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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENTS AT TIKWANA (HOOPSTAD), FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residential developments are planned at Tikwana near Hoopstad, Free State.

The area selected for developments contains sandy soil and is part of old plough lands.

No archaeological or other cultural or historical material was found on the soil surface.

I recommend that further planning of the township project may continue.

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed housing developments at Tikwana (Hoopstad) was visited and inspected on 9 July 2008. Tommie Bolton from LS & B Environmental Consultants, Welkom, 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).

LOCALITY

The proposed developments are located east of Hoopstad along the R34 road to Welkom (Map 1). The area borders on the existing township (Map 2). (Surveyor-General 1973).

The specific dimensions of the area are indicated on a detailed map prepared by the developer (Map 3).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2725DD).

- A** 27°50'27"S. 025°56'31"E. Altitude 1234m (Figs.1-3).
- B** 27°50'38"S. 025°57'11"E. Altitude 1243m (Fig.4).
- C** 27°50'50"S. 025°56'20"E. Altitude 1239m (Figs.5-7).
- D** 27°51'13"S. 025°57'04"E. Altitude 1240m (Figs.8-10).
- E** 27°50'54"S. 025°56'45"E. Altitude 1241m (Figs.11&12).

FINDS

Due to disturbances by farming activities and the close proximity of the existing township, no remains of early human occupation or cultural material could be found in this area.

No indication of any archaeological or historical material was found neither were any stone tools or ceramic ware found.

The localities are likewise very sandy and not close enough to the higher ground, which is the obvious living site for people during prehistoric times.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

I recommended that the proposed developments may proceed.

MITIGATION

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Tommie Bolton from LS & B Consultants, Welkom, for directing me to the site.

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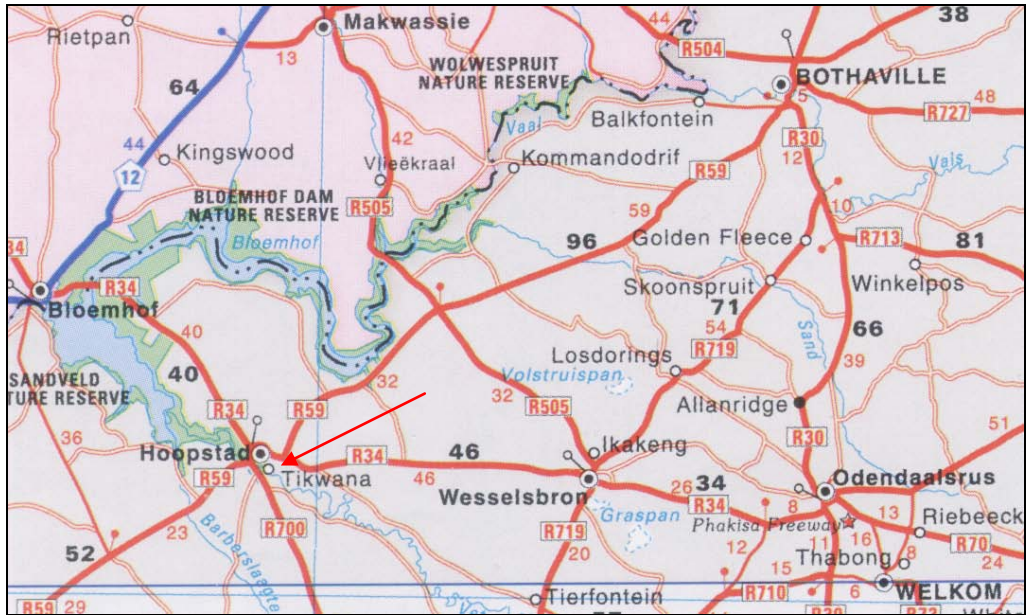
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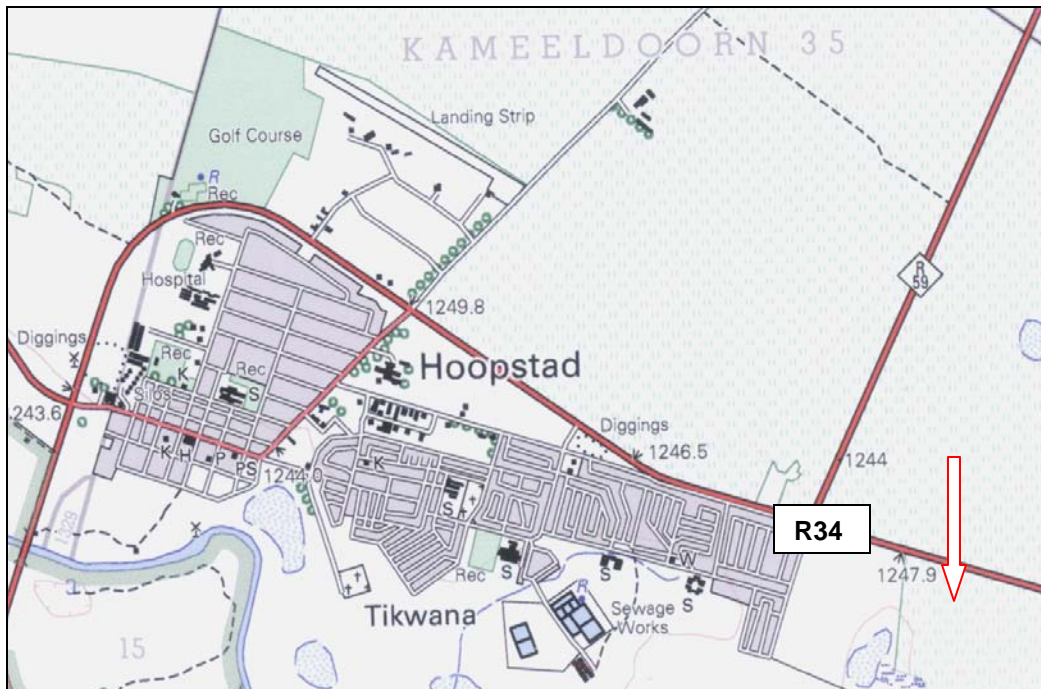
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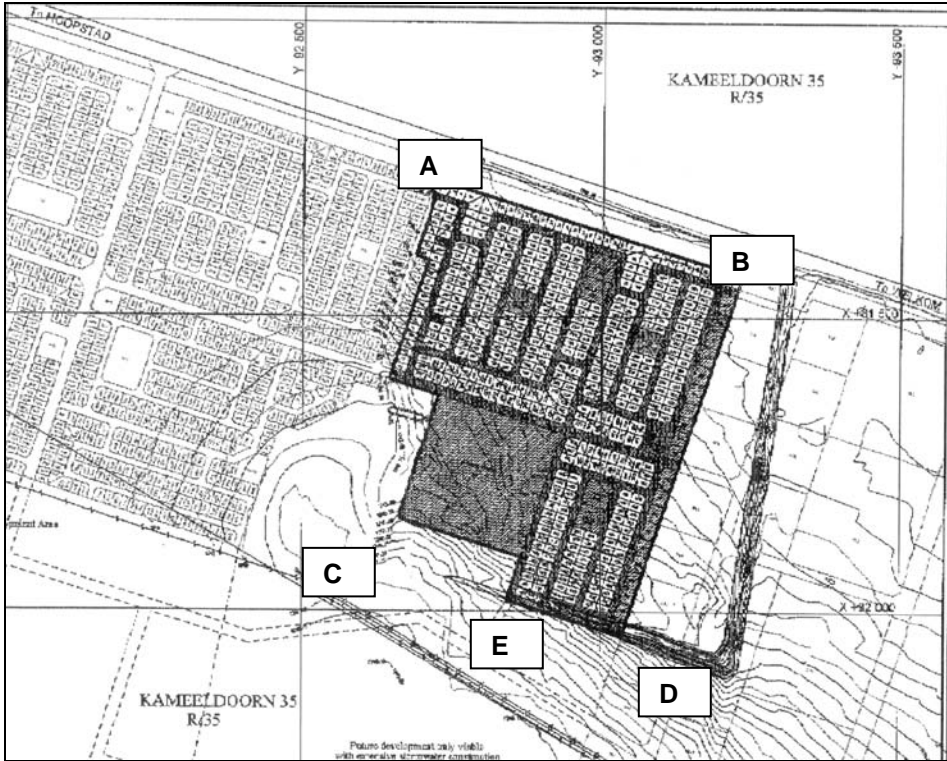
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Tikwana near Hoopstad in relation to other towns in the area.



Map 2 Layout of Hoopstad and Tikwana(2725DD). New development indicated by red arrow.



Map 3 Detail of the proposed township establishment at Tikwana (Hoopstad). GPS coordinate points were taken at random.



Fig.1 Point A on the R34 road to Welkom.



Fig.2 Point A on the R34 road.



Fig.3 Point A on the R34 road.



Fig.4 Point B on the R34 road.



Fig.5 Point C facing west across the dam.



Fig.6 Point C facing south.



Fig.7 Point C facing north.



Fig.8 Point D facing north.



Fig.9 Point D facing south.



Fig.10 Point D facing towards Hoopstad.



Fig.11 Sterile sand at Point E.



Fig.12 Sandy soil at Point E.