

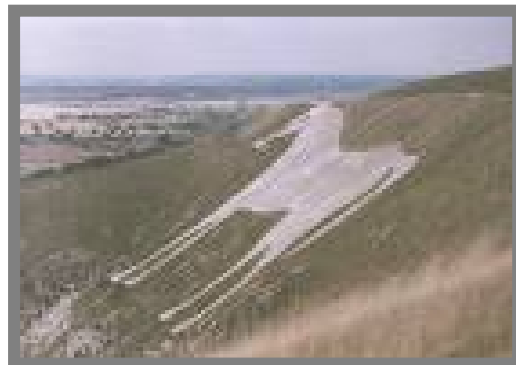
Class 6b ~ Painted stone signs on hillsides

These signs were used in times past for indicating the location of institutions, towns and similar places. Many of these painted stone signs on hillsides have a cultural and historical value such as Bloemfontein's famous White Horse which was laid out on the eastern slope of Naval Hill by the men from the Wiltshire Remount Depot during the Anglo-Boer War. In such cases these painted stone signs may contribute to the local sense of place.

However, this signs type has all the potential of seriously impacting on rural landscapes and on topographical features in urban landscapes. The question should therefore be asked whether the construction of such signs should still be allowed today. If allowed it should definitely be subjected to an EIA or SEA procedure of which a visual impact assessment should be a key ingredient, while no commercial or religious messages should be allowed at all.



The White Horse on the eastern slope of Naval Hill, Bloemfontein, Free State Province (Top image from Google Earth).





Painted stone signs should not be used for commercial purposes

Compiled by Frans Jordaan