

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PROPOSED
EXXARO PORT DURNFORD MINING LEASE**

FOR EXXARO (PTY) LTD

DATE: 29 October2008

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

PO Box 102532, Meerensee, 3901

Phone/fax: 035-7531785 cell: 0836585362



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES	2
INTRODUCTION	3
METHOD	3
Defining significance.....	4
RESULTS	9
PD3.....	10
PD4.....	10
PD5.....	10
PD6.....	10
PD7.....	11
PD16.....	11
PD17.....	11
PD41.....	12
PD42.....	12
PD43.....	12
PD44.....	12
PD45.....	13
PD46.....	13
PD47.....	13
PD48.....	14
PD49.....	14
PD50.....	14
PD51.....	15
FORT NAPOLEON AND RELATED SITES.....	15
MANAGEMENT PLAN	20
APPENDIX A	24
FIRST HISTORICAL REPORT BY GILBERT TORLAGE	24
APPENDIX B	30
FINAL HISTORICAL REPORT	30

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

FIGURE 1: LOCALITY MAP OF THE STUDY AREA.....	7
FIGURE 2: LOCALITY MAP OF RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES.....	8
FIG. 3: SKETCH OF FORT NAPOLEON FROM THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE MLALAZI RIVER 1879.....	16
TABLE 1: INTENSITY OF THE IMPACT.....	21

INTRODUCTION

Umlando was contracted by Exxaro (Pty) Ltd to undertake a heritage survey of an extension to their proposed Port Durnford mining lease (fig. 1). A previous survey was undertaken in 2007, where 39 heritage sites were located. These sites consisted of Stone Age and Iron Age sites, as well as Historical buildings. The current survey located similar sites as well as sites relating to the Anglo-Zulu War. We have subcontracted a historian to provide basic data relating to these historical sites.

The area is a mix of afforestation and sugar cane farming. A total of ten sites were recorded during the course of the survey: a total of seventeen in the extension. The archaeological sites are of low significance; however, the sites relating to the Anglo-Zulu war are of high significance.

The survey is incomplete as we were denied access to a portion of the land by a landowner. This area is crucial to the assessment and will need to be surveyed at a later stage.

METHOD

The initial survey was in terms of a normal archaeological survey. We surveyed along the roads in the afforested areas, as the vegetation was often too dense for proper visibility. We also surveyed the sugar cane fields.

After we noted a possible Anglo-Zulu fort, we spoke to Amafa KZN and Mr Gilbert Torlage, an expert in the Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer wars. Mr Torlage was subcontracted to undertake a brief assessment of the area and its significance. Mr Torlage was later subcontracted to undertake a more detailed historical search.

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, especially pottery. Sites of medium significance have diagnostic artefacts and these are 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. We attempt to recover as many artefacts from these sites by means of systematic sampling, as opposed to sampling diagnostic artefacts only.

Defining significance

Archaeological 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:

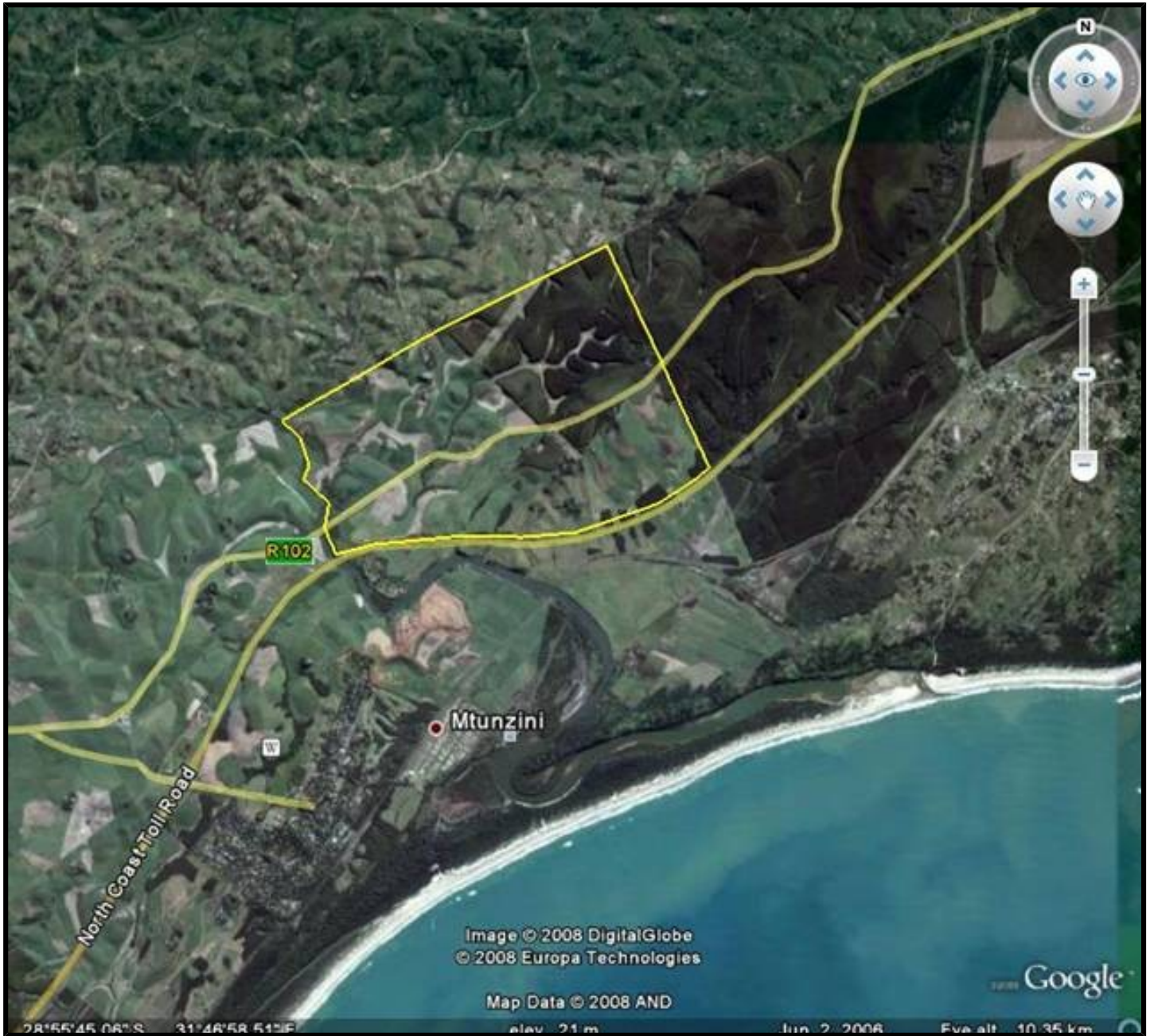
- 6.1. The personal experience and expertise of the CRM practitioner should not be ignored. Experience can indicate sites that have potentially significant aspects, but need to be tested prior to any conclusions.

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?

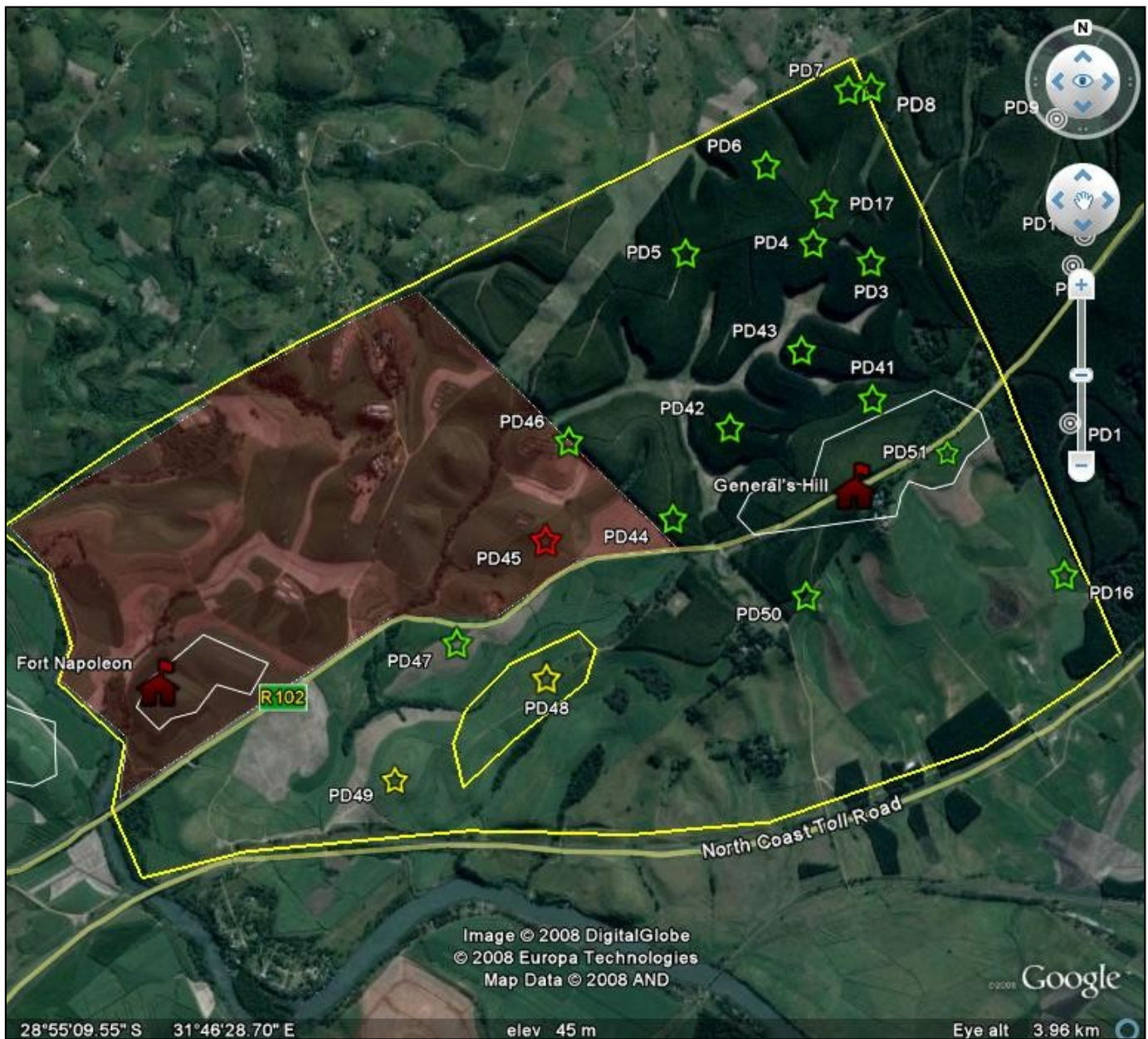
7.3. The educational value of a site can only be fully determined after initial test-pit excavations and/or full excavations.

FIGURE 1: LOCALITY MAP OF THE STUDY AREA¹



¹ Yellow polygon indicagtes the additional area

FIGURE 2: LOCALITY MAP OF RECORDED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES



2

² Red is sensitive and requires excavation, yellow requires sampling, green requires monitoring.

8. Other Heritage Significance:

- 8.1. Historical buildings
- 8.2. Battlefields and general Anglo-Zulu and Anglo-Boer sites
- 8.3. Graves and/or community cemeteries
- 8.4. Living Heritage Sites
- 8.5. 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. A Phase 2 may also include observing construction activity at sensitive sites.

A Phase 2 may yield enough material so that further excavations are not required. However, if significant material occurs in the archaeological deposit then it is likely that a Phase 3 will be required.

RESULTS

We continued with the numbering system from our 2007 survey. Figure 2 is the locality map of the archaeological sites. Table 1 summarises the sites and the significance of the impact. The first seven sites were recorded during the initial survey, and occur within the extended survey area. The sites with a prefix of PD were recorded in 2008 during the current survey.

All archaeological sites that occur on hills, tend to occur over that entire hill.

PD3

PD3 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD3 is a scatter of pottery sherds and Late Stone Age (LSA) stone tools. The area is very disturbed. The pottery fragments are adiagnostic but probably date to the Late Iron Age (LIA) or Historical Period (HP). The stone tools are standard flakes.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD4

PD4 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD4 is a scatter of pottery sherds, one slag fragment, and (LSA) stone tools. The area is very disturbed. The pottery fragments are adiagnostic but probably dates to the LIA or HP. The occurrence of slag suggests that the area predates 1890s. The stone tools are standard flakes.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD5

PD5 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD5 is a scatter of pottery sherds and LSA stone tools. The area is very disturbed. The pottery fragments are adiagnostic but probably date to the LIA or HP. The stone tools are standard flakes.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD6

PD6 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD6 is a scatter of pottery sherds. The area is very disturbed. The pottery fragments are adiagnostic but probably date to the LIA or HP.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD7

PD7 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD7 is a scatter of pottery sherds, a few fragments of slag. The area is very disturbed. The pottery fragments are adiaagnostic but probably dates to the LIA or HP. The occurrence of slag suggests that the area predates 1890s.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD16

PD16 occurs in the sugar cane fields outside of the affected area. PD16 is a scatter of adiaagnostic pottery and LSA stone tools on the top of a small hill.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD17

PD17 occurs on property owned by Mondi. PD17 is a demolished house that probably dates to at least the 1970s. The pool had a 70s style of decoration.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD41

PD41 is located on along an afforested hill near the R103. The site consists of an ephemeral scatter LSA tools and pottery probably dating to the HP³. The artefacts are in a secondary context as a result of afforestation.

³ In retrospect the age of the site is correct as the British Military maps indicate huts in this exact area.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD42

PD42 is located just northwest of PD41, on a lower hill. The site consists of a scatter of LSA tools, LIA pottery and a few fragments of slag. The site appears to be disturbed as a result of afforestation.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD43

PD43 is located near a small stream on a low spur. The site consists of an ephemeral scatter of pottery probably dating to the HP.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD44

PD44 is located on a high hill near the R103. The site consists of a small scatter of slag that may extend into the afforested area.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD45

PD45 is located on a hill beside the R103 and is currently used for sugar cane farming. The site consists of an extensive scatter of pottery sherds, grinding stones, and Stone Age tools. The site appears to be that of a small settlement.

There is probably an archaeological deposit underneath the surface, as sugar cane farming does cause too much damage to archaeological sites.

Significance: The site is of medium significance as it is the first Iron Age site in the immediate area that has a potential deposit. The site may thus yield more artefacts and other in tact remains.

Mitigation: Test-pit excavations should occur at the site to determine its full potential. If the site does relate to "Generals Hill" then the area may not be disturbed.

PD46

PD46 is located on the top of a hill ~500m northeast of PD45. The site consists of a scatter of Middle Stone Age (MSA) tools that are in a secondary context.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD47

PD47 is located along an entire hill. The site consists of Early Stone Age (ESA) and MSA stone tools in a secondary context.

Significance: The site is of low significance; however, this is the first recorded ESA material in the area.

Mitigation: Some of the stone tools should be sampled before mining begins.

PD48

PD48 is located along the spur of a hill near the N2 and R102. The site consists of a scatter of ESA tools in a secondary context.

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: Some of the stone tools should be sampled before mining begins.

PD49

PD49 is located east of the N2 on the top of a dominant hill. There is a built structure on the top of this hill. The structure has the appearance of a fort, similar to those built in the 2nd Anglo-Boer War. It is ~10m x 10m, with no visible access door; the only visible access is via a ladder. We originally thought this site was an unrecorded fort, however when we managed to climb up the wall and look inside the structure, it appears to be an old water container.

There is an ESA and MSA scatter on the top of this hill

Significance: The site is of low significance

Mitigation: The site should be sampled before mining and monitored during bush clearance.

PD50

PD50 is located on the top of a hill. The site consists of an ephemeral scatter of pottery dating probably to the Historical Period.

Significance: The site is of low significance.

Mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

PD51

PD51 occurs on the top of a hill that is currently under sugar cane farming. The site consists of a scatter of pottery sherds, a few stone tools, and is the location of General's Hill (General's Hill is discussed separately below).

Significance: The archaeological site is of low significance

Required mitigation: No further mitigation is required.

FORT NAPOLEON AND RELATED SITES

The area described as Fort Napoleon and surrounds is summarised by G. Torlage as follows (see Appendix A and B for full reports⁴):

“The Napoleon Hill, Fort Napoleon and three General’s Hill sites all need to be seen as part of the 1st Division’s initially, essential transport and communications route. This was one of two prongs being launched on the Zulu kingdom in the efforts of the British authorities to force King Cetshwayo to capitulate in part of much larger political objectives. It is important to note that most of the initial significant Zulu capitulations took place in this south-eastern part of the Zulu kingdom resulting in Cetshwayo effectively losing control over this part of his kingdom, even before the crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Ulundi on 4th July 1879.”

The location of Fort Napoleon is shown in Figure 2. Included in this is the location of General’s Hill. These areas are of great significance to the Anglo-Zulu war as it is from these hills where the British initiated their campaign against the Zulu Kingdom after their severe defeat at the Battle of Isandlwana and Eshowe. In addition to this, several hundred Zulu people are believed to have surrendered to the British on these specific hills over a few days.

A brief historical survey yielded one sketch that indicated the location of Fort Napoleon (figure 3). Unfortunately, some of the defining features, such as the wooden bridge crossing, do not exist anymore, and we do not have a precise location of the Fort. Taking the curvature in the river, and the height of the hill it could have been one of two hills in this area. The detailed historical search yielded a map that unequivocally places the Fort in its current location.

⁴ Appendix A was the first historical report aimed at a general overview of what is known about the area. Appendix B is a more in depth report.

Fig. 3: Sketch of Fort Napoleon from the southern bank of the Mlalazi River 1879⁵



Our initial concern was that there was an assumed location of these Forts and their associated areas. The current locations of these significant areas are presumed from Laband and Thompson's work (2000) – see Appendix A for references. We subcontracted an historian to undertake a brief archival search in an attempt to locate these forts. This archival survey found maps, photographs (as with fig. 4) that assisted in locating the various sensitive hills. This is summarised in Appendix A. The initial survey did not locate enough information. At this stage those areas currently under sugar cane farming, north of the N2 freeway, may relate to the Anglo-Zulu War.

We proposed to Exxaro that a more detailed historical search would be needed in order to pinpoint the sites relating to the Anglo-Zulu War, and thus be able to indicate those areas that might not be affected by mining activity and related infrastructures. Exxaro granted the additional work (Appendix B), so that

⁵ This view can be seen along the southwestern part of the old bridge over the Mlalazi River. The wooden bridge in the picture probably occurs where the metal bridge occurs today.

contingency plans can be made for possible relocation of, for example, slimes dams if any “fatal flaws” occurred.

We had a site meeting with Mr Torlage, after he had done background archival work. His archival search yielded several significant maps, of which one clearly indicates the locations of the military fortifications around Mtunzini. This map also has a scale (even if in yards) and it thus possible to work out the location of Fort Napoleon, Napoleon Hill (outside of the affected area), and Generals Hill.

The Hill to the northeast of Fort Napoleon may have been used for military activity as well. All of these hills have strategic importance for the British, in that they were specifically chosen as vantage points in terms of defence and attack.

The original road, or track, used by the British from Fort Napoleon to Fort Richards, still exists today, in the form of the R102. The R102 follows this original path almost identically.

These sites are located on sugar cane farms, and have been extensively ploughed or afforested for several decades.

Significance: We have contacted several historians, an architect historian and Amafa KZN regarding this area and they all agree that the area is of very high historical significance, for reasons stated above. These areas are considered to have the same status as a battlefield.

Mitigation: While the sites are of high historical significance, we believe that mining can go ahead provided that a specific management plan is to occur. The land (and thus the fort, encampments, etc.) is currently ploughed, and there are no visible features. The forts themselves were earth redoubts, and would unlikely

leave lasting surface features. Subsurface features and artefacts are likely to occur, regardless of ploughing activity.

Any form of mining activity in the area has the potential to damage these historical sites. The mining of a hill will of course destroy the entire site, while the partial mining of a hill and its use for a slimes dam would have a physical and visual impact. Exxaro will need to be able to “replace” what they intend to destroy. We also believe that it would be better to retrieve information and gain a better picture of the area/history by controlled excavations, than letting the area stay as it is and basically not be used for any historical function.

We suggest the following management plan:

1. Each hill that has been identified as being related to the Anglo-Zulu War needs to have a full excavation (if affected). This will entail:
 - a. Gridding the entire top of the hill before the slopes become too steep for use. Grid will be in 3m x 3m squares.
 - b. Walking these grids with a metal detector to flag any potential artefacts.
 - c. Excavating 3m x 3m squares in a chessboard fashion.
 - d. After 50% of the site is excavated, an assessment is made in terms of observed artefacts and features. If nothing has been observed, then the excavations may stop. If material was found, then the excavations continue.
 - e. Ten people are hired, from the community, and they are trained to excavate, and identify artefacts in the ground. These people will have 3 days of excavation training before they begin on the main sites. We do not want to increase the number of excavators as this may become uncontrollable if important finds are located.
 - f. There will be two field directors (FD) and one field assistant (FA). Each FD will supervise 5 excavators and monitor the excavations,

artefacts etc, as well as excavate the more sensitive areas. The FA will be able to translate English-Zulu, have basic archaeological training, and ensure that bags, etc are correctly labelled. This is an important task as general workers tend not to label packets etc correctly, and thus artefactual provenience is lost.

- g. Excavations should be covered by press releases with local and/or national newspapers.
 - h. These excavations will be undertaken in a specific time period, within a budget. If further excavations are required, beyond the original budget, then Exxaro would need to fund these as well. E.g. if several features are located, then the excavations may slow down whilst these are carefully excavated, and thus affect the timing of the project.
2. Each hill will be rebuilt to its original shape and height after mining has occurred. In this way, the 'sense of place' is not lost. Exxaro will need to provide the topographical maps of the hills before they are used, and these kept as a backup copy. We suggest that at least 5m contours are used.
 3. Slimes dams near a hill have the potential to slump, and thus the hill itself may slump. If a slimes dam occurs near a hill with historical significance, then that hill will need excavations.
 4. After mining, each hill has a commemorative 'plaque'. This 'plaque' would be site specific and in relation to the other sites. Basic information regarding the sites, that they were mined and rebuilt needs to be shown. We suggest that the plaque is made from stone and information is engraved. Brass plaques tend to be stolen, while plastic tends to burn/melt.
 5. We also suggest that a small site museum is located somewhere nearby where the results of the excavations and historical searches are shown. A one room building should suffice, and perhaps be situated in Mtunzini. The running of the building needs to be negotiated, but it could be a satellite museum. The site museum is not a prerequisite

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Table 1 summarises the recorded sites, their heritage significance and the significance of the impact of mining.

Many of the archaeological sites recorded during the course of the survey are of low significance. They occur mostly in the afforested areas and are in a secondary context. These sites would require monitoring during the course of any mining activity. Even if the significance of the impact is medium, these archaeological sites can still be mitigated in terms of on-site monitoring and monthly inspections, with the understanding that excavations could occur during the monitoring phase. The significance status of 'medium' is thus a bit misleading; however, this higher value is due to these sites being protected by legislation.

TABLE 1: INTENSITY OF THE IMPACT

Recorder's site number	Intensity of impact				Extent of impact	Duration of impact	Significance of impact	Brief description	Required mitigation
	Environmental	Social	Degree of disturbance	TOTAL					
PD03	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD04	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD05	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD06	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD07	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD16	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD17	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and LIA/HP pottery	monitor
PD41	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and HP pottery	monitor
PD42	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	Scatter of LSA tools and LIA pottery	monitor
PD43	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	HP pottery	monitor
PD44	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	LIA pottery	monitor
PD45	medium	High	High	High	Local	Long	High	LIA pottery	excavation
PD46	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	MSA scatter	monitor

PD47	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	ESA & MSA scatter	monitor
PD48	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	ESA scatter	monitor
PD49	High	High	High	Very High	Regional	Long	Very High	ESA scatter, HP pottery	Monitor and sample
PD50	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Site-specific	Long	Medium	LIA/HP pottery	monitor
Anglo-Zulu War sites	High	High	High	Very High	Regional	Long	Very High	Various fort and accessories relating to the Anglo-Zulu war	Full excavation

Some sites, and/or areas are of very high significance and the impact of mining will be very high negative. However, if the proposed management plan, suggested above, is undertaken, the impact would be high positive. While there will be an initial “loss” of two sensitive areas, these areas can be rebuilt after mining. Little is known about these historical hills, and thus any excavations would increase our knowledge of that period and/or activity. By disallowing mining, and thus excavations, there would be no gain in knowledge, as this area is currently only used for sugar cane farming.

Exxaro will need to give time frames regarding the onset and closure of mining, and when hills will be built.

Exxaro would benefit in terms of community public relations, if they fund a small site museum and partial excavations of these significant hills, and place them in their historical context.

A continual heritage monitoring program will need to be set up where regular visits ahead of the mining operations are undertaken. A similar program occurs at the Hillendale plant.

A permit from Amafa KZN will be required to damage any of the recorded sites.

**APPENDIX A
FIRST HISTORICAL REPORT BY GILBERT TORLAGE**

Anglo-Zulu War Sites: Fort Napoleon etc

Introduction:

During the initial phase of the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 the invading British army into Zululand suffered a significant reverse at Insandlwana (22 January) and a partial one by having a force besieged at Eshowe (from late January to early April). Other engagements also took place but these do not have a direct bearing on the parameters of this report.

After these initial setbacks Lord Chelmsford called for reinforcements, which began arriving in March 1879. Once these began to arrive Chelmsford re-launched his assault on the Zulu Kingdom, this time employing two major columns, one to approach towards oNdini (Ulundi) from the west and the other along the coast.

Coastal Column:

The coastal column came under the command of Major-General HH Crealock, CB., and was known as the 1st Division, consisting of approximately 7500 men. They were to advance up the coastal plain, to destroy the emaNgweni and (old) oDini *amakhand*a (military settlements), the former lay approximately 20kms north and the latter nearly 25kms westerly of Port Durnford. The British had also established with the aid of a gunboat and overland reconnaissance that it would be feasible to land supplies at Port Durnford, thus being able to keep their coastal column supplied both by sea and over land. Crealock's column was also to force King Cetshwayo to have to split his forces in order to protect his kingdom. However Crealock's progress was so painfully slow that the king effectively ignored them. Various fortified positions were to be established along the transport route that was to be developed, to protect the supply and communication lines. Once the *amakhand*a were destroyed Crealock was to act at his own discretion in support of the main advance from the west against Cetshwayo's forces.

Crealock's force used Forts Pearson and Tenedos at the Thukela River as their base camps. From there northwards they established Fort Crealock built from 23rd April overlooking the Matigulu River and

garrisoned by men of the 5th Battalion, Natal Native Contingent and later on by members of the 99th Regiment, the 8th Battery and 88th Regiment. Overlooking the Nyesane they built Fort Chelmsford from 29 April.

These forts were used to ferry forward endless supplies. Every 4 to 5 days a convoy of about 100 wagons made the journey from the forts on the Thukela River to Fort Chelmsford, each journey taking about 3 days. In addition to building up supplies the communication system between the Thukela River forts and Forts Crealock and Chelmsford were also improved, with a field telegraph being established connecting all these coastal forts.

Disease began to have its adverse effect on both man and beast. Oxen began to be lost at a rate of 10 animals a day. By the time Crealock was ready to move forward from Fort Chelmsford a total of 497 officers and men had been invalided back to Natal of whom 71 died.

Once sufficient supplies had been gathered at Fort Chelmsford a move was made to reach the next point. On about 19th June Crealock moved forward and located a suitable crossing point over the Mlalazi River and camping ground. Parts of his 1st Division then moved forward.

“At first light on June 22nd, work began on a bridge to span the Mlalazi. The First Division crossed over and formed a new camp on a prominent hill, on which an earthwork known as Fort Napoleon was constructed in order to protect the crossing.” (Knight and Castle 1993.175)

Once Crealock's force began to establish itself on the north of Mlalazi River and build Fort Napoleon a series of aggressive raids were launched on 23,24,26 and 30th June into the area beyond that river, between the sea, the Mhlatuze River and the Ngoye range foothills. During these raids five Zulus were killed and over 400 livestock captured.

As the pressure built against the Zulu nation peace overtures were made to the British authorities, including on 30th June by Sintwangu,

an *inceku*, a high ranking official in the king's household, at Fort Napoleon, bearing an enormous elephant tusk – a symbol of peace and friendship. Crealock only spoke to him for 20 minutes and then directed him to rather address Lord Chelmsford, the commander-in-chief.

Using the Fort Napoleon and Napoleon Hill sites as a base a further reconnaissance was carried out on 23rd June towards the coast to locate a suitable site to land further supplies, as it was found that the overland route was too slow. A site named Port Durnford was found to be suitable with a reasonably calm surf and deep water. It was at this stage that Crealock found that local Zulus, including some of the local leadership, were surrendering at Fort Napoleon, handing in their arms and seeking peace.

On 26th June a section of the 1st Division left Port Napoleon and headed towards the coast. The main body of the Division followed a day later. The first day the leading men only covered approximately 3kms and the following one approximately 6kms. They all arrived at a point about 11/2kms from the sea at 20.00 on 28th June. It is possible that where they overnighted they built small fortifications, which in Laband and Thompson(1983) they are described as small redoubts, march laagers or entrenched camps. These are marked as such to the immediate north, north-east of Fort Napoleon in the General's Hill area. Two days later the HMS *Forester* arrived off Port Durnford, with two transports, a tug, and two surf boats. By the end of the first day 18 tons of supplies had been landed. The next day another 60 tons were landed and 30 mules. Fort Richards was built at a site overlooking the sea to protect the landing site. Fort Napoleon was part of a chain of fortified posts along the route from the Thukela that had made this important new supply source a possibility.

On 4th July a patrol left from Port Durnford to carry out part of its original orders to destroy the two military homesteads, emaNgweni and (old) onDini *amakhand*a. They reached the former of these in the early hours of the morning, finding it deserted set the 300 to 400 dwellings on fire and moved on. Further smaller dwellings were encountered during the day with some prisoners being taken and in total 600 to 700 cattle, 11 asses and about 300 goats seized. About 200 Zulu they encountered fled. From now on approximately 300 Zulu

fighting men, 1500 women and children surrendered themselves at the main camp at Port Durnford and 1327 cattle were handed over. The following day another mounted force set out to destroy the onDini *amakhanda* as previously instructed. When this was finally reached, it too was found to be deserted, and the approximately 600 dwellings were burnt.

On 7 July Lieutenant-General Sir Garnet Wolseley arrived at Port Durnford from Britain to take over complete command of all military, political and administrative decision-making. He had been sent by the British authorities as they were concerned at the slow progress in the war. Wolseley had now used the greatly improved roads, river crossings and series of forts to reach his initial destination, of which Fort Napoleon was one of the links.

Conclusion:

The Napoleon Hill, Fort Napoleon and three General's Hill sites all need to be seen as part of the 1st Division's initially, essential transport and communications route. This was one of two prongs being launched on the Zulu kingdom in the efforts of the British authorities to force King Cetshwayo to capitulate in part of much larger political objectives. It is important to note that most of the initial significant Zulu capitulations took place in this south-eastern part of the Zulu kingdom resulting in Cetshwayo effectively losing control over this part of his kingdom, even before the crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Ulundi on 4th July 1879.

References:

- Ashe, Major & Wyatt-Edgell, E.V. *The Story of the Zulu Campaign*, (Cape Town, 1989, 1880)
- Barthorp, M. *The Zulu War* (Johannesburg, 2002)
- Graves, A. *Crossing the Buffalo the Zulu war of 1879* (Johannesburg, 2003)
- Knight, I. & Castle, I. *The Zulu War Then and Now* (London, 1993)
- Laband, J. *Kingdom in Crisis The Zulu Response to the British Invasion of 1879* Pietermaritzburg, 1992

- Laband, J. & Thompson, P. *The Illustrated Guide to the Anglo-Zulu War* (Pietermaritzburg 2000)
- Laband, J.P.C. & Thompson, P.S. *Field Guide to the War in Zululand and the Defence of Natal 1879* (Pietermaritzburg, 1983)
- Lock, R. & Quantrill, P. *The 1879 Zulu War through the Eyes of the Illustrated London News* (Kloof, 2003)
- Rattray, D. *A Soldier-Artist in Zululand* (Rorke's Drift, 2007)

**APPENDIX B
FINAL HISTORICAL REPORT**

Lower Mlalazi River Area –
Proposed Mining Development Project by
Exxaro Sands (Pty) Ltd
Historical Sites Report
October 2008

GP Torlage

17 October 2008

Introduction and Methodology

GP Torlage through Umlando on behalf of Exxaro Sands (Pty) Ltd was contracted to carry out a survey of the area inland of Mtunzini, near the R102 immediately south and north of the Mlalazi River to investigate the Anglo-Zulu War sites and any additional historic sites that exist or events that may have taken place in the area. The area is to be developed for mining purposes.

The following methods were employed in the brief time available: some of the historical literature and documents with the data relating to this area were surveyed. The photographic collections held by the KZN Provincial Museum Service were analysed. A document search was carried out in the KZN Provincial Archives, Pietermaritzburg. A physical survey of the terrain was made, with a visual search being carried out for any visible remains. Regrettably one of the landowners of the sites that were identified refused entry to the land. As a result two of the sites had to be viewed from the nearby roadside.

Anglo-Zulu War Sites: In the Lower Mlalazi River area

Brief background:

During the initial phase of the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 the invading British army into Zululand suffered a significant reverse at Insandlwana (22 January) and a partial one by having a force besieged at Eshowe (from late January to early April). Other engagements also took place but these do not have a direct bearing on the parameters of this report.

After these initial setbacks Lord Chelmsford called for reinforcements, which began arriving in March 1879. Once these began to arrive Chelmsford re-launched his assault on the Zulu Kingdom, this time employing two major columns, one to approach towards oNdini (Ulundi) from the west and the other along the coast from the lower Thukela River area.

Coastal Column:

The coastal column came under the command of Major-General HH Crealock, CB., and was known as the 1st Division, consisting of approximately 7500 men. They were to advance up the coastal plain, to destroy the emaNgweni and (old) onDini *amakhanda* (military settlements), the former lay approximately 20kms north and the latter nearly 25kms westerly of Port Durnford. The British had also established, with the aid of a gunboat and overland reconnaissance, that it would be feasible to land supplies at Port Durnford, thus being able to keep their coastal column supplied both by sea and over land. Crealock's column was also to force King Cetshwayo to have to split his forces in order to protect his kingdom. However Crealock's progress was so painfully slow that the king effectively ignored them. Various fortified positions were to be established along the transport route that was to be developed, to protect the supply and communication lines. Once the *amakhanda* were destroyed Crealock was to act at his own discretion in support of the main advance from the west against Cetshwayo's forces.

Crealock's force used Forts Pearson and Tenedos at the Thukela River as their base camps. From there northwards they established Fort Crealock built from 23rd April overlooking the Matigulu River and garrisoned by men of the 5th Battalion, Natal Native Contingent and later on by members of the 99th Battalion, the 8th Battery and 88th Battalion. Overlooking the Nyesane they built Fort Chelmsford from 29 April.

These forts were used to ferry forward endless supplies. Every 4 to 5 days a convoy of about 100 wagons made the journey from the forts on the Thukela River to Fort Chelmsford, each journey taking about 3 days. In addition to building up supplies the communication system between the Thukela River forts and Forts Crealock and Chelmsford were also improved, with a field telegraph being established, connecting all these coastal forts.

Disease began to have its adverse effect on both man and beast. Oxen began to be lost at a rate of 10 animals a day. By the time Crealock was ready to move forward from Fort Chelmsford a total of

497 officers and men had been invalided back to Natal of whom 71 died.

Once sufficient supplies had been gathered at Fort Chelmsford a move was made to reach the next point. On about 19th June Crealock moved forward and located a suitable crossing point over the Mlalazi River and camping ground. Parts of his 1st Division then moved forward. The 1st Brigade were first to arrive on what was named Napoleon Hill, which is a long feature pointing towards the Mlalazi River. It is reported that adequate fortifications here were completed on 21st June, these are described as no more than march laagers or an entrenched camp (Laband and Thompson, 1983). There are no descriptions of their precise nature or extent. "... on June 21st, General Crealock, then engaged in completing the fortifications at Napoleon hill, ..." (Ashe Major & Wyatt-Edgell 1989.317) Nonetheless on a map published in the British Parliamentary Papers c.2505 there is an indication of the extent of the position held on Napoleon Hill. The force having only been there for less than three full days these would not have been extensive.

This site has been severely impacted upon by agricultural activities and/or dwellings that have been built on the site. Due to being denied access on to land by the present landowner it was not possible to make a close visual inspection of this site other than viewing it from the nearby roadside.

Napoleon Hill was used to build a crossing over the Mlalazi River to secure the next rise immediately across the river, just north and on the inland side of the R102. (See the contemporary drawing of the trestle bridge erected by the British force, Fort Napoleon and two tents next to the fort.)

"At first light on June 22nd, work began on a bridge to span the Mlalazi. The First Division crossed over and formed a new camp on a prominent hill, on which an earthwork known as Fort Napoleon was constructed in order to protect the crossing." (Knight and Castle 1993.175) According to details on a British military map this fort was 20m (22 yards) square in extent. (British Parliamentary Papers, c.2505 1879)

The Fort Napoleon site has been severely impacted upon by the cultivation of sugar cane, while the site of the trestle bridge would appear to have been located approximately where the single lane road bridge is, immediately upstream of the R102 Mlalazi River bridge. The present landowner denied access to the site and so the inspection had to be carried out from the nearby roadside.)

Once Crealock's force began to establish itself on the north of the Mlalazi River and build Fort Napoleon a series of aggressive raids were launched on 23,24,26 and 30th June into the area beyond that river, between the sea, the Mhlatuze River and the Ngoye range foothills. During these raids five Zulus were killed and over 400 livestock captured.

As the pressure built against the Zulu nation peace overtures were made to the British authorities, including on 30th June by Sintwangu, an *inceku*, a high ranking official in the king's household, at Fort Napoleon, who came bearing an enormous elephant tusk – a symbol of peace and friendship. According to King Cetshwayo, Sintwangu was sent by him personally. (Webb & Wright 1978.34) Crealock only spoke to him for 20 minutes and then directed him to rather address his appeal to Lord Chelmsford, the commander-in-chief.

Using the Fort Napoleon and Napoleon Hill sites as a base a further reconnaissance was carried out on 23rd June towards the coast to locate a suitable route to and site to land further supplies, as it was found that the overland route was too slow. A site named Port Durnford was found to be suitable with a reasonably calm surf and deep water. It was at this stage that Crealock found that local Zulus were surrendering at Fort Napoleon, handing in their arms and seeking peace.

On 26th June a section of the 1st Division left Fort Napoleon and headed towards the coast. The main body of the Division followed a day later. On the first day the leading men only covered approximately 3.7kms and the following one approximately 6kms. They all arrived at a point about 11/2kms from the sea at 20.00 on 28th June. It is possible that where they overnighted they built small fortifications, which in Laband and Thompson(1983) are described as small redoubts, march laagers or entrenched camps.

According to documents and maps found in the British Parliamentary Papers c.2505 (1879) three sites are marked in the General's Hill area. These are located to the north, north-east of Fort Napoleon in the General's Hill area. If there was fortification of any kind that took place in 1879 this has seemingly disappeared due to agricultural activities and/or dwellings having been build in the area.

On 30th June the *HMS Forester* arrived off Port Durnford, with two transports, a tug, and two surf boats. By the end of the first day 18 tons of supplies had been landed. The next day another 60 tons were landed and 30 mules. Fort Richards was built at a site overlooking the sea to protect the landing site. Fort Napoleon was part of a chain of fortified posts along the route from the Thukela River that had made this important new supply source a possibility.

On 4th July a patrol left from Port Durnford to carry out part of its original orders to destroy the two military homesteads, the emaNgweni and (old) onDini *amakhanda*. They reached the former of these in the early hours of the morning, finding it deserted set the 300 to 400 dwellings on fire and moved on. Further smaller settlements were encountered during the day with some prisoners being taken and in total 600 to 700 cattle, 11 asses and about 300 goats seized. About 200 Zulu they encountered fled. From now on approximately 300 Zulu fighting men, 1500 women and children surrendered themselves at the main camp at Port Durnford and 1327 cattle were handed over. The following day another mounted force set out to destroy the next onDini *amakhanda* as previously instructed. When this was finally reached, it too was found to be deserted and the approximately 600 dwellings burnt.

On 7 July Lieutenant-General Sir Garnet Wolseley arrived at Port Durnford from Britain to take over complete command in terms of all military, political and administrative decision-making. He had been sent by the British authorities as they were concerned at the slow progress in the war. Wolseley had used the greatly improved roads, river crossings and series of forts that Crealock's force had developed between the Thukela River and Port Durnford, to reach his initial destination, of which Fort Napoleon is one of the links.

The main Zulu armed forces were defeated in a great battle at Ulundi on 4th July by the British army under Lord Chelmsford. After that Cetshwayo fled and remained a fugitive until he was captured on 28th August 1879 in the Ngoye Forest. After meeting with Wolseley at oNdini he was escorted via KwaMagwaza and St Paul's Mission to Port Durnford. He therefore passed through the area under investigation and on 4th September boarded the ship the *Natal* enroute to Cape Town and exile. That brought to an end a significant and hurtful chapter in the Zulu royal history.

Conclusion:

The Napoleon Hill, Fort Napoleon and three General's Hill sites all need to be seen as part of the 1st Division's initially, essential transport and communications route. This was one of two prongs launched on the Zulu kingdom in the efforts by the British authorities to force King Cetshwayo to capitulate. This was part of a much larger political objective.

It is important to note that a number of significant Zulu capitulations took place in this south-eastern part of the Zulu kingdom, resulting in Cetshwayo effectively losing control over this part of his realm, even before the crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Ulundi on 4th July 1879. The sites where some of these capitulations took place were located in the area that is under investigation.

Recommendations:

- 1. Napoleon Hill.** (Approximate position 28° 55'45" S, 31° 40'45" E,) As the structures on this site were probably no more than "small redoubts, march laagers or entrenched camps." (Laband and Thompson(1983)), and with all the agricultural and structural activity that have impacted on this area and quite likely obliterated most traces of what once was there, it is recommended that at a suitable site along the roadside a robust and durable exhibit is established to remember this encampment by with the illustrative material and text being supplied by a suitably qualified person.

2. **Napoleon Fort.** (Approximate position $28^{\circ} 55'40''$ S, $31^{\circ} 45'30''$ E,) As this site at a stage had a small fort on it which was part of a chain that made up the British forces' supply, communication and security system it is recommended that, although the site has been severely impacted as a result of agricultural activity, excavations occur to try to establish exactly where the fort was, its full extent and any resulting artifacts are analysed and then stored at a suitable location. Furthermore it is recommended that at a suitable site along the roadside a robust and durable exhibit is established to remember this encampment by with the illustrative material and text being supplied by a suitably qualified person. Included in the text must also be references to contacts the Zulu had with this site.

3. **General's Hill.** (Approximate position for central site of the three indicated on the British military map $28^{\circ} 55'0''$ S, $31^{\circ} 47'25''$ E,) As the structures on this site were probably no more than "small redoubts, march laagers or entrenched camps." (Laband and Thompson(1983)), and with all the agricultural and structural activity that have impacted on this site and seemingly obliterated most traces of what once was there, it is recommended that at a suitable site along the roadside a robust and durable exhibit is established to remember this encampment by with the illustrative material and text being supplied by a suitably qualified person.

4. King Cetshwayo kaMpande's movement through the area under examination has already been remembered with a memorial. It is therefore recommended that no additional memorial be erected to this event.

Attachments:

Map Napoleon Hill and Fort Napoleon Map
Sketch – Fort Napoleon & Bridge

Map General's Hill
Photos Napoleon Hill
Photo Fort Napoleon knoll
Photos General's Hill

References:

- British Parliamentary Papers*, c.2505 (London, 1879)
- Ashe, Major & Wyatt-Edgell E.V *The Story of the Zulu Campaign*, (Cape Town, 1989 & 1990)
- Barthorp, M. *The Zulu War* (Johannesburg, 2002)
- Graves, A. *Crossing the Buffalo the Zulu War of 1879* (Johannesburg, 2003)
- Knight, I. & Castle, I. *The Zulu War Then and Now* (London, 1993)
- Laband, J. *Kingdom in Crisis The Zulu Response to the British Invasion of 1879* Pietermaritzburg, 1992
- Laband, J. & Thompson, P. *The Illustrated Guide to the Anglo-Zulu War* (Pietermaritzburg 2000)
- Laband, J.P.C. & Thompson, P.S. *Field Guide to the War in Zululand and the Defence of Natal 1879* (Pietermaritzburg, 1983)
- Lock, R. & Quantrill, P. *The 1879 Zulu War through the Eyes of the Illustrated London News* (Kloof, 2003)
- Morris, D.R. *The Washing of the Spears* (London, 1968)
- Rattray, D. *A Soldier-Artist in Zululand* (Rorke's Drift, 2007)
- Webb C deB & Wright J. (eds.) *A Zulu King Speaks statements made by Cetshwayo kaMpande* (Pietermaritzburg, 1978)
- 2831DD Felixton 1:50 000 Survey Map (1965)
- 2831DC Blackburn 1:50 000 Survey Map (1965)

PHOTOGRAPHS



Contemporary sketch of Fort Napoleon and trestle bridge over the Mlalazi River

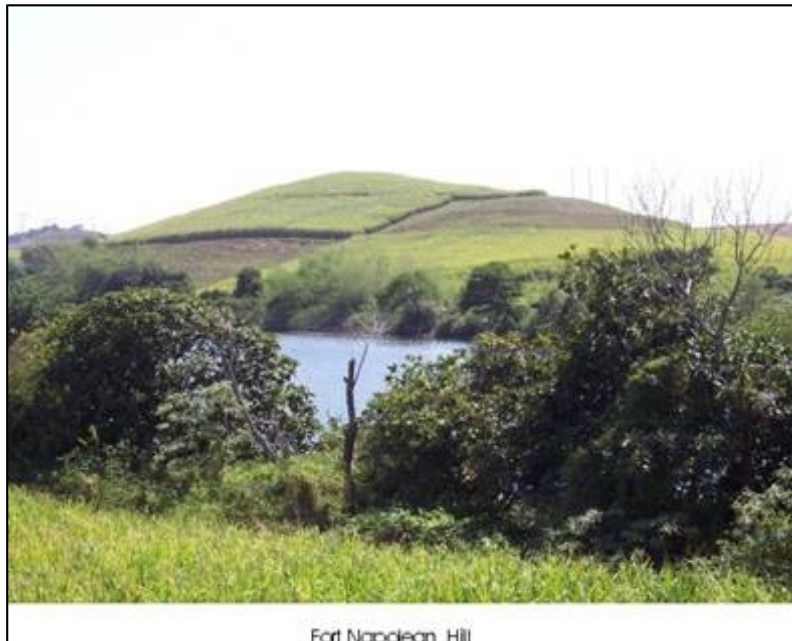


General's Hill.
This British Military map of 1879 indicates the British positions held on General's Hill. The position marked "450" is approximately 3.7kms by road from the Mlalazi River



Napoleon Hill & Fort Napoleon

This British military map of 14th July 1879 indicates British lines of defence on Napoleon Hill and alongside Fort Napoleon, as well as the Fort itself.



Fort Napoleon Hill



4) Nonclean Hill - Viewed from South to North



4) Nonclean Hill - Viewed from South to North



1) Genero's Hill summit



2) General's Hill summit