

Amafa AkwaZulu-Natali

Heritage KwaZulu-Natal

Erfenis KwaZulu-Natal



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15 June 2011

DR YASHICA SINGH,
THE CURATOR,
KZN HERBERIUM, SANBI
P. O. BOX 52099,
BEREA, DURBAN, 4001

BY FAX: 031-202 3430
EERHARD HUIZINGA 086 613 5553

Dear DR YASHICA SINGH,

DEMOLITION: 4 PROBLEM MKHIZE (EDITH BENSON) ROAD, DURBAN

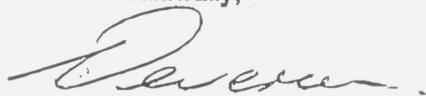
The permit application in respect of the above, received on the 09 February 2011 and additional information presented on the 12 April 2011, was reviewed by the Built Environment Committee on the 07 June 2011. Please be advised as follows:

1. The Built Environment Committee considered the building highly significant, both architecturally and historically.
2. The Committee took into account Mr Huizinga's report and those of committee members who went on site to inspect the building for themselves.
3. The BEC members conceded that repairing it in situ would be difficult, although not impossible.
4. Taking into account that there is no use for it in its present location, the BEC agreed that it would be best to reconstruct it elsewhere.
5. Some interest in relocating it had been expressed by the Botanical Society KZN Coastal Region and the Curator of the Botanic Gardens but nothing has been confirmed to date. We have had no feedback on whether any other options such as public/private partnerships have been explored, as previously required.
6. Whilst the BEC would allow demolition for reconstruction on a nearby site or at an appropriate site e.g. Mount Edgecombe, demolition will only be allowed to take place as part of that reconstruction. In the meantime the building needs to be protected and secured from further damage.
7. It should also be noted that the work of removing and reconstructing the building will have to be supervised by an accredited heritage architect and will have to be carried out by an accredited contractor registered with Amafa.
8. Record drawings of the building must be prepared by a heritage architect and that architect must be appointed to oversee the demolition and reconstruction, irrespective of SANBI's procurement procedures – the process of compiling the record drawings and the demolition and reconstruction must be seen as one process.

Faxed/posted (not telephonic/e-mailed) written responses/requests for reviews of decisions must be received within 30 days of the date of this letter or the decision will be considered final. Six months from the date of the original submission is allowed for the submission of revised drawings.

THIS LETTER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE FORMAL APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO AMAFA AKWAZULU-NATALI. UNAUTHORISED WORK CARRIED OUT ON THE ABOVE SITE WILL BE IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL HERITAGE ACT (4 of 2008).

Yours faithfully,



ROS DEVEREUX
Head: Built Environment Section