




SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

SAHRA

NOTIFICATION OF THE INTENTION DECLARE:
WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA HOUSE

APRIL 2021

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AN AGENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE



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15 April 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTIFICATION OF THE INTENTION TO DECLARE THE WINNIE MADIKIZELA-MANDELA HOUSE; ERF 802 & 803 MAJWEMASWEU; BRANDFORT, FREE STATE AS A NATIONAL HERITAGE SITE IN TERMS OF SECTION 27 OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT NO. 25 OF 1999

By virtue of the powers vested in the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) in terms of section 27 of the National Heritage Resources Act No, 25 of 1999 ("the NHRA"), SAHRA hereby notifies all stakeholders of the declaration of the Winnie Madikizela-Mandela House; Erf 802 & 803 Majwemasweu; Brandfort, Free State as a National Heritage Site in line with the provisions of section 27(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act No 25 of 1999 (referred to henceforth as "NHRA").

SAHRA has identified the site as having qualities so exceptional that it is of special national significance and warrants the declaration as a National Heritage Site.

In terms of Section 27(10) of the NHRA, the site shall be deemed to be protected as a heritage site for six (6) months from the date of service of this notice or until the notice is withdrawn or the place is declared to be a heritage site by notice of a Government Gazette, whichever is the shorter period.

Statement of Significance:

This house housed Ms. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela (Mother of the Nation) for a period of approximately nine years (1977-1986) during her banishment by the apartheid regime, in their attempt to monitor and limit her political influence. The house is the site where she not only resided, but a site that contributed significantly to the advancement of the liberation struggle. The house is also a symbol of Ms. Madikizela-Mandela's, and in turn black South African's, resilience against the apartheid regime. This banishment was meant to smother the voices of equality and freedom for all, however, instead through Ms. Madikizela-Mandela's tenacity and resilience contributed greatly to lives of more marginalized community of Brandfort and surrounding towns through the clinic, local gardening collective, sewing club, daycare, orphanage, and juvenile center for troubled youth. Her efforts established her as a respected political figure and community member.

The Winnie Madikizela-Mandela house in Brandfort was her metaphorical Robben Island. She was a political prisoner during her banishment, subjected to cruel conditions (house had no basic services and Brandfort was Afrikaner dominated town) and treatment (constant harassment and violence towards her) by the apartheid government, and like Robben Island, her Brandfort house became a symbol of resilience and hope against an oppressive state.





In 2016, Madikizela-Mandela was recognized by the South African government with the award of the Silver Order of Luthuli for her contributions to the liberation struggle during the apartheid era. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was a renowned social worker and activist considered by many black South Africans to be the “Mother of the Nation.” On April 2, 2018, she died at the age of 81 after a long illness. Her life and legacy were honoured with numerous memorial services throughout the country as well as a state funeral, held on 14th April at Orlando Stadium in Soweto, South Africa.

Implications of Declaration:

SAHRA is responsible for the protection of all National Heritage Sites and will, therefore, be the responsible heritage resources authority to ensure the protection of the site according to section 27 (15) of the NHRA. In terms of Section 27 (18), no person may destroy, damage, deface, excavate, alter, remove from its original position, subdivide or change the planning status of any heritage site declared a National Heritage Site without a permit from SAHRA, and, in terms of section 27 (22) of the NHRA, no person may damage any fence, wall or gate constructed or sign erected by SAHRA in terms of subsection (21).

You are hereby given 60 (sixty) calendar days from delivery hereof to make representations or written submissions regarding the proposed declaration and to propose, if any, conditions under which the declaration will be acceptable to you, in accordance to Section 27 (8) (b) or (c) of the NHRA.

Please make written submissions to the following postal address: **SAHRA, P.O. Box 4637, Cape Town, 8001**. Alternatively, you may submit via email to the following email addresses: bmwasinga@sahra.org.za or hweldon@sahra.org.za

Should you have any queries with regards to the above, please contact Mr Ben Mwasinga (021-462-4502) or Ms Heidi Weldon (012-941-4960).

We look forward to your response and continued interest in the national protection of this unique heritage resource.

Sincerely

Adv Lungi Malgas

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

