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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS AT THE FARM KALKOENKRANS 164, ROSENDAL, FREE STATE

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed housing developments at Kalkoenkrans 164 near Rosendal was visited and inspected on 2 March 2006. Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, and Jako Viviers of LMV Environmental Specialists, Kroonstad accompanied 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 proposed residential area is located on the farm Kalkoenkrans 164 to the south east of Rosendal in the Ficksburg District, Free State Province (Surveyor-General 1973).

The residential developments are planned on the east-facing slope of the hill called Kalkoenkrans (Map 2).

The following GPS co-ordinates were taken:

Stone walls 28°31'49"S. 027°56'22"E. Altitude 1837m.

Stone walls	28°31'48"S. 027°56'24"E. Altitude 1837m.
Stone walls	28°31'48"S. 027°56'29"E. Altitude 1820m.
Stone walls	28°31'47"S. 027°56'31"E. Altitude 1814m.
Stone walls	28°31'37"S. 027°56'32"E. Altitude 1799m.
Oak tree	28°31'28"S. 027°56'42"E. Altitude 1764m.
Drainage donga	28°31'21"S. 027°41'29"E. Altitude 1764m.
North western limit	28°31'15"S. 027°56'38"E. Altitude 1820m.

FINDS

An elaborate stone-walled archaeological site occur from the cluster of Blue gum trees on the hill down along the slope (Fig.1). The site also produced lower grinding stones (Fig.7) and upper grinding stones (Fig.6) near ash heaps with potsherds and other ceramic objects (Fig.8).

A ceramic spoon or ladle which was found at the site, is very common at the Later Iron Age sites of the region and has been described by a number of archaeologists from a variety of excavations in the Free State and trans-Vaal (Maggs 1976, Dreyer 1992).

No indication of any other archaeological or historical material was found on the lower parts of the hill.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the list given above, it seems that the stone walls occur only above the 1800m contour.

I recommend that the development of the residential sites should be limited to below the 1800m contour. It should further be noted that the sites should be avoided and that the walls should not be damaged during the building phase.

I recommend that the proposed developments may proceed and that the archaeological sites should be avoided.

MITIGATION

Concerning the area for the proposed development, the only mitigation measures are needed in the case of the stone walls against the slope of the hill.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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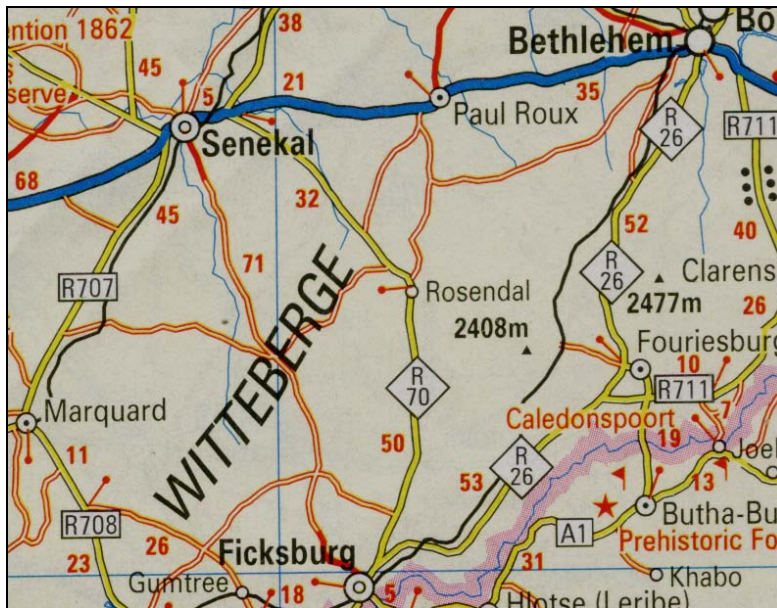
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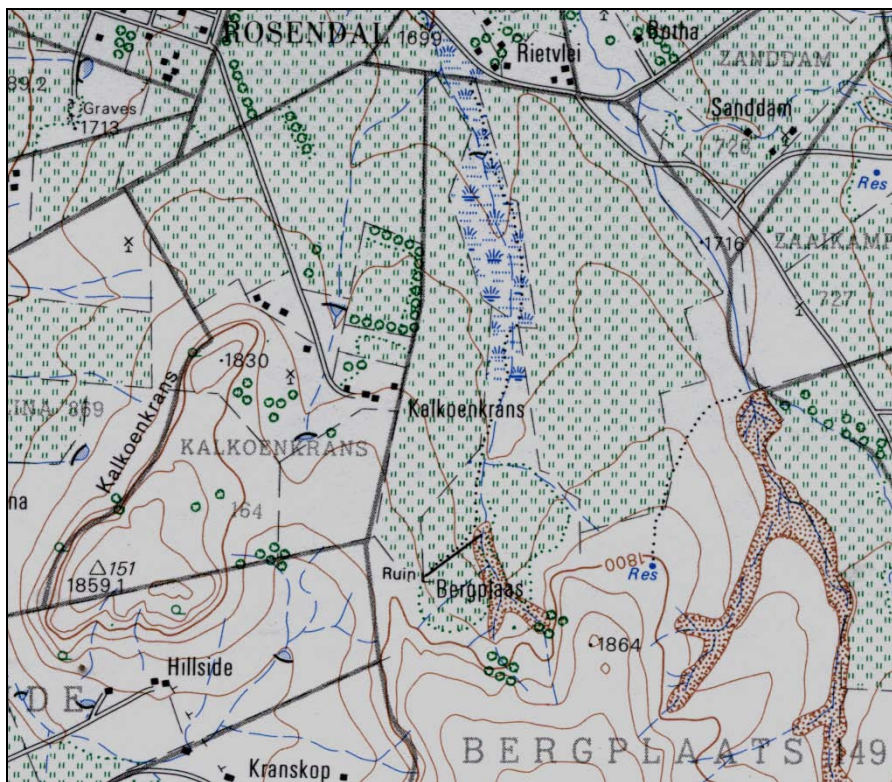
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 1 Locality of Rosendal in relation to Senekal, Bethlehem, Paul Roux and Ficksburg.



Map 2 Locality of Kalkoenkrans 164 outside Rosendal (2827DB).



Fig.1 View from the farmhouse at Kalkoenkrans towards the area of development facing west. Position of tone-walled site indicated by arrow.



Fig.2 Closer look at the area of development at Kalkoenkrans 164, Rosendal.



Fig.3 Remains of a stone-walled archaeological site on top of and along the ridge.



Fig.4 A grand specimen of a Blue guarri tree (*Euclea crispa*) on the archaeological site at Kalkoenkrans 164, Rosendal.



Fig.5 Remains of a stone kraal at the site.



Fig.6 Upper grinding stone from the site at Kalkoenkrans.



Fig.7 Part of a lower grinding stone in the centre of picture.



Fig.8 Part of a pottery ladle from the site. This feature is quite common find on Iron Age archaeological sites in the Free State.



Fig.9 Sandstone cliff overhang near the archaeological site.



Fig.10 View across the Later Iron Age site against the slope.



Fig.11 Rosendal as seen from the top of Kalkoenkrans.



Fig.12 The proposed area of development north of the labourer's houses.



Fig.13 Drainage ditch and dam.



Fig.14 The area towards the northern end of Kalkoenkrans.



Fig.15 Hollows beneath big boulders on the level area.



Fig.16 A single rock painting on one of the boulders.



Fig.17 View towards Lesotho from the site.



Fig.18 View towards the south from Kalkoenkrans. One of the Pyramids is visible on the left, Visierskerf indicated in red and Sekonyella's hat is marked by red arrow.