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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residential developments are planned at Gariep Dam, Free State. The area of development lies adjacent to the existing township of Hydro Park. The surroundings are clearly disturbed by previous domestic 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 Gariep Dam was visited on 9 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 Hydro Park, north west of Gariep Dam (Map 2).

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | 30°35'03"S. 025°30'13"E Altitude 1285m (Figs.1&2). |
| B | 30°34'58"S. 025°30'11"E Altitude 1387m (Fig.3). |
| C | 30°34'54'05"S. 025°30'11"E Altitude 1285m (Fig.4&5). |

RESULTS

The planned developments are to extend the existing township of Hydro Park, at Gariep Dam, Free State.

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 proposed residential developments at Gariep Dam will have no impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage remains at the site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no obvious reasons 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

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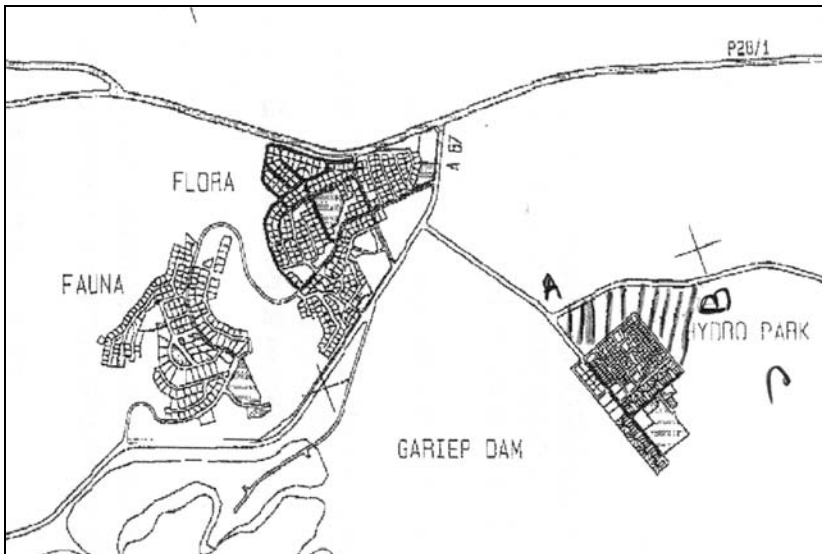
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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Gariep Dam in relation to Bethulie and Springfontein.



Map 2 Placing of the residential developments at Hydro Park, Gariep Dam.



Fig.1 View across the proposed site of development at Hydro Park, Gariep Dam (Point A).



Fig.2 View along the airfield road adjacent to Hydro Park, Gariep Dam.



Fig.3 View from point B along the outskirts of Hydro Park.



Fig.4 View from point C along the area of development.



Fig.5 View of the site facing south from point C.



Fig.6 Disturbance of the soil surface during trenching operations.