

**The archaeological survey of Halkirk  
Farm, Sub 485 and Sub 486 (of 337) of  
the Farm Albinia No. 957**

**For Halkirk Farm (Pty) Ltd**

**Date: 15 April 2006**

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**Umlando: Archaeological Tourism and Resource  
Management**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Umlando was approached by Mr Evan Mowat, of Halkirk Farms (Pty) Ltd. to undertake an archaeological survey of land that is marked for rezoning. The property has been used previously as horse pasturage, as well as a municipal garden refuse dump along the flat area adjacent to Ashley Drive. Prior to that, the farm was used for general farming. The property is situated in Gillits, and is just past the M13 (fig. 1a-b).

We were expecting to find Stone Age artefacts, as these have been noted in the general Hillcrest and Gillits areas.

### **Method for Heritage Assessment**

The initial archaeological survey (i.e. fieldwork) consisted of a foot survey where the effected area was covered. The foot survey attempts to locate artefacts on the surface. The current vegetation on the property consists of blue gum trees, some wattle trees, and mostly grassland. The grass is very dense resulting in generally poor archaeological visibility. To counter the poor visibility we concentrated on areas where vegetation had been removed (paths, tracks, molehills, etc.) and in areas more likely to yield archaeological sites or historical buildings.

All sites are grouped according to low, medium and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts, especially pottery. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts and these are sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features. We attempt to recover as many artefacts from these sites by means of systematic sampling, as opposed to sampling diagnostic artefacts only.

## **Defining significance**

Archaeological sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

These criteria are:

### **1. State of preservation of:**

#### 1.1. Organic remains:

##### 1.1.1. Faunal

##### 1.1.2. Botanical

#### 1.2. Rock art

#### 1.3. Walling

#### 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit

#### 1.5. Features:

##### 1.5.1. Ash Features

##### 1.5.2. Graves

##### 1.5.3. Middens

##### 1.5.4. Cattle byres

##### 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

### **2. Spatial arrangements:**

#### 2.1. Internal housing arrangements

#### 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns

#### 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

### **3. Features of the site:**

#### 3.1. Are there any unusual, unique or rare artefacts or images at the site?

#### 3.2. Is it a type site?

#### 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artefact?

### **4. Research:**

#### 4.1. Providing information on current research projects

4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

## **5. Inter- and intra-site variability**

5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?

5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

## **6. Archaeological Experience:**

6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

## **7. Educational:**

7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?

7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?

7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

The more a site can fulfil the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance. Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

## **Survey Results**

The survey did not observe any artefacts or historical buildings. The dense vegetation is not a factor for the lack of sites, as we did not find any artefacts in those areas that had been exposed. If Stone Age artefacts existed in the development area, then they would have been observed in both the vegetated and exposed areas. We did not observe the ruins of historical buildings, although we did observe a wall.

The wall runs along Old Main Road (fig. 2). The wall can be classified as dry stonewalling and is believed to have been erected when it was part of Gillits farm. The wall is thus older than 60 years and is protected by the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act. The Deeds map (Fig. 1) does not indicate any buildings or ruins on the property.

The walling does not appear to be of high quality, and is in various stages of disrepair. Furthermore, the walling has been “robbed” in the recent past. The walling is of low significance and we do not believe further mitigation would be required.

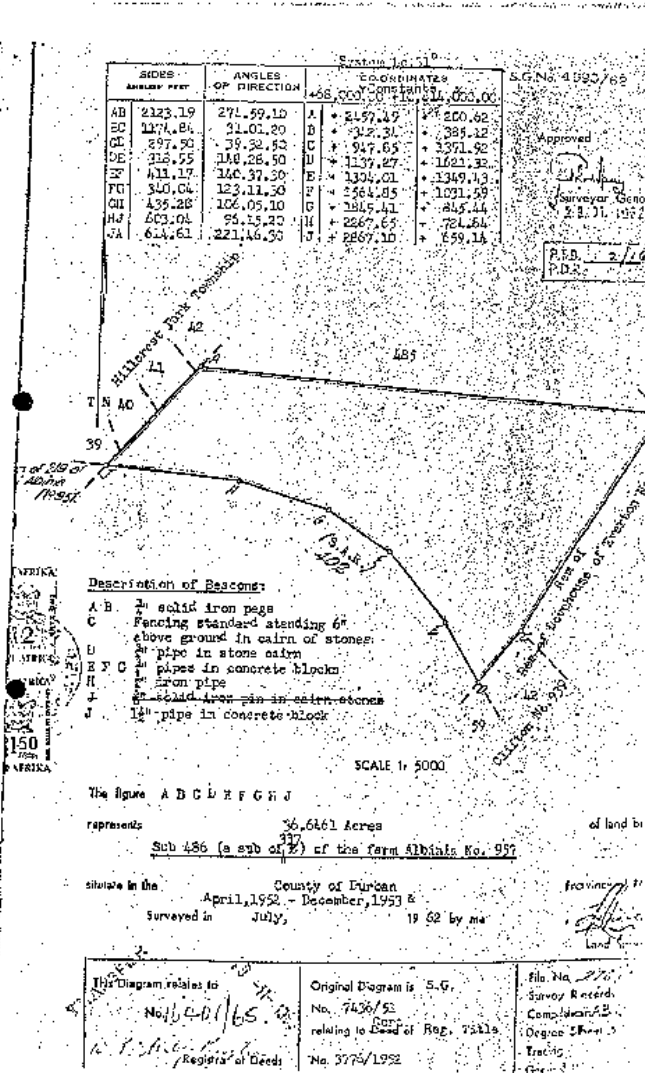
### **Conclusion and Management**

Umlando surveyed the area proposed for development: Sub 485 and Sub 486 (of 337) of the Farm Albinia No. 957. No archaeological sites or artefacts were observed, and only parts of an old dry stonewall were recorded. The walling does not appear to be significant and is a property marker. The walling is probably older than 60 years and the developer will need to apply for a permit from Amafa KwaZulu-Natal for the destruction of this wall.

The vegetation is not a factor for the survey. If Stone Age sites did occur on the property, we would have observed them in the more clear areas.

We do not believe any further mitigation is required.

Figure 1a: Locality Map Of The Development Area



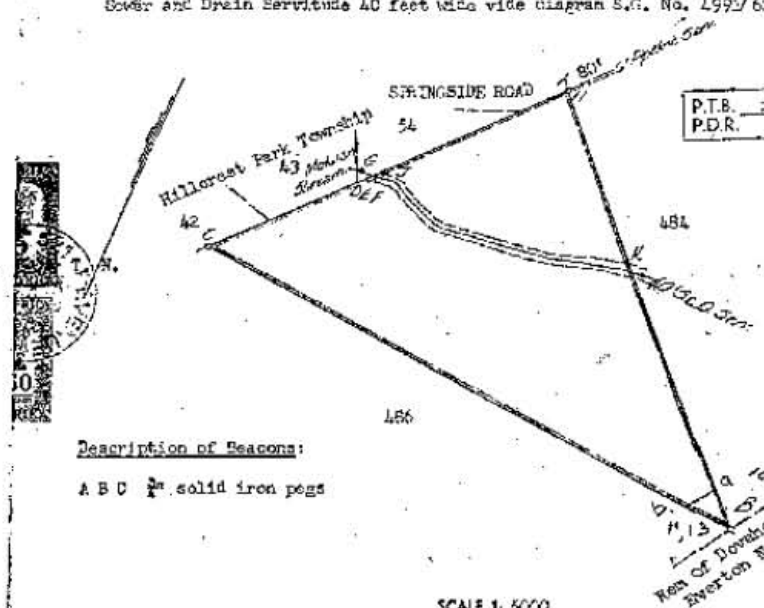
| SIDES<br>LENGTH FEET | ANGLES<br>OF<br>DIRECTION<br>DIRECTION | CO-ORDINATES<br>Y +2000000.700 |            |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------|
| AB 1702.96           | 315.32.30                              | A + 65535.79                   | + 13168.90 |
| BC 2153.19           | 94.59.10                               | B + 68342.34                   | + 14385.12 |
| CA 1383.44           | 222.46.30                              | C + 70457.49                   | + 14200.62 |

S.G. No. 4988/6

Approved

*[Signature]*  
Surveyor  
28/11

The Figure G middle of Molwani Stream F E D represents a Pumphouse Servitude vide diagram S.G. No. 4577/46 relating to Deed of Transfer The Figure G A H J middle of Molwani Stream G represents a Pipeline Servitude 6 feet wide vide diagram S.G. No. 4577/46 relating to Deed of Transfer The Figure H middle of Molwani Stream K represents the middle line of Sewer and Drain Servitude 40 feet wide vide diagram S.G. No. 499/6



**Description of Beacons:**

A B C  $\frac{1}{2}$  solid iron pegs

SCALE 1:5000

The figure A B C

represents 27.0006 Acres

Sub 485 (a sub <sup>337</sup> of 2) of the farm Albinia No. 957

situate in the County of Durban

April, 1952 - December, 1953 &

Surveyed in July, 1962 by me

of:  
*[Signature]*  
Provinc  
*[Signature]*  
Lan

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| This Diagram relates to Township No. 17747/65. Registrar of Deeds | Original Diagram is S.O. No. 5236/51 Cert. relating to Deed of Reg. Title No. 3776/1952 | File No. 27. Survey Record Completion A Degree Sheet Tracing General Plan |
|   |   |   |





**Figure 2: Example of the Dry Stone Walling**

