

EXHUMATION AND RELOCATION REPORT FOR THE TEN GRAVES FOUND IN LABORE, BRAKPAN, GAUTENG PROVINCE.

Date: March 2022

Archaeology and Heritage Services

COPYRIGHT

The information produced in this report is for the purposes of providing feedback for the exhumation and relocation process. Therefore, no person is allowed to copy or reproduce this report without written consent of the author. This is with exception to SAH Development Managers, the City of Ekurhuleni and the South African Heritage Resources Agency.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

This report has been compiled by Makhosazana Mngomezulu, principal archaeologist and heritage consultant. The views expressed in this report are independent of the author and no other interest was displayed during the decision making process for the exhumation and relocation of graves.

SIGNATURE:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Int	troduction	4
2.	Le	gal Compliance	5
3.	Me	ethodology	5
4.	Lo	cality area	6
5.	Pι	ıblic Participation	9
6.	Ex	humation	9
7.	Co	onclusion	12
8.	Αp	ppendices	13
8	.1.	Appendix A: Newspaper Advertisement	13
8	.2.	Appendix B: Placement of site notices	14
8	.3.	Appendix C: Radio Announcement Schedule	18
8	.4.	Appendix D: City of Ekurhuleni Health Permit	19
8	.5.	Appendix E: SAHRA Permit	20
8	.6.	Appendix F: Images of graves after reburial	23
		OF FIGURES 1: Locality map of the proposed automotive aftermarket hubs in Labore Brakpan	7
•		2: Aerial view of the study area	
		3: Labelled graves prior to exhumation in Labore	
Fig	ure	4: Sketch in relation to figure 3	10
		5: Opened graves for reburial at Vlakfontein cemetery	
Fig	ure	6: Sketch in relation to figure 5.	11
LIS	T C	OF TABLES	
Tab	ole 1	1: Exhumation number in relation to the cemetery number	12

1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Ekurhuleni's Economic Development Department is constructing an automotive aftermarket manufacturing hub in Labore, Brakpan within the City of Ekurhuleni. The intention of the project, whose construction is currently underway, is that it serves as an automotive aftermarket industry which is the secondary market of the automotive industry. This includes the manufacturing, remanufacturing, distribution, retailing, and installation of all vehicle parts, equipment, and accessories, after the sale of the automobile by the original equipment manufacturer to the consumer. The project scope entails the construction of warehouses, storages and offices. The Labore Automotive Hub forms part of the greater Labore Industrial Park currently being developed by the City of Ekurhuleni. This project has an approved Environmental Authorization (EA) together with an approved Phase I Heritage Impact Assessment Record of Decision (RoD) dated 19 June 2018 and issued 12 July 2018.

During construction, an estimated number of ten (10) graves were discovered and barricaded as per the recommendation of the heritage report to avoid any impact. Some of these graves were noted during the Phase I HIA site visit, however, they could not be confirmed if whether or not they are graves due to some parts of the study area being used as a dumping site. As such, these were marked as possible graves. Due to the nature of the proposed project the City of Ekurhuleni would prefer to relocate the graves. SAH Development Managers on behalf of the City of Ekurhuleni have appointed Vungandze Projects to undertake the process of exhumation and relocation of the said graves.

According to Section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999):

- "...(3) No person may, without a permit issued by SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority—
- ...(b) destroy, damage, alter, exhume, remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- (c) bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation equipment, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals...

- ...(5) SAHRA or a provincial heritage resources authority may not issue a permit for any activity under subsection (3)(b) unless it is satisfied that the applicant has, in accordance with regulations made by the responsible heritage resources authority—
- (a) made a concerted effort to contact and consult communities and individuals who by tradition have an interest in such grave or burial ground".

The report will be submitted to the SAHRA for review and for a decision as per the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999).

The purpose of this document is to provide feedback to SAHRA, City of Ekurhuleni and SAH Development Managers on the exhumation and relocation of the Labore graves.

2. LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The process of exhumation and relocation of human remains in the South Africa is governed by the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999), the National Health Act (Act 61 of 2003) and the relevant Municipal laws and by-laws. Graves older than 60 years are governed by both SAHRA and the National Health Act. Whereas, graves below 60 years are governed by the National Health Act. To ensure compliance, certain criteria must be met before SAHRA and the department of Health can issue any permits. Permit by the Municipality was issued in a form of consent given that they are also the land owners of the property in which graves are situated. Upon submission of all required documents and meeting the minimum requirements; the following permits were obtained:

- A permit was issued by the City's Environmental Health Department on 20 December 2021 (Appendix D).
- A permit was issued by the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) on 19
 January 2022 with Permit No. 3308 under CaseID: 16687 (Appendix E).

3. METHODOLOGY

Prior to the exhumation; each grave was labelled (e.g., grave 01 – grave 10) and photographs were taken. Tools such as picks, trowels and shovels were used during the exhumation. Each coffin was marked as per each grave number provided. Upon completion of the exhumation,

remains were transported by hearse as provided for by Alpha Funeral to Vlakfontein Cemetery. Upon burial, the grave number provided by the cemetery was recorded and documented in reference to the grave number initially provided (e.g., grave 01); this will allow ease of reference in terms of knowing which grave is associated with which cemetery number.

4. LOCALITY AREA

The proposed study area is an open veld located in Joe Arnison Street in Labore, Brakpan at Ekurhuleni District Municipality, Gauteng Province (see figure 1-2).

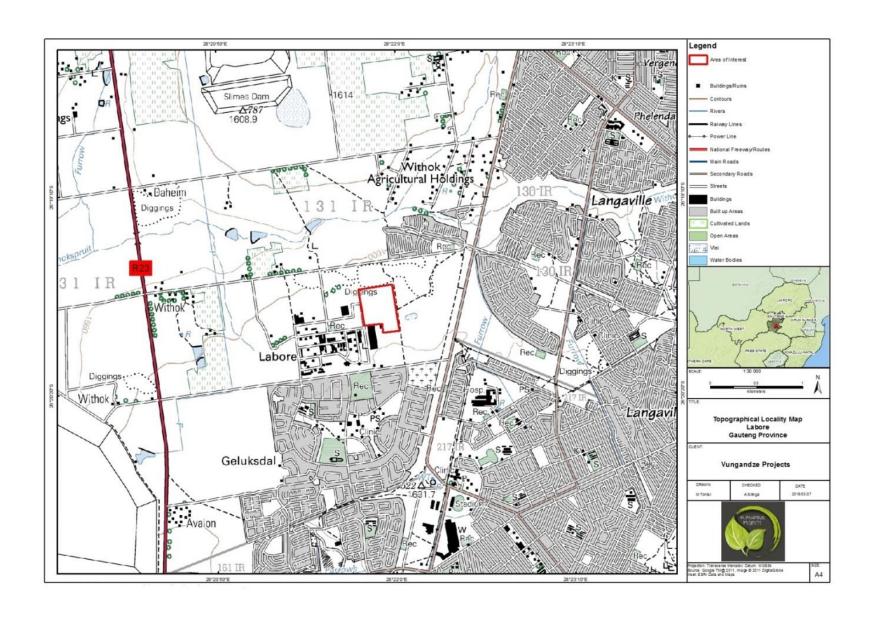


Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed automotive aftermarket hubs in Labore Brakpan.



Figure 2: Aerial view of the study area

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public Participation Process was conducted with the aim of locating the next-of-kin of the said graves. This includes newspaper advertisement; placing of site notices; community meetings; distribution of Background Information Documents (BIDs) and radio announcements. The newspaper advertisement was published by the Brakpan Herald under the classifieds on Friday 05 March 2021 (Appendix A). The site notices were placed around Labore, Geluksdal and Tsakane (Appendix B). Background Information Documents (BIDs) written in both English and IsiZulu were circulated by the Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Fortunate Masilela, who also assisted in circulating a voice note on the WhatsApp community group.

The same voice notes which were both in English and SiSwati/IsiZulu were broadcasted on EKFM 103.6 (Community Radio Station) from 10 April 2021 – 14 April 2021 under different time slots in five South African official languages IsiZulu, SiSwati, IsiXhosa, SeSotho and English (Appendix C). Two community meetings were held at Faranani Site Hall under Covid 19 restrictions One on 07 April 2021 where attendance was not satisfactory; and another attempt on 14 April 2021 where again, the BID (English and IsiZulu version) was circulated to all the attendees. During the meeting a PowerPoint presentation was presented to the community explaining the background of the project and the purpose of the meeting which was to bring awareness the proposed graves relocation and assistance in locating the next-of-kin of the said graves. Community members had no knowledge of the graves under study nor assist is locating their next-of-kin.

Until this date, no comments have been received from the community or the next-of-kin.

6. EXHUMATION

The exhumation took place on 01 March 2022 upon receipt of all legal documents. Prior to exhumation, each grave was marked from grave 1 to grave 10 and a photograph was taken (figure 3-4). Each coffin was also marked with grave 1 to grave 10. All ten (10) graves were exhumed and no human skeletal remains were found. However, soil was collected on each grave as a substitute for reburial. They were all transported to Vlakfontein Cemetery by Alpha Funeral. Upon arrival at the cemetery the graves were already opened and a number allocated to each grave (figure 5-6). Table 1 illustrate each grave with its associated number (Appendix F).



Figure 3: Labelled graves prior to exhumation in Labore.

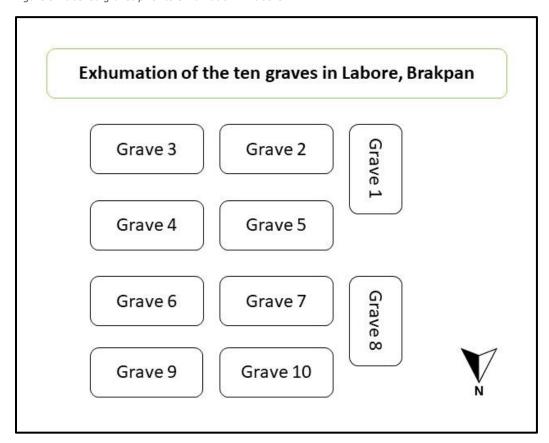


Figure 4: Sketch in relation to figure 3.



Figure 5: Opened graves for reburial at Vlakfontein cemetery.

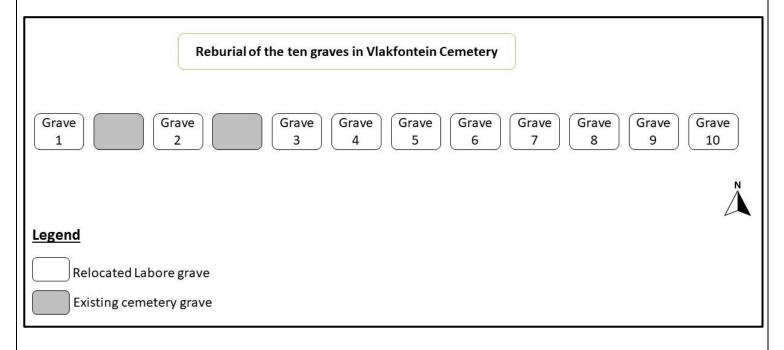


Figure 6: Sketch in relation to figure 5.

Table 1: Exhumation number in relation to the cemetery number.

Exhumation number	Cemetery number
Grave 1	Z6025
Grave 2	Z6023
Grave 3	Z6021
Grave 4	Z6020
Grave 5	Z6019
Grave 6	Z6018
Grave 7	Z6017
Grave 8	Z6016
Grave 9	Z6015
Grave 10	Z6014

7. CONCLUSION

The exhumation and relocation of the unknown human skeletal remains was conducted according to the requirements of the issued permits. The relocation of the graves from Labore, Brakpan to Vlakfontein Cemetery was a success. Although no human remains were found, soil was collected to substitute the reburial. Each exhumation number grave 1 to grave 10 has a unique cemetery number Z6014 to Z6025 for ease of referencing.

8. APPENDICES

8.1. Appendix A: Newspaper Advertisement



8.2. Appendix B: Placement of site notices





Laser street, Labore, Brakpan: 26°19'47"S, 28°21'49"E

1002 Rheumanella Drive, Geluksdal, Brakpan 26°20'10"S, 28°22'3"E





7 Ultra Street, Labore, Brakpan 26°20'3"S, 28°21'55"E



33686 Nzima Street, Tsakane, Brakpan 26°20'41"S, 28°22'47"E



A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

10890 Nzima Street, Tsakane, Brakpan 26°20'48"S, 28°22'24"E

27082 Zulu Street, Tsakane, Brakpan 26°20'48"S, 28°22'16"E



Mine Road, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'28"S, 28°22'8"E



Mine Road, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'28"S, 28°22'8"E

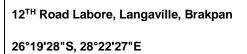


Management and the state of the

1875 Kiwi, Geluksdal, Brakpan 26°19'24"S, 28°22'13"E

1875 Kiwi,Geluksdal, Brakpan 26°19'25"S, 28°22'18"E







Boland Street, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'30"S, 28°22'15"E



Boland Street, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'59"S, 28°21'29"E



Unnamed Road, Withok Estate, Brakpan 26°19'32"S, 28°21'57"E



Joe Arnison Street, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'46.81S, 28°21'52.83"E



Joe Arnison Street, Labore, Brakpan 26°19'46.81S, 28°21'52.83"E

8.3. Appendix C: Radio Announcement Schedule



Faranani Multi-Purpose Centre

32019 Modjadji Street

Tsakane

Tel: (011) 738 5162

Email: hello@ekfm.co.za

Vungandze Projects (Pty) Ltd

35A Grace Avenue

Parkhill Gardens

Germiston

1401

Prepared 09 April 2021

Announcement schedule confirmation for Vungandze Projects on behalf of SAH Development

Managers and Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality regarding relocation of graves located in Labore

Brakpan

DATE	SCHEDULE	TIME	
12/04/2021	Community Announcements	18:20	
13/04/2021	Community Announcements	18:20	
14/04/2021	News Bulletin	14:00	

Signature _____

Mike Mathabathe

EKFM 103.6 Radio Notice Schedule

8.4. Appendix D: City of Ekurhuleni Health Permit



To:

ALPHA FUNERAL SERVICES 459 VLAMBOOM STREET

REIGERPARK, BOKSBURG

From:

Mr F M Ramabulana

Acting Manager Environmental Health

Eastern Region 1 [Nigel, Duduza & Tsakane]

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Exhumation & Relocation of Graves

Eng:

Mr TD Moticoe

Thabo.moticoe@ekurhuleni.gov.za E-Mail:

Date:

20 December 2021

HEALTH & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health Division

Old Nigel Clinic Building

Court Street

NIGEL

P. O. Box 23 NIGEL 1490

Tel: (011) 999-8032 / 8030

www.ekurhuleni.gov.za

: EXHUMATION OF THE REMAINS OF 10 UNKNOWN GRAVES BY ALPHA FUNERAL SERVICES IN TERMS OF SECTION 27 (1) (f) OF THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS, REGULATION R363 OF MAY 2013

Department of Health and Social Development: Environmental Health Division have, in principle, no objection to the granting of the above application provided the following requirements are met:

- A copy of the burial permit is provided to the area Environmental Health Practitioner
- A copy of a valid Certificate of Competence is made available
- Local South African Police Services be present at the exhumation site
- The correct grave is re-opened
- The grave and the human remains are treated with disinfectant after exhumation
- Adequate supply of water, soap and disinfectants for cleansing purposes shall be made available at the grave site for the cleansing of persons handling the human remains
- Human remains must be placed in a non-transparent and closely sealed container immediately after it has been disinterred and be handled in a way that no nuisance or health hazard is caused
- A new approved container is supplied by the undertaker or if the existing container is to be reused, such shall be secured and leak proofed.
- All pieces of the original container (coffin) shall be placed in a new container (coffin) together with the exhumed human remains
- The new coffin shall be properly sealed, leak proofed and identifiable
- Personal protective equipments shall be provided to the workers on site for the duration of the Exhumation (disposable gloves, mouth masks and disposable aprons/overall)
- The grave should be guarded for the duration of the exhumation
- Immediately after the remains have been removed, such grave shall be covered or sealed with approved top soil

Yours in service delivery

MR F M RAMABULANA

ACTING MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

EASTERN REGION

8.5. Appendix E: SAHRA Permit

Application for permit to exhume and relocate ten graves found in Labore, Brakpan.

Our Ref:



T: +87 31 462 4502 | P: +27 21 462 4500 | E: Info@unina org.ca South African Heritage Resources Agency | 1111 Herrington Street | Cape Town PG. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Thingahangwi Tracy Tshlyhase

Tel: 012 941 4968

Email: ttshivhase@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 16687

Date: Wednesday January 19, 2022

Page No: 1

PermittiD: 3308

PERMIT: Remove from its original position

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Permit Holder: Mrs Makhosazana Mngomezulu Vungandze Projects

Site: Joe Arnison Street, Withoek Farm, Labore, Brakpan (Labore Graves)

Vungadze Projects have been appointed by the City of Ekurhuleni's Economic Development Department to conduct the exhumation and rel-internment of 10 unknown graves to allow for construction of an automotive aftermarket manufacturing hub in Labore, Brakpan within the City of Ekurhuleni, Gauteng Province. This permit is allocated for the exhumation of the 10 graves as per section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.

Conditions:

- If the permit holder is not to be present on the site at all times then the heritage authority must be provided with the names and qualifications of the authorized representatives.
- Adequate recording methods as specified in the Regulations and Guidelines pertaining to the National Heritage Resources Act must be employed. Note that the position of all excavations and objects collected must be marked on a site plan.
- A standard site record form must be lodged on SAHRIS.
- 4. Human remains must at all times be handled with respect and graves should not be disturbed except where unavoidable. The consultation procedures as indicated in the Regulations and the National Heritage Resources Act must be observed as appropriate. The recommendations for removal of graves and exhumations and for re-burial stipulated in SAHRA's Policy What to do when graves are uncovered, section 3, must be observed as far as possible.
- A permit report is due by 31 January 2023. A preliminary report must be submitted within three months from the date this permit is issued.
- 6. All remains recovered, including relics and artefacts must be buried at a local municipal cemetery.
- Reprints of all published papers or copies of theses and/or reports resulting from this work must be lodged with the relevant provincial heritage authority and SAHRA.

Application for permit to exhume and relocate ten graves found in Labore, Brakpan.

Our Ref:



an agency of the Department of Arts and Cultury

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town

P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Thingahangwi Tracy Tshivhase

Tel: 012 941 4968

Email: ttshivhase@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 16687

Date: Wednesday January 19, 2022

Page No: 2

PermitID: 3308

- If a published report has not appeared within three years of the lapsing of this permit, the report required in terms of the permit will be made available to researchers on request.
- It is the responsibility of the permit holder to obtain permission from the landowner for each visit, and conditions of access imposed by the landowner must be observed.
- 10. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to fill in excavations and protect sites during and after excavation to the satisfaction of the heritage authority and the landowner.
- 11. The heritage authority shall not be liable for any losses, damages or injuries to persons or properties as a result of any activities in connection with this permit.
- The heritage authority reserves the right to cancel this permit by notice to the permit holder.

This permit is valid from 17/01/2022 to 17/01/2023

Thingahangwi Tracy Tshivhase Heritage Officer: Permitting

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Grass

Mimi Seetelo

Manager:Burial Grounds & Graves Unit South African Heritage Resources Agency

Additional Info:

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by SAHRA

Application for permit to exhume and relocate ten graves found in Labore, Brakpan.

Our Ref:



an agency of the

T: +27 F1460 602 (F: +37 21 462 400 (E: info@uma.org.as South 40 can Hertage Flacources Agency (111 Hannigton Direct (Cape Town PO Box 4607 (Cape Town (8001 www.sahta.org.za

Enquiries: Thingshanger Tracy Tshivhase

Tel: 012 941 4968

Email: ttshivhase@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 16687

Date: Wednesday January 19, 2022

Page No. 3

PermittD: 3308

within 14 days from the date of the permit. SAHRA may not be held responsible for any costs or losses incurred in the event of the suspension or retraction of this permit.

ADMIN: Direct URL to case: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/576532

8.6. Appendix F: Images of graves after reburial



















