

**ANNLIN EXTENSIONS 93 AND 94**

A Phase-1 report for Lokisa Environmental Consulting

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## ANNLIN EXTENSIONS 93 AND 94

### INTRODUCTION

The Imperial Bank intends to develop Annlin Extensions 93 and 94 near Wonderboom Airport, Pretoria. Lokisa Environmental Consulting (Lokisa) are the environmental coordinators for the proposed development. To comply with various environmental and heritage legislation, Lokisa commissioned Archaeological Resources Management (ARM) to examine the area for archaeological sites.

Some archaeological sites are already on record for the general area. For example, an Earlier Stone Age quarry (2528 CA 1) lies on the ridge above Wonderboom Park, while Iron Age material is near the tree itself (2528 CA 3). Furthermore, an African location named Madibastad stood within the project area in the 1940s and 1950s. Thus, the possibility of sites was high.

### METHOD

One ARM staff visited the project area on 25 April 2003. The area was traversed on foot following existing roads. Soil pits were examined as well as any open spaces. Sites were recorded with a hand-held GPS instrument, and then transferred to the 1:50 000 map 2528 CA Pretoria.

### RESULTS

The grass was high, restricting ground visibility, but it was nevertheless possible to make an assessment. Black turf covers much of the area, particularly along the stream, and only a small area of red soil characterizes the higher land to the north and south.

Some Middle Stone Age (ca 250 000 to 25 000 years ago) artefacts were found on the turf. One typical triangular point lay on the edge of the main stream (25 39 56.5S 28 12 10.4E), while a

small cluster of flakes and chunks were exposed in a road further downstream (25 39 52S 28 11 45E). All of the artefacts were made out of quartzite, and much was weathered.

These Middle Stone Age remains are not *in situ* and have little significance.

The remains of Madbastad cover the red soil areas in the southwest portion of Extension 94. Low heaps of coal cinder, as well as brick, metal, pottery, broken glass and porcelain mark the historic location. A small area with historic remains lies on a red soil patch on the north central boundary of Extension 94 (25 39 48.8S 28 12 07E).

These historic remains have been disturbed by quarrying and dumping, and much of the area is covered in rubble. The remains of Madbastad has little potential for research and therefore little significance.

Two cemeteries associated with the location are a different matter. One cemetery with about 135 graves stands just north of Pepper Street (25 40 09.6S 28 12 10.8E). Stone mounds or stone rectangles (c 1x2m) mark most adult graves, while smaller rectangles and circular mounds mark the graves of children. Modern rubble on the north end covers some graves. Apparently, the municipality made a ridge of soil on the east side to protect the cemetery from further damage.

The second cemetery stands (25 39 58S 28 11 49.5E) inside the power line at the south junction of Extensions 93 and 94. The grass cover prevented a complete count, but there are probably over 150 graves here. At least eight have headstones: the death dates range from 1949 to 1954. Some of the headstones have been vandalized.

Both cemeteries appear to lie just outside or on the project boundary. Whatever their exact location, the graves have high local significance and require some mitigation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The close proximity to development activities endangers the two cemeteries. Consequently, the developers must protect the graves with fencing and inform the construction teams of their locations. The municipality should consider rehabilitating the damaged portion of the first cemetery.

With this requirement for mitigation, there are no archaeological reasons why the development of Anmlin Extension 93 and 94 should not continue.