

FREE STATE PROVINCE STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT (FINAL DRAFT)

CHAPTER 12 HERITAGE RESOURCES

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12.1 *CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES*

12.1.1 INTRODUCTION

Traces of human presence in the central interior of South Africa reach back to over 500 000 years ago. The Free State has a rich prehistory, which continually draws scientific interest. For instance, the internationally known fossil hominid site, Florisbad, is mentioned in all research dealing with the evolution of *Homo sapiens*. Other stone age inhabitants of the Free State left behind the evidence of their daily activities, as well as, later, their spiritual beliefs in the form of rock art. In the last 2000 years, Khoi herders and Iron Age farmers moved into the landscape and established themselves, leaving behind their distinctive traces. In the last 200 years European settlers moved into the area, and demarcated the boundaries of what we call the Free State today.

These layers of human occupation of the landscape have helped to mould the Free State as we know it, and are our cultural heritage. Apart from the fact that this heritage is protected by legislation (the National Heritage Resources Act no. 25 of 1999, [NHRA]), it is important to acknowledge the past through conservation and documentation, not only of places or sites, but also of oral history, objects, crafts and traditions. For this reason, the cultural heritage discussed in this chapter includes not only declared National Monuments, but also other important historic or prehistoric sites, objects and their custodians, as well as places which are dedicated to preserving traditional crafts and other art forms.

The South African Heritage Resources Agency defines the national estate as "encompass[ing] heritage resources of cultural significance for the present community and for future generations. It may include places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage; historical

settlements; landscapes and natural features of cultural significance; archaeological and palaeontological sites; graves and burial grounds, including ancestral and royal graves and graves of traditional leaders; graves of victims of conflict; and sites relating to the history of slavery in South Africa. ... A place or object is considered part of the national estate if it has cultural significance because of its importance in the community, or pattern of South Africa's history, its possession of rare aspects of South Africa's natural or cultural heritage, its strong or special association with a particular cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons." (SAHRA website).

Increasingly tourism is being seen as a revenue earner and an area in which job opportunities can be created. Cultural Heritage Resources are important drawcards for tourists and can be particularly economically significant in rural areas. However, cultural heritage resources are a *non-renewable, finite and fragile resource*. If they are not managed properly they deteriorate and are destroyed. It is therefore vital that the resources are managed properly and become sustainable.

12.1.2 ISSUES

This chapter will discuss cultural heritage resources in the light of two issues. The first is the social and economic factors, which affect the preservation of cultural resources, and the second is the sustainability of the resources for tourism. The preservation of cultural heritage resources has a legal basis in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (no. 25 of 1999), and these two issues need therefore to conform with the Act.

12.1.3 DPSIR ANALYSIS

The two issues are discussed in terms of the DPSIR framework. They are interlinked, as financial considerations and the sustainability of resources are fundamental to both.

12.1.3.1 Driving forces

Inadequate resources and competition in the allocation of resources are, together with population growth and economic development, the main factors which affect the preservation of cultural heritage resources. Pressure on resources by an expanding population is a general force, but authorities need to be proactive in dealing with the increasing needs of the population. Heritage resources are often sidelined, as they are perceived as adding quality to life rather than sustaining it. Basic needs, such as housing and sanitation, are critical issues which demand attention and can overwhelm authorities and communities not informed about the importance of heritage issues.

The recognition that tourism can provide economic benefits to a region has encouraged efforts by government and private individuals to develop tourist attractions in the province. While this development can have positive effects in that sites are maintained, the development might also not be sensitive to the character of the site.

12.1.3.2 Pressures

Inadequate resources encompass not only a lack of financial resources to maintain cultural heritage sites and to support research into their significance, but also the lack of capacity within heritage agencies and provincial and municipal authorities. This shortage of staff to undertake education, policing and monitoring of cultural heritage resources leads to a lack of enforcement of the legislation, as well as to not having people on the ground to put projects together to compete for resources for cultural heritage projects. There have also been shifts in emphasis on what is regarded as worth preserving, which together with a poor understanding of the importance of cultural heritage resources, is leading to the under-allocation of resources for heritage projects.

Pressures of economic development and population growth affect patterns of land use (Chapter 6), and these changes in use often impact on cultural heritage resources. The expansion of informal settlements and the changing dynamics within cities and towns, such as the movement of the economic hub away from city centres, also often leads to buildings no longer being maintained or being left vacant. Unplanned development or expansion often hastens the destruction of heritage resources.

Initiatives to increase tourism to an area, for example the Maloti Route, lead to cultural heritage sites being identified as tourist attractions, and being advertised as such (Chapter 7.4). Some sites may not be able to accommodate large numbers of tourists, or are too fragile to be visited without supervision. A positive aspect, however, is the encouragement for the preservation of traditional crafts and information which can be exploited as commodities for the tourism market.

12.1.3.3 State

The cultural heritage resources of the Free State have not all been recorded. It is therefore only possible to report on those sites or resources which are known. There are undoubtedly many more which need to be documented, but there is a

lack of resources and people to do the work. Table 12.1.1 presents an indication of the numbers of known sites in the Free State which can be declared cultural heritage sites or centres of custodianship of objects or information.

The number of declared sites (Table 12.1.1) is merely an indication of sites/buildings etc, which have received official heritage status. Most of these sites are on private land and are not open to the public. The fact that the sites or buildings are declared does not mean that they are sustainably managed, but it does place a duty on authorities to make sure that the declared buildings, which they own or are responsible for, are maintained. The Presidency in Bloemfontein is a case of a declared state-owned building which has been neglected, and is now in critical need of repairs.

Table 12.1.1: Cultural heritage sites in the Free State, with an indication of how many are declared National Monuments

TYPES OF SITES	NUMBER OF KNOWN SITES (IE MINIMUM NO.)	NUMBER OF DECLARED SITES
Archaeological sites:		
Stone Age sites	over 1000	2
Rock Art sites	over 700	5
Iron Age sites	over 900	3
Historical sites	at least 6	2
Historical structures (industrial & bridges)	many, no inventory exists	7
Buildings or structures	many, no inventory exists	105
Battlefields	over 17 major & 50 minor	7
Blockhouses	8	2
Concentration camps	over 9	4
Monuments	over 50	3
Graves	unknown number	5
Natural sites of cultural significance	unknown number	7
Sacred sites (not buildings or	over 3	0

TYPES OF SITES	NUMBER OF KNOWN SITES (IE MINIMUM NO.)	NUMBER OF DECLARED SITES
archaeological)		
Art galleries (ie. permanent collections)	at least 3	0
Museums	15*	N/A
Cultural centres	4	N/A
TOTAL		152

* plus 2 museum displays in libraries, and an unknown number of private museums

Sources: National Museum; van der Bank, 1995; *pers comms*: H. Gous, M. Briedenhann, J. Hattingh,

The archaeology of the Free State attests to human occupation of the area since the Early Stone Age (in the Free State possibly as long ago as 800 000 years). Very few of these early sites have been recorded, but an example would be the Middle Pleistocene site of Cornelia, which has produced a rich array of animal fossils, as well as a hominid molar. The other well-known hominid site, Florisbad, is also one of the two most intensively studied Middle Stone Age sites in the Free State, the other being Rose Cottage Cave near Ladybrand. Both are declared National Monuments (Government Gazettes 17457 & 19719 respectively).

The many Later Stone Age sites in the Free State have not been intensively studied, apart from those which are now covered by the Gariep and Van der Kloof dams. These were recorded in a survey in the 1960s (Sampson, 1972). Three of the type sites, which gave their names to Stone Age industries, are found in the Free State (viz. Fauresmith, Lockshoek and Smithfield).

Rock art sites, which can be either rock engravings or rock paintings, are found throughout the Free State. Some of these sites are well-maintained, and five are declared National Monuments. Not many Khoi sites are known and this area is largely under-researched. The situation is better for Iron Age sites (e.g. Maggs, 1976), and five of them have been declared National Monuments.

There are many buildings worthy of conservation in the Free State, either because they represent a particular building style, or because they are associated with a particular event or person (see Schoeman, 1982 for examples). Most of the National Monuments that have been declared are buildings which is a reflection of the emphasis on what was considered important in the past. Only

6.5% of the declared national monuments are of pre-colonial sites, an imbalance which needs to be addressed.

The turbulent history surrounding the establishment of the Orange Free State Boer republic and its fight for survival against the British Empire is reflected in numerous battlefields scattered throughout the Free State. These range from the battles of Vegkop (1836) and Boomplaats (1848) to those of the South African War of 1899-1902. Also relating to this military history are the blockhouses, forts and redoubts, which still remain, many of which are conservation-worthy. For instance, the hexagonal stone blockhouse at Kroonstad is the only one of its kind in the country, but is in urgent need of repair. The Republic's battles over its eastern and western boundaries (the "Basotho Wars" and the skirmishes in the Boshof area) are largely neglected.

Monuments commemorating wars, the people who died in them, important statesmen, and events are also scattered over the Free State. Few monuments have been erected in recent years. Most of them are over 60 years old and therefore protected by the NHRA, although many are neglected.

The category, sacred sites, overlaps with both archaeological sites (all rock art sites were sacred sites) and buildings (for instance mission stations, and churches, such as the Rose Chapel cave church at the Anglican Mission Station of St Augustine's at Modderpoort). However, there are some important sacred sites which do not fall into these categories, but which are very much part of our cultural heritage. These would be sites of pilgrimage such as Badimong and Matuoleng in the Eastern Free State.

All graves older than 60 years or of victims of conflict are protected under the NHRA (graves younger than this fall under the Human Tissues Act). Certain graveyards, the graves of prominent people and war graves would most recognisably form part of our cultural heritage.

An important category of cultural heritage sites would be those which are custodians of heritage objects, art and traditional practices, as well as centres which promote the preservation of living heritage. Apart from the more well-known institutions, such as museums and art galleries, this category would also include places such as the Basotho Cultural Village in QwaQwa and the Mmabane Cultural Centre at Thaba Nchu. Although some of the institutions are provincially or nationally funded, many of the smaller museums or art galleries are municipal or are privately run. The Free State Museum Services assists museums throughout the province with displays and curation, but is hampered by lack of funds. It also has three oral history projects under its auspices.

Palaeontological sites and material are also covered by the NHRA, and they are included here for that reason, even though they are not strictly Cultural Heritage Resources. The Free State is very rich in palaeontological sites, with some 4000 fossil specimens curated in the collection of the National Museum in Bloemfontein. The Eastern and Southern Free State areas are the prime collecting areas, with particular emphasis on the Clarens and Elliot Formations of the Beaufort Group. Although contextual information of place of discovery is vitally important, the nature of the material is such that it is only once the fossil has been removed (under permit), prepared and studied that it really contributes to our understanding of the palaeontological record. As such, palaeontological sites are therefore usually extractive sites. There is also a growing emphasis on Quaternary Palaeontology in the Free State, and some important sites are being located in the course of this work.

The state of preservation of cultural heritage resources in the Free State varies from well-preserved to virtually destroyed. This can usually be directly related to whether the site is managed and whether funding is available. In many cases the sites do not have adequate facilities to cope with tourists and are not robust enough to withstand unsupervised visits. Lack of funding is a major contributor to the decay of structures, as these are often not maintained and the fabric decays. Some of historic buildings and monuments, which are in or near city centres, are neglected because the area is no longer economically active, or the buildings are not adequate for proposed new usage. The preservation of heritage resources is often not a high priority, and they have to compete for the allocation of funds with primary issues, such as sanitation and housing. This is particularly the case in the smaller towns, and the Free State has seen the closure of several small museums over the last decade.

At provincial level, heritage issues have had to compete for funding with higher profile concerns, such as sport, within the government department. For instance in 2003 the Provincial Sport, Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Department allocated just under R13 million for Museums and Heritage services (of which R5.9 million was to go to the upgrading and rehabilitation of four museums), while Sport and Recreation received over R90 million in the same financial year (Mfebe, 2003), about seven times the amount allocated to museums and heritage services.

12.1.3.4 Impacts

The growth in construction and other developments in the Free State has had an impact on the preservation of heritage sites. Archaeological sites are most likely to be preserved on undeveloped land. This is often where new townships are established and where informal settlements expand. Unless the area is surveyed for archaeological sites before this happens, the sites will be disturbed or

destroyed and the information and material they contain, lost. An archaeological site cannot be rehabilitated or reconstructed once it has been bulldozed.

Buildings which undergo changes in use (such as from domestic to business) are often unsympathetically modified, which will impact on their value as cultural resources.

A lack of understanding about the importance of heritage resources on the part of government, municipalities and local communities contributes to feelings of unconnectedness with certain sites or structures. This leads to a lack of will to allocate funding for maintaining resources and in some cases even to the willful destruction of resources. Neglect, vandalism and illegal occupancy, which occur when sites are not monitored and managed, are major contributing factors to the destruction of sites. The lack of resources to police heritage sites allows developers to think that they can “get away” with the destruction of sites or buildings.

Unsupervised access to fragile sites often results in vandalism and the destruction of the resource. A good example of this is the rock art site at Modderpoort, which was declared a national monument in 1936. The rock paintings at this site, which were magnificent seventy years ago, have now almost disappeared as a result of vandalism. Sites which do not have adequate facilities for tourists and which are not managed will be destroyed.

12.1.3.5 Responses

South Africa ratified the 1972 *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (a UNESCO initiative) on 10 July 1997 (UNESCO website). This convention promotes co-operation between nations to protect natural and cultural heritage of outstanding, universal, value (Chapters 11.1 and 12.2). South Africa has five World Heritage sites, (the Fossil Hominid Sites of Sterkfontein, Swartkrans, Kromdraai and Environs (Cradle of Humankind sites), Greater St Lucia Wetland Park, Robben Island, the uKhahlamba/Drakensberg Park and the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape [UNESCO sites website]). South Africa is a member of the World Heritage Committee for the period 2003-2005.

Nationally, cultural heritage resources are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act no 25 of 1999 (NHRA) (Chapter 5). The South African Heritage Resources Agency is tasked with identifying heritage resources and drawing up criteria whereby these resources can be assessed and graded. However, this has not yet been done in the Free State through lack of funding, and will not take place in the foreseeable future. SAHRA are also involved in campaigns to educate and create an awareness of the heritage of the country (Chapter 14.3). The NHRA and the National Environmental Management Act no. 107 of 1998 also

require that impact assessments be undertaken before development is underway (Chapter 14.2). This should be monitored by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and by SAHRA.

The NHRA also makes provision for the formation of provincial heritage resources agencies (PHRA) that would be tasked with issuing permits for the destruction of heritage sites and the regulation of the protection and control of provincial resources. The PHRAs were supposed to be operational from 1 April 2002, but this has not happened, with the result that there has been illegal destruction of heritage resources by developers.

Responses to the pressures on heritage resources should be a combination of the carrot and the stick. At a basic level, decision-makers, developers, communities and owners of heritage resources should be educated in the legal aspects of heritage preservation. They should also be made aware of their responsibilities in the matter of heritage, and the importance of these resources in tourism and education. There is a need for the reconciliation between communities and different sectors of the population to help individuals embrace the many facets of our cultural heritage. Effective policing of heritage resources can only be carried out through the involvement of the local communities in their preservation (Chapter 14.4). Communities therefore need to take 'ownership' of the heritage preserved in their area. Authorities also need to ensure that Environmental Impact Assessments are carried out when developments are proposed, and that the recommendations of the specialist involved in the reporting are carried out (Chapter 14.2).

The carrot should be in the form of incentives by provincial government and municipalities to owners and developers to maintain and preserve cultural resources (Chapters 11.2 and 11.3). The private sector should be encouraged to be involved in projects to preserve the cultural heritage of the province.

It is vital that sites which are identified as tourist attractions have management plans. This will ensure that the site is monitored, that tourism is controlled, and visitors prevented from vandalising the site. The employment of trained guides or caretakers will both inform the visitors (who are then less likely to vandalise the site), as well as monitor their behaviour at the site. If the heritage resources are not sustainable, by remaining in good condition and being able to contribute to their upkeep, they will lose their value as tourist attractions.

More sites should be declared national monuments in the province, as this is one way of underlining the importance of conserving them. It is also important that all communities should feel that they have a stake in the declared heritage sites of the province, and it is therefore necessary that sites relevant to previously neglected history should be added to the national register. Institutions recording

and helping with the preservation of oral history, traditional arts and crafts and objects should also receive adequate funding. Practitioners of these living heritage aspects are usually the older members of the community, and if these people do not pass on their knowledge or record it, it will be lost.

12.1.4 OUTCOMES

Legislation has encouraged the greater awareness amongst developers and within provincial government of the need to take heritage into account when planning a development. However the impasse in the setting up of the PRHA has severely compromised the image of SAHRA and its perceived effectiveness.

A lack of funding and resources is hampering the preservation of cultural resources and living heritage in the province, with a few exceptions.

Tourism has encouraged private individuals to use the cultural heritage resources under their control as a source of revenue. In most cases there is some form of site management, and these sites are being maintained. However, there are many cases where sites are not being managed or monitored, and these sites will be destroyed or damaged unless proper management plans are put in place.

12.1.5 LINKAGES

The linkages in this section would be to:

Chapter 5: Policy and legislative environment

Chapter 6: Landuse

Chapter 7.4: Tourism and leisure

Chapter 11.1: Biodiversity

Chapter 11.2: Formally protected conservation areas

Chapter 11.3: Informally protected conservation areas

Chapter 12.2: Natural Heritage Resources

Chapter 14.2: Integrating environmental considerations in decision-making

Chapter 14.3: Environmental empowerment, education and information initiatives

Chapter 14.4: Environmental management capacity building initiatives

12.1.6 DATA ISSUES

The data for cultural heritage resources is fragmented and held at several different institutions and organisations, such as the National Museum, War Museum, SAHRA, the University of the Free State and Free State Museum Services. There is no inventory of the cultural heritage resources of the province, and it is therefore very difficult to assess the standard of preservation of the resources.

It is necessary to have a co-ordinated effort to put together a database of heritage sites in the province. In this exercise, individuals, local communities, municipalities and heritage institutions should be invited to nominate sites for the register.

12.1.7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Free State has a rich cultural heritage which is relatively unknown. Lack of awareness of this heritage, as well as insufficient funding, human resources and little incentive for preservation are aiding in the degradation and destruction of the provincial heritage. Tourism has encouraged the development of some sites, but there is no co-ordination in this matter and no monitoring of whether sites are being managed properly or not.

The following recommendations are made:

- ❑ that a provincial inventory of cultural heritage sites is drawn up;
- ❑ that sites with tourist potential are identified and management plans are put in place;
- ❑ that only sites which have management plans demonstrating sustainability and protection of the site should be accredited as tourist attractions;
- ❑ that there should be dedicated financial allocation at provincial and municipal level for the maintenance of identified heritage sites;
- ❑ that education of decision makers, developers and owners in heritage legislation should be a priority;
- ❑ that communities should be encouraged to participate in heritage management, and this includes communicating living heritage issues to authorities;
- ❑ that incentives to maintain and preserve cultural heritage resources should be built into municipal and provincial regulations;
- ❑ that Environmental Impact Assessments include assessments, by qualified individuals, of cultural remains in the area, and that the recommendations made are followed through.

12.1.8 INDICATORS

Cultural Heritage Resources have not been addressed in a cohesive manner in the Free State Province. As a result, there is no baseline which can be used for measurement of the indicators as yet. However, once this information has been gathered the following indicators are suggested (see also Table 12.1.2):

- ❑ A cultural heritage database which would include information on the number of heritage sites, whether they were proclaimed or not, the type of site, whether they had management plans, in what condition the site was, and

who is responsible for the upkeep. Sites discovered during environmental impact assessments should also be included on the database, and their destruction or preservation monitored.

- ❑ Investment in the maintenance and research of cultural heritage resources (Mangold et al, 2002). This includes, but is not limited to, provincial and municipal budgets for the preservation of cultural heritage sites and what percentage of the budget was spent on heritage projects. This needs to be measured in terms of what is sufficient to maintain the sites and projects.
- ❑ The number of sites which are managed as tourist attractions, whether they are sustainably managed, and visitor numbers (where available).

Table 12.1.2. Proposed list of indicators (for more detail see text)

INDICATOR	FREQUENCY
Database updates	five yearly
Investment in maintenance & research	two yearly
Sustainable tourist attractions	two yearly

Protocols need to be established to follow-up on the results of the indicators, and to ensure that heritage sites are maintained. Without this active monitoring, and resultant action if sites are being neglected or destroyed, the database will only document the disappearance of our cultural heritage sites.

12.1.9 REFERENCES

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M. Briedenhann, Free State Museum Services

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12.1.10 APPENDIX:

SELECTED LIST OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES BY CATEGORY.

This list is not complete, and is merely a suggestion of what can be included in the database of Cultural Heritage Sites for the Free State.

A building or site that is not declared may very well be conservation-worthy. All sites or buildings older than 60 years are protected by legislation, and must be assessed before they are modified or destroyed, for which a permit is needed.

Archaeological sites: only a few, selected, sites are listed here:

Type	Name	Declared or not	State of management
Hominid/Middle Stone Age	Florisbad	Declared: GG 18263	Good, managed by National Museum
Middle Stone Age	Rose Cottage Cave	Declared: GG 19719	Reasonable, on Municipal property
Rock Art	Tandjesberg	Declared: GG 14358	Good, managed by farm owner
Iron Age	Bekkersberg, Willem Pretorius Game Reserve	Not declared	Reasonable, site fenced, in game reserve

Buildings or structures: a total of 100 buildings or structures are listed below, 26 of which are churches. This is not the total number of buildings which have been declared, nor the total number of conservation-worthy buildings or structures in the Free State.

No. of declared buildings	Town
one	Boshof, Bothaville, Fouriesburg, Harrismith, Heilbron, Hoopstad, Jacobsdal, Luckhoff, Petrus Steyn, Reitz, Senekal, Smithfield, Tweespruit, Vredefort, Warden, Winburg,
two	Bethulie, Fauresmith, Kestell, Parys, Reddersburg, Rouxville, Thaba Nchu, Ventersburg, Vrede
three - ten	Frankfort (3), Ficksburg (4), Kroonstad (5), Ladybrand (5), Philippolis (9)
more than ten	Bethlehem (13), Bloemfontein (27)
TOTAL: 100	

A selection of buildings are mentioned below as examples:

Type of building	City/town	Declared or not	Status if known
First Raadsaal	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 2346	Museum
Tweetoring church	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 432	Place of worship
Old Government building (NALN)	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 3473	Museum
First building of the University of the Free State	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 5360	
Old NGK Mission church building	Bethlehem	Declared, GG 8350	?Museum
Old Landdrost building	Bethlehem	Declared, GG 8747	
Old market building	Kroonstad	Declared, GG 9007	
City Hall	Harrismith	Declared, GG 9007	
City Hall complex	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 9384	retains original function
Property with Pellissier House Museum	Bethulie	Declared, GG 9620	Museum
Old Landdrost offices	Ficksburg	Declared, GG 10047	
Freshford House	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 10225	Museum
NG Moederkerk	Kroonstad	Declared, GG 10225	
NGK building	Vrede	Declared, GG 11511	
Fourth Raadsaal	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 12142	retains original function
Presidency	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 12214	Museum
Old post office (was government building) & cells	Kroonstad	Declared, GG 12540	
Old Landdrost office	Frankfort	Declared, GG 12814	
Arthur Nathan swimming pool complex	Bloemfontein	Declared, GG 16670	retains original function
Mapikela House	Batho, Mangaung	temporarily declared	retains original function

Bethanie Mission station	Bethanie	not declared	partial original function
Avoca (79 Aliwal St.)	Bloemfontein	not declared	offices
Wesleyan Church School	Bloemfontein	not declared	business

Battlefields, blockhouses and concentration camps: a selection of sites and buildings relating to Free State military history:

Military site	Significance	Declared or not
Vegkop	1836, Voortrekkers & Ndebele	Declared, GG 2346
Boomplaats	1848, British & Boer against British sovereignty	not declared
Viervoet	1851, British & Basotho border disputes	not declared
Berea battlefield	1852, British & Basotho border disputes	not declared
Jammerbergdrif battlefield	1900, South African War	Declared, GG 6153
Sannaspos battlefield	1900, South African War	Declared, GG 8747
Paardeberg battlefield	1900, South African War	Declared, GG 10536
Surrender Hill	1900, South African War	Declared, GG 10296
Driefontein battlefield	1900, South African War	not declared
Bethulie concentration camp graveyard	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 9759
Brandfort concentration camp graveyard	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 9918
Vredefortweg concentration camp graveyard	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 9918
Brandfort black graves & concentration camp	relates to South African War	not declared
Winburg concentration camp & British graveyard	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 10113
Jacobsdal blockhouse	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 8899
Harrismith blockhouse	relates to South African War	Declared, GG 15636
Kroonstad blockhouse	relates to South African War	not declared

Monuments and graves: a few examples of monuments and graves in the Free State:

Description	Place	Significance	Declared or not
Women's Memorial (including Emily Hobhouse's ashes)	Bloemfontein	Commemorates the women & children who died in the SA War	Declared, GG 8374
White Horse, Naval Hill	Bloemfontein	Wiltshire regiment horse depot during SA War	Declared, GG 8415
Various SA War monuments	eg. Boshof	Commemorates the Comte De Villebois Mareuil & other Free State burghers who died in the War	not declared
Voortrekker Monument	Winburg	Commemorates voortrekkers	not declared
Anna Mantsopa's grave	St Augustine's, Modderpoort	exiled Sotho prophetess	not declared
Paramount Chief Moroka II's grave	Thaba Nchu	Paramount chief of the Rolong	not declared

Louw Wepener's grave	Bethulie district	Commandant, killed at Thaba Bosiu during the Basotho War of 1865	Declared , GG 10487
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Sacred sites and natural sites of cultural significance: The sacred sites are often natural formations which are places of pilgrimage. There are more such sites in the Eastern Free State, and these are only examples. Other natural sites have also become sites of cultural significance as a result of the events which took place there, or the people associated with the site.

Description	Location	Significance	Declared or not
Badimong	Rosendal area	sacred site	not declared
Matuoleng	Clarens area	sacred site	not declared
Retiefklip	Kerkenberg	Voortrekker leader Piet Retief's party stopped here	Declared, GG 2622 & 17351
Boom van sameswering	Onze Rust	Large tree under which many weighty discussions took place with ex-President Steyn	Declared, GG 4496
Mantsopa's well	Modderpoort	place of pilgrimage	not declared

Museums, Art Galleries and Cultural Centres: these are places which are custodians of the Free State's heritage objects, art and living heritage.

Institution, gallery or cultural centre	Location
National Museum	Bloemfontein
National Afrikaans Literature Museum (NALN)	Bloemfontein
Sesotho Literary Museum (housed at NALN)	Bloemfontein
National Music and Theatre Museum	Bloemfontein
War Museum of the Boer Republics	Bloemfontein
Military Museum Fort	Bloemfontein
Presidency Museum	Bloemfontein
Free State Agricultural Museum	Glen
Pionier Museum	Winburg
Pellissier House Museum	Bethulie
Bethlehem Museum	Bethlehem
Riemland Museum	Heilbron
Transgariep Museum	Philippolis
Caledon River Museum	Smithfield
Parys Museum	Parys
Clarens Museum	Clarens
Welkom Museum	Welkom
Eerste Raadsaal Museum	Bloemfontein
Freshford House Museum	Bloemfontein
Oliewenhuis Art Gallery	Bloemfontein
Johannes Stegmann Art Gallery, University of the Free State	Bloemfontein
SH Pellissier Art Gallery	Ficksburg
Private Art Galleries	Clarens (12), Bloemfontein (2), Parys (1)
Basotho Cultural Village	OwaQwa

Mmabane Cultural Centre	Thaba Nchu
Thabong Arts and Culture Centre	Welkom
Zamdela Cultural Centre	Sasolburg
Heritage collections displayed in other venues	Ladybrand, Rouxville
Uncertain status	Boshof, Kroonstad
Closed down	Harrismith, Ficksburg, Fouriesburg (destroyed by fire), Dealesville