

***SPECIALIST REPORT***  
**REPORT ON THE STATUS OF A GRAVE**  
**(YOUNGER THAN 60 YEARS) THAT WAS NOT EXHUMED & RELOCATED ON**  
**THE REMAINDER OF PORTION 58 OF THE FARM LEEUWVALLEI 297KT,**  
**BURGERSFORT, EXT. 47, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**



**REPORT COMPILED FOR**  
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A square box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Christine Rowe'.

**Christine Rowe (MA / BA, Archaeology & Heritage Management)**

## **SUMMARY**

Christine Rowe (Adansonia Heritage Consultants) was requested and appointed by BURGERSFORT HOSPITAL PROPERTY (Pty) Ltd, Mr. Dean Dimairo to outline the current status with regards to a grave on *the remainder of portion 58 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT*, Burgersfort. This grave remained while two others were exhumed and relocated as part of the project which was conducted in 2019/2020. Recommendation is herewith made for the long-term preservation of the site within a commercial environment with proposed buffers, fencing, monitoring, maintenance and access protocols.

The project was undertaken by ADANSONIA HERITAGE CONSULTANTS in 2019 / 2020 in conjunction with A Pelser (APAC) as Principal Investigator and Roseleigh Funeral Home as the appointed undertaker responsible for the necessary permits and transporting of human remains. The work was done under SAHRA Case ID 14572. The three graves which were located in an informal cemetery, were not yet 60 years old, and were located in an area which will be impacted upon by the Burgersfort Private Hospital development. A Late Iron Age burial was later accidentally uncovered in the vicinity of the three graves during the digging of a pipeline servitude on the same farm (discovered on a portion of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort). The chance find was exhumed and relocated in 2020 under Permit number ID3048.

Please see the discussion on Mitigation measures for the one remaining grave, as recommended in the report.

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**REPORT ON THE STATUS OF A GRAVE  
(YOUNGER THAN 60 YEARS) THAT WAS NOT EXHUMED & RELOCATED ON THE  
REMAINDER OF PORTION 58 OF THE FARM LEEUWVALLEI 297KT, BURGERSFORT  
EXT. 47, LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

**INTRODUCTION**

Christine Rowe (Adansonia Heritage Consultants) was requested and appointed by BURGERSFORT HOSPITAL PROPERTY (Pty) Ltd, Mr. Dean Dimairo to outline the current status with regards to a remaining grave, which was not exhumed and relocated as part of the project which was conducted in 2019/2020. <sup>1</sup> Recommendation is herewith made for the long-term preservation of the site within a commercial environment with proposed buffers, fencing, monitoring, maintenance and access protocols.

The exhumation and relocation project were undertaken by ADANSONIA HERITAGE CONSULTANTS in 2019 / 2020 in conjunction with A Pelsler (APAC) as Principal Investigator and Roseleigh Funeral Home as the appointed undertaker responsible for the necessary permits and transporting of human remains. <sup>2</sup> The work was done under SAHRA Case ID 14572. <sup>3</sup> The three graves which were located in an informal cemetery, were not yet 60 years old, and were located in an area which will be impacted upon by the Burgersfort Private Hospital development. A Late Iron Age (LIA) burial was accidentally uncovered in the vicinity of the three graves during the digging of a pipeline servitude on the same farm (discovered on the remainder of portion 58 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort). <sup>4</sup> The chance find was exhumed and relocated under Permit number ID3048 in 2020. <sup>5</sup> The LIA burial was not located within the Hospital project site.

**Please note** that a SAHRA permit is not required for graves younger than 60 years (See below **LEGISLATIVE REQUIRMENTS: Human remains less than 60 years old**). Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> Personal communication: Mr. Simon Chalwa (Purlin Consulting (Pty) Ltd, Access: 2023-07-25.

<sup>2</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province.* 2020.

<sup>3</sup> SAHRA Case ID 14572.

<sup>4</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the Archaeological Investigation, exhumation & relocation of accidentally discovered Iron Age Remains from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort, Limpopo Province.* 2020.

<sup>5</sup> SAHRA Case ID 14572 / PERMIT: Rescue Relocation Permit ID 3048.

After consultation with the close relatives of the deceased (Mme. Annie & Mr. Ephraim Mkhonto who passed away in the 1970's), consent was provided by Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana for the exhumation and relocation process.<sup>6</sup> The South African Police Services (SAPS), were informed and gave permission on 28 November 2019.<sup>7</sup>

An application was made to the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (Sekhukhune District Municipality, Department of Health) for the exhumation and relocation process and the necessary permissions were obtained.<sup>8 9 10</sup>

Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana (the close relative of Annie & Ephraim Mkhonto), agreed to have the remains from these burials reburied at a new burial location not far from the site on Portion 8 of the farm. Mr. Buti John Mathladi, who resides on the property next to a graveyard of his family, gave permission for the reburial of the remains in this graveyard. The exhumation and relocation work were undertaken on 7 February 2020, and Mr. Mkhawana as well as a representative of the Local municipality attended the exhumation and relocation process.

The family representatives of the third grave, also granted permission to exhume the grave under the condition that the Mkhonto family be part of the shareholding of the Hospital company.<sup>11</sup> Further decisions and negotiations delayed the process of relocation of the third (and final) grave of Mme. Lydia Mkhonto.

The owners of the property at the time (ALL ABOUT PROJECTS (Pty) Ltd, - AAP), did not negotiate further with the family, and the property was sold with the grave remaining on the site.

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<sup>6</sup> SF Mkhawana: Affidavit, *To exhume and relocate the human remains*, 2019-11-08.

<sup>7</sup> SAPS Permission, 2019-11-28.

<sup>8</sup> C. Rowe, (Adansonia Heritage Consultants): *Application to relocate graves on the site of the development of a hospital facility, Leeuwvallei, Burgersfort*, 2019-11-26.

<sup>9</sup> Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality: *Application for exhumation & / or re-internment of human remains in terms of the National Health Act, 2003 (61/2003)*, Regulation no. R 363 dated 22 May 2013. 2019-09-13.

<sup>10</sup> Sekhukhune District Municipality: *Minimum Health requirements for exhumation & reburial of human remains*, Ref. no.: SK 17/1/2/3/1. 2019-12-09.

<sup>11</sup> F. Mkhonto: Letter: A request for exhumation of the grave of the Mkhonto family to give way for the construction of a Private Hospital. 2019-10-22.

<sup>12</sup> Personal communication, Mr. Buks van der Wal, Email access: 2023-07-28.

## **AIMS**

The main aims of this document are the following:

- (a) To update the previous documentation with regards to the remaining grave site on the remainder of portion 58 (Extension 47, erf no. 8323) on the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort, Limpopo Province;
- (b) To propose feasible mitigation measures for a grave site which remains in situ within a commercial environment;
- (c) Recommendations for the management of the site (buffers, fencing, monitoring, maintenance and access protocols).

## **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two Acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

### **1.1 The National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

According to the above-mentioned Act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g., prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts
- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. **Grave yards and graves older than 60 years**
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites of scientific or technological value.

### **Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites**

Section 35(4) of this Act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or paleontological site or any meteorite;

- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or paleontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or paleontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or paleontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and paleontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

### **Human remains**

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- (a) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- (b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

**Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations.** <sup>13</sup> Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations (Ordinance no. 12 of 1980)** (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police.

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<sup>13</sup> Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983).



Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983 as amended)**.

**Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.**

### **1.2 The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)**

This Act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation must be made.

## **METHODOLOGY**

**Background information** – The results of previous work carried out in the area (Heritage Impact Assessments, Phase 1 & 2) were used to provide background to the project and all possible graves which were identified and recorded in the area under discussion.<sup>14 15 16 17 18 19</sup>

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**Mapping and Photographing** – Google Earth images of the area, indicated the location for the area and the grave site. Photographs of the area, as well as of the remaining grave, were taken as part of the process.

**Investigation** – A short background and description of the area and the site is given with regard to the exhumation of two of the graves and the reason for the remaining grave which was not removed.

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<sup>14</sup> JCC Pistorius: *A Phase 1 HIA study for the proposed new Burgersfort Extension 30 residential and the Burgersfort Extension 31 Industrial development projects near Burgersfort*. 2005.

<sup>15</sup> C. Rowe: *A Phase 1 AIA / HIA: Sections 1a, 1b, 2, 3 & 4 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort*. 2009.

<sup>16</sup> C Rowe: *Phase 2 Investigation: A report on the archaeological investigation of a poorly defined LIA stone wall located on the remainder of portion 58 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, to be impacted upon by residential development: Site LB/3, Burgersfort*. 2016.

<sup>17</sup> C. Rowe: *Notification to SAHRA BGG: Accidental LIA Human Remains discovered at Burgersfort: 8 Nov 2019*.

<sup>18</sup> C. Rowe, (Adansonia Heritage Consultants): *Application to relocate graves on the site of the development of a hospital facility, Leeuwvallei, Burgersfort, 2019-11-26*.

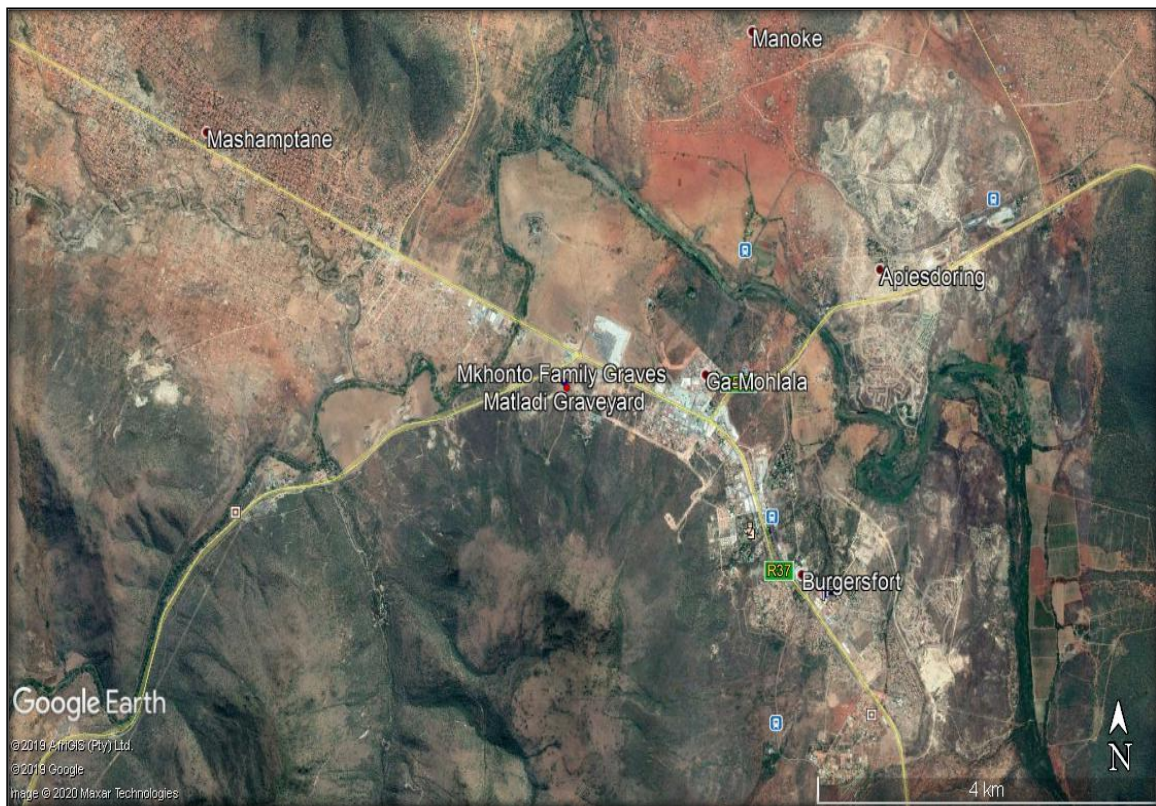
<sup>19</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the Archaeological Investigation, exhumation & relocation of accidentally discovered Iron Age Remains from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort, Limpopo Province*. 2020.

<sup>20</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province*. 2020.

**Recommended Mitigation measures** – Feasible mitigation measures are proposed which is applicable for graves less than 60 years old.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA & SITE & BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The site is located on the remainder of portion 58 of the farm *Leeuwvallei 297KT*. It is situated directly south of the R555 road from Burgersfort to Steelpoort (see map 1). The Steelpoort River is situated towards the west. Extensive disturbances to the physical landscape include road infrastructure, industrial, residential and informal settlements (recent and current) in all compass directions to the site. Sections of the property also show evidence of digging / quarrying activities. The site was vacant except for informal settlements and graves on the property, and zoned as residential 2. This site is earmarked for the Burgersfort Private Hospital development. The study area falls within the Limpopo Province.<sup>21</sup>



**MAP 1:** General location of study area & Burials on the farm *Leeuwvallei* (Google Earth 2020). Site preparations for the Hospital Development had already started and a pipeline infrastructure has been established. The site is flat and open and visibility was excellent. Various settlement

<sup>21</sup> C. Rowe: *A Phase 1 AIA / HIA: Sections 1a, 1b, 2, 3 & 4 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort. 2009.*

layers were identified on the site. Recent homesteads and industrial areas are currently visible to the south and east. Mr. John Matladi, resides to the south on portion 39. His house is near grave site LB: GY01 where several of his family members are buried.

Other recent grave sites, LB: GY02 & LB: GY03 were also identified during previous surveys, and are clearly visible on the property.<sup>22 23</sup> These are all maintained by family members. GY03 consists of approximately 18 – 20 graves to the west of the proposed development. The burial site was still in use up to the 1990's, as one of the dates on a grave suggests. This burial site is associated with the Mnisi family. An accidental burial site (LIA), was discovered during the groundworks for a municipal pipeline.<sup>24</sup>

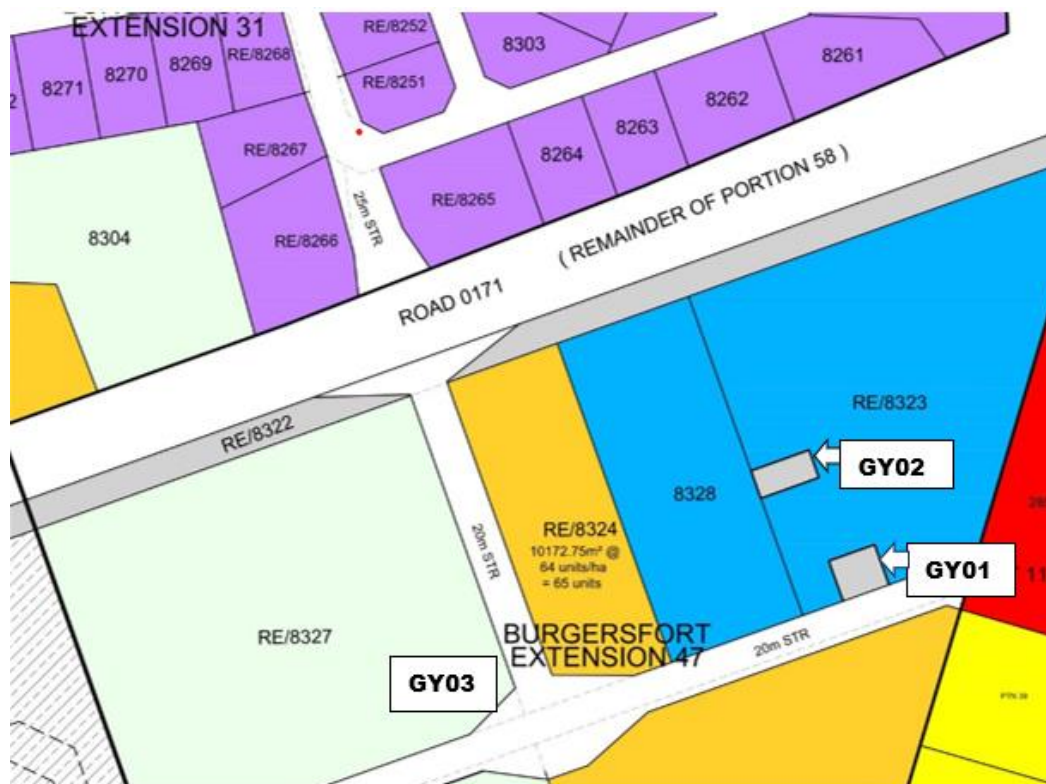


**MAP 2:** Location of graves within development site (red) (Map provided by Purlin Consulting, 20/08/23).

<sup>22</sup> JCC Pistorius: *A Phase 1 HIA study for the proposed new Burgersfort Extension 30 residential and the Burgersfort Extension 31 Industrial development projects near Burgersfort.* 2005.

<sup>23</sup> C. Rowe: *A Phase 1 AIA / HIA: Sections 1a, 1b, 2, 3 & 4 of the farm Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort.* 2009.

<sup>24</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the Archaeological Investigation, exhumation & relocation of accidentally discovered Iron Age Remains from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort, Limpopo Province.* 2020.



**MAP 3:** Position of the graves at the Hospital development site & extensions. The LIA site is not within the development area, and therefore not indicated here (Map provided by Purlin Consulting, 18 August 2023).

**GPS co-ordinates: Locations of the graves found on the Leeuwvallei properties (Map 2):**

Grave reference in reports	South co-ordinate	East co-ordinate
LIA Grave	S 24° 39' 47.87"	E 30° 18' 31.20"
GY01 Matladi family g/yard	S 24° 39' 55.3"	E 30° 18' 28.0"
GY02 Mkhonto grave	S 24° 39' 53.0"	E 30° 18' 26.5"
GY03 Mnisi grave site	S 24° 39' 55.9"	E 30° 18' 21.1"

GY02 consisted of the three Mkhonto graves (see fig. 1). This site (GY02) forms the focus this study, and during February 2020 two of the graves were exhumed and relocated to GY01 (the Matladi family graveyard, figs. 2 - 4),<sup>25</sup> together with the LIA accidental burial find.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>25</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province.* 2020.

<sup>26</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the Archaeological Investigation, exhumation & relocation of accidentally discovered Iron Age Remains from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort, Limpopo Province.* 2020.



**GPS Location of the Mkhonto Grave Site (fig. 1):**

<b>SITE: Leeuwvallei</b>	<b>GPS South</b>	<b>GPS East</b>
<b>GY02 Mkhonto grave site</b>	S 24° 39' 52.99"	E 30° 18' 26.50"



**Fig. 1:** The Mkhonto grave site (GY02) (three marked graves) before the relocation of the two graves on the left.

Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana (born in 1958 - his ID Document indicates he was born in 1960) provided consent for the exhumation and reburials. According to his Affidavit of 8 November 2019 he is a close relation of the deceased individuals.<sup>27</sup> He indicated that both Mme. Annie Mkhonto and Mr. Ephraim Mkhonto passed away in the early 1970's. The graves are therefore both less than 60 years of age. According to his affidavit Annie Mkhonto was aged 47 when she passed away and Ephraim Mkhonto was aged 42 when he passed away.

Mr. Mkhawana and a representative of the Local Municipality attended the exhumation and reburial process on 7 February 2020.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>27</sup> SF Mkhawana: Affidavit, *To exhume and relocate the human remains*, 2019-11-08.

<sup>28</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province*. 2020.

### Reburial of the remains at the New Location (Matladi Family Graveyard, figs 2 - 4)

Both graves and the remains they contained were relocated to, and reburied in the Matladi Family Graveyard located close to the informal cemetery where these graves were originally situated.<sup>29 30</sup> New coffins were used for both and placed in the new graves which were dug for this purpose. Each new grave was packed with stones from the area and new name plaques placed at the head, as requested by Mr. Mkhawana (see figs. 2 - 4). Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana provided consent for the work to be conducted for his two close relatives Mr. Ephraim and Me. Annie Mkhonto.<sup>31</sup>



**MAP 4:** View of the location of the Mkhonto family graves as well as the Matladi Family Graveyard where the remains were relocated to (Google Earth 2020).

<sup>29</sup> BJ Matladi, Letter of Consent to relocate graves to the Matladi family graveyard, 2019-10-29.

<sup>30</sup> Personal Information: BJ Matladi: Consent for relocation of graves to family graveyard, 2014-09-13.

<sup>31</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province.* 2020.

**GPS Location of the Matladi Family Graveyard (figs. 2 – 4):**

<b>SITE: Leeuwvallei</b>	<b>GPS South</b>	<b>GPS East</b>
<b>GY01 Matladi family grave site</b>	S 24° 39' 55.30"	E 30° 18' 28.00"



**Fig. 2:** The new grave of Mr. Ephraim Mkhonto.



**Fig. 3:** Mr. Ephraim Mkhonto's new grave complete.





**Fig. 4:** Mme. Annie Mkhonto's new grave complete.

#### **The remaining grave in the Mkhonto grave site**

The third grave GY02 (see maps 2 - 4), belonging to Mme. Lydia Mkhonto (figs. 5 & 6), was not exhumed and relocated at the time when Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana provided consent for the work to be conducted for his close relatives Mr. Ephraim and Mme. Annie Mkhonto. <sup>32 33</sup>

The family representatives of the third grave also granted permission to exhume the graves under certain conditions: <sup>34</sup>

- The Mkhonto family be part of the shareholding of the company that would be running the affairs of the hospital. The family to be allocated shares equal to 10% of the company running the affairs of the hospital.

A decision on the matter could not be made at the time and the property owners at that stage (ALL ABOUT PROJECTS (Pty) Ltd – AAP) sold the property to BURGERSFORT HOSPITAL, before further negotiations were entered into. <sup>35</sup> This issue delayed the process of relocation of the third (and final) grave of Mme. Lydia Mkhonto, and the hospital development continued to be

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<sup>32</sup> SF Mkhawana: Affidavit, *To exhume and relocate the human remains*, 2019-11-08.

<sup>33</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province*. 2020.

<sup>34</sup> F. Mkhonto: Letter: *A request for exhumation of the grave of the Mkhonto family to give way for the construction of a Private Hospital*. 2019-10-22.

<sup>35</sup> Personal communication, Mr. Buks van der Wal, Email access: 2023-07-28.



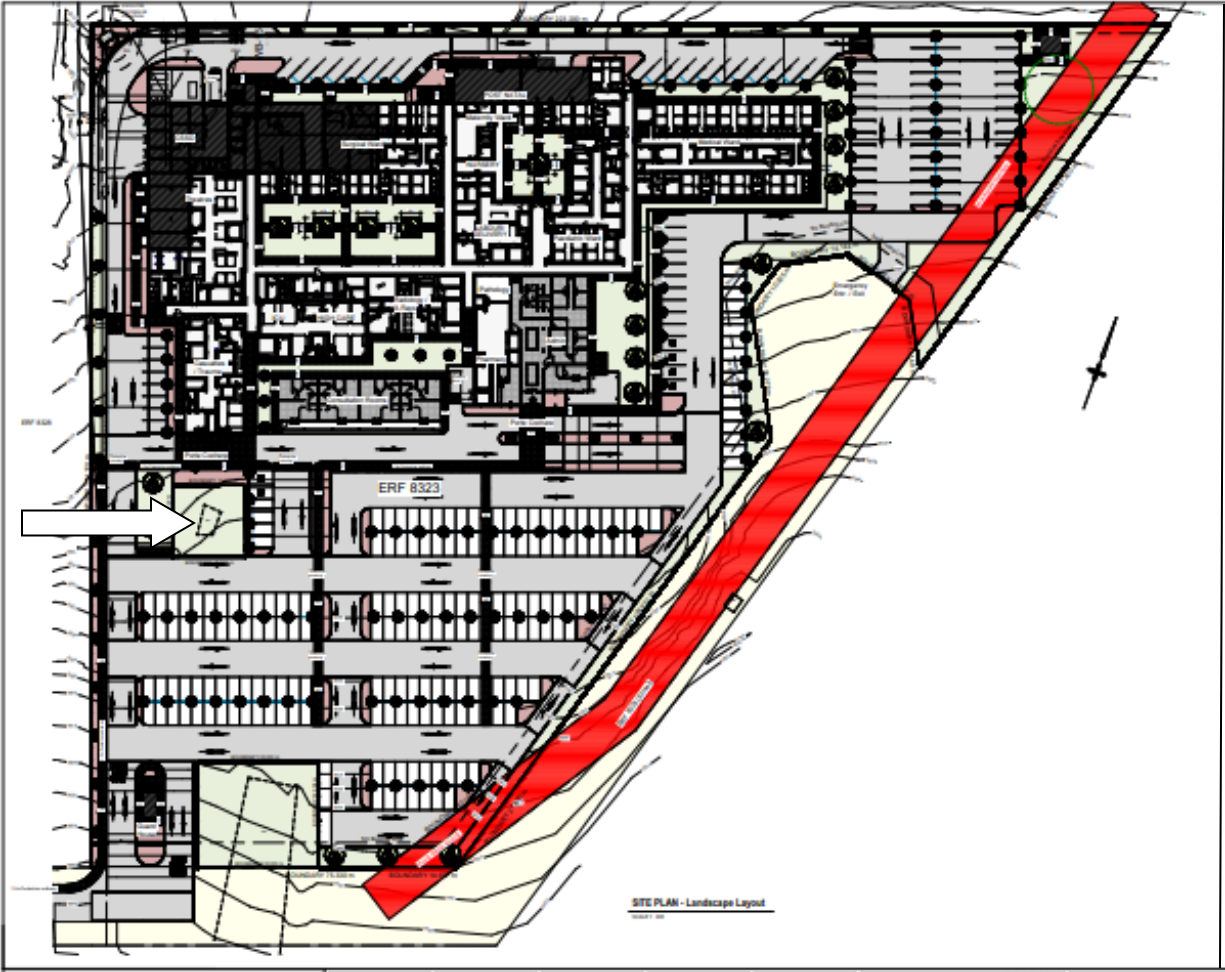
designed around the remaining grave (see figs. 5 & 6 and maps 3 & 5, the map of the site layout plan).



**Fig. 5:** Demarcated site of the remaining grave within the development area. Construction of the Burgersfort Hospital has already started (visible in the background).



**Fig. 6:** The remaining grave on the Hospital site, which belongs to Lydia Mkhonto.



**MAP 5:** Site Plan: Landscape Layout. The arrow indicates the site of the remaining grave. (Plan provided by Apil & Associates, Mr. Marnie Malan, 2023-08-07).

### **Mitigation**

The hospital development and construction activities should in no way impact negatively on the remaining grave site and should be done in complete sympathy with it. The mitigation measures which are recommended below, includes a no-go or buffer zone surrounding the grave. A buffer zone of at least three meters in all directions around the grave is suggested, with a palisade fence of at least 1.8m high. The grave site should be fenced-in completely with an entrance gate to allow for family members / descendants of the deceased to visit the site. A notice board must be placed in appropriate areas on the fence, to sensitize visitors or staff to the site. The site needs to be maintained and monitored in such a way to ensure the long-term preservation of the site.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Proposed measures of mitigation for the remaining grave:

Please note that a SAHRA permit is not required for the relocation of graves younger than 60 years, although this report will be submitted to SAHRA as part of the registered Case ID14572. A permit from SAHRA is only applicable when a grave is older than 60 years old. Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subjected to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations.<sup>36</sup> Permissions must be obtained from the descendants (where known), the SAPS need to be notified and must acknowledge the process, permissions are required from the National / Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and the local municipality. The various landowners must also provide written consent.

Graves always carry a high cultural significance rating and should not be impacted if possible, and be left intact. In the case of the surrounding Landscape layout plans for the Burgersfort Private Hospital on the farm Leeuwvallei, the graves must be recorded (which was done), and a decision taken to either preserve the site or to move the graves to a new locality in accordance with provincial legislation. The previous owners of the site, *All About Projects (Pty) Ltd (AAP)*, made the decision to remove the graves according to the legislative requirements.<sup>37</sup> Two of the graves were removed with the consent of Mr. Satiene Freddy Mkhawana, who was the family representative for the two graves.<sup>38</sup> Consent was given for the third grave (with conditions) by family representatives of the deceased, Mme. Lydia Mkhonto (sister).<sup>39</sup> The property owners at that stage (*AAP*), decided to sell the property and no further action was taken with regards to the conditional consent that had been provided, and no communication was entered into by the previous owners, (*AAP*), and as a result, the matter was left as is.<sup>40</sup>

### Specific measures of mitigation for the Mkhonto grave:

Mitigation measures are recommended for the preservation and management of the grave site to prevent any negative impacts by the development actions and activities associated with the hospital development.

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<sup>36</sup> Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983).

<sup>37</sup> C. Rowe, (Adansonia Heritage Consultants): *Application to relocate graves on the site of the development of a hospital facility, Leeuwvallei, Burgersfort, 2019-11-26.*

<sup>38</sup> A.J. Pelsler, C. Rowe: *A Report on the exhumation & relocation of two known graves younger than 60 years of age from Leeuwvallei 297KT, Burgersfort Ext. 47, Limpopo Province. 2020.*

<sup>39</sup> F. Mkhonto: Letter: *A request for exhumation of the grave of the Mkhonto family to give way for the construction of a Private Hospital. 2019-10-22.*

<sup>40</sup> Personal Information: Mr. Buks van der Wal, 2023-08-08.

The new owners of the Burgersfort Private Hospital project, *BURGERSFORT HOSPITAL PROPERTY (Pty) Ltd*, did the planning for the Hospital around the remaining grave, to create a secure demarcation and memorialization for the Mkhonto grave (see map 5). This is the first step in preserving and managing the site within its wider concept.

The mitigation measures which are proposed for the remaining grave are as follows:

**Buffer Zone:** A buffer zone of no impact must be created around the grave site. It is suggested that a buffer of 3 meters between the grave and the fence be kept open, as the Landscape layout plan indicates that the area towards the south and east of the remaining grave site, are open spaces which will be utilized for parking. The parking area will provide ample parking for family members who want to visit the site. The area towards the north, is a covered entrance which is large enough for vehicles to pass through, and the area towards the west has an access road next to the boundary of the property (see map 5).

**Fencing:** A proper palisade fence of at least 1.8m high must be constructed around the grave site, with a pedestrian walkway and an entrance gate, which will allow the family to visit the grave site.

**Sensitizing visitors:** A notice board in appropriate places on the fence or at the grave, can sensitize visitors and staff members to the importance of the site.

**Green Frame & Maintenance:** The Landscape layout made provision for trees to the west of the grave site. The area within the fence can be in the form of a garden which will create a peaceful green environment for visitors and which will be maintained as part of the maintenance of the hospital grounds.

**Monitoring:** Although a site-specific management plan is not required for a grave that is not older than 60 years, the construction activities might have a negative impact on this cultural heritage resource, which is (in this case), the remaining grave. It will be recommended that management of the Burgersfort Private Hospital project incorporate the remaining grave in its overall general long-term Management Plan for the Hospital grounds, in order for the site to be monitored for long-term maintenance and preservation.

Should the need arise to exhume and relocate the remaining grave, then the required legal processes will have to be followed and implemented accordingly. Should the Client, *BURGERSFORT HOSPITAL PROPERTY (Pty) Ltd* require a separate Management Plan for the grave site, a Heritage Specialist must be contacted to compile such a document.



All of the above recommendations will ensure that the site and the grave are properly protected and managed, as well as appropriately memorialized.

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## APPENDIX A

### Definition of terms:

(From: AJ Pelsler: A Cultural Heritage Management Plan for a burial site located on portion 287 of the farm Mooiplaats 367JR, Greater Tshwane Municipality, Gauteng Province)

**Artifact:** Cultural object (made by humans).

**Buffer Zone:** Means an area surrounding cultural heritage (see def. cultural heritage) which has restrictions placed on its use or where collaborative projects and programs are undertaken to afford additional protection to the site.

**Co-management:** Managing in such a way as to take into account the needs and desires of stakeholders/ neighbors and partners, and incorporating these into decision making through, amongst others, the promulgation of a local board.

**Conservation in relation to heritage resources:** includes protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable use of places or objects so as to safeguard their cultural significance as defined.

**Conservation:** All the processes used to maintain a place or object in order to keep its cultural significance. The process includes preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation.

**Contextual Paradigm:** A scientific approach which places importance on the total context as catalyst for cultural change and which specifically studies the symbolic role of the individual and immediate historical context.

**Cultural Resource:** Any place or object of cultural significance (see Heritage Resource).

**Cultural Resource Management:** The utilization of management techniques to protect and develop cultural resources so that these become long term cultural heritage which is of value to the general public (see Heritage Management).

**Cultural Significance:** Means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance of a place or object for past, present and future humans.

**Feature:** A coincidental find of movable cultural objects (also see Knudson 1978: 20).

**Grade/Grading:** The South African heritage resource management system is based on grading, which provides for assigning the appropriate level of management responsibility to a heritage resource. Grading is a step in the process towards a formal declaration, such as a declaration as a National Heritage Site, Provincial Heritage Site, or in the case of Grade 3 heritage resources the placing of a resource on the Register. It is not an end in



itself, but a means of establishing an appropriate level of management in the process of formal protection. Grading may be carried out only by the responsible heritage resources authority or in the case of a Grade 3 heritage resource by the Local Authority. Any person may however make recommendations for grading. These are known as Field Ratings and usually accompany surveys and other reports.

**Heritage resource (Cultural):** Any place or object of cultural significance (see Cultural Resource).

**Heritage Resources Management Paradigm:** A scientific approach based on the Contextual paradigm, but placing the emphasis on the cultural importance of archaeological (and historical) sites for the community.

**Heritage management (Cultural):** The utilization of management techniques to protect and develop cultural resources so that these become long term cultural heritage resources which are of value to the general public (see Cultural Resources Management).

**Historic:** Means significant in history, belonging to the past; of what is important or famous in the past.

**Historical:** Means belonging to the past, or relating to the study of history.

**Iron Age:** In southern African archaeology, the Iron Age is the stage in the development of a specific groups or groups where the use of iron implements as tools and weapons is prominent. The adoption of this new material coincided with other changes in some past societies often including differing agricultural practices, religious beliefs and artistic styles, although this is not always the case.

**Maintenance:** Means the continuous protective care of the fabric, contents and setting of a place. It does not involve physical alteration.

**Management:** With reference to cultural heritage resources, it includes preservation/conservation, presentation and improvement of a place or object. In relation to a protected area, includes control, protection, conservation, maintenance and rehabilitation of the protected area with due regard to the use and extraction of biological resources, community-based practices and benefit sharing activities in the area in a manner consistent with the Biodiversity Act as defined and required as per the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, No. 57 of 2003.

**Object:** Artifact (cultural object) (also see Knudson 1978: 20).

**Partnership/s:** Means a co-operative and/or collaborative arrangement/s between the various client/parties responsible for the implementation of the Management Plan and a third party that supports the achievement of the Project objectives.

**Preservation:** Refers to protecting and maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration or change, and may include stabilization where necessary. Preservation is appropriate where the existing state of the fabric itself constitutes evidence of specific cultural significance, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other conservation processes to be carried out.

**Protection:** With reference to cultural heritage resources this includes the protection, maintenance, preservation and sustainable utilization of places or objects in order to maintain the cultural significance thereof.

**Site:** A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location (also see Knudson 1978: 20). Also means any area of land, including land covered by water, and including any structures or objects on it.

**Stone Age:** The period encompasses the first widespread use of stone for the manufacture of tools and weapons in human evolution and the spread of humanity from the savannas of East Africa to the rest of the world. It ends with the development of agriculture, the domestication of certain animals and the smelting of copper ore to produce metal.

**Structure:** A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures (also see Knudson 1978: 20). Also means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

**Sustainable:** In relation to the use of a biological resource, means the use of such resource in a way and at a rate that would not lead to its long-term decline; would not disrupt the ecological integrity of the ecosystem in which it occurs; and would ensure its continued use to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations of people (as per National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, No. 10 of 2004)