

The restoration process at the Pretoria Gallows



At the entrance to Pretoria Correctional Centre, a collage of posters explains the process leading up to execution at the gallows. It introduces the visitor to life on death row.



Area Coordinator of Corrections, Director Joe Makgoba tells journalists about the history of the death penalty and the process of execution at the gallows.



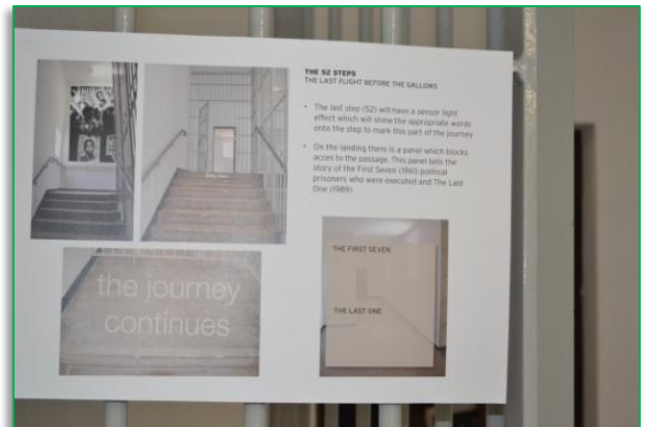
The feedback room. This is where an inmate was told when they will be executed or whether they were pardoned.



Inmates to be executed were kept in this cell as they awaited their last journey of life.



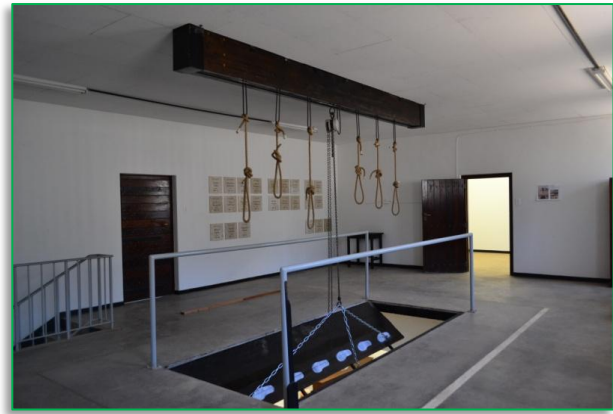
The inmates were taken to this chapel before they climbed the stairs to the gallows. After a brief prayer they were asked to remove their shoes.



A poster depicting the last 52 steps leading to the gallows



The 52 stairs that inmates climbed on their way to execution



The gallows.



The hanging chamber used for executions.



The ropes used to hang seven prisoners at a time.



Area Coordinator of Corrections, Director Joe Makgoba demonstrates the hanging process at the gallows.



Name plaques of the 130 political prisoners appear on the gallows walls, grouped as they were hanged.



The blood catch pit below the hanging chamber.



The autopsy room. Dead bodies were cleaned on such a metal table before being placed in coffins.



The fridge room, corpses were kept here before the burial.



The body of each executed inmate was placed into a coffin for burial at the cemetery. Muslim prisoners were buried according to their tradition.