

**HARDEKRAALTJIE PUBLIC MEETING NOTES - 26 OCTOBER 2024**  
**10h30 | 26 October 2024 | Ravensmead Public Library**

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**1. Job Creation**

Use local people from Ravensmead as Gardeners, Guides, Storytellers etc.

**2. Khoi San . Rusta . Bushman Cultures**

A strong Khoi presence was made known at the Public Meeting. A large part of the comments were regarding the bigger picture of Khoi Culture and their Heritage in terms of being the original owners of most/all of the land in the Western Cape.

It was also emphasised that they lead a simple life, learning about the veld, animals and people/community not Sports. Teach children about plants, medicinal values, build stone walls etc.

Not in their culture to Exhume Graves (majority at PM in agreement).

Sensitive/ Emotional about the land and connectiveness of all people

One individual Khoi man – not happy with proposal in general, no peace on the site between Hospital, railways and SU Campus.

Bring Khoisan language into schools

**3. Education**

Strong point brought through by a few. Scholars from Ravensmead need to get into SU tertiary education. Uplifting youth from previously disadvantaged communities would be more beneficial.

Youth need to benefit academically.

Option where Annual Sports Event is held – rather use the money for Education: Khoi Heritage & Hardekraaltjie. Sports is a positive link but what do you teach the kids. Education is more impactful.

Establish a memorial trust - educate youth from local community

Further Education amongst youth within the community

#### **4. Option 2 largely supported as the Preferred:**

Memorialise entire area under which potential graves are found.

No sports on graves.

Can't choose which graves to memorialise – all graves need to be. *Fences cannot divide graves...what about other forgotten graves etc.*

Concern raised of further graves...

According to community member – SU has sports fields at Coetzenberg and Tygervallei.

Community already has community sports fields, they don't need SU Sports fields.

People are resting there (at Hardekraaltjie Cemetery) no sports over graves. People must not walk/play over graves.

Historic exhumation of bones and the location of these bones were raised and put to rest.

#### **5. Memories and Stories told of Hardekraaltjie:**

Stories told by two brothers who were security guards at SU and have family members buried at the Cemetery. Ghost Stories on Campus.

A poem was read.

Older community have fond memories of the 'Old Days'.

## ATTENDANCE REGISTER

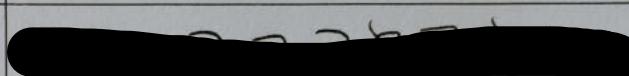
## HARDEKRAALTJIE MEMORIALISATION

## PUBLIC MEETING 26 OCTOBER 2024 – RAVENSMED PUBLIC LIBRARY

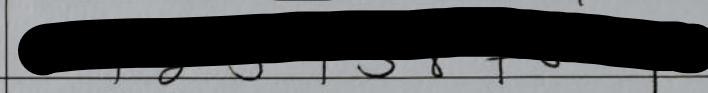
## NAME &amp; ORGANISATION

## CONTACT DETAIL

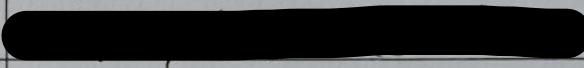
Zeenah Edwards



D'Aylen Edwards



Regina Knoopp



ANNA VALENTYN



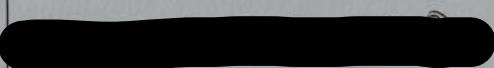
Cornelius Reid



SHARON J. WILLIAMS



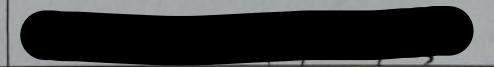
Deon C. Williams



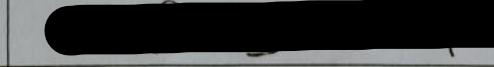
Sarah Grodes



William Charles YMCA



ESTER KORDOM



Chief Joseph Tafha



J Adams



## HARDEKRAALTJIE MEMORIALISATION

## PUBLIC MEETING 26 OCTOBER 2024 – RAVENSMED PUBLIC LIBRARY

## NAME &amp; ORGANISATION

## CONTACT DETAIL

Cheffeling Fortuin



Ulrike Kuschke



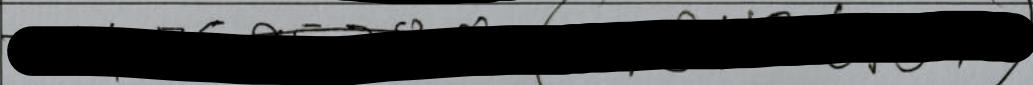
Therese Fish



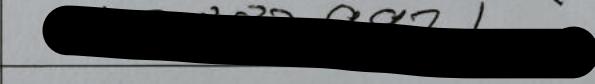
STEFAN DE KOCH



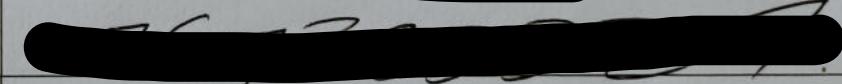
Daniël Dietrich



Jurié Dietrich



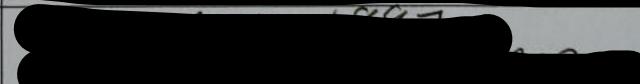
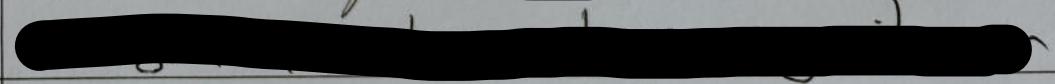
Johannas Bastian



D. Heyns



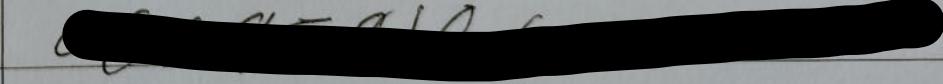
PRINCE CHESLIN DE VILLIERS

BA BASSON (RAVENSMEAD  
MINISTERS FORUM)

Albert de Villiers



Theo Deelder Jr



Sarah Grodes



**HARDEKRAALTJIE MEMORIALISATION****PUBLIC MEETING 26 OCTOBER 2024 – RAVENSMED PUBLIC LIBRARY****NAME & ORGANISATION****CONTACT DETAIL**

JENNIFER DREYER

Leslie van Roi

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

# Memorialisation of the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery

## Gedenking van die Hardekraaltjie-Begraafplaas

Public Meeting / Openbare Vergadering

26 October 2024

1

Introduction & Welcome

Inleiding & Verwelkoming

2



LOCALITY MAP

LIGGINGS KAART

3



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## Memorialisation / *Gedenking*:

To keep memory alive.

Process that meets the desire to honour those who have suffered and as a means to examine the past and address present issues in an effort of reparation.

Portray a sense of history, belonging, social acknowledgement and justice for the community that are connected, through their forefathers, to the cemetery.

*'n Manier om geheue lewendig te hou.*

*Proses wat voldoen aan die begeerte om diegene wat gely het te eer en die verlede te ondersoek en huidige kwessies aan te spreek in 'n poging tot herstel.*

*Om 'n gevoel van geskiedenis, tuiste, sosiale erkenning en geregtigheid uit tebeeld vir die gemeenskap, wat deur hul voorvaders aan die begraafplaas verbind is.*

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## WHY? / WAAROM?

2014 - Mr. Daniel Dietrich informed the Dean of Stellenbosch University of his forbearers buried at the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery, this started the **US** **restitution (restitusie)** process.

## ACTION / AKSIE

2019 - Visual Redress Task Team, was tasked to take responsibility for managing a restorative (**herstellende**) process linked to Hardekraaltjie to be recognised as a formal historic burial site.

2020 - SU commissioned Sillito to undertake a Radar Survey to determine the location of possible graves.

1 June 2020 - community researcher, Chefferino Fortuin, engaged with SU on behalf of his family and the community, resulted in **SU Project Team** focused on the memorialisation of the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery. A **Hardekraaltjie Steering Committee** was formed which includes representatives of various stakeholders, including community members and representatives from Tygerberg Hospital, who meet on a monthly basis.

24 Sept 2021 - commencement of 1<sup>st</sup> engagement between Tiervlei/Ravensmead community members held on Heritage Day.

March 2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup> engagement between Tiervlei/ Ravensmead community members and SU

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**ACTION / AKSIE (continued):**

December 2022 – 3<sup>rd</sup> engagement @ Ravensmead Public Library, one outcomes is a book called “**Landscapes of dispossession: Stories of the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery: Told by people from Tiervlei-Ravensmead**”.

January 2024 - PHS Consulting appointed to apply to Heritage Western Cape (“HWC”) to Section 36 of the NHRA (Wet op Nationale Erfenishulbronne) because cemetery is older than **60 years** and proposed activities is **alterations of burial grounds**

**Initial plan**, Memorialisation was to take place on Erf 15349 the ‘Hardekraaltjie Cemetery’ in accordance with the 1910 SG Diagram.

We engaged with the Steering Committee, strategic SU Faculties and Tygerberg Hospital.

Recommended **further radar scanning** within areas previously flagged by HWC.

**Confirmed graves** present on Erf 18228 to the west and to the north, on a portion of Erf 24602.

**East and South** private property not controlled by the SU and therefore not part of this process.

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**HERITAGE PROCESS:**

Previous HWC decision indicated a 50m buffer zone and identified the area applicable to the S36 Application.

Section 36 application to the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 to the provincial department known as Heritage Western Cape (HWC).

- Gather background info
- Pre-application consultation
- Draft Heritage Statement
- 30 Day Public and Authority Participation
- Advertise in Newspaper, Notice Boards, 4 x Libraries, Website, Notification of Ward Councilors etc.
- Receive and consider comments
- Conclude Final Heritage Statement
- Submit to HWC for approval
- Implement the project on site

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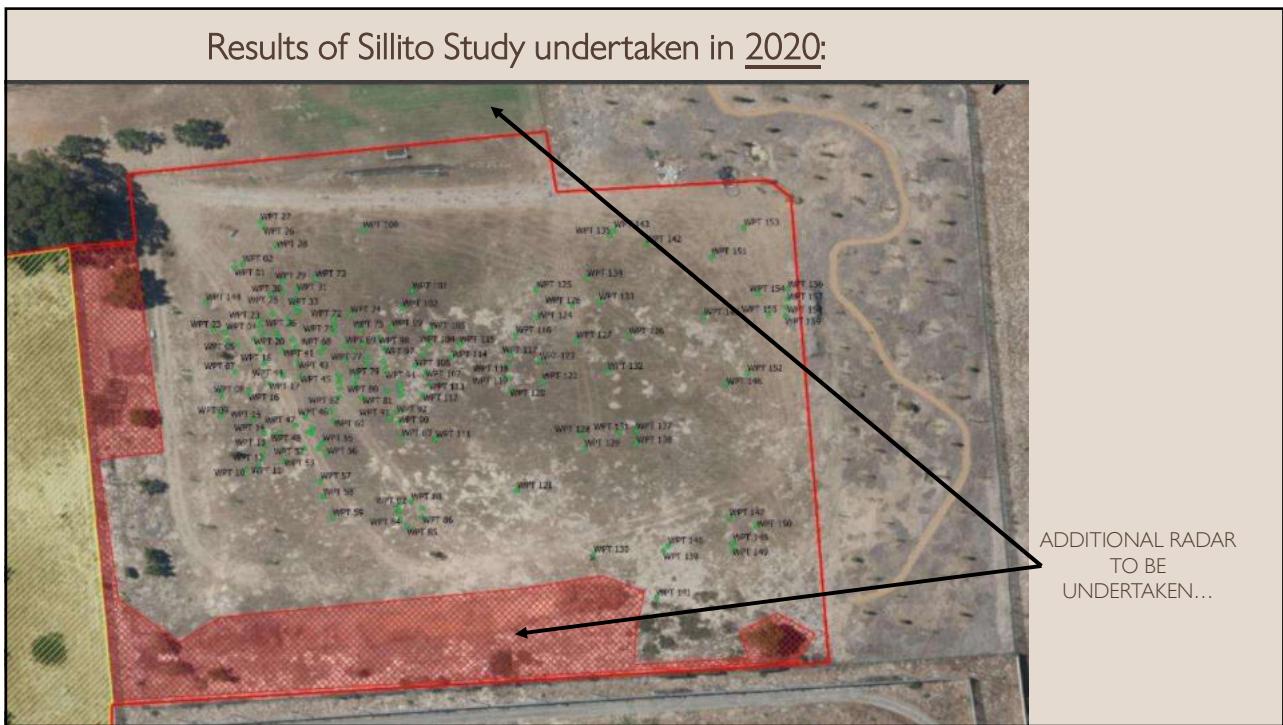
## Historical Background \ Historiese Agtergrond:

1910	Hardekraaltjie cemetery established as <b>public cemetery</b> in the Hardekraaltjie Forest Reserve. Surveyed in 1909, Title deed registered on 4 Jan 1910. Managed by Trustees.
1928	Burials from Tyger Valley (later Tiervlei, and later Ravensmead) allowed at the cemetery from 1928 onwards
1945	Proposal to close the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery with the allowance that families can <b>visit the cemetery</b> . Hardekraaltjie Forest Reserve was acquired by <b>South African Railways</b> for the creation of a marshalling yard. This acquisition sparked concerns about public access to HK cemetery.
1947	The Hardekraaltjie Cemetery is <b>closed for burial</b> only. The ownership of the land remained vested in the Trustees.
1971	Proposal for the <b>takeover of Hardekraaltjie cemetery by Parow Municipality</b> appears in local newspapers. Parow Municipality applies to Cape Divisional Council for transfer of the site to the municipality. The application is successful.
1972	Stellenbosch University bought Erf 15349 from Parow Municipality on 4 October 1972.
1974	Stellenbosch University <b>acquires the title deed</b> for Erf 15349 on 11 June 1974
1979	A campus map indicates proposed plans to convert Erf 15349 into a <b>sports field</b> . It is assumed that this was undertaken in the 1980s and remained the status quo until the 2000's.
2014 +	US restitution process

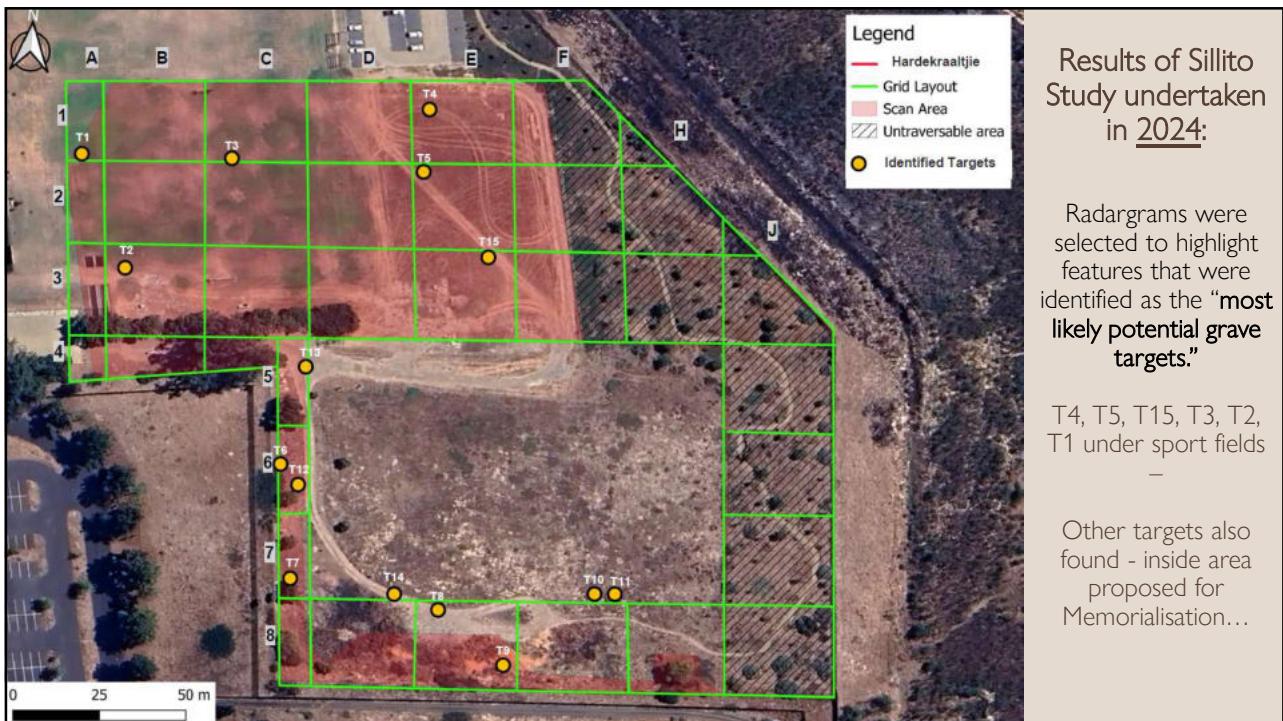
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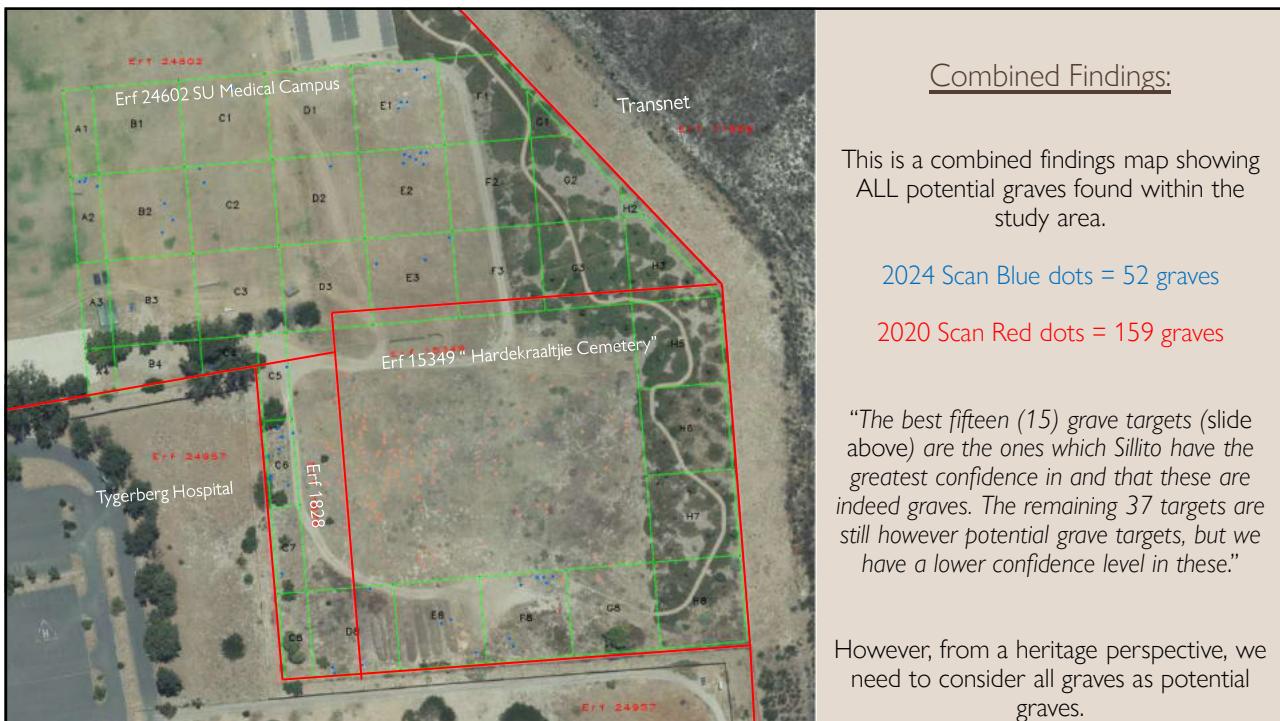
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## ACCIDENTAL FINDS: BONES

**Investigation** launched into the claim of bones being found on site. A recent inventory at the SU campus did not identify any bones rumoured to be found in the study area.

The only known 'bones' found is the **cranium at UCT** discovered in a **flower bed in 2021**. HWC was contacted immediately, study was undertaken of a wider area by Dr Jason Orton in April 2021 – **no further bones were found**.

**Recommended** that the single cranium be collected from UCT to form part of **memorialisation** once the plan is approved.

Conservation Management Plan for the site and greater area will allow clear 'instructions' for any bones found in the future.

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# Memorialisation Options

## Herdenkings Opsies

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## **OPTION 1:**

### **Option 1A:**

Memorialisation on Erf 15349 and Erf 18228 (all graves protected) with minimal landscaping and interpretation items on Erf 24602. This option allows for the full soccer/rugby field and warm up area of the SU Tygerberg Campus to remain and continue with sport activities over 28 grave targets without disturbing grave.

### **Option 1B:**

To follow the route of exhuming the 28 graves and placing them inside the boundaries of the 'formal' Hardekraaltjie Cemetery, while an option, is not considered feasible because its costly and extremely time consuming (should approval from the community and HWC be obtained).

Not recommended - graves should remain in-situ as this is where they were buried and laid to rest. From a heritage perspective exhumation is a sensitive, complex and controversial option.

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## **OPSIE 1:**

### **Opsie 1A:**

Volle Gedenking op Erf 15349 en Erf 18228 met minimale strategiese landskap- en interpretasie-items op Erf 24602. Hierdie opsie maak voorsiening dat die volle sokker/rugbyveld en die oefen-/opwarmarea nog deur die studente op kampus benut kan word bo-oor 28 grafte, sonder versteuring.

### **Opsie 1B:**

Om ongeveer 28 grafte op te grawe en binne die grense van die "formeke" Hardekraaltjie-begraafplaas te plaas, terwyl dit 'n opsie is, is dit nie lewensvatbaar nie, dis duur en uiters tydrowend (indien goedkeuring van die gemeenskap en EWK verkry word).

Word nie aanbeveel as die beste oplossing nie aangesien hierdie grafte vir alle doeleindes in-situ moet bly, want dit is waar hulle begrawe en ter ruste gelê is. Uit 'n erfenisperspektief is opgraving nie die voorkeuralternatief nie, aangesien dit 'n sensitiewe, komplekse en omstrede roete is om te volg.

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## OPTION 2:

Memorialising the entire area on Erf 24602 where graves are located along with Erven 15349 and 18228.

Reduction in the size of the sport fields, forcing discontinuation of sport events due to insufficient space that would come at a significant cost to the students of SU and the community.

Physical and mental health of students on Campus is important considering the location of the campus within a largely built-up environment. The sports fields form part of the only recreational area on campus and plays a significant role amongst students on campus and sport clubs in the area utilising the facilities.

Full scale soccer/ rugby field can sustain positivity within the broader community. Sports is a medium that brings people together and would be used to educate the youth and future generations around Hardekraaltjie.

Keeping full scale has the potential to host an annual sports event specifically celebrating the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery and the communities connected hereto.

Therefore Option 2 is not considered the most preferred option.

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## OPSIE 2:

Gedenk die area van Erf 24602 waar grafte voorkom saam met Erwe 15349 en 18228.

Dit gaan die grootte van die sportvelde verminder, wat tot die opskorting van 'n volledige formele sokker-/rugbyveld gaan afgedwing.

Dit kom teen 'n aansienlike koste vir die studente van die US en die sportgemeenskap.

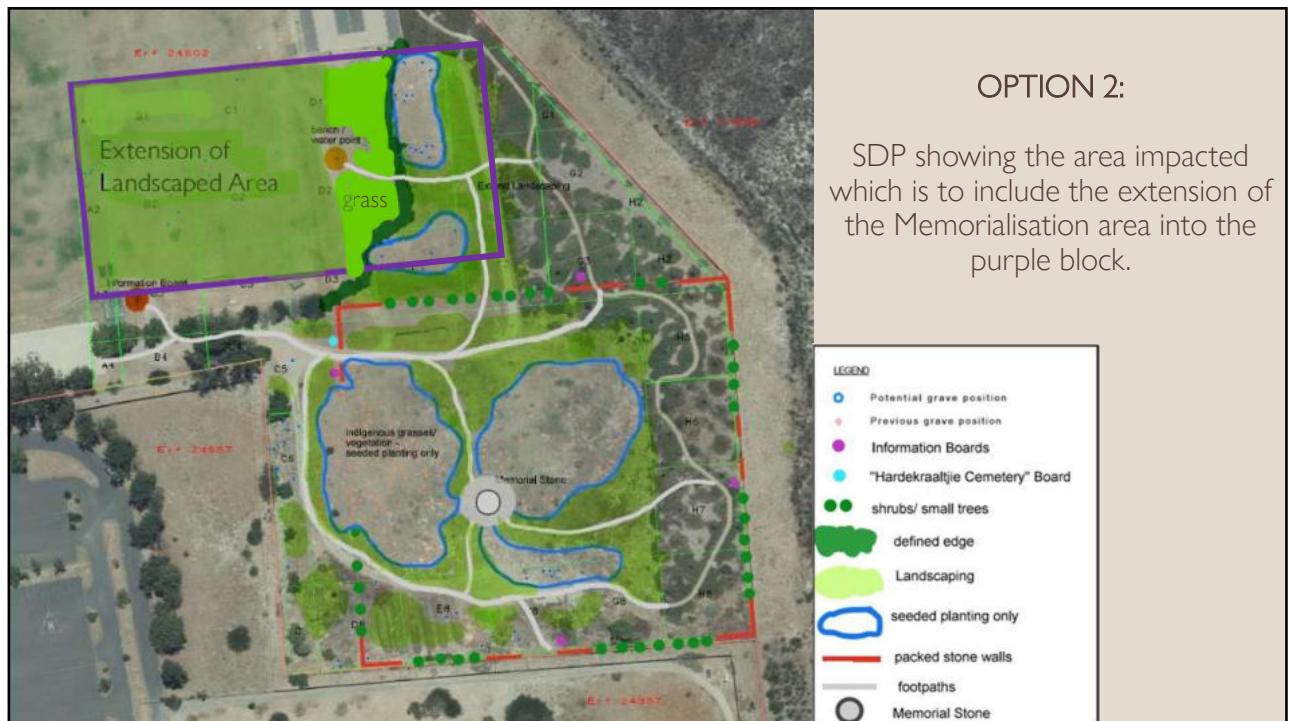
Die fisiese en geestelike gesondheid van studente by die US se Tygerbergkampus is belangrik inaggenome die ligging van die kampus binne 'n grootliks bebonde omgewing.

Die sportvelde vorm deel van die enigste ontspanningsarea op kampus en speel 'n beduidende rol onder studente op kampus en sportklubs in die area.

'n *Bona fide* sokker-/rugbyveld aktiwitete veroorsaak positiwiteit binne die breër gemeenskap. Sport is 'n medium wat mense bymekaar bring en kan gebruik word om die jeug en toekomstige geslagte rondom Hardekraaltjie op te voed.

Opsie 2 word dus nie as die voorkeuropsie beskou word nie.

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## OPTION 3 (PREFERRED):

We as heritage practitioners, considered the most **amicable** proposal that addresses all the objectives of the memorialisation process.

Memorialisation of Erven 15349, 18228 and a portion of Erf 24602 by including the practice/warm-up area. This option allows for the full main soccer/rugby field to remain, which can be utilised for events, by students on campus and the broader community, and furthermore through an annual organised sports events celebrating Hardekraaltjie.

Although approx. 10 graves will still fall under the sports fields, the remainder of the graves will be incorporated into the landscaped area with an interpretation board indicating the location of the remaining graves. The remaining graves will remain untouched.

The space provides opportunities to educate the youth growing up within these historically connected communities of the significance of the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery, through interpretation, reflection and sport.

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## OPSIE 3 (VOORKEUROPSIE):

As erfenispraktisys, oorweeg ons die mees vriendelike voorstel wat al die doelwitte van die gedenkingsproses aanspreek.

Gedenking van Erwe 15349, 18228 en 'n gedeelte van Erf 24602 deur die oefen-/opwarmarea by die gedenkarea in te sluit. Hierdie opsie laat toe dat die hoof sokker/rugbyveld bly, wat benut kan word vir wedstryde, deur studente op kampus en die breër gemeenskap is, en verder deur 'n jaarlikse georganiseerde sportbyeenkomste wat Hardekraaltjie gedenk.

Alhoewel ongeveer 10 grafte steeds onder die sportvelde sal val, sal die res van die grafte by die aangelegde area geïnkorporeer word met 'n interpretasiebord wat die ligging van die oorblywende grafte aandui. Die oorblywende grafte sal onaangeraak bly.

Die ruimte bied geleenthede om, deur interpretasie, nadenke en sport, die jeug wat binne hierdie histories verbonde gemeenskappe grootword te leer van die betekenis van die Hardekraaltjie-begraafplaas.

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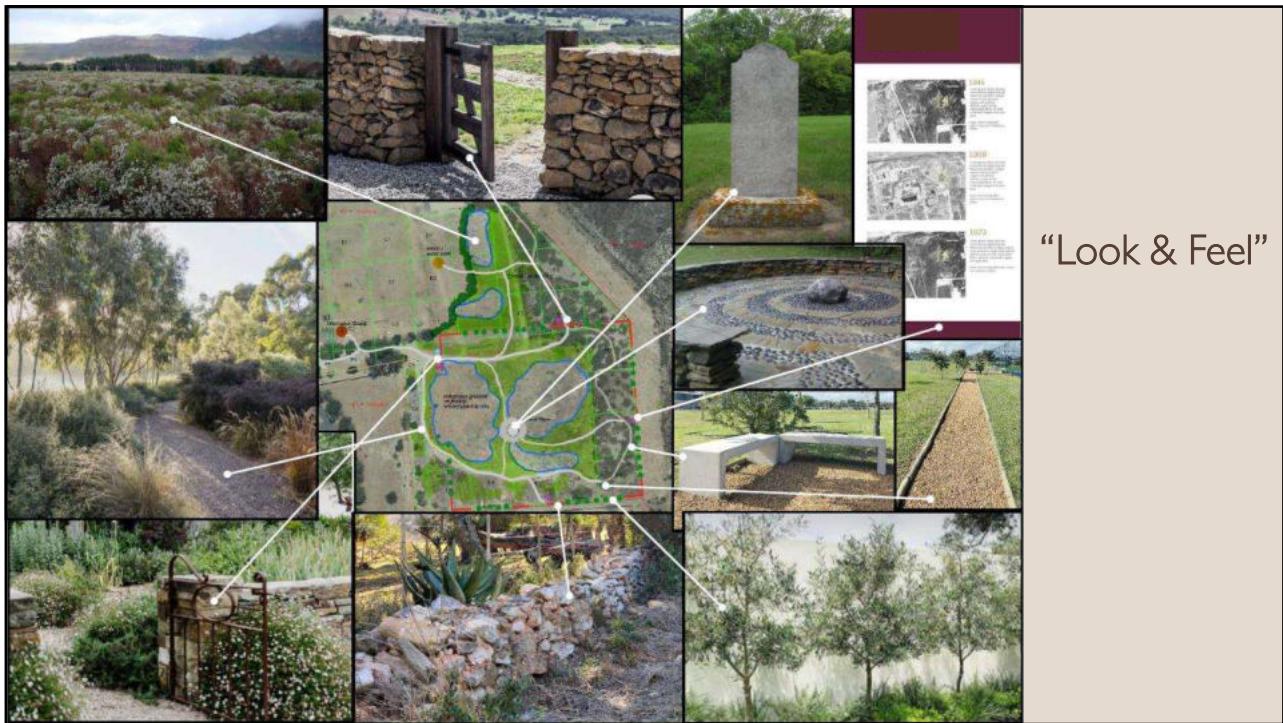


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## Memorialisation Concept

### Herdenkingskonsep

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“Look & Feel”

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**INFORMATION BOARDS:**

1. The cemetery name board "Hardekraaltjie Cemetery" is to be positioned at the entrance to the site.
2. Approximately Five (5) information/ interpretation boards are proposed at strategic locations - telling the story of Hardekraaltjie Cemetery (no SU branding on boards).

**SOFT LANDSCAPING:**

3. The vegetation within the area was originally Cape Flats Sandstone Fynbos. Local, indigenous vegetation to be used throughout all new landscaped areas.
4. Include local medicinal plants and herbs used by the Khoisan and broader communities within the Landscaping Area.
5. Spread out shrubs or small 'organic' shaped trees (e.g. Wild Olive) can be used between the packed stone walls to further visually highlight the Erf boundary.
6. Areas with large grave clusters to remain as is. These areas can be seeded using indigenous grass or vegetation mixes. Weeding can take place in these areas, but no planting is to take place.
7. The landscaped area on Erf 24602 can be bordered using shrubs or small trees (as per point 5) creating a more defined edge between the sports activities and 'cemetery' area. This will encourage people to enter at pathways only.
8. No Trees or plants requiring big holes to be dug are allowed anywhere else.

**HARD LANDSCAPING:**

9. Certain sections of the original 1910 Cemetery boundary (depicted by the red lines) can be formalised to symbolise the erf boundary. Packed stone can be used to define these edges as well as 'entrances' and 'exits'. Some of these will be symbolic (south & west) and others functional. Wrought iron or wooden gates could be used symbolically and left open where applicable.
10. Pathways can be bordered by gum poles with crushed stone aggregate (13mm) 'klippies' used to fill the pathway, as currently found elsewhere on campus.
11. Concrete benches, as already found in various areas, can be strategically placed within the landscaped areas (some shaded) and possibly around the central memorial area (see Point 15 below).

**CENTRAL MEMORIAL:**

12. The central memorial circle will include a crushed stone aggregate path around the circle.

**“Do's and Don'ts”**

13. The central circle can be constructed using pieces of shells, old crockery and/or stones/bricks (items used to depict graves in old cemeteries) to create a mosaic type floor or base.
14. A memorial remembrance stone / symbol will be placed in the centre of the base. A remembrance symbol, drawing the eye to the ground, i.e a stone slab (see image below) is recommended and will include a list of names of those buried at Hardekraaltjie as well as the space for any future additional names to be identified.
15. Concrete benches can be placed strategically around the Memorial Circle (on the crushed stone aggregate) OR a low, stabilised packed stone wall can encircle the memorial 'base' which can duplicate as seating. Keeping entrances and exits within the stone wall for ease of access.
16. The following wording as an opening line is recommended: "Beneath this garden lies the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery" and the final words: "May their memory be blessed" can be translated in Khoisan as well.

Beneath this garden lies the Hardekraaltjie Cemetery

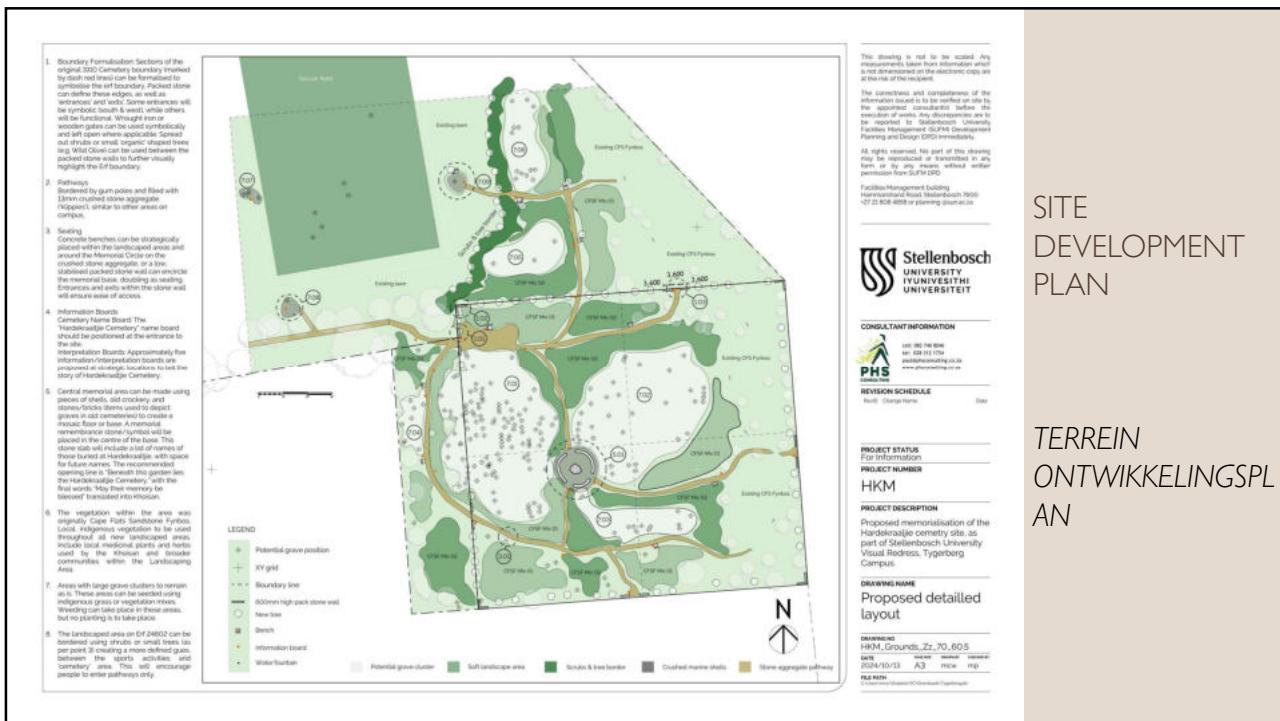
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May their memory be blessed [Khoisan translation]?

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## Recommendations of the Heritage Statement:

1. SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP) BE ENDORSED BY HWC.
2. COMPILATION OF CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN, TO BE ENDORSED BY HWC, TO INCLUDE:
 

Access, Fencing and Parking; Availability of Ablution Facilities; Responsible parties and level of involvement; Financial responsibility and Management; Protocol for all future accidental discovery of bones; Events i.e. An Annual Youth Sports Day; Communication; Maintenance aspects regarding the Landscaping Plan (Irrigation, Lights, Alien Clearing etc.); Content of Information Boards and Languages; Collaboration with Tygerberg Hospital in an effort to safeguard the buffer zone; List of Names on the Memorial Stone; and Cemetery Etiquette.
3. ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY SPORTS EVENT AIMED AT THE BROADER COMMUNITY AND TO THOSE DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE HARDEKRAALTJIE CEMETERY. THIS SHOULD NOT ONLY BE CONSIDERED A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE BUT ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH AND EDUCATE THE YOUTH, WITHIN THESE COMMUNITIES, AROUND THE HISTORY OF HARDEKRAALTJIE.
4. CREATION OF A DIGITAL ARCHIVE/ "MUSEUM" FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS BY STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY.
5. THE SINGLE CRANIUM BE PLACED INTO THE CENTRAL MEMORIAL STONE/ WALL AND FUTURE BONES FOUND.
6. AVOIDANCE OF GRAVES AT THE FOREFRONT. IF GRAVES AND HUMAN BURIALS ARE FOUND, ALL WORKS MUST BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY, AND HERITAGE WESTERN CAPE MUST BE NOTIFIED WITHOUT DELAY – PROCESS WILL BE FOLLOWED.
7. SITE HAS HIGH SIGNIFICANCE - GRADE IIIA GRADING PROPOSED MAXIMUM PROTECTION AT LOCAL LEVEL
8. A FENCING PROPOSAL TO BE SENSITIVE

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## Aanbevelings van die Erfenisverklaring:

1. TERREINONTWIKKLINGSPLAN DEUR EWK ONDERSKRYF WORD.
2. BEWARINGSBESTUURSPLAN, DEUR EWK ONDERSKRYF MOET WORD, WAT DIE VOLGENDE AANSPREEK:
 

Toegang, Omheining en parkering; Beskikbaarheid van ablusiegeriewe; Verantwoordelike partye en vlak van betrokkenheid; Finansiële verantwoordelikheid en bestuur; Protokol vir alle toekomstige toevallige ontdekking van beendere; Gebeure dws. 'n jaarlike jeugsportdag; Kommunikasie; Instandhoudingsaspekte rakende die landskapplan (Indringerplant beheer, besproeiing, ligte ens.); Inhoud van inligtingsborde en tale; Skakeling met Tygerberg-hospitaal in 'n poging om die buffersone te beveilig; Lys van name op die gedenksteen; en Begraafplaasetiket.
3. JAARLIKSE ERFENISDAG-SPORTGELEENTHEID GERIG OP DIE BREER GEMEENSKAP EN OP DIEGENE WAT DIREK AAN DIE HARDEKRAALTJIE-BEGRAAFPLAAS GEKOPPEL IS. HIERDIE MOET NIE NET AS 'N DAG VAN HERDENKING BESKOU WORD NIE, MAAR OOK AS 'N GELEENTHEID OM MET DIE JEUG BINNE HIERDIE GEMEENSKAPPE TE VERBOND EN HULLE TE LEER OOR DIE GESKIEDENIS VAN HARDEKRAALTJIE.
4. DIGITALE ARGIEF OF "MUSEUM" VIR TOEKOMSTIGE GESLAGTE
5. DIE ENKELE SKEDEL GEPLAAS WORD IN SENTRALE GEDENKSTEEN/MUUR GEPLAAS ASOOK ENIGE BEENDERE WAT IN DIE TOEKOMS GEVIND WORD.
6. VERMYDING VAN GRAFE OP DIE VOORPUNT VAN SY RASIONAAL. INDIEN EGTER TYDENS DIE UITVOERING VAN DIE AKTIWITEITE HIER BO ONTDEK WORD, MOET ALLE WERKE ONMIDDELLIK GESTAAK WORD, EN ERFENIS WES-KAAP MOET ONVERWYLD IN KENNIS GESTEL WORD EN PROSEDURE MOET GEVOLG WORD.
7. AREA HOOGS BETEKENISVOL DUS GRAAD IIIA-GRADINGERING VOORGESTEL WAT MAKSIMUM BESKERMING GAAN GENIET
8. 'N OMHEININGSVOORSTEL WAT SENSITIEF IS

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## FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY & NEXT STEP

### *TERUGVOER VAN GEMEENSKAP & VOLGENDE STAP*

#KHÎBA DA GE RA ||KHOREBA DU

PEACE IS OUR WISH FOR YOU / VREDE IS ONS WENS VIR JOU

THANK YOU / DANKIE