



Africa Land Purchase Update
30.03.07

Dear All,

It's time for a different type of update. A land purchase update!

As I wrote earlier, I am pursuing a land purchase here in Kitwe and I am already part of the way through this challenging process. Life here has been very busy as I learn how to navigate through the Zambian bureaucracy.

The land is a 16.5 acreage in a suburb of Kitwe known as Garneton although the official name of the suburb is Itimpi. Garneton is considered to be one of the better suburbs of Kitwe. It lies about 20 kms North-West of the town centre as you travel towards Chingola along the main highway.

Because of its size the land is called a "stand" rather than a "plot". Therefore the address is Stand 105 Thorite Avenue, Itimpi, Kitwe, Zambia.



The house at Stand 105 Thorite Avenue, Itimpi, Kitwe

The stand has a three bedroom house that was originally built for Europeans and although it is old it is very solid and well built. By African standards, it is a good house.



Another view of the house

As you can see, a garden has been planted around the house area many years ago. There are quite a few fruit trees including lemon, apple, grapefruit, avocado, mango, paw-paw and orange. So I may be able to resume my organic diet soon!

This land would be ideal to build a children's village for orphans as well as a bible college. Some of the land is cleared and some of it is jungle like. In the coming cooler months, a lot of the long grasses will die and then be burnt off. Then it will be easier to see the whole stand from one point.

One of the boundaries is bordered by a lovely stream with two small resident crocodiles! I haven't seen them yet but I'm sure I will if the purchase goes through.

The stand also holds two other unfinished houses, one larger one with a roof and one smaller, older run-down one with no roof. In time and with extensive restorations, these two houses could become a useful part of future projects here.

Land is very hard to buy in Kitwe because of the population surge and there has been another buyer trying to purchase this land as well. However, I'm fairly confident that the owner is going to sell it to me as he likes the children's village/bible college idea.



The back of the house



Part of the stream

Anyway, that's the land update for now. There will be more news soon.
Love to all,
Mike