

**The archaeological survey of Hillendale Mine:  
April 2007**

**For Exxaro Pty (Ltd)**

**Date: 30 April 2007**

**By Gavin Anderson  
Umlando: Archaeological Tourism and Resource  
Management**

**PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901**



Umlando undertook survey at Hillendale mine in April 2007. Exxaro Pty (Ltd) had specifically requested a survey as a new area had been cleared that was previously noted as being sensitive and requiring a survey. This area was noted in the report dated 13 April 2007.

The main area of the newly cleared area had very few artefacts. We observed a few pottery sherds, of which all were undecorated, and a few fragments of slag.

As stated previously (13 April 2007) the newly exposed area appears to be the periphery of the site. That survey noted that two Ntshekane sherds and pieces of slag appears to be the main site. This is still currently under the sugar cane.

As previously stated, if there is metallurgical activity then we may need to excavate the site, especially if it is an Ntshekane site.

The Ntshekane period dates from AD 950 – AD 1030. This is the first Ntshekane period site to be recorded in the Hillendale vicinity. Other Ntshekane sites have been recorded north of Richards Bay, and this site will be useful as a comparative site.

This sugar cane is marked for clearance in 3 - 5 weeks time and we will resurvey and assess the site. We expect to find some form of metallurgical activity under the sugar cane.

The aim of these surveys is to continuously assess the area in terms of the concentration and age of the artefacts in relation to their significance. So far, the material that has been observed is of low significance. However, the more significant material may still occur under the sugar cane.

The next survey will be undertaken shortly after the next field clearance.

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