



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES:

GDRC: 28/08/19

EXCO: 11/09/19

HRM COM: 04/10/19

COUNCIL: 25/10/19

DECLARATION SUBMISSION

SUBMITTED BY: Heritage Protection Unit

DATE: 20 August 2019

SAHRIS SITE ID: 129480

SAHRIS SITE CATEGORY: Place, Transport

SIGNIFICANCE CATEGORY (THEMES): Historical; Associated to Events

ENQUIRIES: Ms H. Weldon

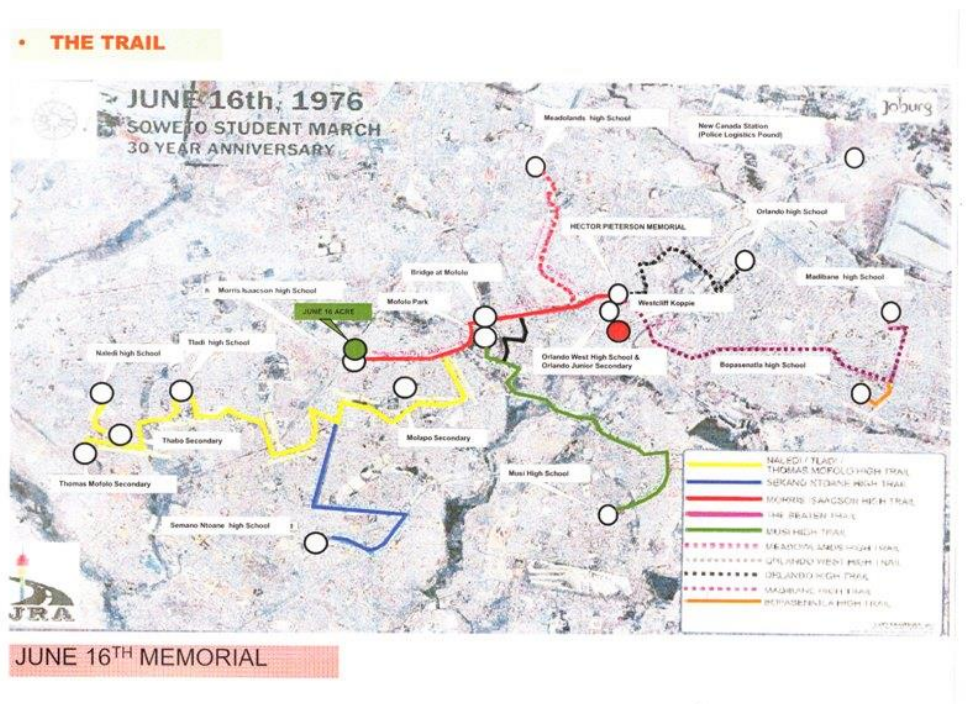
ITEM: Proposal for National Heritage Site Declaration: June 16 Soweto Route, Orlando West, Soweto, Gauteng

1. BACKGROUND

- A1.1. The 1976 Youth Uprisings, which started with the protests by Soweto students against the use of Afrikaans as the language for tuition on 16 June 1976, played a critical role in the history of South Africa and the struggle against Apartheid.
- A1.2. In the early 1990s, the ANC Youth League erected a memorial close to where 12-year-old Hector Pieterse was fatally shot. A museum dedicated to the 1976 Youth Uprisings was officially opened on 16 June 2002 and SAHRA erected a Memorial Boulder in the same vicinity of the Hector Pieterse Memorial (close to the Uncle Tom's Municipal Hall). The site, comprising of the Museum and memorials, was graded as a Grade 1 site on 23rd September 2006.
- A1.3. As a representative site for the Youth Uprisings, the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum was identified as one of the ten sites for the initial World Heritage Liberation Heritage Route Nomination: *"Human Rights, Liberation Struggle and Reconciliation:*

Nelson Mandela Legacy Sites". SAHRA had started the process of public notification to finalize the declaration in September 2016.

A1.4. The June 16 Trail was developed by the City of Johannesburg’s Arts Culture and Heritage Directorate incrementally since 2006. It follows the route that students from various schools in Soweto followed when they marched in protest against the Bantu Education system on 16th June 1976. The Trail links the various schools that participated as well as other sites of importance to the Youth Uprisings. These include the Morris Isaacson High School, the June 16 Memorial Acre and the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum. The route that the students marched is marked with red walkways.



A1.5. The NHC, spearheading the Resistance and Liberation Heritage Route project, appointed Eco-Africa to assist with drafting the World Heritage nomination dossier. During their site visits and research, Eco-Africa raised their concern of nominating the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum, due to uncertainty about the authenticity of the site. Although the students had planned to meet at Uncle Tom’s Municipal Hall (the area where the memorial and museum were constructed) before marching to Orlando Stadium, however, majority of the students did not make it there. The students that did were confronted by police there too.

A1.6. Eco- Africa and NHC nominated a portion of the trail where majority of the confrontation between the students and police took place (and forms part of the June 16 Trail). This is to address the concern of authenticity and has been identified as

the most representative solution for inclusion of the Youth Uprisings story in the World Heritage Nomination.

A1.7. The students had marched into the area from many schools around Soweto using various routes. The police had positioned themselves in readiness for their arrival in the same area. It is therefore the area of the major confrontations and shootings that took place on that day.

A1.8. Council graded the site as a Grade 1 site on 31 January 2019.

A2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A2.1. *The significance of the 16 June Trail and the sites lies in their historical associations to the pivotal events of the Soweto Youth Uprisings. Inspired by the black consciousness movement, incensed by the compulsory use of Afrikaans as a medium of tuition and frustrated by the apathy of their parents, thousands of students took the streets to protest against the Bantu Education System and to voice their political frustrations at the government's attempt. The Soweto Uprisings become a pivotal moment in the history of the Struggle against Apartheid which led to months of rioting and protests across the country. The anger and horror of the police shootings spread rapidly across the country and within a month hundreds of communities were involved in protests against the government, including schools in Langa, Nyanga and Gugulethu. The unrest lasted for over a year and left hundreds dead. The increased impatience of the students resulted in the continued instability of the country until the unbanning of all Liberation Movements in February 1990. Many students were forced into exile where they joined the ranks of umKhonto we Sizwe (MK) and the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA). The increased bombings after the Youth Uprisings were carried out by members of the MK June 16 Detachment.*

A3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A3.1 Due to concerns raised about the authenticity of the initially proposed Hector Pieterson Memorial and Museum for World Heritage nomination, SAHRA has been requested to consider declaring the portion of the route to which all the students were moving towards and where the confrontation with police took place. The proposed portion includes the places where students were shot.

A3.2. The City of Johannesburg developed the June 16 Trail marking the routes that the different students used to march to the central point in Orlando West in protest against the use of Afrikaans in schools. The route has been marked with red paint

and interpretative signs are located in places where significant events took place (such as the spots where Hector Pieterse and Hastings Ndlovu were shot).

- A3.3 The road reserve forms the site boundary and any properties along the road are excluded from the declaration and buffer zone areas.
- A3.4. The NHC provided clear descriptions of the boundaries of the road reserves with surveyed coordinates. These have been provided with some minor changes from the initial route proposed. As the revision still incorporated the route along which the confrontations between the students and police took place as well as places where important incidents took place, there is no significance lost to the newly proposed site. In fact, the route now includes incidents that took place along Khumalo Main Road where students attacked and killed West Rand Administration Board (WRAB) Official, Mr JB Esterhuyzen and where police confronted about 2000 students gathering around Uncle Tom's Hall.
- A3.5. SAHRA has to date received support for the declaration of site. At the public meeting there were concerns that other sites associated to the event have not been included. It was noted and explained that SHARA will consider other sites as part of the serial nomination.

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1. PURPOSE OF THE SUBMISSION

- 1.1. The submission is made to discuss and recommend the declaration of parts of the June 16 Soweto Route, Orlando West, Soweto, Gauteng as a National Heritage Site.

2. LANDOWNER'S DETAILS AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS DECLARATION

- 2.1. The City of Johannesburg through the Johannesburg Roads Agency are the custodians of the site. At the time of finalising the declaration of the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum, the city was in support of the declaration of the site and of the trail.

- 2.2. Through the interaction the NHC had with the JRA in terms of the World Heritage Process, there have not been any objections raised to the proposed declaration.

- 2.3. The City of Johannesburg is represented by:

Mr. V. Mshudulu
Director: Community Development Arts, Culture and Heritage
City of Johannesburg
P.O. Box 517
Newtown
2113

- 2.4. Johannesburg Roads Agency is represented by:

Mr G. Mbatha
Managing Director
Johannesburg Roads Agency
Private Bag X70
Braamfontein
2017

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND NOTIFICATION

3.1. Letters of notification were sent on 17th July 2019 to the following interested and affected parties, with the 60-day period ending on the 16th September 2019:

- City of Johannesburg - Community Development Arts Culture and Heritage (Owners)
- Johannesburg Roads Agency (Owners)
- Ward 39 Region D
- Gauteng Department of Sports Arts Culture and Recreation (PHRA-G)
- Department of Arts and Culture
- June 16 Foundation
- Each One Teach One Foundation
- SA National Civic Organisation
- Johannesburg Heritage Foundation
- Orlando West Business Forum
- Mbuyisa School of Art and Culture
- Gauteng Tour Operators Association
- Hector Pieterse Traders Association
- Hector Pieterse Foundation / Soweto Uprising Heritage Walking Tours
- Hastings Ndlovu Family
- Mbuyisa Makhubu Family

3.2. To date the City of Johannesburg's Community Development Arts Culture and Heritage has expressed their support of the declaration. In addition, SAHRA received a response from Mbuyisa School of Art and Culture in support to the declaration and expressed the honour and privilege to be part of the process.

3.3. The Johannesburg Heritage Foundation has expressed a proposed support of the declarations in an email from the outgoing Chairperson to the newly elected Chair. There was also concern raised in the email that the City has funded all commemorations of the Soweto Youth Uprisings without any financial assistance from SAHRA and PHRA-G. However, no formal response has been received.

- 3.4. A public meeting was held together with the NHC on the 13th August 2019 and was arranged with the assistance from the Ward Councillor. Unfortunately, due to the lack of electricity, presentations were not able to be projected. Therefore, the presentations were given verbally without the visual aid and were slightly rushed due to the limited daylight that remained.
- 3.5. Due to the situation with regards to the electricity, the presentation was emailed through to all participants. The community met again on Friday 15th August 2019 to discuss the presentations and submitted a consolidated comment. The submission was received on the 20th August in support of the declaration with the following:
- Incorporates submissions made to the Vilakazi Precinct Framework.
 - Incorporates submissions made at the meeting
 - Regular engagements are pursued prior and post 2021 (expected enlisting on World Heritage list).
- 3.6. The main concerns or questions raised at the meeting related to when the other sites for the June 16 would be considered for declaration as a national heritage site. A concern was also raised regarding the inclusion of the Khumalo Road when the following road has been left out.

4. OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE RESOURCE (AS PER THE TITLE DEEDS)

- 4.1. The property itself is made up of those roads in the area where students were shot as they paraded in protest on 16 June 1976 and is made up of the entire road reserves of the following parts of the following Streets:
- The north-south axis commences at the corner of Moema and Vilakazi Street at the Orlando West High School and the Hector Pieterse shooting memorial.
 - At the northern end Moema Street becomes Pela Street at the junction with Khumalo Main Road, forming the northern side of the triangle. Previously the boundary extended across the intersection to end in front of the Hector Pieterse Memorial Museum.
 - The boundary then runs along Khumalo Main Road past Maseko Street, Makhetha Street, Lembede Street, Ngakane Street, Baqwa Street, Bacela Street to the junction with Vilakazi Street. This section was not included in the initial proposal.
 - From this point, the boundaries have remained the same with Khumalo Main Road past Mampuri, Armitage and Mtipa Streets to the point where the old alignment of Khumalo Main Road is inscribed ending at the old bridge across the Klipspruit River Hastings Ndlovu was shot.
 - Again, the inclusion of sections of Vilakazi Street from the intersection with Moema Street remains the same. Starting at this point, the boundary heads east past Orlando West High and Phefeni Secondary Schools, and crosses Maketha Street, Lembede Street, Ngakane Street past the house of Nelson Mandela, Baqwa Street

past the house of Desmond Tutu, thereafter crossing Bacela Street and ending on the far side of Khumalo Main Road.

- The west-east axis commences on the north-south axis at the junction of Vilakazi and Moema Streets;
- The property includes that part of Vilakazi Street to the east of the junction with Moema Street and which border the north sides of both the Orlando West High School and Pefeni Secondary School;
- Continuing to the east it crosses Ngwane Street, past the houses of Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu, thereafter, crossing Bacela Street and ending on the far side of Kumalo Main Road;
- Thereafter it turns to the south-east along Kumalo Main Road, passing Mapuru, Armintage and Mtipa Streets;
- From Mtipa Street it follows the old alignment of Kumalo Main Road ending at the far side of the old bridge over the Kilpspruit (river) where there is a memorial at the site of the death of Hastings Ndlovu.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA TO BE DECLARED (SITE BOUNDARIES)

Co-ordinates

Points	Lon.	Lat.
A	27°54'26.93"	-26°14'8.214"
B	27°54'28.03"	-26°14'7.664"
C	27°54'30.76"	-26°14'7.797"
D	27°54'40.70"	-26°14'18.97"
E	27°54'44.76"	-26°14'23.53"
F	27°54'44.47"	-26°14'23.74"
G	27°54'45.85"	-26°14'25.25"
H	27°54'45.48"	-26°14'.25.55"
I	27°54'44.06"	-26°14'24.04"
J	27°54'43.58"	-26°14'24.38"
K	27°54'40.59"	-26°14'20.72"
L	27°54'34.72"	-26°14'20.72"
M	27°54'23.16"	-26°14'16.67"
N	27°54'22.06"	-26°14'16.95"
O	27°54'21.82"	-26°14'16.57"
P	27°54'27.32"	-26°14'8.904"
Q	27°54'28.03"	-26°14'9.237"
R	27°54'23.38"	-26°14'15.98"
S	27°54'35.09"	-26°14'20.07"
T	27°54'39.59"	-26°14'20.07"
U	27°54'39.80"	-26°14'19.63"

V	27°54'30.07"	-26°14'8.658"
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13 September 2018

16 June 1976 – The Streets of Orlando West



Features

- 16 June 1976 Property

Basemaps

- Parent Farms
- Farm Portions (Erven)
- Land Parcels (Erven)

South Africa CD:NGI Aerial

Name	Longitude	Latitude
A	27°54'26.93"	-26°14'18.214"
B	27°54'28.03"	-26°14'17.664"
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Basemaps sourced from Chief Directorate: National Geo-spatial Information, Parent Farms, Farm Portions and Land Parcels sourced from the Chief Surveyor General of the Republic of South Africa

EP5G:3857 WGS84

Scale: 1 : 3500

6. CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT OF THE RESOURCE

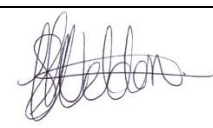
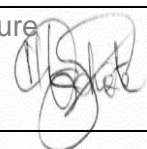
- 6.1. Eco-Africa together with NHC are developing a site management plan in terms of the UNESCO nomination process. The nomination and the site management plans are currently undergoing an African World Heritage Fund Upstreaming process. This process guides the development of the nomination and plans with UNESCOs requirements in mind.
- 6.2. SAHRA will negotiate a heritage agreement with the Johannesburg Roads Agency, where the general road maintenance will be exempted from permitting processes. SAHRA, as well as the Department of Environmental Forestry and Fisheries in terms of the World Heritage Declaration will request that the road remains a corridor.

7. RESOURCE UTILIZATION

- 7.1. The site is currently used as municipal roads with the June 16 Trail marked with red paving and interpretative signs at various points.
- 7.2. As these were the roads along which the students marched and were confronted by police on 16th June 1976, the use needs to remain as above or a thoroughfare of some sort to allow the movement of people.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1. It is recommended that the declaration of the Walter Sisulu Square of Dedication is approved.

Prepared By:		Supported By:	
Heidi Weldon Heritage Officer: Grading and Declaration		Nkosazana Machete Manager: Heritage Protection	Signature 
Date: 20 August 2019		Date: 22 August 2019	

Recommendation supported by GDRC		Recommendation not supported by GDRC	
Mamakomoreng Nkhasi-Lesaoana Chairperson: GDRC		Signature	
Date:			

Recommendation supported by EXCo		Recommendation not supported by EXCo	
Adv Lungisa Malgas Chairperson: EXCo		Signature	
Date:			

Recommendation supported by HRM Committee		Recommendation not supported by HRM Committee	
Chairperson: HRM Committee		Signature	
Date:			

Recommendation supported by Council		Recommendation not supported by Council	
Chairperson: Council		Signature	
Date:			