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THE SWAZI RAIL LINK PROJECT – EXHUMATION AND RELOCATION OF GRAVES ON NEWSTEAD FARM NREAR LOTHAIR IN THE MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Saturday, September 8, 2018

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REPORT DETAILS

CLIENT: Transnet SOC Limited (Transnet Group Capital)

HERITAGE FIRM: Mbofho Consulting and Project Managers

PROJECT TEAM:

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Dr. Edward Matenga: PhD Archaeology & Heritage (Uppsala Univ. Sweden; MPhil. Archaeology (Uppsala, Sweden); BA (Hons) Archaeology (Univ. of Zimbabwe), Certificate in the Integrated Conservation of Territories and Landscapes of Heritage Value, ICCROM, Rome. Membership: ICOMOS International and ASAPA

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1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

Transnet Group Capital has appointed Mbofho Consulting and Project Managers (MCPM) for the following task:

THE SWAZI RAIL LINK PROJECT – EXHUMATION AND RELOCATION OF GRAVES ON NEWSTEAD FARM NEAR LOTHAIR IN THE MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

Transnet SOC Limited (hereafter referred to as Transnet) is a government (state) owned company (SOC) and is the custodian of South Africa's railway, ports and pipelines, thereby responsible for delivering reliable freight transport and handling services that satisfy customer demand. Transnet in collaboration with Swaziland Railway identified the construction and upgrade of the railway line between Davel in Mpumalanga and Richards Bay in KwaZulu- Natal, connecting via the Swaziland rail network, as a strategic project. The aim of the project is to unlock the potential of a multinational strategic rail corridor and divert general freight traffic off the dedicated heavy haul Richards Bay coal line which runs from Ermelo through rural Kwa-Zulu Natal to Richards Bay.

The project scope of work consists of various streams of work, including the upgrading of existing railway sections and construction of an entirely new rail link from Lothair (RSA) to Sidvokodvo in Swaziland.

The proposed development has necessitated the relocation of approximately eighteen (18) graves located on the farm Newstead Farm c 25km east if Lothair along the R33 highway from Lothair to New Amsterdam (26°30'0.00"S, 30°37'39.20"E). The exhumed remains will be reinterred at a burial ground allocated by the farmer on the same farm (26°28'41.50"S, 30°36'44.70"E).



Figure 1: Locality map.

2. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

A comprehensive situation analysis has been conducted relying heavily on a public participation process. The burial ground on Newstead Farm holds 18 individuals, a majority of the deceased being members of the Khumalo family, of which several elderly people still live and/or work on the Newstead Farm. The other deceased have different surnames but are still either biologically or affinally (i.e. through marriage) related to the Khumalo family. The Khumalo family have provided bio-data of the deceased, and of importance to the application to SAHRA are the dates of death. The records show that only one of the deceased (Linah Khumalo, born in 1954 and died in 1957) requires SAHRA permitting for the proposed exhumation and relocation (see Spreadsheet Catalogue of deceased). The rest of the deceased in the same burial ground will be dealt with in terms of the Human Tissue Act (No 65 of 1983) of which a separate application is being lodged to the provincial Department of Health.

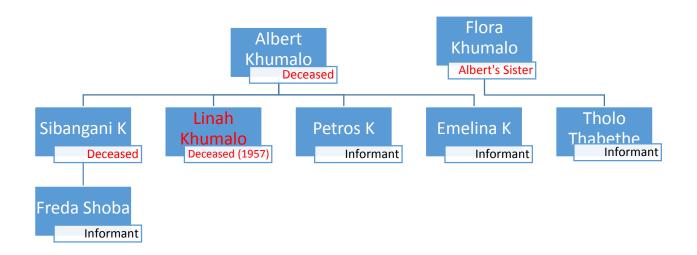
3. DETAILS OF THE GRAVE

LINAH KHUMALO DOB: 20/05/1954; DOD: 12/07/1957 Serial No: 5368532



KHUMALO FAMILY

SURNAME	URNAME Khumalo		FIRST NAME Petros			CLAIM NO		
Petros Khumalo								
Emelina Kumalo Freda Shoba Freda Shoba Freda Shoba Image: Comparison of the state of th								
PLACE OF BIRTH Newstead far				PROVINCE			Mpumalanga	
ADDRESS Newstead Farm					TOWN Lot		Lothair	
CELL 076 865 5674 / 072			9 9171	EMAIL -			-	
NO OF GRAVES	Eighteen (18)							
PROPOSED Traditional fa			mily ceremony with all necessary provisions.					
REMEDIAL ACT		From A to B						
INFORMANT IDS REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA Summer: SomeLuro Emelina Sex. F Nationality: RSA Informative: R								
DECEASED DOCS X								
RECORDED BY M.A Silidi / E.			atenga	ga INSTITUTION Mbofho Consulting and Projec Managers				
DATE		24 April 2018						



Kinship matrix of informants and deceased - Linah Khumalo (Grave Serial Number 5368532 in the Spreadsheet Inventory) died in 1957. Exhumation is undertaken in terms of Section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act.