



AFRICA



CONTACT DETAILS

111 Harrington St
Cape Town
8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 462 4502

www.sahra.org.za

South African Heritage Resources Agency

South Africa has a varied and prosperous prehistory. Our early human ancestors thrived on the savannah grasslands and Stone Age and Iron Age people left us an astonishing legacy of rock art painted within rock shelters and engraved on boulders – our country has more documented rock art sites than any other country on the globe. Hunter-gatherers, early pastoralists and farmers have all left traces of their lives on our landscapes. Brave people fighting for liberation have also gifted us with objects and tales of their struggles and triumphs and treasures.

From human bones to unusual stones that have fallen from the sky; from sunken shipwrecks to paintings on rock faces and the final resting places of fallen struggle heroes: the promotion and protection of these and many more heritage sites and objects, fall under the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

SAHRA was established in order to implement the statutes of the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999. This legislation aims to protect and promote awareness of South Africa's cultural heritage. We see this as a significant and essential task, since a shared heritage can act as a unifying element within a young democracy. The Act affords protection to a considerable range of heritage resources, most of which are the results of human ingenuity and creativity, but also includes other heritage resources such as meteorites and fossils.

SAHRA also endeavours to protect intangible cultural heritage, such as oral traditions, and to help in building the capacities of communities and the public through education and stakeholder-driven programmes. Communities are encouraged to participate in the identification, conservation and management of South Africa's diverse cultural heritage resources.

We are proud to promote our past as a vibrant and alive element of our present identity, and to ensure that our common heritage can also be safeguarded in our future and for the future of our children.

Western Cape



Cape Town



Jagelina Thugwana Ndebele Apron



H Piemeef Landscape



Kitaab



John Smith stamps



George Pemba Harvesters

