29 July 2016

South African Heritage Resources Agency 437 Paul Kruger Street Ditsong National Museum of National History, Pretoria

Contact: Ms Itumeleng Masiteng Tel: (012) 320 8490/941 4960 Fax: (012) 320 8486 Email: <u>imasiteng@sahra.org.za</u>, <u>mseetelo@sahra.org.za</u>

ATTENTION: Ms Mimi Seetelo Pages: 15

**Dear Ms Seetelo** 

# RELOCATION OF APPROX. TEN (10) GRAVES: BRITS MALL, FARM KROKODILDRIFT 446-JQ, BRITS; NORTH WEST

## 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Our company has been appointed by Resilient Properties (Pty) Ltd, to effect the relocation of approximately 10 graves located on portion 263 of the farm Krokodildrift 446-JQ, in Brits (**APPENDIX A**). The graves will be adversely affected by the proposed expansion of the Brits Mall.

The public consultation process, to identify next of kin for the graves, commenced June 2015 with the environmental consultants, Calcuplan, meeting with the next-of-kin of one of the graves (BT-01). PGS Heritage was appointed at the end of 2015 and started the broad social consultation process.

## 2. LOCATION OF GRAVES

The graves are situated on the farm Krokodildrift 446-JQ (**APPENDIX A**) and are located approximately 100m south of the existing Brits Mall, at the following coordinates:

- BT1: -25.652204°, 27.800456°
- BT2: -25.652630°, 27.799058°
- BT 3: -25.652671°, 27.800358°

## 3. PERMITS AND PERMISSIONS

We are also in the process of notifying and applying for permits and permissions from the following institutions:



- The South African Police Services, (this is just a notification not a request for permission)
- The Madibeng Local Municipality.
- The North West Provincial Department of Health (For this we require the Municipal consent)
- North West Department of Local government and Traditional Affairs (For this we require the Municipal consent)

## 4. PROJECT INFORMATION

All six the graves will be adversely impacted upon by the proposed expansion of the Brits Mall. We have conducted an intensive process of social consultation in order to identify the buried individuals and to obtain permission for exhumation and re-interment from the affected families, communities and other *bona fide* interested and affected parties.

This intensive process commenced on, 14 December 2015 with the erection of bilingual (English and Setswana) site notices at the graves (refer **Annexure B**). Bilingual (English and Setswana) newspaper notices were also published in the Brits Pos on Friday, 15 January 2016 and in the Daily Sun on Friday, 15 January 2016 (refer **Annexure C**).

## 4.1. Details of reach graves site

**BT\_1:** Definite single grave in the location of the ruins of the old farm workers quarters.

The grave is that of Mrs. Mietha Meyer the great-grandmother of Mrs. Irene Daniels. Irene Meyer first made contact with the Mall management in early 2015 when she requested permission to visit the grave of her grandmother. The Meyer Family was met with continuously throughout the process and was very forth coming with information about knowledge of graves on the farm and leads for where to find more information. The Meyer family have signed consent to have their grave relocated to Damonsville Cemetery (refer **Appendix D**).

**BT\_2:** Possible graves in the location of the disturbed headstones. It is unknown how many graves are located in this area as the headstones have been disturbed from their original location (Figure 1). It is alleged to be as many as 5 graves. Mrs. Daniels was a young girl at a time when the graves in this location were still intact and remembers them being just next to the path that was alongside the water canal on the southern edge of the property. This is not too far off from where the broken headstones are located today. The Meyer family refers to these graves as the "White graves"



Figure 1: Photograph of the disturbed headstone at the "white" graves)

These graves remain unclaimed after the social consultation process was concluded. Below is a summary of the efforts made to locate any relatives of these graves.

Date	Person/Group	Topic discussed
2016.02.22	Lineree de Jager	Nic Basson might know who resided on the farm and who
	(PGS Heritage) and	the graves may belong to. He was busy and said to phone
	Nic Basson	back 29.02.2016.
	(Informant)	
2016.03.29	Lineree de Jager	Walter from Brits Mall had a contact at the Fire
	(PGS Heritage) and	Department that said the La Grange family lived on the
	Johan la Grange	farm and that Johan works at Deon's Vleismark in Brits.
		Walter spoke to Johan and he said he will have to ask his
		grandmother who the graves on the farm belongs to.
		However when we phoned the butchery again to speak to
		Johan la Grange there was no one by that name.

2016.03.31	Lineree de Jager (PGS Heritage), Nic Basson, Biets Kriel and Johan vd Merwe	Spoke to Nick Basson who said that he knows that Biets Kriel lived on the farm but she also said that the graves were there when they moved there and that her husband cleaned and cared for the graves. She gave me a number for Helen and Tom Francis but their numbers do not work. Found out that Johan la Grange is actually Johan vd Merwe and his grandmother also said the graves were there before them. Did a property search on the farm to locate previous owners but the information does not go that far back.
2016.04.06	Stephany van der Walt (PGS Heritage)	Arhival research on the farm Krokodildrift 446 JQ to who the previous owners of the farm could be. Possibilities include Roos, Pretorius and Malan. The trail for the "White Graves" ran dry and no further leads could be followed. The investigation ended inconclusive. Yet it can safely be assumed that these graves are older than 60 years.

**BT\_3:** This area lies directly south of BT\_01 by approx. 50 m. This site was pointed out by Mrs. Daniels as the Xhosa graves. On further investigation an archaeologist as grinding stone was found which is consistent was traditional graves. Test excavations for possible graves will be conducted in the area and should any remains be recovered they will be appropriately handled, placed in a coffin and relocated to the closest municipal cemetery.

To clarify matters we have allocated the affected graves to the following categories as Listed in Section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999):

Graves older than 100 years (Section 35 of Act 25 of 1999):	None
Graves older than 60 years (Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999):	None
Graves of victims of conflict (Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999):	None
Graves of individuals of royal decent (Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999):	None
Graves younger than 60 years that are located outside a registered cemetery (Ordinance 7 of 1925, Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999, Ordinance 12 of 1980):	1
Graves identified by the next of kin but of which the date of death is presently unknown	
Presently unknown graves/possible graves(Section 36 of Act 25 of 1999):	±9
Total	10

# 5. REBURIAL OF REMAINS

The remains of the graves located at BT\_01, belonging to the Meyer family will be reburied at Damonsville Cemetery in Brits.

If graves be found in the two locations of BT\_02 and BT\_03 the remains will be exhumed and placed in a coffin and relocated to the closest municipal cemetery (Oukasie Cemetery) with full details of how the graves were reburied in the same manner as previously found.

Name of Cemetery	Responsible Municipality	Number of Graves
Damonsville Cemetery	Madibeng Municipality	1
Oukasie Cemetery	Madibeng Municipality	9 (possible graves)

# 6. REQUEST

In light of the aforementioned information we hereby respectfully apply for permission to:

- 1. Exhume the remains in the 10 affected graves;
- 2. Rebury the remains in the cemeteries as set out above.

Martins Funerals (Brits) will be responsible for the handling and reburial of the exhumed human remains.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information (my cell phone number is 083 570 1722).

Yours sincerely,

Stephany van der Walt **Archaeologist - PGS Heritage** Accredited Professional Archaeologist (ASAPA)

Annexure A – Locality Plans Annexure B – Site Notices Annexure C – Newspaper Notices Annexure D – NOK Request to relocate forms

# **ANNEXURE A: LOCALITY PLANS**



Figure 2 - The Brits Mall (marked with the yellow pin) within its regional context



Figure 3 - Regional Setting of site south of the Brits Mall



Figure 4 - Google Earth image showing the three (3) locations where graves will be excavated on the land directly south of the Brits Mall

### 2015-12-14

#### NOTICE: PROPOSED RELOCATION OF HUMAN REMAINS AT THE BRITS MALL, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that:

### PGS Heritage

intends applying in terms of Section 35 and 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999); The Removal of Graves and Dead Bodies Ordinance (Ord. No. 7 of 1925); The Exhumations Ordinance (Ord. No. 12 of 1980); and the Human Tissues Act (Act No. 65 of 1983 as amended) as well as the relevant local regulations;

to the:

Provincial Administration of the province in which the graves are located, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) or their legislated provincial agency and the relevant local municipality

for approval to exhume and re-inter in a local cemetery the remains currently buried at this location:

- Portion 263 of the farm Krokodildrift No 446-JQ
- The known graves are currently situated in three locations in the open field, directly south of the parking area of the mall

The human remains will be exhumed from their current place of burial and reburied at a new location *as per* the request of the deceased's families.

The proposed relocation of the remains is necessitated because of potential expansion of the Brits Mall where they are currently located.

All persons and communities descendant from the buried individuals, all persons and communities by tradition concerned with the graves or any person or communities with an interest in the graves are invited to participate in the process and must forward their contact particulars to the address listed below within 60 days of the date of publication of this notice:

Ms. Stephany van der Walt PGS Heritage, PO Box 32542, Totiusdal, 0134 Tel: 012 332 5305, Cell: 083 570 1722 E-mail: stephany@pgsheritage.co.za

#### 2015-12-14

KITSISO: PHUDUSO E GO TSHITSHINTSWENG GORE E DIRWE YA DITOPO KWA MMOLONG WA BRITS, POROFENSE YA BOKONE BOPHIRIMA

Go ntshiwa kitsiso fano ya gore:

PGS Heritage,

E ikaeletse go dira kopo go ya ka Karolo 35 ya Molao wa Bosetšhaba wa Boswa jwa Matlotlo (Molao wa bo 25 wa ka 1999); Taelo ya Semmuso ya Go Tlosiwa ga Mabitla le Ditopo (Tael. No. 7 ya ka 1925); Taelo ya Semmuso ya go Epolola Ditopo (Tael. No. 12 ya ka 1980); le Molao wa Dithišu tsa Batho (Molao No. 65 wa ka 1983 o o tlhabolotsweng) mmogo le melawana e e maleba ya naga ya rona;

e e tla romelwang go:

Batsamaisi ba Porofense, e leng porofense e mabitla a leng mo go yone, Setlamo sa Aforika Borwa sa Ditsompelo tsa Boswa kgotsa South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) e leng setlamo sa porofense sa mabitla seo sone mmogo le mmasepala o o maleba wa selegae se beetsweng molao ka mabitla

wa go newa tetla ya go epolola ditopo tse ga jaanong jaana di fitlhilweng mo lefelong leno gore di fitlhwe gape mo tikologong ya one mabitla ao:

- Karolo 263 ya polase ya Krokodildrift No 446-JQ
- Mabitla a a itsiweng a mo mafelong a mararo ga jaanong jaana mo setsheng se se bulegileng, ka fa borwa jwa lefelo la go emisa dikoloi la mmolo

Ditopo di tla epololwa mo lefelong le di fitlhilweng mo go lone ga jaanong jaana di bo di fitlhwa kwa lefelong le le ntšha *go ya ka* kopo ya malapa a baswi.

Phuduso ya ditopo e go tshitshintsweng gore e dirwe e a tlhokega ka ntlha ya go atolosediwa ga Mmolo wa Brits mo lefelong le ditopo tseo di leng mo go lone ga jaanong jaana.

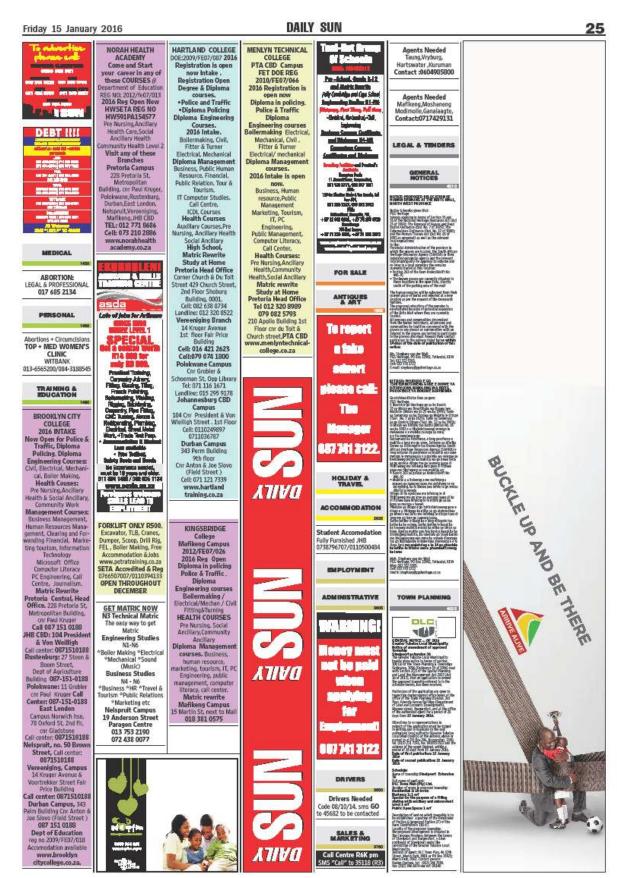
Batho botlhe le baagi ba e leng ditlogolo tsa batho ba ba suleng, batho botlhe le baagi ba ba tsayang mabitla masisi ka ntlha ya setso sa bone, kgotsa motho ope fela kgotsa baagi ba ba sisimogang mabitla, ba lalediwa go tsaya karolo mo thulaganyong eno mme ba romele dinomore tsa go ikgolaganya le bone kwa atereseng e e fa tlase fano mo malatsing a le 60 go simolola ka letlha le kitsiso eno e phasaladitsweng ka lone:

Moh. Stephany van der Walt PGS Heritage, PO Box 32542, Totiusdal, 0134 Mog: 012 332 5305, Cell: 083 570 1722 Imeile: stephany@pgsheritage.co.za

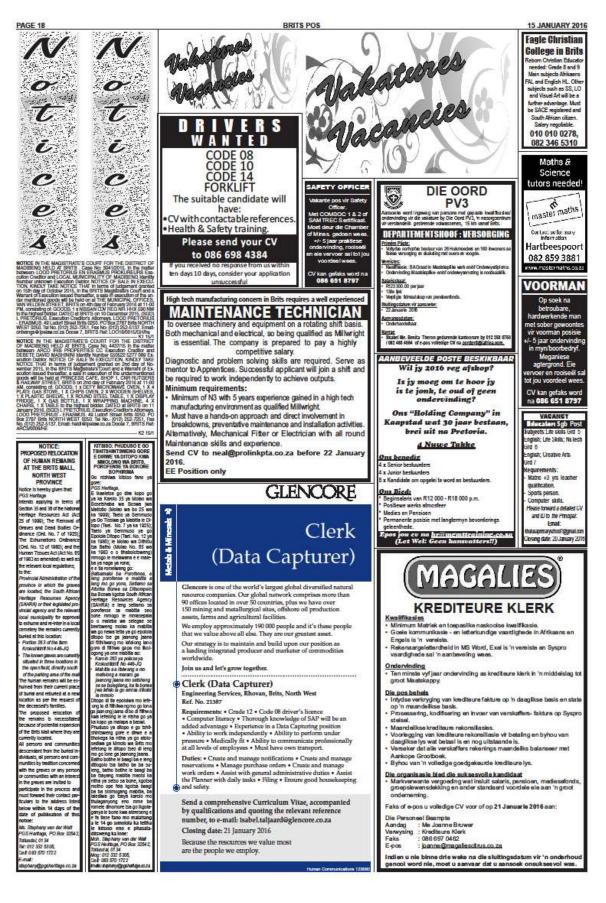


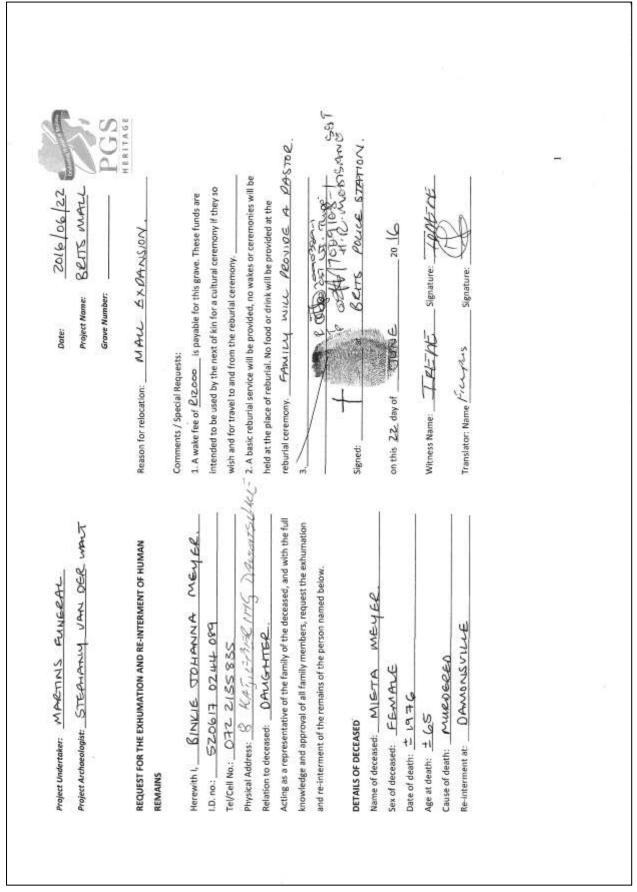
#### **ANNEXURE C – NEWSPAPER NOTICES**

#### Daily Sun Newspaper Notice – Friday 15 January 2016



### Brits Pos Newspaper Notices – Friday 15 January 2016





## ANNEXURE E – NOK REQUEST TO RELOCATE FORMS

#### AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, ... BINKIE TO MANNA MEY ER

declare as follows under oath:

1.

I am an adult male/female and competent to make this affidavit and the facts herein contained are both true and correct.

2.

I, being the family representative, acknowledge that I:

2.1 am a relative of the deceased person/s and I am over the age of 21 years;

2.2 am a person over the age of 21 years who knows the deceased person/s;

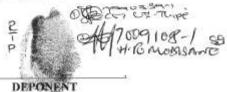
2.3 have consulted with the other relatives of the deceased person/s; and

2.4 have been designated by the other relatives of the deceased person/s to be the family representative.

## 3.

BTI & MIGTA MEYER	•	
	•	
	•	

I have personally pointed out the location of the grave/s at the aforementioned site in terms of paragraph 3 (three) hereof. These graves have furthermore been personally examined and inspected by myself. I am therefore satisfied that the grave/s are indeed that of the deceased person/s of the family as indicated in paragraph 3 (three) hereto.



I certify that this affidavit was sworn to and signed before me in my capacity as commissioner of oaths at BEATS SAPS. on .22-/.04./2016.. by the deponent who:-

- 1. acknowledges that he/she -
- 1.1 knows and understands the contents of this affidavit;
- 1.2 has no objection to taking the oath;
- 1.3 considers the oath binding on his/her conscience;
- uttering the following words: "I swear that the contents of this affidavit is true so help me God."



Desi UI Tupe

COMMISIONER OF OATHS Full names: VICTORIA . I. Thips Address: OB LOWA STR, BRISS Capacity: Constable