

**Umlando: Archaeological Tourism &
Resource Management**

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MORELAND LA MERCY DEVELOPMENT

Albert van Jaarsveld undertook an HIA study of the proposed Tongaat-Hulett Development La Mercy development (Van Jaarsveled, A. 2015. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: LA MERCY BEACH DEVELOPMENT). In the report he identified one site that would require re-assessment when the sugar cane had been cut.

Umlando undertook the re-assessment in August 2015 (fig. 1). Half of the hill had been cleared of sugar cane allowing for full assessment of the site. There is a dense concentration of pottery shards along the upper parts of the hill. The soils is deep but has been systematically ploughed for decades. The sherds date to the Early Iron Age and Late Iron Age. A few decorated Mzonjani shards (Early Iron Age) were noted. The other sherds were thin-walled and undecorated. The weathering on the pottery suggests that it is Late Iron Age and not Historical Period. A few upper grinding stones were also noted. No ash features were observed.

The site is of medium significance due to the density of pottery sherds. I do not believe an excavation will yield more and new data relating to the Iron Age of KZN. However, sub-surface features may exist. The area should be monitored by a qualified archaeologist during construction activity.

**Winter Night Investments cc (2003/099644/23) trading as Umlando:
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Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Anderson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Gavin Anderson

FIG. 1: AERIAL VIEW OF THE SITE



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