



# **COBUS DREYER**

**Pr. Archaeologist/Heritage Specialist**

**P.O. Box 12910  
BRANDHOF 9324  
Bloemfontein  
dreyerj@telkomsa.net**

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

10 March 2008

## **FIRST PHASE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INVESTIGATION OF THE PROPOSED OPPENHEIMER PARK GOLF ESTATE, WELKOM, FREE STATE**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Oppenheimer Park Golf Estate at Welkom will be developed on the existing Welkom golf course.

The area 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 Oppenheimer Park Golf Estate at Welkom was visited on 27 February 2008 in the company of Dr Johan du Preez and Karissa Scott from 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 Oppenheimer Park Golf Estate is planned on the existing Welkom Golf course (Map 2) (Surveyor-General 1973).

The layout of the proposed golf estate is shown on Map 3.

Coordinate points were selected at random and were placed at the different holes as fixed positions.

The following GPS coordinates (Cape scale) were taken (2826BB).

Club house	28°01'02"S 026°46'47"E Altitude 1355m (Figs.1&2).
Hole 5	28°00'47"S 026°46'27"E Altitude 1342m (Figs.3-5).
Hole 11	28°01'20"S 026°46'25"E Altitude 1357m (Figs.6&7).
Hole 13	28°00'51"S 026°46'56"E Altitude 1355m (Figs.8&9).
Hole 14 Cluster Housing	28°00'42"S 026°46'"E Altitude 1347m (Figs.10-12).

## RESULTS

### FINDS

The existing Golf Course at Welkom will be upgraded to become the Oppenheimer Park Golf Estate. Cluster housing is planned for certain areas on the existing golf course.

### ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

The site has already been disturbed during the building of the Welkom Golf Course and the development of the Oppenheimer Park Golf Estate will have no impact on the cultural or historical heritage of the land or the area.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that the proposed developments at the Welkom Golf Course may proceed.

**MITIGATION**

No mitigation measures will be required.

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

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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

J. DREYER

**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.

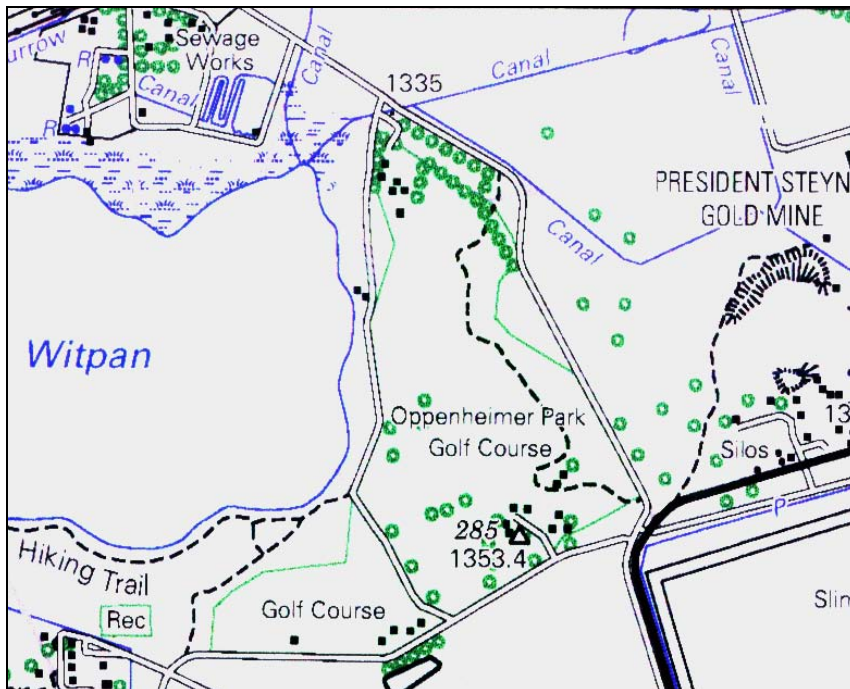
PISTORIUS, J.C.C. 1994. Eskom Archaeological Site Identification Guide. Johannesburg: Eskom.

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

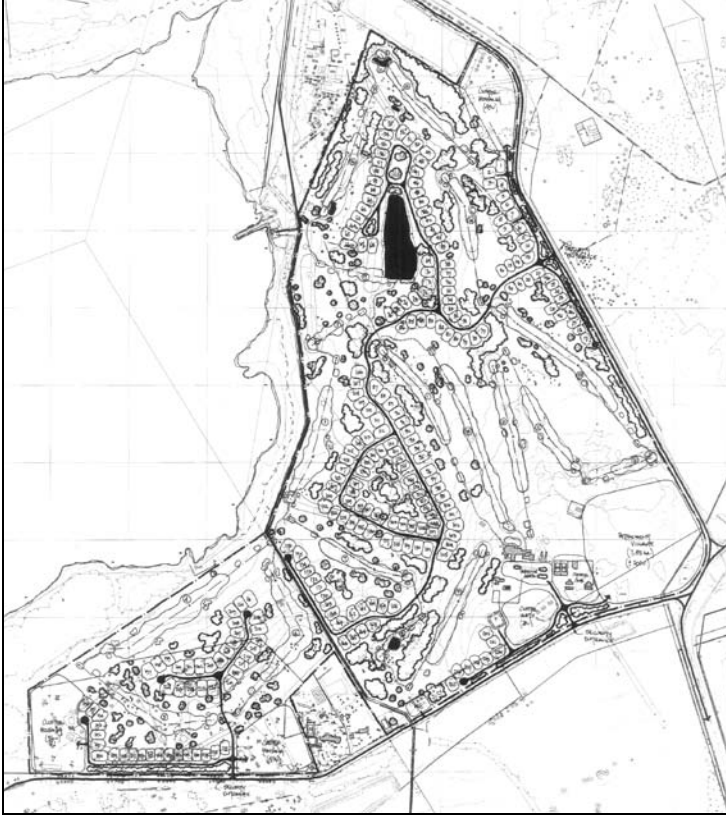
## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS:



Map 1 Locality of Virginia in relation to Welkom, Odendaalsrus and Allanridge.



Map 2 Locality of the Oppenheimer Park Golf Course at Welkom (2826BB).



Map 3 Layout of the Proposed Oppenheimer Golf Estate at Welkom (2826BB).



Fig.1 Club house at the Welkom Golf Course.



Fig.2 View from the club house at the Welkom Golf Course.



Fig.3 Hole 5 is located in a marshy area.



Fig.4 Hole 5.



Fig.5 Hole 5.





Fig.6 Hole 11.



Fig.7 Hole 11.



Fig.8 Hole 13.



Fig.9 Hole 13.



Fig.10 Hole 14.



Fig.11 Hole 14



Fig.12 Hole 14.