



Final Comment

In terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of Vosloorus Extensions 24, 41 and 43, Vosloorus, Boksburg Local Municipality, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province
Birkholtz, P. August 2014. Heritage Impact Assessment for the proposed development of Vosloorus Extension 24, Vosloorus Extension 41 and Vosloorus Extension 43 on Portion 144 of the farm Vlakplaats 138 IR, Boksburg Local Municipality, Ekurhuleni District Municipality, Gauteng Province.

Groenewald, G. August 2014. Palaeontological Desktop Assessment For The Proposed Housing Development At Vosloorus, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails the establishment of three new township developments, namely Vosloorus Extension 24, Vosloorus Extension 41 and Vosloorus Extension 43, on portion 144 of the farm Vlakplaats 138 IR, Vosloorus, Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality. The proposed project will comprise two areas with residential and private open space (Vosloorus Ext 24 and Vosloorus Ext 43) and an area for business use (Vosloorus Ext 41).

In terms of archaeological heritage resources, four heritage sites were identified within the study area:

The remains of a stone-built structure (VLR 001)

The remains of a brick-built dam wall with associated structures (VLR 002)

The remains of two circular stone-walled kraals associated with two brick structures (VLR 003)





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A circular brick and cement dam (VLR 004).

The author notes that, of the four identified sites, two are located within the development area of Vosloorus Extension 24 (VLR 003 and VLR 004), one site is located within the development area of Vosloorus Extension 41 (VLR 001), with no sites identified within the development area of Vosloorus Extension 43. The fourth site (VLR 002) is located within a portion of land excluded from the development.

Very low impact risk is envisioned for VLR 002, low impact risk for VLR 001 and VLR 004 and moderate impact risk for VLR 003. The author states that while no mitigation measures are required for sites VLR 001, VLR 002 and VLR 004, the following mitigation measures are required for VLR 003:

Preliminary social consultation to attempt to identify the former residents of these homesteads. This process may result in one of three outcomes:

If the social consultation process identified the presence of one or more infant burials at a particular homestead, a formal grave relocation process must be undertaken which would include obtaining permission from the family of the deceased for the relocation to take place, the necessary permit applications, excavation as well as reburial to a municipal cemetery.

If the social consultation process revealed that no infant burials are located at a particular homestead, no further mitigation measures would be required there.

If no information with regard to the former residents of these homesteads is revealed by way of the preliminary social consultation, archaeological test excavations must be undertaken around the homestead structures to assess whether any infant burials are located here.

In terms of palaeontological heritage, the study area is underlain by Vaalian-aged dolomite of the Malmani Subgroup, Chuniespoort Group, Transvaal Supergroup. The dolomite might be stromatolitic, and if bedrock is exposed during excavation of foundations and infrastructure development, the presence of stromatolites must be recorded and representative samples taken for further studies. It is also important to note that the Malmani Dolomites are prone to Karst formations, where Cenozoic aged cave breccias can contain significant fossils of advanced vertebrates, mammals and Hominin remains. If Karst topography is present, a palaeontologist must be appointed to inspect these deposits before any disturbance by construction equipment is allowed. For this reason, a Medium Palaeontological sensitivity is allocated to the areas underlain by Malmani Dolomite. Areas



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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underlain by syenite are allocated a Low Palaeontological sensitivity.

The author recommends that:

The developer, EAP and the ECO of the project must be informed of the fact that stromatolites have been recorded from rock units in the Malmani Subgroup and that the presence of Karst structures will be associated with highly significant Cenozoic aged Palaeontological heritage. No further action is needed for areas underlain by the Syenite Dyke, which occupies a very small area in the Northeastern part of the development.

If deep excavation and exposure of bedrock are indicated in the Geotechnical reports, a palaeontologist must be appointed to record stromatolitic structures in the dolomite.

If Karst topography and structures (cave breccias) are recorded in the Geotechnical reports on areas underlain by Malmani dolomite, a palaeontologist must be appointed to investigate these deposits before any further disturbance by construction equipment.

Final Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Paleontology and Meteorites Unit supports the recommendations of the authors and has no objection to the proposed development, on condition that the recommendations by the authors are adhered to.

If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during development, construction or mining, SAHRA or an archaeologist and/or palaeontologist depending on the nature of the find, must be alerted immediately.

Decisions relating to the Built Environment features, if required, must be obtained from the relevant provincial heritage authority.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon



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Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/174324>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



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