

The Archaeological Survey Of The Zulti North
Mining Lease: May 2006

For Richards Bay Minerals

Date: 2 June 2006

By Gavin and Louise Anderson

Umlando: Archaeological Tourism and Resource
Management

PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901



Umlando undertook the monthly archaeological survey of the Zulti North mining lease in May 2006. One new site was recorded and previously recorded sites were revisited.

MPA

No new sites were recorded at MPA

MPC

One new site was recorded at MPC: MPC86. The site is a scatter of sherds and shells on the top of a small dune over a ~30m radius. The pottery is undecorated and consists of inverted and everted rims. The lips of these vessels are flat. The shell consists mostly of *P. perna* and oyster. Fragments of two upper grinding stones were observed.

The site was sampled.

The site is of low significance and no further mitigation is required.

MPD

No new sites were recorded at MPD

MPE

No new sites were recorded at MPE

AMS

No new sites were recorded at AMS.

AMS9 was revisited as it is still yielding material. We have set this site ahead for potential excavations in the near future. The site will not be affected by mining in the near future. This site is of medium-high significance and we are trying to get a more precise date (via pottery decorations).

The following items were sampled:

- Bovid Bone:
 - teeth and long bones
- Pottery
 - Near complete pot with lip notching on everted rim
 - Circular impressions on body
 - Lip notching on flat lip, single horizontal groove on shoulder.
Rim is burnished
 - Triangular lip notching on everted rim
 - Random lip notching
 - Comb stamping on the body: horizontal lines
 - Comb stamping on the body: horizontal and diagonal lines

These decorations are similar to pottery associated with Group 6 and 7 pottery styles. They thus date anywhere between AD 1300 – AD 1600.

Curation Of Materials

The archaeological storeroom has been equipped with shelving for the storage of archaeological material. We repacked the material into a systematic manner according to box numbers. We also photographed specific finds.

Our new curation technique will be to document material in the following manner:

- Human skeletal remains will be selectively photographed for our record.
- archaeological artefacts will be selectively photographed
- Artefacts will be stored according to the site, and not artefact type.
- All boxes and their contents are recorded. One copy is left in the storeroom and we keep the other copy.

- Stored items will remain in the storeroom until there is enough material to return it to Amafa KZN, Pietermaritzburg.