

DECLARATION AS A NATIONAL HERITAGE SITE

Pretoria, 29 February 2012. The recent announcement by the Minister of Arts & Culture that the Voortrekker Monument will be declared a National Heritage Site (Grade 1) is the result of an ongoing process that the Monument has been busy with for years. The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), had already published the declaration that the Monument would be a National Heritage Site in the State Gazette on Friday, 8 July 2011, in compliance with Law 25 of 1999. The original application was handed in by the VTM on 18 July 2006.

One of the possible advantages of being declared a national heritage site for the Monument is that it may now, with greater authority, request a bigger subsidy from the Department of Arts and Culture. This does not mean that the Monument will now be a state institution. The declaration applies to the Monument's conservation status and not its ownership. The Monument is still privately owned and registered as a non-profit organisation.

The Monument is very happy to be declared as a national heritage site as it is the first Afrikaner Monument to be declared as such since 1994 and also because it is now protected by law.

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