

DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE

NO. 5590

29 November 2024

SOUTH AFRICAN HERITAGE RESOURCES AGENCY

DECLARATION OF THE UMQWASHU MEMORIAL SITE, PEDDIE, EASTERN CAPE AS
A NATIONAL HERITAGE SITE

By virtue of the powers vested in the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), in terms of section 27 (5) of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999), SAHRA hereby declares the UmQwashu Memorial Site situated on Farm 27, Peddie, Amathole District, Eastern Cape as a National Heritage Site.

Statement of Significance

The UmQwashu Memorial Site represents a pivotal point in the history of the Eastern Cape, following the oath that was taken on 14th May 1835 after the migration from Butterworth to Peddie by a group of amaMfengu. The amaMfengu were among the first African converts, the first to make use of a plough and to plant wheat. They also aligned themselves with the British and were exposed to missionary education the longest of all African groups. This exposure led to some of the first African academics to have come from the Mfengu, for example, DDT Jabavu, the first African to obtain a BA Degree.

The Memorial is a tangible reminder of the moment that represents, on the one hand, the success of the British eastward expansion; and the methods used by both the Cape Administration and the British missionaries to ensure the Evangelisation of Africans and expansion of colonial rule in Africa. Yet on the other hand, the memorial is the embodiment of Mfengu identity. It represents the turning point for socio-cultural changes that had a lifelong impact on the Mfengu. The Vows became a guiding principle on which the Mfengu's self-perception is formed.

Schedule

The demarcation of the sites is as follows:

SITE NAME	FARM/ERF NO	TOWN	MUNICIPALITY		PROVINCE	SG Diagram
			Local Municipality	District Municipality		
UmQwashu Memorial Site	Farm 27	Peddie	Ngqushwa Local Municipality	Amathole District Municipality	Eastern Cape	

Coordinates:

Site Name	Point	Latitude	Longitude
UmQwashu Memorial Site	A	33° 5'55.90"S	27° 4'32.40"E
	B	33° 5'56.87"S	27° 4'31.55"E
	C	33° 5'59.08"S	27° 4'34.95"
	D	33° 5'58.06"S	27° 4'35.73"E

END