

**APPLICATION FORM
NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP (NID)
SECTION 38 (1) AND SECTION 38 (8)**

Heritage Western Cape Reference No:

To be completed by the applicant

2107 1206

Completion of this form is required by Heritage Western Cape for the initiation of all impact assessment processes under Section 38 (1) & (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA)

As per Section 38 (1) (e) of the NHRA, submission of the NID must be initiated at the earliest stage of development. Should the development trigger any other legislation, practitioners may submit the NID without formal submission to other statutory bodies in order to comply with the NHRA.

This form is to be read in conjunction with the HWC Notification of Intent to Develop, Heritage Impact Assessment, (Pre-Application) Basic Assessment Reports, Scoping Reports and Environmental Impact Assessments, Guidelines for Submission to HWC

Whilst it is not a requirement, it may expedite processes and in particular avoid calls for additional information if certain of the information required in this form is provided by a heritage specialist/s with the necessary qualifications, skills and experience. All sections of the form must be completed in order to deem the application to be complete.

Making an incorrect statement or providing incorrect information may result in all or part of the application having to be reconsidered by HWC in the future, or submission of a new application.

The following information is to be included upon submission to HWC:

1. Proof of payment with correct reference number
2. Completed and signed application form – the application form must be completed in full in order to be considered
3. Power of Attorney
4. Locality Map
5. Images of the site and its context
6. Additional information pertaining to the heritage of the site

Application and associated documentation to be emailed to ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT (NEMA)

Department of Environmental Affairs Development Planning (Western Cape); Department of Mineral Resources (National); Department of Environmental Affairs (National);
Reference Number (if applicable):

Please tick the applicable section:

This application is made in terms of Section 38(8) of the NHRA and an application under NEMA has been made to the following authority:

This development will not require a NEMA application.

B. BASIC DETAILS**PROPERTY DETAILS:**

Name of properties: Portions of: Farm Nos. 55/4, 55/8 & 57 (Kleinbos), Mossel Bay District and Municipality	
Street address or location (eg: off R44): off Amy Searle Street, Great Brak River	
Erf or farm number/s: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of the farm Kleinbos 57 - 57.5433 ha; • Portion 4 of the farm Landsekloof 55 - 22.2508 ha; • Portion 8 of the farm Landsekloof 55 - 4.8680 ha. 	Coordinates: (centroid) S 33° 56' 41.71" E 22° 04' 54.42" (A logical centre point. Format based on WGS84.)
Town or District: Mossel Bay	Municipality: Mossel Bay Municipality
Extent of property: Plse see above ▲	Current use: Agricultural Zone I
Predominant land use/s of surrounding properties: Agriculture	

REGISTERED OWNER OF PROPERTY:

Name and Surname: Group Editors (Pty) Ltd (Nicole Odel Rimbault)		
Address: PO Box 806, George, 6530		
Telephone: N/A	Cell N/A	E-mail N/A
APPLICANT/ AUTHORISED AGENT:		
Name and Surname: Perception Planning (Stéfan de Kock) (see Power of Attorney attached)		
Address: PO Box 9995, George, 6530		
Telephone N/A	Cell 082 568 4719	E-mail perceptionplanning@gmail.com

By the submission of this form and all material submitted in support of this notification (ie: 'the material'), all applicant parties acknowledge that they are aware that the material and/or parts thereof will be put to the following uses and consent to such use being made: filing as a public record; presentations to committees, etc; inclusion in databases; inclusion on and downloading from websites; distribution to committee members and other stakeholders and any other use required in terms of powers, functions, duties and responsibilities allocated to Heritage Western Cape under the terms of the National Heritage Resources Act. Should restrictions on such use apply or if it is not possible to copy or lift information from any part of the digital version of the material, the material will be returned unprocessed. All sections of the form have been completed.

Signature of Owner:

Date:

(Power of Attorney, Proxy attached – Annexure 1)

Signature of Applicant/ Authorised Agent:

Date:

14th July 2021

Applicants/ agents must attach copy of power of attorney to this form.

C. DEVELOPMENT DETAILS:

Please indicate below which of the following Sections of the National Heritage Resources Act, or other legislation has triggered the need for notification of intent to develop.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	S38(1)(a) Construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier over 300m in length.	S38(1)(c) Any development or activity that will change the character of a site -
<input type="checkbox"/>	S38(1)(b) Construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	S38(1)(d) Rezoning of a site exceeding 10 000m ² in extent.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other triggers, eg: in terms of other legislation, (ie: National Environment Management Act, etc.) Please set out details: 24G NEMA EIA Process underway	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (i) exceeding 5 000m ² in extent; <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof; <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years.
		If you have checked any of the three boxes above, describe how the proposed development will change the character of the site: The proposal implies transformation of the present natural landscape character of the study area. Please refer to Background Information Document (BID) for comprehensive description.

If an impact assessment process has also been / will be initiated in terms of other legislation please provide the following information:

Authority / government department (ie: consenting authority) to which information has been /will be submitted for final decision: **DEADP (Ref. 14/1/1/E3/9/10/3/L1015/19)**

Present phase at which the process with that authority stands: **24G NEMA EIA Process underway**

Provide a full description of the nature and extent of the proposed development or activity including its potential impacts:

Previous agriculture on the site appears to have been limited to livestock grazing, pine plantations vegetable gardens as well as an olive grove destroyed in 2017.

According to information provided¹, the properties were purchased in February 2017 by the current owner and clearing of land (±9ha) for the planting of avocados commenced shortly afterwards. The total area cleared and still proposed to be cleared for the purpose of planting/ agriculture would be ±31ha.

A small off stream dam (±0.31ha) was constructed for water which is pumped up from the existing abstraction point and used for irrigation. This dam replaced a former (now filled-in) dam that was located approximately 210m to the east.

A Location plan is attached to the main report as Annexure 3 to the BID report.

Estimated value cost of the project in South African Rands: R Unknown

D. ANTICIPATED IMPACTS ON HERITAGE RESOURCES

Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act sets out the following categories of heritage resource as forming part of the national estate. Please indicate the known presence of any of these by checking the box alongside and then providing a description of each occurrence, including nature, location, size, type

Failure to provide sufficient detail or to anticipate the likely presence of heritage resources on the site may lead to a request for more detailed specialist information.

Provide a short history of the site and its environs (Include sources where available):

From a colonial perspective the study area straddles two early loan farms, namely Leeuwe Kloof and De Plaaf, as illustrated in early (1880-1890) SG mapping for the Mossel Bay area (Figure 4). The loan farm Leeuwe Kloof, originally measuring 2,978 morgen ($\pm 2,551$ ha)² was first framed and granted by quitrent to Johannes Philipus Meyer in 1827³. The responsible surveyor, AE Peterson, is also known for having drafted the first town layouts for nearby George. The farm De Plaaf originally measured 241 morgen 86 square roods (± 215 ha) was first surveyed during 1853⁴ and granted by quitrent to Johannes Theodorus Ferreira during March 1855⁵.

The historic Friemersheim Mission Station, situated ± 5 km east of the study area, was established on a portion of the nearby early farm Gonnakraal in 1869. The name Friemersheim originates from the Reverend Johan Kretzen, founder of the Friemersheim Mission Station, who was born in 1809 in a village with the same name, situated along the Rhine, Germany (Baumann and Winter, 2003). Kretzen was also responsible for the establishment of churches and schools elsewhere in the district, including Kretzenhoop Primary school (est. 1892), situated within the nearby village of Blanco.

Basic historical background research did not identify or highlight any other significant heritage-related aspects related to this particular portion of land. It is unlikely that detailed archival research would provide further meaningful insight into former use and/or broader understanding of heritage-related themes of the area.

Please indicate which heritage resources exist on the site and in its environs, describe them and indicate the nature of any impact upon them:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Historical settlements and townscapes</p> <p>Description of resource:</p>

² SG Diagram 275/1827

³ Geo. Q. 4-16

⁴ SG Diagram 1876/1853

⁵ Geo. F. 14-2

	Description of impact on heritage resource:
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Geological resources of scientific or cultural importance</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Archaeological resources (Including archaeological sites and material, rock art, battlefields & wrecks):</p> <p>Description of resource: Unknown</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: Unknown</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Palaeontological resources (ie: fossils):</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Graves and burial grounds (eg: ancestral graves, graves of victims of conflict, historical graves & cemeteries):</p> <p>Description of Resource:</p> <p>Description of Impact on Heritage Resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other human remains:</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa:</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other heritage resources:</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
<p>Describe elements in the environs of the site that could be deemed to be heritage resources:</p> <p>NONE</p> <p>Description of impacts on heritage resources in the environs of the site:</p>	

NONE

Summary of anticipated impacts on heritage resources:

Please refer to BID for comprehensive description.

E. ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL:

Attach to this form a minimum A4 sized locality plan showing the boundaries of the area affected by the proposed development, its environs, property boundaries and a scale. The plan must be of a scale and size that is appropriate to creating a clear understanding of the development.

Attach also other relevant graphic material such as maps, site plans, satellite photographs and photographs of the site and the heritage resources on it and in its environs. These are essential to the processing of this notification.

Please provide all graphic material on paper of appropriate size and on CD/ USB in JPEG format. It is essential that graphic material be annotated via titles on the photographs, map names and numbers, names of files and/or provision of a numbered list describing what is visible in each image.

F. RECOMMENDATION

In your opinion do you believe that a heritage impact assessment is required? Yes No

Recommendation made by:

Name **Stéfan de Kock**

Capacity **Professional Heritage Practitioner (APHP)**

PLEASE NOTE: No Heritage Impact Assessment should be submitted with this form or conducted until Heritage Western Cape has expressed its opinion on the need for such and the nature thereof.

G. INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED AND STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED AS PART OF THE HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA)

If it is recommended that an HIA is required, please complete this section of the form.

DETAILS OF STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE INTENDED HIA

In addition to the requirements set out in Section 38(3) of the NHRA, indicate envisaged studies:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Heritage resource-related guidelines and policies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local authority planning and other laws and policies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Details of parties, communities, etc. to be consulted.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specialist studies, eg: archaeology, palaeontology, architecture, townscape, visual impact, etc. Provide details:

Other. Provide details:

PLEASE NOTE: Any further studies which Heritage Western Cape requires should be submitted must be in the form of a single, consolidated report with a single set of recommendations. Specialist studies must be incorporated in full, either as chapters of the report, or as annexures thereto.
Please refer to the *Guidelines for Heritage Impact Assessments required in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT TO NOTICE OF INTENT TO DEVELOP (NID) IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT, 1999 (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CLEARING OF VEGETATION, CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ON PORTIONS OF FARM NOS. 55/4, 55/8 & 57 (KLEINBOS), MOSSEL BAY DISTRICT AND MUNICIPALITY



ON BEHALF OF: Group Editors Company (Pty) Ltd

July 2021

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PERCEPTION Planning

URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING- ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING- HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT- URBAN DESIGN

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REFERENCES and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. Baumann, N. and Winter, S. (2003). *Conservation study for the villages of Groot Brak, Fremersheim, Herbertsdale and Brandwacht*. 1st ed. Cape Tpwn: Mossel Bay Municipality, pp.13, 23
2. Cape Environmental Assessment Practitioners (Pty) Ltd (2021). 24G Consultation form for Farm Kleinbos on remaining extent of Farm Kleinbos 57 and Portions 4 & 8 of Farm Landsekloof 55, Mossel Bay
3. Cape National Geo-Spatial Information, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mowbray
4. Cape Town Archives
5. Cape Town Deeds Office
6. Surveyor General Office
7. Marais Attorneys & Conveyancers, 12th July 2021

ABBREVIATIONS

1. DEA – National Department of Environmental Affairs
2. HWC – Heritage Western Cape
3. NHRA - National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)
4. HIA – Heritage Impact Assessment
5. HWC – Heritage Western Cape
6. PHS – Provincial Heritage Site
7. NGSI – National Geo-Spatial Information, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mowbray

COVER: Location of the study area transposed onto extract from 1940 aerial imagery for "Leeukloof" (Survey 140 of 1940, Flight Strip 34, Image 34004, NGSI as edited)

1. INTRODUCTION

PERCEPTION Planning was appointed by Group Editors (Pty) Ltd to compile and submit to Heritage Western Cape a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) to in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) with relation to unauthorised clearing of vegetation and construction of a dam on portions of the subject properties listed below. Sanction for submission of this Notice of Intent to Develop was provided by Nicole Odel Rimbault on behalf of Group Editors (Pty) Ltd (as the registered property owner) as per the Power of Attorney and Proxy attached as part of **Annexure 1** to this report. Copies of the relevant Title Deeds and SG Diagrams are also attached as part of Annexure 1.

The cadastral land units subject to this application are (hereafter referred to as "the study area"):

- Remainder of the farm Kleinbos 57, measuring 57.5433 ha, registered to Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd, held under Title Deed 16972/2017 and situated within the jurisdiction of the Mossel Bay District and Municipality, Western Cape.
- Portion 4 of the farm Landsekloof 55, measuring 22.2508 ha, registered to Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd, held under Title Deed 16970/2017 and situated within the jurisdiction of the Mossel Bay District and Municipality, Western Cape.
- Portion 8 of the farm Landsekloof 55, measuring 4.8680 ha, registered to Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd, held under Title Deed 16971/2017 and situated within the jurisdiction of the Mossel Bay District and Municipality, Western Cape.

1.1 Background

Perception Planning's appointment follows after the issuing of a Compliance Notice to the registered property owner by the WCG Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning's Directorate: Environmental Law Enforcement (DEADP) in terms of Section 31L of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) in respect of the above works (Ref. No. 14/1/1/E3/9/10/3/L1015/19 dated 28/10/2019).

The landowner decided to apply to DEADP for rectification of the unlawful commencement of a listed activity in terms of Section 24G of NEMA. This application is submitted for adjudication in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, No 25 of 1999 (NHRA) as works outlined herein triggered the following development activities listed in terms of Section 38 of the NHRA:

- Sec 38(1)(a) - Construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier exceeding 300m in length;
- Sec 38(1)(c) Any development or other activity which will change the character of a site:
 - Sec 38(1)(c)(i) - Exceeding 5,000m² in extent,
 - Sec 38(1)(c)(ii) - Involving three or more existing erven or subdivision thereof,

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

The irregular-shaped study area (±68.68 ha in extent) is situated ±28km directly north of the Mossel Bay historic town centre, ±17km northwest of the town of Great Brak River and ±5km due west of the historic village of Fremersheim as shown with the locality plans (**Figures 1 and 2**). It forms part of a somewhat isolated rural landscape set within hilly/ mountainous terrain interspersed by pockets of cultivated fields, orchards, farmsteads and other agriculture-related land uses. Several historic farmsteads were noted within the proximity of the study area.

The study area forms part of a headland defined by the Moordkuil and Bosmans Rivers (Figure 2) with a natural ridgeline that effectively divides it into two sections. The western section of the study area forms part of a (generally) southwest-facing slope facing the Bosmans River and the secluded "Leeukloof Valley". The eastern section consists of a relatively flat escarpment to the north and steep slopes overlooking the Moordkuil River valley floor to the east (**Figure 3**).

The ruin of a historic gabled farmstead destroyed by fire was noted on the lower-lying, westernmost portion as shown. A modern residential building, together with a modern outbuilding was noted roughly midway along the southwest-facing slope of the western portion as shown. No other structures or gravesites were noted.

Despite the area having been affected by veld fires ±6-7 years ago, existing vegetation consists of a combination of Garden Route Shale Fynbos (VU (2011), VU (2018)) and Swellendam Silcrete Fynbos (VU (2011), EN (2018) (CapeEAPrac, 2021). During field work undertaken on 4th April 2021 it was found that vegetation clearing had taken place on two portions of the study area, namely (a) 9ha along the steeper, southwest-facing slopes and clearing of alien pines along the higher-lying escarpment east of the natural ridgeline as

highlighted in Figure 3. Recent works undertaken thus include said clearing of ±9ha as well as the construction of a dam (± 0.31 ha) as shown.

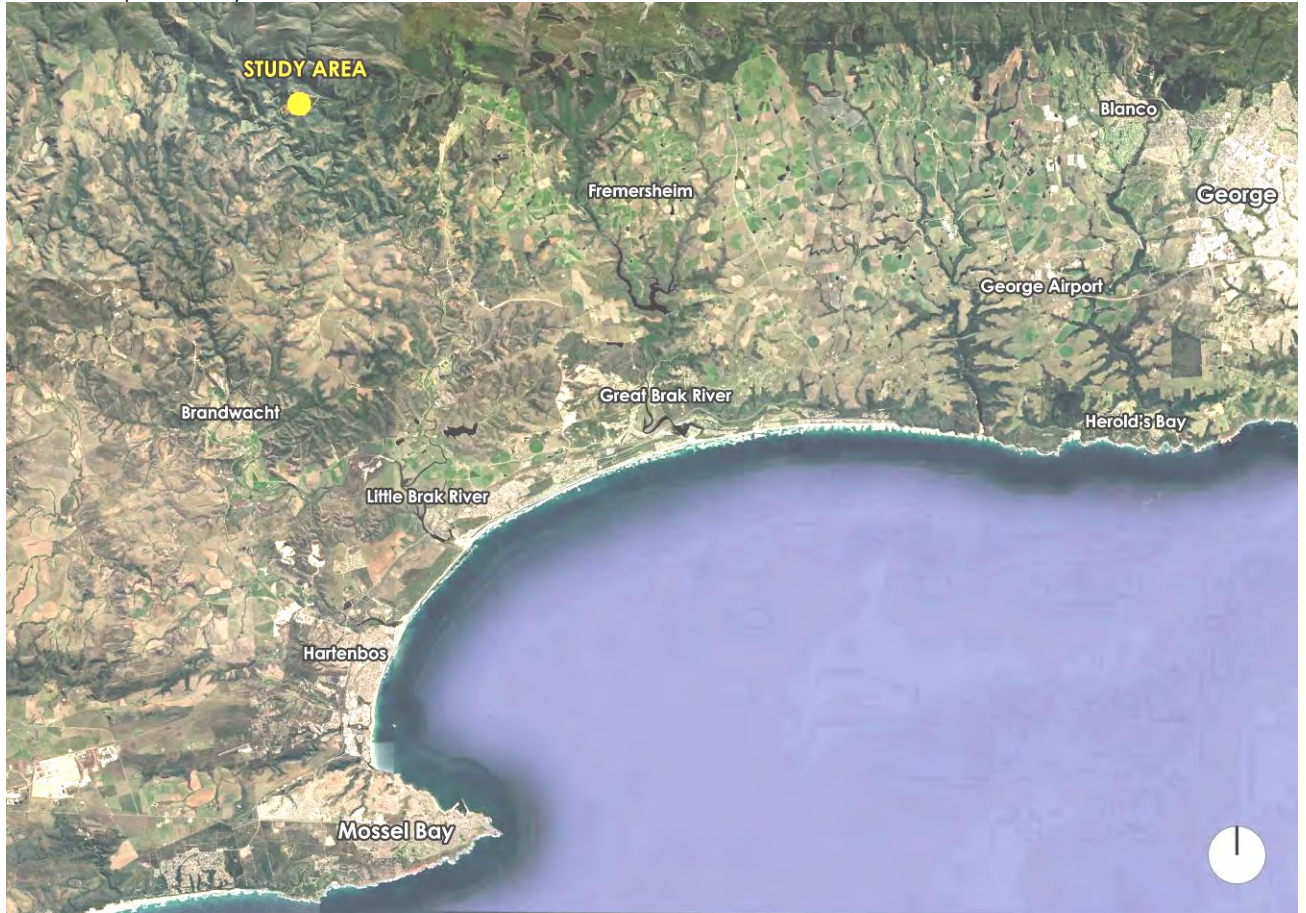


Figure 1: Location of the study area within regional context (GoogleEarth, 2019, as edited)



Figure 1: Subject property within surrounding rural/ natural landscape context (CFM, 2019, as edited)

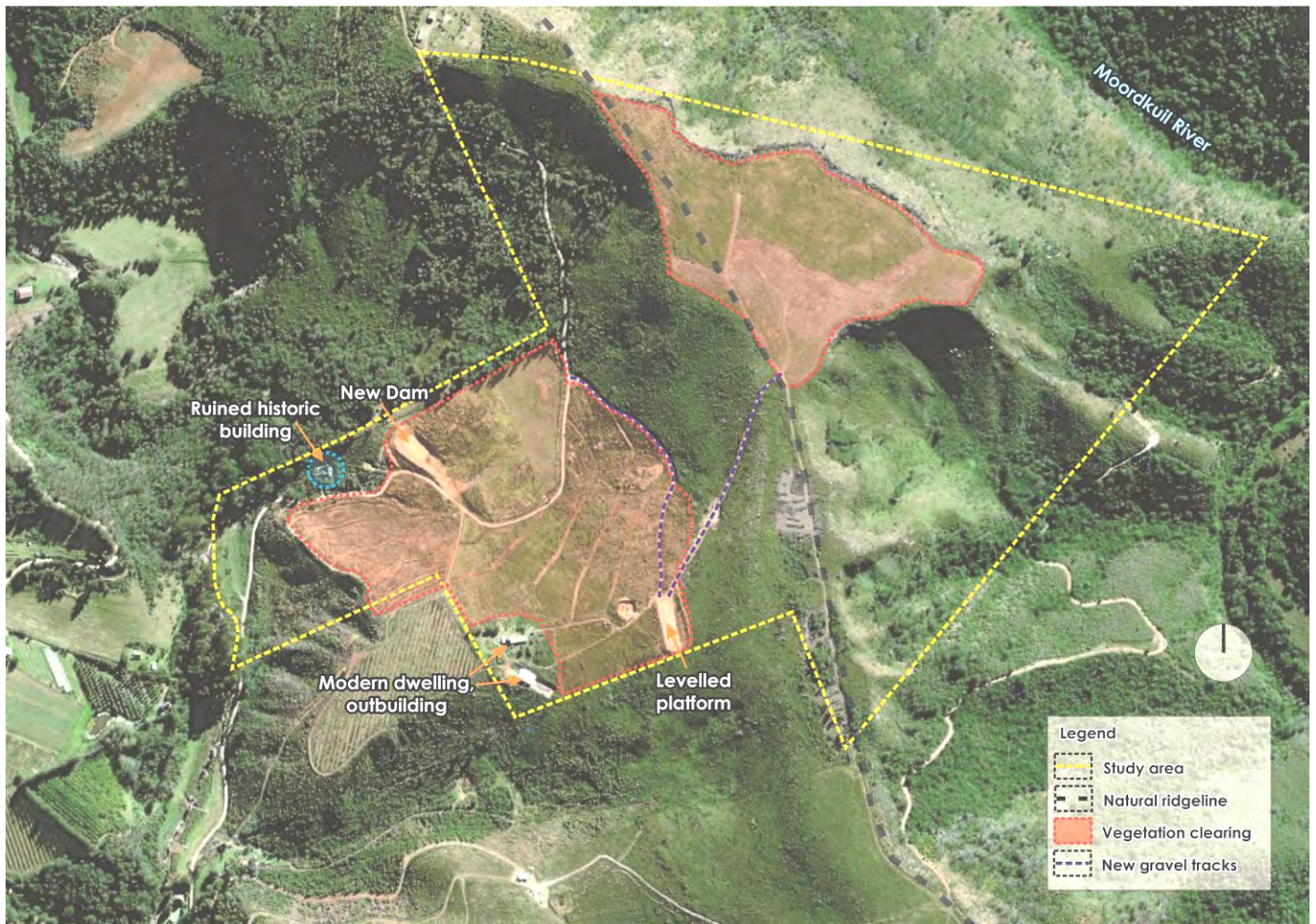


Figure 3: Close-up aerial view of the study area highlighting elements noted during field work (CFM, 2019, as edited)

According to legal representatives of the land owner¹:

- Other recent earthworks noted during field work, including establishment of a level platform ($\pm 1,600\text{m}^2$) and a narrow gravel road leading up to the aforementioned platform and escarpment ($\pm 700\text{m}$ in length) as shown in Figure 3 were not undertaken by the current land owner;
- According to information available to the land owner, the cleared area consisted of vegetable gardens, grazing and an established olive grove, the latter of which was destroyed by fire in 2017.

Access to the study area is via a series of gravel minor roads via neighbouring towns/ settlements such as Great Brak River, Fremersheim and Little Brak River as shown in Figure 1. Several established tracks occur within the boundaries of the study area as evident from Figure 3.

Established land use within the proximity of the study area is predominantly slanted towards agriculture (e.g. livestock, orchards, other crop production and pine plantations) but also include natural areas, watercourses, homesteads and tourism facilities. Photographs of the study area and its environs are attached as part of **Annexure 2** to this report.

3. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Previous agriculture on the site appears to have been limited to livestock grazing, pine plantations vegetable gardens as well as an olive grove destroyed in 2017.

According to information provided², the properties were purchased in February 2017 by the current owner and clearing of land ($\pm 9\text{ha}$) for the planting of avocados commenced shortly afterwards. The total area cleared and still proposed to be cleared for the purpose of planting/ agriculture would be $\pm 31\text{ha}$.

A small off stream dam ($\pm 0.31\text{ha}$) was constructed for water which is pumped up from the existing abstraction point and used for irrigation. This dam replaced a former (now filled-in) dam that was located approximately 210m to the east. A location plan illustrating the above is attached as **Annexure 3** to this report.

¹ Marais Attorneys & Conveyancers, 12/07/2021

² CapeEAPrac, 2021

4. SPATIAL PLANNING CONTEXT

4.1 Mossel Bay Municipality Spatial Development Framework, 2018

The study area is situated within a natural/rural landscape well outside the boundaries of rural settlements within its proximity (e.g. Fremersheim, Brandwacht). The MSDF does not contain specific spatial proposals that are pertinent within the context of the activities described in this report.

5. BASIC HISTORIC BACKGROUND

From a colonial perspective the study area straddles two early loan farms, namely Leeuwe Kloof and De Plaat, as illustrated in early (1880-1890) SG mapping for the Mossel Bay area (**Figure 4**). The loan farm Leeuwe Kloof, originally measuring 2,978 morgen ($\pm 2,551 \text{ ha}$)³ was first framed and granted by quitrent to Johannes Philipus Meyer in 1827⁴. The responsible surveyor, AE Peterson, is also known for having drafted the first town layouts for nearby George. The farm De Plaat originally measured 241 morgen 86 square roods ($\pm 215 \text{ ha}$) was first surveyed during 1853⁵ and granted by quitrent to Johannes Theodorus Ferreira during March 1855⁶.

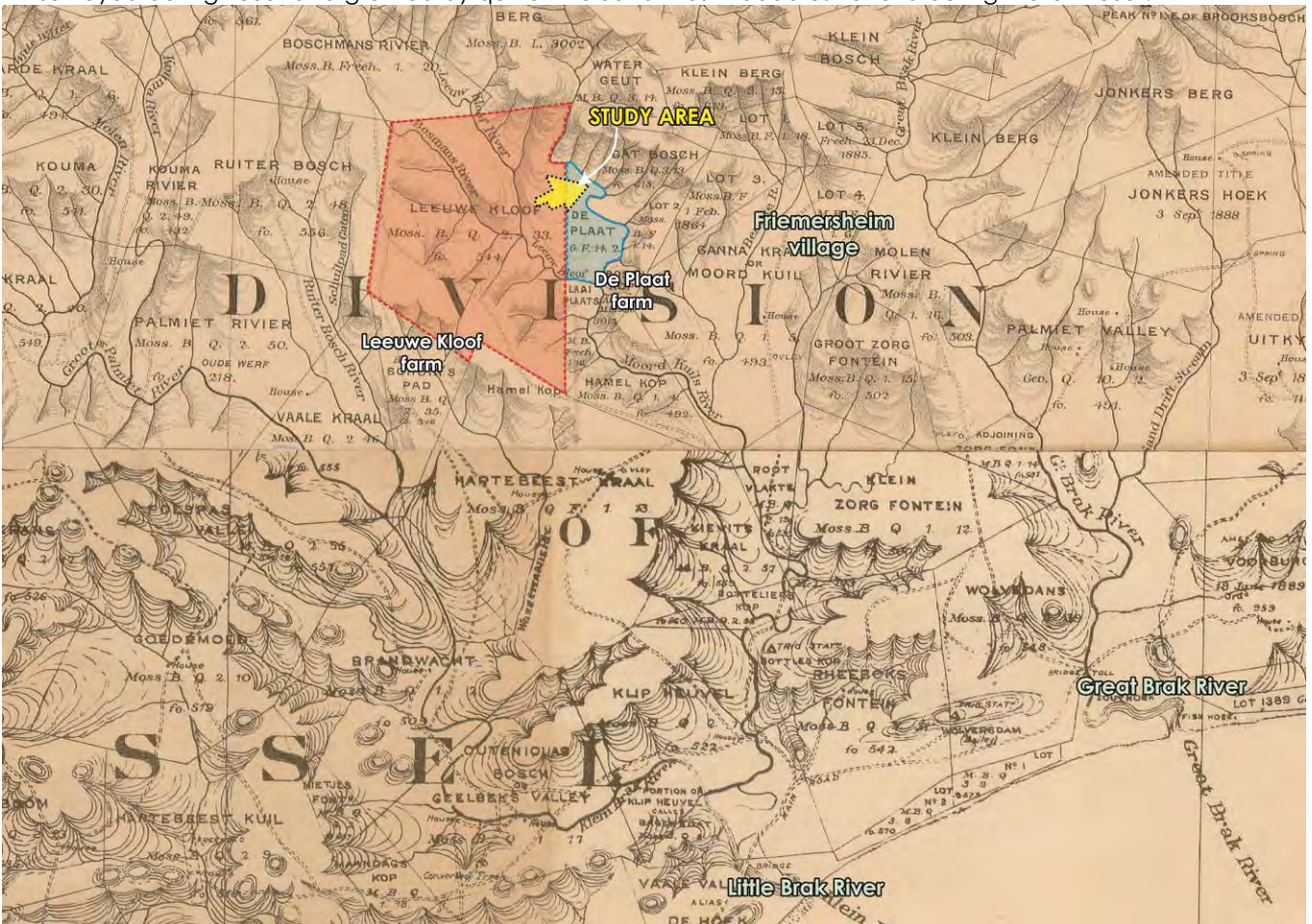


Figure 4: Approximate location of the property in relation to (± 1880) boundaries of the early freehold farms Leeuwe Kloof and De Plaat (NGSI)

While comprehensive deed searches were not deemed necessary in this instance, the following ownership timelines with relation to the respective properties were derived from basic archival research as well as data obtained through the Deeds Office digital archive:

Farm No.	Transfer date/ Title Deed No.	Transferred To:
Kleinbos 57/ Rem	Geo. Q. 4-16/ 1827	Johannes Philipus Meyer
	19/03/1855	Johannes Theodorus Ferreira
	14/07/1876	AH Terblans
	12/03/1891	Barend Smit
	T 5698/1979	Paul Boshoff
	T 59265/1984	Jacques Francois & Frances du Toit
	T 1127/2007	Leopold Montague Schultz
	T 16972/2017	Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd

³ SG Diagram 275/1827
⁴ Geo. Q. 4-16
⁵ SG Diagram 1876/1853
⁶ Geo. F. 14-2

Landsekloof 55/4	Geo. F. 14-2/ 1855 25/05/1925 T 5935/1927 T 5698/1979 T 59265/1984 T 1128/2007 T 27644/2012 T 16970/2017	Johannes Theodorus Ferreira BS Marx and others MS Zaayman Paul Boshoff Jacques Francois & Frances du Toit Catherine Olga Schultz Leopald Montague Schultz Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd
Landsekloof 55/8	Geo. F. 14-2/ 1855 25/05/1925 T 910/1930 T 5698/1979 T 59265/1984 T 1129/2007 T 16971/2017	Johannes Theodorus Ferreira BS Marx and others JS Terblans Paul Boshoff Jacques Francois & Frances du Toit Leopald Montague Schultz Group Editors Co (Pty) Ltd

The historic Friemersheim Mission Station, situated ± 5 km east of the study area, was established on a portion of the nearby early farm Gonnakraal in 1869. The name Friemersheim originates from the Reverend Johan Kretzen, founder of the Friemersheim Mission Station, who was born in 1809 in a village with the same name, situated along the Rhine, Germany (Baumann and Winter, 2003). Kretzen was also responsible for the establishment of churches and schools elsewhere in the district, including Kretzenhoop Primary school (est. 1892), situated within the nearby village of Blanco.

Basic historical background research did not identify or highlight any other significant heritage-related aspects related to this particular portion of land. It is unlikely that detailed archival research would provide further meaningful insight into former use and/or broader understanding of heritage-related themes of the area.

6. HERITAGE RESOURCES AND ISSUES

As mentioned the study area straddles two early loan farms, namely the southwest-facing slopes formerly known as Leeuwe Kloof (granted 1827, now Kleinbos) and the higher-lying, relatively flat escarpment overlooking the steep Moordkuils River formerly known as De Plaat (granted 1855, now Landsekloof).

The western portion of the study area overlooks and form part of the secluded Leeukloof Valley, the name of which is derived from the early loan farm. Set along the foothills of the Outeniqua mountains this character of this scenic valley is defined by hilly-to-mountainous topography, rivers and flood plains interspersed by compact cultivated fields and orchards and modest historic farmsteads.

Early SG diagrams do not describe or even allude to early land use on the two farms. Other available primary and/ or secondary archival sources pertinent to the study area were found to be very limited. As such, analysis of early (1940) aerial photography was useful to inform our understanding from a cultural landscape context (**Figure 5**). From this analysis the following traditional (i.e. Pre-Modern) cultural landscape patterns emerge, as summarized below:

- Cultivated fields appears to be limited to the lower-lying, westernmost portion of the study area (western bank of the Bosman River) allowing for irrigation from the river;
- Two small structures, the siting of which correspond with that of the fire-damaged ruin noted during field work are evident (highlighted with yellow circle);
- A narrow pathway traverses the west-facing slope to connect the escarpment with the main access road following the Bosmans River;
- Pockets of vegetation along the upper escarpment appear to display slight lower density of vegetation growth – possibly owing to clearing or natural veld fires.

Apart from the two outer gables and internal walling, little historic fabric remains to the fire-damaged historic structure. It is also evident that extensive additions and alterations were made to the historic core of the structure prior to the fire. The ruin was not impacted through the works outlined in this report.

Given the known extent of vegetation clearing and cultivation along the lower, western portion of the study area, it is considered unlikely that archaeological resources would remain within an undisturbed context around this area. However, the potential of unearthing such occurrences along the higher-lying escarpment is uncertain. Given the information provided it would appear that much of the surface area of the study area had already been transformed through various forms of cultivation and that works undertaken as well as further clearing proposed would not militate against the overall cultural landscape of the environs.

According to the SAHRIS Paleo-sensitivity mapping the property is situated within an area earmarked as being of "Low" palaeontological sensitivity where, "*no palaeontological studies are required however protocol for finds [is] required*"⁷.

⁷ <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo>, accessed 8th April 2021

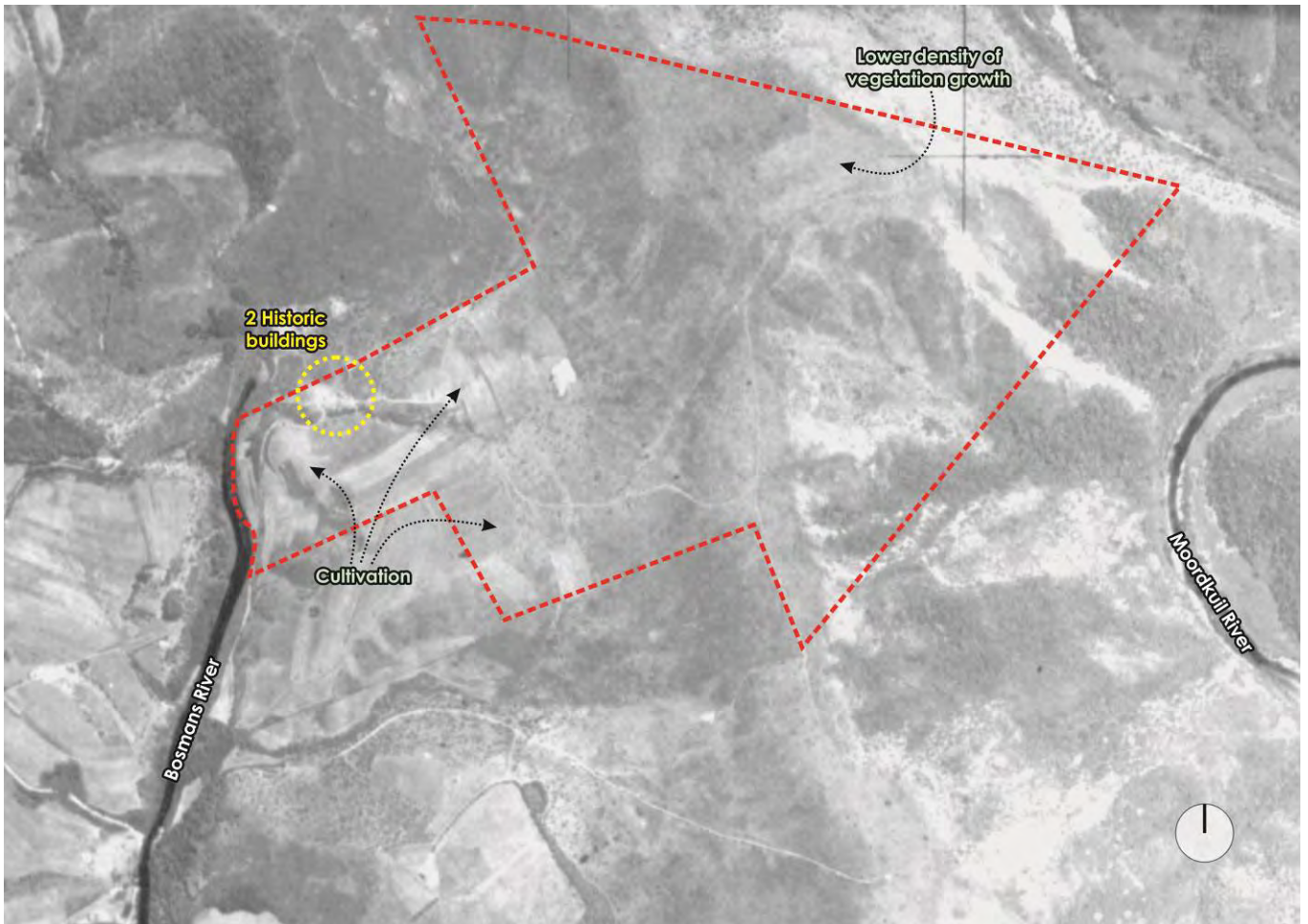


Figure 5: Study area boundary transposed onto extract from 1940 aerial imagery for the area (Survey 140, Flight Strip 34, Image 34004, NGSi as edited)

7. RECOMMENDATION

Having regard to the above assessment it is our view that the proposed development would not impact on heritage resources considered of cultural significance. It is therefore recommended that no future heritage-related studies be required in this instance and that the development may proceed.

PERCEPTION Planning

14th July 2021

STEFAN DE KOCK

Hons: TRP(SA) EIA Mgmt(IRL) Pr Pln PHP