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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED ERECTION OF A CELL PHONE MAST AT THE FARM WAAGSTUK 136, HEILBRON, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The erection of the Vredelust cell phone mast is planned at the farm Waagstuk 136 in the district of Heilbron, Free State.

The specific point lies on land that had been used for farming activities and no cultural or historical material were found.

A cluster of about 25 graves is located outside the area of development and will not be affected by the erection of the new mast.

I recommend that further planning and development of the site may continue.

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed erection of the Vredelust cell phone mast at the farm Waagstuk 136, Heilbron, was visited on 23 August 2007. I was taken to the farm by Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein.

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 Waagstuk 136 is located in the district of Heilbron, Free State. The farm is reached along the R57 road from Heilbron to Petrus Steyn (Map 1).

The locality of the selected cell phone site is shown on Map 3.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (Map 2) (2727BD) (Surveyor-General 1973).

A	27°22'52"S 027°59'07"E Altitude 1648m (Figs.1&2).
GRAVES	27°22'43"S 027°59'11"E Altitude 1655m (Figs.3-8).

RESULTS

FINDS

The area of development contains no cultural or historical material.

A cluster of about 25 graves (Figs.3-8) is located outside the area of development. According to the names on some of the grave stones the graves are those of farm labourers who had been buried there (Figs.4,5,7,8).

No indication of any archaeological or other historical material or any stone tools or ceramic ware was found.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

Part of the site has already been disturbed by agricultural activities.

The cluster of graves falls outside the proposed area of development and will not be affected by the erection of the cell phone mast.

I consider that the developments will have no major impact on the archaeological, cultural or historical heritage of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the planning and erection of the proposed Vredelust cell phone mast at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron, may proceed.

MITIGATION

Concerning the proposed cell phone mast at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron, no mitigation measures will be required.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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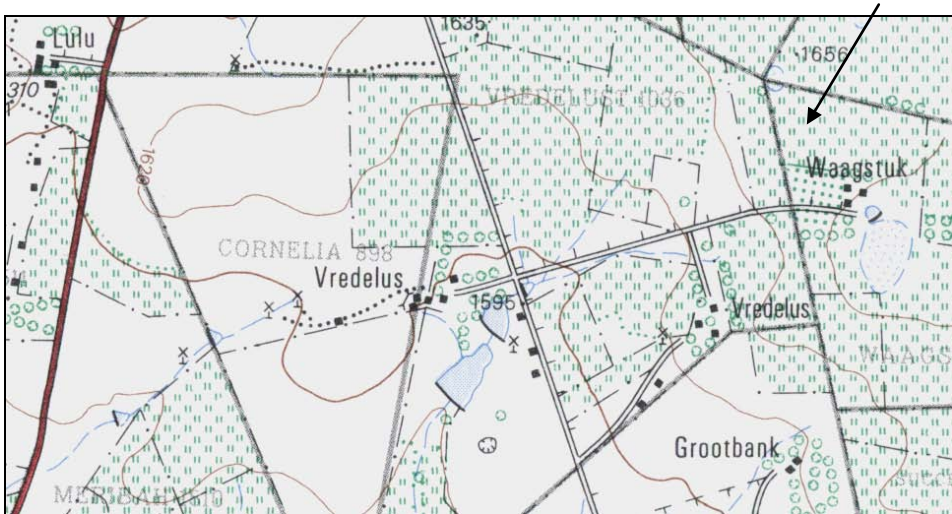
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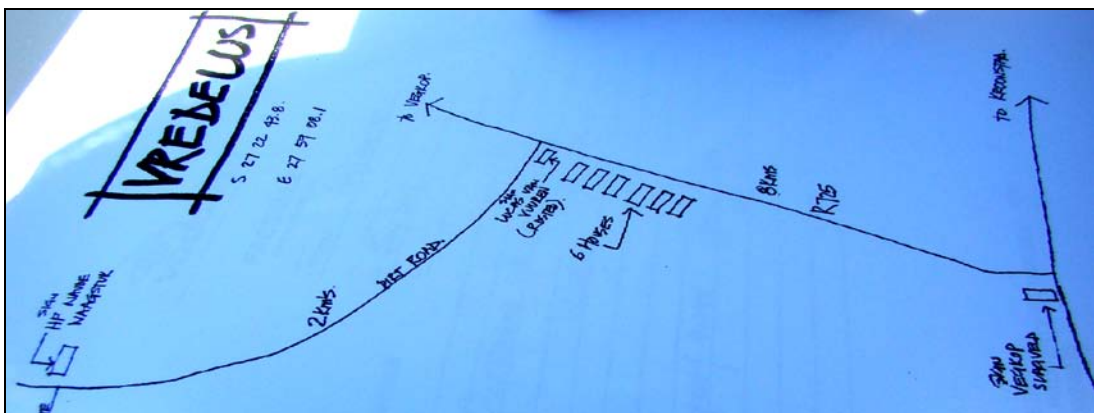
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Heilbron, Free State.



Map 2 Locality of the farm Waagstuk 136, Heilbron (2727BD).



Map 3 Locality of the Vredelust cell phone mast at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.



Fig.1 Point A facing north.



Fig.2 Point A facing west.



Fig.3 A cluster of about 25 graves at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.



Fig.4 The grave of Letia Khaa 1938 at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.



Fig.5 Grave of Makhata Motholo at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.



Fig.6 An unmarked grave at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.



Fig.7 The grave of Mnguni Mafa Born 4/3/1938 Died 23/6/1990.



Fig.8 The grave of Peete Motholo at Waagstuk 136, Heilbron.