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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE BOSCHFONTEIN EAST
OPTIONS, RUSTENBURG**

A phase 1 report prepared for Anglo Platinum

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One Middle Stone Age artefact was found in Option 3 and four Late Iron Age pot scatters occurred in Option 1. These occurrences have no significance and do not require further work.

INTRODUCTION

Anglo Platinum compiled an EMP Amendment for the Rustenburg UG2 Expansion Phase 2 Project, which was approved in 2002. They now wish to consider a new pipeline and two other options for the Boschfontein East shaft. As a result, Anglo Platinum now needs a Chapter 9 Addendum that includes the same specialist studies that occurred in the approved EMP.

METHOD

ARM staff visited the project area on 16 August 2002. Mr Andre Britz showed us the two option areas and the proposed pipeline route. The three areas were then examined on foot and by vehicle. Artefact occurrences were recorded with a hand-held GPS instrument and then transferred to the 1:50 000 map 2527 CB Rustenburg (East).

SIGNIFICANCE

Significance was assessed on the basis of five main criteria: integrity (primary vs secondary context), amount of deposit, variety of structures, uniqueness and potential to answer present research questions.

RESULTS

Most areas were highly disturbed by previous mining or present agricultural activities.

Option 3

- One weathered Middle Stone Age flake lay among a low rocky outcrop (25 39 04.8S 27 15 53.2E).

Significance

The isolated flake is not *in situ* and has no significance.

Option 1

- Four areas with a few potsherds each lay west of the airfield (1: 25 37 35.7S 27 14 49.3E; 2: 25 37 38S 27 14 53E; 3: 25 37 51.5S 27 15 7.0E; 4: 25 37 51.8S 27 14 35E). Some potsherds were coloured with red ochre, indicating an affiliation with the Sotho-Tswana and a date in the Late Iron Age, perhaps AD 1 500 to 1 700.

Significance

The scattered potsherds are not *in situ* nor associated with any obvious deposit. They therefore have no significance.

Pipeline Route

- No artefacts were noted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The few artefacts within Option 1 and 3 have no significance. They therefore require no mitigation beyond their original recording.

On the basis of this study, there are no archaeological objections to the development of the pipeline or either shaft option.