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## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS AT PETRUS STEYN, FREE STATE**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Residential developments are planned at Petrus Steyn, Free State. The area of development lies adjacent to the existing township of Mamafubedu. There is a considerable cemetery in the area and the surroundings are clearly disturbed by cattle grazing and trenching activities.

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

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

### **INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION**

#### **INVESTIGATION**

The site for the proposed residential developments at Mamafubedu near Petrus Steyn was visited on 23 February 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).

## LOCALITY

The proposed residential developments are planned adjacent to the township of Mamafubedu, Petrus Steyn, Free State (Map 1). The placing of the residential developments at Mamafubedu, Petrus Steyn, is indicated on Map 2.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (Surveyor-General 1973):

B	27°40'10"S. 028°08'02"E Altitude 1689m (Figs.1&2).
C	27°40'27"S. 028°08'23"E Altitude 1698m (Fig.3).
D	27°40'36"S. 028°08'16"E Altitude 1686m (Figs.4&5).
E	27°40'17"S. 028°07'46"E Altitude 1686m (Fig.6).

## RESULTS

The planned developments will extend the township of Mamafubedu, at Petrus Steyn, Free State.

The area covers old plough lands that are presently used as grazing fields by the inmates of the township (Fig.6).

Trenches which are probably the remains of old sewer dams are still visible (Fig.7).

There is an extensive cemetery (Fig.10) and the area is covered in household debris. Part of the area contains extensive stock enclosures (Fig.8) where cattle, other small stock and pigs are kept (Fig.9).

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

## IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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

The residential developments at Mamafubedu, Petrus Steyn, will have no impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage remains at the site.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site and I recommend that the proposed residential developments should proceed.

## **MITIGATION**

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

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I thank Mr Piet de Bie of Phethogo Consulting, Bloemfontein, for involving me in the project.

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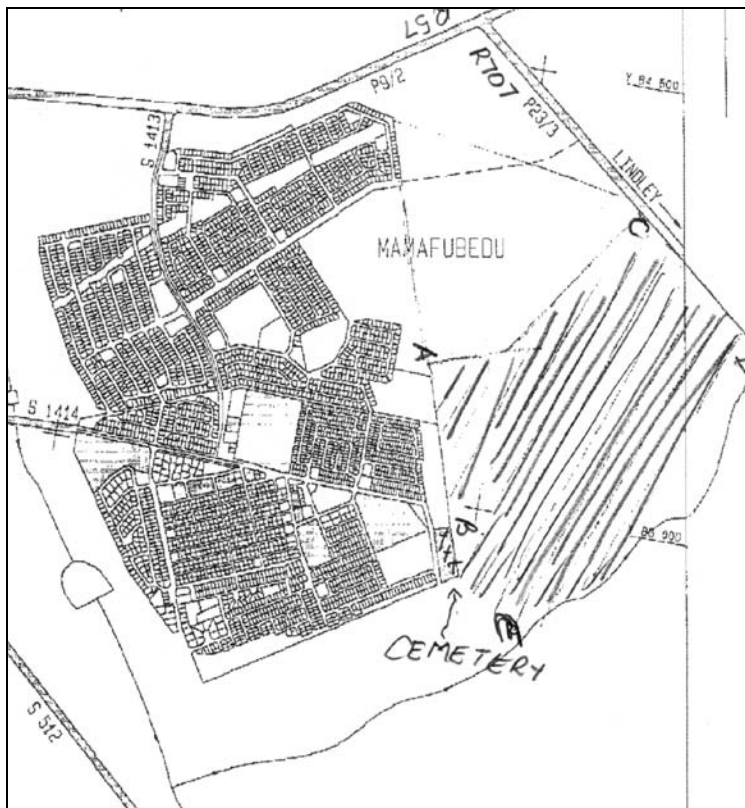
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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 The town of Petrus Steyn in relation to Bethlehem, Reitz and Warden.



Map 2 Placing of the residential developments at Mamafubedu, Petrus Steyn.



Fig.1 View across the proposed site of development at Point B. Cemetery in foreground.



Fig.2 View across the proposed site of development at Point B.





Fig.3 View from point C.



Fig.4 View from point D along the R707 road to Lindley.



Fig.5 View from point D.



Fig.6 View from point E.



Fig.7 The remains of old sewer dams.



Fig.8 There are several stock enclosures in the area.





Fig.9 Cattle and small stock are kept by the inmates of the township.



Fig.10 The cemetery at Mamafubedu, Petrus Steyn.