

**Our Ref:**



an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: [info@sahra.org.za](mailto:info@sahra.org.za)  
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town  
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001  
[www.sahra.org.za](http://www.sahra.org.za)

Enquiries: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Tel: 0214624502

Email: [ekatsetse@sahra.org.za](mailto:ekatsetse@sahra.org.za)

CaseID: 16347

Date: Thursday June 10, 2021

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## **Letter of Advice**

### **In terms of Section 27(18) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)**

Attention: Dr Bongumenzi Nxumalo  
University of Cambridge  
34 Thompsons Lane,  
Cambridge,  
United Kingdom,  
CB3 0AG

**The proposed research will test the role of seismic activity in the rise in the decline of Mapungubwe State in the middle Limpopo valley, Southern Africa. In addition, existing geoarchaeological records (soil chemistry and micromorphological analysis) will be integrated to generate a model for changing environmental conditions and cultural developments in the Mapungubwe landscape.**

Dear Dr. B. Nxumalo

### **RE: Permit application for Geoarchaeological and Geophysical Land-Surface Survey Model of Societal Developments in Mapungubwe Shashe-Limpopo Basin**

Thank you for your permit application to collect micromorphological samples and conduct geophysical land-surface surveys within the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape and World Heritage Site. As Mapungubwe is a World Heritage Site, i.e. a very sensitive area, SAHRA requests more details on the methodology and impact of the sampling in order to be able to make an informed decision on your permit application. Please submit the following information:

1. Update the methodology section in the proposal to provide clarity on, how many samples will be taken; size of a sample; Where exactly will the samples be taken, indicating each sampling location on a map.
2. Clarify grid sampling method in terms of grid size, over how many meters in total and where exactly (as per map above).
3. Also provide details of where (details of lab or institution) thin sections will be done.
4. Please provide us with SAHRIS PermitID's for previous sampling and export thereof as per your proposal.

**Geoarchaeological and Geophysical land-surface surveys to model societal developments in Mapungubwe, Shashe-Limpopo basin**

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5. Please submit any outstanding permit reports if you have not already done so.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

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Elijah Dumisani Katsetse  
Heritage Officer  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine  
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

**ADMIN:**

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/570005>