

## Ragna Redelstorff

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**From:** Yolanda Meyer Transnet Freight Rail JHB <Yolanda.Meyer@transnet.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 07 July 2020 15:06  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff  
**Subject:** RE: West Coast Fossil Park old railway line ownership

Dear Ragna,

The Langebaan Road – Vredenburg line was opened on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 1906  
It was part of the **Hopefield Hoetjes Bay Railway Narrow Gauge Railway System**

The Authorisation for the line was given with the **Cape Act 34 1906** – thus motivation for the **Cape Government Railways** – See attached act  
Under Point 2 and Schedule B

I am not sure what happened to this private railways - after the amalgamation of all railways in 1910 to form the South African Railways and Harbours  
Will only be able to confirm – after I accessed a few books and files in the THL

Regina – It is an example of a Private Narrow Gauge Railway system established before 1906. Thus very unique and of great Historical value.  
Please see the email sent previously with drawings and act that authorised the line

Kind regards  
Yolanda



Yolanda Meyer  
Information Specialist  
Knowledge Centre / Heritage Library  
96 Rissik Street  
Room 5 (Basement - Heritage Library)  
Transnet Freight Rail

☎ 011 773 8726



☎ 011 773 9106

✉ [Yolanda.Meyer@transnet.net](mailto:Yolanda.Meyer@transnet.net)

[www.transnet.net](http://www.transnet.net)

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff [mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za]

**Sent:** 07 July 2020 02:53 PM

**To:** Elvin Harris Transnet Freight Rail JHB <Elvin.Harris@transnet.net>; Yolanda Meyer Transnet Freight Rail JHB <Yolanda.Meyer@transnet.net>; Zukisani Pote Transnet Freight Rail CPT <Zukisani.Pote@transnet.net>

**Cc:** Dugard Ncozela Transnet Corporate JHB <Dugard.Ncozela@transnet.net>

**Subject:** FW: West Coast Fossil Park old railway line ownership

Dear All,

Thank you so much for all your effort! It is very much appreciated!

I have received some further information from the Park Manager, who got in touch with South32 (please see outlook item attached). They could offer siding inspection reports from 2012 that indicate that it is a private siding. Does private siding mean that the landowner is the owner of the railway line? I just want to be real sure about this.

The Park Manager would like to remove them as quickly as possible as the theft is currently ongoing. I'm not sure when the archives will reopen so is there any other way we can confirm this? Also, from a heritage point of view I would need to know the age of the railway line to identify if it has any heritage value.

Again, thank you to everyone for your help with this!

Kind regards,  
Ragna

Please note that due to the Corona virus outbreak I will be working from home so will not be available via my office phone. I am still available via email and on SAHRIS.

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 07 July 2020 14:06  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Dear Ragna

Thank you for this email.

The attached email from Alex Mooya, from South 32 clearly explains that the railway line belongs to the Fossil Park. So the decision on the way forward with the railway line lies with the Trustees.

But to help the Trustees make that decision we have to find out how old the line is – for the sake of SAHRA. Can your Transnet contact help with establishing the age of the line? My contact is taking a while to get back to me with an answer to this question.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards  
Pippa

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 07 July 2020 11:41 AM  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Dear Pippa,

It looks like I am making some progress with Transnet regarding ownership of the railway line. I will keep you updated.

Kind regards,  
Ragna

Please note that due to the Corona virus outbreak I will be working from home so will not be available via my office phone. I am still available via email and on SAHRIS.

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff  
**Sent:** Monday, 29 June 2020 15:12  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Hi Pippa,

I don't know. I am trying to find out, since servitudes are public, whether you need a special permission from the appropriate department (Department of Transport?) for the removal. If you or the Trustees have any information about it or could contact the Department of Transport it would certainly accelerate the process. I just want to make sure we are on the safe side of the law. Any indication of the age would also be good. I keep trying to find information on my side.

Warm regards,  
Ragna

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 29 June 2020 14:50  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Many thanks Ragna  
Will this be a lengthy process?  
Kind regards  
Pippa

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 29 June 2020 09:46 AM  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Good morning Pippa,

I have contacted our grading and declarations unit for information on the transfer deed, ownership and age of the railway lines. As soon as I receive response from them I will update the application on SAHRIS and contact you.

Thanks again for your passion and hard work that you put into the Fossil Park. It is very much appreciated. Keep safe and warm.

Kind regards,  
Ragna

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 25 June 2020 13:07  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** [dm60@mweb.co.za](mailto:dm60@mweb.co.za)  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit Tuesday 23rd June 2020

Hello Ragna  
Many thanks for your visit on Tuesday.  
I feel we covered a lot of ground, literally as well – looking at the railway line and other areas of the Park.

I look forward to hearing your feedback regarding the railway line. The sooner a decision can be made the better as it is quite a security challenge under the present circumstances.

We will be focussing on the dig maintenance needs next week.

The next priority is the more permanent cover over the dig site and I agree with you that we should consider doing something similar to the East African sites – more simple and cost-effective. All of this to be discussed of course with the Trustees and other relevant role players.

Thank you again for making the time  
Keep safe and strong  
Kind regards  
Pippa

Pippa Haarhoff  
Manager, West Coast Fossil Park



PO Box 42  
Langebaanweg, 7375  
TEL 022 766 1606  
FAX 022 766 1765  
CELL 083 289 6902  
EMAIL: [pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)  
web: [www.fossilpark.org.za](http://www.fossilpark.org.za)  
Facebook: West Coast Fossil Park  
Twitter: @WestCoastFossil

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 22 June 2020 09:15 AM  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Subject:** FW: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Good morning, Pippa,

I hope you are well! I am feeling well again so I would like to schedule my site visit to tomorrow, Tuesday 23 June. Would that suit you? If not tomorrow, we could schedule to Wednesday as well.

Kind regards,  
Ragna

Please note that due to the Corona virus outbreak I will be working from home so will not be available via my office phone. I am still available via email and on SAHRIS.

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 June 2020 15:35  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Pippa,

I have sent you a whatsapp as well but I'm not sure if you have received it. I am not feeling well today and, with the pandemic all around us, would rather not risk going through with the site visit tomorrow. I am sure I will be feeling better next week so would it be possible to postpone until next week, probably Tuesday or Wednesday?

My apologies for this but I suppose it is better to be safe than sorry.

Kind regards,  
Ragna

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 June 2020 11:36  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** Phillip Hine <[phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Ragna  
Yes, this will be fine.  
Look forward to seeing you both here.  
Our restaurant is obviously closed, so would you be able to bring your own lunch/refreshments?  
Kind regards  
Pippa  
cell 083 289 6902

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 17 June 2020 11:26 AM  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Cc:** Phillip Hine <[phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Pippa,

Phillip and I have both received our travel permits. Would this Friday 19 June 2020 suit you for a site visit?

Kind regards,  
Ragna

Please note that due to the Corona virus outbreak I will be working from home so will not be available via my office phone. I am still available via email and on SAHRIS.

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 12 June 2020 14:55  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Cc:** Phillip Hine <[phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Ragna  
This is all fine with me.

The sooner you can get back to me regarding the railway line the better – it is seriously threatened at the moment.

With many thanks  
Kind regards  
Pippa

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 11 June 2020 06:55 PM  
**To:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Cc:** Phillip Hine <[phine@sahra.org.za](mailto:phine@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Pippa,

Thank you for your quick reply!  
I will find out what the best procedure will be regarding the railways.

Regarding the visit, I would tentatively suggest a visit towards the end of next week but I must see how long it takes to get a permit in case there are road blocks. If it is fine with you Mr Phillip Hine (cc-ed) would also like to join.

Kind regards,  
Ragna

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**From:** Pippa Fossilpark mailbox <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 11 June 2020 18:18  
**To:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Subject:** RE: SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Hi Ragna  
This will be fine with me – it will be great to see you.

I was going to call you anyway because we don't think we have an option but to remove the railway line as the theft has started again.  
Please advise on how I have to engage with SAHRA on this?

With many thanks  
Kind regards  
Pippa

Pippa Haarhoff  
Manager, West Coast Fossil Park



PO Box 42  
Langebaanweg, 7375  
TEL 022 766 1606  
FAX 022 766 1765  
CELL 083 289 6902

EMAIL: [pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)  
web: [www.fossilpark.org.za](http://www.fossilpark.org.za)  
Facebook: West Coast Fossil Park  
Twitter: @WestCoastFossil

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**From:** Ragna Redelstorff <[rredelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:rredelstorff@sahra.org.za)>  
**Sent:** 11 June 2020 01:52 PM  
**To:** 'Pippa Fossilpark mailbox' <[pjh@fossilpark.org.za](mailto:pjh@fossilpark.org.za)>  
**Subject:** SAHRA Fossil Park visit

Dear Pippa,

I hope you are keeping well during these extraordinary times!

I was just informed that, as the lockdown has eased, we are to do our site visits as per our annual targets. My visit to the Fossil Park was marked as to be done in Quarter 1, i.e. before the end of June.

If you feel comfortable with it I would like to arrange a visit, possibly within the next two weeks. however, if you have concerns due to a Covid risk (for example me coming from a hot spot area that is Cape Town) please feel free to raise them in an email, and we will be able to postpone the visit to a later stage.

Keep warm and safe.  
Kind regards,  
Ragna

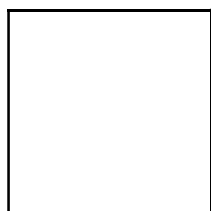
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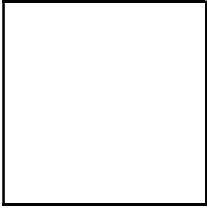
**Ragna Redelstorff, Ph.D.**  
Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

South African Heritage Resources Agency  
*- A nation united through heritage -*

T: +27 21 4624502/ 8651 | C: | F: +27 21 202 4509  
E: [RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za) | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town |

[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)





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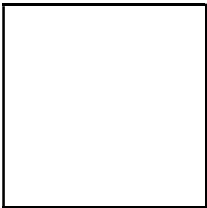
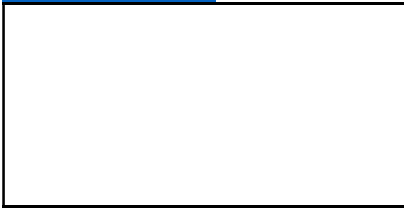
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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



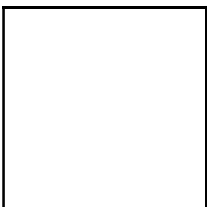
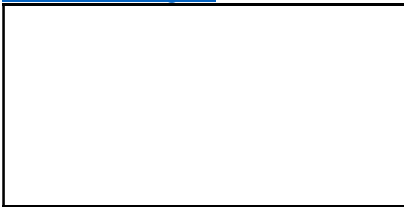
**Ragna Redelstorff, Ph.D.**

Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

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*- A nation united through heritage -*

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E: [RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za) | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town |

[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)





**Ragna Redelstorff, Ph.D.**

Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

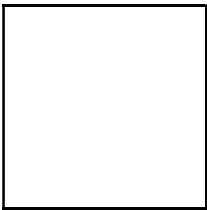
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T: +27 21 4624502/ 8651| C:| F:+27 21 202 4509

E: [RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za) | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town |

[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



**Ragna Redelstorff, Ph.D.**

Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

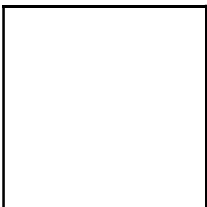
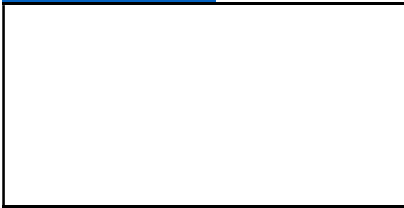
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[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



**Ragna Redelstorff, Ph.D.**

Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

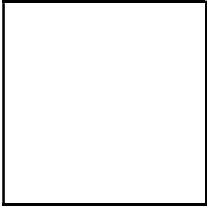
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Heritage Officer Archaeology, Palaeontology & Meteorites Unit

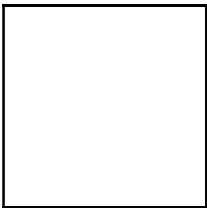
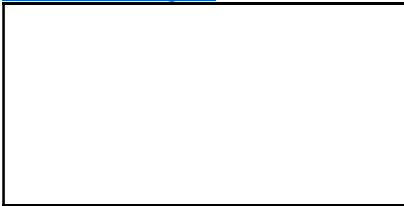
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E: [RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za](mailto:RRedelstorff@sahra.org.za) | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town |

[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)



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