



COBUS DREYER

Pr. Archaeologist/Heritage Specialist

**P.O. Box 12910
Brandhof
9324
dreyerj@telkomsa.net**

**Tel: 051-444 1187
Fax: 051-444 4395
Cell: 083 357 7982**

14 February 2006

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED POULTRY FARM AT WELTEVREDEN NOORD 17, VILJOENSKROON, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed poultry farm will be developed the farm Weltevreden Noord 17 near Viljoenskroon.

The area earmarked for development contains old plough lands and is described as a piece of wasteland.

No cultural or historical material could be found on the site.

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

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed developments of a poultry farm at Weltevreden Noord 17, Viljoenskroon, was visited on 17 January 2006 in the company of Dr Johan du Preez of Cebo Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein.

At the farm we were interviewed by Mr Lourens van Rensburg, the owner.

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 Weltevreden Noord 17 (Surveyor-General 1973) is located to the north of Viljoenskroon (Map 3). Access to the farm is gained from the R76 main road from Kroonstad to Orkney via Viljoenskroon and by following the S1239 gravel road through the Rammulotsi township (Map 2).

The proposed developments are planned to cover 400m² on a portion of the farm that used to be plough lands in the past, but due to the heavy clay soil, it proved to be inappropriate for this purpose and has now become wasteland (Figs.2-4).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2726BB & 2727AA).

Rammulotsi Township	27°10'47"S 026°57'53"E	Altitude 1393m (Fig.1).
R76 Kroonstad-Orkney	27°11'57"S 026°57'07"E	Altitude 1324m.
Proposed land	27°10'47"S 026°57'53"E	Altitude 1393m (Figs.2-4).

RESULTS

FINDS

The area earmarked for developments at Weltevreden Noord 17, Viljoenskroon, did not produce any archaeological, cultural or historical material.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The development of a battery for chicken farming will not have any impact on the cultural or historical heritage of the land or the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that proposed developments at the farm Weltevreden Noord 17, Viljoenskroon may proceed.

MITIGATION

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

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

After examination I recommended that the proposed developments may proceed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for taking me to the site.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:

DEACON, J. 1992. Archaeology for Planners, Developers and Local Authorities. Cape Town: National Monuments Council.

DREYER, J. 1996. Introduction to Free State Iron Age Archaeology. In: Guide to archaeological sites in the Free State and Lesotho. Southern African Association of Archaeologists (SA3), 14th Biennial Conference, Bloemfontein, Post-conference tour 5-8 July 1996. Bloemfontein: National Museum.

DREYER, J. 2000. Mountains and Rivers of the Free State - Manual for field research / Berge en Riviere van die Vrystaat – Handleiding vir veldnavorsing. Bloemfontein: University of the Free State, Department of Anthropology, Occasional Paper No. 2.

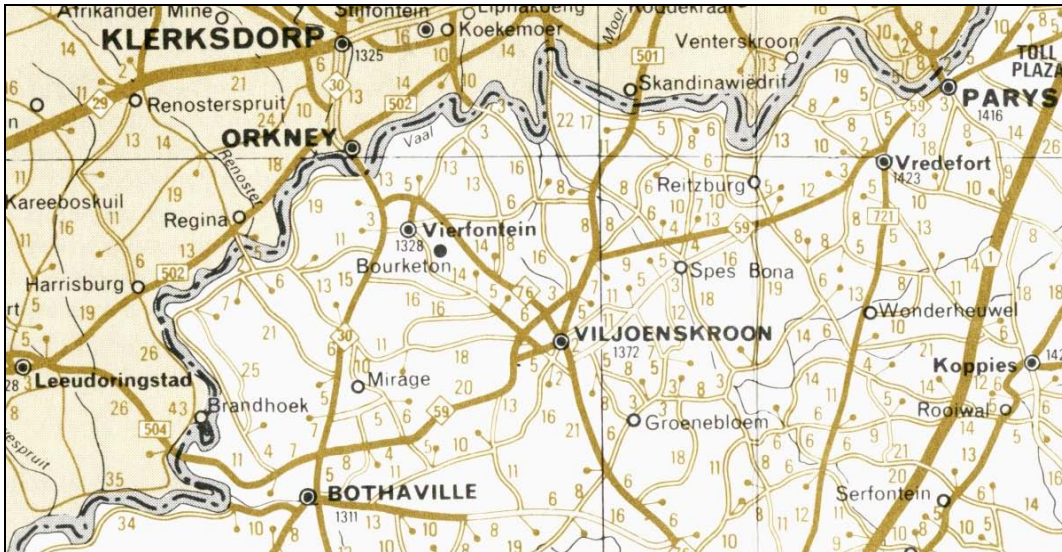
HUMPHREYS, A.J.B. 1986. Searching for the past. Cape Town: David Philip.

MAGGS, T.M. 1976. Iron Age Communities of the Southern Highveld. Pietermaritzburg: Natal Museum.

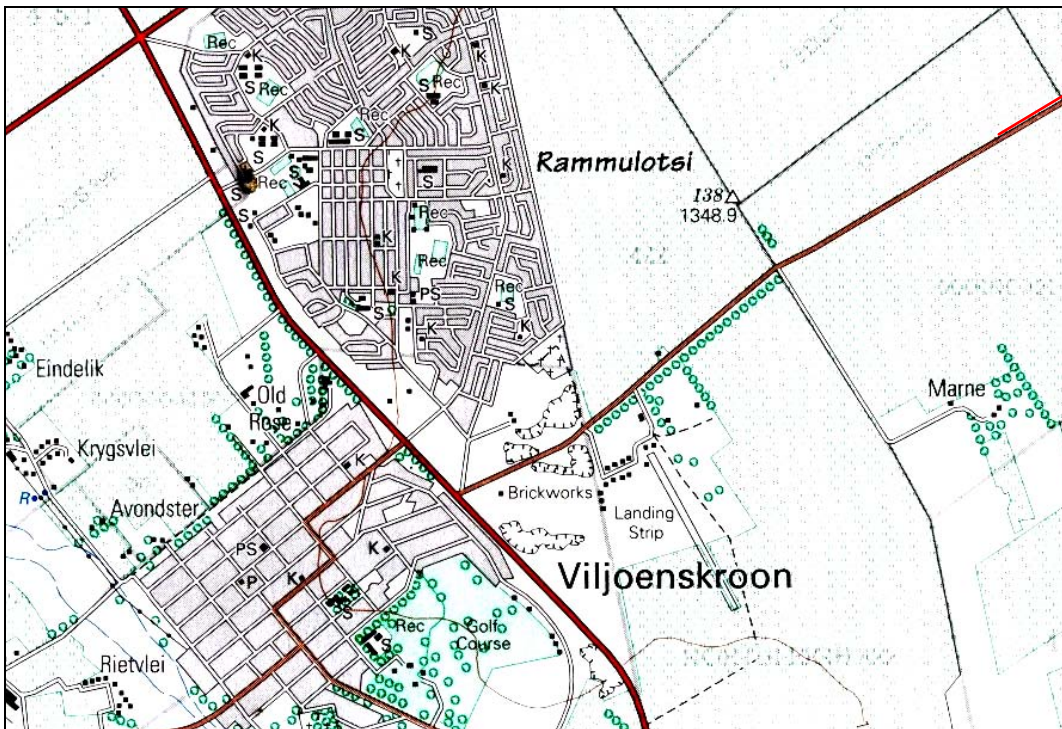
PISTORIUS, J.C.C. 1994. Eskom Archaeological Site Identification Guide. Johannesburg: Eskom.

SURVEYOR-GENERAL O.F.S. 1973. Index of Orange Free State Farms. Bloemfontein.

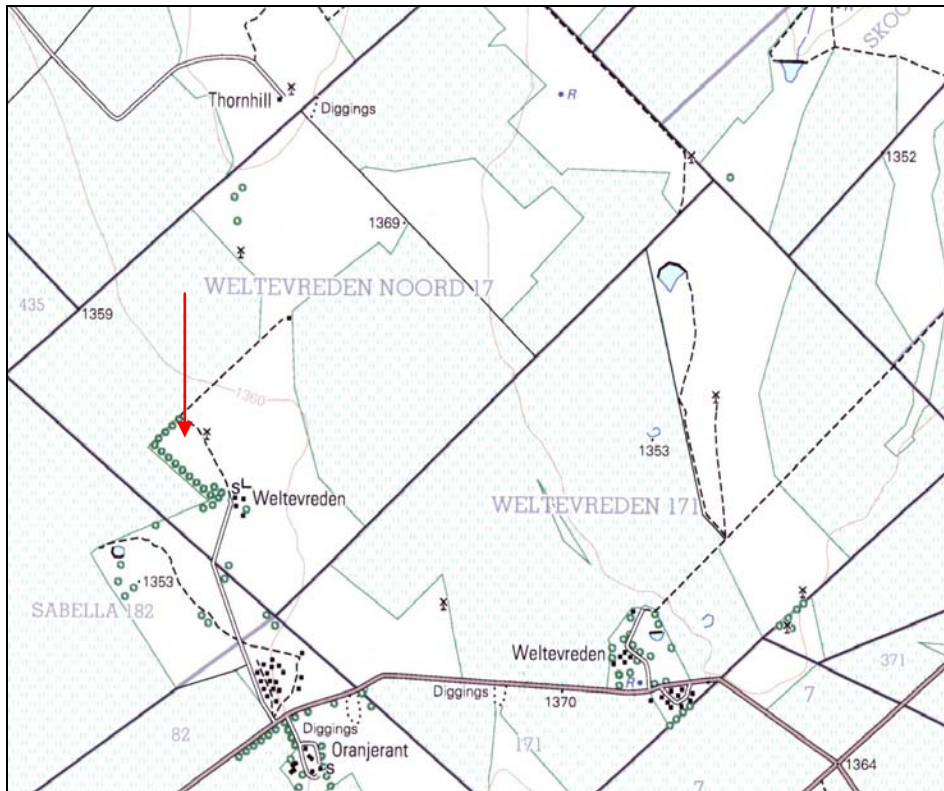
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Viljoenskroon in relation to Bothaville, Orkney & Parys.



Map 2 The road to Weltevreden Noord 17 leaves the R76 main road between Kroonstad and Orkney on the S1239 secondary road from Viljoenskroon through the Rammulotsi township.



Map 3 The farm Weltevrede Noord 17 near Viljoenskroon. Red arrow indicates the land under discussion.



Fig.1 View along the R76 from Kroonstad to Orkney outside Viljoenskroon facing north-west.



Fig.2 View of the proposed land on Weltevrede Noord 17, Viljoenskroon, facing east towards the farmhouse (See map 3).



Fig.3 Cultivated grazing on the land.



Fig.4 Blue gum trees border the land on three sides.