



## Letter

### In terms of Section 35(4) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Prof. Susan Pfeiffer  
University of Toronto - Anthropology  
19 Russell Street  
Toronto, ON  
M5S 2S2  
Canada

The application to export South African heritage material is made to support the AMS radiocarbon dating and analysis of newly discovered human skeleton material held at the Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town and Iziko Museums. The burials have been determined to hold no forensic relevance because of their obviously ancient time since death. They have been inventoried, but their future research value is contingent on determination of their antiquity through dating. A date for each is a crucial step to determining their research value. I propose to export a single rib, normally the right 6th rib, from each skeleton. Each sample will be photographed, with that image provided to the Department of Archaeology. I will send a portion of each rib to Oxford for radiocarbon dating. Another portion of the rib I will prepare as a histological section, from which I will estimate the person's age at death. It is this procedure that dictates the identification of a specific rib, whenever possible. I hope I will also be able to determine something about the adequacy of the person's diet from the pattern of bone remodelling. This is an ongoing research question. This research, including the dating, is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Dear Prof. Pfeiffer,

the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology, Meteorites, Heritage Objects and Burials permit committee has received your permit application requesting the permanent export of five ribs for isotope and histological analyses and for dating.

The committee agreed with the issuing of this permit.

We wish you every success with this project.



## Export of bone for analysis and dating 2014

Our Ref: ID\_ 5878

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti  
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CaseID: 5878

Date: Wednesday July 23, 2014

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an agency of the  
Department of Arts and Culture

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

Yours faithfully

Mariagrazia Galimberti  
Heritage Officer: Archaeology  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer  
SAHRA Head Archaeologist  
South African Heritage Resources Agency

### ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/167003>



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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