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Draft Nomination Form: Heritage Objects

The purpose of this form is to aid the process of nominating the declaration of a specific heritage object in terms of Section 32(2-4) of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999.

Proposed heritage object(s) or Collection(s):

MRS. JOAN BROSTER COLLECTION OF BEADWORK OF THE XHOSA speaking people of the Eastern Cape, South Africa: (beadwork, traditional garments, weapons used in ceremonial activities and faction fights and other traditional accessories). Museum artifacts that form part of Prof. Lamla's PHD research project.

Brief Statement of Significance:

Mrs Joan Broster and Dr Lamla's collection at WSU is one of the best collection of beadwork garment and other traditional accessories and artworks of national significance in the Eastern Cape. Mrs Broster's collection dates back from 1932 and were collected from 1952 to 1966. Dr Lamla's collection was collected between 1982 and 1985. The above collection is only remaining collection of artifacts depleting cultural history of the people of South Africa. They are the remaining authentic reference material for research of the various tribes of the Eastern Cape. They need urgent conservation and display for education and enjoyment by all people of South Africa and internationally.

Proposed By: Walter Sisulu University Committee on Heritage Resources

Date Proposed: 5th October 2012

Contact Details: Mrs V M Lusu (Head Africana and Special Collections)

Contact Numbers: 083 396 3020 (work: 047 502 2382)

Name of owner of heritage object(s): Walter Sisulu University

Location of heritage object: Africana and Special Collections Library

Street Number and Street: Nelson Mandela Drive

Suburb: Mthatha **Town:** Mthatha **District:** O.R Tambo

Sphere of Significance	High	Med	Low
International	X		
National	X		
Provincial	X		
Regional	X		
Local	X		
Specialist group or community	X		

What other similar heritage object(s) or collection/s are comparable to the one/s proposed and in what way are they similar or different?

The collection of the Heritage objects by Dr Lamla (beadwork, garments, artworks and other traditional accessories of Hlubi, South Sotho etc.) These were assessed, documented and inventorised with the Broster beadwork collection. They have high historical and cultural value.

Owner: Walter Sisulu University

Postal Address: Africana and Special Collections Library
Nelson Mandela Drive Mthatha

Telephone: 047 502 2382

Fax: 047 502 2117

Cell: 083 396 3020

E-Mail: vlusu@wsu.ac.za

Web Page: www.wsu.ac.za

Contact Person: Mrs V M Lusu

- * Expanded statement of significance; (*Refer specifically to significance criteria listed below*)
 - * Motivation for declaration as a specifically declared heritage object, including potential threats and vulnerabilities;
 - * Short history of the object(s) or collection;
 - * Physical description of the heritage object(s) or collection;
 - * Photographs;
 - ** Bibliography of documentation relating to the heritage object(s);

 - ** List any heritage organizations consulted and their comments on the proposed nomination.
 - *** Conservation or management plans (send immediately if any exist);
 - *** Heritage Agreement
- (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 Objects). Those marked (***) will be required when the Nomination goes to the following Council Meeting for approval as a National Heritage Object).*

Please see the attachment for the above questions.

Significance

1. Historical Value

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

- I.**
- II.** Importance in exhibiting richness or diversity of cultural objects illustrating the cultural evolution of the nation, Province, region or locality.
X High: historical and cultural significance: Nationally, Provincially and Locally
- 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 High: National value
- IV.** Importance as an example for technical, creative, design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement in a particular period
X High: National value

b. It has strong or special association with the cultural heritage of a group of people (Xhosa tribe of the Qebe region in Engcobo).

- 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 High : National value

c. It has significance relating to the history of slavery

- I.** Importance for a direct link to the history of slavery in South Africa.
N/A

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.
X High : Valued by community
- II. Importance for its creative, design or artistic excellence, Innovation or achievement.
X High : Design has mathematical Connotation
- III. In the case of an historic precinct, importance for the aesthetic character created by the individual components which collectively form a significant collection or cultural environment.
X High : National, Provincial and Local value

3. Scientific Value

- a. It has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural heritage
 - I. Cultural Heritage X High Cultural Heritage value
 - II. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the origin of the universe or of the development of the earth. N/A
 - 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.
X High : Cultural development significance: National Provincial and Local value
 - 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. X

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. X
- II. Importance for a high level of creative genius X

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 an object highly valued by a community or cultural group for reasons of social, cultural, religious, spiritual, symbolic, aesthetic or educational associations. X
- II. Importance in contributing to a community's sense of cultural achievement. X

Degrees of Significance

5.Rarity:

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

- I. Importance for rare, endangered or uncommon objects.
- II. Importance in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, function or design no longer practised in, or in danger of being lost from, or of exceptional interest to the nation, Province, region or locality.

6.Representivity:

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

- a) Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a range of heritage objects, the attributes of which identify it as being characteristic of its class.
- b) 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.

7. Details relating to the heritage object/s, or collection/s being nominated to be Declared :

History and background (provenance) of the heritage object/s, or collection/s;

Heritage objects (Beads, garments and traditional, weapons were purchased in 1980 by WSU from Mrs Broster who obtained this from the Qebe AA community, Engcobo. The collection was collected by Mrs Broster between 1952 -1966. The other collection was collected by Dr Lamla between 1982 – 1985.

Physical description of all objects and collections;

Beadwork, sticks, bottles, axes, knobkerries , spears, skin bags, tamed skins, shields, traditional skirts, blankets, artworks, pottery, stone artefacts, hats turbans, genital girdles, penis sheath, fertility dolls, bust of struggle heros, horns, traditional musical instruments, traditional batch in appliances, casts of homosapiens, calabashes, stamping stones, grinding stones, etc.

Detailed description of the materials that they are made from, and dimensions of each object, whether single or in a collection;

See SAHRA collection manager

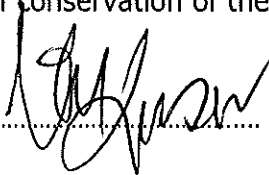
Propose a conservation plan for the long-term care of heritage object/s, or collection/s in storage and on exhibition;

Storage and display cases must be dust proofed and lockable. Lighting must be of low level voltage. Windows must be cricked up or covered with heavy curtaining. Relative humidity must be controlled. Air conditioning must be installed. Handling must be limited. Good housekeeping maintenance. Fumigation must be done at least twice per year. Proper documentation to all collections.

For heritage object/s, or collection/s to be more widely accessible, will depend on its/their importance as an education and research resource in furthering knowledge and understanding of the cultural heritage of South Africa.

The collection is of educational enjoyment and research must be accessible to the public. The collection must be displayed for viewing in a university museum. The museum must be marketed to attract researchers, students, learners, tourists, members of the public, etc. The curator, guides, conservator, display designer and other museum staff must be appointed to ensure the perpetual conservation of the collection.

Signature of Nominee:.....



Date:.....

9 / OCT / 2012

ATTACHMENT

A FULL STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLLECTION

Mrs Joan Broster's collection of beadwork, traditional and other objects/ accessories is priceless and can never be obtained again. They were created by maidens and matrons that wore them given to their boyfriends as keeper of hearts gifts. The above custom is not practiced anymore. Most of the collection is in immaculate condition and need to be preserved for the coming generations. Most of the beadworks belong to abaThembu tribes and were collected from Qebe AA/Engcobo by Mrs Joan Broster between 1952 and 1966. The collection was purchased from Mrs Broster by WSU in 1980's. Some of Broster's collection belonged to her grandfather who pioneered a trading business in the Engcobo District of Transkei in 1875. The collection is now in the danger of deterioration due to unfavorable conditions of storage at WSU. Proper display or storage facility is urgently required to save the collection. The university intends to display this collection in the other wing of Sasol Library and it is in the process of putting up the correct structure. This area needs building alterations that will be suitable for the display of these collections. The area must be developed into a fully fledged museum and be open for public viewing. The micro climate inside this envisaged building must be controlled by air conditioners. Properly qualified staff must be appointed to curate these heritage objects. The collection must be stored or displayed inside glass covered conservation friendly show cases. Good housekeeping procedures need to be maintained in display or storage areas. The collection has already been documented, photographed and captured in the SAHRA collection manager.

We live in a world where information is stored in many forms and formats. For our students and researchers at large to become information users in the fullest sense of the world, they need to be exposed to information sources regardless of where and how it is contained and the core business of this institution will be accomplished with enthusiasm and pride.