

**MZINGAZI VILLAGE TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHMENT,
RICHARDS BAY, KZN**

FOR EXIGENT ENGINEERING

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Abbreviations

HP	Historical Period
IIA	Indeterminate Iron Age
LIA	Late Iron Age
EIA	Early Iron Age
ISA	Indeterminate Stone Age
ESA	Early Stone Age
MSA	Middle Stone Age
LSA	Late Stone Age
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
PIA	Palaeontological Impact Assessment

INTRODUCTION

“UMhlatuze Municipality has identified 7 informal settlement projects that will be implemented in accordance with the requirements of the KZN Informal Settlements Eradication Strategy. Some of families within the identified settlements will have to be relocated to another project area due to unstable land conditions and some are situated within the flood lines. However, the relocation process will be the Municipality’s last option. The municipality has vast areas of commercial farmlands as well as a number of areas that are significant from an environmental perspective. About 26% of land within uMhlatuze Municipality is under private ownership and 51% under Ingonyama Trust Board, which is administered by Traditional Authorities...

In specific terms, Mzingazi Village Township Establishment Project consists of the properties:

- The area known as Mzingazi Village is currently located on Portions 49 and 54 of Erf 5333 and a portion of the Remainder of Erf 5333, Richards Bay. The properties are owned by the Municipality;
- The area referred to as Meerensee 5 located on a portion of the Remainder of Erf 5333, Richards Bay, which is owned by the Municipality and;
- A portion of land (Remainder of farm reserve no.4. no. 15823) that is owned by the State, and which was incorporated into the uMhlatuze Municipal area in 2016. It has been established that the Municipality has obtained power of attorney to act on behalf of the State, and this portion will therefore form part of the project boundary” (Gabisa Planning & Investment Report 2019).

Umlando was subcontracted by Exigent Engineering to undertake the HIA for this project. Figures 1 – 4 show the location of the development.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

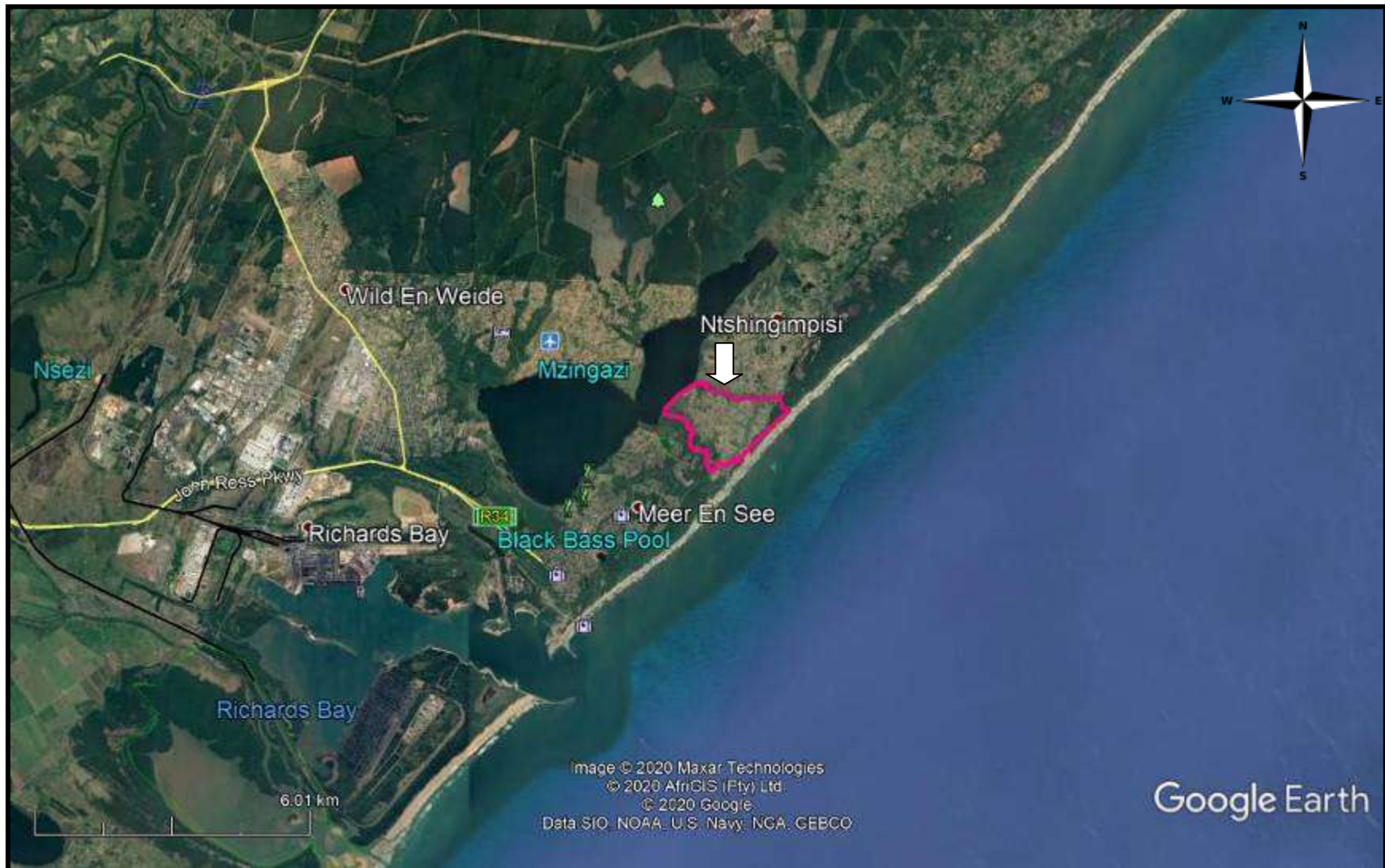


FIG. 2: AERIAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



FIG. 3: TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT (2002)



FIG. 4: VIEWS OF THE STUDY AREA



KWAZULU NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ACT 05, 2018

“General protection: Structures.—

- No structure which is, or which may reasonably be expected to be older than 60 years, may be demolished, altered or added to without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Where the Council does not grant approval, the Council must consider special protection in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- The Council may, by notice in the *Gazette*, exempt—
- A defined geographical area; or
- defined categories of sites within a defined geographical area, from the provisions of subsection where the Council is satisfied that heritage resources falling in the defined geographical area or category have been identified and are adequately protected in terms of sections 38, 39, 40, 41 and 43 of Chapter 9.
- A notice referred to in subsection (2) may, by notice in the *Gazette*, be amended or withdrawn by the Council.

General protection: Graves of victims of conflict.—No person may damage, alter, exhume, or remove from its original position—

- the grave of a victim of conflict;
 - a cemetery made up of such graves; or
 - any part of a cemetery containing such graves, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- General protection: Traditional burial places.—
- No grave—
 - not otherwise protected by this Act; and
 - not located in a formal cemetery managed or administered by a local authority, may be damaged, altered, exhumed, removed from its original

position, or otherwise disturbed without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.

The Council may only issue written approval once the Council is satisfied that—

- the applicant has made a concerted effort to consult with communities and individuals who by tradition may have an interest in the grave; and
- the applicant and the relevant communities or individuals have reached agreement regarding the grave.

General protection: Battlefield sites, archaeological sites, rock art sites, palaeontological sites, historic fortifications, meteorite or meteorite impact sites.—

- No person may destroy, damage, excavate, alter, write or draw upon, or otherwise disturb any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- Upon discovery of archaeological or palaeontological material or a meteorite by any person, all activity or operations in the general vicinity of such material or meteorite must cease forthwith and a person who made the discovery must submit a written report to the Council without delay.
- The Council may, after consultation with an owner or controlling authority, by way of written notice served on the owner or controlling authority, prohibit any activity considered by the Council to be inappropriate within 50 metres of a rock art site.
- No person may exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb, damage, destroy, own or collect any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- No person may bring any equipment which assists in the detection of metals and archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, or

- excavation equipment onto any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, or meteorite impact site, or use similar detection or excavation equipment for the recovery of meteorites, without the prior written approval of the Council having been obtained on written application to the Council.
- The ownership of any object or material associated with any battlefield site, archaeological site, rock art site, palaeontological site, historic fortification, meteorite or meteorite impact site, on discovery, vest in the Provincial Government and the Council is regarded as the custodian on behalf of the Provincial Government.”

METHOD

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps.

The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the database that has been collated by Umlando. This databases contains archaeological site locations and basic information from several provinces (information from Umlando surveys and some colleagues), most of the national and provincial monuments and battlefields in Southern Africa (<http://www.vuvuzela.com/googleearth/monuments.html>) and cemeteries in southern Africa (information supplied by the Genealogical Society of Southern Africa). We use 1st and 2nd edition 1:50 000 topographical and 1937 aerial photographs where available, to assist in general location and dating of buildings and/or graves. The database is in Google Earth format and thus used as a quick reference when undertaking desktop studies. Where required we would consult with a local data recording centre, however these tend to be fragmented between different institutions and areas and thus difficult to access at times. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

The survey results will define the significance of each recorded site, as well as a management plan.

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 or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be 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.

Defining significance

Heritage 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.

8. Other Heritage Significance:

- 8.1. Palaeontological sites
- 8.2. Historical buildings
- 8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.5. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). 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. Table 1 lists the grading system.

TABLE 1: SAHRA GRADINGS FOR HERITAGE SITES

SITE SIGNIFICANCE	FIELD RATING	GRADE	RECOMMENDED MITIGATION
High Significance	National Significance	Grade 1	Site conservation / Site development
High Significance	Provincial Significance	Grade 2	Site conservation / Site development
High Significance	Local Significance	Grade 3A / 3B	
High / Medium Significance	Generally Protected A		Site conservation or mitigation prior to development / destruction
Medium Significance	Generally Protected B		Site conservation or mitigation / test excavation / systematic sampling / monitoring prior to or during development / destruction
Low Significance	Generally Protected C		On-site sampling monitoring or no archaeological mitigation required prior to or during development / destruction

RESULTS

DESKTOP STUDY

The desktop study consisted of analysing various maps for evidence of prior habitation in the study area, as well as for previous archaeological surveys. There have been many recorded archaeological sites in the general area (fig. 5). Most of these sites were recorded in the Tisand Zulti North and Town board mining leases (Anderson 1996 – 2004; Anderson & Anderson 2004 – 2007). Some of the Town board area falls within the study area of this project. Most of the sites date to the Early and Late Iron Age, as well as the Historical Period. Stone Age sites are known to occur in the general area.

The 1937 aerial photograph indicates that the area was occupied and had several agricultural fields and houses (fig. 6). Most of the coastal dune forest that exists today does not occur in 1937, apart from in the valleys.

By 1943, there are only three houses in the study area (fig. 7). I do believe this is an error on the map.

By 1964, there are 16 houses within the study area and the eastern part has been under forestry for at least a decade (fig. 8). More of the land is under agricultural fields.

By 1983, there are only 10 houses in the study area and the land appears to be used mainly for afforestation (fig. 9).

Nine of all of these houses have not been built over.

FIG. 5: LOCATION OF KNOWN HERITAGE SITES IN THE GENERAL AREA

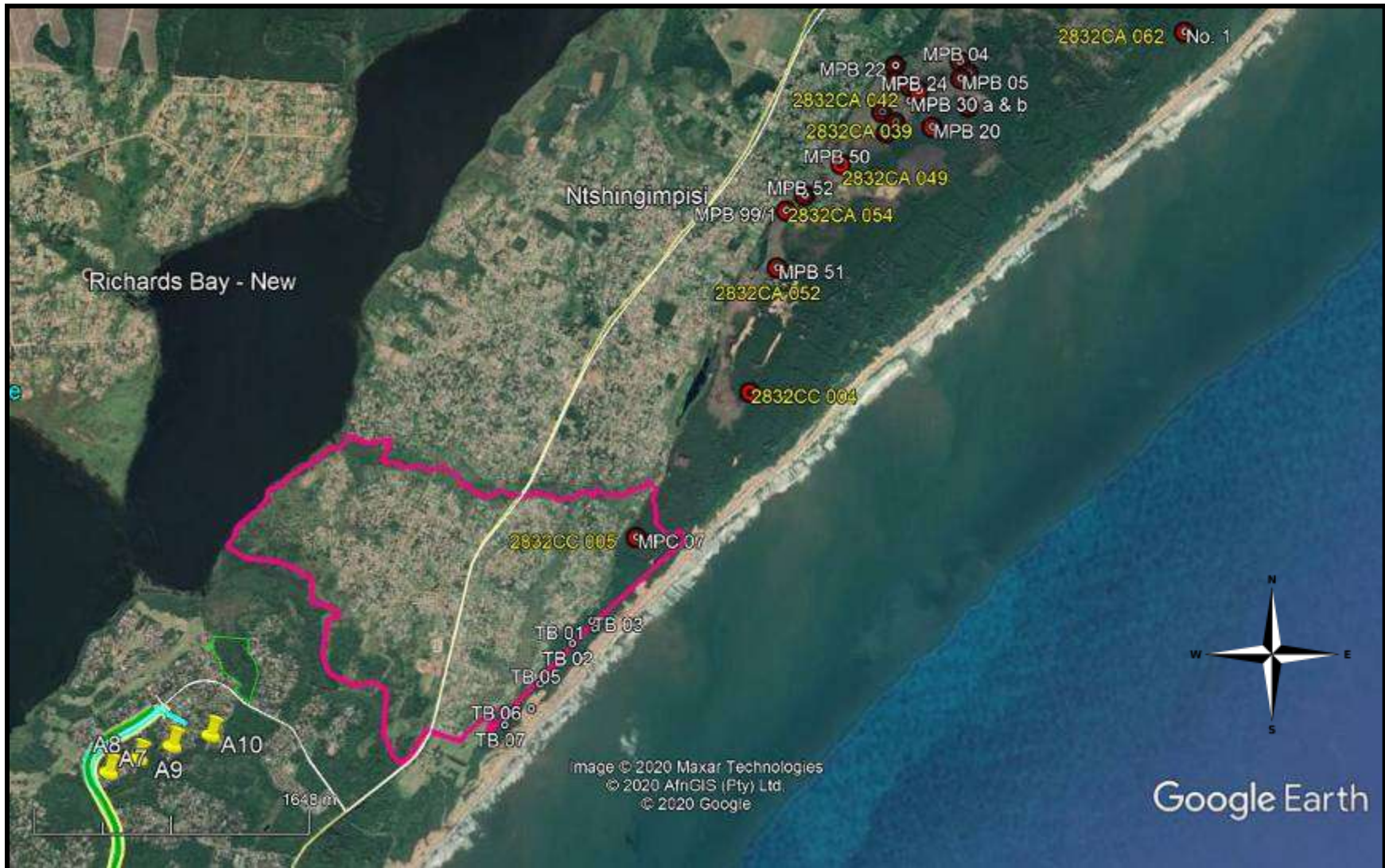
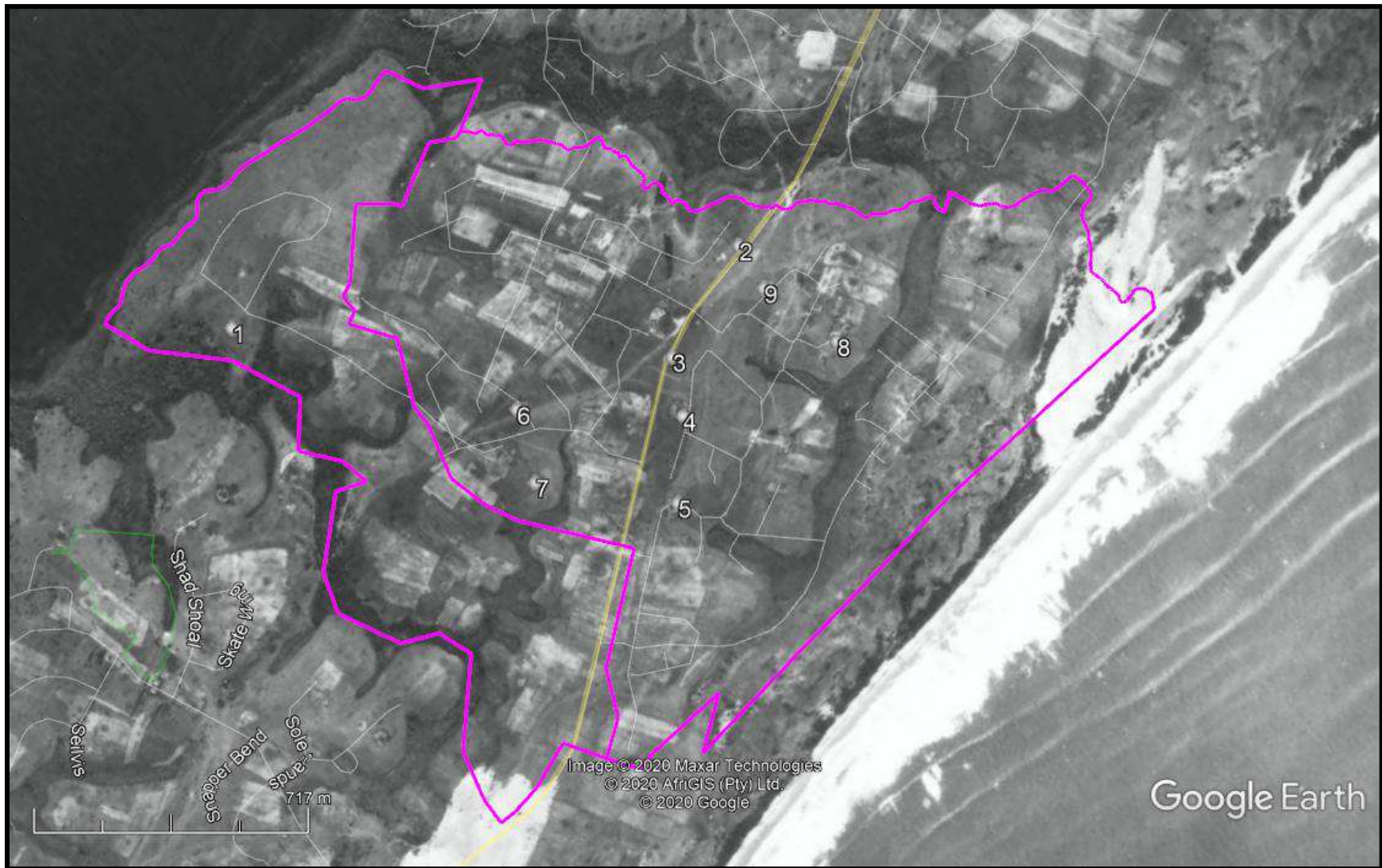
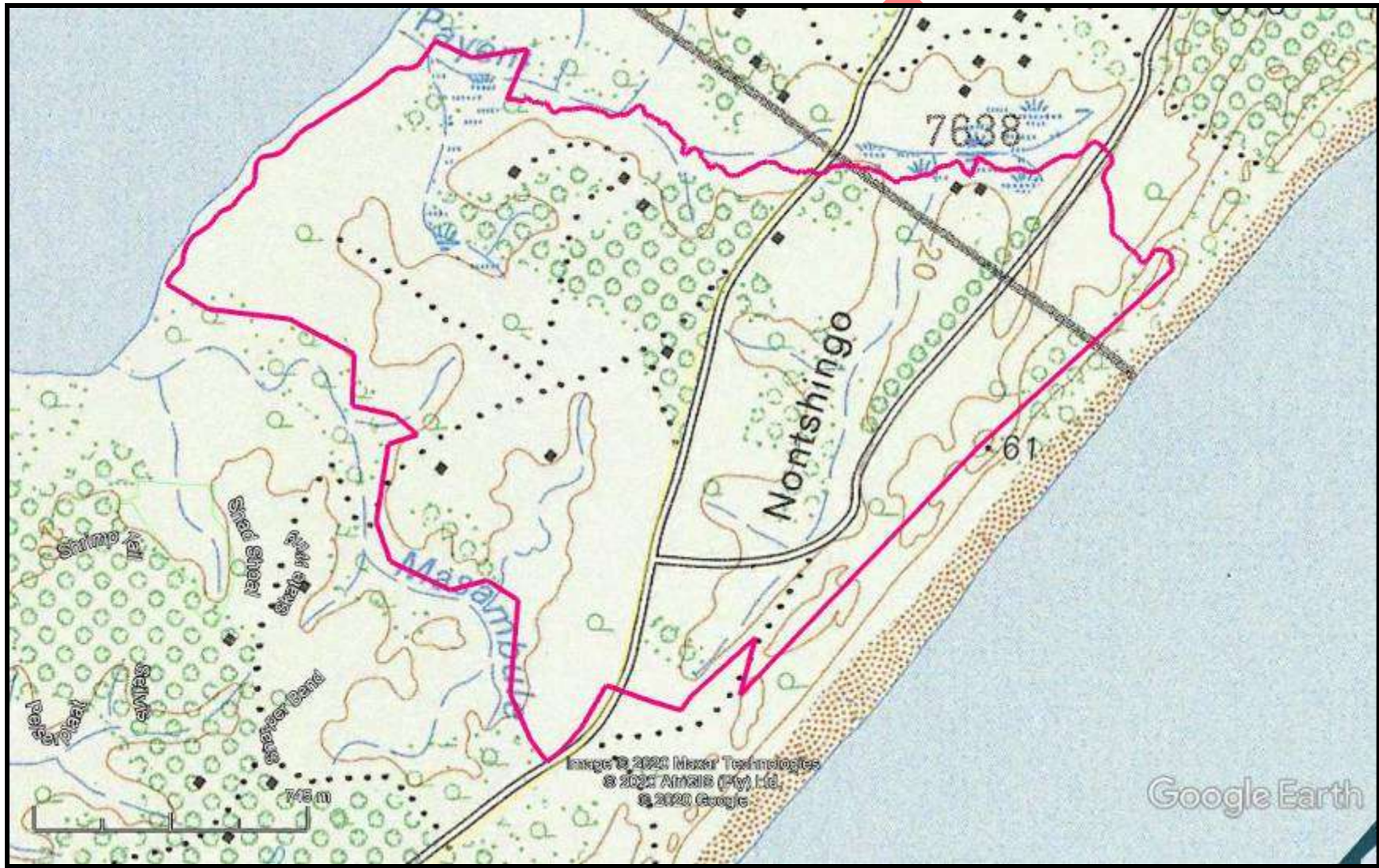


FIG. 6: LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA IN 1937¹



¹ 117C_061_54713

FIG. 9: LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA IN 1983



PALAEONTOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

The area is in an area of very low palaeontological sensitivity (fig. 10). The area of medium, sensitivity will occur in a buffer. No Further PIA management is required.

FIG. 10: PALAEONTOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY MAP



FIELD SURVEY RESULTS

The field survey was undertaken in September 2020. The agricultural fields have reverted to grasses, bush and forest. Ground visibility was poor in some of these areas; however, there were enough open spaces in the grasslands to make an accurate survey. Some areas were under dense forest and could not be surveyed.

Of the nine remaining houses identified in the desktop study, seven are currently in dense forest vegetation. Despite this a few heritage sites were noted during the survey.

Excavations for rubbish dumps have disturbed much of the south-eastern part of the development, on the top of the hills. These dumps do provide an opportunity to see the soil profiles and if any artefacts occur in the sections. No artefacts were noted.

Mango trees

A grove of mango trees occurs on the eastern side of the study area, near houses A1 and C2 (fig. 11). The trees post-date 1937. The grove is actively used by the community as seen by the number of plastic carrying boxes near the trees. The grove can be considered as a cultural resource.

Significance: The grove has subsistence and economic significance.

Mitigation: The grove should not be disturbed.

SAHRA Rating: 3C

FIG. 11: MANGO GROVE IN THE STUDY AREA



ERYTHRINA SPP.

A large Erythrina spp. occurs near the house C2 (fig. 12). No evidence for human occupation can be found in the area; however, I always treat old Erythrina trees as markers for potential graves.

Significance: To be determined.

Mitigation: The tree should be treated as a grave marker until proven otherwise. A 20m buffer between the tree and the development should be maintained. Removal of the tree could result in a Public Participation Process and grave removal process.

SAHRA Rating: To be determined

FIG. 12: ERYTHRINA SPP TREE AS A POSSIBLE GRAVE MARKER



SHEMBE TEMPLE

A large Shembe Temple occurs on the western side of the study area (fig. 13). The temple is currently in use. The area around the temple appears to be in use as well as it is well maintained.

Significance: All places of religious worship are considered as having high significance.

Mitigation: Public participation regarding the temple and its location in relation to the development will need to be undertaken.

SAHRA Rating: 3A

FIG. 13: SHEMBE TEMPLE



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

The recorded archaeological sites along the eastern side of the development area have already been removed by dune mining.

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Fig. 14 shows the location of recorded sites while Table 2 gives the location of all sites mentioned in the text. All sites should have a 50m sensitivity buffer placed around them. This excludes those sites that have been built over. This means that these are known sites that could have human remains and the area needs to be monitored during earth moving activity. These areas should be monitored during earth moving activity.

The mango grove should be kept, as it is a food source and probably economic income to members of the community. The grove post-dates 1937, but appears to be old. There are probably *amasiko* (oral history) related to the grove.

The *Erythrina* spp. tree could be a sign for a grave and should be treated as such until proven otherwise. If it needs to be removed, then PPP should be undertaken with the community regarding a possible grave

The Shembe Temple is integral to the community. The congregants should be approached and discussions should be undertaken if the temple needs to move for the development. The congregants should delineate the edge of the Temple.

There is always a possibility of human remains being excavated in areas like this. The old graves are unmarked, subterranean, and thus very difficult to locate. If any human remains are exposed, then the SAPS and KZNARI need to be informed immediately. The area needs to be cordoned off with a 20m buffer.

TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF RECORDED SITES

NAME	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	DESCRIPTION	SIGNIFICANCE	REQUIRES MIIGTAION
a1	-28.758442562	32.121253794	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a2	-28.756510133	32.134838049	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a3	-28.759127992	32.133051718	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a4	-28.760508952	32.133337554	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a5	-28.762542320	32.133199608	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a6	-28.760358893	32.128908891	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a7	-28.762062514	32.129398280	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a8	-28.758760341	32.137455094	Settlement	Low	Monitor
a9	-28.757519588	32.135496433	Settlement	Low	Monitor
b1	-28.760184650	32.132609352	Settlement	Low	Monitor
b2	-28.760849473	32.134485087	Settlement	Low	Monitor
b3	-28.760904886	32.135535699	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c1	-28.755943614	32.121772087	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c10	-28.760350837	32.127290695	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c11	-28.759211911	32.127320039	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c12	-28.759465393	32.130364011	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c13	-28.760073768	32.132545983	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c14	-28.756281172	32.131468317	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c15	-28.757481031	32.132198906	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c16	-28.757602310	32.135016393	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c2	-28.757924335	32.121555625	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c3	-28.759959986	32.124523316	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c4	-28.764266269	32.124942711	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c5	-28.764270538	32.127407940	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c6	-28.762793056	32.125866263	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c7	-28.766646931	32.129318735	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c8	-28.761571816	32.131343580	Settlement	Low	Monitor
c9	-28.761683109	32.127701852	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d1	-28.762696956	32.124902349	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d2	-28.762388334	32.128037549	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d3	-28.755428393	32.126937673	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d4	-28.755511980	32.129979454	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d5	-28.756162902	32.130558431	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d6	-28.759703810	32.131174272	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d7	-28.757062997	32.134429092	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d8	-28.755896935	32.139308439	Settlement	Low	Monitor
d9	-28.755955569	32.140203254	Settlement	Low	Monitor
<i>Erythrina</i> <i>spp.</i>	-28.757763328	32.121674500	Grave?	High	Monitor
Mango grove	-28.757990000	32.121446000	Fruit trees	Low	PPP
Shembe Temple	-28.758073813	32.123155201	Religious place	High	PPP

FIG. 14: LOCATION OF ALL RECORDED SITES



CONCLUSION

A desktop heritage survey was undertaken for the proposed housing upgrade and development for Mzingazi and Meerensee, Much of the area is already developed and/or been under cultivation for decades. That is, the study area has been disturbed for nearly a century.

While ground visibility was low, my experience of these areas is that there would be few heritage sites. Monitoring of specific areas will occur to determine if human graves occur.

Some Public participation will be required regarding the Shembe Temple, mango grove and *Erythrina spp.* grave.

REFERENCES

Database

KZN Museum
SAHRA
Umlando

Maps

117C_061_54713
2832CC Richards Bay 1943, 1964, 1983, 2000

Reports

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Anderson, G. and Anderson, L. 2005 – 2018. Annual Report for Archaeological Surveys of the Zulti North Mining Lease. Report for RBM

EXPERIENCE OF THE HERITAGE CONSULTANT

Gavin Anderson has a M. Phil (in archaeology and social psychology) degree from the University of Cape Town. Gavin has been working as a professional archaeologist and heritage impact assessor since 1995. He joined the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Southern Africa in 1998 when it was formed. Gavin is rated as a Principle Investigator with expertise status in Rock Art, Stone Age and Iron Age studies. In addition to this, he was worked on West and East Coast shell middens, Anglo-Boer War sites, and Historical Period sites.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

I, Gavin Anderson, declare that I am an independent specialist consultant and have no financial, personal or other interest in the proposed development, nor the developers or any of their subsidiaries, apart from fair remuneration for work performed in the delivery of heritage assessment services. There are no circumstances that compromise the objectivity of my performing such work.



Gavin Anderson
Archaeologist/Heritage Impact Assessor