

MOTH War Memorial, Library Gardens, Empangeni

PermitID: 3912 REF:

Issued under section 37 of the KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute Act (Act 05 of 2018) and section 34(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Permit Holder: Angus MacRae
Grantham Park
Empangeni
3880

Approval is hereby given to Angus MacRae in accordance with the application received on 23/01/2023, for Maintenance/Restoration on the site/s: Remainder of Erf 7948.

Upgrade of a Monument on Remainder of Erf 7948, being at Moth War Memorial, (Empangeni Civic Centre) Empangeni

Conditions: This permit is issued subject to the following conditions:-

- 1.1 Work must be conducted according to the methodology attached to this permit
- 1.2 A close out-report must be submitted to KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute 30 days after completion
- 1.3 That in the event of any contemplated deviation the prior **written approval** of KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute must be obtained;
- 1.4 In such event, a **written motivation** in support of such deviation must be submitted to KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute for consideration and;
- 1.5 The KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute has the right to inspect the site at any time;
- 1.6 Where necessary monthly reports are to be submitted to KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute on the work being conducted and the findings;
- 1.7 Monthly reports are to be accompanied by the relevant National Site Record forms;
- 1.8 A final report on the work conducted and the findings must be submitted to KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute not later than thirty (30) days from the date of expiration of this permit, extensions are negotiable;

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1.9 KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute shall not be liable for any loss, damage or injuries to any person/s or property caused by any of the activities conducted by the applicant;

1.10 All archaeological and paleontological Material become, on discovery, the property of the Province of KwaZulu- Natal and must be lodged at the repository of KwaZulu- Natal Amafa and Research Institute.

1.11 It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that artefacts are preserved in its original state while in his/her possession;

1.12 The Applicant shall be liable for any damage or destruction caused at any site or to any artefact.

1.13 **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE CONDITIONS WILL RENDER ANY ACTIVITY CONDUCTED UNLAWFUL, AND KWAZULU NATAL AMAFA AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THIS PERMIT AND TO INSTITUTE CRIMINAL AND/OR CIVIL ACTION AGAINST THE PERSON/S RESPONSIBLE.**

1.14 The issuing of this permit does not exempt the Applicant from compliance with any other law, where applicable.

This permit is valid from **31/01/2023 to 31/01/2026 AND IS NOT TRANSFERABLE.**



Sandisiwe Matole
Heritage Officer
KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute



Mxolisi Dlamuka
Head of Secretariat and Administration
KwaZulu-Natal Amafa and Research Institute

Additional Info:

MOTH War Memorial, Library Gardens, Empangeni

Please note that this permit may be suspended should an appeal against the decisions be received by the KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute within 14 days from the date of the permit. The KwaZulu Natal Amafa and Research Institute 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/612070>

Remainder of Erf 7948
Empangeni
uMhlathuze Local Municipality

UPGRADE OF A MONUMENT ON REMAINDER OF ERF 7948, BEING AT MOTH WAR MEMORIAL, (EMPANGENI CIVIC CENTRE) EMPANGENI

METHODOLOGY FOR THE REPAIR OF THE WAR MEMORIAL AT EMPANGENI

The War Memorial is a stone plinth supporting a "tin" helmet, with inserts of bronze plaques on the side that contain the names of those from the area who were killed in the First and Second World Wars.

Surrounding the monument is a slasto paved area that is demarcated with concrete bollards and cordoned off with chains supported on galvanised poles placed behind the bollards.

PROPOSED WORK:

High pressure cleaning of the Monument and surrounds: this is to be avoided but it may be used on the slasto paving, provided that the stone does not show signs of exfoliation. The stone of the monument may be cleaned by hand or a dripping hose rubbing with a soft bristled brush. If there is a lot of algae on the stone, pool chlorine, diluted to the manufacturer's specifications, may be used tried out on a small patch in an inconspicuous place, and rinsed thoroughly. If no detrimental effects are noted, the whole monument may be cleaned in this manner, taking care to avoid the chlorine mixture getting onto the metal items.

Cleaning the Plaques and the Tin Hat: bronze is an alloy and the dark patina protects the metal from deterioration when exposed to the elements. It must be cleaned by hand with diluted liquid detergent (such as dishwashing liquid), using a soft bristled brush to remove any encrustation (see the attached methodologies). It may not be polished with a metal polish such as Brasso or any like product.

Replacement of the chains and their supporting pillars: the chains may be replaced to match the existing. However, the existing chains should not be painted with aluminium paint. Rusting chains and poles should be painted with a 3-in-one metal paint, manufactured by Hammerite or Duram. These products will etch, prime and finish the item and two coats must be applied. NOT to be used on the BRONZE items!

The chain support poles may be replaced with aluminium which is more rust resistant and does not have the resale value of the galvanised poles. Alternative materials such as Resocrete or other cement/resin based products could also be considered if there is a risk of metal theft.

HERITAGE IDENTIFICATION, MANAGEMENT & PROTECTION

Enquiries: Sandisiwe Matole

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ADDENDUM A

BRONZE

Bronze is a substance that has been used to make tools, weapons, coins and artwork for thousands of years. Though bronze can last indefinitely, it is prone to corrosion, or deterioration, of the metal through exposure to harmful chemicals. If it is severe, corrosion can potentially destroy a bronze item. Learning how to identify, clean and prevent corrosion will help you protect your bronze items and keep them safe and intact for many years to come.

Bronze and Corrosion

All bronze is an alloy, or a mixture of metals comprised of mainly copper mixed with other metals, usually tin and zinc. Bronze will oxidize when exposed to air, developing a patina coating. A brown, black, red or blue to green coating on bronze is a sign of normal, harmless corrosion. This outer layer protects the inner layers of the bronze object from deteriorating. This coating is sometimes considered attractive or desirable, as well.

Bronze Disease

While some types of corrosion are desirable, others are not. If you see light green, powdery spots or green or brown "growths" on your bronze, this is a sign of a condition known as "bronze disease." These spots flake away easily when touched. Bronze disease is active corrosion, meaning that your bronze item is not protected and is continually corroding. This can lead to serious damage of your bronze item. Bronze disease usually occurs in areas with salts in the air, ammonia pollution or continual high humidity. Bronze disease can also result from improper handling and cleaning.

Consider Your Cleaning Options

Before cleaning antique bronze, determine the level of attention your item requires. First, know that a darkened, dull finish, which can range from a warm gold to a blackish hue, is natural for bronze. Don't attempt to polish bronze to a bright shine similar to brass. For antique collectors, the dull patina is highly desirable, and overly aggressive cleaning or polishing that removes it would be considered damage. It's easy for someone who isn't an expert to mistake the natural patina for a layer of dirt.

Experts recommend cleaning antique bronze using the gentlest approach possible. This might be dusting, wiping with soapy water or – at the most – minimal polishing with a mild abrasive. You should also finish with a layer of clear paste wax to keep antique bronze looking its best. Use whichever of these options best retains the natural patina.

Verdigris, which is easily identified by its turquoise colour, is a natural occurrence when bronze is exposed to moisture. You'll recognize it from the facade of the Statue of Liberty or markings on some old pennies. In some cases, the colour is desirable, but more often, cleaning verdigris from antique bronze is essential. Doing so is possible using DIY methods, but if your antique bronze item is especially valuable or you care about its resale value, it's best to consult a professional before tackling verdigris removal.

The Gentlest Method: Soap and Water

Use soapy water to clean antique bronze items that have visible surface dirt beyond just dust. Fill a sink or bowl with warm water and swish in just a squirt of gentle dish soap. Do not plunge the item into the water even if it's small. Instead, soak a soft cotton rag in the water, squeeze it out and wipe down the item with the soapy water. Re-soak the rag frequently as you work and if necessary, use a soft toothbrush to get the soapy water into any awkward crevices.

Following the soap and water step, rinse the rag with clean water and wipe down the bronze item again to remove any soap residue. Dry the item immediately with a towel. If it's difficult to get off all the water drops, use a hair dryer on a low setting to dry the bronze item more quickly.

Cleaning Verdigris and Tougher Stains

Verdigris removal and tough stains that won't wash away with soapy water call for a more aggressive approach but remember to still be as gentle as possible. You shouldn't use any commercial metal polishes, which are too abrasive, but there are some DIY solutions to consider. If possible, test your chosen solution on a small, inconspicuous area first to make sure it's effective and doesn't damage the natural patina.

Some DIY bronze polishes suitable for cleaning verdigris and tough stains include:

Regular toothpaste

A thick paste of baking soda and lemon juice

A thick paste of equal parts table salt, white flour and white vinegar

A cut lemon pressed into table salt

Use a soft rag or old toothbrush to apply the paste to the bronze item or use the cut lemon as the scrubber. Rub gently with a circular motion until the verdigris or stains are gone but stop before you remove any of the natural patina. Following successful stain or verdigris removal, rinse the item with a water-soaked cloth and dry thoroughly.



Heritage Officer: Sandisiwe Matole