

MONUMENTS AND RELICS ACT
(Cap. 59:03)

DECLARATION OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS ORDER, 2012
(*Published on 29th June, 2012*)

ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

PARAGRAPH

1. Citation
2. Declaration of national monuments

SCHEDULE

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism by section 10 (1) of the Monuments and Relics Act, the following Order is hereby made –

1. This Order may be cited as the Declaration of National Monuments Order, 2012. Citation
2. The sites listed in the Schedule hereto, are hereby declared as national monuments. Declaration of national monuments

SCHEDULE

<i>Site Name</i>	<i>Location or Divisional Notes</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Significance of site</i>
Motswere Postal Tree	Next to Railway Bridge S 22 33 33.0, E 27 07 18.8	Historical	Known to have been used from as early as 1902, the Palapye Motswere (Leadwood) Postal tree is a representation of trees as important land marks in the colonial period and the early days of independence. Its location next to the railway line is not a coincidence but highlights the role of the railway line in transportation of postal communication in this period. The site is a reminder of the specific historical life of the Bangwato and colonial residents at Phalatswe, their migration to Serowe and of the growth and early urbanization signs for present day Palapye town.
BDP Morula Tree	Near Orapa House S 24 39.703 E 025 54.482	Historical	This Morula tree is where the Botswana Democratic Party was launched in 1963. The BDP has been in power in Botswana through popular vote since 1966. Through the leadership of the BDP and the love for peace by the Batswana, Botswana has been the envy of other countries in the region and globally in the areas of democracy, political stability and prudent fiscal policies. The location is therefore important in the recognition of the birth of a political party but equally qualifies as a launching pad for celebrating the story of Botswana's achievements.
Pelotshetlha Lithops	Near Pelotshetlha village, Southern District S 25 12.330 E 25 22.412	Botanical	This is the only place where Lithops (<i>Mesembrathemaceae Aizoaceae</i>) are found in Botswana. Lithops are botanical species known in Setswana as 'Tlhakwana' or 'marago a banyana' describing their jointed Siamese appearance. These smooth succulents textured with ridges and warts are rare to find in Botswana and are so far known to be occurring ONLY at this vulnerable hill side location near Pelotshetlha village in the southern district.

Fish Keitseng's
Anti-Apartheid
Transit and Safe
House, Lobatse
Plot C42,
Peleng Central,
Lobatse
S 25 13.820
E 025 40.960

Historic

The story of this house and that of Fish Keitseng and his family represents the contribution of the ordinary people of Botswana in the liberation of South Africa and especially the fight against apartheid. Hundreds of freedom fighters were hosted, sometimes smuggled into this place enroute to and from Umkhonto We Sizwe training camps and other strategic visits to the North, mostly Zambia. It was a sacrificial and risky act of service by a Motswana in the African National Congress (ANC) underground movement. The list of people who were hosted in this humble transit safe house include Nelson Mandela, Thabo Mbeki and others in the ANC who are legendary and prominent leaders in South Africa. The house also presents an opportunity for the life story of Fish Keitseng, one of the accused in the historically important Treason Trial of 1956 (along side other Batswana such as Motsamai Mpho). His part in local opposition politics also spanned 4 decades contributing to the Botswana People's Party insurgence in the 1960s, being a founding member of the breakaway Botswana Independence Party and later establishing himself in the Botswana National Front where he served as a nominated councillor in Gaborone between 1989 and 1993.

Tati Training Institute of Kgalemang Motsete's. Mosojane	It is located at Nyewele in the Mosojane area just east of the Tati River S 20 35 19.7 E 027 28 41.4	Historical	The man best known for composing Botswana's National Anthem Dr. Kgalemang Motsete was also a passionate educationist. He founded and led the Tati Training Institute at Nyewele. The place is now but relics and ruins but is significant as it is the first secondary school in Bechuanaland. The school started operation in 1932 at Nyewele offering subjects such as English, Ikalanga, Arithmetic, History, Hygiene, Moral Lessons, Prayers and Scripture as well as Music. Students went up beyond the common standard II up to standard VI and even sat for a Junior Certificate Exam from Mafikeng. By 1941, when it closed down due to lack of funding and outbreak of World War II, the school had produced 322 graduates, some coming from as far as the then Southern Rhodesia. "Ikwele tja Motsete" as it is known in the North East are relics of a Motswana who mobilized a community to use their own resources to provide education for their children. As a National Monument the site will provide an opportunity on the presentation of memories of the community on this school and to reminisce on the life of K.T. Motsete who was also founder of the Botswana People's Party, the country's first political party, alongside Motsamai Mpho.
Moth Hall	Rail Park Mall, Gaborone S 24 39.537 E 025 54.129	Historical	Moth Hall was built as an entertainment and recreational place for the travelling troops along the railway line en-route to and from South Africa, South West Africa and Rhodesia in the colonial period. Architecturally, the inner delineation and use of space is the preserved part of the building comprising of a full three tiered 1930's era Bandstand complete with dance floor and theatrical stage. After independence the Moth Hall took a more general, socializing club and meeting place for individual parties and public sessions.

Bessie Head
House

Sengwato Kgotla, Literary
Off Spar Junction- History
Orapa Road,
Serowe
S 22 23.383
E 026 43.717

Under the custodianship of the Bessie Head Trust who are turning the house into a site museum with associated developments for public use, this house at Sengwato Ward in Serowe was the home and area from which Bessie Head wrote her legendary literary works. The house is still in its original construction detail and offers an opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Bessie Amelia Head, née Emery. This iconic figure, renowned writer, and prominent historian of Serowe maintains an enduring place in the life of Botswana and in the international literary arena. Born in Apartheid South Africa in 1937, she tenaciously turned around the circumstances of her birth, race, mental health and refuge in Serowe to offer herself as a gift to humankind. By the time of her death in April 1986 she was one of Africa's best-known women writers. More than that, she had become an icon and a symbol of resistance to apartheid, of women's struggles for social equality, of lifting oneself out of poverty, and finally, of surviving mental illness and playing a full role in society. Bessie Head has been Botswana's best-known writer since the publication of her first novel, **When Rain Clouds Gather, in 1968.** After the appearance of **A Question of Power** in 1973, she gained an international reputation, a book that excites and frightens people to this day because of its hallucinogenic descriptions and open discussion of schizophrenia. From then until her death, she often represented Botswana and Africa at international literary events in Europe, North America, and Australia. Her Oral Histories of Serowe are recorded in the 1978 publication, **Serowe: Village of the Rain Wind.** However her main work on Bangwato History are recorded in **A Bewitched Crossroad**, published in 1984 where she chronicles the place and role of Khama III and his Bangwato in Southern African history.

Three Dikgosi Monument	Gaborone CBD S 24 38.665 E 025 54.449	Historical	This built monument of the Three Dikgosi captures the history and the voyage of the Three Dikgosi who went to England in 1895 to lobby and resist incorporation of Bechuanaland into either South Africa or Rhodesia. The monument's associated Plinths place the Three Dikgosi in the broader context of the journey of the nation of Botswana from colonial to present day
Gaborone Old Prison	Plot 4937, Village, Gaborone S 24 40.110 E 025 56.418	Historical and Architectural	The building is essential for public education on colonial infrastructure details, allocation of space and evolving ideas about prisons and imprisonment. Key features of the building include iron bars, thick wooden doors and the division of space in a prison architecture.
Bonnington Farm (inclusive of Farmhouse, Silos, stores and associated features)	Gaborone, Block 5 S 24 38 30.8 E 025 52 46.2	Historical	This site represents the relics of the thriving pre independence commercial farms and farm life around Gaborone. Some of these farms such as Bonnington and Broadhurst farms were initially allocated by Sechele to foreigners as a buffer area. Built by Daniel Henry Le Cordeur in the 1940s, the Bonnington silos alone were declared a National Monument in 2006 while a study was conducted to establish the associated features of the farmhouse, stores and garden pool (now being listed). The site is listed on understanding that the farm house and store rooms will be restored and refurbished and the area around developed into a botanical garden and an open air museum that uses this site to present the cultural landscape history of Gaborone.

Samora Machel's Plot Number B06, Historical
Safe House Peleng West,
Kgaboesele Lobatse
S 25 13.808
E 025 40.963

The Kgaboesele family house in Peleng represents the contribution of Lobatse residents in hosting underground Southern African freedom fighters and specifically, Mozambican former president, the late Samora Moses Machel. Mr Machel was hosted in this home and lived as part of the family prior to the Independence of Mozambique in 1975. Following the building of an appreciation house for the Kgaboesele family in a different location, the Kgaboesele house is to be developed into a site Museum fully paid for by the Mozambican government in recognition of the role of Botswana in the liberation of Mozambique. The location of Lobatse as a border town and its position as the headquarters of colonial administration allowed it this opportunity as a haven for freedom fighters, a responsibility that the local residents handled with honour and dedication.

MADE this 18th day of June, 2012.

ONKOKAME KITSO MOKAILA,
*Minister of Environment, Wildlife
and Tourism.*