

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE PROPOSED MATUBATUBA DEVELOPMENTS

FOR: METALLON PROPERTIES (Pty) Ltd

DATE: 24 April 2008

By Gavin Anderson

Umlando: Archaeological Tourism and Resource  
Management

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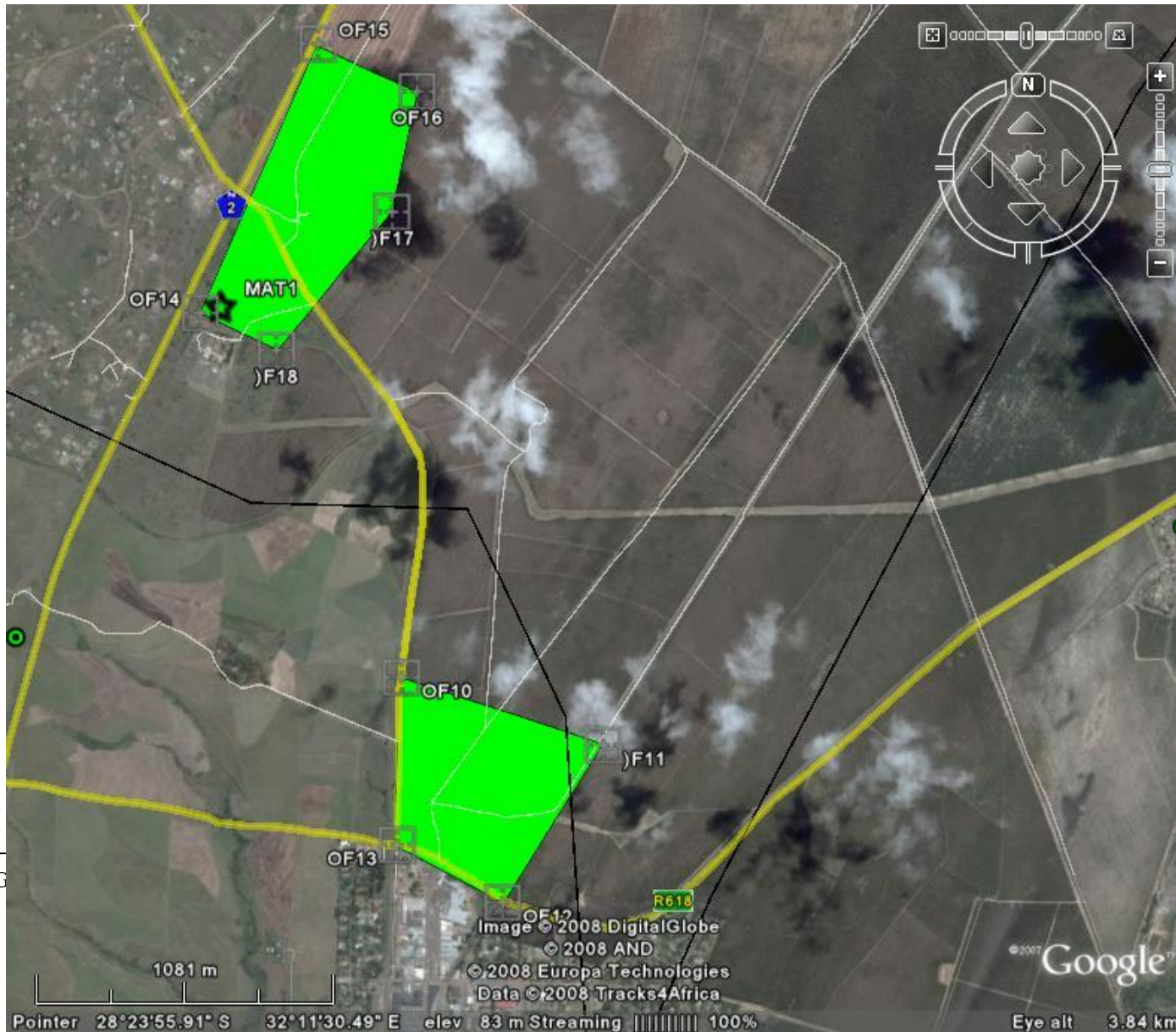
## INTRODUCTION

Umlando was contracted to undertake an heritage survey of the proposed Matubatuba developments. The aim of the survey was to determine if any archaeological or historical sites would be affected by the proposed development. The development will include business and residential properties.

The survey recorded one new archaeological site. The site is of low significance and no further mitigation is necessary. Figure 1 is the locality map.

The effected areas are located east of the N2-Matubatuba interchange and north of Matubatuba. The affected areas occur in current afforested areas. Afforested areas have the disadvantage in that the ground cover tends to be dense, thus making poor archaeological visibility. To counter this I surveyed along the tracks where sites are more likely to be observed.

**Figure 1: Location of the affected area and sites mentioned in the text<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Opaque G

## RESULTS

### **MAT01**

MAT1 consists of a very ephemeral scatter of Early or Middle Stone Age stone tools. This is to be expected as several Early Stone Age sites occur within a 2km radius of the affected areas. The tools are weathered and cannot be attributed to a specific Stone Age. The stone tools have a very low density and occur on average 1 tool for every 300m. These are more like occurrences of stone tools than a site *per se*. One stone tool is a ESA cleaver or a large MSA flake. The weathering on the stone makes it difficult to assess the stones tools accurately (fig. 2). The other three observed stone tools were general MSA flakes on quartzite.

The area consists of soft sand and has been used for afforestation for decades. The ground is thus very disturbed and there is a lot of post-depositional movement by the stone tools. The stone tools are in a secondary context and have little value.

In 2008 this was recorded as an archaeological site; however, in 2013, this would be more correctly referred to as isolated occurrences of stone tools.

Significance: The site is of low significance.

Mitigation: No mitigation is required.

**FIG. 2: EXAMPLE OF WEATHERED STONE TOOL**



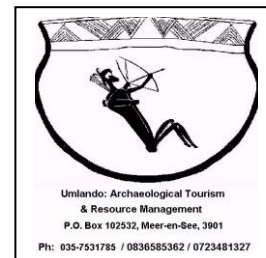
## **CONCLUSION**

One archaeological site was recorded during the course of the survey of the two development nodes near Matubatuba. These areas were surveyed despite the afforestation, and several (afforestation) excavation holes were noted and studied.

The development will require a permit from KZN Heritage for the damage to MAT1.

**Appendix A**  
**Site Record Form**

**UMLANDO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD FORM**



**SITE CATEGORY:** (X where applicable)

Stone Age: Early/Middle

Early Iron Age:

Late Iron Age

Historical Period:

Recorder's Site No.: MAT01

Map Reference: 28°23'30.87"S 32°10'39.94"E (alt = 116m)

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

From N2 drive north to N2-Matubatuba interchange Turn first right to Eskom Buildings.

Site is visible at soccer field.

**SITE DESCRIPTION:**

Type of Site: Surface, open

Merits conservation: No

Threats: yes

What threats: Possible development

**RECORDING:**

Graphic record: yes

Digital pictures:

Tracings :

Re-drawings:

Recorder/Informant: Name: Gavin and Louise Anderson

Address: PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Date: 14 April 2008

Owner:

References:

Description of site and artefactual content.

Site consists of a ephemeral scatter of ESA/MSA tools