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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS AT FICKSBURG, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residential developments are planned at Ficksburg, Free State. The area of development lies adjacent to the existing township of Meqeleng. The area has already been disturbed by an extensive informal housing settlement.

No archaeological or any cultural remains were found at the site.

Mitigation measures are not necessary and I recommend that the proposed developments and formalising of the site may proceed.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed residential developments at Meqeleng at Ficksburg was visited on 23 March 2007. Mr Piet de Bie from Phethogo Consultants, Bloemfontein, gave directions 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).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Ficksburg in relation to Marquard, Clocolan and the Lesotho border.



Map 2 Placing of the residential developments at Meqeleng, Ficksburg.



Fig.1 The informal settlements at Meqeleng, Ficksburg.



Fig.2 Informal housing at Meqeleng, Ficksburg.



Fig.3 Gardening on the outskirts at Meqeleng, Ficksburg.



Fig.4 Open grazing fields adjacent to the township extension.



Fig.5 Unofficial extension of the house stands on the outskirts of the township.