

Exemption from further Palaeontological Impact Assessment: Plot 31, Spitskop Smallholdings, Bloemfontein, Free State Province.

Palaeo Field Services, PO Box 38806 Langenhoven Park 9330.

Site: Plot 31, Spitskop Smallholdings, Bloemfontein District

Map Ref.: 2926 AA Bloemfontein

The application relates to a proposed township development at Plot 31, Spitskop Smallholdings (**Fig. 1**). The ~4 ha site is situated in Blouberg Avenue in Langenhoven Park, Bloemfontein (**Fig. 2**).

Site Coordinates:

- A) 29° 4'57.29"S 26° 8'48.74"E
- B) 29° 5'1.43"S 26° 8'55.07"E
- C) 29° 5'6.20"S 26° 8'51.46"E
- D) 29° 5'2.23"S 26° 8'44.69"E

A brief survey of the terrain indicates that, the site has been extensively disturbed by previous farming activities (**Fig.3**). The palaeontological footprint in the region is primarily represented by Permian Karoo fossils preserved within bedrock sedimentary strata, as well as late Quaternary mammalian fossils preserved within superficial alluvial deposits (e.g. river gravels and overbank sediments). The site is located within an outcrop area of moderately sensitive Ecca Group shales. A brief inspection of the site indicated that the underlying geology is capped by well-developed superficial deposits that are largely made up of (palaeontologically sterile) Quaternary wind-blown sands and residual soils (**Fig. 4**). Given the depth of the overburden, which is not considered to be palaeontologically sensitive, impact on palaeontological remains within sedimentary bedrock is considered very low. It is recommended that the planned development is exempt from a full Phase 1 Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Lloyd Rossouw, declare that I act as an independent specialist consultant. I do not have or will not have any financial interest in the undertaking of the activity other than remuneration for work as stipulated in the terms of reference and have no interest in secondary or downstream developments as a result of the authorization of this project.

Yours truly,





Figure 1. Position of Plot 31, Spitskop Smallholdings.



Figure 2. Aerial view of the terrain.



Figure 3. General view of the site, looking west-northwest.

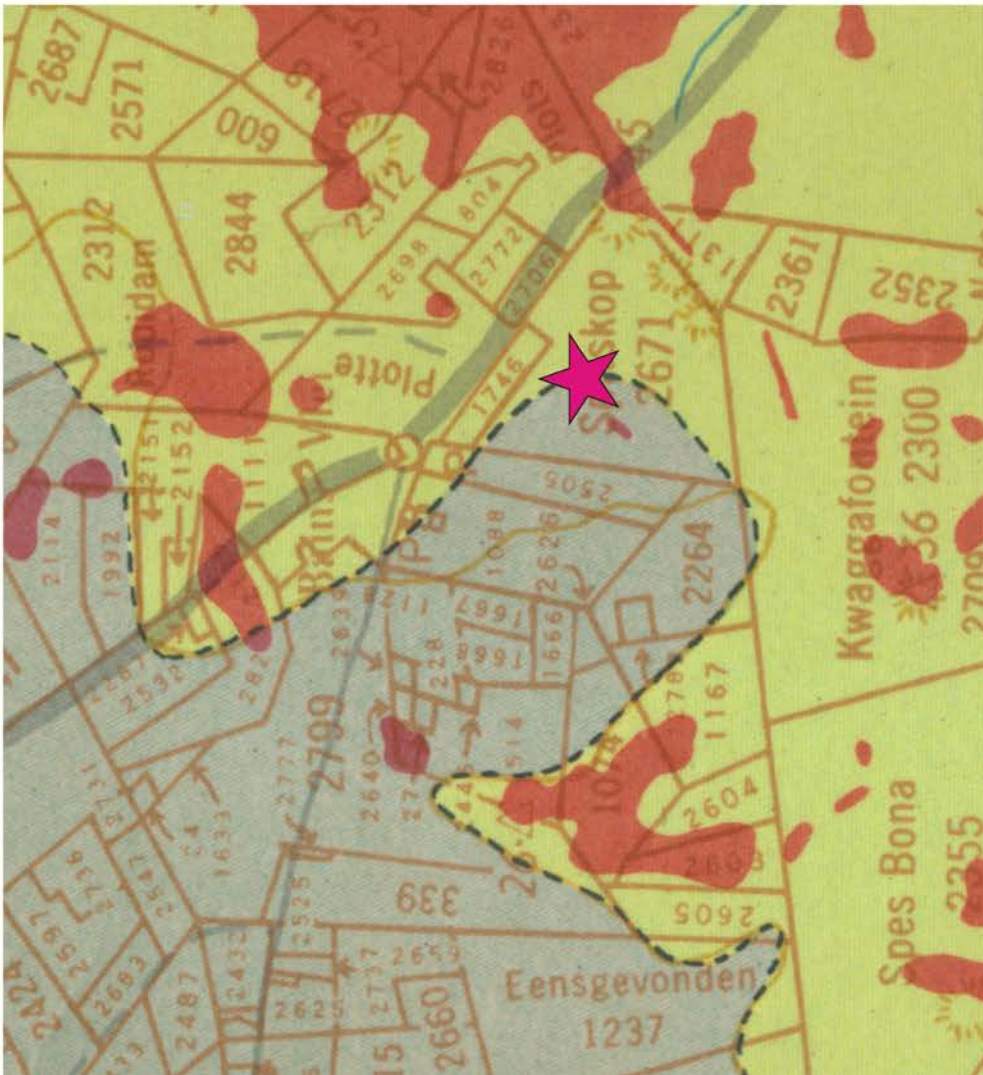


Figure 4. The site is located within an outcrop area of moderately sensitive Ecce Group shales (portion of 1:250 000 scale geological map 2926 Bloemfontein, left). It is capped by well-developed superficial deposits that are largely made up of Quaternary wind-blown sands and residual soils (right).