



**KINROSS EXT 30 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
GOVAN MBEKI MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

REBURIAL OF HUMAN REMAINS FOUND AT KINROSS EXT 30

**CLOSEOUT REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2019**

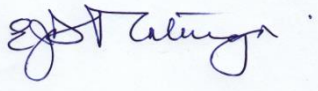
**Wednesday, 25 September
2019**

 <p>Abaziyo House 29 Belvedere Rd, Glen Austin Midrand, 1685 Tel: +27 11 542 9950/1/3/4 Fax: + 27 11 542 9955 Cell: 079 118 2002</p>	 <p>(AHS) Archaeological & Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd Reg. No. 2016/281687 48 Jacqueline St. The Reeds Centurion 0157, Pretoria Email: e.matenga598@gmail.com Cell: +27 73 981 0637 / +27 84 073 7774 www.archaeologicalheritage.co.za</p>
--	--

CONTENTS

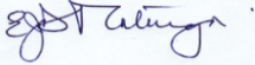
DOCUMENT CONTROL	3
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
1. INTRODUCTION	5
2. FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS	5
3. MILESTONES	6
4. SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS	7
5. EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE	8
6. REBURIAL	8
7. PHOTO CATALOGUE	11
8. ATTENDANCE REGISTER	16

DOCUMENT CONTROL

	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
FIELD WORK AND REPORT:	Dr E. Matenga (PhD)		25/09/2019

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

AHSA is an independent consultancy: I hereby declare that I have no interest, be it business, financial, personal or other vested interest in the undertaking of the proposed activity, other than fair remuneration for work performed, in terms the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999).



Full Name: Edward J. Matenga

Title / Position: Heritage Management Consultant

Qualifications: PhD (Archaeology and Heritage, Uppsala University, Sweden), MPhil (Uppsala), Certificate in the Integrated Conservation of Territories and Landscapes of Heritage Value (ICCROM, Rome)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2018 human bones were accidentally unearthed during physical works for water and sewer reticulation for a high density housing development at Kinross Ext 30, Govan Mbeki Municipality, Mpumalanga Province. A comprehensive community engagement processes was followed in terms of Section 36(5) of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25/1999) to find clues as to the identity of the deceased. The human remains appeared to have been interred not in the recent past; there were no leads about the identity of the deceased.

The South Heritage Resources Agency issued a permit for the reburial of the remains at Embhalenhle Cemetery in Secunda. Reburial took place on 23 September 2019. Grave No. C21-276. Lat: 26°34'22.00"S Long: 29° 4'33.70"E.

1. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological & Heritage Services Africa (AHSA) Pty Ltd was appointed by Abaziyo Consulting Engineers to carry out a Phase II Heritage Impact Assessment following the chance discovery of bones in three locations during trenching for the installation of water and sewer reticulation for the Kinross Ext 30 housing development project. Phase II Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is a mitigation procedure to protect heritage resources, and to make sure that if the project has to continue, it does not cause further damage to heritage resources.

Several streams of work were undertaken as follows:

- (i) Conduct a Phase II Heritage Impact assessment including a desktop screening process for possible occurrence of fossils.
- (ii) Identification of bones which had been found at three sites within the development area.
- (iii) Conducting archaeological test excavations as a verification process for three more sites suspected to be burials. This brought the total to six the number of sites intensively investigated.

2. FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS

Human bones were found in excavated earth on the western part of the area of development. A decision was taken to move the bones to a formal cemetery in accordance with Section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 / 1999) and SAHRA guidelines on the treatment of human remains. This entailed a public participation process to identify the next-of-kin of the deceased or any other person(s) that might have had information to assist in the identification of the deceased, after which an application was lodged with the South African Heritage Resources Authority (SAHRA) for the issue of a permit for reburial of the human remains.

3. MILESTONES

	ACTIVITY	STATUS
1	Heritage Impact Assessment and Excavations undertaken	Completed July 2018
2	Police Report and the human bones taken for safe custody at the University of Pretoria	8 August 2018
3	First Planning Meeting for relocation of the human bones	10 Jan 2019
4	Notification letters sent to Govan Mbeki Municipality, SAPS and Ward Councillors	10 Jan 3019
5	Public Notice appeared in the Ridge Times of 23 January 2019. The Ridge Times is a locally circulating weekly paper published in Secunda.	25 Jan 2019
6	Planning meeting held on 29 Jan 2019. Potential informants identified in Embhalenhle and Leandra	29 Jan 2019
7	Planning meeting held on 28 Feb 2019 after which the informants in Leandra were interviewed.	28 Feb/1 March 2019
8	SAPS issued Confirmation Letter	28 February 2019
9	Govan Mbeki Municipality issued consent letter	2 April 2019
10	Interview of informant Bishop Daniel Sibande from Embalenhle	25 April 2019
11	Application lodged with SAHRA for permit for reburial of the human bones in a formal cemetery	30 May 2019
12	SAHRA issued reburial permit	21 August 2019
13	Maziya Funeral Services, Embalenhle engaged	5 September 2019
14	Emergency meeting of the Project Steering Committee	17 September 2019
15	Reburial, with ceremony, tombstone erected	23 September 2019

4. SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Public consultation for the identification of unknown graves, burials grounds or human remains where they have been found in the course of development, or must be relocated to pave way for a project is required in terms of Section 36 (5)(b) of the National Heritage Resources Act. In practice methods and tools used in the field depend on local social and political conditions. Kinross Township including the neighbourhood is a volatile area, which has experienced social unrest connected with service delivery and low levels of employment among the youth. The Kinross Unemployment Forum (KAUF) is an association of youths seeking employment quotas to be reserved for local youths in any development project in the area. Abaziyo Consulting Engineers had been proactively engaging with KAUF, even inviting them to attend project steering committee meetings. In the process they were satisfied that the issue of the human remains had been handled in accordance with the prescripts of the law. In taking the public consultation forward and addressing the broader community it was not possible under the prevailing public mood to call for open public meetings. A public notice was published in the local newspaper, the Ridge Times, as required.

Public consultation was managed under the auspice of the Project Steering Committee. The committee members including officials from the Govan Mbeki Municipality and a Ward Councillor identified people who had lived at the site of the development for oral interviews as potential informants. The Govan Mbeki Municipality wrote a letter of consent for the relocation of the human remains subject to a thorough public participation process being undertaken to identify the deceased or the next-of-kin of the deceased.

Several informants were approached in Leslie (Leandra) and Embalenhle (Secunda) Townships as pointed out by the officials from the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality and the local Ward Councillor, Ms Rose Nkabinde. Oral interviews subsequently carried did not provide any clues as to the identity of the deceased.

SAPS duly wrote a letter of acknowledgement with no objection to the plan.

5. EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

After SAHRA issued a permit to reinter the human remains, and significant planning progress made to this end, it was necessary for the Project Steering Committee to meet to keep its members up to speed with the programme and the desired outcomes. An emergency meeting was held on 19 September 2019 highlighting the urgency to bring the matter to conclusion without further delay. Opening the meeting Eng. Sithole on behalf of Abaziyo Consulting Engineers outlined the housing project's socio-economic objectives, the circumstances of the human bones, and subsequent investigations undertaken mindful of the prescripts of the heritage Act.

The heritage specialist Dr Edward Matenga gave a project status report. He said that a comprehensive public participation process has been duly followed as the deceased was unknown and the matter had been in public spotlight. A public notice was published in the Ridge Times with a window period of 30 days to allow the public to come forward with information that could assist in the identification of the deceased. Even as the notice expired at the end of February 2019, the opportunity remained for anyone to bring evidence until the permit was issued in August 2019.

A local undertaker had been appointed as required by SAHRA to conduct funeral rites during reburial. Dr Matenga said that all protocols as regulated had been duly followed; the process was transparent and above board. SAHRA had thus issued a formal permit for the reburial as the application satisfied minimum standards stipulated.

Dr Matenga said that Councillor Rose Nkabinde had requested to be given copy of the reburial permit and supporting documents so that she advised her principals in Municipality. The documents were sent to the councillor as requested. Mr Dennis Masuku, head of the Burial Unit of the Govan Mbeki Municipality, expressed satisfaction that the processes followed were transparent.

6. REBURIAL

Reburial took place at Embalenhle Cemetery on Monday 23 September 2019. The proceedings were superintended by Archbishop C Ncongwane of the First Church Apostolic Congregation of Christ at Embalenhle (he is also the Regional Chairperson of the Council of Churches). The funeral procession left Maziya Funeral Home at

Embalment at 10 30hrs (Lat: 26°32'32.80"S, Long: 29° 4'27.30"E), burial subsequently taking place at the cemetery with a Christian ceremony.

The grave identification details are as follows:

GRAVE NO	COORDINATES		PERIOD
C21-276	26°34'22.00"S	29° 4'33.70"E	Uncertain





Human remains from Kinross Ext 30 reinterred at Embalenhle Cemetery with headstone inscriptions:

**REMAINS OF AN UNIDENTIFIED PERSON FOUND AT KINROSS EXT 30
 LOCATION: LAT: 26°25'04.2"S LONG: 029°05'37.8"E
 D.O.B: UNKNOWN
 D.O.D: UNKNOWN
 DATE OF SALVAGE: JULY 2018
 DATE OF REBURIAL: SEPTEMBER 2019.
 R.I.P.**

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE	Section 36 of NHRA, human remains are held sacred.
MITIGATION	Reburied in a formal cemetery.

7. PHOTO CATALOGUE



Figure 1: The undertaker laying the bones in the coffin.



Figure 2: The hearse leaving the funeral home.



Figure 3: Arrival at the cemetery, Archbishop Nkongwane presiding.



Figure 4: The Archbishop performing funeral rites.



Figure 5: The coffin being lowered into the grave shaft.



Figure 6: Funeral attendants sitting in a marquee erected at the grave site.



Figure 7: Closing prayer.



Figure8: Finished monument.

8. ATTENDANCE REGISTER



(AHTSA) Archaeological and Heritage Services Africa (Pty) Ltd

ATTENDANCE REGISTER 23 September 2019

RE: Reburial of Human Remains from Kinross Ext 30

DATE	NAME	ORGANISATION	PHONE / EMAIL	SIGNATURE
23/09/2019	ABRAHAM STENEVELDT	AHS	082 867 8511 asteeneveldt@gmail.com	
23/09/2019	Oscar Sitole	ABAZIYO CONSULTING ENGINEERS	079 119 2092 oscar@abaziyo.co.za	
23/09/2019	ARLH BISHOP NCHUNGA	SA. CC EMBALMENT	082253 4248	
23/09/19	Sam Masuku	CLO TBE	082 749 2665	
	Douglas Mokoena	Maziya	0818485975	
23-09-19	Mowena Swabi	Maziya's Funeral	098 252 9203	
23-09-19	Mthlanga Nomwa	Dr matenga's Assistant	073 315 7046	
23-09-19	Bongani Mokoena	Maziya funeral	0764598683	
23-09-19	JOSIANCINA	MAZIYA FUNERAL	072 157 9207	
23 "	JABU MUTHA	"	071 358 1059	
"	MANDLA MANDLA	"	079 617 8531	
"	TOKI MOKOENA	"	0674029088	
1.	KWAZI KLOPHE	"	0637846965	
"	JABU TAN	"	081 4386 718	
"	JABU KUBHEKA	SIKHUMBYZO MEMORIAL	073558 6812	
1	SIFISO NXUMALO	"	0713779680	