment. The report will discuss the results of the desktop and field assessment and provide recommendations on the way forward at the end of the document.

A Visual Impact Assessment for the proposed development was undertaken in April 2021, and is included in this amended version of the report (**See Appendix F**).

Although the assessment's visibility was hampered by the very dense vegetation covering the area, which also made accessing certain sections difficult, existing footpaths in sections of the area could be used, while small open sections with cleared or trampled vegetation also assisted. A fairly large number of Stone Age artifacts (flakes, cores, tools) were in the process identified located throughout the area. These were either as single objects or in denser scatters of objects in these locations. It is envisaged that many more of these locations are situated throughout the study area, but that due to the dense vegetation they are not visible as a result.

In light of the relatively high number of Stone Age artifacts identified in the area, and in relation to the significant Archaeological sites (such as Cape St. Blaize & Pinnacle Point) located in and around Mossel Bay, the finds made during the November 2018 assessment should be viewed as significant from an Archaeological perspective. Although the site/s and material is situated in an open-air surface context, and not in a stratified cave or shelter

context, the material located in the study area could provide valuable information related to the Stone Age archaeology of the area. The following is therefore recommended:

- 1. That a detailed Phase 2 archaeological assessment be conducted on the study area
- 2. This work needs to be undertaken by a qualified Stone Age archaeologist and needs to be done in conjunction and in sympathy with the ongoing Mossel Bay Archaeological Project (MAP) mentioned earlier
- 3. The work will included detailed mapping of the area and the Stone Age material located here, as well as the systematic collection of representative Stone Age material from the development area
- 4. It is also recommended that once development commences in the area that an Archaeological Watching Brief be implemented to ensure that if any possible stratified archaeological remains are exposed that these could be studied by specialists of the MAP.

From a cultural heritage point of view the development should be allowed to continue once the recommendations above have been successfully implemented.

Finally, the subterranean nature of cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) resources, including low stone-packed or unmarked graves, should however always be taken into consideration. Should any previously unknown or invisible sites, features or material be uncovered during any development actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way forward.

8. REFERENCES

Aerial views of General and Closer study area location: Google Earth 2018.

Bergh, J.S. (red.). 1999. **Geskiedenisatlas van Suid-Afrika. Die vier noordelike provinsies**. Pretoria: J.L. van Schaik.

Huffman, T.N. 2007. Handbook to the Iron Age: **The Archaeology of Pre-Colonial Farming Societies in Southern Africa**. Scotsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.

Knudson, S.J. 1978. **Culture in retrospect**. Chicago: Rand McNally College Publishing Company.

Lombard, M., L. Wadley, J. Deacon, S. Wurz, I. Parsons, M. Mohapi, J. Swart & P. Mitchell. 2012. **South African and Lesotho Stone Age Sequence Updated (I).** South African Archaeological Bulletin 67 (195): 120–144, 2012.

Dr. Marean, C.W. & Dr. P. Nilssen. 2002. **The Mossel Bay Archaeology Project (MAP) Background and Results from Test Excavations of Middle Stone Age Sites at Pinnacle Point, Mossel Bay**. Final report for the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and the National Research Foundation (NRF). March, 2002

Republic of South Africa. 1999. **National Heritage Resources Act** (No 25 of 1999). Pretoria: the Government Printer.

Republic of South Africa. 1998. **National Environmental Management Act** (no 107 of 1998). Pretoria: The Government Printer.

Steyn, A.A. & Van der Walt, M.L. 2021. **Visual Impact Assessment Proposed Development of Erf 21244 Aalwyndal Mosselbay**. Unpublished Report Arc – Studio Architects (Pty)Ltd. For: Great Karoo Eco Investments. April 2021.

Chief Surveyor General Database – www.csg.dla.gov.za. Document No: 10163076.

www.wikipedia.org.za

APPENDIX A DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Historic value: Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in history.

Aestetic value: Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.

Scientific value: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of a particular period

Social value: Have a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Rarity: Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage.

Representivity: Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, landuse, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

Cultural significance:

- Low: A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.
- Medium: Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.
- High: Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.

Heritage significance:

- Grade I: Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance
- Grade II: Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate
- Grade III: Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

Field ratings:

- i. National Grade I significance: should be managed as part of the national estate
- ii. Provincial Grade II significance: should be managed as part of the provincial estate
- iii. Local Grade IIIA: should be included in the heritage register and not be mitigated (high significance)
- iv. Local Grade IIIB: should be included in the heritage register and may be mitigated (high/medium significance)
- v. General protection A (IV A): site should be mitigated before destruction (high/medium significance)
- vi. General protection B (IV B): site should be recorded before destruction (medium significance)
- vii. General protection C (IV C): phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it may be demolished (low significance)

APPENDIX D PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:

Formal protection:

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – Grade I and II

Protected areas - An area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – For a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – Listing Grades II and III

Heritage areas – Areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. Archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

General protection:

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states Structures – Older than 60 years Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites Burial grounds and graves Public monuments and memorials

APPENDIX E HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

- 1. Pre-assessment or Scoping Phase Establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
- 2. Baseline Assessment Establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
- 3. Phase I Impact Assessment Identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
- 4. Letter of recommendation for exemption If there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
- 5. Phase II Mitigation or Rescue Planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
- 6. Phase III Management Plan For rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.

APPENDIX F – VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

See Separately Uploaded VIA Report