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**FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL
DEVELOPMENTS AT GROENLAND 267, CLARENS, FREE STATE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

New residential developments are planned at Groenland 267, Clarens, Free State.

The area consists of old plough lands which is presently covered with cultivated grazing.

No archaeological and cultural or historical remains were found in the area of development.

I recommend that the proposed developments and planning of the site may proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed residential developments at the farm Groenland 267, Clarens, was visited on 7 July 2006. Mr Duchie Prinsloo, the owner of the farm commissioned the cultural and historical investigation and took me to 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 Groenland 267, Clarens, is located in the district of Bethlehem (Map 1). The land borders on the Golden Gate National park and lies adjacent to the road from Clarens to Golden Gate (Map 2) (Surveyor-General O.F.S. 1973). The developments will be placed to the east of the farmhouse and will make provision for 15 stands.

The vegetation consists of a thick cultivated grass cover (Figs.2&5).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2828DA):

Black wattle trees	28°29'57"S. 028°33'05"E Altitude 1816m (Fig.1).
River (South)	28°29'50"S. 028°33'01"E Altitude 1800m (Fig.3).
River (East)	28°29'49"S. 028°33'14"E Altitude 1793m (Fig.6).
Eastern border fence	28°50'49"S. 026°20'52"E Altitude 1388m (Fig.5).
Fence S/E	28°30'03"S. 026°33'06"E Altitude 1832m (Fig.4).

RESULTS

The area proposed for residential developments used to be old plough lands and is presently planted with cultivated grazing.

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The residential developments at Groenland 267, Clarens, will have no impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage remains at the proposed site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site and I recommend that the proposed residential developments at Groenland 267, Clarens, should proceed.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed developments, no mitigation measures will be required.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank the owner, Mr Duchie Prinsloo for taking me to the site and Elbi Bredenkamp from Enviroworks, Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for involving me in the project.

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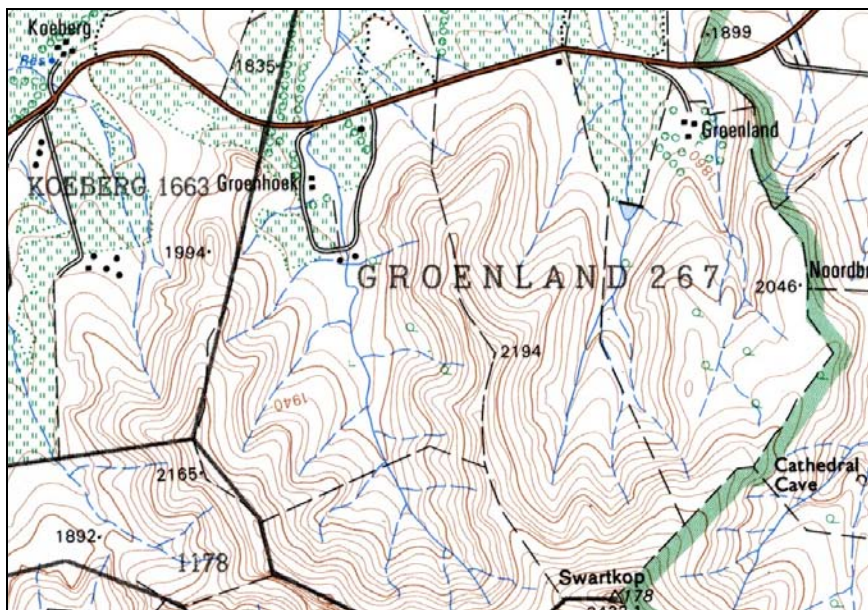
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 1 Locality of Clarens in relation to Fouriesburg, Bethlehem and Golden Gate.



Map 2 Locality of Groenland 267 east of Clarens (2828DA).



Fig.1 View along the southern border of the area of development at Groenland 267.



Fig.2 View of the site at Groenland 267 facing east.



Fig.3 View along the river facing east.



Fig.4 General view of the site at Groenland 267, Clarens.



Fig.5 View along the eastern border of the proposed development at Groenland 267.



Fig.6 Northern limit of the land facing east.