

Historical Artefacts¹ Valuation Methodology Report

Municipality of Walter Sisulu, Joe Gqabi District

Aliwal North, Jamestown and Burgersdorp

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for
THOMPSON PROPERTY SPECIALISTS
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Basis of valuation methodology- Historical Artefacts: Buildings, Monuments, & Objects Case Study : Walter Sisulu Municipality

Historical buildings, monuments artefacts and objects are recognized in South Africa, under the The National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999, as having a positive value, not only cultural, but also economic, in terms of tourism, social status and commercial efficiency. Many historical artefacts are monitored seeing the protection of the unique qualities and characteristics that give their architectural, cultural and historical value.

When analyzing such properties, the valuers must be aware of the financial and cultural value of the historical artefacts and the potential influence given by the augmentation of their financial and cultural values, as well as the consequences of intervention measures.

This is the reason why the valuers must identify and inspect the historical artefacts in the process of evaluation, so that their financial, cultural, architectural and historical interest can count, including any intervention of protection, in determining the value of the building and the requirement of intervention measures.

The valuation of the historical artefacts is a very complex activity, that must consider the knowledge of the artefact exigency, as well as the interpreting the contribution of the intrinsic quantified components in determining the value, in the context of the structural and functional exigency, of the adequate intervention technologies, and last but not least, the proper materials used in this interventions.

Verily, guided by National Heritage Resources Act, the identification, assessment and management of the heritage resources of South Africa must -

- (a) Take account of all relevant cultural values and indigenous knowledge systems;
- (b) Take account of material or cultural heritage value and involve the least possible alteration or loss of it;
- (c) Promote the use and enjoyment of and access to heritage resources, in a way consistent with their cultural significance and conservation needs;

- (d) Contribute to social and economic development;
- (e) Safeguard the options of present and future generations; and
- (f) Be fully researched, documented and recorded.

The notion of historical artefact in the case of monuments includes both the architectural conception and the urban or rural settlement that show evidence of a certain civilisation, of a significant evolution, or a historical event. Therewith, the notion of historical monument extends also on small works that over time acquired a cultural significance. For the purposes of this report, the grading of these artefacts/ monuments shall be as follows:

1. Grade I: Heritage resources with qualities so exceptional that they are of special national significance;
2. Grade II: Heritage resources which, although forming part of the national estate, can be considered to have special qualities which make them significant within the context of a province or a region; and
3. Grade III: Other heritage resources worthy of conservation

Methods of valuation- Historical Artefacts³

The primary step to assessing value of historical artefacts/monuments/buildings or objects is to determine whether there is an active market for such assets. Where the fair value of an asset can be determined by reference to the price in an active market for the same asset or similar asset(Comparable Valuation), the fair value of the asset is determined using this information.

In cases where the value of an object cannot be determined in the above manner, fair value of the asset is determined using other market-based evidence, such as recent auction prices and dealer catalogues.

In cases where value cannot be determined in the previously described mannerisms, then the item's value may be determined through Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC). Stated specifically is:The cost of mounting an expedition or field trip to locate and identify the specimens/artefacts, together with the costs associated with their documentation and preparation represents the replacement cost for accounting purposes. The purpose for which the items are held will determine the appropriate form of replacement and thus valuation.

³ Valuation of Priceless Historical Cultural Artifacts. (2007, October 18). Retrieved August 11, 2022, from <https://www.essaytown.com/subjects/paper/valuation-priceless-historical-cultural/93203>

ARTEFACT 1 : Jubilee Fountain

Despite its importance in Afrikaner history, the town of Burgersdorp also contains a remarkable piece of sculpture dedicated to their erstwhile foe, Queen Victoria. It consists of a very ornate drinking fountain of 1897 to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee⁴.

ARTEFACT 2 : Taal Monument

The Theological Seminary, now in Potchefstroom, started in Burghersdorp and it was the centre of a strong movement for the recognition of Dutch as an official language. This is commemorated by the 'Taalmonument' which stands on Burger Square, formerly the market square. After the occupation of the Cape Colony by England in 1806, English became the only official language of the Colony. When the Cape Colony was granted self government in 1854, the constitution provided that only English might be used in Parliament. The first representative of the Albert constituency, which included Burgersdorp, was J. A. Kruger. In 1856 he asked permission to speak in Dutch in the Legislative Assembly, using an interpreter, but the Speaker referred him to the constitution and refused the request. During 1857 and 1858 the Afrikaner voters in the constituency of Albert submitted four petitions to Parliament for the recognition of Dutch as a language for use in debates, but without success. In 1872 the Cape Colony was granted Responsible Government but still Dutch could not be used in the debating chambers. On 23rd August, 1878, the Boeren Bescherms Vereniging (Farmer's Protection Society) held a meeting on the farm Vinkelfontein under the Chairmanship of D. van den Heever, when it was once again resolved to insist on the recognition of 'our mother tongue' in Parliament. Burgersdorp became the centre of the language campaign and important congresses of the Afrikaner Bond were held there. The movement was supported by J. H. Hofmeyr as a matter of course. After proposing an unsuccessful motion in 1881, he succeeded on 9th June, 1882, in having the necessary amendment of the constitution adopted, by which the use of Dutch in Parliament was allowed. The first member to use this privilege was J. G. Luttig of Beaufort West. The increasing recognition of Dutch in education and in the public service of the Cape Colony dates from 1882. In 1890 Hofmeyr and others organised a language congress and founded the 'Taalbond' for the promotion of a knowledge of Dutch and a healthy nationalism. Considering that Burgersdorp played such an important part in this struggle, it was natural that a movement should originate there for the erection of a monument to commemorate the recognition of Dutch in the Cape Parliament. Money for it was collected in all parts of the country and it was unveiled on 18th January, 1893, by D. P. (Oom Daantjie) van den Heever, the chairman of the committee that erected the monument. Those present at the ceremony included J. H. Hofmeyr, Pieter Faure, N. F. de Waal and representatives of the Orange Free State and the Transvaal. The monument suffered deliberate damage during the Anglo Boer War. First the finger was broken off; in March, 1900, the

⁴ <https://www.places.co.za/info/town/burgersdorp.html>

nose and right arm were chipped off and on Christmas night 1901, the monument was pushed off its pedestal and an arm and the face were removed. After the war Lord Milner had the monument taken down and removed completely.⁵

ARTEFACT 3 : Freedom Square (Formerly Juana Square Garden)

The park in the centre of Aliwal North, the Juana Square Gardens was named after Colonel Harry Smith's wife Juana Maria de Los Dolores de Leon. Smith named the town Aliwal North in memory of his victory over the Sikhs at the Battle of Aliwal during the First Sikh War in India in 1846. The park has since been renamed to Freedom Square post 1994 South African political dispensation.

ARTEFACT 4 : Frere Bridge

The Frere Bridge was opened in 1880 The bridge was named for Sir Bartle Frere, then Governor of the Cape. After disputes on the advance payment of the full contractual amount was demanded by the contracting firm, their contract was terminated. The ironwork had lain in East London harbor from 1877 and in 1878 the company went into liquidation. The Department of the Cape Colony undertook to complete the works. The erection of the piers claimed the lives of three navvies when their boat overturned and they drowned. Construction was further impeded by a flood in the flow of the Orange River⁶.

ARTEFACT 5 : Museum(Old Library)

The Museum is bursting with a wealth of knowledge and interesting things to see and learn. It is made up of two buildings, the old library dating back to 1876 and the Old Dutch Reformed Church dating back to 1864.

⁵ <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/41721/sitereport-archaeology-pdf>

⁶ Walters, Dennis. 2014. Bridging the Eastern Cape : the life and work of Joseph Newey. East London: Coral Tree Press. pg 80, 82, 83, 120 B13

ARTEFACT 6: South African War Memorial Site

On 8th January 1901, following the evacuation of Smithfield during the Second Boer War, Major Kendal Pretzman Apthorp established the Aliwal North concentration camp, which at its height housed approximately 2,000 Boer refugees. The camp was closed by November 1902 after the inmates had been repatriated to their homes. The memorial site is built in remembrance of these occurrences. During 1980, the Aliwal North Municipality sold land to the South African Council for War Graves for R2.00 with the aim to establish a commemorative garden. The remains of those who died in the old burial grounds outside the town were exhumed and re-buried here

ARTEFACT 7: Kerkplein Museum

It is a photo exhibition of the Boer War.

ARTEFACT 8: Anglo-Boer BlockHouse

In Burgersdorp there is not only a monument to commemorate the struggle for the recognition of Dutch, but also another brings to mind the three-year-long Anglo Boer War. Not the Burger Monument, but a blockhouse. During the Anglo-Boer War the Block Houses formed a strong line of defence which stretched from Queenstown through Molteno to Aliwal-North and Bethulie.

Burgersdorp can boast of two of these sturdy structures. The British troops used these forts as a stronghold for their troops who were guarding and protecting the railway line itself as well as the bridges, from the Republican Commandos (the Boer army). These commandos frequently attacked this post of the Cape Province from the Free State. One of these Block Houses has been restored by the local Round Table and is also used by them while the other Block House was declared a National Monument in 1939⁷.

⁷ Green, Simon C . 2022. Anglo-Boer War blockhouses : a field guide. Johannesburg: Porcupine Press. pg 27-28

ARTEFACT 9 : Fort Behind the Hospital- Aliwal North

Aliwal North Commando was a light infantry regiment of the South African Army that dates back to the Anglo-Boer war. Back then, it used the Fort behind the Aliwal North Hospital as military post and garrison.

ARTEFACT 10: Joe Gqabi Statue

Joe Gqabi was born and raised in Aliwal North. The town the town itself was laid out in 1849 on ground acquired by the government. This was auctioned and 38 lots were sold for £972, and aquired municipal status in 1882. The statue was mounted at the towns/ municipal offices as commemoration after his reburial in 2004, to honour Gqabis' contribution to the liberation struggle of South Africa. He was assassinated in 1981. Subsequesntly the local district municipality of the region is now the Joe Gqabi District Municipality.

ARTEFACT 11: Durban Street Cemetery

The entire cemetery/ land is regarded as heritage as it was the first cemetery used in Aliwal North.

ARTEFACT 12: Old Cemetery by the River

May have Jewish burials, although it was initially a voortrekker built cemetery.

ARTEFACT 13: Concetration Camp Kerkhof

The origins of the Aliwal North camp are unusually well documented. In August 1900 Major Kendal Pretyman Apthorp, a relative of General Pretyman, the Military Governor of the Orange River Colony, was appointed District Commissioner of the Smithfield district. This area had a fairly large number of English-speaking farmers in addition to the Boer residents. When Apthorp took over, Smithfield was quiet. About forty impoverished families were asking for help and on 24 September 1900 Apthorp had to write to the Military Governor for funds and the right to appoint a Relief Committee to distribute aid.⁸. Herwith the history of the establishment of the camp.

ARTEFACT 14: Jamestown Museum

It is used as a museum for Jamestown hence its heritage status

ARTEFACT 15: Fort op Bronepad

Aliwal North Commando was a light infantry regiment of the South African Army that dates back to the Anglo-Boer war. Was used as a military post and garrison.

ARTEFACT 16: Fort by wildtuin hek

Aliwal North Commando was a light infantry regiment of the South African Army that dates back to the Anglo-Boer war. Was used as a military post and garrison. Usd to hide and protect people during war.

⁸ <https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/93566964/aliwal-north-concentration-camp-history>

ARTEFACT 17: Voortrekkersdrif

May have Jewish burials, although it was initially a voortrekker built cemetery.

ARTEFACT 18: Light of the Century

First Corner stone of the town laid by then Magistrate J.C Chase.

| (Republic of South Africa Government, 1999)

(EssayTown, 2007)

(Places, 1997)

(South African Heritage Resources Agency, 2004)

(Walters, 2014)

(WIKIPEDIA, 2022)