

## U. SHORES

### Field Note U8b. Arniston shores – Morphology - Overview

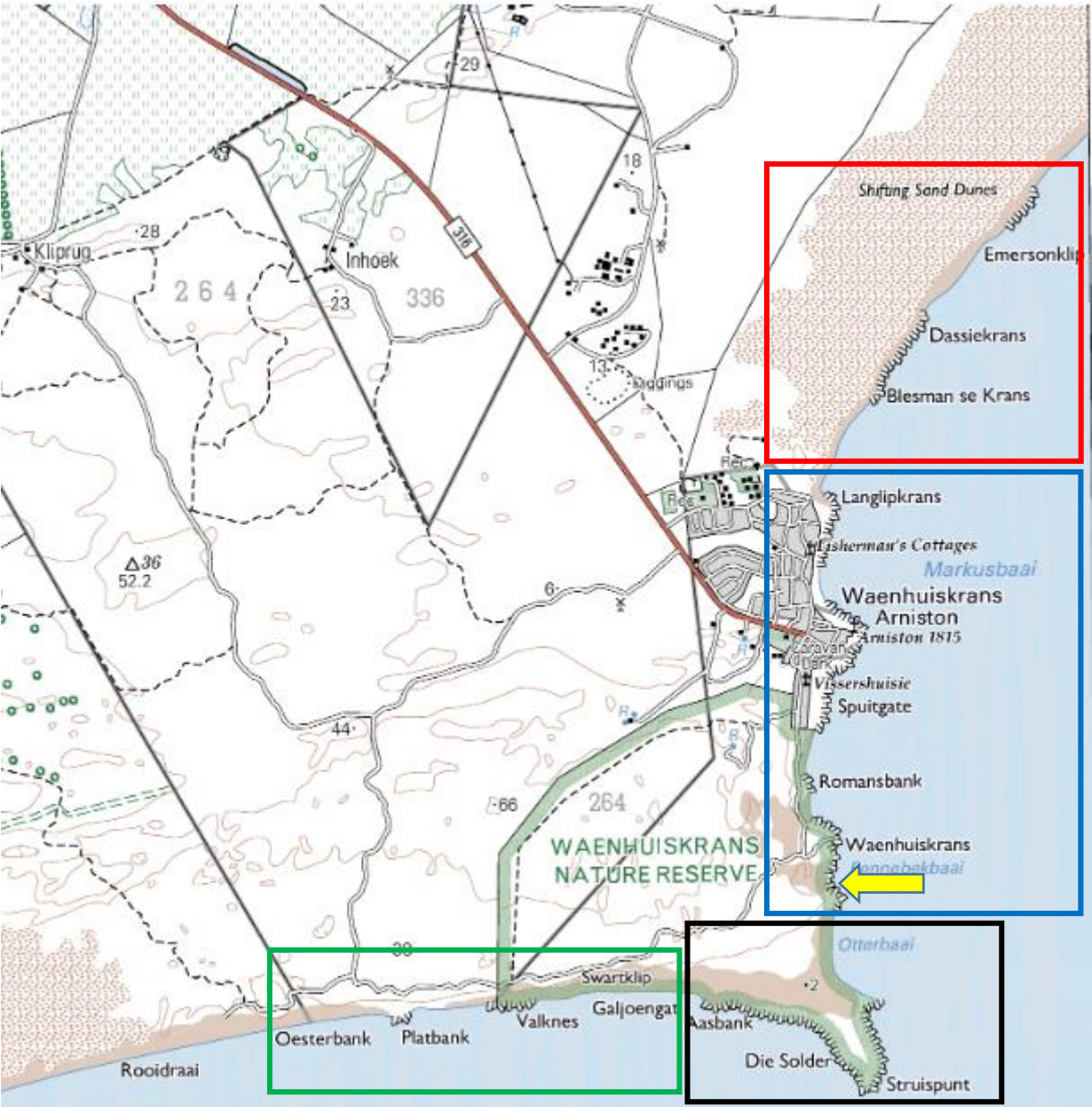


**Arniston East Shore.**

**U. SHORES**

**Field Note U8b. Arniston shores – Morphology - Overview**

There are four distinct shores around Arniston. They are, from south to north: South Shore, Struis Point, East Shore and North Shore (except for Struis Point, shore names were given by the author) (Figure 1). The shores are morphologically different from each other.



**Figure 1. Topography map of Arniston shores. Boxes: green – South Shore; black – Struis Point; blue- East Shore; red – North Shore. Yellow arrow points to the location of the Waenhuiskrans Cave.**



The North Shore and the southern part of the East Shores are backed by dunes, which partly covers the consolidated and semi-consolidated ridges of the Waenhuiskrans Formation, which are higher than the ridges along the adjacent shores (Figure 2).



**Figure 2. Satellite image of Arniston shores. Boxes: green – South Shore; black – Struis Point; blue - East Shore; red – North Shore. Yellow arrow points to the Waenhuiskrans Cave.**

**South Shore**

Arniston South Shore is ~2 km long and extends from the westernmost extent of the Rietvlei Formation rocks of Struis Point to the westernmost cliff (Figure 3). The rocks along this shore are of the Waenhuiskrans Formation (Bredasdorp Group).



**Figure 3. Satellite image (rotated) of the South Shore. Arrow points to the north.**



The west part of the South Shore is rocky, with high cliffs; the east part is sandy, with low dunes (Figure 4).



**Figure 4. Views on the west, rocky part (top) and on the east, sandy part (bottom) of the South shore.**

**Struis Point**

Struis Point is a rocky promontory which extends about 500 m to the southeast from the sandy shores to the north and west and forms the ‘corner’ between the South and the East Shore. The rocks are of the Rietvlei Formation (Table Mountain Group). A beacon is situated at the base of the promontory (Figure 5).



**Figure 5. Satellite image of Struis Point. Arrow points to the beacon. Ellipsoid shows the approximate confines of the Rietvlei Formation boulder field.**



The sandy Otter Bay lies to the north of Struis Point, whereas the rocky strip extends about 1 km to the west (Figure 6).



**Figure 6. Views of the west part (top) and the north part (bottom) of the Struis Point.**



**East Shore**

Arniston East Shore is ~2.5 km long and extends from the north end of Otter Bay to Langlipkrans, the northernmost cliff of Kassiesbaai (the old fishermen village), in the north. The rocks along this shore are of the Klein Brak and the Waenhuiskrans Formations (Bredasdorp Group). The town of Arniston lies west of this shore (Figure 7).



**Figure 7. Satellite image of Arniston East Shore.**



The East Shore is unique as it contains most of the geomorphological features, which are associated with shore erosion and sedimentation. These features are sea cliffs, abrasion tables, notches and pools, sand beaches and boulder assemblages, calcrete capping, conglomerates as well as karst dissolution features. Readers are referred to other Field Notes in this chapter and in other chapters to read about the features described below.

Sea cliffs and abrasion tables, boulder assemblages and a couple of pocket sandy beaches are characteristic of this shore (Figure 8).



**Figure 8. Top and bottom: sea cliffs, abrasion tables and small sandy beaches in the south part of the East Shore. Views to the south.**

**North Shore**

Arniston North Shore is ~2.5 km long and extends from Langlipkrans (the northernmost cliff of Kassiesbaai, the old fishermen village in Arniston) in the south to the Emersonsklip, (where the Arniston Memorial Monument is located) in the north (which also marks the south end of the OTR shore). The rocks along this shore are of the Klein Brak and the Waenhuiskrans Formations (Bredasdorp Group) (Figure 9).



**Figure 9. Satellite image of Arniston North Shore.**





**Figure 10. Views of the south part (top) and the north part (bottom) of the North Shore. Low cliffs, abrasion tables and long sandy beaches are characteristic of this shore.**