

**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

TBC

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 property: Portion 4 of the farm Kellershoogte (Oudtshoorn)	
Street address or location (eg: off R44): R328 (Oudtshoorn – Mossel Bay)	
Erf or farm number/s: As stated above	Coordinates: S 33° 41' 58.10" E 22° 07' 34.06"
Town or District: Oudtshoorn	Municipality: Oudtshoorn Municipality
Extent of property: 439,7994 ha	Current use: Agriculture/ Vacant
Predominant land use/s of surrounding properties: Agriculture	

REGISTERED OWNER OF PROPERTY:

Name and Surname: JE de V Keller (SA ID 6909185252083) on behalf of Mooiplaas Trust		
Address Mooiplaas Trust, PO Box 1458, Oudtshoorn, 6620		
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:

10th October 2022

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 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.
<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"/>	<p>Other triggers, eg: in terms of other legislation, (ie: National Environment Management Act, etc.) Please set out details:</p> <p>Proposal triggers several development activities listed i.t.o. NEMA Regulations (24G) (Note that some activities were undertaken without permission whilst other activities are proposed)</p>	<p>If you have checked any of the three boxes above, describe how the proposed development will change the character of the site:</p> <p>The proposal entails development of portions of the property thus implying changing the character of existing landscape character. Please refer to Background Information Document (BID) for comprehensive description.</p>

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**

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

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

According to information provided¹ the area (±13 ha) cleared and planted with almond trees has been lying fallow for more than 10 years. As such, the development would have triggered a NEMA process. As such, the landowner decided to apply to DEADP for rectification of the unlawful commencement of a listed activity in terms of Section 24G of NEMA.

The landowner is applying to develop a further ±44ha (thus total development footprint of ±57ha) for extension of the existing commercial orchard with almond and pomegranate trees under drip irrigation.

A 200mm pipeline inside a 250mm sleeve and a 220V power cable inside a 63mm sleeve was laid from Portion 19 of Farm 170 by means of a pipeline across Remainder Farm 172, Portion 11 of 170, Portion 3 of Farm 172 to Portion 4 of Farm 172 to provide drip irrigation to the orchard. The pipeline crosses a non-perennial watercourse. The sleeves were placed in an earth trench and covered up. The pipeline is ±1.1kms in length and disturbed and area of ±563m². Remainder Farm 172 and Portion 11 of 170 are owned by Hein Schoeman

¹ CapeEAPrac, 2022

Familie Trust and MJ Keller respectively. The pipeline is ± 1.1 kms in length and disturbed an area of ± 563 m².

The proposed development footprint is as illustrated with Figures 3 and 4 of the BID report. No further pipelines are proposed to be installed.

Estimated value cost of the project in South African Rands: R ___ Unknown at this stage ___

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 subject property straddles the early loan farms Gamtoosberg and Paardendrift (also "Paarde Drift") as illustrated within the context of 1880-1890 mapping for the area.

The farm Gamtoosberg 170, framed during 1818, originally measuring 2,945 morgen 200 roods ($\pm 2,542$ m²), was first granted by quitrent to JG Loggrenberg on 21st January 1818². The diagram denotes several structures along the Kandelaars River, the general location of which corresponds with the historic buildings noted northeast of the subject property boundary, some and highlighted on Figure 5 in the BID report. The farm is described as being used for grazing purposes at the time.

The farm Paardendrift 171, framed during 1841, originally measuring 3,296 morgen 500 roods ($\pm 2,875$ m²), was first granted by quitrent on 15th July 1841 (owner not identified)³. The 1818 diagram for Gamtoosberg describe vegetation on Paardedrift as "*Carro veld en in de winter alleen door goed waters voorzien*", (translated: arid Karoo field with winter rains only). Neither the early (1841) diagram, nor 1880 mapping below show any early buildings on the farm Paarde Drift.

Basic historical background research did not identify or highlight significant heritage-related themes pertinent to this particular portion of land. Note that a detailed deed search was not undertaken as part of this NID.

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: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
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² SG Diagram B466/1818

³ SG Diagram B503/1831

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Historical settlements and townscapes</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Landscapes and natural features of cultural significance</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Geological resources of scientific or cultural importance</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input 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: No significant impact anticipated</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Palaeontological resources (ie: fossils):</p> <p>Description of resource: Unknown</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No significant impact anticipated</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: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other human remains:</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa:</p> <p>Description of resource: None</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource: No impact</p>

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other heritage resources:</p> <p>Description of resource:</p> <p>Description of impact on heritage resource:</p>
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Describe elements in the environs of the site that could be deemed to be heritage resources:

No heritage resources of cultural significance noted.

Description of impacts on heritage resources in the environs of the site:

It is not anticipated that the proposal would negatively impact on heritage resources of cultural significance.

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:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other. Provide details:
<p>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 <i>Guidelines for Heritage Impact Assessments required in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)</i></p>	

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)

VEGETATION CLEARING AND INSTALLATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE ON PORTION 4 OF THE FARM KELLERSHOOGTE 172, OUDTSHOORN DISTRICT AND MUNICIPALITY



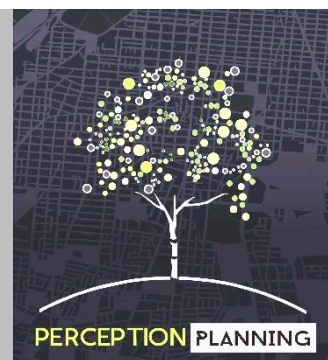
ON BEHALF OF: MOOIPLAAS TRUST

OCTOBER 2022

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PERCEPTION Planning

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REFERENCES and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. Cape Town Archives
2. Elsenburg.com. (2017). *CFM 2.6.10*. [online] Available at: <https://gis.elsenburg.com/apps/cfm/> [Accessed 9 Jul. 2022].
3. National Geo-Spatial Information, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mowbray
4. Sahra.org.za. (2022). *FindReports Map | SAHRA*. [online] Available at: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/reports> [Accessed 10 Oct. 2022].
5. Surveyor General Office

ABBREVIATIONS

1. DEADP –Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning
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
8. SAHRIS – South African Heritage Resources Information System

COVER: Collage of contextual panoramic images of the study area and its direct environs (Author)

1. INTRODUCTION

PERCEPTION Planning was appointed by JE de V Keller (SA ID 6909185252083) on behalf of Mooiplaas Trust (being the registered owner), to submit to Heritage Western Cape (HWC) a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) in terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) in relation to clearing of vegetation and installation of infrastructure on a portion of the subject property. The application also outlined proposed future works. The Power of Attorney as well as copies of the relevant Title Deed and S.G Diagram are attached as part of **Annexure 1**.

Description of the cadastral land unit subject to this application is as follows:

- Portion 4 of the farm Kellershoogte 172, measuring 439,7994 ha, registered to Mooiplaas Trust, held under Title Deed 606/1998 and situated within the jurisdiction of the Oudtshoorn 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/E3/10/2/3/L1134/20 dated 25th January 2021).

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.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

The study area (±70 ha in extent¹) forms part of the farm Kellershoogte 172/4, which is situated ±13km south of Oudtshoorn, ±36km north of the coastal town Great Brak River and ±7km southeast of the sprawling rural settlement, Armoed. The Volmoed DRC and parsonage forms part of a Provincial Heritage Site (PHS) declared during 1985² and situated along the southern periphery of Armoed and ±6km northwest of the study area (**Figures 1, 2**).

The property forms part of mountainous terrain and stretches c. 4km westward of the confluence of the Kandelaars River and Doring River. Part of the northern cadastral boundary follows the alignment of the R328 tourism route, which traverses the western portion of the farm via a narrow natural valley known as Brakpoort. The study area forms part of gentle north-facing terrain directly south of the R328, east of Brakpoort and north of the hillside beyond which is another natural valley named Olienhoutskloof, part of which forms part of the subject farm (**Figure 3**).

During fieldwork undertaken on 4th July 2022 no buildings or structures were noted on the study area save for remaining sections of a former water canal, which is distinguishable from the surrounding landscape as a narrow strip of denser vegetation. The canal, essentially a shallow hand dug earthen trench, was noted parallel to and within close proximity to the northern boundary as illustrated in **Figure 4**. The landowner indicated that the canal was historically used to irrigate former agricultural fields along this boundary³. An area of ±13ha along the northeast property was cleared and an orchard consisting of almond trees established during the recent past. A disused dam remains along the north-facing slopes above the existing orchard.

Drip irrigation, fed through a 200mm pipeline inside a 250mm sleeve as well as 220V electricity cable inside a 65mm sleeve was laid over a distance of ±1,12km across neighbouring farms from a functional water canal system along the Kandelaars River as shown in Figure 3. These pipelines are understood to have been buried in a shallow hand dug trench and was not evident within the landscape. Several dilapidated historic buildings were noted scattered along the Kandelaars River valley/ R328, some distance northeast of the property/ study area (**Figure 5**). No evidence could be found that said structures were impact through installation of the aforementioned underground pipelines.

Photographs of the study area and its direct environs are attached to this report as **Annexure 2**.

¹ Area already cleared (13ha) as well as area proposed to be cleared. CapeEAPrac, 25th March 2021

² SAHRA Ref. 9/2/068/0018 dated 27th December 1985

³ Perscomm, Keller, JEdV, 4th July 2022



Figure 1: Study area location within sub-regional context (Google Earth, 2020, as edited)

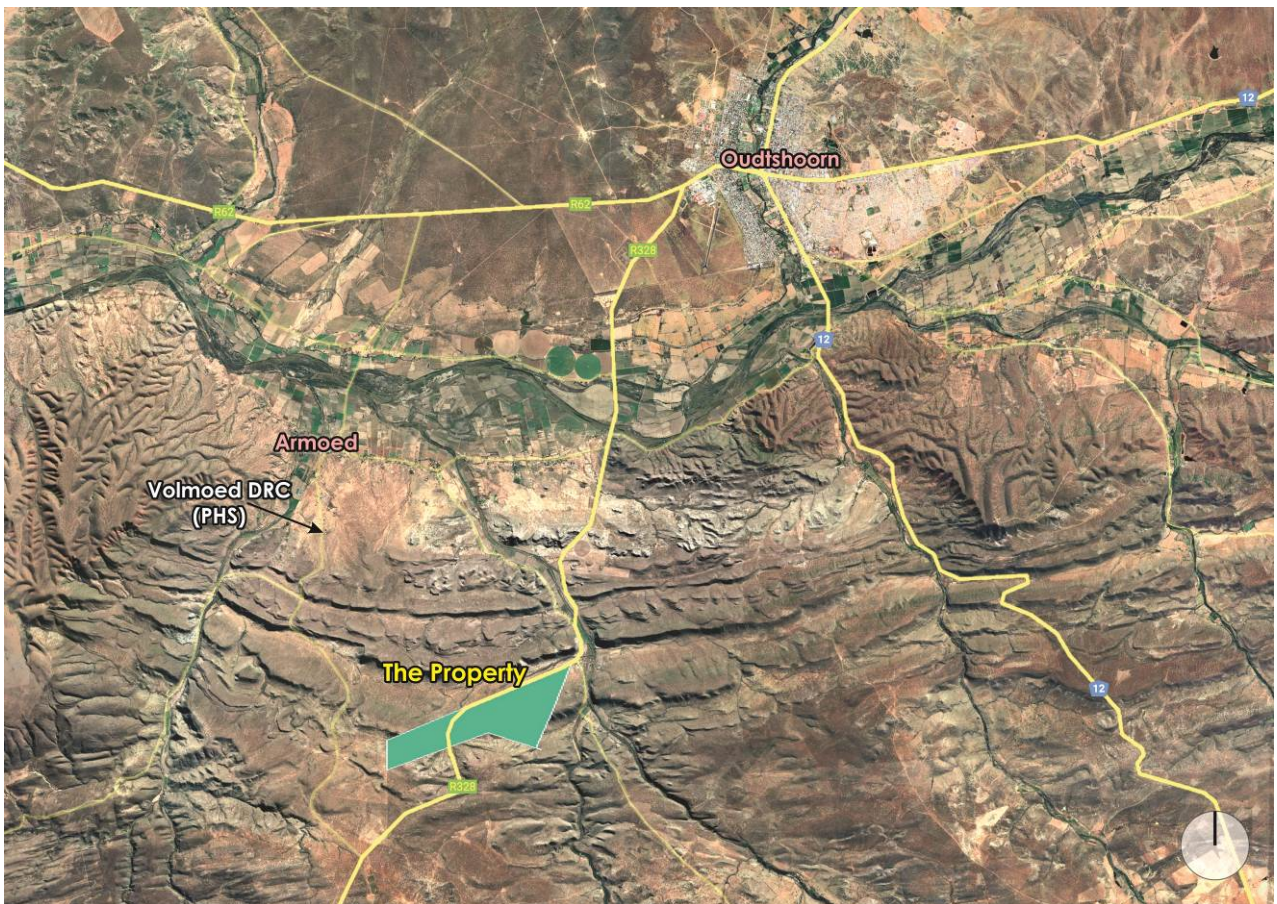


Figure 2: Study area within context of direct environs (GoogleEarth, 2020, as edited)

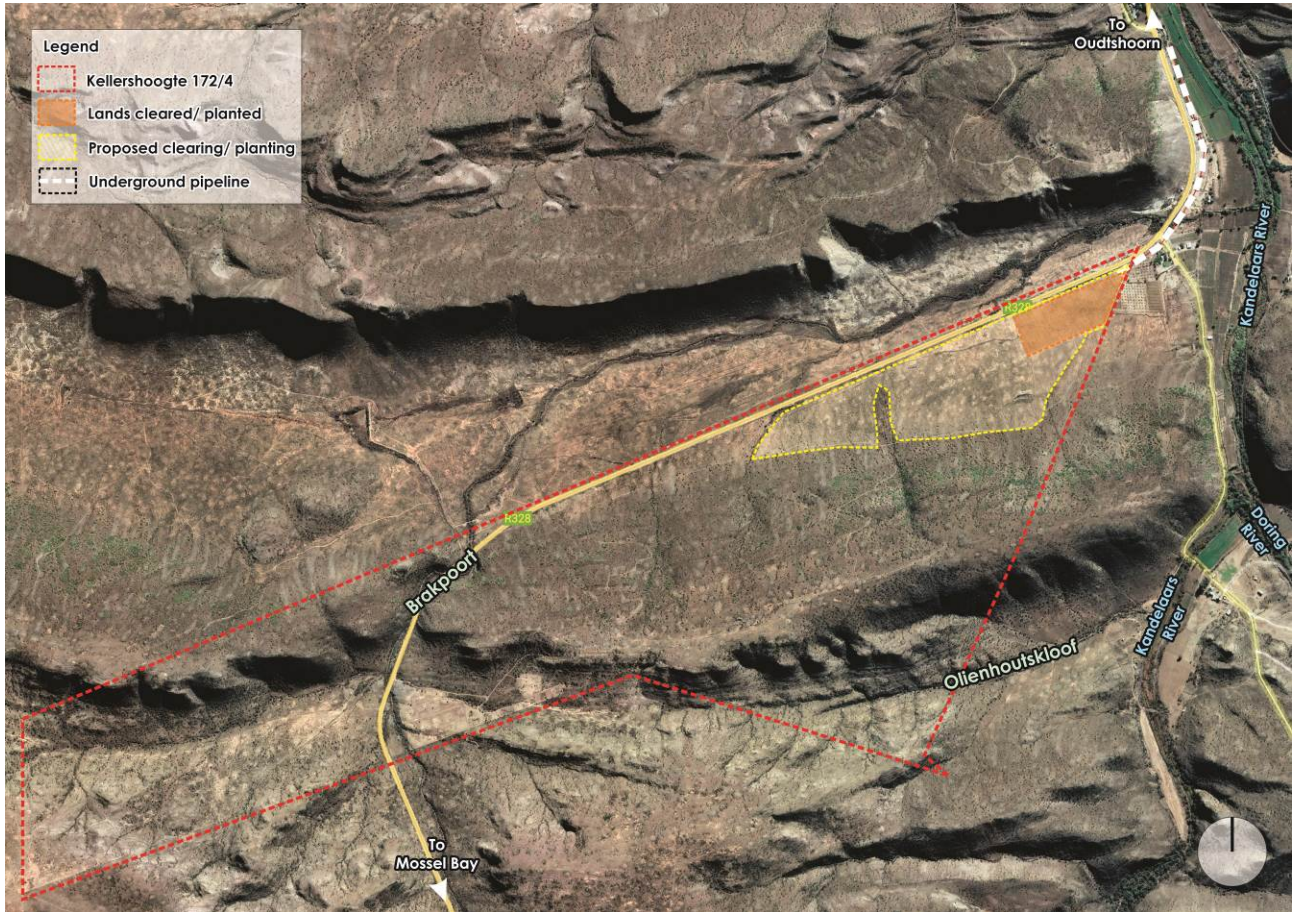


Figure 3: Closer aerial view showing the extent of lands cleared/ planted and area proposed to be cleared as transposed onto the farm cadastral boundaries (GoogleEarth, 2020, as edited)

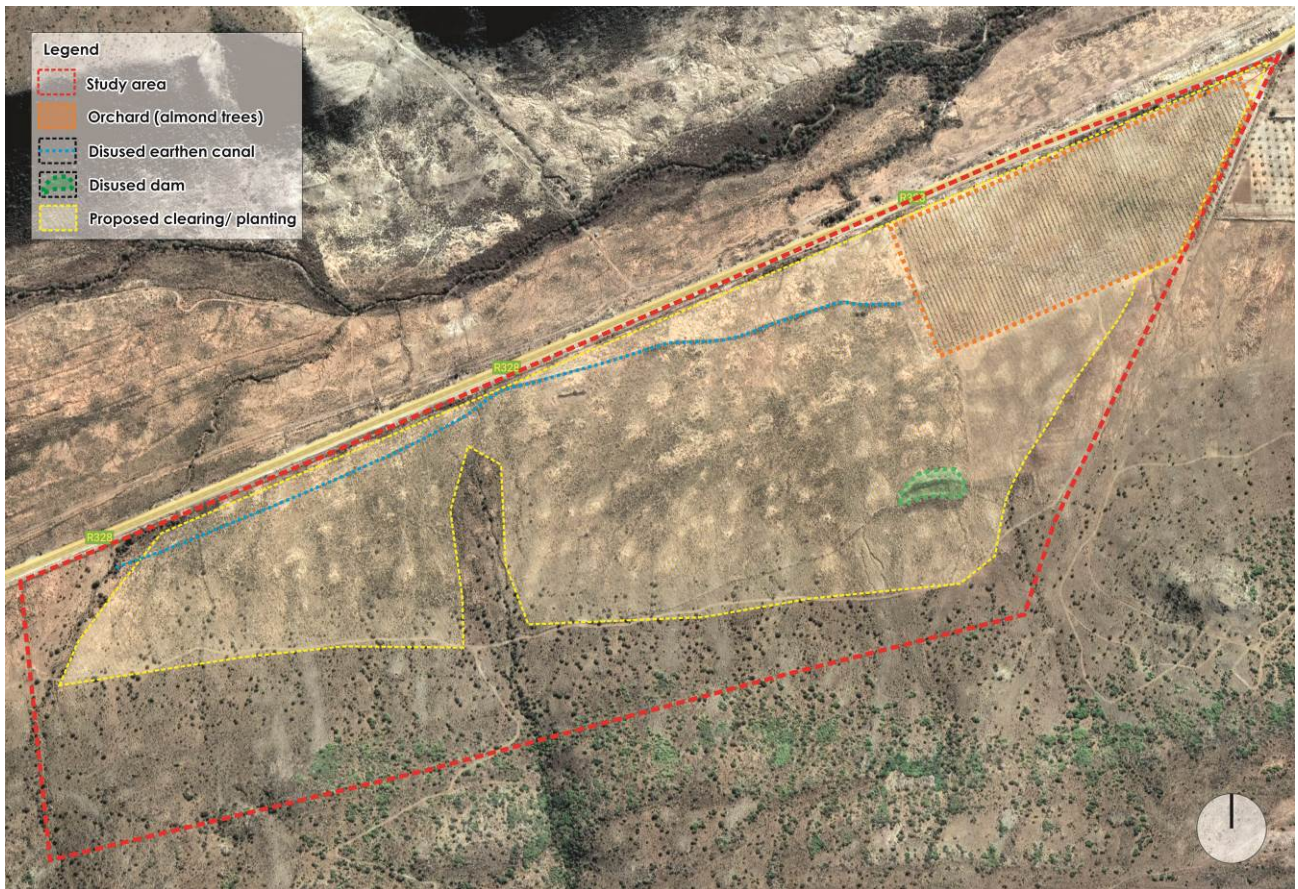


Figure 4: Existing orchard, disused dam, and disused earthen water canal in relation to proposed study area (i.e. area for proposed expansion of orchard) boundaries (GoogleEarth, 2020, as edited)



Figure 5: Approximate alignment of underwater pipeline in relation to existing water canal and historic structures located along the Kandelaars River valley, directly northeast of the subject farm (GoogleEarth, 2020, as edited)

3. DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

According to information provided⁴ the area (± 13 ha) cleared and planted with almond trees has been lying fallow for more than 10 years. As such, the development would have triggered a NEMA process. As such, the landowner decided to apply to DEADP for rectification of the unlawful commencement of a listed activity in terms of Section 24G of NEMA.

The landowner is applying to develop a further ± 44 ha (thus total development footprint of ± 57 ha) for extension of the existing commercial orchard with almond and pomegranate trees under drip irrigation.

A 200mm pipeline inside a 250mm sleeve and a 220V power cable inside a 63mm sleeve was laid from Portion 19 of Farm 170 by means of a pipeline across Remainder Farm 172, Portion 11 of 170, Portion 3 of Farm 172 to Portion 4 of Farm 172 to provide drip irrigation to the orchard. The pipeline crosses a non-perennial watercourse. The sleeves were placed in an earth trench and covered up. The pipeline is ± 1.1 kms in length and disturbed an area of ± 563 m². Remainder Farm 172 and Portion 11 of 170 are owned by Hein Schoeman Familie Trust and MJ Keller respectively. The pipeline is ± 1.1 kms in length and disturbed an area of ± 563 m².

The proposed development footprint is as illustrated with Figures 3 and 4 above. No further pipelines are proposed to be installed.

4. BASIC HISTORIC BACKGROUND

From a colonial perspective the subject property straddles the early loan farms Gamtoosberg and Paardendrift (also "Paarde Drift") as illustrated within the context of 1880-1890 mapping for the area (**Figure 6**). The farm Gamtoosberg 170, framed during 1818, originally measuring 2,945 morgen 200 roods ($\pm 2,542$ m²), was first granted by quitrent to JG Loggrenberg on 21st January 1818⁵. The diagram denotes several structures along the Kandelaars River, the general location of which corresponds with the historic buildings noted northeast of the subject property boundary, some and highlighted on Figure 5. The farm is described as being used for grazing purposes at the time.

⁴ CapeEAPrac, 2022

⁵ SG Diagram B466/1818

The farm Paardendrift 171, framed during 1841, originally measuring 3,296 morgen 500 roods ($\pm 2,875\text{m}^2$), was first granted by quitrent on 15th July 1841 (owner not identified)⁶. The 1818 diagram for Gamtoosberg describe vegetation on Paardedrift as “Carro veld en in de winter alleen door goed waters voorzien”, (translated: arid Karoo field with winter rains only). Neither the early (1841) diagram, nor 1880 mapping below show any early buildings on the farm Paarde Drift.

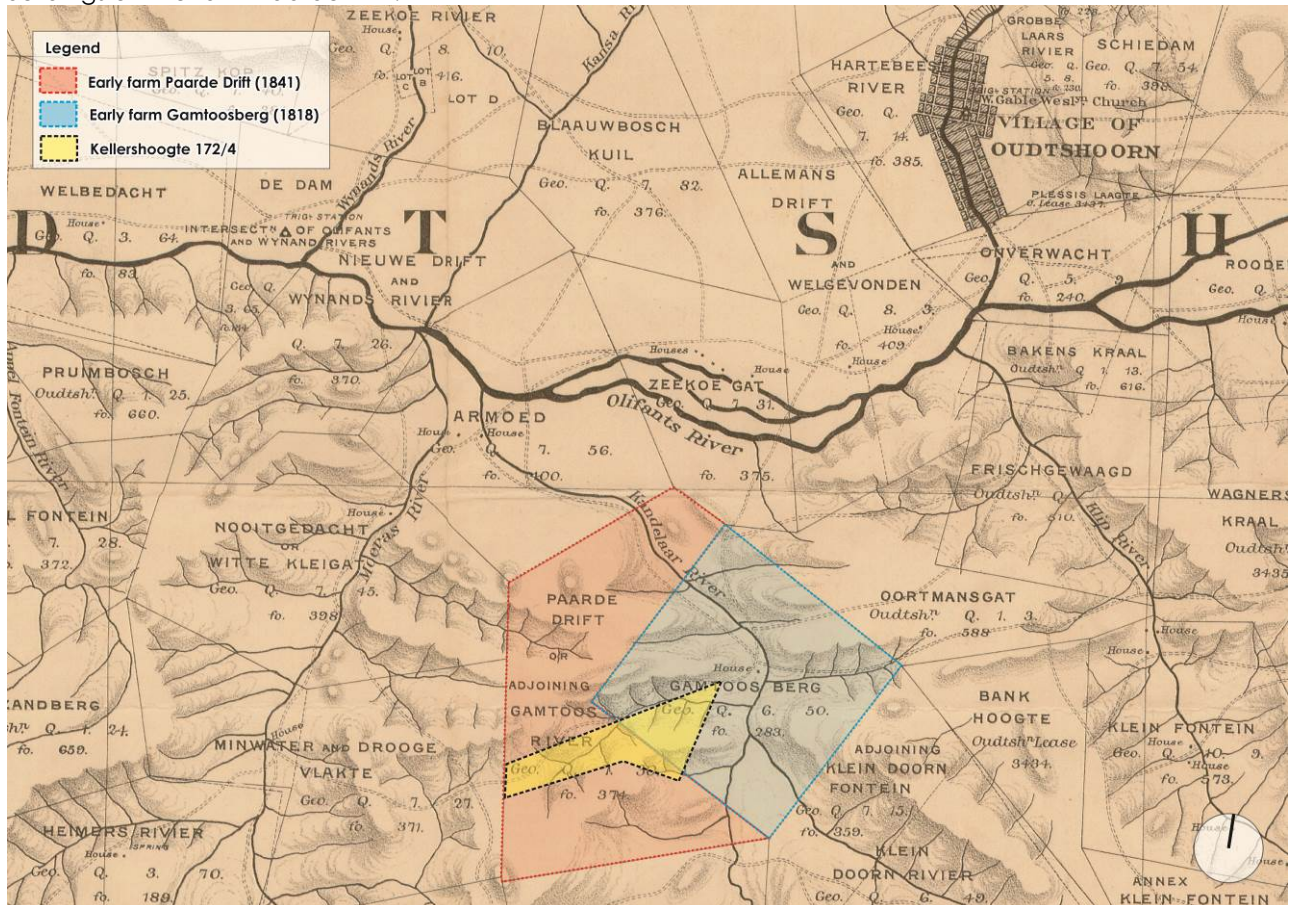


Figure 6: Location of property in relation to early farms Gamtoosberg and Paarde Drift as transposed onto (± 1880) SG mapping of the area (NGSI as edited)

Basic historical background research did not identify or highlight significant heritage-related themes pertinent to this particular portion of land. Note that a detailed deed search was not undertaken as part of this NID.

5. HERITAGE RESOURCES AND ISSUES

Given the limited nature of available primary and/ or secondary archival sources pertinent to the particular property, analysis of early aerial photography was found useful to inform our understanding from a cultural landscape context.

Although earliest available (1939) aerial imagery is not of sufficient resolution to provide detailed insight into the extent of cultivation on and around the study area, two historic dams are evident within the landscape. It is therefore reasonable to deduce that agriculture/ cultivation formed part of land use within the proximity at this time. Compared to the western portion of the study area, vegetation growth on the northeast portion is less dense and early human intervention/ landscape transformation shows up as lighter dues in the image. A number of tracks traverse the study area (Figure 7).

Taken 18 years later (1957), aerial imagery shows construction/ realignment of the R328 as it exists in present day. Again, two dams and some landscape transformation along the northeast portion of the study area are evident. Said transformation is unlikely to have included as cultivation as such land use (fields) are clearly visible along the Kandelaars River valley, east of the study area. A section of the early water canal becomes evident in this image though the exact extent/ alignment cannot be confirmed owing to the low resolution of the particular image. (Figure 8). Landscape patterns evident from 1968 imagery does not differ from the abovementioned 1957 image (Figure 9). Slightly clearer, colour (2006) aerial imagery shows the two dams, alignment of the earthen water canal and a narrow track following the eastern and southern study area boundaries. When compared to the pattern of natural vegetation along mountainous terrain south of the

⁶ SG Diagram B503/1831

study area, vegetation growth on much of the study area, north of the aforementioned track, appears limited/ as if having been disturbed.



Figure 7: Location of property within context of 1940 aerial imagery for the area. (Aerial survey 140, Flight Strip 23, Image 32024, NGSi as edited)

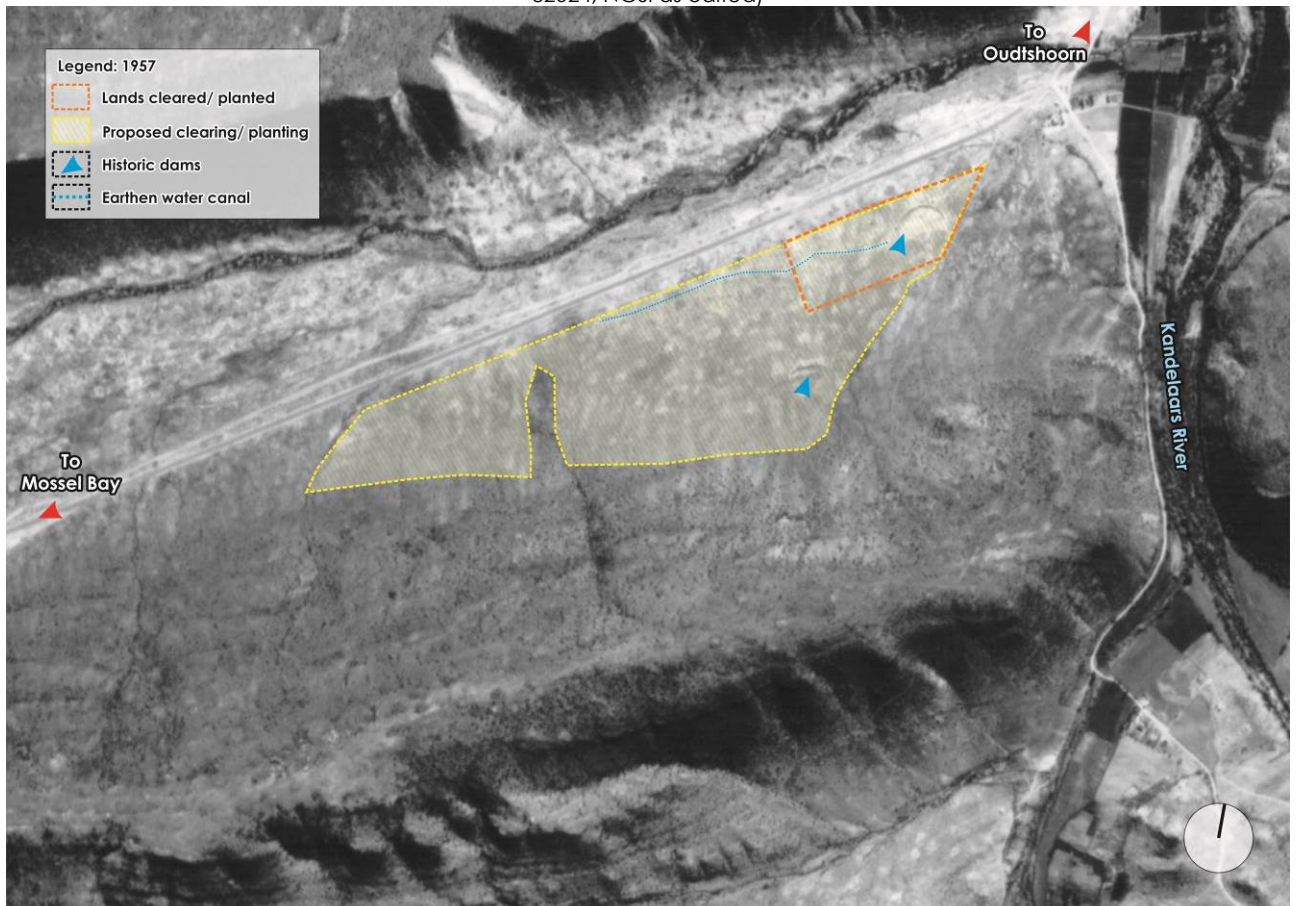


Figure 8: Location of property within context of 1957 aerial imagery for the area. (Aerial survey 403, Flight Strip 1, Image 3025, NGSi as edited)



Figure 9: Location of property within context of 1968 aerial imagery for the area. (Aerial survey 586, Flight Strip 13, Image 2054, NGSI as edited)

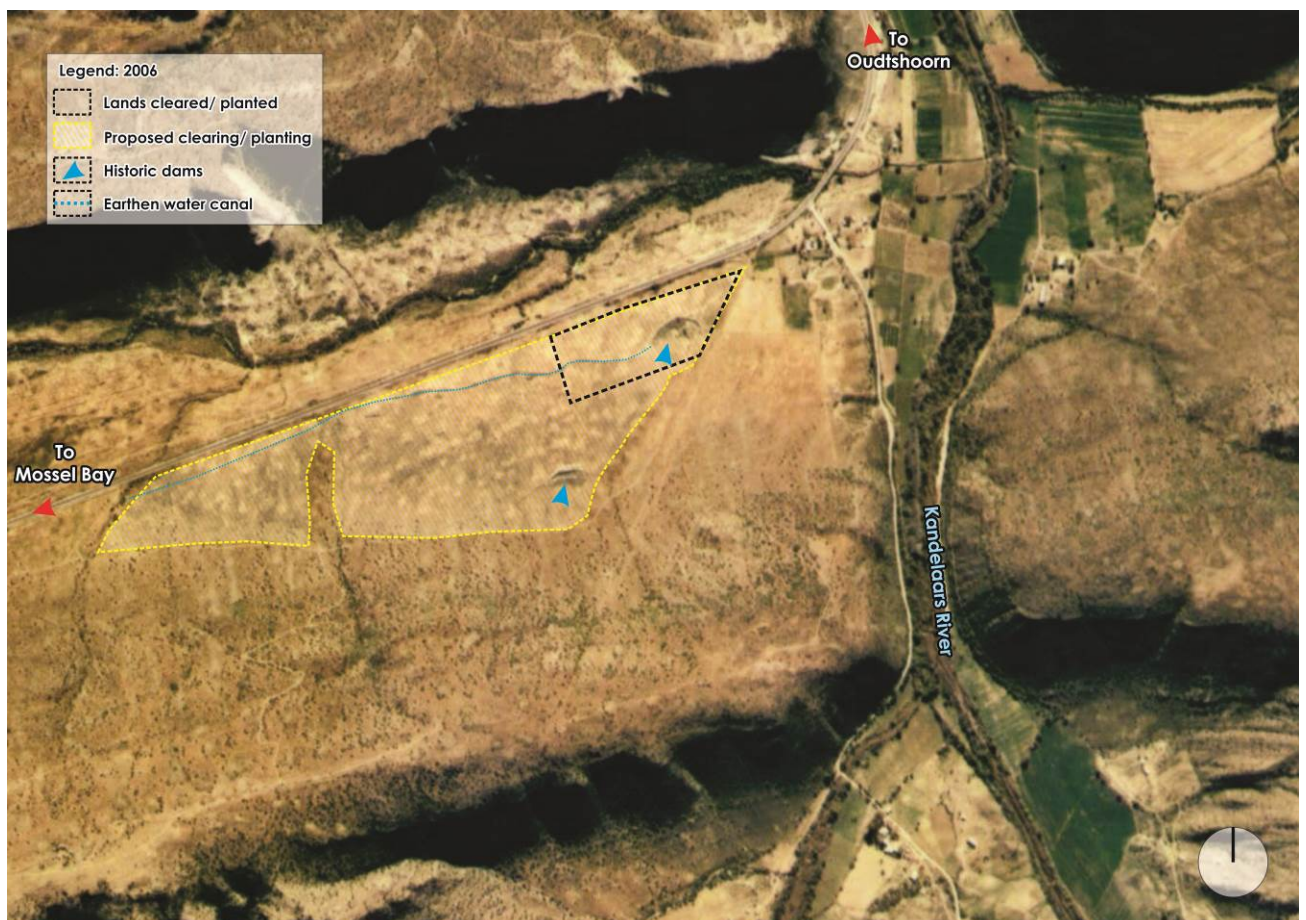


Figure 10: Location of property within context of 2006 aerial imagery for the area. (Aerial survey 498, Flight Strip 615, Image 500110, NGSI as edited)

According to SAHRIS Paleo-sensitivity mapping (**Figure 11**), the study area is highlighted (red) as being of very high palaeontological sensitivity where “field assessment and protocols for find are required”⁷. Given the nature of the proposal (i.e. essentially planting of trees) no major earthworks/ excavations are likely to be required and therefore the potential impact from this perspective is considered negligible.

While no archaeological occurrences were noted during fieldwork, the possibility of locating low density scatter within the proximity of the study area cannot be discounted. No record of previous archaeological studies within the vicinity could be found on the SAHRIS online database⁸. As with palaeontology, it is considered that the proposed works (primarily of the planting of fruit trees) are unlikely to materially impact on archaeological occurrences of cultural significance.



Figure 11: Paleo-sensitivity within the proximity of the study area (SAHRIS, 2022 as edited)

From the evidence available at least the (a) northeast portion of the study area and (b) the strip of land north of the old earthen water canal was formerly cultivated/ subject to landscape transformation. During fieldwork it was evident that clearing of vegetation occurred within the landscape south of the existing orchard (please also refer to photographs, Annexure 2). No evidence could be found that installation of the ±1,1km pipeline directly northeast of the study area negatively impacted any heritage resources.

The established pattern of long-standing cultivation and occupation along the Kandelaars River, valley directly north of the study area/ R328 and along the Olienhoutsklouf, located south of the study area are noted. The existing and proposed expansion essentially entails planting of trees (almond and pomegranate), which are suited to the arid climate as well as the installation of drip irrigation, none of which would require substantial earthworks. Consequent transformation of the landscape from “natural” to “agriculture” is considered appropriate within the context of the pattern of land use along the R328 tourism route and is therefore supported.

6. RECOMMENDATION

Having regard to the above assessment it is our view that the proposed development would not impact on heritage resources of cultural significance and that the development may therefore be permitted/ expansion be allowed to proceed.

PERCEPTION Planning

10th October 2022

STEFAN DE KOCK

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

⁷ <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/map/palaeo>, accessed 14th July 2022

⁸ Sahra.org.za, 2022