



# **COBUS DREYER**

**Pr. Archaeologist/Heritage Specialist**

**P.O. Box 12910  
Brandhof  
9324  
dreyerj@telkomsa.net**

**Tel: 051-444 1187  
Fax: 051-401 2363  
Cell: 083 357 7982**

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## **FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS AT THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 4 OF THE FARM RENDEZVOUS 1491, BETHLEHEM, FREE STATE**

### **INVESTIGATION**

The proposed developments at the remainder of portion 4 of the farm Rendezvous 1491, Bethlehem, was visited and inspected on 12 August 2005. Dr Johan du Preez of Cebo Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, accompanied me to the site. Mr José De Jesus explained the proposed developments at the site.

The area was examined for possible archaeological and historical material and to establish the potential impact on any cultural material that might be found. The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is done in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), (25 of 1999) and under the Environmental Conservation Act, (73 of 1989).

### **LOCALITY**

The farm Rendezvous 1491 lies outside Bethlehem adjacent to the N5 main road to Harrismith and Durban (Fig.1) (28°15'47"S. 028°21'31"E. Altitude 1652m). GPS coordinates are given in Cape scale (2828AD) The land for the planned developments covers about 28,56ha and overlooks the Saulspoort Dam in the As River.

The property consists of an existing residential house (Fig.2) with several outbuildings (Figs.3&4), which will be extended and transformed into a restaurant with pub and grill facilities.

## **FINDS**

The existing buildings are not of any special design or age and clearly do not qualify for preservation or classification as a structure older than 60 years, a historical farm building or a building of unique architectural design.

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found on the surface, neither were any stone tools or ceramic ware found.

The locality is likewise not ideal for the occupation by humans during prehistoric times.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

No obvious reasons could be found to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site.

After examination by the archaeologist, I recommend that the proposed developments may proceed.

## **MITIGATION**

Concerning the area for the proposed development, no mitigation measures are needed.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I thank Dr Johan du Preez for taking me to the site.

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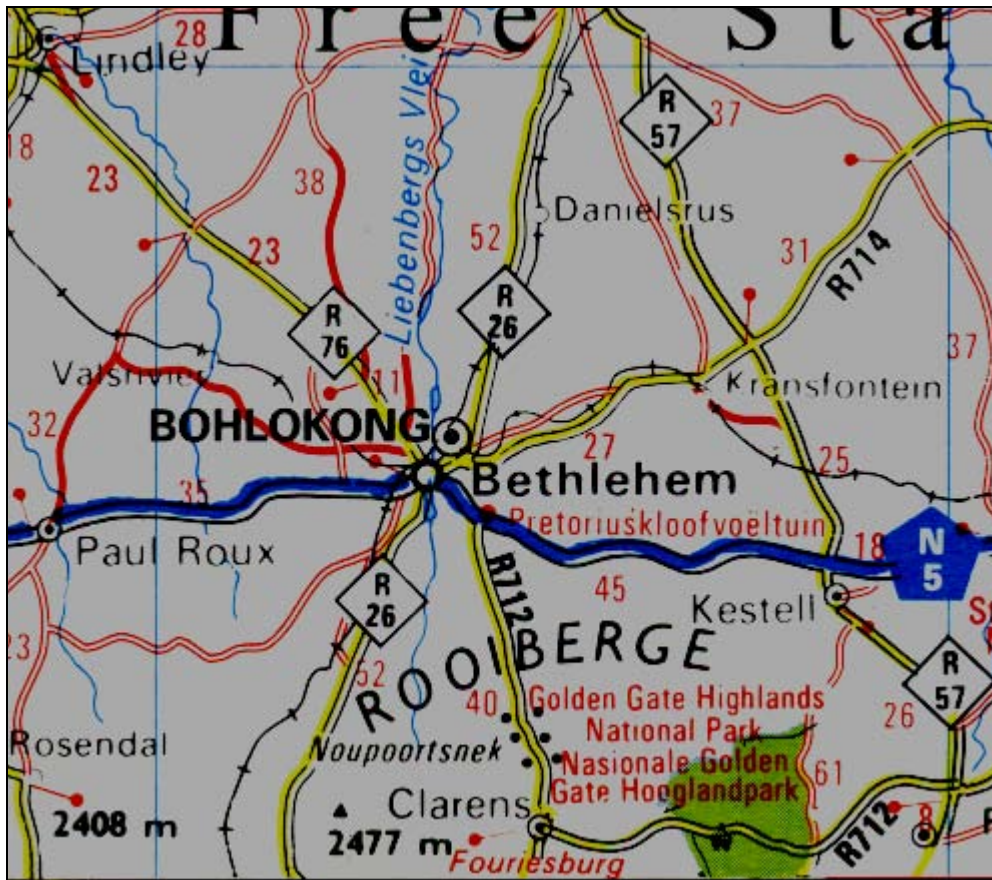
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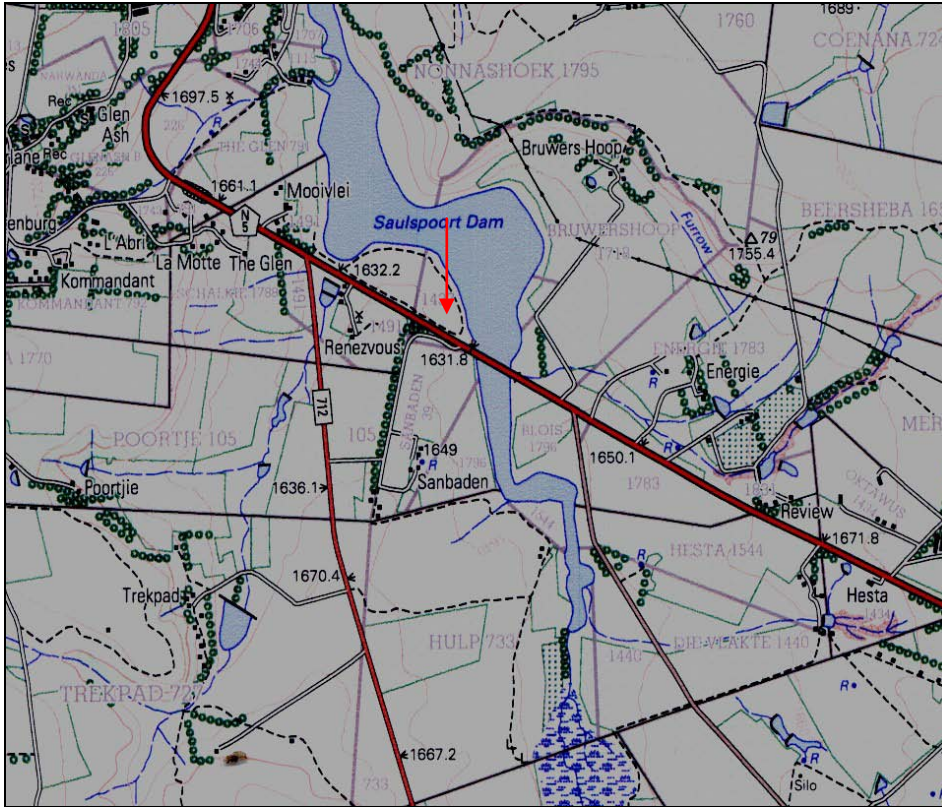
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Map 1 Locality of Bethlehem on the N5 main road to Harrismith and Durban.



Map 2 Position of the farm Rendezvous 1491 outside Bethlehem.

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Fig.1 View from Rendezvous towards the Saulspoort Dam.



Fig.2 Existing buildings at the site will be incorporated in the new developments.



Fig.3 Existing outbuildings will become part of the new developments.



Fig.4 More outbuildings will be developed.