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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS AT VAN RIEBEECK PARK, KROONSTAD, FREE STATE

INVESTIGATION

The site for the new residential developments at Van Riebeeck Park, Kroonstad, was visited and inspected on 10 June 2005. Dr Johan du Preez of Cebo Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, 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 site for the proposed residential developments at Kroonstad is located on municipal land, known as Van Riebeeck Park along the southern bank of the Vals River. The developments will include residential stands as well as town houses.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape) were taken:

Western point 27°40'17"S. 027°13'53"E Altitude 1339m (Figs.1&2).

Van der Lingen Street 27°40'25"S. 027°14'03"E Altitude 1346m.

C/o Van der Lingen & Louw Street 27°40'25"S. 027°14'17"E Altitude 1354m (Fig.3).

Eastern end (Fig.7).

The area is undeveloped and in a serious state of neglect, due to the dumping of rubbish along the riverbank (Figs.5-6).

FINDS

No remains of any archaeological or historical significance were found in the area along the riverbank of the Vals River at Kroonstad.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

After examination by the archaeologist, it is recommended that the proposed developments may proceed.

MITIGATION

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

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:

Map1 Locality of Kroonstad



Fig.1 View of Van Riebeeck Park along Van der Lingen Street, Kroonstad.



Fig.2 Van Riebeeck Park, Kroonstad facing the Vals River.



Fig.3 Van Riebeeck Park, Kroonstad. Van der Lingen Street on the right.



Fig.4 General view of the area along the Vals River.



Fig.5 Litter along the Vals River, Kroonstad.



Fig.6 State of littering along the southern bank of the Vals River.



Fig.7 Eastern end of the land earmarked for development at Kroonstad.