

# **The Archaeological Survey of Hillendale Mine**

**For Exxaro Pty (Ltd)**

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Umlando undertook an archaeological survey at Hillendale mine in early July 2007. We revisited an area that had been previously cleared as well as a new cleared area adjacent and uphill from this area. The recent heavy rains, over the last month) had allowed for artefacts and potential furnaces to be more visible and thus we resurveyed the previously surveyed area.

The whole area is a scatter of artefacts ranging from Early Iron Age (Ntshekane Period) to the more recent Historical or Late Iron Age. The Ntshekane pottery is concentrated on the lower parts of the hill, while the Historical/Late Iron Age pottery occurs throughout the area. Along with slag, we also observed some quartz and quartzite hammer stones, flakes and a near complete Ntshekane pot. Although surface finds suggests that there is a furnace in the area, we have not found it. The Ntshekane sherds appear to increase in density to the northeast of the site. This area is in the new mining lease and will be mined at a later stage.

During the survey, we noted to small hills that will require survey before mining. These are on the freeway side of Hillendale mine.

We sampled a few of the sherds as well as the incomplete pot.