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HERITAGE EVALUATION OF FOUR PROPERTIES FOR THE PROPOSED NEW BITOU MUNICIPALITY BUILDING PLETTENBERG BAY

REPORT COMPILED BY

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The National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999

The National Heritage Resources Act No. 25 of 1999 protects all heritage resources older than sixty years.

List of Heritage Resources:

- Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years.
- Archaeological sites and objects.
- Palaeontological sites.
- Meteorites.
- Ship wrecks.
- Burial grounds.
- Graves of victims of conflict.
- Public monuments and memorials.
- Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette.
- Any other places or object, which is considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance.
- Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance.
- Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa.
- Objects to which oral traditions are attached.
- Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history.

For any intended development section 38(1) of Act 25 of 1999 is important. As far as structures are concerned Section 34(1) is important.

Structures

34. (1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority. 10

(2) Within three months of the refusal of the provincial heritage resources authority to issue a permit, consideration must be given to the protection of the place concerned in terms of one of the formal designations provided for in Part 1 of this Chapter.

(3) The provincial heritage resources authority may at its discretion, by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, make an exemption from the requirements of subsection (1) within a defined geographical area, or for certain defined categories of site within a defined geographical area, provided that it is satisfied that heritage resources falling into the defined area or category have been identified and are adequately provided for in terms of the provisions of Part 1 of this Chapter. 15

(4) Should the provincial heritage resources authority believe it to be necessary it may, following a three-month notice period published in the *Provincial Gazette*, withdraw or amend a notice under subsection (3). 20

Results:

The sites were visited on 22 March 2016 and inspected on foot.

The results are as follows:

Erf 2138 and stand 4131

At present erf 2138 houses the main Municipality complex. All the buildings are modern. No structure is older than sixty years – see maps & Photographs.









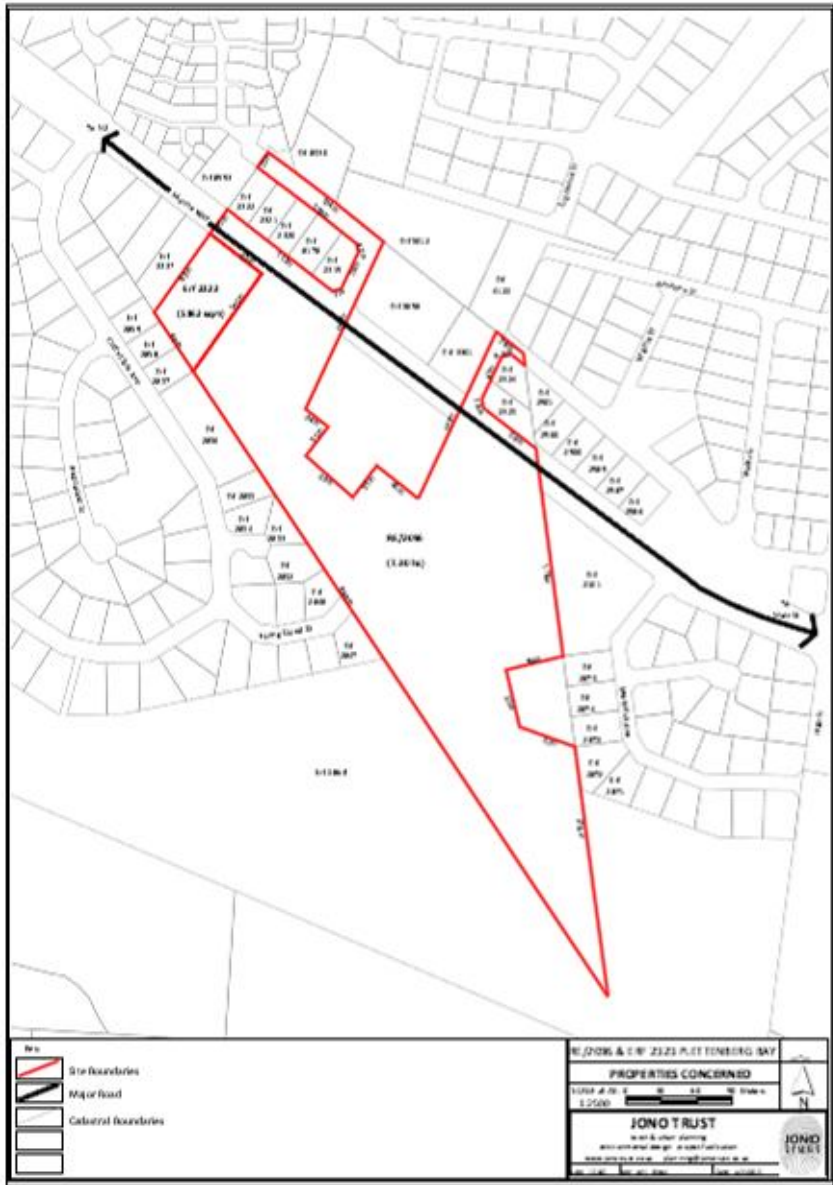
Stand 4131 is vacant and has a number of exotic trees. There are no heritage structures or visible archaeological remains present on the site – see maps above & photographs below.



Erf 2323 & Portion 1 Re/2096

This whole area is a build-up area with a variety of structures. The area was walked on foot and people on the sites interviewed. From the information gathered most structures date to the late 1960/70's. These include a number of houses, storerooms, offices, garages and water treatment plant as well as a section of indigenous forest – see maps and photographs.











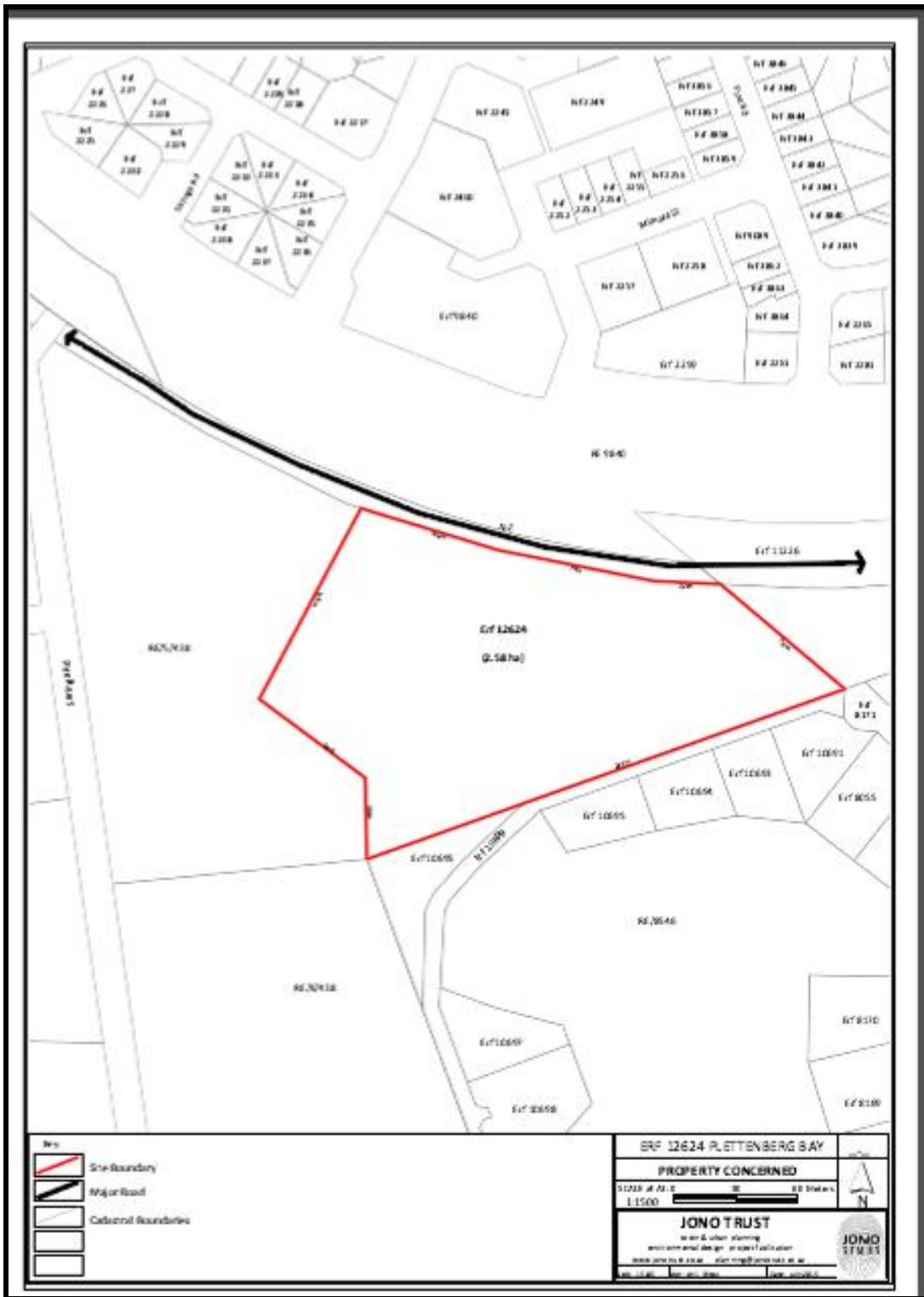




Erf 12624

This stand is vacant land. It is covered by dense grassland and patches of exotic trees. On the site no heritage structures are present. No archaeological remains could be found as the vegetation is very dense. When the site is cleared it will have to be inspected for possible archaeological remains – see maps and photographs.







CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

All the proposed development sites have no structures older than sixty years as well as no visible archaeological remains and fall outside the jurisdiction of Act 25 of 1999. There is no objection to the intended development from a Cultural Heritage Resources point of view, though once a decision has been taken on which site the development will take place the chosen development site will need a full Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment in accordance with Section 38(1) of Act 25 of 1999 before development may commence.