

**HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED UMGAZI
CITRUS PROJECT**

FOR COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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INTRODUCTION

Umlando cc was contracted by Coastal & Environmental Services cc to undertake a heritage survey of several areas for a proposed citrus project. The project is approximately 20km - 35km northwest of Port St. Johns, Eastern Cape (fig. 1).

Each area belongs to a specific community of which 21 have been identified as having potential for citrus farming (fig. 2). Each area occurs in the flood plains of the Umgazi River (fig. 3). The proposed areas occur in the bends of the river where the ground is relatively flat. All of the areas have been extensively ploughed for at least 60 years¹. The vegetation is thus disturbed. The proposed areas also occur in the 100-year flood line, and would have been repeatedly flooded in the past. This is important since if any archaeological material did occur in the past it would either have been washed away or repeatedly covered by silt. Other areas have not been ploughed for several years, although plough lines and irrigation systems are still visible. A few areas are currently cultivated for crops such as cabbages, sugar cane and/or mealies.

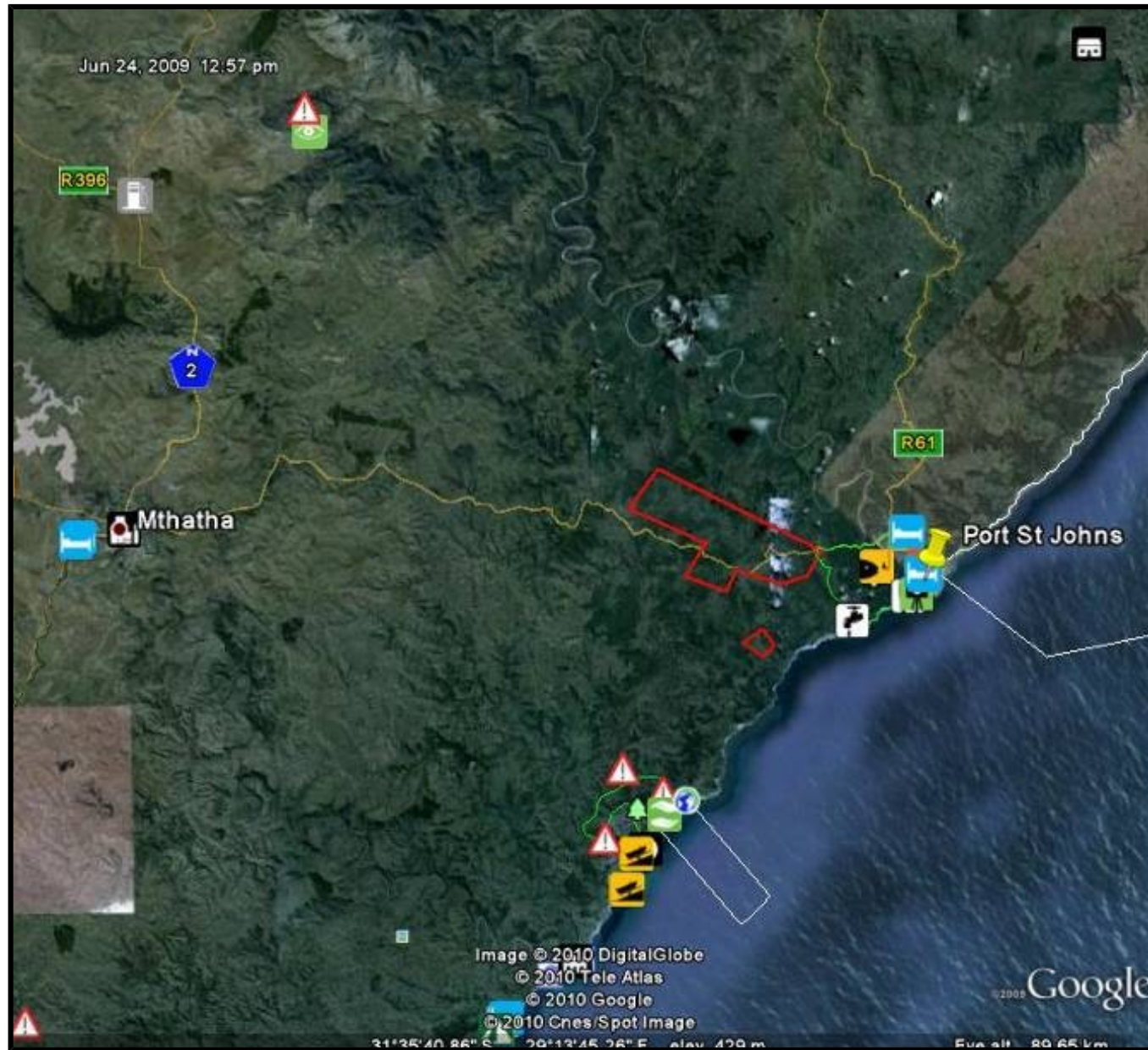
The impacts on the area will be:

- Farming related activity
- Irrigation systems
- Access roads

The heritage survey located several graves and historical buildings and these will require specific management

¹ Information obtained from a member of the community interviewed during the survey.

FIG. 1 GENERAL LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED UMGAZI CITRUS PROJECT²



² Red polygon indicates estimated study areas

FIG. 2: PROPOSED LOCATION OF THE VARIOUS UMGAZI CITRUS FARMS

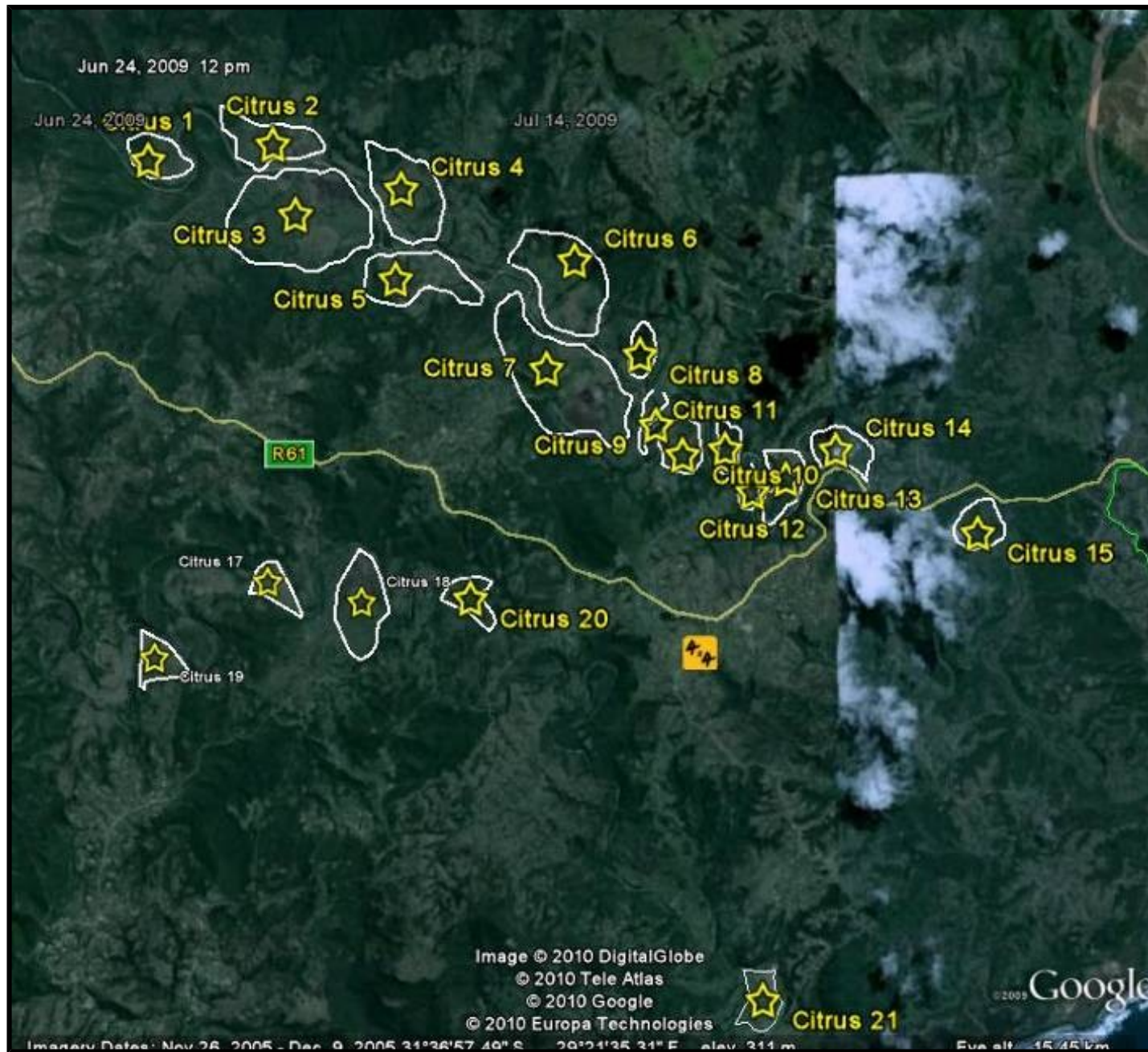


FIG. 3: GENERAL VIEWS OF PROPOSED AREAS³



LEGISLATION PERTAINING TO HERITAGE SITES



³ Top: Recently ploughed. Bottom: Secondary (Acacia) regrowth in

The National Heritage Resources Act of 1999 (pp 12-14) protects a variety of heritage resources. These resources are defined as follows:

“3. (1) For the purposes of this Act, those heritage resources of South Africa which are of cultural significance or other special value for the present community and for future generations must be considered part of the national estate and fall within the sphere of operations of heritage resources authorities.

(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the national estate may include—

- (a) Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance;
- (b) Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
- (c) Historical settlements and townscapes;
- (d) Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance;
- (e) Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance;
- (f) Archaeological and palaeontological sites;
- (g) Graves and burial grounds, including—
 - (i) Ancestral graves;
 - (ii) Royal graves and graves of traditional leaders;
 - (iii) Graves of victims of conflict;
 - (iv) Graves of individuals designated by the Minister by notice in the Gazette;
 - (v) Historical graves and cemeteries; and
 - (vi) Other human remains which are not covered in terms of the Human Tissue Act, 1983 (Act No. 65 of 1983);
- (h) Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa;
- (i) Movable objects, including—
 - (i) Objects recovered from the soil or waters of South Africa, including archaeological and palaeontological objects and material, meteorites and rare geological specimens;
 - (ii) Objects to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage;
 - (iii) Ethnographic art and objects;
 - (iv) Military objects;
 - (v) objects of decorative or fine art;
 - (vi) Objects of scientific or technological interest; and
 - (vii) books, records, documents, photographic positives and negatives, graphic, film or video material or sound recordings, excluding those that are public records as defined in section 1(xiv) of the National Archives of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 43 of 1996).

(3) Without limiting the generality of subsections (1) and (2), a place or object is to be considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance or other special value because of—

- (a) Its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history;
- (b) Its possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- (c) Its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage;
- (d) Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's natural or cultural places or objects;
- (e) Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group;
- (f) Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period;
- (g) Its strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

- (h) Its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa; and
- (i) sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa”

METHOD

The method for Heritage assessment consists of several steps.

The first step forms part of the desktop assessment. Here we would consult the databases. These databases contain most of the known memorials and other protected sites, battlefields and cemeteries in southern Africa. We also consult with an historical architect, palaeontologist, and an historian where necessary.

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

All sites are grouped according to low, medium and high significance for the purpose of this report. Sites of low significance have no diagnostic artefacts or features. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts or features and these sites tend to be sampled. Sampling includes the collection of artefacts for future analysis. All diagnostic pottery, such as rims, lips and decorated sherds are sampled, while bone, stone and shell are mostly noted. Sampling usually occurs on most sites. Sites of high significance are excavated and/or extensively sampled. Those sites that are extensively sampled have high research potential, yet poor preservation of features.

Defining significance

Heritage sites vary according to significance and several different criteria relate to each type of site. However, there are several criteria that allow for a general significance rating of archaeological sites.

These criteria are:

1. State of preservation of:

- 1.1. Organic remains:
 - 1.1.1. Faunal
 - 1.1.2. Botanical
- 1.2. Rock art
- 1.3. Walling
- 1.4. Presence of a cultural deposit
- 1.5. Features:
 - 1.5.1. Ash Features
 - 1.5.2. Graves
 - 1.5.3. Middens
 - 1.5.4. Cattle byres
 - 1.5.5. Bedding and ash complexes

2. Spatial arrangements:

- 2.1. Internal housing arrangements
- 2.2. Intra-site settlement patterns
- 2.3. Inter-site settlement patterns

3. Features of the site:

- 3.1. Are there any unusual, unique or rare artefacts or images at the site?
- 3.2. Is it a type site?
- 3.3. Does the site have a very good example of a specific time period, feature, or artefact?

4. Research:

- 4.1. Providing information on current research projects

4.2. Salvaging information for potential future research projects

5. Inter- and intra-site variability

5.1. Can this particular site yield information regarding intra-site variability, i.e. spatial relationships between various features and artefacts?

5.2. Can this particular site yield information about a community's social relationships within itself, or between other communities?

6. Archaeological Experience:

6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

7. Educational:

7.1. Does the site have the potential to be used as an educational instrument?

7.2. Does the site have the potential to become a tourist attraction?

7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

8. Other Heritage Significance:

8.1. Palaeontological sites

8.2. Historical buildings

8.3. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites

8.4. Graves and/or community cemeteries

8.5. Living Heritage Sites

8.6. Cultural Landscapes, that includes old trees, hills, mountains, rivers, etc related to cultural or historical experiences.

The more a site can fulfill the above criteria, the more significant it becomes. Test-pit excavations are used to test the full potential of an archaeological deposit. This occurs in Phase 2. These test-pit excavations may require further excavations if the site is of significance (Phase 3). Sites may also be mapped and/or have artefacts sampled as a form of mitigation. Sampling normally occurs when the artefacts may be good examples of their type, but are not in a primary

archaeological context. Mapping records the spatial relationship between features and artefacts.

RESULTS

The survey was limited by dense vegetation such as grasses and in one area accessibility. The study areas are however very uniform in terms of soils, flood plains, and elevation. In terms of archaeology, this means that all areas would have the same types of archaeology, especially Stone Age related material. The more recent material is covered by the social impact study.

GAZ01

GAZ01 is located on a slightly elevated area near the Umgazi River. It consists of three rows of walling and a few circular features, of which three could be graves (fig. 4). Two MSA flakes were also observed. The walling and features do not appear to be older than 100 years.

Significance: If the three features are human graves, then these are of high significance.

Mitigation: The community should be consulted about possible graves in the area. If no one claims these possible graves, then the development has two options. First, they must pay for the excavations of the possible human remains and these remains will then need to be reburied elsewhere within the community. Second, the graves can be fenced off and not disturbed by the proposed agricultural activity. The second option is the preferred option.

FIG. 4: LOCATION OF SITES FOR THE UMGAZI CITRUS PROJECT⁴



⁴ Only areas with sites are shown

FIG. 4: STONE WALLING AND POSSIBLE GRAVE AT GAZ01



GAZ02

GAZ02 is located on another slightly elevated piece of ground, ~380m east from GAZ01. It consists of a fragmented wall around the base of the hill (fig. 5). The wall appears to be less than 100 years in age.

Significance: The site is of low significance.

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

FIG. 5: STONE WALLING AT GAZ02



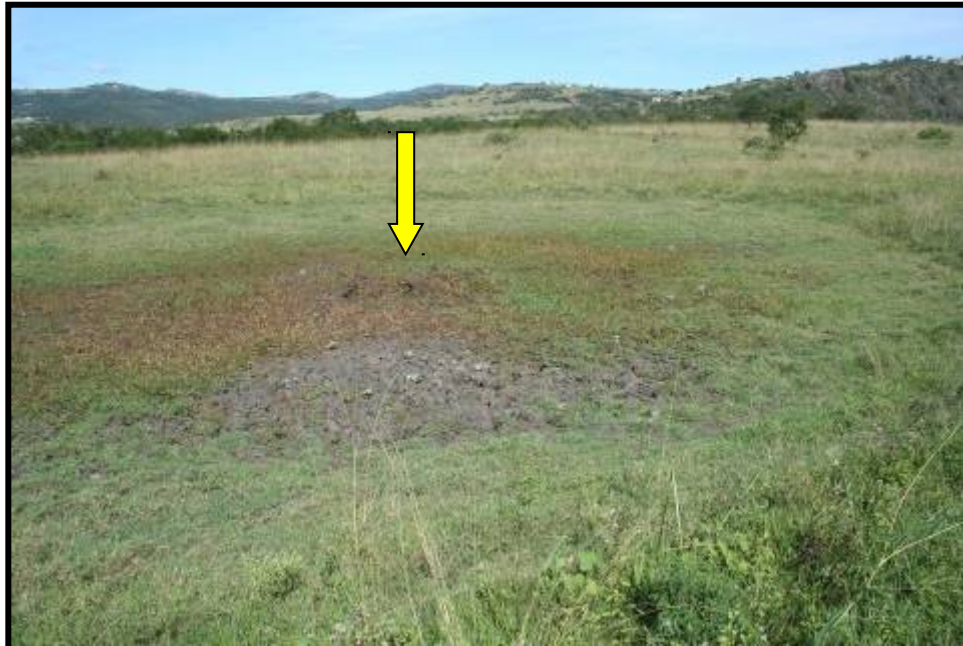
GAZ03

GAZ03 is located ~50m downhill from GAZ02 and is in the centre of a small dam. This dam may or may not be natural. The site consists of a single stone cairn that may be a possible grave (fig. 6)

Significance: If this is a grave then it is of high significance.

Mitigation: The cairn should be fenced off and remain undisturbed if the community does not claim this grave, nor want it removed.

FIG. 6: POSSIBLE GRAVE AT GAZ04



GAZ04

GAZ04 consists of a large stone core located at the base of a small hill (fig. 7). The core may date to the MSA due to its heavy patination. No other artefacts were observed.

Significance: The core is of low significance.

Mitigation: No further mitigation would be required.

FIG. 7: (MIDDLE) STONE AGE CORE AT GAZ04



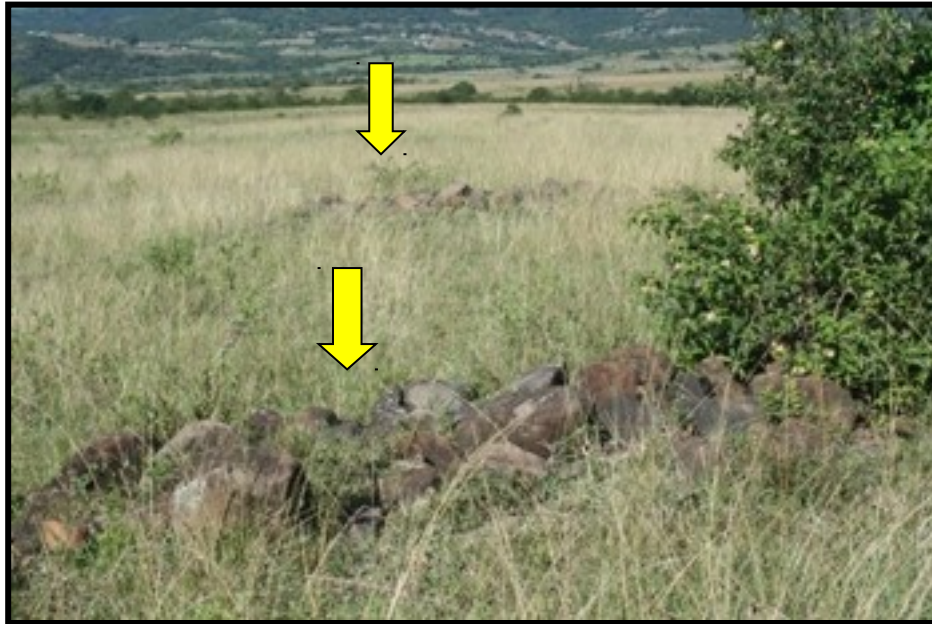
GAZ05

GAZ05 is located near GAZ04 and consists of two large cairns. These appear to be related to field clearance; however, the community should comment on these as well, in case they are graves.

Significance: If these are graves then they have high significance.

Mitigation: If these are graves then they should be fenced off. If the community does not claim them, then they are probably related to field clearance and could be removed.

FIG. 8: TWO STONE CAIRNS AT GAZ08



GAZ06

GAZ06 consists of three stone cairns that appear to be either graves or field clearance (fig. 9). I believe they are graves.

Significance: these features have high significance if these are graves.

Mitigation: The features should be fenced off and not disturbed during agricultural activity.

GAZ07

GAZ07 consists of a circle of stones and two upper grinding stones just above the flood plain (fig. 10). It may be the base of a hut. It does not appear to be older than 100 years. This area has been extensively ploughed.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

FIG. 9: THREE GRAVES AT GAZ09

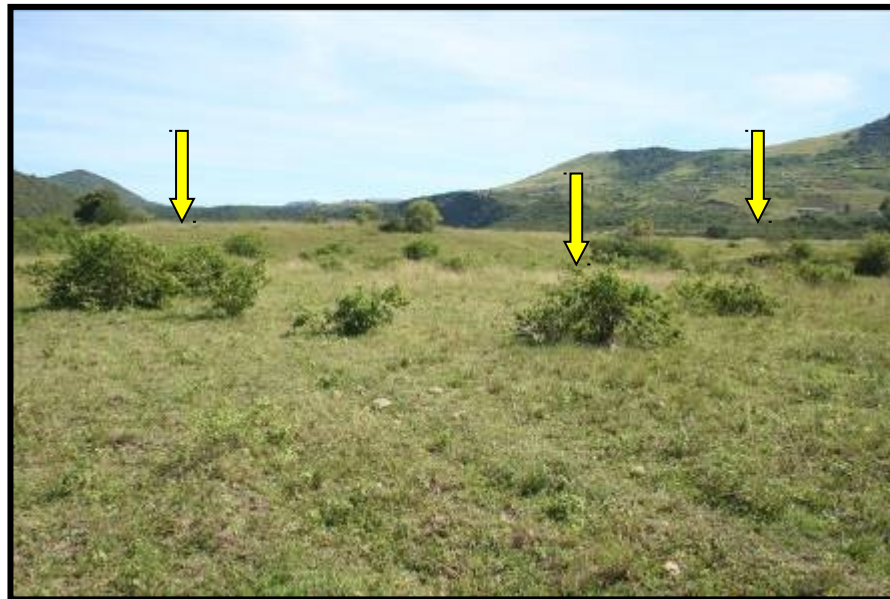


FIG. 10: CIRCLE OF STONES AT GAZ07



GAZ08

GAZ08 consists of a stone cairn and a faint stonewall (fig. 11). The cairn may be a grave. The walling and possible grave is just outside of the proposed area.

Significance: The cairn is of high significance if it is a grave. The community would be able to comment, as it is recent in age.

Mitigation: The cairn should be fenced off as it may be damaged if an access road is made.

GAZ09

GAZ09 consists of terraces that would have had houses. The house remains are not visible, nor are any graves.

Significance: The site is of low significance.

Mitigation: The community should comment on whether there are graves in the area.

FIG. 11: POSSIBLE GRAVE AT GAZ08



GAZ010

GAZ010 consists of a farm complex. The farm buildings appear to be built at various stages and some are older than 60 years (fig. 12). The buildings are in

various states of disrepair. Debbie Whelan has commented on the buildings (see Appendix B). The lines of trees that form the driveway are also older than 60 years and should be considered as part of the cultural landscape.

Significance: The buildings have low significance.

Mitigation: While the buildings are not of great architectural value, or significance, they should be properly recorded if they are to be demolished for the proposed citrus project. While the trees are not of significance, they should be preserved if possible.

GAZ011

GAZ011 is a single wood and corrugated iron structure that probably predates the 1920s (fig. 13).

Significance: The building has architectural significance

Mitigation: If the building is in the way of the development, it should be moved to a nearby area and renovated.

FIG. 12: BUILDINGS AT GAZ010



FIG. 13: BUILDINGS AT GAZ011



MANAGEMENT PLAN

The heritage survey of the areas proposed for citrus farming did not yield many heritage sites older than 60 years, i.e. protected by the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA). The historical buildings have some architectural significance but most do not warrant conservation. GAZ011 should be conserved. The other buildings should be properly recorded if they are to be demolished.

Only a few Stone Age artefacts were observed during the survey. This is probably a result of the dense vegetation. These are however, of low significance as they are in a secondary context. No further mitigation is required for these artefacts.

Most, if not all, of the graves I observed can be directly associated with one of the communities. There are probably several more graves that I did not observe, and this is because not all graves have stone cairns. Some graves could be mounds of sand that have now been “flattened”. The community will be able to identify their graves, and this has been noted in the Public Participation meetings. The communities have already mentioned that they know of graves in the general area. I suggest that all graves are fenced off, with a barrier of at least 15m from the centre of the graves, and are thus not moved for the sake of citrus farming.

CONCLUSION

The heritage survey of the proposed Umgazi Citrus Project was undertaken in April 2010. The survey observed few heritage sites that would be protected by the NHRA. The historical buildings are mostly of low architectural significance, and only one warrants conservation. The other heritage sites appear to be younger than 60 years, and the community should play a direct role in noting ancestral graves in each area.

The dearth of archaeological sites is probably a direct result of the areas occurring in the flood plain that would regularly either wash material away, or cover it up further. The tendency is for historical and archaeological farmers to place agricultural fields in these flood plains, and not to live on them. The few sites in the northern part of the survey are an exception.

APPENDIX A SITE RECORD FORM

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: X

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ01

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'46.20"S 29°18'38.20"E



DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: wall/graves

Merits conservation: possible

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farm

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ01 is located on a slightly elevated area near the Umgazi River. It consists of three rows of walling and few circular features, of which three could be graves. Two MSA flakes were also observed. The walling and features do not appear to be very old and are probably not older than 100 years.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ02

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'49.10"S 29°18'53.30"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: walling

Merits conservation:

Threats: No

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ02 is located on another slightly elevated piece of ground, ~380m east from GAZ01. It consists of a fragmented wall around the base of the hill. The wall appears to be less than 100 years in age.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ03

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'48.10"S 29°18'55.10"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: grave

Merits conservation:

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ03 is located ~50m downhill from GAZ02 and is in the centre of a small dam. This dam may/not be natural. The site consists of a single stone cairn that may be a possible grave

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Middle

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ04

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'39.50"S 29°18'50.70"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: stone artefact

Merits conservation: No

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ04 consists of a large stone core located at the base of a small hill. The core may date to the MSA due to its heavy patination. No other artefacts were observed.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ05

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'41.00"S 29°18'50.10"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: graves? Alternatively, field clearance?

Merits conservation: yes/No

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ05 is located near GAZ04 and consists of two large cairns. These appear to be related to field clearance; however, the community should comment on these as well in case they are graves.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ06

Official Name:

Local Name: Mvume?

GPS reading: 31°33'51.60"S 29°18'34.10"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: graves

Merits conservation: yes

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ06 consists of three stone cairns that appear to be either graves or field clearance. I believe they are graves.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ07

Official Name:

Local Name: Ntlanjeni

GPS reading: 31°34'20.40"S 29°18'58.10"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: stone feature

Merits conservation: no

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ07 consists of a circle of stones and two upper grinding stones just above the flood plain. It may be the base of a hut. It does not appear to be older than 100 years. This area has been extensively ploughed.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ08

Official Name:

Local Name: Glengazi

GPS reading: 31°37'31.80"S 29°18'40.30"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: grave? & wall

Merits conservation: yes if grave

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ08 consists of a stone cairn and a faint stonewall. The cairn may be a grave. The walling and possible grave is just outside of the proposed area.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ09

Official Name:

Local Name: Glengazi

GPS reading: 31°37'25.91"S 29°18'31.31"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

Roads have no names. Best use a GPS, and follow tracks

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: House terraces

Merits conservation: no

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ09 consists of terraces that would have had houses. The house remains are not visible, nor are any graves.

UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM

SITE CATEGORY: (X where applicable)

Stone Age:

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period: x

Recorder's Site No.: GAZ010

Official Name:

Local Name: Big Umgazi

GPS reading: 31°36'55.01"S 29°25'16.02"E

DIRECTIONS TO SITE: SKETCH OR DESCRIPTION.

From port St Johns, drive towards Mthatha. Take the Umgazi River Spa turnoff. Take first right and over the bridge to the site

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Type of Site: Historical buildings

Merits conservation: No

Threats: Yes

What threats: citrus farming

RECORDING:

Graphic record: Yes

Digital pictures: x

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: April 2010

Owner: State

Description of site and artefactual content.

GAZ010 consists of a farm complex. The farm buildings appear to be older than 60 years. Debbie Whelan has commented on the buildings. The lines of trees that form the driveway are also older than 60 years and should be considered as part of the cultural landscape.

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT



archaic consulting

architecture: research: conservation: anthropology: impacts consulting
debbie whelan tel: 033 3442522
po box 21834 fax: 033 3443122
mayors walk cell: 083236 0410
3208 email:debbie@archaic.co.za
07/05/10

Preliminary Assessment of structures on Farmstead, Port St Johns- 31°36'57.08"S 29°25'22.44"E

Introduction:

Debbie Whelan of Archaic Consulting was approached by Gavin Anderson of Umlando Archaeological Heritage and Tourism to carry out a provisional visual assessment of a series of structures comprising an old farmstead in the Port St. Johns area. The possible intention of the owner is to demolish the structures in order to set up a citrus farm.

Methodology:

Gavin Anderson of Umlando emailed a series of photographs of the buildings. The brief given to Archaic Consulting to carry out a preliminary visual assessment based on these photographs and did not extend to any further investigation. The result of this assessment is found below. Comment is made with the knowledge of the marginal nature of this part of the Eastern Cape, its uncertain situation with regard to titles, and the practical challenges with regard to repair or renovation in this area.



Fig: Google Earth image of farmstead. The new house is to the extreme right, the cottage to its left, the old barn in the centre to the south, and the coach house/ garage to the north of it.

1. Old Shed- Possibly late 1890's to 1915



Fig 2: The old shed

Constructed of wood and iron with skylight apertures, more than likely turn of the twentieth century and dating back to the first farm settlement, this structure is ramshackle and would need extensive and expensive rebuilding in order to restore it to a practical and meaningful building. This would appear to be an unviable proposition, and in the opinion of the author, demolition could be considered as an option.

2. The coach house/ garage- Possibly late 1890's to 1915



Fig 3: the old coach house/ garage

More than likely contemporary with the old shed in item 1 above and the cottage in item 3 below, this small coach house would date to the first occupation of the farm. It is wood and iron like the one above, in infinitely better condition, with timber ventilators, and timber doors. Given the nature of its prefabrication, this building could feasibly be moved and replaced and reused on a different part of

the site, given its condition. Commenting on the condition of the structure is beyond the scope of this report.

3. The cottage



Fig 4: the cottage

It is suspected that this was the first house on the site and would have been contemporary with the prefabricated buildings above. It is of indeterminate construction, with a saddle roof, an extended rear kitchen, and a veranda to the front. There is a ventilated attic space. Its condition is reasonable, given its age, and is a good example of settler vernacular. It is hoped that the client would be able to repair it and reuse it for an office or storage, but at the same time it is recognized that the practicalities of this are possibly slim.

4. The store- 1950's onwards



Fig: the store

This structure is characteristic of store buildings with a mono-pitched roof and a parapet. This is possibly constructed later than the 1950's and is not likely to fall within the 60 year clause. In addition, it is structurally unsound. Demolition is recommended.

5. The new house- ca 1950's



Fig 6: the new house

Constructed most likely of brick and mortar which has been plastered and painted, this has a pyramidal corrugated iron roof and is surrounded by enclosed verandas. The windows are standard steel section. It is not a particularly spectacular example of a farmhouse tradition, and its disrepair recommends demolition.

6. Conclusion:

The aerial photograph shows a small farmstead. The collection of buildings describes an informal cul-de-sac. The new house and the store are not worth retaining.

Of the buildings which are definitely older than 60 years, it is hoped that the cottage may be repaired and reused for administration or the like, but this suggestion is made without knowing the condition of the building. Similarly the

old coach house could be moved and reused. However, not knowing the condition of the building makes a value judgment difficult. In both cases, this can only be made knowing the condition and structural integrity of the buildings, which could realistically result in demolition. The shed, in its dilapidated condition would be difficult to fix or reuse and thus demolition is recommended.