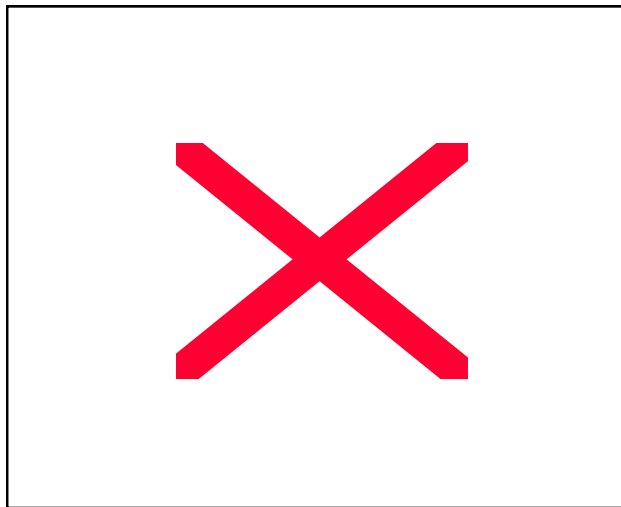


**USHAKA ISLAND MARINE PARK  
THE POINT, DURBAN  
SURVEY OF THE DEVELOPMENT AREA  
AND  
EXCAVATIONS OF BAMBOO SQUARE**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Durban Marine Theme Park Pty (Ltd.) contracted the ICRM to undertake the necessary archaeological work at The Point, Durban. The ICRM was contracted only after the construction phase had already begun. At least half of the earthworks, in terms of removing the soil from the area, had already been completed. The initial historical assessment report for this project had vague information regarding previous activities in the area, and no locations had been pinpointed on any maps. Normally the archaeological survey would have been undertaken, then the areas assessed with a management plan, and then development would have begun. The archaeological component of this project was thus the inverse of normal impact assessments. I could not determine the full significance and impact of the development after the construction phase of the project.

The aim of the archaeological monitoring was to note any artefacts and potential subsurface features, including shipwrecks, during the course of earthmoving. The necessary mitigation was to occur for each discovery. The archaeological excavations were to record as much material before it was permanently destroyed by earthmoving equipment.

## **MONITORING PROGRAM**

The monitoring program consisted of observing earthmoving machinery and rescuing artefacts as they were exposed by the bulldozers or by spillage. The archaeological material from this area is part of a secondary dump that was created when this part of the beach/waterfront was reclaimed. The original beachfront varies between 1 m – 8 m below the current surface. It was in this area that there was a possibility for shipwrecks.

The reclaimed area is important due to its artefact content. The bottle production of the Durban area is unknown and no research has been undertaken in this area. The bottles have the value of increasing our knowledge about early Durban economics, trade and bottle manufacture, apart from the personal histories behind the bottle company owners. Unfortunately, many of the bottles have been stolen, allegedly, by members of the public and workforce of the construction companies: this has been reported to KwaZulu-Natal Heritage.

## EXCAVATIONS

One excavation was undertaken during the monitoring phase of the contract. This excavation as located near the “shipwreck” area between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> msl. The area was first observed during the monitoring phase of the contract, and the bulldozers were relocated elsewhere.

The excavation is that of a small *braai* area located approximately at the 2.5 msl. The structure consists of a piece of corrugated iron, with several bricks place above it. The bricks formed a rectangle with one side open. Below the corrugated iron were large pieces of charcoal, ash, and anthracite. The sand below the corrugated iron was also burnt. Above the corrugated iron, and between the bricks, were fragments of charcoal, anthracite, ash, and fish bones. Fragments of glass, from bottles, were nearby this feature.

Several similar features were noted during the monitoring phase in this area. This suggests that this area was regularly used as *braai*, or recreational, areas. This area would have been at the original beach level, or just above the high water mark of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## BAMBOO SQUARE EXCAVATIONS

A total of forty 2 m x 2 m squares were excavated (fig.'s 1 - 2). These squares are on the eastern parts of Bamboo Square, and was on the original first dune cordon. The cultural horizon varies between 1 m – 2 m below the current surface. The upper layers of the site consist of sand, old tar roads, and parts of water drainage system. These have had little impact on this part of the site.

The cultural horizon was discernible from the upper layer. The latter is a grey-yellow sand, while the cultural horizon is a grey-black sand with artefacts (fig.'s 3 – 6 illustrate various stratigraphic sections of the site). Below the cultural horizon is a white-yellow beach sand, with small eroded shell fragments. This lower layer is the original dune.

The site was excavated in 20 cm spits, unless a visible stratigraphy was observed. All features were excavated separately, mapped, and photographed. Rare and/or important

artefacts were mapped in addition to the features wherein they occurred. The artefacts have been curated at, and accessioned to, the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg.

Some of the organic remains (such as shoes and cloth) were treated with glycerol on the site, while others were left for treatment in the laboratory. This was to test the difference in the preservation of (un-)treated artefacts during excavation and a few months after excavation. Glycerol allows these artefacts to be removed in tact during the excavation and inhibits post-excavation desiccation. The alternative was to remove the artefact with its surrounding soil and place it in a sealed plastic bag. I realised this was not optimal as the material still dried out and became friable.

### **Features**

Many features were excavated in this area. They can however be divided into 17 types:

- Animal burials
- Baked Sandy Feature
- Bone concentrations
- Brick feature
- Charcoal pits
- Charcoal-ash pit
- Fire patches
- Fish bone pits
- Floors
- General rubbish pit
- Glass bottle feature
- Iron concentrations
- Red Clay Pit
- Shell patches
- Shoe pits
- Tin concentration

### **Animal burials**

The area around Squares B9 and C9 have three animal “burials”. The term ‘animal burial’ is defined as the placing of a complete animal in a pit, where that animal was not

used for consumption. These are discernible from other faunal remains since they were near complete skeletons and did not have cut marks on the bones.

The first animal burial is called Dog Pit. Dog Pit is that of a small mature canid, buried in a fetal position. The body is buried along a northwest-southeast (cranium-hindlegs) axis. The skeleton is surrounded by charcoal, anthracite, and a glass bottle over its ribs. It appears that the skeleton was placed near the base of a small refuse pit.

The second 'burial' is that of a domestic fowl in SQ. C9. The skeletal remains are partially present and occur northwest of Dog Pit. These remains include the legs, wings, and some smaller bones. Above this burial are patches of red sand.

Cat Pit is a small pit of dark brown-black soil 30 cm below the surface in Sq. C10. The skeleton is that of a domestic cat in a sitting position (upright fetal position). Slightly above the skeleton, and to the north, is a ceramic plate and a toothpaste jar (with toothpaste), placed in an enamel bowl.

### **Baked Sandy Feature**

This feature was located in the northeastern parts of the excavation. The feature consisted of baked clay surrounded by a burnt yellow sand. Very little charcoal was found in association with the burnt feature, however, the surrounding soil was very ashy. A single pot was located in the center of the red clay. The pot was filled with a fine ash.

### **Bone Concentrations**

Several 'Bone Concentrations' were recorded throughout the excavation. These tend to be small pits/concentrations of a variety of animals (fish, sheep/goat, pig, hippopotamus, whale, antelope, and/or cattle). These features are either separate features or form part of a larger feature.

These features tended to be either an ashy grey soil or a brown-black soil with charcoal. The 'Bone Concentrations' varied in size and depth.

### **Brick Feature**

This feature is located in Sq.'s C7 and C6. The feature is situated in Spit 1 and is surrounded by the ashy grey-black sand (that represents the cultural horizon). Brick

Feature consists of a single rectangular row of bricks in an east-west orientation. The bricks have no maker's name; however one side of the bricks have a rectangular notch. The northwestern side of the feature was removed before the site being abandoned. The feature is  $\pm 1.5$  m x 1 m in size and has no foundations. Other bricks on site are Coronation bricks (these still need to be dated).

Approximately 1 m was excavated below the surface of the feature. In this area is the LBS layer with a variety of artefacts and features. These include:

- Addington mineral water bottle
- Half-pint Guinness bottle
- Several small tins
- Many fish bones
- Animal bones
- Four links of a large chain

### **Charcoal and Bone Concentrations**

Several charcoal and bone pits were recorded on the site. These tend to be in a well defined bowl-shape with the charcoal at the base and the animal bones above it. The bones are mostly sheep/goat, small antelope and/or fish.

### **Charcoal and Ash Pits**

These pits are similar to other features that have charcoal from a fireplace; however, in this instance they only have charcoal and ash. These appear to be the remains of non-cooking fireplaces.

### **Cloth Pits**

The Cloth Pits are not pits with cloth, rather pits with artefacts covered by cloth. The cloth itself is coarse with interwoven strands. The artefacts that were covered by the cloth are:

- Bottles
- Small tins (e.g. "sardine" and baked beans tins)
- Medium tins (e.g. modern day standard food tin)
- Ceramic pots

The reason for covering these artefacts was to keep the contents cool and/or fresh. This is supported in that several of the tins were unopened, or bottles unbroken, at the time the people left the site.

### **Fire Patches**

Several small Fire Patches were located throughout the excavations. These are less than 30 cm in diameter and contain some ash and charcoal/anthracite. The Fire Patches tend to have few artefacts, and these tend to be either a few bone fragments and/or nails or bolts.

### **Fish Bone Pits**

The Fish Bone Pits occurred throughout the site. These pits consisted of a dense layer of fish bones alternating with a layer of charcoal. The fish bones consisted of fish scales, fins and ribs, with the occasional opercula and mandibles. The pits varied in size and depth but average  $\pm$  30 cm in diameter and 20 cm in depth.

### **Floors**

A "house floor" was located in Sq.'s A11 and B11. The floor consisted of a mixture of beach sand and an adhesive (possibly lime) to form a hardened cement-like (or plaster) layer. The floor was on the upper layer of the cultural horizon. Nails, wood, and other unidentified metal objects were recorded around the floor. The northern side had a row of seven bricks below the floor. These bricks lay in a east-west orientation. One of these bricks had a 'Caledonia' label on it.

### **Glass Bottle Features**

Glass Bottle Features include bottle pits and bottle concentrations. These features occur throughout the site and consist mainly of dark green bottles (for beer, gin, rum or cane), case gin bottles, champagne bottles, and/or mineral water bottles. Few beer bottles were recorded in these features. The number of bottles per feature varies, however they all appear to have been deposited at the same time. Most of the features were located in the LBS, however, a few were recorded in small charcoal and ash hearths.

## **Iron Concentrations**

Iron Concentrations occur throughout the site and vary in content and size. They fall into three main categories: corrugated iron; nails and bolts, and; general corroded iron. A more detailed description of the various types of artefacts is given below.

The corrugated iron tends to occur on the eastern side of the site. These are often in association with metal poles, nails, and bolts. The corrugated iron pieces are the remains of the walls and roofs of the buildings, while the wooden and/or metal poles are the structural supports. One piece of corrugated iron had been painted with a red (primer) paint; however, the norm is for the pieces to be unpainted. Most of the nails associated with these pieces were made from brass or copper.

Several pieces of metal were found corroded together. While many of these were corroded beyond on-site recognition, several appear to be concentrations of nails, bolts, and assorted iron pieces.

The last of this category is a ubiquitous category and consists of iron that has been corroded beyond recognition. These concentrations tend to be orange stains in the sand often with fragmentary pieces of iron.

## **Pottery Pits**

Pottery Pits are pits occur in most of the squares but are not as frequent as other types of pit features. The Pottery Pits tend to consist of a medium sized ceramic pot at the top with charcoal, bone and/or tins below it. Most of the pots were placed in the pits whilst they were in tact, and several still contain food residues and/or ashes.

## **Red Clay Pit**

This feature is located in SQ. B8. The feature consists of an ochre coloured clay-like substance surrounded by the ashy-grey cultural horizon. It is 30 cm in diameter and  $\pm$  5 cm thick. Part of the feature was sampled for future analyses.

## **Shell Patches**

Several Shell Patches occurred throughout the site. The main species included *Perna perna*, *Ostridae spp.*, and *Patella spp.* Various animal bones, bottles, ceramics, metal artefacts, etc. were in association with these middens.



## **Shoe Pits**

Two Shoe Pits were recorded. The smallest Shoe Pit was located in SQ A4, while the latter was located in Sq. A8. The shoe in SQ A8 consisted of a single shoe with cloth on a metal lid. The Shoe Pit in SQ A8 is 70 cm x 51 cm in diameter and 53 cm deep. The pit consisted of five shoes. The shoes varied in type and size. The size of the shoes ranged from a (modern day) size 4 to a size 7. The shoes can be described as follows:

- Thick soles with small nails in the sole and a reinforced metal toe piece
- Thick soles with small nails in the sole
- Thin leather with a pointed toe

## **Tin concentration**

Many Tin Concentrations were recorded throughout the excavations. The size of the concentrations varied but mostly consisted of at least three tins (of varying sizes) in a small pit, and sometimes with ash and charcoal surrounding it.

## **FINDINGS**

### Bottles

The bottles can generally be divided into ten classes. <sup>1</sup>These are:

- Ginger beer
- Codd's
- Ink
- General alcohol
- Medicinal
- Poison (cobalt blue)
- Egg-ended mineral water
- Cosmetic
- Case gins
- Stone gins

The bottles from the Point are important since they provide a valuable insight into the small socio-economic practices of that time.

The Ginger Beer bottles yielded some rare finds. Bottle researchers have, in the past, not been able to place the CBJ ginger beer company. These bottles have been located all over southern Africa, however, Durban now has the highest density of CBJ bottles. This indicates that the company was probably based in Durban, since  $\pm 40\%$  of the bottles from the Point are CBJ bottles.

The industrial development of Durban can also be traced through the bottle companies. Companies registered with their addresses, then moved and changed address, e.g. W Daly company changed localities through time in accordance with the industrial zoning of Durban. Thus the location of industrial areas in Durban can be traced via the company's addresses. Furthermore, specific cooldrink companies, used specific bottle manufacturers, and this required import/export relations. For example, Dan Rylands was a bottle manufacturer in the UK in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, which was used mostly by the Durban cooldrink companies

Several rare and/or unknown bottles were recorded. These are:

- **Codd's bottles**
  - Lion Brand, Point Road, Durban<sup>2</sup>
  - AH Doig, Victoria, Harrismith
  - South Sea Mineral Water Company, Dobson and Nall Ltd Bottle and Case makers
  - James Gordon Trademark Montrose
  - SK Askham, Natal Mineral Water and Ice Works, Plowricht Lane, Durban
  - Snake Brand (embossed snake underneath the base)
  - Skittle-shaped: P Haley & Co., Durban – embossed star (in commemoration of Haley's comet)
  - Mr CW Tomkins
  - K Brand Mineral Water Works, Durban
  - Greyville Electric Mineral Water Works, Dookan Bros, Durban, Embossed Indian Elephant logo
  - Greyville Electric Mineral Water Works, A Dookan, Durban
  - Borland and Weightman, Braamfontein, embossed springbok emblem
- **Cooldrink bottles**

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<sup>1</sup> These bottles have been analysed, however the details of the analyses is not available to the public until it has been published.

<sup>2</sup> There is no knowledge of Lion Brand industries in Point Road

- Anglo Belfast, Durban
- W Daly (variety of unrecorded types)
- **Ginger beer bottles**
  - Lion Brand, Queen St. Durban, crown top bottle
  - Lion Brand, Queen St., Durban, blob top bottle
  - Superior R&J
  - EJ Askham
  - African Mineral Water (various), Albert Street, Durban
  - CW Tomkins, Inchanga
  - Josiah Russell
  - R White
  - Daly's Limited, Pietermaritzburg
  - E K/Anval Aimé, West street, Durban
  - HE Royal Mineral Water (previously unrecorded variety of this bottle)
  - Scott Bros
- **Brewery bottles**
  - Two types of Natal Breweries bottle
  - South African Breweries bottle with Natal Breweries label (the amalgamation bottle)
- **General Bottles**
  - Goodall Backhouse & Co. Yorkshire relish
  - Cheseborough Co. (started 1893), bought out by Ponds Institute 1981.
  - HJ Heinz sauce bottle (original Heinz sauce from 1869); changed to Heinz sauces in 1919
  - Guinness: All imports of glass Guinness bottles stop at 1910.
  - Naval Military and C.S. Coop. Soc. Of S. Africa Ltd: glass bottle with acid etching.
  - Baynesfield Dairy milk bottle
  - Complete Roses Lime Cordial (one with partial label)
  - Jürgen Peters alcohol bottles – family crest on own bottles
  - Udolpho Wolfe Aromatic Schnapps, Schiedam, similar to a case gin bottle
  - Napier Johnstone's TM, Extra Old Highland Whisky (writing is embossed)
  - Fraielli Branca, Milano, wine? Bottle
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- **Water filters**

- Near complete large and small water filters, patented by G. Cheavin's, Boston England.

### Ceramics

Various ceramic plates were recorded. Most of these date to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century or early 21<sup>st</sup> century. The most common decoration is the fern-leaf pattern in green or blue. The white plate with a blue or gold rim motif is also common. Ceramic bowls (of which some still had food contents inside), jugs and toiletry accessories were also excavated, e.g. a 'Chesebrough' toothpaste jar (with toothpaste inside).

A few pieces of porcelain plates were excavated, but they have not been identified. A few porcelain dolls and miniature tea-sets were recovered.

### Earthenware

Earthenware pots are ceramic vessels that do not originate from Europe and were locally made. These vessels were used as both bowls, plates and pots, and thus varied in size and function. They tend to be brown-red in colour and have little, if any, glazing. Many of the earthenware vessels were still unbroken.

The earthenware vessels tended to still have (food) remains inside the vessels. These remains were carbonized and samples of each pot was taken. One pot from the eastern side of the excavation was filled with ash<sup>3</sup>.

### Bone artefacts

A few bone artefacts were excavated. These includes a variety of handles, buttons, lice combs, toothbrushes, spoons, buttons, dice and rings.

### Smoking Pipes

Three kinds of smoking pipe material were excavated: wood, stone and ceramic.

The stone and wooden pipes tend to be undecorated and functional. The ceramic pipes tend to be decorated and/or have the makers stamp on the heel of the pipe. Most of the pipes have the name 'Cork', "Gladstone" and "Blankenheim, Genever, Is De Best'

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<sup>3</sup> These remains were slightly separated from the cooking areas of the site and may (not) be crematoria remains. Further investigation needs to be undertaken to determine this.

imprinted on them. The Blankenheim pipe was given away for free with Blankenheim and Nolet every case gin bottle bought.

### Cutlery

The kitchen cutlery consisted of a variety of styles of knives, forks, table spoons and tea spoons. They were made from metal, wood and/or bone. One bone spoon is only 3 cm long and 0.5 cm in diameter. The handle is decorated with cross-hatching motif.

### Cloth

The main type of cloth excavated was a hesian-type of cloth. This cloth was used for wrapping various tins and bottles, as well as the main (shawl) wrapping for the human burial.

### Glass

Apart from the various types of glass bottles excavated at the site, other glass artefacts were also found. These include various types and colours of windowpane glass, glass 'bells' and lids and crockery. The lids were from bottles, pots or jars and highly decorated. One glass lid had the mark: "Enos 'prepared patent'" marking.

A variety of glass marbles were excavated.

### Coins

Five coins were recovered from the excavations. The first coins has the title of "George IV" on the one side. No date or further markings could be observed. The flip side has a shield with markings inside.

The second coin has a female head with the name "Gloria" on it. The flip side has a date of 1862. It is too eroded for further details.

The third coin dates to 1892. It has the following inscription: 'Carlos I RE I De Portugal'. The flip side has 20 REAS? Inscribed on it.

The fourth and fifth coins are currently too eroded to make out any dates or writing. The one coin has an image of a seated female, while the other has a female's face.

### Jewelry

Several types of jewelry were excavated. The more expensive jewelry consisted of two gold rings and gold wiring. The one ring was a plain band of gold that appears to have been roughly made. The second ring was a blank signet ring.

Metal bangles and earrings were recovered. The more common jewelry tended to be various colours and sizes of glass and shell beads. One shell earring and brooch was associated with the human burial.

### Lamps

Various sizes of lamps were excavated. These were variations of the oil lamps with a glass or metal base for the oil container, and a glass casing over the wick.

### Leather

The identifiable pieces of leather were mostly from shoes. See 'shoe pit' for description of the types of shoes.

Miscellaneous fragments of leather were also excavated.

### Ochre

One area had a large chunk of red ochre. This 'chunk' was approximately 60 cm in diameter. Green and blue type of ochreous mineral was also excavated, but in very small quantities.

### Shell

The marine shell at the site can be divide into two categories: subsistence and functional. The shell used for subsistence tends to be mostly brown mussels, oyster and limpets. These shell species would have provided important protein to the people of Bamboo Square in the form of fresh meat..

The shell also has a functional value. Shell was crushed to form a type of lime-cement for floors. Any shell would suffice for this purpose. Other shell species, such as oyster, was used to make buttons and brooches (see the one for the human burial).

### Tins

There is a large variety of tins from the site. The most common tins are those for preserved food: these would include modern day versions of sardine tins and general small food tins. Many of these tins are still unopened when Bamboo Square was “cleared”. Only the food residues remained at the time of the excavation. One tin was still full of camphor oil and some cloth material.

Other tins included general paint tins and other industrial-type of tins. Some of these tins have residue remains or paint brushes stuck inside.

Several enamel bowls, plates, cups, washing basins, jugs and kettles were excavated.

### Faunal Remains

The faunal remains include:

- Domestic cattle
- Domestic birds, e.g. chickens, ducks, etc
- Sheep/goat
- Domestic pig
- A variety of fish
- Large marine mammals (whale and/or hippopotamus)
- Crayfish
- Sea birds

These remains indicate a varied diet of several cultural systems. The fish bones made the highest percentage of faunal remains at the whole site.

### Nails and Pins

A variety of nails/screws of different sizes and makes were excavated. The most common material for the nail/screw was brass/copper nail. Admittedly iron nails could have been used and these have rusted now away.

Several small safety and cloth pins were excavated. These were made from a variety of metals.

### Botanical remains

The only botanical remains from the site were several seeds. These were either in tins, or carbonised from various fires.

### Coal/Anthracite

The main form of heating/cooking appears to be from coal and/or anthracite. These were found in large quantities throughout the site.

### Wood

The wood from the site tends to be poorly preserved, even if it was originally treated with chemicals. The wooden artefacts tend to be paint brushes and the remains of doors. Door remains were more visible by the organic discolouration in the sand and the location of screws/nails and door handles, than by the wood itself.

### Gardening Equipment

The term 'gardening equipment' is a general term that includes spades, hoes, forks, scythes, ax heads, rope and wire.

### Metal Artefacts

Most of the ferrous metal artefacts were highly corroded and many were adiagnostic. Table 1 lists the general metal artefacts recovered, however, some artefacts require special mention.

Most of the padlocks were still "locked", suggesting that the chests or doors were not open at the time of the removals or destruction of Bamboo Square. This was particular for the door remains along the eastern side of the excavation.

Other metal artefacts include:

- Kitchen cooking utensils
- Beer mug
- Base of a fold-up bed
- Cannon ball
- Corrugated iron for roofing – some was painted with red paint
- Horse shoes
- House or door frames



- Iron chains
- Keys (various sizes)
- Knives, swords and spears
- Scissors

### Copper/Brass

Most of the copper/brass artefacts were for special, or decorative, purposes. For example, the copper goblets, candle holders, large bowls and plates and disc do not appear to be used for everyday purposes (in comparison with other domestic items excavated).

Other copper/brass items included copper wire, nails, sheets and bullet cartridges. Eight bullet cartridges were excavated. Three of these have diagnostic imprints. Two have the B II markings, while the other has A78 7.62 R1M2.

### General Artefacts

Other artefacts include:

- Lead sinkers
- Fragments of writing slate, of which some had writing on it
- Porcelain doll heads used for Christmas cakes
- Floor tiles
- Possible tooth from a bulldozer blade

### Skeleton

One human skeleton was excavated at Bamboo Square. The skeleton was originally exposed during the earthmoving phase, and not the excavation. The cranium had been removed by construction activity, and the spinal column was exposed. The skeleton was initially examined with a representative of the SAPS and KwaZulu-Natal Heritage to determine the skeleton's age. If the skeleton was older than 60 years then it fell under the jurisdiction of KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act, and not the SAPS. I determined that the skeleton dated roughly between 1880 to 1920.

The skeleton was buried in a lying posture, on its back, with the feet/body pointing towards the sea/sunrise. Parts of the left arm was missing as this was on the exposed slope of the grave. The complete right forearm was missing as well, however this was not

exposed. Either the bone had decomposed after the burial or the person did not have a right forearm. The rest of the skeleton was well preserved and no obvious trauma was observed. The person may be a female between the ages of 18 to 25. It would be necessary to send the skeletal material to a qualified physical anthropologist to determine the correct age, sex and physical health/causes of death.

The burial is directly associated with Bamboo Square and would have been in Sq.'s AA3 and AA4. The artefacts associated with both Bamboo Square and the human remains are very similar. The artefacts associated with the burial yield some information regarding the status of that person.

1. The person was buried without shoes. This was a common occurrence amongst the lower economic class as shoes were 'recycled' due to their value.
2. The person was wrapped in a black hesian-like cloth: material associated with the Bamboo Square cloth.
3. The person was dressed in a 'skirt' and oyster shell buttons were located between the legs, as well as a small brass buckle. A small British military button was associated in the vicinity of the left leg.
4. The chest area has a small mother of pearl (i.e. oyster) brooch, and bone and metal buttons. Small fragments of thin cloth were probably the blouse.
5. Two small shell earrings were associated with the area of the right ear.

The artefacts suggest that the person was of low economic status and lived in Bamboo Square. The person was probably buried in the "back yard" of a person's house. This in itself is interesting as cemeteries were available within 200 m from Bamboo Square. This may indicate that the person may not have been a Christian, or that the cemeteries were not available to everyone in the Durban area.

## **CANAL EXCAVATIONS AND MONITORING**

Durban Point Development Company contracted the Institute for Cultural Resource Management to undertake archaeological excavations in selected areas of the area to be affected by a new canal (Fig. 7). The aim of the contract was to excavate those areas previously demarcated as being sensitive, and to monitor other areas that have been recently backfilled.

The archaeological and historical sensitivity of the area was defined by an historical and archaeological report where Prof. Brian Kearney had identified areas that may yield important historical information (Anderson 2003; reproduced in Appendix A).

### **Monitoring**

Most of the section of the canal was monitored during the excavation/earthmoving phase. The more southern end consists of an area below the current jail and/or houses. This area was not monitored for two reasons:

1. I was not informed when the southern section of the canal was started, despite several requests to be informed. I only saw part of the southern canal earthmoving during an on-site inspection when this section was halfway complete.
2. The southern excavations do not appear to be as deep as the more northern excavations, and thus less likely to reach the original beach levels. In addition, it is unlikely that any in tact remains would occur since their several buildings occur along this section.

The monitoring program worked in conjunction with the earthmoving program. Several more recent rubbish dumps occurred in the upper levels, and archaeological / historical material occurred at 5 m below current surface. This was a consistent pattern along the northern half of the canal.

The monitoring observed few archaeological features, and mostly single artefacts. Most of these artefacts were bottles of which several are rare finds.

Along the northern end of the canal two important areas were observed. An upper level occurs at a similar level to Bamboo Square, and similar artefacts were observed. This has been negatively affected by the excavation of a pipeline for the aquarium. This pipeline excavation was not part of any management plan and had thus severely damaged the southern part of Bamboo Square. No archaeological consultation nor mitigation was undertaken during this pipeline excavation and neither myself nor KwaZulu-Natal Heritage were informed of this construction plan.

The second level appears to be at the base of the dunes where Bamboo Square was originally situated. Four excavation squares were placed in this area.

The following artefacts were recovered:

- Ceramic plates (with the fern pattern motif)
- Case gin bottles
- Roses Lime Cordial bottle
- Clay pipes (one decorated with a male's head)
- Marine Shell
- Faunal remains
- Anthracite
- Coral
- Rusted metal objects (included pipes and bolts)
- Lead fishing sinkers
- Nails
- Tins
- Window panes
- Metal fishing reel

In general the working area of this site (named CAN1) appears to be a well defined work space approximately 20 m x 30 m. One feature was excavated. This feature is a small and shallow depression containing charcoal and cuttlefish 'bone'. It appears to be a fireplace.

The site in general appears to be a working area for fisherman and probably dates to the late 1800s. That is, the site is contemporary with Bamboo Square.

### **Excavations**

Several areas were demarcated as requiring mitigation. These areas are indicated in Fig. 7.

#### **BAM-A**

The southern part of BAM-A was regarded as being sensitive as Fort Victoria was located in the general vicinity. Six 3 m x 3 m squares were placed on the site and excavated to a maximum depth of 1 m. The topsoil varied in depth in various squares, but averaged  $\pm 60$  cm in most squares.

The upper layer of tops/oil and backfill appears to be related to the last occupancies of the nearby buildings. The lower layer was a uniformed yellow-white beach sand. Ephemeral scatters of shell and bone were visible in these lower levels.

No historical artefacts and/or features were located in this area. This southern part of BAM-A is cleared for future development, but not the northern part. The northern part of BAM-A has not been excavated as container offices were placed on this part of the site. This part of the site correlates with the southwestern part of Bamboo Square.

### **BAM-B**

BAM-B is situated on the corner of Timeball and Browns Road. The area is under thick grass and modern rubbish, as well as tar and gravel from previous roads.

The main horizon began with parts of the old road possibly dating to early 19<sup>th</sup> century, although it could be earlier. Beneath the road are artefacts associated with the 1880s – 1890s, e.g. the Cheeseborough vaseline Pot and the case gin bottles. The road itself was made from ballasting stone as well as other rubble.

One square possibly has an old chain marker used for early surveying. Other squares had cement floors, brick walls and brick “sluices”. The bricks are mostly from the Umgeni Brick and Tile Company.

It appears that this area is part of the late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century rail system of the harbour. These foundations were, in turn, built on the beach sand.

There is no evidence for Browns Road Cemetery on this specific part of the erf.

Mitigation in this area is complete.

### **BAM-C**

A total of six 2m x 2 m squares were excavated in this area. These squares were taken down to  $\pm 1$  m in depth. As with BAM-B the upper layers consisted of old building rubble and/or roadfill. Underneath this was beach sand.

Some artefacts were located in the beach sand. These include:

- Glass bottles
- Glass beads
- Animal bones
- European ceramics

The archaeological density is very low, and no further excavations were undertaken in this area. This mitigation for this area has been completed.

### **BAM-D to BAM-F**

These areas were resurveyed in terms of archaeological mitigation. I decided that they were unlikely to yield much archaeological information as they have been subjected to continuous development.

## **Discussion and Conclusion**

The excavations at Bamboo Square have provided a wealth of information regarding this little known aspect of history in formative Durban. Whilst historical records are available, they do not record the day-to-day lives of the working class. The archaeological material has given an insight into one aspect of Durban. Unfortunately much of Bamboo Square has been destroyed by previous and current developments. Any further development in this area should be restricted unless full mitigation of this area has been completed.

The archaeological material suggests that the people from Bamboo Square were not given adequate time to move. On the contrary, the number of personal, and valuable, artefacts, locked doors, unopened tins of food, etc., strongly suggests that these people were given little, if any, time to move out of Bamboo Square.

The artefacts also suggest that the people living in Bamboo Square were of the low economic group, even though they had 'valuable' items. The use of bone and shell beads is one example. The number of 'weapons' (e.g. swords, knives, spent bullets, guns, spears, etc.) suggests that the area may have required personal defense.

The archaeological excavations and monitoring have provided valuable information regarding the development of small companies (into larger companies) of the formative Durban Municipality and Harbour area. In addition to that, an unrecorded aspect of the Durban's first squatter camp and forced removals in colonial Southern Africa, and the social milieu of Durban has been partially saved, in terms of the material culture left behind by these people. Areas still exist where Bamboo Square may be developed and/or salvaged (see Appendix A)

Areas of Bamboo Square still exist and these should be preserved or mitigated before more development occurs. I would not support any development programs that would develop without mitigation. One needs to remember that only  $\pm 40$  3 m x 3 m squares were salvaged from the whole of Bamboo Square: a fraction of what was originally there. These excavations only covered  $\pm 5$  house(holds), and further excavations may cover other households from different cultural backgrounds.

**Appendix A**  
**Historical Archaeological Report for The Point**



**Archaeological and Historical Survey for The Point, Durban**

**For Moreland Developments. Pty (Ltd)**

**By**

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**15 January 2003**

## INTRODUCTION

Moreland approached the Institute for Cultural Resource Management (ICRM) to undertake an archaeological survey of the next phase of development for The Point. The ICRM included a full historical survey for those areas/topics not covered in the previous scoping report. This brief Historical Report can be viewed in Appendix A.

This report is a brief outline of areas that may have potential historical archaeological material underneath the current surface. A management plan is set out for future development. This management plan excludes existing buildings that may or may not be listed or protected by the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act. The report only deals with areas that are currently undeveloped and not with any of the current buildings.

The archaeological component of this report is based on the historical findings. As with most historical archaeology surveys, the written records have been consulted prior to the archaeological survey or excavations. In addition, this report also uses the findings from a previous survey, monitoring program, and archaeological excavations as a basis for its conclusions (Anderson 2003).

The Point appears to have been an area of high historical activity since the first colonialists landed. Apart from several battles, there was Durban's first *squatter camp* (referred to as Bamboo Square), several industrial landmarks, shipwrecks, a gallows, railway lines, piers, and buildings. Most of these have been damaged due to previous developments. This project has the potential to recover the last vestiges of a very important part of Durban's history.

## FINDINGS

The provided map has been laid out in a grid, and important areas have been noted in the Appendix. In general, all undisturbed areas have the potential to reveal material. By undisturbed I specifically refer to those area that do not have current buildings. The foundations of many of these buildings would have damaged most of the archaeological material. Those areas that are currently grassed, under parking lots and/or roads have the potential to yield much information. Furthermore, the areas that have been reclaimed may also yield material (approximately 5-7m below the current surface).

## Bamboo Square

Bamboo Square was partially excavated in 2002. However, much of the site still exists. The squares B – G and 3 – 8 are areas of high sensitivity. These areas still have the remains of Bamboo Square under the current surface. I estimate that Bamboo Square is approximately 1 – 3 m below the current surface. Much of Bamboo square has been damaged by previous and current development, however, previous excavations have revealed that *in situ* material still occur on the landscape.

### Significance:

Bamboo Square is of high archaeological and historical significance. Kearney (2003) describes it as follows:

“Bamboo Square was one of the earliest, if not the earliest, informal settlement in the country and, in numerous ways was Durban’s District Six. It had commenced as a Tonga ‘kraal’ for migrant Tonga harbour workers in the 1860’s. Thereafter it became a refuge for marginalised peoples including Indians released from plantation indentureship, Chinese, Malays East Coast Africans and St Helenites. The sense of refuge was found not only in the site which was situated between high sand dunes and thus obscure, but also in that the place was owned by the War Department, in far off London. Thus it fell outside the Borough of Durban for whom it was a perpetual social and sanitation nuisance and eventually became to be administered by the Natal Harbour Board and the Natal Harbour Department after 1880. Their administration included many instances of shack removals and demolitions in the 1880’s and 1890’s. They also made numerous attempts to replan the settlement, moving it progressively closer to the ocean beach by the end of the nineteenth century. Much of the information about the settlement derives from the extensive reports of the Harbour Board officials, the Water and Borough Police and the Inspector of Nuisances ( early Heath Department ).

The community was fairly homogenous, drawn as they were by their common marginalisation, and they lived largely in either wattle and daub huts and shacks or later in small wood and iron cottages. By the mid 1890s the population numbered several thousand. It also seems that the inhabitants provided accommodation in very small shacks for the growing number of ‘togt’ workers who sought periodic work in the nearby docks. The community supported a few shops and a school whose fortunes fluctuated depending

on the attractions of harbour work. Other occupations included fishing and this was probably the ancestral branch of the seine fishing community of the twentieth century. After the Durban Town Council skilfully took over ownership of the land in 1898, along with the adjacent Addington Lands and commenced a formal sanitation and renewal programme. This was interrupted in 1902 by the outbreak of Bubonic Plague, whose origins were traced to Bamboo Square and the settlement was completely demolished early in 1903. The population were dispersed to other informal settlements including Island View, Clairwood and South Coast Junction.”

#### Significance:

Bamboo Square is of high archaeological and historical significance. Little is known about the lives of the general people who lived there, and many of the written records are from municipal and police records. The previous, and limited, archaeological excavations recorded a better picture than one of squalor that was officially portrayed.

#### Mitigation:

There are three options for this area. First, the area should be declared a no-development zone and it should be preserved for the future. Second, excavations should be undertaken with the purpose of developing the site as an open-air museum. This implies that the area is still a no-development zone. Third, the remaining parts Bamboo Square need to be systematically excavated and recorded. The artefacts and photographic material should be used for displays within the development and the area should be commemorated. I personally believe that the site is integral to the formation of Durban as a city, and that this heritage needs to be saved as a matter of priority.

If excavations do occur then they should begin with test-pit excavations to determine the extent of the whole of Bamboo Square.

#### **Transport routes**

Roads, piers, tramlines, and railway lines should form under the heading of industrial archaeology. These lines occur throughout the proposed development, however it is unlikely that the physical remains still exist.

**Significance:**

The use of transport to and from a harbour to the city is important features in the development of any city. The ways in which roads are changed, through time, for increasing traffic in goods is linked to the economy of that city.

These features should be considered as being medium significant.

**Mitigation:**

It is unlikely that these features still exist. If this area is developed, then all construction work would need to be monitored.

**Stables and Domestic Housing**

Many of these buildings do not exist anymore as they have been damaged by previous developments. However, several areas have not been developed, and may yield subsurface features. These are located in squares G7, H10, J8, L10, O7, O10, O11, P7, and P11.

These features include the locations of the Port Captain's Indian compound, stevedore's compounds, pilot's housing, a prison, and stables.

**Significance:**

These features vary from medium to high significance.

**Management:**

It is unlikely that the remains of these features occur above the ground. However, subsurface features may still exist. Test-pit excavations should occur in these areas to determine if subsurface features do exist.

**Cemeteries**

Cemeteries refer to areas that have been formally proclaimed as burial grounds, and thus exclude isolated burials such as the one excavated at Bamboo Square (Anderson 2003). Cemeteries were situated in squares I9, I10, J9, J10. The written records indicate

that many of the graves were exhumed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and removed to other locations in Durban.

**Significance:**

Cemeteries are of high significance.

**Mitigation:**

It is unlikely that human remains still exist in these older cemeteries. However, there is a possibility that a few individuals were missed. All development in these areas should be monitored.

**Shipwrecks**

Much of the eastern side of the development has the potential to yield the remains of shipwrecks. These can be located in squares J –S and 3 – 8. This area is currently part of the reclaimed land and the original surface is approximately 4 – 8 m below the current surface.

According to the historical records, many of the shipwrecks were reused by local inhabitants, and thus it is unlikely that a complete shipwreck would be found.

**Significance:**

All shipwrecks are of high significance and may yield information regarding maritime activities.

**Mitigation:**

This area needs constant monitoring during the development phases. No earthmoving should occur unless an archaeologist is on site.

**Recreational areas**

The general beach has been used for the last few millennia. No direct evidence for Stone Age and Iron Age occupations have been recorded previously in this area, nor did I observe such sites during the 2002 stage of the project. However, isolated artefacts have been observed.

The area has been extensively utilised over the last 150 years for social events. These events can be colloquially referred to as “beach braai” areas. Several of these were observed during the monitoring stages in 2002.

**Significance:**

These sites are of low significance.

**Mitigation:**

This area should be monitored during the earthmoving stages. Excavations may be required during the earthmoving stage.

**Fishing activities:**

Several areas have been noted for their seine fishing activities. These are concentrated in O7 and P7. While this specific area post-dates 1903, similar activities have occurred since the 1870s, specifically with the arrival of Indian fishermen.

Landfills

The area of the proposed development has been largely reclaimed. Much of the landfill is beach sand and the remains from previous rubbish dumps. The occurrence of bottles, ceramics metal objects, wood, etc. attest to this. While these artefacts are in a secondary context, they are still valuable as they can be accurately dated and yield information.

**Significance;**

I believe that the landfill is of medium to high archaeological significance.

**Mitigation:**

All landfill areas require constant monitoring during the earthmoving stages. A collection depot for bottles should be made and all bottles should be stored in this area for later retrieval. Furthermore, security regarding possible theft of these bottles, and other artefacts, needs to be upgraded and stringently enforced. I believe that the current security measures are inadequate, and that there is little regard for the loss of these artefacts. More security personnel should be employed for this purpose.

Increased security should entail the constant monitoring of all vehicles without exception. All vehicles should be searched when leaving the premises. This is a standard

procedure at most construction and mining sites and should occur for this development as well. All employers and employees on the site should be informed both verbally and in writing that artefacts may not be removed.

## **CONCLUSION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The Point area has high archaeological and historical significance with the formation of Durban harbour and city. Much of this heritage has been inadvertently destroyed by previous developments. The current development has the potential to allow for the salvaging of this heritage. All mitigation should thus occur timeously ahead of any development. In this case I would think 6 months ahead of schedule would be adequate for test-pit excavations.

The brief historical survey and archaeological excavations and monitoring have already yielded a wealth of information. This is however only a small part of what still remains.

The remains included subsurface features of buildings, Bamboo Square, transport systems, industrial areas and cemeteries. Most of these are older than 100 years and are thus protected by the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act. Buildings older than sixty years are also protected. The developer will need to liaise with KwaZulu-Natal Heritage regarding the built environment and other historical features that have not been covered by this report.

The following squares would require test-pit excavations: G6, H6, J7, K8, L8, M8, L9, M9, P8, and Q8, O10, O11, and P10. The rest of the development should be monitored, especially those in squares H4, columns I to R, and Rows 1 to 6. If current development plans are to change in the future, then the archaeological component needs to be evaluated.



## REFERENCES

Anderson, G. 2003. *Archaeological survey and excavations at The Point*. .  
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B.T. Kearney. 2003. A Brief Report to the ICRM for Bamboo Square.

## Appendix A

**AN HISTORICAL BASIS FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF A PORTION OF THE POINT**<sup>i</sup>co-ordinating axes from the Durban City Council cadastral map of 1974 ( 1 in 6000).

MAP REFERENCE	NOTES ON SURFACE	DATE	REMAINS & ACTIVITIES <sup>ii</sup>
		ARTIFACTS <sup>iii</sup>	
<b>B3</b>	<b>Port worker's housing</b>	<b>c1880-1925</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
<b>B4</b>	<b>Port worker's housing</b>	<b>c1880-1925</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
<b>D4</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>D5</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>D6</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>D7</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>E4</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
	Bamboo Square municipal power station, sewerage pumping station and garbage incinerator	from 1893	Industrial
	Piping including outfall pipe to north pier		
<b>E5</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>E6</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>E7</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>E8</b>	Rail lines from first Point - Durban railway	1860	Industrial
<b>F5</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Bamboo Square municipal power station,	from 1893	Industrial, service

sewerage pumping station and garbage incinerator

Piping including outfall pipe to north pier

<b>F6</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>F7</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
<b>F8</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
F9	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines <sup>iv</sup>	1879-1905	Industrial
<b>F10</b>	<b>Point Road: horse and electric tram lines</b>	<b>1879-1905</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
<b>G6</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
	Paraffin stores	c 1890	Industrial
<b>G7</b>	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
G8	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c 1862	Industrial
	Bamboo Square settlement	c1875-1903	Domestic, fishing
	Stevedore's compounds	c1903-1935	Domestic
G9	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c 1862	Industrial
<b>G10</b>	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
	Water police station	c1900	Service
	Early timber buildings for port functions	1850's	Building
	Early track to Durban	1850's	Service
H5	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c 1862	Industrial
<b>H6</b>	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c 1862	Industrial
	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
	Port and SAR&H housing	1890-1935	Domestic
<b>H7</b>	Fort Victoria, British military magazine and well*	1838	Military
	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c1862	Industrial
	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
	Port and SAR&H housing	1890-1935	Domestic
<b>H8</b>	Fort Victoria, British military magazine and well *	1838	Military
	Rail lines to serve Vetch's pier from Umgeni	c1862	Industrial
	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
	Port and SAR&H housing	1890-1935	Domestic

	Timeball *	1882-1904	Electric
<b>H9</b>	British military magazine and stockade		
	Block house *	1842-1845	Military
	Early port housing	1860's	Domestic
	Natal harbour Department and SAR&H Stevedores		
1880's – 1935	Domestic compounds and latrines		
H10	Early track to Durban	1850's	Service
	Block house and stockade *	1842-1845	Military
H11	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
I2	Later shipwrecks <sup>v</sup>	After 1880	Maritime
<b>I3</b>	<b>Later shipwrecks</b>	<b>After 1880</b>	<b>Maritime</b>
	<b>Stevedore's compounds</b>	<b>1900-1935</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
<b>I4</b>	<b>Stevedore's compounds</b>	<b>1900-1935</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
	<b>Root of Vetch's pier</b>	<b>1860-1864</b>	<b>Timber staging, stone</b>
<b>I5</b>	<b>Stevedore's compounds</b>	<b>1900-1935</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
I6	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
I7	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
	Port housing	Pre 1895 and 1903	Domestic
I8	Port housing	Pre 1895 and 1903	Domestic
<b>I9</b>	Stockade around blockhouse *	1842-1845	Military
	Cemetery *	1842-1894	Human
	Port housing and latrines	Pre 1895 and 1903	Domestic
<b>I10</b>	Stockade around blockhouse *	1842-1845	Military
	Cemetery *	1842-1894	Human
	Alexandra Hotel <sup>vi</sup>	<b>1881-1912</b>	<b>Domestic, building</b>
<b>I11</b>	<b>Point Road: horse and electric tram lines</b>	<b>1879-1905</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
	<b>Early customs house</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>Building</b>
<b>J2</b>	<b>Early shipwrecks</b>	<b>Before 1880</b>	<b>Maritime</b>

	<b>Root of Vetch's pier</b>	<b>1860-1864</b>	<b>Timber staging, stone</b>
<b>J3</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
<b>J4</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
J5	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Stevedore's compounds	1900-1935	Domestic
J6	Stevedore's compounds	1900-1935	Domestic
	Port housing	After 1880	Domestic
J7	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from the Bay	1860	Industrial
	Port housing	After 1880	Domestic
<b>J8</b>	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from the Bay	1860	Industrial
	Port housing	After 1880	Domestic
	Municipal tram stables	1881	Service
J9	Port housing	After 1880	Domestic
	Early industrial: James Brown	1870's	Industrial
	Cemetery *	1842-1894	Human
J10	Early industrial: James Brown	1870's	Industrial
	Cemetery *	1842-1894	Human
J11	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
	Early port buildings, timber sheds	1850's	Building
K2	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
<b>K3</b>	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Football fields	c1915	
<b>K4</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Football fields	c1915	
<b>K5</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Football fields	c1915	
	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
K6	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Football fields	c1915	
K7	Prison housing and recreation	After 1907	Domestic
	Missions to seamen	c1935	Domestic

<b>K8</b>	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
	Municipal tram stables	1881	Service
	Early industrial	1870's	Industrial
	Port housing	After 1903	Domestic
K9	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
	Early and later pilot's housing	1860's and 1903	Domestic
K10	Early industrial	1870's	Industrial
	NGR rail lines	1900	Industrial
K11	First house of the Port Captain	1850's	Domestic
	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
K12	First house of the Port Captain	1850's	Domestic
	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
L2	Root of Vetch's pier	1860-1864	Timber staging, stone
<b>L3</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
<b>L4</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
<b>L5</b>	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
	Football fields	c1915	
L6	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
	Football fields	c1915	
L7	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison housing and recreation	After 1907	Domestic
L8	Prison housing and recreation	After 1907	Domestic
L9	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
	Early and later pilot's housing	1860's and 1903	Domestic
<b>L10</b>	<b>Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay<sup>vii</sup></b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
	<b>Early and later pilot's housing</b>	<b>1860's and 1903</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
	<b>Second house of the Port Captain</b>	<b>c1880</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
<b>L11</b>	<b>Early port workshops</b>	<b>c1880</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
L12	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
M4	Later shipwrecks	After 1880	Maritime
	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
M5	Later shipwrecks	After 1880	Maritime

	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
	Football fields	c1915	
M6	Oil storage tanks and pipe to wharfside	c1940	Industrial
	Football fields	c1915	
M7	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison	1907	Domestic
M8	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison	1907	Domestic
M9	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Concrete blockyard	C1885	Industrial
<b>M10</b>	Second house of the Port Captain	c1880	Domestic
	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
M11	Early port workshops	c1880	Industrial
M12	Point Road: horse and electric tram lines	1879-1905	Industrial
N4	Beach recreation	1950's	
N5	Later shipwrecks	After 1880	Maritime
	Beach recreation		
N6	Later shipwrecks	After 1880	Maritime
	Beach recreation		
N7	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison	1907	Domestic
N8	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison	1907	Domestic
N9	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Concrete blockyard	C1885	Industrial
N10	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Berthing Master's stores	c1890	Maritime
N11	Early port workshops	c1880	Industrial
	Natal Harbour Department Institute	1895	Maritime
N12	Early port workshops	c1880	Industrial
	Narrow gauge rail lines to Vetch's pier from Bay	1860	Industrial
O4	Beach recreation		
O5	Beach recreation		
O6	Beach recreation		
<b>O7</b>	Prison	1907	Domestic

	Seine net fishing base	After 1903	Fishing
O8	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Prison	1907	Domestic
O9	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Concrete blockyard	c1885	Industrial
<b>O10</b>	<b>Signal station</b>	<b>c1890</b>	<b>Maritime</b>
	<b>Port Captain's Indian compound</b>	<b>c1860</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
<b>O11</b>	<b>Signal station</b>	<b>c1890</b>	<b>Maritime</b>
	<b>Port Captain's Indian compound</b>	<b>c1860</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
O12	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
P4	Beach recreation		
P5	Beach recreation		
P6	Prison	1907	Domestic
<b>P7</b>	Prison	1907	Domestic
	Seine net fishing base	After 1903	Fishing
P8	Prison	1907	Domestic
P9	Concrete blockyard	c1885	Industrial
P10	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
<b>P11</b>	<b>Early shipwrecks</b>	<b>Before 1880</b>	<b>Maritime</b>
	<b>Port Captain's Indian compound</b>	<b>c1860</b>	<b>Domestic</b>
	<b>Port workshops</b>	<b>After 1900</b>	<b>Industrial</b>
P12	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
Q5	Beach recreation		
Q6	Beach recreation		
Q7	Prison	1907	Domestic
Q8	Maize shed	1938	
Q9	Concrete blockyard	c1885	Industrial
Q10	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
Q11	Early shipwrecks	Before 1880	Maritime
	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
R5	Beach recreation		
R6	Beach recreation		
R7	Beach recreation		
R8	Maize shed	1938	



R9	Maize shed	1938	
R10	Port workshops	After 1900	Industrial
	NGR and SAR&H rail lines	Post 1900	Industrial
S6	Beach recreation		
S7	Beach recreation, sand pumping		
S8	Maize shed	1938	

## GENERAL

Some activities of historical significance have not been referenced as there are no mapped records available. These include the Zulu War stockade across the Point of 1879 which probably ran from around E9 to J5. There were also water wells which were used before piped water before 1885 and their locations are unknown.

**Professor BT Kearney**

**Durban**

**January 2003**

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<sup>i</sup> The map references are to a 1 in 2000 map of the Point with a grid of 200meter squares. The north line at L-M is the longitude at 4800m east of 31<sup>0</sup>. The east-west line at 7-8 is the latitude at 3 305 500m south of the equator. Both of these are

<sup>ii</sup> It must be noted that the term 'surface' does not necessarily refer to the present land surface since a great deal of the Point has been altered over time, particularly through the flattening of the original sand dunes. Thus, for example, the Timeball noted in references H7 and H8, actually stood on top of a sanddune which has been removed. Such activities are denoted with an \*.

Similarly the shape of the Point was greatly altered during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries through reclamation, especially on the seaward side. Thus beaches present in the period 1840 to 1880 are now situated in the centre of the Point. This accounts for the large number of references to the sites of possible shipwreck material which may possibly be found towards the centre of the Point.

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However, since most ships wrecked were comprehensively taken apart and items of value salvaged, it is not anticipated that

<sup>iii</sup> Possible artefacts and remains are noted with reference to the primary surface activities. Other casual items may well be present but are not suggested.

<sup>iv</sup> The horse trams ran along Point Road from 1879 and were gradually extended as the road was pushed towards the customs house. The electric tram lines were laid from 1898.

<sup>v</sup> Earlier shipwrecks would be those which took place before 1880 when the beach was towards the centre of the Point ( see note 3 above ). Later wrecks took place after 1880 and would have been on beaches between the centre of the Point and the present shore line, as the progressive reclamation occurred. I have comprehensive lists and reports on the wrecks..

<sup>vi</sup> The Alexandra Hotel which was one of the finest in the British Colonies ( Refer Kearney 1973 ) was burnt down in 1912 and the present rather poor replacement built.

<sup>vii</sup> The depression which runs behind the group of two-storied, semi-detached pilot's houses in Escombe Terrace and which also carried an NGR rail line is probably the site of this early narrow gauge rail.