

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT OF THE PROPOSED
CENTENARY CENTRE, HLUHLUWE-UMFOLOZI PARK**

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INTRODUCTION

The Institute for Cultural Resource Management was contracted by KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Services to undertake an archaeological survey of the proposed Centenary Center in the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park, KwaZulu-Natal. This center consisted of several development nodes. The field survey was conducted in July 1999 and no archaeological sites were located.

The terms of reference for the survey were to:

1. identify archaeological sites in the affected areas;
2. assess the impact of development on these sites; and,
3. suggest mitigation to reduce the negative impact on these sites
4. suggest mitigation to enhance the positive impact of these sites y development.

The KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act of 1997 may require an assessment of the impact of any development on heritage resources, where such an assessment is not required by other legislation. Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali may hold developers responsible for any damage accrued to a site in cases where they have deviated from the permit requirements.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: DESCRIPTION AND MITIGATION

The assessment can be divided into two main groups: (a) the archaeological survey, and (b) a desk top analyses. The desktop analyses was undertaken prior to the survey to determine the presence of known archaeological sites in the area. Alternatively, if no known sites existed, then the archaeological potential of the area was assessed.

No known sites existed in the area. However, given the high incidence of archaeological sites in the Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park (see Anderson 1998; and Natal Museum site records 1978) and the similar topography between areas of known sites and that of the proposed development, the affected area appeared to be archaeologically sensitive.

Field Survey

While the vegetation was dense in areas, enough of the area was exposed to undertake a survey. All development nodes were surveyed however, no definitive archaeological site was recorded. A total of three lower grindstone fragments and a single upper grindstone were located in different areas. These were insufficient to be defined as a site at each location.

CONCLUSION

The archaeological survey at the proposed Centenary Center located no archaeological sites (although four artefacts were observed). This means that the area is of low archaeological significance and no further work will be required.

References

Anderson, G. 1998. Archaeological survey at Hluhluwe Nature Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal
Natal Museum site record forms. 1978. Natal Museum, Dept of Archaeology.