

# **CULTURAL LANDSCAPING DOCUMENT**

**OUTENIQUABOSCH 149 & HARTENBOSCH 217  
HARTENBOSCH  
MOSSEL BAY DISTRICT  
SOUTH CAPE**

**February 2005**

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Submitted by hand and email:  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2005

## **PHASE 1 REPORT**

### **HISTORICAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF PORTIONS OF OUTENIQUABOSCH 149 & HARTENBOSCH 217. HARTENBOSCH – SOUTH CAPE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

An assessment of the historical heritage value of portions 10 and 28 of the farm Hartenbosch and portions 9, 15 and 16 of the farm Houteniquabosch has been requested by Hilland Associates, environmental consultants.

The purpose of the study is to establish negative and positive heritage aspects that could impact on the proposed development of an housing estate, plans of which have not yet been drawn up. A concept exists in the mind of the owner of an housing estate of approximately 500 units, interspersed on an already well established game farm. Subdivisions of the farms Hartenbosch and Outeniquabosch (alias Geelbekswei) were purchased by the intended developer in 1981. The owner has confirmed that he only intends developing on disturbed farm land and that no virgin soil will be touched by the development. From the time of purchase until present a pristine game farm has been established. It is his dream to develop a unique residential feature in the South Cape, where homeowners can enjoy the close proximity of wild life and modern amenities in one package. Tracts of land identified for intended development are positioned on ~~one~~ elevated ridges and were pointed out during a site inspection. No concept or development plan was available for inclusion in this report. Location maps appear as Annexure A and B.

#### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE SITE AND SURROUNDS**

The first colonial owner of Hartenbosch, Mr Essais Meyer made his mark in history by reporting the shipwreck event at Mossel Bay of 'Huis te Marquette' to Dutch East India officials in Cape Town. He rode on horseback covering the distance in seven days, after which officials launched a sea rescue team in three vessels, followed by Governor Jan de la Fontaine and his then secretary Ryk Tulbagh on land. This event took place in 1734. Essais Meyer was granted the farm Hartenbosch as a reward for his efforts. The date when Essais Meyer settled in the district is unknown, but he appears to have been settled in the district at the time the shipwreck took place. The deeds search of

Hartenbosch and Outeniqualand follows a standard pattern of transactions and reveals that the two farms were owned by members of the Meyer family until the early twentieth century. Early travellers often used to enjoy overnight hospitality offered by the Meyer family.

A comparative glance of census records taken in 1823 highlights the fact that owners of Houteniquabosch<sup>1</sup> (then known as Geelbeksvalley) had 11 male slaves and 10 female slaves compared to the owners of Hartenbosch<sup>2</sup> who had 4 male slaves and 4 female slaves. Interestingly the numbers of indigenous farm workers also differs considerably. Houteniquabosch had no male indigenous labour and three female assistants, whereas Hartenbosch had 14 male and 11 female indigenous assistants.

Another point of interest is the homesteads marked on early maps. It would appear that the earliest homesteads for Hartenbosch and Outeniquabosch were not positioned on the sub-divisions under investigation. Homesteads appear on later maps of both Outeniquabosch and Hartenbosch, but also, do not fall within the area to be developed.

## LAND OWNERSHIP AND ARCHITECTURE

### COMMENTARY

No homestead or heritage features have received sensitive heritage status on either of the two properties under investigation. There are no buildings or features that should be included in the Western Cape Heritage register, the only existing home being recently built.

Both farms (Hartenbosch and Outeniquabosch) were granted to members of the Meyer family, descendants of whom owned the portions under investigation until the early part of the twentieth century. (See Annexure C and F for freehold diagrams.) A homestead is depicted on portion 10 Hartenbosch, on the first subdivided diagram deed drawn in 1923. This portion was bequeathed to Maria Emerentia Meyer in 1865. (See Annexured.) According to the current owner and prospective developer, the homestead was demolished in the early 1980's. The intended development is not going to take place near or around the demolished home on Hartenbosch.

On the map of portion 9 Outeniquabosch, two homesteads are marked, ruins of which were not seen on site inspection. These homes were positioned in the valley of the Groot Brak river. Ruins if any, and sub surface remains will not be disturbed by development. (See annexure E)

## LAND CLAIMS

Consultation with the Land Claims Commission in George confirmed that no land claims have been lodged for the land under investigation. Telephonic discussion with Mr Barry Jacobs, chairperson of the local Land Claims Committee for Groot Brak and surrounds, confirmed that no claims were lodged against the property, but mentioned that families were dispossessed from an area known as 'Hartenbosch heuwels'. Potential claimants did not submit claims because they had applied for alternative Government land relief. The location of Hartenbosch heuwels has not been positively identified, but from the description given over the telephone, the area lies east of this proposed development.

<sup>1</sup> Anthon Micheal Meyer and Maria Meyer ref. Cape Town Archives (CA) J 103

<sup>2</sup> Esias E Meyer (Nicolias's son) and Maria M Cronier ref. Cape Town Archives (CA) J 103

## EARLY ROADS (WAGON AND MOTOR USE)

The main road from Mossel Bay to George passed over the southern tip of the farm Hartenbosch. Maps show the position of early road systems on the farms. None appear in the path of anticipated development.

## INTANGIBLE CULTURE

Colloquial names found on early maps of surrounding areas depict an era of rich unrecorded history. Examples of such names include Baggers Gat, Plaatjieskop, Dumbiedykes, Maandagskop and Vaalevalley(alias De Hoek). The original name of the farm Outeniquabosch was Geelbeks Vallei. It would be a pity to lose perhaps existing knowledge about how these names originated and why they are no longer used. Brandwag, a neighbouring farm was for centuries and still is, home to many indigenous families. During the apartheid era a portion of the farm Brandwag was declared a 'Coloured Group Area'. Many farm workers on surrounding farms were forced to move to the then newly established township and still live there today. Perhaps within that township lies a wealth of unrecorded oral history. Mr F du Toit, son of previous owners still lives in the neighbourhood and apparently has a wealth of oral information pertaining to twentieth century life on the farms under review.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

It is very unlikely that any archaeological sites would be found intact. The land envisaged for development has been heavily ploughed and contoured for agricultural and game farming purposes over a period of many years. Apparently on the neighbouring farm Brandwacht, stone tools and pottery sherds are located in a rock shelter on the slopes of a hillock. (see map)

## CONCLUSION and RECOMMENDATIONS

(Threats and advantages)

- There is no evidence of threat to tangible heritage on the anticipated development site resulting from research conducted to date.
- Should development plans be approved, an opportunity exists for the establishment of an interpretive centre on the development site, capturing the full historical heritage of the farms and neighbouring influences.
- The owner, Mr Van Zyl is in full agreement that an interpretive centre would add heritage value to his proposed development venture.

Kathleen Schulz  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2005

## **ERF 28 (Hartenbosch) 31 morgen 390 sq roods**

Portion 28 was taken off the remainder in 1940

**1940**

**Owner:**

M. du Plessis to Willem Engebertus Meyer<sup>14</sup> (diagram deed)

**1943**

**Owners:**

Willem Arther Meyer

Vernon James Moorcroft John George Teale

Harold Stewart Meyer

Mary Margaret Hope Killian (born Meyer)

Benjamin Solomon Meyer<sup>15</sup>

**1943**

**Owner:**

Benjamin Dalten<sup>16</sup>

**1944**

**Owner:**

Matthys Johannes du Toit

Title deeds then follow the same sale sequence as for Portion 10 Hartenbosch

Apart from the registration of powerline and water servitudes, further sub-divisions have not taken place.

## **OUTENIQUABOSCH (ALIAS GEELBEKS VALLEY) FARM NUMBER 149**

**1817**

The farm Outeniquabosch was granted in 1817 to Anton Michael Meyer Anton (also recorded as Anthonie). Anton married Maria Alberta Meyer (his first cousin) in 1804 and died in 1851. Maria died in 1873. They had twelve children and portions were awarded accordingly during her widowed life and after her death, ranging in size from 1 morgen to 375 morgen. Over the years these portions were re-named, amalgamated and re-subdivided. To do a full deeds search would take more time than was allowed for within the framework of this study. The following 'key' records were obtained.

**1864**

Portion 9 named Morgenster (250 morgen)

The parent property was annexed in favour of Nicolaas Meyer and others in 1864.

(Converted freehold)

**1908**

Portion 9 was deducted in 1908 in favour of M A du Toit who immediately transferred to Louis J du Toit.<sup>17</sup>

**1922**

L J du Toit sold to Emma King<sup>18</sup>

**1925**

Estate E King sold to Peter B Gay<sup>19</sup>

**1926**

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<sup>14</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 1752/1940

<sup>15</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 15822/1943

<sup>16</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 15823/1943

<sup>17</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 538/1908

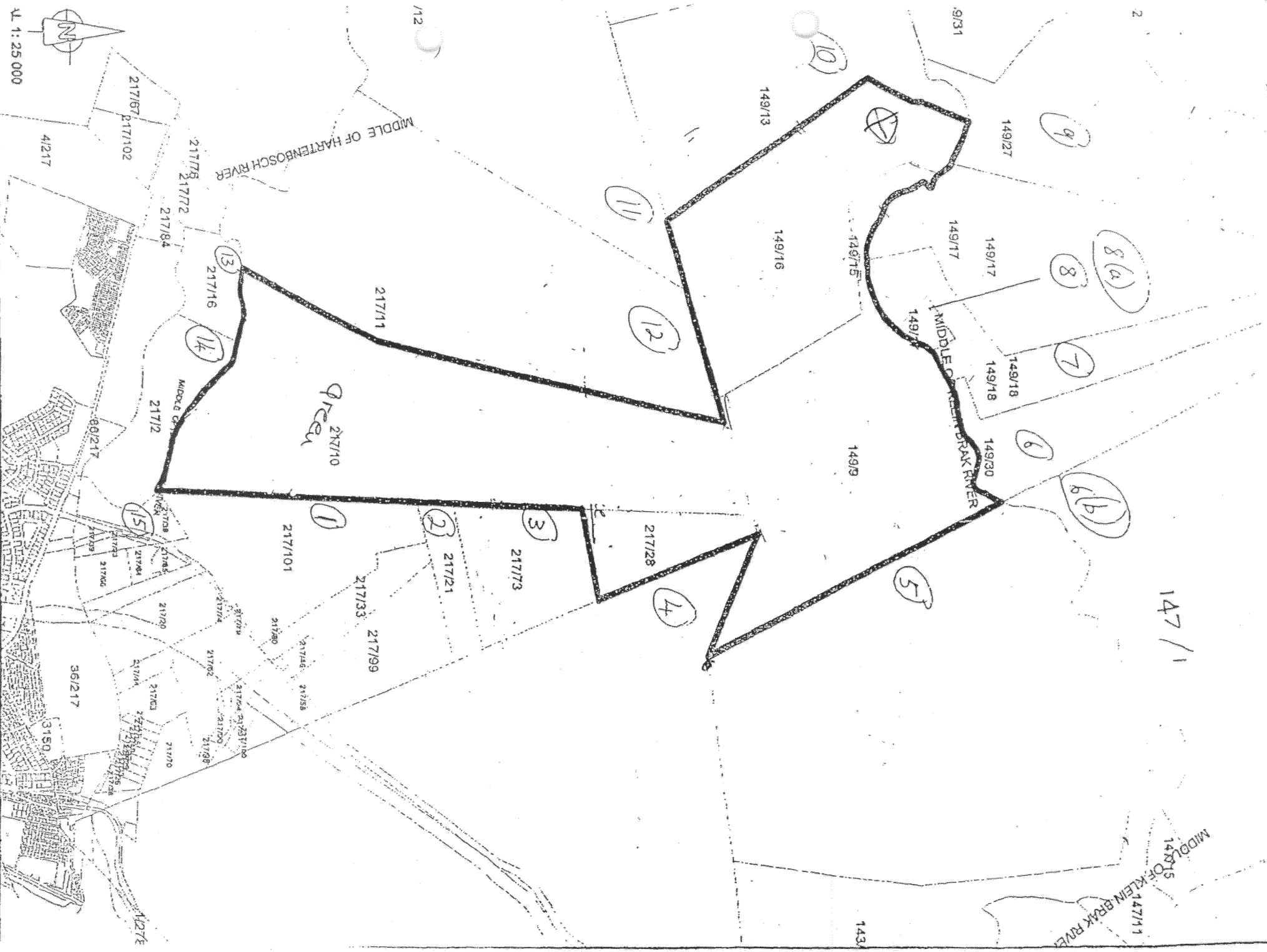
<sup>18</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 7152/1922

<sup>19</sup> Cape Town Deeds Office Deed of Transfer number 5628/1925

M : DREYER VAN ZYL

PHONE NO. : 044 6950913

Jan. 13 2005 03:38PM



## Annexure C

STANCES		ANGLES
1191.25	A	114°37'10"
180.25	B	220 11 50
1363.79	C	40 37 10
97.04	D	111 46 00
1445.75	E	141 26 50
679.85	F	91 21 00

pads &amp; Rivers Sketched

The Farm  
OUTENIKUASBOSCH No. 149  
MOSSZEL BAY

annexed Diagram A...F represents 2289 Morgen & 510 Square Rods of  
situated in the Division of Mossel Bay & Field Cornetcy of Brak  
r, being the converted Freehold place "Outeniquasbosch" alias  
ltekssvalley", originally granted on perpetual Quitrent unto A.M.  
r on the 15th November 1817.

Bounded NWwd by "Brandwacht"  
NWd by "Hartebeestkraal"  
Ewd by "Klipheувel" & "Bagers Gat"  
SE by "Vaalevalley" alias "De Hoek"  
SWd by "Hartenbosch" &  
SWwd by "Maardagskop"

Resurveyed by Order of Government by me  
(Sgd.) Lewis A Vintcent  
Swm. Govt. Surveyor

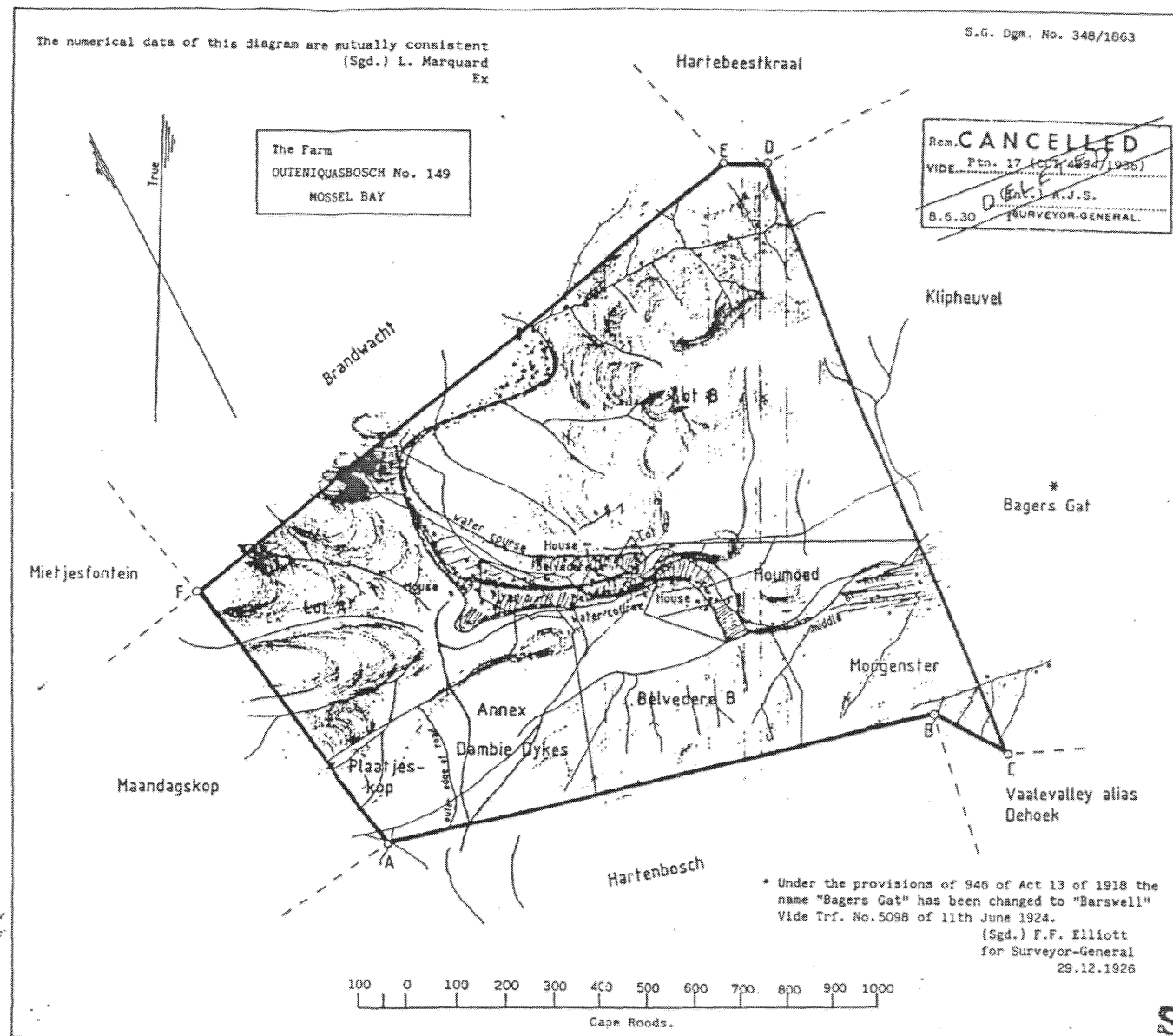
id from diagram relating to  
Q. 1 - 12

AL-1AC (3577)

Surveyor-General  
1991. 10. 29

FOR INFORMATION  
SEE BACK OF CARD

CK



49

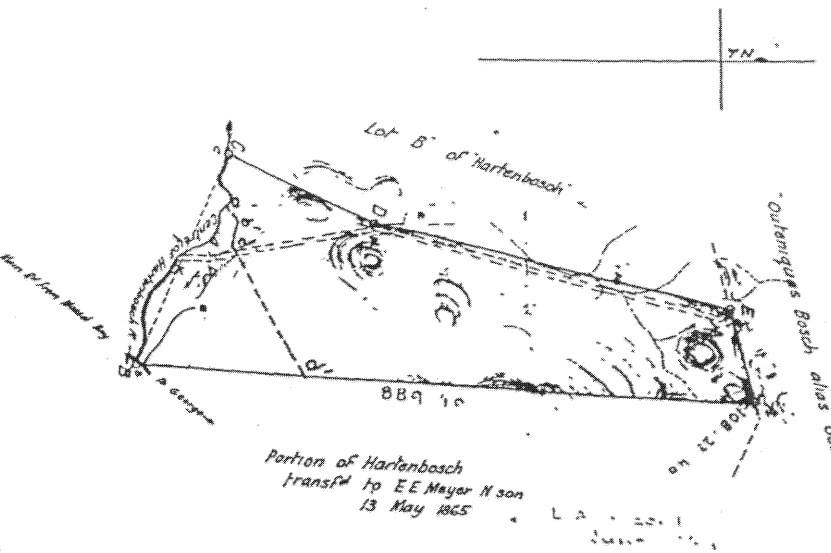
**consistent.**

(11)  
217/11  
A

A

Z. R. Bents  
for

Gravelly valley



Co-ordinates			
	$y$	$z$	
A	- 16.92 90	+ 39.39 10	
B	- 16.31 55	+ 46.87 06	
C	- 15.82 00	+ 47.07 44	
D	- 15.92 84	+ 45.04 91	
E	- 16.05 08	+ 39.94 96	

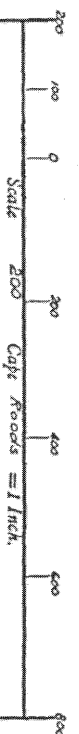
  

Angles		Sides	
	$^{\circ}$		$^{\circ}$
A	71 35 0	AB	0.63 44
B	68 36 30	BC	3.34 12
C	66 13 50	CD	2.26 25
D	193 5 40	DE	5.24 17
E	118 29 0	EA	1.37 57

Ract Area 280 Morgan 254 Sq Rds

Portion, 10 ..... of the farm  
(a portion of Portion ..... )  
Hesterbach, No. 217 .....

**MOSEL BAY**



The above diagram lettered A B  $\bar{D}$  D $\bar{b}$  centre of Hardenbosch Riv. CDE represents 280 morgen

4/4 square rods — square feet of land situate in the Field-Cornetcy of Brak River

Division of Mossel Bay being Lot "A of a portion of the farm called "Hartenbosch" transferred to Maria E. Meyer, "widow of the late Cornelius M. Smuts." 13 May 1865.

Bounded as indicated above.

<i>Bounded N</i>	<i>by</i>
E	"
S	"
W	"

Surveyed and beaconed by the according to regulations

AL-116CB  
PL-116CB  
ALNF-21 (150)  
(7150)  
M 276

I certify that this diagram belongs to the Transfer issued this day in favour of J A Smith

Government Land Surveyor

June 1963

Deeds Office,

8. 1923. 7095

FOR - - - - - CREDIT  
SEP 10 1964

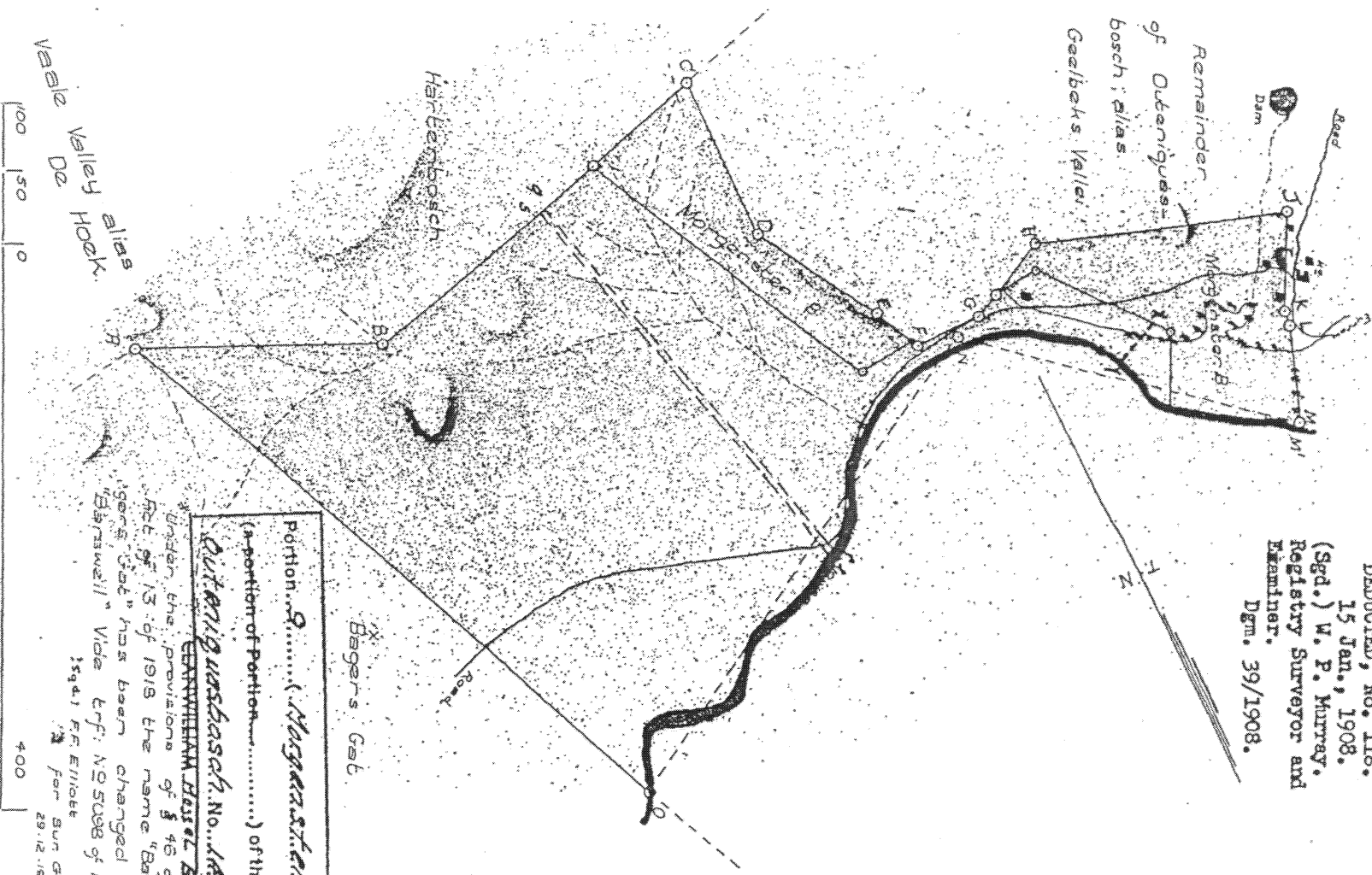
W. MOORE, JR., CHAIRMAN  
J. T. DODGE, SECRETARY

Donnerstag



*4* 39/1908  
 (C. Dem. No. ....)

Part 1 (For Data see below.)  
 DEDUCTED, No. 118.  
 15 Jan., 1908.  
 (Sgd.) W. P. MURRAY.  
 Registry Surveyor and  
 Examiner.  
 Dgm. 39/1908.



Portion 2.....(Magersfontein  
 a portion of Portion.....) of the farm  
 Outeniquasbosch No. 149.....  
 EDWARD WILLIAM HASSEL BAY

Under the provisions of § 45 of  
 Act of 13 of 1913 the name "Ba-  
 yers Galt" has been changed to  
 "Barnswell" Vide L.F. NO 5098 of 11-6-02  
 1541 R.R. Elliott  
 29.12.1926.

Scale:- 100 Cape Rods = 1 Inch.

Copied from the diagram relating to  
 Transfer of Deed No. 538.  
 4th. Feb., 1908. In favour of  
 Louis. J. du Toit.

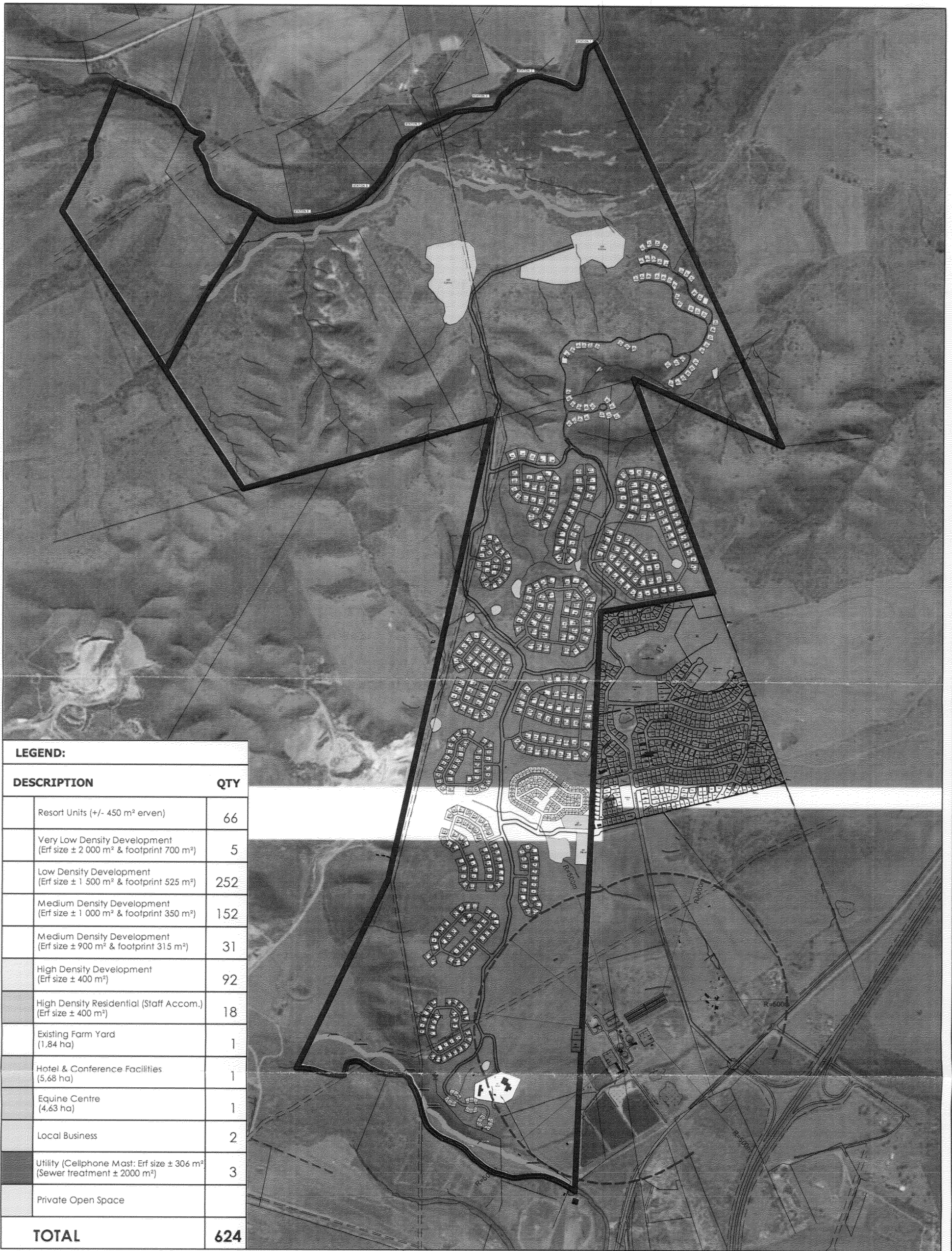
W. P. Murray  
 for SURVEYOR-GENERAL  
 CAPE TOWN.  
 10.2.1908.

For Int. of  
 H. J. J. J. J.  
 back of sheet

NOTE:- No. 149  
 149/1908







**LEGEND:**

DESCRIPTION	QTY
Resort Units (+/- 450 m² erven)	66
Very Low Density Development (Erf size ± 2 000 m² & footprint 700 m²)	5
Low Density Development (Erf size ± 1 500 m² & footprint 525 m²)	252
Medium Density Development (Erf size ± 1 000 m² & footprint 350 m²)	152
Medium Density Development (Erf size ± 900 m² & footprint 315 m²)	31
High Density Development (Erf size ± 400 m²)	92
High Density Residential (Staff Accom.) (Erf size ± 400 m²)	18
Existing Farm Yard (1,84 ha)	1
Hotel & Conference Facilities (5,68 ha)	1
Equine Centre (4,63 ha)	1
Local Business	2
Utility (Cellphone Mast: Erf size ± 306 m² Sewer treatment ± 2000 m²)	3
Private Open Space	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>624</b>

**PTN 16 & REM OF PORTIONS 9 & 15 OF  
THE FARM OUTENIQUASBOSCH NO 149 AND  
PTN 10 & 28 OF  
THE FARM HARTENBOSCH 217**

**LAYOUT  
PLAN 07**

Date: 1 November 2005



SCALE 1:15 000  
Graphic Scale



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