

10/11/2005 14:00:00



BUSINESS ENTERPRISES
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

P.O. BOX 14679 HATFIELD, 0028

TEL: +27 (12) 420 4245

FAX: +27 (12) 362 5270

INTERNATIONAL (+27-12)

e-mail: help@up.ac.za

IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

**On Recommendations on Human Remains
Inadvertently discovered during
Construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate,
Pretoria district, Gauteng Province**

This report is on the implementation of recommendations for the mitigation of human remains inadvertently discovered on 2005/03/02 during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province. It is based on recommendations made after a site visit on 2004/5/03/04 as reported in Nienaber, W.C. 2005. *Assessment and Recommendations on Human Remains Inadvertently discovered during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province.* Unpublished report: Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd.

PREPARED BY:

WC Nienaber and R Botha
Anthropology Private Practice

Under the auspices of:
Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd
Graduate Center, First Floor, Entrance 2.27
Chr. Lunnon and Herold Streets
Hatfield, 0083

Tel: (012) 319 2244
Cell: 083 279 5738
Fax: (012) 319 2240
E-mail: coen.nienaber@up.ac.za

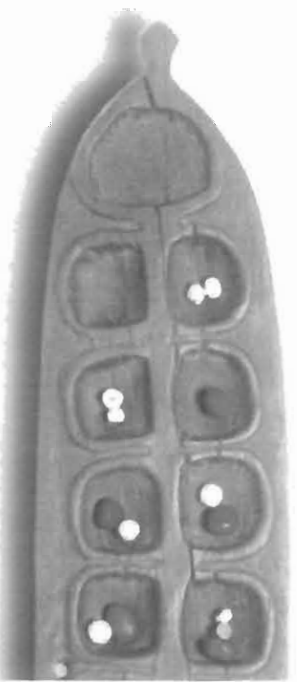


TABLE OF CONTENT

1. Introduction	page 3
2. Recommendations	page 3
3. Recovery of Skeletal Remains	page 4
4. Skeletal Analysis	page 4
5. Conclusion	page 5

1. INTRODUCTION

Human remains were discovered during construction activities at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province at 25°37'39.7" South and 028°24'37.8" East (GPS).

Anthropology Private Practice, under the auspices of BE@UP was contracted on 2 March 2005 to access the remains and recommend a course of action in mitigating the find. A site visit took place on 4 March 2005, culminating in Nienaber, W.C. 2005. *Assessment and Recommendations on Human Remains Inadvertently discovered during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province*. Unpublished report: Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd.

After the report was submitted and the recommendations accepted by SAHRA the recommendations were implemented on 12 and 13 April 2005.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Two mitigation options were considered in the recommendations made as part of Nienaber, W.C. 2005. *Assessment and Recommendations on Human Remains Inadvertently discovered during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province*. Unpublished report: Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd. Either the remains should be left in situ and the site should be treated as a heritage site or cemetery; or the remains should be exhumed and relocated to a different burial site.

Due to the limitation of available funds, the graves was not exhumed and relocated. As there is no immediate commercial gain for the owner and the construction site is for private residential use, a compromise between mitigation and cultural heritage object conservation was recommended. For locality 1¹, it was recommended that all human remains be removed from the up-cast dump from the sewage trenches and analyzed at the University of Pretoria. During the analyses of the remains, the minimum number of individuals as well as age, sex and racial affinity of the remains should be established. After analysis the remains should be returned to the sewage trenches and closed, while a new location for the sewage trenches should be found where

¹ Nienaber, W.C. 2005. *Assessment and Recommendations on Human Remains Inadvertently discovered during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province*. Unpublished report: Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd.

no graves are present. The area that contains the graves in locality 1 and 2² should be maintained as a historical cemetery until the necessary funds are available to relocate the graves. No action was necessary for the third locality.

3. RECOVERY OF SKELETAL REMAINS

The remains were recovered from the up-cast dumps of the sewage trenches and taken back to the University of Pretoria for analysis. The remains still visible in the profile of the graves were left in situ. As there were 3 graves, the remains was also then located and recovered in three corresponding parts of the up-cast dumps.

In up-cast dump 1, corresponding with grave 1, the following remains were retrieved: a right calcaneus, a left humerus shaft, one left and one right navicular bone and one right fifth metatarsal. A fragmentary ulna, one long bone fragment and one possible facial fragment were also found. In up-cast dump 2, corresponding with grave 2, a shaft and distal end of one right and one left fibula was found, as well as twenty-eight fragmentary pieces of cranium and two miscellaneous bone fragments.

The third up-cast dump, associated with the third grave, contained a shaft and distal end of a right femur and a complete left femur with a broken femoral head. One left distal humerus, one distal end of a right ulna, one right hamate and five right metacarpals together with two proximal phalanges were also found. A shaft and distal end of the right tibia, a complete left tibia, one left patella, one right distal end of a right fibula as well as the proximal end of one left fibula was found. Three fragmented fibular shafts; one ulnar shaft, two other miscellaneous long bone fragments and two fragmented ileums were also found of which one was non-human.

4. SKELETAL ANALYSIS

During the analysis, a minimum number of two individuals were established, although there were three graves. This was due to the fragmentation of the remains as well as incomplete recovery of the remains as some of the remains were left in situ. From the recovered remains, the sex of the individuals was established to be male from the femur and tibia epicondylar breadths. The age of the individuals could not be established, although the remains are adult as all the present epiphyses were fused. The racial affinity of the individuals could not be established, as the necessary skeletal indicators were not present. It is thought that the remains may be of Negroid

² Nienaber, W.C. 2005. *Assessment and Recommendations on Human Remains Inadvertently discovered during construction at Plot 163 Kameelfontein Estate, Pretoria District, Gauteng Province*. Unpublished report: Business Enterprises at University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd.
© APF & BE at UP (Pty) Ltd 2005

affinity due to other historical burials in the general area and the use of corrugated iron to cover the remains in one of the graves in locality one.

The remains were extremely fragmented due to poor preservation and post-mortem damage during construction activity of the sewage trenches. Due to the fragmentary state of the remains, stature could not be established. No trauma or pathology was visible on the remains and no factors of individualization were observable.

After analysis was completed, the remains from each grave were sealed, tagged and reburied in the sewage trenches. The trenches were back-filled and the new location for the trenches was identified and dug in an area where no graves are present.

5. CONCLUSION

Although the inadvertent disturbance of the graves have been mitigated, the relocation of the graves is still highly advisable, this will only be undertaken once the owner has the necessary funds or if funds are forthcoming from other sources. The graves are now to be handled as an historical cemetery and a fence should ideally be erected around localities 1 and 2.