

P.O.BOX73703

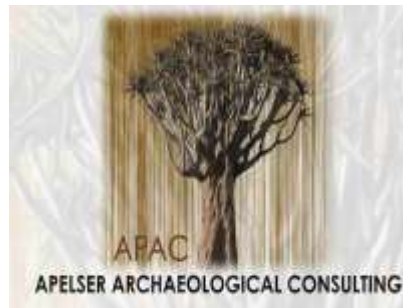
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CK 2006/014630/23 **VAT NO.: 4360226270**

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2018-09-18

To: **Whom it May Concern**

RE: 1ST SHORT REPORT ON THE DOCUMENTATION OF AND SOCIAL CONSULTATION RELATED TO GRAVES ON A GRAVE SITE LOCATED ON PORTION 14 OF THE FARM OLIFANTSFONTEIN 402JR TO BE IMPACTED BY TOWNSHIP ESTABLISHMENT (STRAWBERRY FARM).

APAC & AVBOB Funerals Johannesburg was appointed by M&T Development, in conjunction with Nali Sustainability Solutions, to undertake the assessment, exhumation and relocation of an estimated 104 graves located on a single informal cemetery from the above land parcel. The establishment & development of a new township (the so-called Strawberry Farm Township) is being undertaken here and will impact on the graves situated here. This necessitated the appointment to conduct the work and the follow the required processes to successfully exhume and relocate the graves from here prior to the development commencing.

The grave site and graves were identified and recorded during a Heritage Impact Assessment conducted for the proposed development (reported on in separate HIA Document).

As part of the required social consultation process a site visit was undertaken during the 3rd of September 2018 by the Specialist Team of APAC and AVBOB. During this visit the grave site and graves were individually documented (photographed and GPS location data recorded), as well as the graves counted and numbered. Site Notices (as required by law) were also erected at the Main Entrance to the area, indicating the intent of exhumation & relocation and requesting members of the public to come forward to identify and claim these graves and to register as Interested & Affected Parties. Similar notices have also been placed in the printed media (local and national newspapers) for the same reason. This forms part of the Social Consultation process required to try and identify possible family members/descendants of the deceased individuals buried here in order to get possible consent for the exhumations.

The results of the 3rd of September site visit and assessment are the following:

Grave Site

The grave site under discussion and that needs to be exhumed and relocated, contains **105 GRAVES**, with most of them stone-packed or demarcated by bricks and/or concrete. A few of the graves have slate

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headstones only, while there is some with cement crosses or metal markers as headstones. Three of the graves could be identified from the inscriptions on the headstones as follows:

1. Esta Xumalo, who seemingly died on 1.10.1977.
2. Amos Nxumalo. No date of birth or death could be determined
3. Alina R. Jali(?). Died in 1936.

The age of the other graves can't be determined at this stage but could date to between the late 1930's and 1970's or a bit later. Social consultation will also aim at obtaining dates and identities for the graves located here

GPS Location - S25 55 41.67 E28 14 05.89



Fig.1: A view of the grave site with the graves numbered.



Fig.2: One of the stone-packed graves.



Fig.3: A grave packed with stones and cement.



Fig.4: Another stone-packed grave.



**Fig.5: A cement demarcated grave.
This is the grave of Esta Xumalo.**



Fig.6: Close-up of Esta Xumalo's headstone.



Fig.7: A cement grave with cement headstone.



Fig.8: This grave seems to have been dug up.



Fig.9: The grave of Amos Nxumalo.



Fig.10: Close-up of Amos Nxumalo's headstone.



Fig.11: The grave of Alina R. Jali.



**Fig.12: Close-up of broken headstone of Alina R. Jali.
The date of death is indicated as 1936.**

Site Notices, Newspaper Advertisements & Consultation with previous Landowners

Site Notices were placed at the main entry point to the area and site. It is hoped that this will attract possible descendants, workers and community members to come forward and identify & claim some of the graves located at these two sites.

Notices were also placed in various newspapers (The Daily Sun, City Press & Sowetan). Copies of the original advertisements will also be provided when the various permit applications are done.

The team is also in the process of consulting with the previous landowners regarding these grave sites in order to try and determine if they possibly have any information on the sites, the deceased buried here and/or possible family members and descendants.



**Fig.13: The Site Notice was placed on the footbridge
Over the railway line that passes by and through the area.**



Fig.14: Close-up of Site Notice.

In conclusion it can be stated that the process regarding the investigation, exhumation and relocation of graves from the Strawberry Farm site has commenced, Site notices have been erected, the graves have been recorded and numbered and Newspaper Advertisements placed. Consultation with the previous landowners is also being undertaken. Once the required time-frames related to the Social Consultation has been run and the process completed, the various permit applications will be submitted. As soon as these permits have been issued the physical exhumations and relocations will be scheduled and undertaken.

The following is recommended on the way forward:

1. Continuation of the Social Consultation process
2. Obtaining consent from possible family members/descendants of the deceased individuals buried here
3. The provision of a Motivation letter from M&T Development (Pty) Ltd to APAC and AVBOB Funerals Johannesburg motivating the reasons why the exhumations and relocations are required. These letters are required for the permit applications as well.

Finally, the initial number of graves estimated to be at the sites was 90. After the site assessments and numbering of the graves the total is 98. The extra costs involved for these 8 graves need to be taken into consideration and it is requested that a Variation Order be provided for this purpose.

Should there be any questions or comments on the contents of this document please contact the author as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Anton Pelsler