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Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency - Pretoria Office | 432 Paul Kruger Street | Pretoria

Form 601 /v2

June 2011

Official Use:

Site Ref:

Grade 1:.....

Committee Date:.....

National Heritage Site Nomination Form

This form precedes the submission of the 'Nomination Document' and is designed to assist with the grading of heritage resources in terms Section 3(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, as part of the process of declaration as a National Heritage Site (Section 27). Nominated heritage resources that are of special national significance will be graded as Grade 1 and considered for National Heritage Site status.

Proposed National Heritage Site: **BUSHMANS KLOOF INDIGENOUS ROCK ART SITES**

Brief Statement of Significance:

Located in one of South Africa's richest and most beautiful natural and historical environments, on a landscape stretching across over 7500 hectares (18 000 acres) of untouched land in an area of the Cape known as the Cedarberg, stands **Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Retreat (Pty) Ltd.**, one of South Africa and Africa's finest and most celebrated luxury hotels.

Since 2004 when the South African Tollman family purchased the property and established Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Retreat (Pty) Ltd as part of the globally respected and awarded Red Carnation Hotel Collection, the site of Bushmans Kloof has been transformed into a natural playground for guests who want to reconnect with themselves and the essence of life. With wide open plains, mystical rock formations, crystal clear water falls, and an abundance of flora and fauna, and while embedding conservation tourism practices, Bushmans Kloof operates through a balanced model of luxury hospitality in harmony with the natural environment, cultural roots, and delicate ecosystem of the Cedarberg region.

Bushmans Kloof is home to three different and merging botanical communities: the majestic Cedarberg Wilderness Area, Fynbos and the succulent Karoo. For this reason it is already recognised as a South African National Heritage Site, positioned within the *Cape Floral Kingdom*, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The people of Bushmans Kloof work purposefully towards sustaining the beauty and natural balance of this unique land through a process of vigilant Wildlife and Botanical Conservation, as well as preserving the heritage of the traditional Bushman people who lived in the area thousands of years ago, and whose presence still is felt through the culture and creativity of the people of today.

Importantly, Bushmans Kloof is home to over 130 rare San and Khoisan rock art sites, which have been documented and are meticulously preserved. Bushmans Kloof's dedication to preserving the cultural history of the Bushman, South Africa's earliest inhabitants who roamed this region during the Later Stone Age, is unparalleled.

Surveys on the properties consolidated as Bushmans Kloof confirm the presence of an outstanding sample of well-preserved and high quality rock paintings that were made by indigenous San hunter-gatherers and Khoekhoe herders within the last 10,000 years. In comparison with other properties of similar size in the Cedarberg, the rock paintings are also fairly numerous with more than 140 rock art and archaeological sites clustered in a relatively well-preserved natural landscape setting with limited development associated with agriculture, and lately tourism with guest and staff accommodation.

The cultural heritage values of the rock art lie in the fine-line painted images with metaphorical meaning that relate to the beliefs and rituals of San hunter-gatherers between at least 10,000 years ago. In addition to the fine-line San art, there are examples of a more recent rock painting tradition in which paint was applied with a finger by Khoekhoe herders. They consistently overlie the fine-line paintings because the herders migrated into the region with sheep and later cattle less



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than 2000 years ago. Handprints are common in this tradition that was associated not only with a new economy, but a different ritual and belief system as well.

From the scientific perspective, the rock art at Bushmans Kloof has contributed significantly to experiments to prolong the life of rock paintings. Three sites were selected for conservation projects in 1979 and 1980 and provide both positive and negative information on the use of various interventions. Outstanding aesthetic quality has been admired at sites such as Fallen Rock and Syfer where there is clarity of colour, intricate detail, and artistic flair in images that are eminently suitable for a high quality visitor and education experience.

In line with UNESCO World Heritage criteria, the rock paintings on Bushmans Kloof:

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius in a cluster of well-preserved rock paintings created by San hunter-gatherer artists within the last 7000 years, and by Khoekhoe herders within the last 2000 years. The paintings were created with artistic flair and skill to share with others the artists' experiences in the spirit world when they used power from certain animals for healing and general well-being;
- (ii) bear an exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions of the ancestors of southern Africa's San hunter-gatherer and Khoekhoe herder populations who were decimated by European colonisation after AD 1652. The paintings have become an archive that can be understood with reference to historical texts that explain the beliefs and rituals of the San and Khoekhoe. The high level of preservation of the paintings at Bushmans Kloof makes it possible to recognise some of these ancestral rituals and aspects of past lifestyles and traditions;
- (iii) contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of science or conservation.

Within South Africa, the rock art sites of Bushmans Kloof are a testament to some of the region's closest living descendants to homosapiens, an ancient culture celebrated quietly, humbly, by the people at Bushmans Kloof. These sites capture the artistic fingerprints of the oldest, largest population of peoples in Africa, and across the globe. Their ancestral spirits, stories, wisdom and wonder live through the rock art, their lessons passing on through generations past, and future. Images provide invaluable insight into traditional ways of life of the San people, as well as animals in the area which have since disappeared. As a result, the images captured in the rock art sites reflect biodiversity that has since become extinct, yet which has a role to play in cultural, traditional and histprocal understanding of the region.

Through Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Retreat, both guests and local staff are inspired to widen their awareness, knowledge, understanding and appreciation of traditional peoples of the area, protecting, preserving and holding precious the value of the San people in the identity and ideology of the Southern African region.

Recognising the critical role and value of the rock art sites play to local, regional and national identity and understanding, the Tollman family seeks SAHRA and UNESCO World Heritage Site status for the Top 9 rock art sites at Bushmans Kloof . Sites have been identified by Dr John Parkington, University of Cape Town Dept of Archeology, in terms of:

- quality of site,
- educational value, and
- accessibility by guests

as a prelude to embedding their global significance, and protection through UNESCO World Heritage Site designation, for the sake of preservation and promotion of vital San history and heritage in the Southern African region.

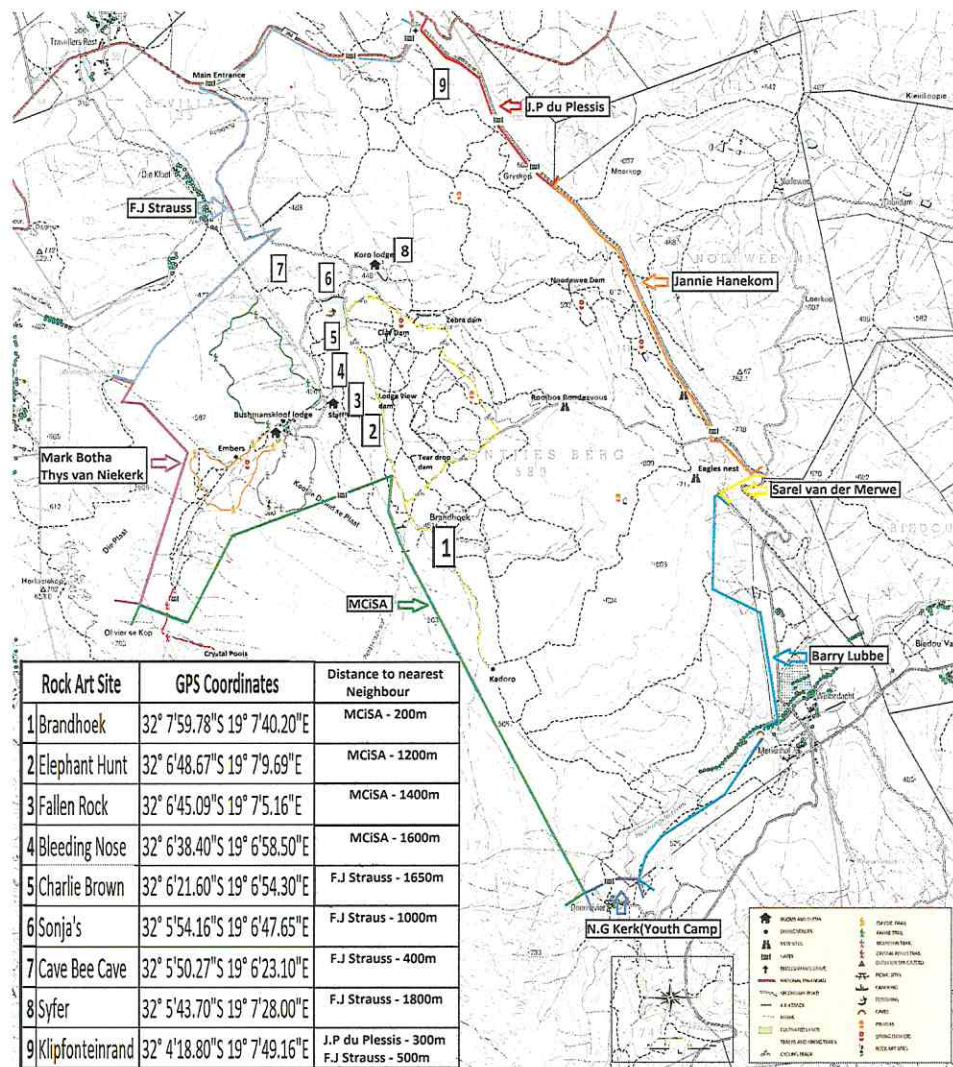
These 9 sites are as indicated in the below map:

- Fallen Rock (32° 6'45.09"S 19° 7'5.16"E)
- Elephant Hunt (32° 6'48.67"S 19° 7'9.69"E)
- Sonjas (32° 5'54.16"S 19° 6'47.65"E)
- Brandhoek (32° 7'59.78"S 19° 7'39.64"E)



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- Bleeding nose (32° 6'38.13"S 19° 6'58.14"E)
- Klipfonteinrand (32° 4'18.80"S 19° 7'49.16"E)
- Cave Bee Cave (32° 5'50.27"S 19° 6'23.54"E)
- Syfer (32° 5'43.50"S 19° 7'28.95"E)
- Charlie Brown (32° 6'21.82"S 19° 6'54.39"E)



This application to SAHRA represents a vital step in the process of South African national accreditation in the nation's portfolio of protected heritage of the San people, and an essential precursor to South Africa's nomination of Bushmans Kloof for UNESCO World Heritage status



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Proposed By: BUSHMANS KLOOF WILDERNESS RESERVE & WELLNESS RETREAT
Legally registered and owned by: BUSHMANS KLOOF PROPERTIES LTD
Operating company: BUSHMANS KLOOF PTY LTD
Registration Number 2015/426814/07

Date Proposed: SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2017

Contact Details: MICHAEL TOLLMAN, MICHAEL.TOLLMAN@TTC.COM / +27 (0) 83 675 7964

Name of Property: BUSHMANS KLOOF WILDERNESS RESERVE & WELLNESS RETREAT

Location Details: Farm No. 633, Situated in the Cederberg Municipality, Division Clan William, Province of the Western Cape, in extent of 5480,7780 hectares, first registered and still held by certificate of consolidated Title Number T99789/2004

As a result of remoteness of location of Bushmans Kloof, traditional address/district/municipality details cannot be provided. Location can be defined, however, as:

Lower eastern slopes of the Cederberg in an area known as Agter-Pakhuis. It is at the far end of the 21 km Pakhuis Pass on the traditional route from the town of Clanwilliam in the west to the Tanqua Karoo to the east. The main gate to Bushmans Kloof is about 32 km from Clanwilliam and about 8 km from the Lodge reception area.

The GPS readings for the property are listed in detail in Table 1. In summary:

- the north-west corner is at 32°4.450 south and 19°5.793 east,
- the north-east corner is at 32°3.982 south and 19°7.653 east,
- the eastern-most point is at 32°7.439 south and 19°10.926 east;
- the southern-most point is at 32°10.597 south and 19°9.271 east, and
- the western-most point is 32°8.401 south and 19°5.090 east.

Cadastral Information

Erf/ Farm Number: Farm # 633, Uityk ext #138, Zandrug #137, Sevilla 135

Registration Division: Clanwilliam

Map Reference: 3219AA Pakhuis

Recording Method: South African Coordinate System



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Type of Resource

Place	<input type="checkbox"/>
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Archaeological Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paleontological Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geological Feature	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grave	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do moveable objects relating to the site form part of the Nomination?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Serial nomination (Is more than one site being nominated as part of a 'Joint Nomination')	<input type="checkbox"/>

(For serial nominations, complete one form for each site, supply additional details about the information relating to the relation of the sites, and the management and phasing of proposed nomination be attached).

Sphere of Significance	High	Med	Low
International	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provincial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist group or community	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What other similar sites may be compared to the site? How does the site compare to these sites?

With over 140 sites in a total area of just over 6000 hectares, Bushmans Kloof could be the single most prolific property in terms of rock art sites in the northern Cederberg, Southern Africa, and Africa per se.

Importantly, Bushmans Kloof is not only one of the primary locations of centuries old rock art of the traditional San people, it is the continent's only sustainable investor in rock art:

- cataloguing,
 - protection,
 - education,
 - promotion,
- and
- conservation.

In terms of Bushmans Kloof's 'cultural significance' as defined in South Africa's National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999, s.2(vi)), and the World Heritage equivalent, "outstanding universal value" or OUV, for Bushmans Kloof, assessment of significance has been achieved by a focused survey of the archaeological and rock art sites on the property, assembling available published and unpublished literature on this and similar projects and sites in order to generate a comparative analysis of the cultural heritage values of the property, and analysing the management of the property in consultation with stakeholders.

The significance may alter over time and therefore the management plan is a document that has no absolute finality. Information should continue to be gathered for the purpose of continuous review and monitoring processes. As is generally true with the rest of southern Africa, the rock art on the reserve is important for several reasons.



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According to the SAHRA guidelines, cultural values include qualities for which a site or sites become a focus of spiritual, political, national, or other cultural sentiments to some people. These may be a source of pride, or education, or celebration, or a symbol of enduring culture at a local, provincial or national level.

The cultural significance reflects the worldviews of the people who made the rock paintings. Rock art in southern Africa is now acknowledged to be metaphoric in intent with key metaphors representing the ideologies of the San hunter-gatherers and, later, Khoekhoe herders. It thus represents the cultural history of their descendants who still live in the region and has significance also for identity and public education in the present day.

The social values of the rock paintings at Bushmans Kloof are evident in the paintings of human figures in ritual postures, and iconic images of animals that played a key role in San beliefs. San social relations are known to centre around the landscape and in particular the waterhole in the Kalahari (Lewis-Williams & Pearce 2004). The clustered distribution of rock art sites along river courses at Bushmans Kloof suggests that these streams played a similar role to the waterhole in hunter-gatherer society in the Cederberg from at least 10,000 years ago.

Conservation of the original landscape setting of rock art and archaeological sites in relation to water courses is therefore a valuable part of the social value of the property. Images captured in the rock art sites reflect biodiversity that has since become extinct, yet which has a role to play in cultural, traditional and historical understanding of the region. The animals most commonly painted are the eland and elephant, often in close relationship to people.

The significance of trance performance in the social relations of hunter-gatherers is evident in paintings of therianthropes (humans with animal body parts), processions of both male and female dancing figures, and people in trance postures, sometimes bleeding from the nose. As an archival record, the paintings provide good evidence for changes in social relations over time when Khoekhoe herders came into the region about 2000 years ago. They used different metaphors and added handprints and geometric paintings to the repertoire. The social relations of European travellers and farmers in the last 350 years are expressed more in buildings and structures in the landscape than in water sources and landscape features.

From the point of view of historical significance, there are hundreds of rock shelters on Bushmans Kloof and neighbouring properties, and many more open sites in the Olifants River Valley and the Cederberg in general, where Stone Age people lived over a period of at least half a million years and left behind their stone tools and other durable artefacts and food remains. Results from archaeological excavations at three sites on Bushmans Kloof have contributed to knowledge about the lifeways of ancestors of the San hunter-gatherers over at least 10,000 years, and have helped to date the influx of the first Khoekhoe herders who introduced pottery and sheep about 2,000 years ago.

As stated earlier, through Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Retreat, guests and staff are inspired to widen their awareness, understanding and appreciation of traditional peoples of the area, appreciating the value of the San people in the identity and ideology of the Southern African region.

To ensure the rock art sites found on Bushmans Kloof's land were protected and preserved meaningfully and sustainably, in July 2005, Bushmans Kloof created a five-year tenured resident archaeologist position in order to realize several interrelated programme goals and objectives. These were:

- To introduce and effectively implement a management plan for rock art on the reserve, accompanied by an interpretation programme.
- To establish a comprehensive record of all the known and any newly discovered rock art sites on the reserve which involved:
 - o Logging GPS coordinates for each site location,
 - o Inclusion of all sites in a GIS data repository for the reserve,
 - o Comprehensive site descriptions, analysis and interpretation, and
 - o Site management protocols for these sites.
- To introduce a professional standard of archiving of the rock art materials which can be shared across the country (i.e., research institutions: museums and universities).



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- To explore and, where possible, develop new and alternative methods of enhancing the reserve's rock art experience and the Heritage Centre experience.

As a result, the rock art programme on the reserve has seen a steady increase in the number of painted sites being discovered and documented. The work proactively done in Bushmans Kloof to understand, appreciate, educate around, and preserve the traditional San rock art paintings is exemplary in its preservation of the past, education and celebration in the present, and protection for the future.

Owner: VICTORIA TOLLMAN
C/O Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Retreat
Cederberg Municipality
West Coast District
Western Cape Province
South Africa

Contact Person: Michael Tollman, Advisor to Victoria Tollman

Postal Address: c/o Cullinan Holdings Ltd., Chiappini Square, 17 Chiappini Street, Cape Town, 8001

Telephone: +27 (0)21 437 9278 **Cell:** +27 (0)83 675 7964

E-Mail: michael.tollman@ttc.com

Web Page: <https://www.bushmanskloof.co.za/>

Type of Significance

Indicate with a tick	<i>Comment where appropriate. Indicate sphere of significance: i.e. National, Provincial, Local and degree of significance: i.e. High, Medium or Low.</i>
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1. Historical Value

a. It is important in the community, or pattern of history

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| i. Importance in the evolution of cultural landscapes and settlement patterns | X | |
| ii. Importance in exhibiting density, richness or diversity of cultural features illustrating the human occupation and evolution of the nation, Province, region or locality. | X | |
| iii. Importance for association with events, developments or cultural phases that have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, Province, region or community. | X | |
| iv. Importance as an example for technical, creative, design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement in a particular period | X | |

b. It has strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in history

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| i. Importance for close associations with individuals, groups or organisations whose life, works or activities have been significant within the history of the nation, Province, region or community. | X | |
|---|---|--|

Rock paintings on Bushmans Kloof bear testimony to the social, political, spiritual and economic history of both San hunter-gatherers and the immigrant Khoekhoe herders.

The oldest tradition is the San or so-called 'fine-line' paintings with a strong emphasis on the eland, and images of human figures participating in various rituals.

No direct dates have been obtained from the Cederberg but there is reliable radiocarbon dating evidence +/- 60 km west of Bushmans Kloof that such paintings were made at least 3600 years ago on the wall of a rock shelter at Steenbokfontein near Lamberts Bay (Jerardino & Swanepoel 1999).



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c. It has significance relating to the history of slavery

- i. Importance for a direct link to the history of slavery in South Africa.

2. Aesthetic Value

a. It is important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group

- i. Importance to a community for aesthetic characteristics held in high esteem or otherwise valued by the community.
- ii. Importance for its creative, design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement.
- iii. Importance for its contribution to the aesthetic values of the setting demonstrated by a landmark quality or having impact on important vistas or otherwise contributing to the identified aesthetic qualities of the cultural environs or the natural landscape within which it is located.
- iv. In the case of an historic precinct, importance for the aesthetic character created by the individual components which collectively form a significant streetscape, townscape or cultural environment.

3. Scientific Value

a. It has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural heritage

- i. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality, reference or benchmark site.
- ii. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the origin of the universe or of the development of the earth.
- iii. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the origin of life; the development of plant or animal species, or the biological or cultural development of hominid or human species.
- iv. Importance for its potential to yield information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of the nation, Province, region or locality.

b. It is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

- i. Importance for its technical innovation or achievement.

The great majority of rock paintings in the Cederberg have retained their authenticity in the landscape despite agricultural activities because the paintings are located in shelters in rocky outcrops where commercial agriculture is not possible. The form and design, materials and substance of the rock art are typical of the hunter-gatherer and herder traditions throughout the Western Cape and have retained their authenticity. The authenticity has been demonstrated through comparisons with historically recorded traditions.

Scientific experiments to test the efficacy of silica coatings and driplines to protect rock paintings from natural erosion were conducted at Bushmans Kloof rock art sites in 1979 and 1980, and have been helpful in planning other conservation projects.

On-going monitoring and management of these sites will continue to contribute to a scientific understanding of the methods that can be applied to conservation of rock paintings in the Cederberg and further afield. The first direct radiocarbon date for a rock painting in South Africa came from Bushmans Kloof where it was confirmed that a "finger painting" was indeed made during the time period of Khoekhoe herders around 500 years ago.



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4. Social Value

a. It has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

- i. Importance as a place highly valued by a community or cultural group for reasons of social, cultural, religious, spiritual, symbolic, aesthetic or educational associations.
- ii. Importance in contributing to a community's sense of place.

X

Importantly, the rock art at Bushmans Kloof has contributed significantly to experiments to prolong the life of rock paintings.

X

Together, these cultural, social, historical, scientific and aesthetic values contribute to an archive of unwritten records (Mguni 2016) that shape our knowledge of the social context of pre-colonial South Africa, particularly when combined with the **intangible heritage** of music, oral traditions and dance.

Degrees of Significance

5. Rarity:

a. It possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage

- i. Importance for rare, endangered or uncommon structures,
- ii. landscapes or phenomena.
- iii. Importance in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practiced in, or in danger of being lost from, or of exceptional interest to the nation, Province, region or locality.

X

Bushmans Kloof has become a location of national, regional and local pride for its protection, preservation and promotion of the rock art sites. The sites on the reserve may be viewed by guests, archaeologists and researchers. Since its founding, Bushmans Kloof has been dedicated to protecting this extraordinary treasure. Accordingly, we have been awarded the status of a South African Natural Heritage Site.

X

X

6. Representivity:

a. It is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or objects

- i. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a range of landscapes or environments, the attributes of which identify it as being characteristic of its class.
- ii. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, Province, region or locality.

X

In 2004, the Bushmans Kloof Heritage Centre was opened, featuring an extraordinary collection of priceless artefacts, jewellery, dancing sticks, hunting kits, musical instruments, digging sticks and magical paraphernalia. The centre is a wonderful source of insight into the lives and culture of the ancient Bushman people.



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Signature:.....

MICHAEL TOLLMAN

Date: 26/09/2017

Please supply those marked () with this nomination form, as well as any others that are already available. Those marked (**) will be requested when the proposal first goes to SAHRA Council for endorsement (Tentative List of National Heritage Sites). Those marked (***) will be required when the Nomination goes to the following Council Meeting for approval as a National Heritage Site). All information submitted to SAHRA will remain with SAHRA. (*

- * Expanded statement of significance; *(Refer specifically to significance criteria listed below)*
- * Motivation for declaration as a National Heritage Site, including potential heritage value, threats and vulnerabilities;
- * Short history of the place;
- * Physical description of the heritage resource;
- * Locality plan (map) and Site Plan;
- * Photographs and plans;
- ** List of moveable objects relating to site that are proposed as part of nomination, or for archaeological or palaeontological site ;list of repositories where these are housed;
- ** Bibliography of documentation relating to the heritage resource;
- ** Statement of current protections and restrictions (e.g. previous national monument; register of immovable property; conservation area; current zoning; servitudes);
- ** List any heritage organizations consulted and their comments on the proposed nomination.
- *** Site plan (with proposed site boundaries);
- *** Conservation or management plans (send immediately if any exist);
- *** Heritage Agreement (if required).