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FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE FARM NORTHLEIGH 422, VILJOENSKROON, FREE STATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The formalising of the residential area at Rammulotsi, is planned on the farm Northleigh 422, Viljoenskroon, Free State.

The area contains an existing informal housing development and lies along the R76 road from Viljoenskroon to Kroonstad. The piece of land has already been disturbed and contains no cultural or historical material.

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

INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION

INVESTIGATION

The site for the proposed formalising of the housing developments on the farm Northleigh 422, Viljoenskroon, was visited on 8 August 2006. I was directed to the site by Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein.

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 formalising of existing residential developments will take place on the farm Northleigh 422, outside Viljoenskroon (Map 2), adjacent to the R76 from Viljoenskroon to Kroonstad (Map 1) (Surveyor-General 1973).

The different points of reference are indicated on Map 3.

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

Point A 27°12'04"S 026°57'51"E Altitude 1343m (Figs.1-4).

Point B 27°12'35"S 026°57'48"E Altitude 1335m (Figs.5-7).

Point C 27°12'14"S 026°57'30"E Altitude 1340m (Figs.8-9).

RESULTS

FINDS

The existing informal settlements will be upgraded to become part of Rammulotsi Township.

This area did not produce any archaeological or cultural or historical material.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The site has already been disturbed during the development of the informal residential settlement and other diggings in the vicinity.

The formalising of the township will have no impact on the archaeological, cultural or historical heritage of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the proposed residential developments at Rammulotsi, near 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.

I recommend that the proposed developments may proceed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank Dr Johan du Preez of MDA Environmental Consultants, Bloemfontein, for involving me in the project.

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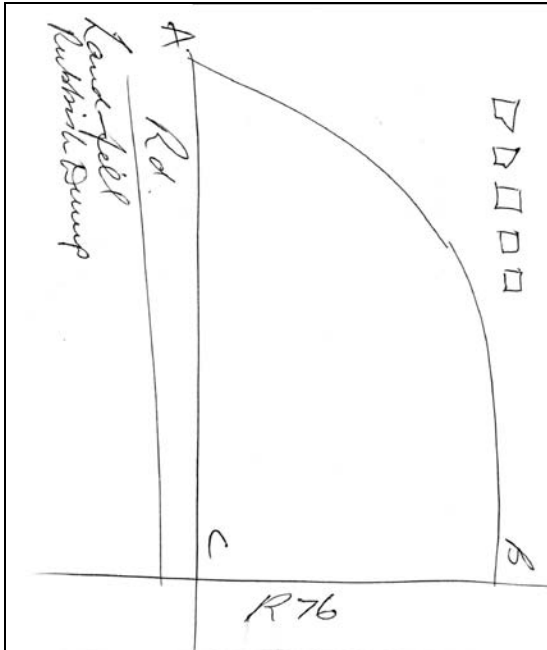
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Viljoenskroon in relation to Kroonstad.



Map 2 Locality of Northleigh 422 outside Viljoenskroon. (2726BB).



Map 3 Plan layout of the proposed site indicating the points of reference.



Fig.1 View of the proposed area of development at Rammulotsi.



Fig.2 The proposed area of development facing towards the existing township.



Fig.3 The proposed area as seen from point A (Map 3).



Fig.4 Another view from Point A (Map 3).



Fig.5 View of the site from Point B (Map 3).



Fig.6 Second view of the site from Point B facing the existing township (Map 3).



Fig.7 Point B facing towards the residential area of Viljoenskroon (Map 3).



Fig.8 The proposed area of development facing towards the existing township from Point C (Map 3).



Fig.9 View from Point C facing north (Map 3).