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## **FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS AT PORTION 55 OF THE FARM DAPPERFONTEIN 55, NORVALSPONT, EASTERN CAPE**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

New residential developments are planned at Portion 55 of the farm Dapperfontein, Norvalspont, Eastern Cape.

A sparse scatter of highly patinated stone flakes was found on the surface. The flakes are considered as a general occurrence in the specific area, and it is not of any significance.

The area proposed for the new residential developments has already been disturbed by various activities over many years.

No other archaeological or cultural remains were found in the proposed area of development.

I recommend that the proposed developments and planning of the site may proceed.

### **INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION**

#### **INVESTIGATION**

The site at Norvalspont was visited on 28 March 2008. Dr Johan du Preez from MDA 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**

New residential developments are planned at Portion 55 of the farm Dapperfontein, Norvalspont, Eastern Cape.

The site is located east of the town along the R58 road to Gariep Dam (Map 1).

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (3025CB). Coordinate points were selected at random to plot the borders of the proposed piece of land.

Point A                            30°37'26"S. 025°27'28"E Altitude 1227m (Figs.).

Point B                            30°37'40"S. 025°27'15"E Altitude 1225m (Figs.).

## **RESULTS**

### **FINDS**

The area proposed for the new residential developments has already been disturbed by road building activities and brick manufacturing over many years (Fig.10).

A sparse scatter of highly patinated stone flakes was found on the surface (Figs.5-7). The flakes are is a general occurrence in the specific area, and it is not considered as of great importance.

A single milk can lid of Anglo-Boer War origin was found on the surface (Fig.8). Norvalspont had been a prominent base of British activities during the War and the discovery of remains from this period in the past is not unqiue.

A concrete foundation is visible on the surface (Fig.9). The origin and pupose of this feature is not known.

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

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The proposed developments of new township extensions at Norvalspont will have no impact on any archaeological or cultural heritage remains at the site.

I recommend that the proposed developments and planning of the site may proceed.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no obvious reasons to delay the commencement of further planning and development of the site.

I recommend that the planning of the proposed cemetery should proceed.

## **MITIGATION**

No mitigation measures will be needed at the site.

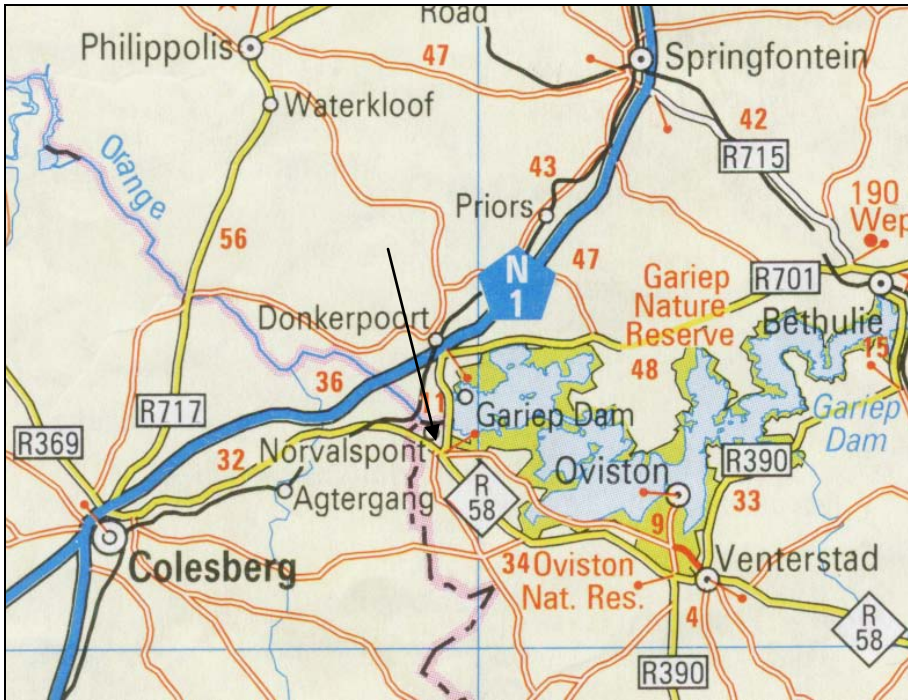
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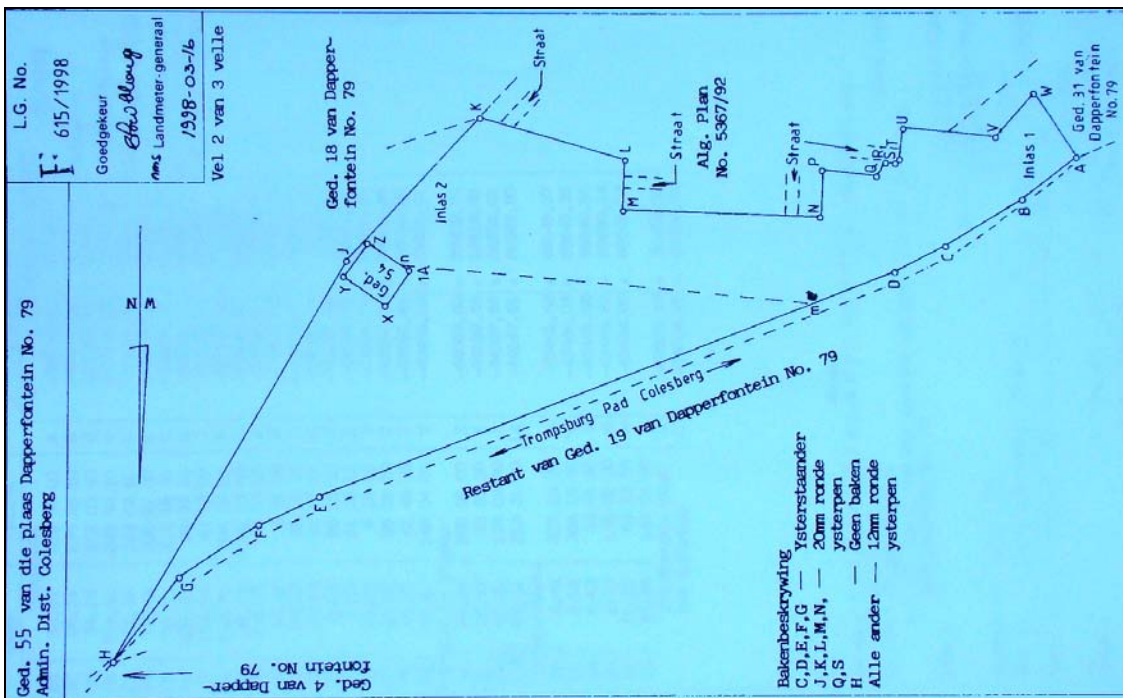
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**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS**



Map 1 Locality of Norvalspont in relation to Gariep Dam, Bethulie and Colesberg.



Map 2 Layout of the proposed new township establishment at Norvalspont.



Fig.1 View from Point A facing towards the water reservoir.



Fig.2 View from Point A facing the existing township at Norvalspont.





Fig.3 View from Point B facing the centre of Norvalspont.



Fig.4 Point B facing along the R58 towards Gariep Dam.



Fig.5 A scatter of patinated flakes at point A.



Fig.6 Patinated flakes at Point A (Cell phone = 130mm).





Fig.7 Flake with parallel sides and convergent flaking on dorsal side. (Bic pen = 135mm).



Fig.8 Milk can lid from Anglo-Boer War origin (1899-1902). (Bic pen = 135mm).





Fig.9 Foundation of unknown origin.



Fig.10 Brick works at the site.