## The Annual Archaeological Report of the Zulti North Mining Lease

# For Richards Bay Minerals 2009

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#### INTRODUCTION

Umlando is contracted by Richards Bay Minerals to undertake archaeological surveys and excavations in the Zulti North mining lease. These surveys consist of monthly surveys, while excavations occur when needed. A total of 15 new sites were recorded, 8 sites were continuously monitored and sampled, and 3 sites were excavated.

The mining lease is located north of Richards Bay

It appears that MPE is heading towards an archaeologically dense area, whereas the other mines seem to be heading to archaeologically less dense areas. This may also relate to the high dunes that are being mined with the latter mining ponds.

#### **METHOD**

Surveys are carried out at least once a month, and sometimes twice a month. The surveys occur in front of the mine after dune clearance, as well as along the exploration tracks. Sites with suitable material are noted for future excavations and/or monitoring.

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 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**

#### MINING POND A

#### **MPA 40**

MPA 40 is located along the second dune from sea. It consists of a small scatter of *Perna* perna and adiagnostic pottery.

The site is of low significance.

#### MINING POND C

No new sites were recorded.

#### MINING POND D

#### **MPD 84**

The site is located at the top of a dune in the first dune cordon from the ocean. It consists of a small scatter of burnt *P. perna* and bovid bone.

The site is of low significance.

#### **MPD 86**

The site is located on the first dune from the ocean. It consists of an ephemeral scatter of *P. perna* and oyster.

The site is of low significance.

#### MINING POND E

#### **MPE 83**

MPE 83 is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. The site occurs over a 10m radius and on a relatively flat area. It consists of concentrations of pottery and shell, with faunal remains between these concentrations. The shell is mostly *P. Perna* with some oyster and limpet. There is a variety of pottery types. The pottery consists of shell-impressed and circular impressions, as well as complete pots (broken). A dagga pipe with shell-impressed motif was sampled. There is also some slag and furnace (or daga) fragments.

The site is of medium significance and has been sampled. We will also monitor it in the future.

#### **MPE 84**

MPE 84 is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. The site is near MPE71, but is not part of it. Site consists of a scatter of *P. Perna* and five adiagnostic sherds

The site is of low significance.

#### **MPE 85**

MPE 85 is on the tallest second dune from Lake Nhlabane. The site consists of a scatter of middens and artefacts exposed by bulldozer. There are at least three shell middens (*P. Perna* and *Patella* spp.) that are slumping down the dune. There are many pottery sherds of which some have shell-impressed decorations. Other artefacts include small fragments of slag, hippopotamus teeth and bone, as well as other faunal remains.

The site is of medium significance and has been sampled. We will also monitor it in the future.

#### **MPE 86**

MPE 86 is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. It consists of a large scatter of *P. Perna* and the remains of daga floor. The exploration team exposed the site

The site is of low significance.

#### **MPE87**

MPE87 is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. The site consists of a scatter of adiagnostic pottery and a small piece of "bog iron". There was probably a shell midden in the area (or still underneath the vegetation), as there are small pebbles on surface that are normally associated with shell middens.

The site is of low significance.

#### **MPE 88**

MPE 88 site is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. The site consists of a scatter of shell (mostly *P. Perna* and some *Patella spp.*), faunal remains, and pottery. The pottery is mostly undecorated, but few have lip notching, and one sherd has the classic redburnish with shell-impressed motif. An upper grinding stone made from white beach sandstone and hippo bone were also recorded.

The site is of medium significance and has been sampled. We will also monitor it in the future.

#### **MPE 89**

MPE 89 is located on the first dune from Lake Nhlabane. It consists of a scatter of shell and pottery. The shell is mainly *P. Perna*. The pottery has lip incisions suggesting it dates to the LIA.

The site is of low significance.

#### **MPE 90:**

MPE 90 is located on the first dune cordon from Lake Nhlabane, at the top of a dune. It occurs on both sides of the track. The site consists of at least three shell patches consisting mainly of brown mussel. There are a lot of WBS fragments lying about, as well as pottery rims. All the pottery is undecorated. Several upper grinding stones occur on the surface, also bovid bone, daga, slag and possible human bone.

The site is of medium significance.

The site will be monitored for possible human remains.

#### **MPE 91:**

MPE 91 is located close to the Sokhulu Reservoir. It occurs on both sides of the track, at the top of a dune. The site consists of a shell midden consisting mainly of brown mussel and oyster. There are a lot of Group 7/ Tsonga pottery on the surface. The site extends into the adjacent forest and was sampled.

The site is of medium significance.

The site will be monitored

#### **MPE 92:**

MPE 92 is located close to the Sokhulu Reservoir. It occurs on both sides of the track, at the top of a dune. The site consists of a possibly intact shell midden consisting mainly of brown mussel and oyster.

The site is of medium significance.

The site will be monitored

#### **MPE 93:**

MPE 93 is located close to MPE 91, on the second uphill road leading towards MPE 77.

The site is situated in the road cutting and consists of a possibly intact shell midden (brown mussel and oyster) and pottery.

The site is of medium significance.

The site will be monitored.

#### **MPE 94:**

MPE 94 is located on the second dune cordon from Lake Nhlabane, seawards. It consists of several shell middens, coral and surface pottery. It extends into the adjacent bush.

The site is of medium significance and will be monitored.

#### **AMS**

AMS 19 was recorded in early January 2009 and partially excavated in late January 2009. It is located along the first dune cordon form the Lake Nhlabane side. The excavations concentrated on sampling a shell midden, exposing the human burial, and locating possible furnaces. The site is described below.

#### **EXCAVATION RESULTS**

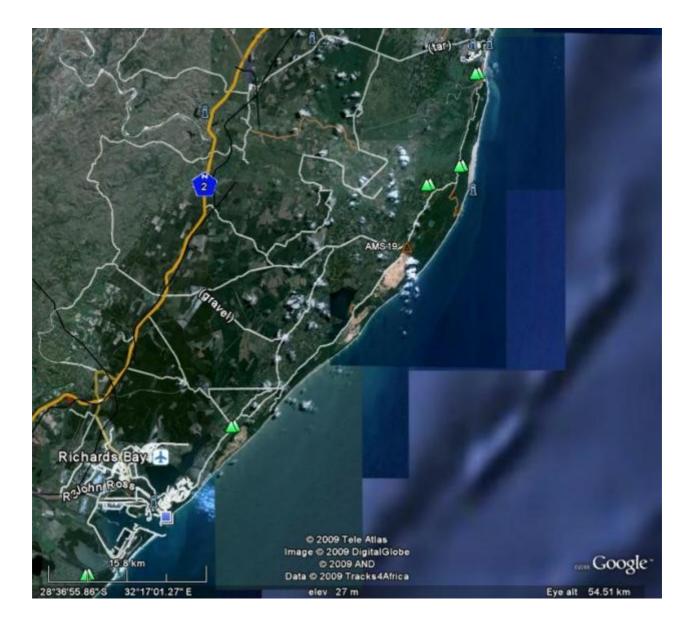
#### AMS19

Umlando cc undertook rescue excavations of a smelting site that had been exposed by bulldozer activity in the last week of January 2009. The site location is indicated in figures 1 and 2, and illustrated in figure 3. The site is located on the top of the western last dune on a relatively small flat area, on a narrow section of the dune that overlooks the hinterland. The dune runs in a northeast-southwest alignment.

The site was divided into 38, 3m x 3m squares (fig. 4). A small test-pit was undertaken in the centre of each square to determine the depth of deposit. Those squares with some form of deposit were marked for excavation. Several shell middens occur along the south-western part of the site. I bulk sampled the one midden that appeared to be mostly intact - ~2m radius. Three middens were not bulk sampled, and two were not excavated.

Squares were also placed in the area of a high density of slag and possible furnace fragments. We also sampled material that occurred on the surface, especially the artefacts that were on the slope of the dune.

#### FIG. 1: LOCATION OF AMS19 IN RELATION TO RICHARDS BAY



#### FIG. 2: LOCATION OF AMS19 IN RELATION TO THE DUNE SYSTEM



#### FIG. 3: VIEW OF AMS19

#### Northeast view



**Southwest view** 



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#### FIG. 4: EXCAVATION PLAN OF AMS19

						NOR	TH					
C												
В												
A												
AA												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11	12	13
Yellow in	ıfill = exc	avated so	quares			300	111					

The artefacts are summarised in Table 1. The site is a single occupation site with an extensive shell midden and furnace area, and the presumed living area to the north. Most of the site has been affected by *Cassurina spp.* afforestation; however the middens were still mostly undisturbed. There are two main middens in A1-A2-AA1-AA2 (fig. 5) and AA7-AA8. The middens are in the standard basin shape with overlapping edges. The southwest midden consists of two middens. The middens are relatively compact and represent a short period of occupation. It was not possible to observe individual dumping episodes as in other sites in the area. The excavations were in a 2m x 2m square. A total of 150kg of shell was excavated in the one square.

The furnaces were mostly broken and very fragile, and no complete furnace was observed. Only the base of some of the furnaces remained and these tend to have slag attached to them. The furnace area consisted of furnace and tuyère fragments, slag and iron ore. While there are six furnaces visible, there is a noticeable lack of slag at this site in comparison with previously excavated sites in this area. This may be a result of dune slumping.

#### FIG. 5: SHELL LAYERS 1 AND 2 AT AMS19



FIG. 6: FURNACE AREA<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Red arrow = furnace; red arrow = slag deposit

#### Bone:

The faunal remains at the site consist of mostly domestic bovid, although two bird bones were noted. Only 72g of fish bone came from the sampled midden.

#### Charcoal:

There was very little charcoal at the site (193.5g), and most of it came from the midden.

#### Adornments:

The most common type of adornment is the *Nassarius kraussianus*, followed by *Tivela spp.* and cowry. The *Tivela spp.* has a natural hole at the apex, and in many instances these are used for adornments (seen by the wear marks around the apex). We place *N. Kraussianus* and *Tivela spp.* automatically into the adornment category. Three pieces of worked shell occur in the midden. These are too small to identify their use.

#### Stone:

The stone consists of lower and upper grinding stones, iron ore and 'ocherous' stones. Some of the upper grindings stones have also been used as hammer stones.

#### Ceramics:

The pottery is mostly undecorated. Thirty five rim-lips were recorded of which 19 were incised or notched. Lip decorations consisted of small lip incisions (14), or wider notching (5).

The decorations varied and included the following:

- Shell impressed motif
- 6 vertical rows of circular impressions
- vertical row of semi-circular impressions

The pottery decorations suggest that site is associated with Tsonga-speaking people and thus occurs between AD1400 - 1780. The other decorations may be associated with Moor park decorations; however, the Tsonga sites often have these motifs as well. The defining decoration is the shell-impressed motif.

One dagga pipe was decorated with rows of small semi-circular impression.

#### Burial:

One poorly preserved human skeleton occurred in Sq AA7. It had either been removed by the bulldozer activity or had disintegrated due to soil acidity. I believe it is mostly the latter as I recovered one hand and arm, but no lower body parts (fig. 7).

#### FIG. 7: HUMAN REMAINS AT AMS17





**TABLE 1: LIST OF ARTEFACTS AT AMS19** 

	Layer	Furnace	Surfac	Shell	Slag	Spit	Spit	TOTA
		area	e	1	feature	1	2	L
	Bone	0	824	963	8.5	70	6	1871.5
	Pottery	0	148	254	13	51	21	487
	Tuyère	0	9	0	2	0	184	195
Ø	Fish	0	0	72	0	0	0	72
grams	Furnace	0	0	0	0	812	1282	2094
22	Charcoal	0	0	192.5	1	0	0	193.5
	Slag	0	12474	0	40574	298	4132	57478
	Shell	0	0	14596	0	654	2492	149110
				4				
	"Ochre"	0	0	13	2	0	1	16
	Upper	0	0	3	0	3	1	7
	g/stone							
	Lower	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
frequency	g/stone							
h	Nassa.	0	0	26	0	0	0	<b>26</b>
fre	Tivela	0	0	20	0	0	0	20
	Cowry	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
	Worked	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
	shell							
	Coral	0	0	3	0	0	0	3

In summary, AMS19 is a smelting site that was used for domestic activity as well. This is unusual since all of the other smelting sites in the mining lease tend to have domestic and smelting activities separated, while at AMS19 the two are combined. The human remains are probably that of one of the smelters (or smiths) from the site. Only one other site in the dune system has yielded human remains directly associated with smelting activity<sup>2</sup>.

#### **MPE77**

MPE77 was originally recorded in June 2008, and noted for test-pit excavations to establish the significance of the site. In July/August 2008, we opened the first two squares from which four shell lenses were excavated. The lenses varied in thickness and size. The

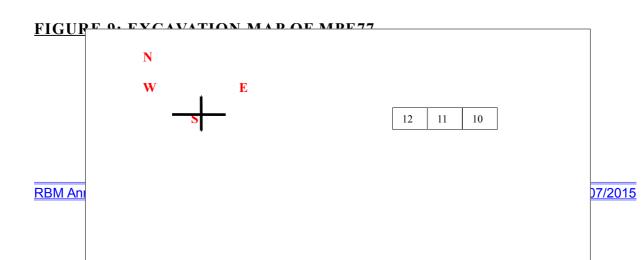
<sup>2</sup> At that site the remains were between 1700 and 1000 years old and disintegrated at the touch of a small paintbrush.

basal lens became two large pits. The excavations extended for ~60cm below the surface. Subsequent excavations in March 2009, July 2009 and September/October 2009 proved that the site still extended to the West and North. A substantial deposit occurred beneath the vegetation. We bulk sampled the main midden as it was the best preserved of the four middens.

#### **FIGURE 8: VIEW OF MPE77**

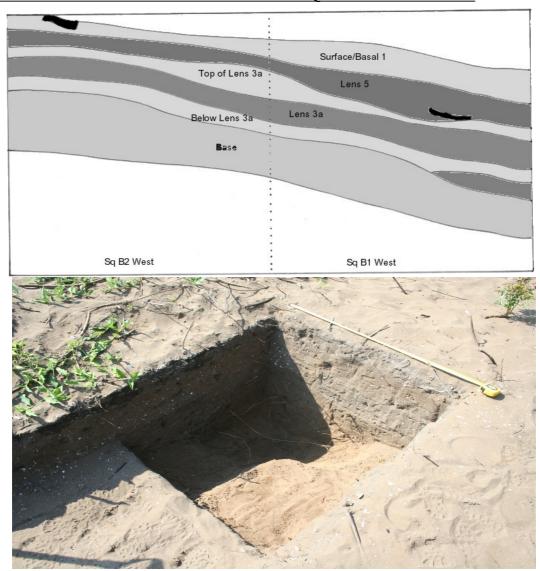


A total of 12, 1m x 1m squares (and then divided into 4 quads) were excavated at MPE77 (fig. 9). The depths ranged from ~60cm to ~80cm in the Southeast, to ~20cm to ~40cm in the Northwest. Nine squares were opened up as the midden was exposed, mainly excavating towards the denser part of the midden, in an attempt to determine its' boundaries and levels. To the northeast of the midden a further three 1m x 1m squares were excavated to determine the nature of the site outside of the midden.



A0	В0	C0
A1	B1	C1
A2	B2	C2

FIGURE 10: WEST STRATIGRAPHY OF SQUARES B1 AND B2



The stratigraphy consists of three main lenses: Lens 1, 2/5 and 3/3a. Each lens has an upper and lower layer and these are the interphases with the next lens. The main lenses are however compact and easily separated from each other. Some lenses have small pockets of ash within them and these are the remains of ash dumps.

The excavations at MPE77 yielded well-preserved remains, especially those of charcoal and faunal remains in conjunction with decorated pottery and marine shell. We have noted

possible human remains near the midden, but no actual burial was exposed. Table 3 lists the artefacts.

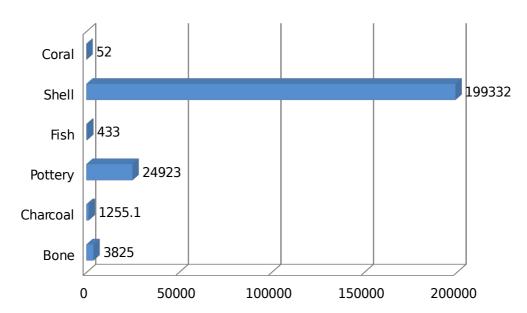


FIGURE 11: SELECTED ARTEFECT FREQUENCIES AT MPE77

#### Coral:

Coral is probably brought in with the harvesting of shellfish. This suggests that the shellfish was harvested *en masse* and not selectively picked for larger shellfish. Unfortunately the *P. perna* is too broken to measure for verification.

#### Shell:

The main shell species selected is *P. perna*. *Ostreidae spp*. and *Patella spp*. do occur, but are less than 1% of the total shell. The *Ostreidae spp*. is probably *Crassostrea margaritacea* as it is the only species on the nearby rock outcrops.

#### Fish:

The site yielded a good sample of fish bone that included mandibles, otoliths and vertebrae.

#### Ceramics:

Most of the pottery is undecorated. The decorated pieces consist of shell impressed motifs and the two fragments had a row of circular impressions. The decorated lips are mostly incised, and one has triangular impressions. An Mzonjani sherd was excavated from the basal layer.

A ceramic circular disc was recovered from the surface near the midden (fig. 12). It appears to be an earlobe plug. If this is correct then it is a rare find for the dunes and KZN.

#### FIGURE 12: CERAMIC EARLOBE PLUG FROM MPE77



#### Charcoal:

The site yielded a high charcoal sample. The charcoal fragments tend to be small and about 1 gram.

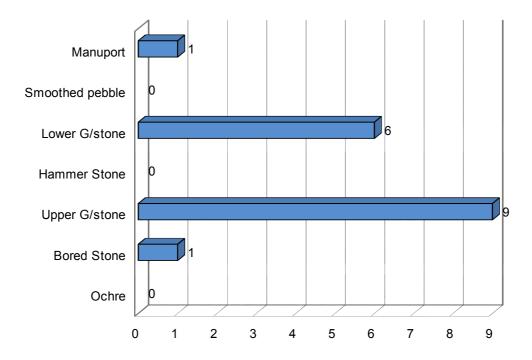
#### Bone:

The main group of faunal remains is large bovid, although small bovid does occur. Bird bone does occur at MPE77 but in small amounts.

#### Stone:

The site yielded a small amount of stone (fig. 13). The main type of stone artefact on site is the upper grinding stone. Only fragmented lower grinding stones were observed. A small bored stone and CCS manuport were noted.

#### FIGURE 13: STONE ARTEFACTS FROM MPE77



#### Adornments:

Figure 14 summarises the types of adornments. The most common type of adornment is the *Nassarius kraussianus* (referred to as Nassa.) shell. Both Nassa. and *Tivela spp.* is too small to be a viable food source and is thus probably used as adornments. Three glass beads were recovered from the excavation and one is shown in figure 15.

Only three Achatina beads were recovered from the excavations. These often occur in higher numbers at other sites in the dune system. The pendants are oyster pendants, or fragments thereof. They have been smoothed along the edges and have at least one small perforation.

FIG. 14: ADORNMENTS AT MPE77

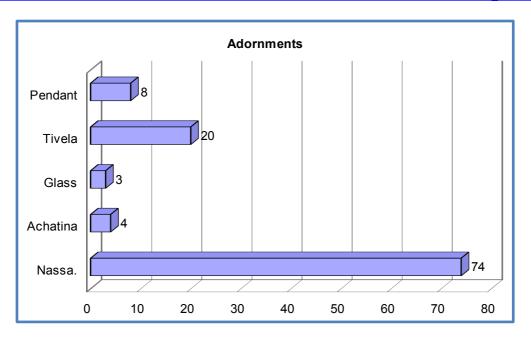


FIGURE 15: GLASS BEAD AT MPE77



						Fish						
Layer	Bone	Charcoa	Po	Pottery		Ja	Otolit		Upper	Lower	Nassa.	Acl
		1				W	h					
			n	(grams				Ochre	G/Stone	G/stone	beads	Bea
				)								
Ash in Lens 3a	5	12	7	72	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	
Basal 1	45.5	4.05	8	186	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	
Basal 2	134	38	18	1088	0	4	0	0	0	1	2	
Basal 3	18.5	0.5	0	117	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Basal Lens 1	10	1	5	26		1		0	0	0		

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Below Lens 3	1	4	5	64		1		0	0	0		
Below Lens 3a	95	49	142	471	1	29	1	0	0	0	3	
Burrow 3A	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	
Grey Ash 3a	19	12	43	338	0	10	0	0	0	2	2	
Lens 1	349.5	194.5	13	840	0	2	0	0	3	2	4	
Lens 2	710	65.05	77	1258	0	9	0	0	0	0	3	
Lens 2A	46	12	20	376	2	38		0	0	0	1	
Lens 3	98	74	200	1616	0	34	0	0	1	0	6	
Lens 3a	310	181	503	5834	2	144	0	1	5	0	13	
Lens 4	152.5	112	0	320	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Lens 4, Pit 1	86	54	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Lens 4, Pit 2	326	170	0	2256	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Lens 5	537	110	301	2702	4	48	2	1	0	0	17	
Lens 2/5	36	12	36	346	0	7	0	0	0	0	3	
SF/Basal 1	479	47	191	1946	0	19	4	0	0	1	4	
SF/Basal 2	22	1	6	56	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Spit 1	1	0	66	716	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Spit 2	42	1	147	1491	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Spit 3	39	1	65	834	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Spit 4	8	0	17	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Surface	42	15	10	114	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Top of Lens 3a	181	53	147	1516	0	45	2	0	0	0	6	
Total	3825	1255.1	2059	24923	41	433	42	34	41	39	105	

**TABLE 3: LIST OF ARTEFACTS FROM MPE77** 

The main deposit appears to dates between 1400 - 1700AD. However, we were surprised to find Early Iron Age material, in the form of an Mzonjani potsherd, in the lower deposit as well. This Mzonjani sherd was probably picked up from one of the Early Iron Age (EIA) sites in the area and brought back to the site. The occupation appears to be associated with the Tsonga-speaking people due to the shell impressed decorations. The stratigraphy suggests that there are three main occupations and that these occurred shortly after each other. That is, if there was a continual occupation at the site, then there would not have been semi-sterile layers between the main middens.

#### **MPE93**

Umlando cc undertook rescue excavations of MPE93 in December 2009. The site had been exposed by a bulldozer track and the area with shell was small but had a potential deposit. These small sites are interesting as they tend to be single occupations, and are thus not mixed with other layers.

The site was divided into 8, 1m x 1m squares, which were then divided into 0.5m quads. Those squares with some form of deposit were marked for excavation fig. 16). Squares 5, 6 and 8 were partially excavated as the midden did not extend further. The aim was to remove the midden as completely as possible. We also sampled material that occurred on the surface. Table 4 lists the artefacts from MPE93.

FIG 16: EXCAVATION MAP OF MPE93

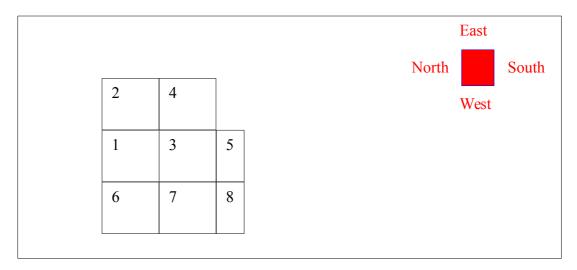


TABLE 4: LIST OF ARTEFACTS FROM MPE93

Layer	Bone	Charcoa	Fish	Otolit	Nassa	Tivel	Pendan	Shell	Cora	Potter
		1	Jaw	h		a	t		1	y
	gram	grams	f	F	beads		(oyster	gram		grams
	s						)	s		
Surfac	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	1281	0	58
e										
Above	0	33	0	2	3	0	1	2953	1	53
Lens 1										
Lens 1	0	116	2	0	20	4	4	4691	7	323
								3		
Below	0	68	0	1	6	1	0	9160	3	297
Lens 1										
Spit 1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	93	0	4
Spit 2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	96	1	18
TOTA	0	223	2	3	29	5	5	5921	12	695
L								5		

#### Shell:

The shell midden consisted of a single lens that was basin-shaped. The shell was mainly *Perna perna* and some oyster.

#### Bone:

The site yielded no faunal remains in the deposit. This is unusual as the middens tend to be the only features that preserve faunal remains.

#### Charcoal:

The lens yielded a good sample of charcoal. The charcoal is suitable for radiocarbon dating.

The pottery was mostly adiagnostic. One rim with circular impressions was excavated. Unfortunately this motif, by itself, occurs in all Late Iron Age sites, and thus we cannot date the site by ceramic typology.

#### Adornments:

A few shell beads and pendants were uncovered. Fig. 17 shows one of these shell pendants.

#### FIG.9: SHELL PENDANT FROM MPE 93



#### CONCLUSION

The 2009 archaeological surveys resulted in 15 new sites being recorded. Three sites have been excavated and eight sites were continuously monitored. One human skeleton was excavated and removed and several of the newly recorded sites were sampled. The outcome of these surveys, excavations, monitoring and sampling clearly show that valuable research material still occurs in the RBM mining lease. The various excavations have produced more material for radiocarbon dates, which will assist in filling the gaps that still exist in the study of the formative years of the Late Iron Age.

We have submitted the database to RBM, KZN Heritage, and the Natal Museum as per agreement. The sampled and excavated material is housed first at the RBM archaeology store room, and is then transported to Amafa KZN. The survey results and management of the sites is in accordance with the KZN Heritage Act.

### APPENDIX A SITE RECORD FORMS

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age? Historical Period:?

Recorder's Site No.: MPA40

Official Name: Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S 28 37 30.40 E 32 17 54.30 (alt = 69 m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Second dune from sea

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

Small scatter of Perna perna & adiagnostic pottery



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age X Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MPE83

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 33 10.7 E 32 21 07.4 (alt = 84m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane



Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Site is over a 10m radius on a relatively flat area. It consists of concentrations of pottery and shell, with faunal remains between these. Pottery is various and consists of shell-impressed and circular impression, as well as complete pots (broken). 1 x decorated daga pipe. The shell is mostly P. perna. There is also some slag and furnace (or daga) fragments.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age? Historical Period:?

Recorder's Site No.: MPE84

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 33 14.1, E 32 21 03.5 (alt = 94m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Site is near MPE71, but is not part of it. Site consists of a scatter of P. perna and 5 adiagnostic sherds



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age X Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MPE85

Official Name: Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S 28 33 15.29 E 32 21 12.01 (alt = 103m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On tallest 2<sup>nd</sup> dune from Lake Nhlabane

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Site consists of a scatter of middens and artefacts exposed by bulldozer. Consists of at least three middens (P. perna and Patella), a lot of pottery (some with Shell-impressed decorations), 3x slag, hippo teeth and bone, as well as other faunal remains



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age: ? Historical Period: ?

Recorder's Site No.: MPE86

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 32 59.9 E 32 32 25.5 (alt = 109m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date:4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Large scatter of P. perna and remains of daga floor



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MPE87

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 33 04.1 E 32 21 22.4 (alt = 95m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date:4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Scatter of adiag pottery on top of hill. 1x bog iron. Midden was probably here, as small pebbles are on surface.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: X

Recorder's Site No.: MPE88

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 33 14.8 E 32 20 50.8 (alt = 45m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date:4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Scatter of P. perna and some limpets, faunal remains and pottery. Pottery is mostly undecorated, but few have lip notching, and one sherd ahs classic red-burnish with shell impressed motif. WBS upper g/stone present. Bone = hippo



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age X Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MPE89

Official Name: Bantu Reserve No.4 7638

Local Name:

Map Sheet: 2832CA KwaMbonambi

Map Reference: S 28 33 13.3 E 32 20 55.3 (alt = 77m)

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

On 1st dune from Lake Nhlabane



Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: RBM mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date:4 January 2009

Owner: State

References: RBM Jan. 2009 report

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT.

Scatter of shell and pottery. Shell = P. perna. Pottery has lip incisions suggesting LIA





SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age: x Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPE 90

Official Name: Local Name: Map Sheet:

GPS reading: S: 28 33' 13.5" E: 32 20' 53.7" Alt: 76m

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

The site is located on the first dune cordon from Lake Nhlabane, towards the ocean. It is at the top of a dune and occurs on both sides of the track.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: Yes. Monitor for human remains.

Threats: Yes

What threats: MPE Mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 06 May 2009

Owner: References:

Description of site and artefactual content.

Site consists of at least 3x shell patches of brown mussel. The pottery is undecorated and note that many rims occurred on the surface. Also occurring was a scatter of bovid bone, slag, daga, wbs fragments, upper grinding stones and possible human remains.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age: x Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MPE 91

Official Name: Local Name: Map Sheet: GPS reading:

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

The site is located close to the Sokhulu Reservoir.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: Yes, the site will be monitored.

Threats: Yes

What threats: MPE Mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings : Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 30 June 2009

Owner: References:

Description of site and artefactual content.

The site occurs on both sides of the road and also extends into the adjacent bush. It consists of a shell midden with mainly brown mussel. Lots of Group 7/ Tsonga pottery occur on the surface.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPE 92

Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S: 28 32.683' E: 32 21.909' Alt: 75m

#### DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

The site is located on the uphill road to your right, just before MPE 91, with Sokhulu Reservoir being behind you and right. It consists of a shell midden (Oyster and brown mussel), possibly intact.

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: Yes, Site will be monitored.

Threats: yes

What threats: MPE Mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 17 July 2009 Owner: State References:

#### DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

It consists of a shell midden (Oyster and brown mussel), possibly intact.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPE 93

Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S: 28 32.908' E: 32 21.414' Alt: 53m

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

MPE 93 is located close to MPE 92, on the second uphill road leading towards MPE 77

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: Yes. Site will be monitored

Threats: yes

What threats: MPE Mining

RECORDING:

Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 17 July 2009

Owner: References:

#### DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

The site consists of a possibly intact shell midden (brown mussel and oyster) and pottery.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPE 94

Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S: 28 33.231' E: 32 21.591' Alt: 108m

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

MPE 94 is located on the second dune cordon from Lake Nhlabane, seawards. It extends into the adjacent bush.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: Yes. Site will be monitored

Threats: yes

What threats: MPE Mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 17 July 2009

Owner: References:

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

The site consists of several shell middens, coral and surface pottery



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age Early Iron Age: Late Iron Age Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPD 84

Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S:28' 33 55.6" E: 32' 21 28.5" Alt: 129m

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

The site is located on the first dune cordon from the beach.

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: MPD Mining

RECORDING: Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 06 November 2009

Owner: References:

#### DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

The site consists of a scatter of burnt and unburnt shell and bone, mainly P.perna.



SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)
Stone Age
Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: MPD 86

Local Name: Map Sheet:

Map Reference: S:28' 34.310" E: 32' 21.190" Alt: 87m

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

The site is located on the first dune cordon from the beach.

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Open

Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: MPD Mining

RECORDING:

Graphic record: None

Digital pictures: Tracings: Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 06 November 2009

Owner:

References:

DESCRIPTION OF SITE AND ARTEFACTUAL CONTENT

The site consists of a scatter of P.perna and oyster