

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT BLOUBERG CITY PHASE 2

Prepared for

COASTECC

By

Agency for Cultural Resource Management
Specialists in Archaeological Studies & Heritage Management
P.O. Box 159
Riebeeck West
7306
Ph/Fax: 022 461 2755
Cellular: 082 321 0172
E-mail: gillker@iafrica.com

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and brief

Coastal and Environmental Consultants (COASTEC) have requested that the Agency for Cultural Resource Management undertake an archaeological assessment of the planned Blouberg City Phase 2 development in Bloubergstrand.

The aim of the study is to locate and identify archaeological remains that may be negatively impacted by the planning, construction and implementation of the proposed development, and to propose measures to mitigate against the impact.

The planned development comprises a residential development, with associated infrastructure (roads, services, etc.)

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for the archaeological study were:

1. to determine whether there are likely to be any archaeological sites of significance;
2. to identify and map any sites of archaeological significance;
3. to assess the sensitivity and conservation significance of archaeological sites;
4. to assess the status and significance of any impacts resulting from the proposed development, and
5. to identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable archaeological sites that may exist.

3. THE STUDY SITE

Two sites have been identified.

3.1 Site 1

Site 1 is bounded by the R27 (West Coast Road) on the western boundary, and Sandown Road on the southern boundary.

3.2 Site 2

Gie Road, Parklands Road, Wood Drive, and Raats Drive bound site 2.

4. RESULTS OF THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 Site 1

A diffuse scatter of Middle Stone Age¹ (MSA) flakes in silcrete were located on a fairly extensive series of compacted, yellow, Pleistocene sands, alongside the R27 and the intersection of Sandown Road. The site has been severely disturbed as a result of previous earthworks.

Significance of finds: **low**

Conservation rating: **low**

Suggested mitigation: **none required.**

Deflated basins of sand on stable, vegetated dunes were also searched for archaeological remains, but none were located.

The rest of the study area is severely infested with Port Jackson, resulting in low archaeological visibility.

4.2 Site 2

No archaeological sites or remains were located during an assessment of Site 2. Some open patches of sand, as well as the sand track on the western (Wood Drive) and eastern (Gie road) boundary of the site were searched for archaeological remains, but none were located.

5. IMPACT STATEMENT

The impact of the planned Blouberg City Phase 2 development on archaeological remains is considered to be low to negligible.

The probability of locating significant archaeological sites during implementation of the project is also considered to be low to negligible.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

With regard to the planned Blouberg City Phase 2 development, the following recommendations are made.

1. No archaeological mitigation is required.
2. Should any human burial remains be uncovered or disturbed during earthworks, a professional archaeologist must be immediately informed. Burial remains should be treated sensitively at all times.

¹ A term referring to the period between 20 000 and 200 000 years ago.

3. No further detailed studies are required.

The above recommendations are subject to the approval of the National Monuments Council Plans Committee.