



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Elijah Dumisani Katsetse

Tel: 0214624502

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CaseID: 18300

Date: Wednesday April 27, 2022

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Letter

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

Attention: Dr Tim Forssman

The proposed research programme aims to investigate forager (hunter-gather) social relations between Little Muck Shelter, excavated by Forssman, and Leokwe Hill. These sites provide unparalleled potential for understanding local forager-farmer interactions because of trade relations that existed between them. At first, Little Muck Shelter was a trading centre and foragers produced vast amounts of craft goods, but by AD 1000 this declined, whereas at Leokwe Hill they begin to increase. This appears to indicate that a shift in economic activities and access to wealth took place, and this may have included foragers losing access to the local market economy. However, this is assumed and has not been properly assessed. For example, it appears that similar goods were produced at both sites possibly indicating that it was not only activities that moved to Leokwe Hill but also their producers, forager groups. If so, it reveals a much more integrated social and economic landscape in which foragers were more involved than previously credited. It would also show their continued access to wealth items and contributions to the local economy. Demonstrating this would show that foragers moved into farmer spaces during the rise of stratified, hierarchal society and southern Africa's earliest state-level society, Mapungubwe, and that they participated in these socio-political developments.

Dear Tim,

RE: Leokwe Hill: Crafted Goods, Economic Activities, and Forager Roles in Local Markets

Thank you for your permit application to re-excavate Leokwe Hill and exploration of technological innovations, indigenous knowledges and forager local economies within the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape and World Heritage Site. SAHRA has successfully reviewed your application and approved it. Kindly note your permit is valid until 30 April 2025.

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

Our Ref:



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Yours faithfully

Elijah Dumisani Katsetse
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/595138>

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.