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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE LANDFILL SITE AT FICKSBURG, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Extensions are planned to the existing landfill site near Ficksburg, Free State.

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

The proposed developments and planning of the site may proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The area for the proposed extension to the landfill site near Ficksburg was visited on 20 April 2006, in the company of Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants.

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 landfill site is located to the west outside Ficksburg (Map 2) (Surveyor-General 1973).

The site is located along the Hammonia road at a turn of from the R26 main road to Clocolan and Fouriesburg (Map 1).

The area around the existing landfill site is severely damaged and littered with household debris.

The land consists of sandy soil and is surrounded by a part of the old Blue gum plantation (Fig.6).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken on the outskirts of the proposed site (2827DD):

28°50'35"S 027°52'21"E Altitude 1625m (Fig.1).

28°50'39"S 027°52'14"E Altitude 1615m (Fig.2).

28°50'42"S 027°52'23"E Altitude 1627m (Fig.3).

RESULTS

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found in the proposed development area.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The proposed extension of the landfill site at Ficksburg will have no impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage remains in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No obvious reasons could be found to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site and I recommend that the proposed developments at Ficksburg should proceed.

MITIGATION

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Dr Johan du Preez from MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for taking me to the site.

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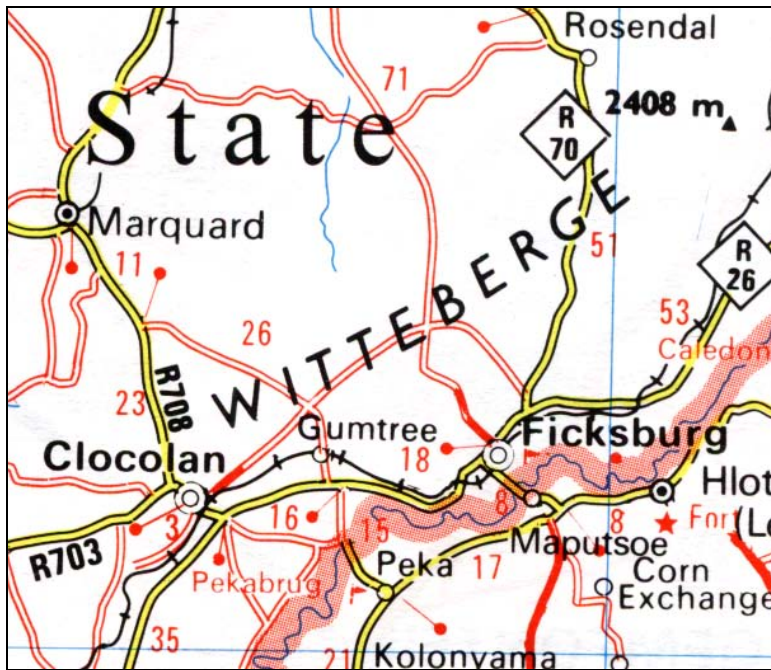
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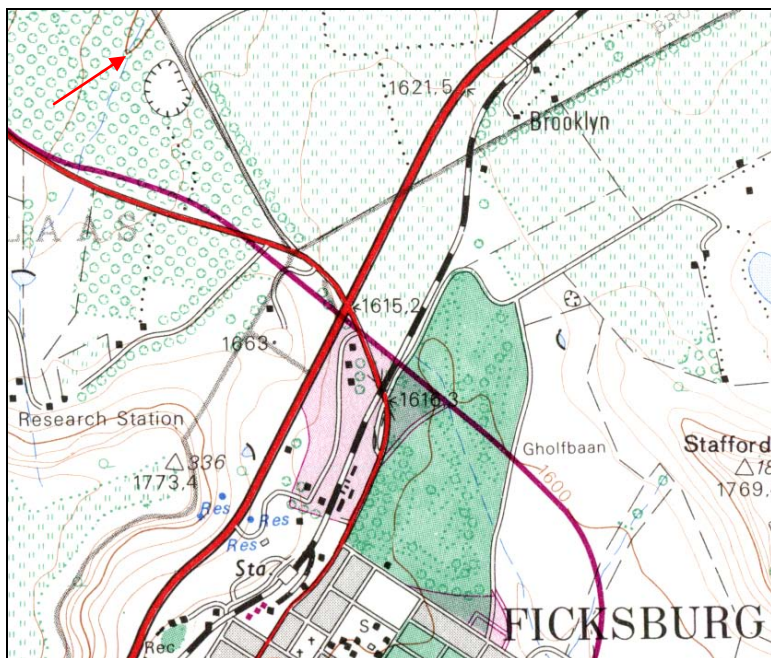
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 1 Locality of Ficksburg in relation to Rosendal, Clocolan and Marquard.



Map 2 Locality of the proposed extensions to the existing landfill site at Ficksburg (2827DD).



Fig.1 Existing landfill site at Ficksburg.



Fig.2 Debris of the outskirts of the Ficksburg landfill site.



Fig.3 Another view of the landfill site at Ficksburg.



Fig.4 View of the Ficksburg landfill site.



Fig.5 Area for the extension of the landfill site at Ficksburg.



Fig.6 Area around the existing landfill site inside the old plantation near Imperani Mountain.