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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS ON THE FARM KRANSDRIFT 243, BOTHAVILLE, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A new leisure residential development is planned along the Vaal River at the farm Kransdrift 243, Bothaville, Free State.

The land consists of a sandy river deposit which had been used as plough lands. The area is bush and grass covered.

No archaeological or cultural remains occurred on the surface.

I recommend that the planning of the residential area could proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site proposed for the leisure residential development at the farm Kransdrift 243, Bothaville, was visited and inspected on 26 June 2007. Cornelis van den Berg of Ecoscope Environmental Consultants, Parys, provided directions to the farm. At the site we were accompanied by Jaco Jordaan, the owner.

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

A leisure residential development is planned along the southern bank of the Vaal River on the farm Kransdrift 243, Bothaville, Free State. The farm lies about 25km west of Bothaville on the R504 to Leeudoringstad (Maps1-3) where it borders on the Vaal River (Figs.1,2&6). The placing of the stands will be along the river (Map 4).

The northern bank of the Vaal River consists of steep stone cliffs (Fig.6). This most likely explains the origin of the farm name Kransdrift.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2726AD):

A 27°20'17"S 026°27'26"E Altitude 1249m (Figs.1&2).

B 27°21'45"S 026°27'41"E Altitude 1242m (Figs.3-4).

River House 27°20'51"S 026°26'52"E Altitude 1244m (Fig.5).

FINDS

The area consists of a sterile clay-sandy alluvial deposit that had been used as plough lands previously (Figs.1&7).

No indication of any archaeological or historical or cultural material was found on the surface.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

I recommend that the proposed developments may proceed.

MITIGATION

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Cornelis van den Berg of Ecoscope Environmental Consultants, Parys, for involving me in the project and provided directions to the farm. Jaco Jordaan for indicated the area proposed for development.

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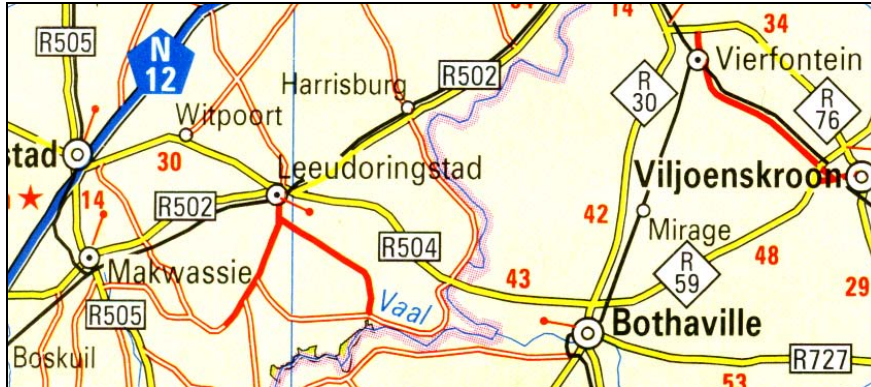
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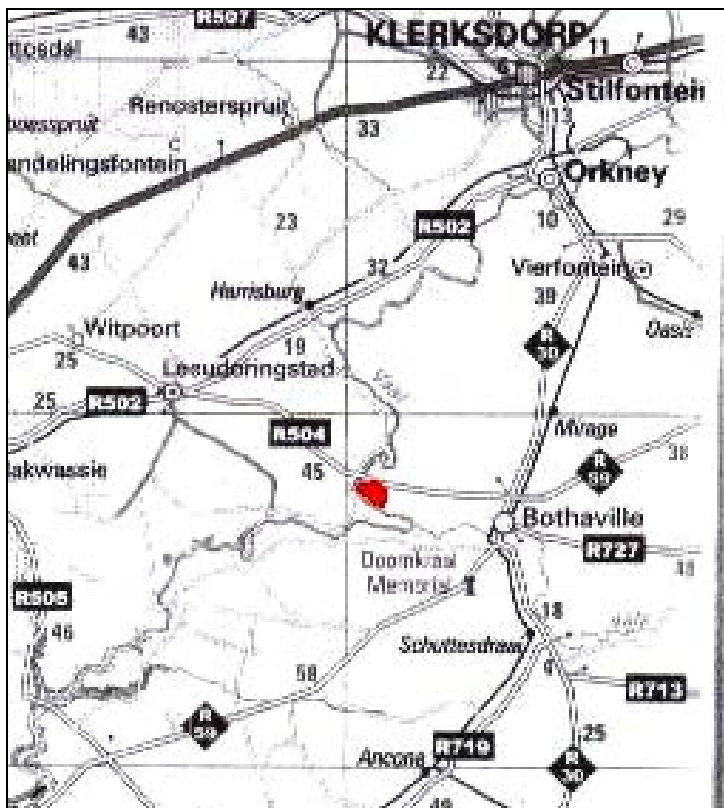
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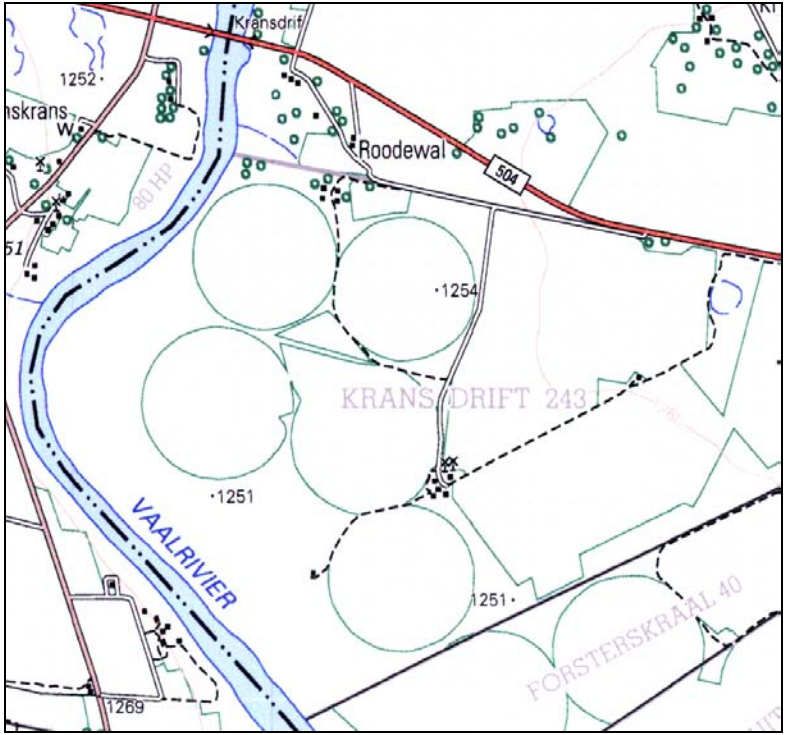
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



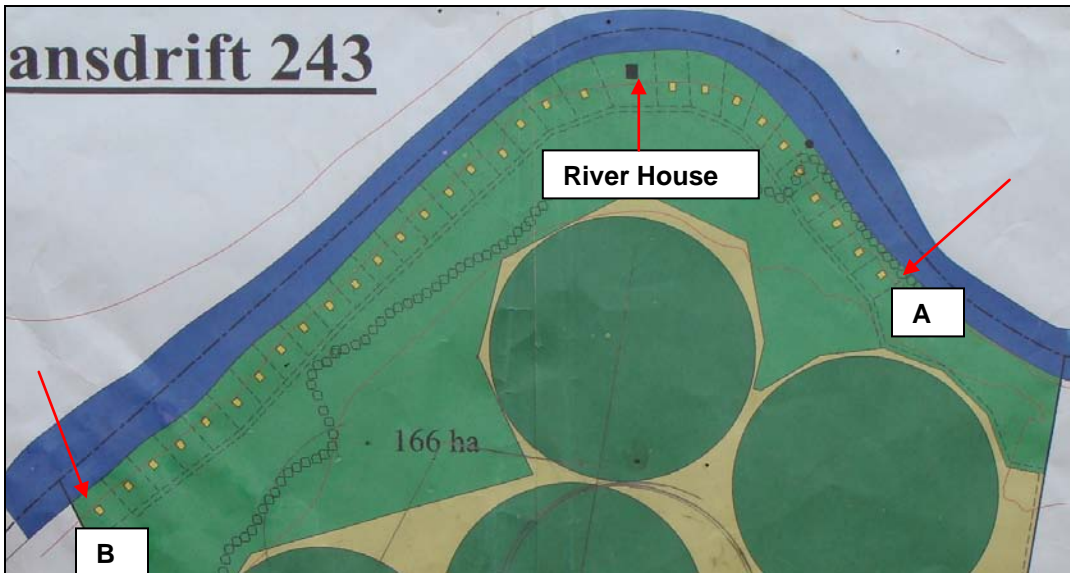
Map 1 The R504 road between Bothaville and Leeudoringstad.



Map 2 Locality of the farm Kransdrift 243, Bothaville on the Vaal River along the R504 to Leeudoringstad.



Map 3 Kransdrift 243 on the Vaal River along the R504 (2726AD).



Map 4 Placing of the leisure residential units along the Vaal River from A to B.



Fig.1 View of the proposed land at Point A.



Fig.2 Point A facing the river.



Fig.3 Point B facing the river.



Fig.4 The bush at Point B.



Fig.5 The existing river house.



Fig.6 View across the stream at the river house. Note the solid cliffs on the opposite bank.



Fig.7 The area proposed for development at Kransdrift 243, consist of a sterile alluvial sandy deposit.