



AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC

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CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES PHASE II IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE FARM WILLOWS PORTION 4 PRETORIA GAUTENG

1. DEFINITION

The broad generic term *Cultural Heritage Resources* refers to any physical and spiritual property associated with past and present human use or occupation of the environment, cultural activities and history. The term includes sites, structures, places, natural features and material of palaeontological, archaeological, historical, aesthetic, scientific, architectural, religious, symbolic or traditional importance to specific individuals or groups, traditional systems of cultural practice, belief or social interaction.

2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE ACT, Act. NO. 25 OF 1999

The following are the most important sites and objects protected by the National Heritage Act:

- a. Structures or parts of structures older than 60 years
- b. Archaeological sites and objects
- c. Palaeontological sites
- d. Meteorites
- e. Ship wrecks
- f. Burial grounds
- g. Graves of victims of conflict
- h. Public monuments and memorials
- i. Structures, places and objects protected through the publication of notices in the Gazette and Provincial Gazette
- j. Any other places or object which are considered to be of interest or of historical or cultural significance
- k. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- l. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery in South Africa
- m. Objects to which oral traditions are attached
- n. Sites of cultural significance or other value to a community or pattern of South African history

The Smith family has owned this property for four generations. Owing to personal reasons the present senior Mr Smith has sold the property and is at present renting the land and buildings. His son, the fifth generation of Smiths on the property is at present running a recycling company on the property. There is a proposal that the land is to be developed as a housing estate.

For this purpose an impact assessment was done that identified some graves, buildings and trees that had to be documented before the development is to take place.

During the re-evaluation and documentation process several new factors came to light.

From the information in the graveyard one can assume the following combinations of people and family situation for a blueprint for the progression of building on the farm, and the need for space by the families that lived there.

J.J. Smith (1843-1915) arrived on the farm somewhere between 1870 and 1880 with a young son H.C. Smith (1866-1948). This must have been a child from a previous marriage as the female (C.J. Smith Nee Van Niekerk (1857-1947)) buried next to J.J. Smith is only nine years older than H.C. Smith.

J.J. Smith must have built the first stone homestead and during this period married C.J. Van Niekerk. From this marriage four children were born in relative quick succession.

1. Johanna Smith in 1881 (1881 - 1949)
2. Hermanus A. Smith in 1882 (1882 - 1942)
3. Barend Johannes Smith in 1887 (1887 – 1949)
4. Johannes Jacobus Smith in 1889 (1889 – 1970)

Apparently the eldest son Hendrik Cornelis (1866-1948) never married, as there is no female grave associated with him.

Somewhere close to 1905 Johanna Smith married Walter Thomas Hayden (1885 – 1945) who was disabled in the First World War. It is not known whether they had children but one may assume that Hayden's disability prevented this, or else they are buried in another locality. As these two are both buried here one must assume that they lived on the farm till their deaths in 1945 and 1949

Somewhere close to 1925 Hermanus A Smith married H.M. Joubert (1905 – 1929) a women 23 years his junior. She died at a young age of 24, and there does not appear to have been children born from this marriage either. We must expect that Hermanus also lived on this farm and that his wife joined him here for the few years that they were married.

Barend Johannes is buried next to his father, and there is no female grave associated with him. One may assume that he did not marry and also did not have any children. We may assume that Barend lived on the farm till the time of his death

Somewhere close to 1910 Johannes Jacobus Smith married Johanna Hendrina (surname unknown (1890 – 1974)) From this marriage there were born at least two children

1. Hendrik Cornelius (1913 – 1984)
2. Johannes Jacobus (1914 – 1933)

Johannes Jacobus died at the age of 19, probably during the great flue epidemic, but one must assume that he lived on the property with his parents. Somewhere in the early 1930's Hendrik Cornelius married Anna Catharina (surname unknown (1913 – 1984)). How many children they had is not known to the author but at least one, the present senior Smith must have been born. The present senior Smith is in his late

sixties and was therefore most probably born in the early 1940's. He most probably was married in the 1960's and has at least two sons that the author is aware of.

From the above we can see that between approximately 1905 and 1910 there was all of a sudden the need for space for three married couples and three adult bachelors. It is here where the "1910's house became a reality in the Smith family life. The atypical format of the house is born out of the influence of an "outsider" (Hayden) and the strange make-up of the family.

The next twenty years and the eb and flow of the Smith Family life then also saw to it that the original structure was adapted so many times that it is nearly impossible to distinguish between what is old and what is new. It was most probably with the marriage of Hendrik Cornelius in the 1930's that the next "new" house was built on the farm to give the young couple some breathing space. Still in 1930 the family was now made up of the following

1. Widowed Grandmother Cornelia aged 73
2. Bachelor Uncle Hendrik Cornelius aged 64
3. Bachelor Uncle Barend Johannes aged 43
4. Widower Uncle Hermanus A aged 48
5. Johanna Hayden and her disabled husband aged 49 and 45
6. Johannes Jacobus and Johanna Hendrina aged 41 and 40
7. Their son Johannes Jacobus aged 16
8. The newly wedded couple Hendrik Cornelius, Anna Catharina aged 21 and 17.

For sleeping arrangements this necessitates something like eight bedrooms alone. It therefore is not strange that the 1910's house was still pressed into service and that it still continued to be adapted to suit the needs of the Smith family.

Although the general economic horizon was never high for the Smiths in the past, we now see the arrival of the two large milking sheds that implies that the work force available in the closely-knit family now started to generate revenue. During the 1940's though the family lost no less than six of their senior family members

1. Hermanus, A. 1942
2. Walter Thomas 1945
3. Cornelia Johanna 1947
4. Hendrik Cornelius 1948
5. Barend Johannes 1949
6. Johanna Hayden 1949

This new arrangement had two direct results. In the first place the space problem was solved as we were now left with a core family, Hendrik Cornelius and his wife and children living in the 1930's house and his own parents Johannes Jacobus and Johanna Hendrina living in the 1910's house on their own. Secondly all the families' money could now be consolidated and the farming activities could be enlarged. More infrastructures in the form of the large shed were built and farming equipment was acquired. During the 1960's the present senior Mr. Smith was married and the "new" house was built. During 1970 and 1974 the two senior Smiths passed away and in 1984 and 1993 it was the turn of Hendrik Cornelius and Anna Catharina to fill their places in the cemetery. Owing to the deaths of these four people the 1910's and

1930's houses fell in disuse, but recently the older son of the present Mr Smith again uses the 1910's house.

Secondly the author specifically took care in evaluating the general condition of all the old structures. It is clear that these buildings do not fall into the category of "decay by neglect". It is clear that they never have been "buildings of stature" and that their normal expected life span has already expired. It is also clear that there are no great architectural merit ensconced in the fabric of the buildings, neither was there any great or important people involved with the site. There is no special historical event that can be associated with to area, and there are no special technological events associated with the buildings. There is also not any known architect that was involved with the design of the buildings.

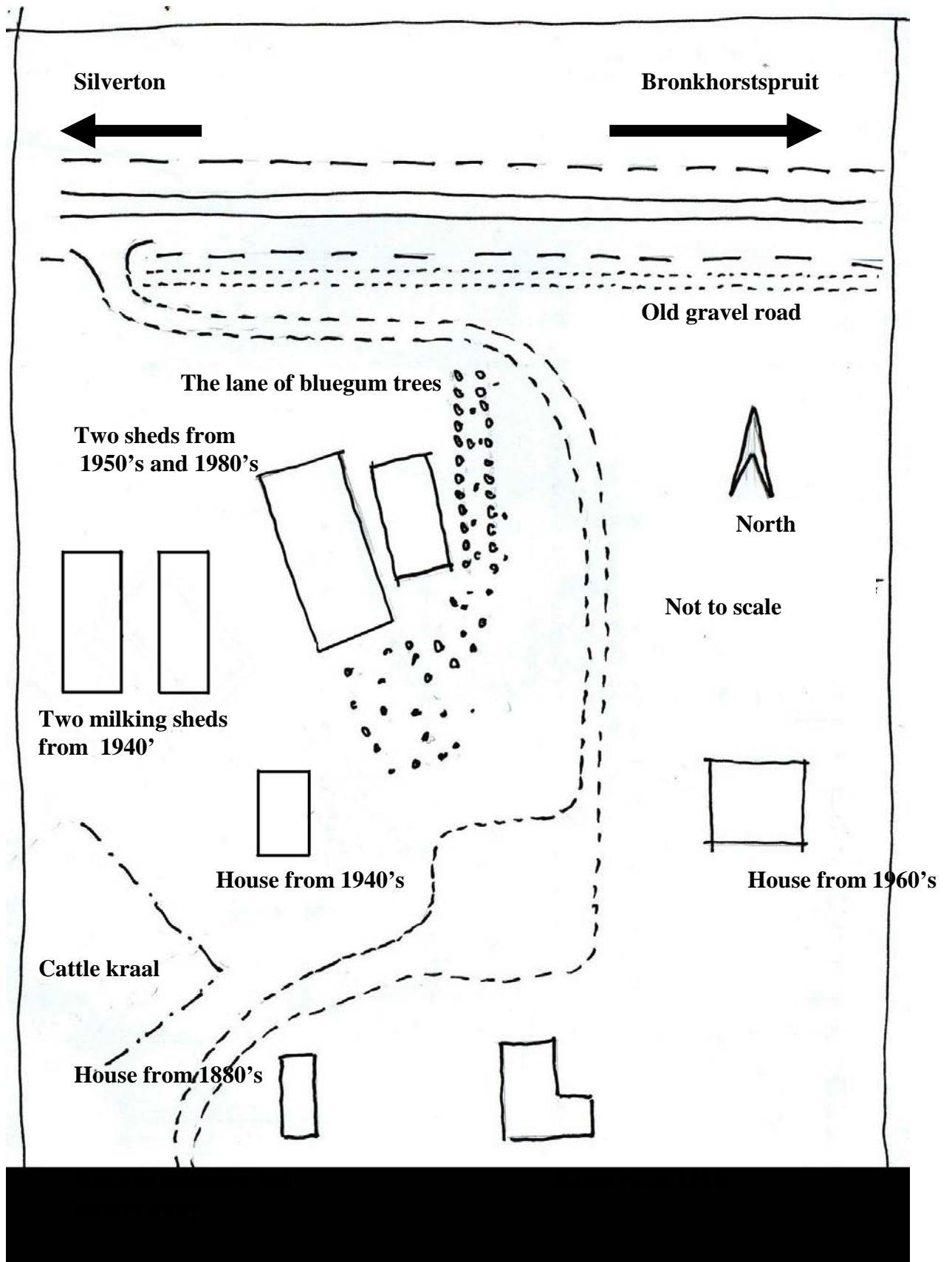


Figure 01. General layout of the farmyard.

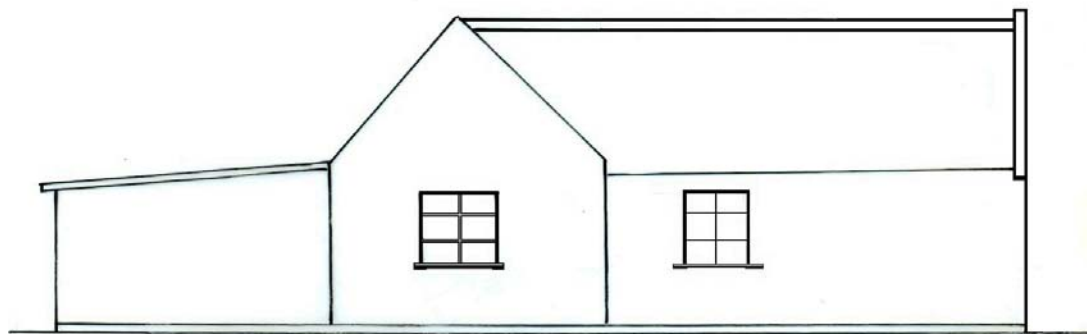
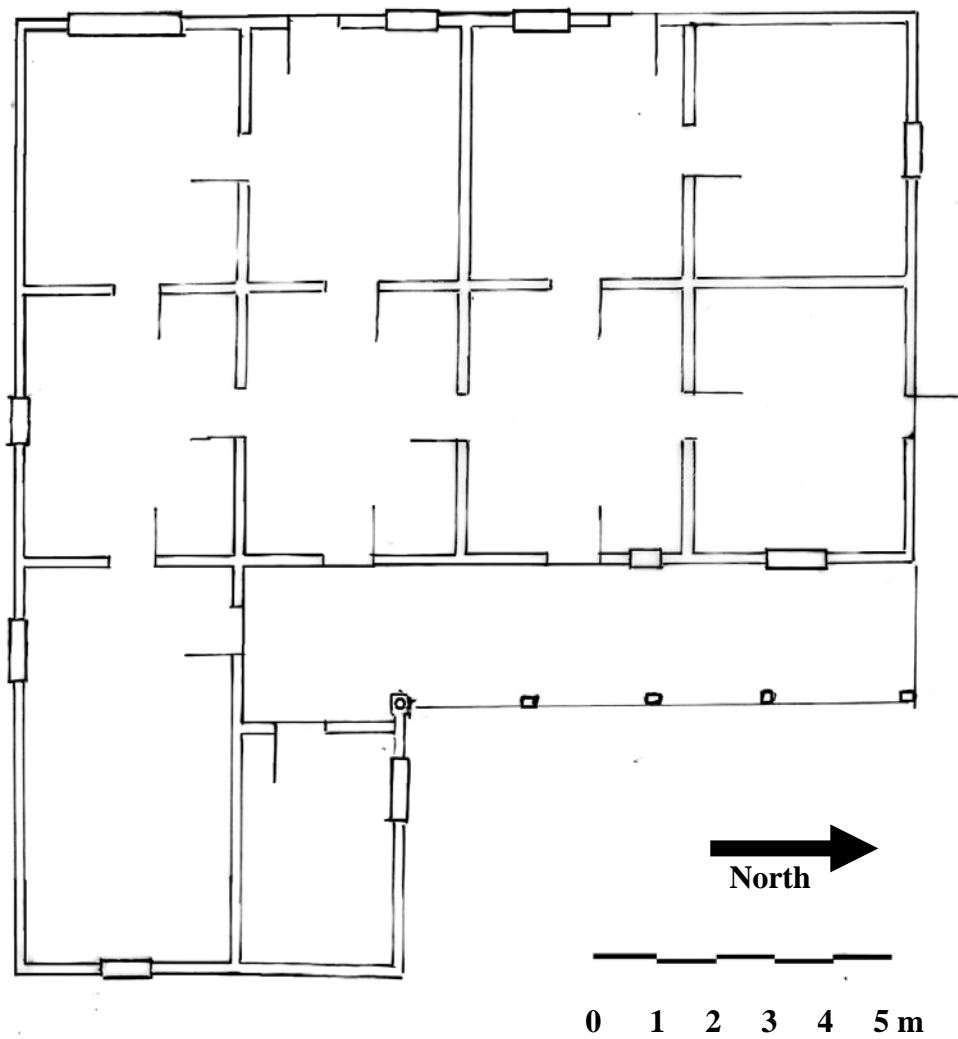


Figure 02. General layout of the 1910's house and its southern elevation



Figure 03. The original 1880's house that was built by the Johannes Jacobus Smit . This structure is totally structurally unstable, and it does not carry much architectural merit.



Figure 04. The 1930's house. This structure is also in a bad state of repair.

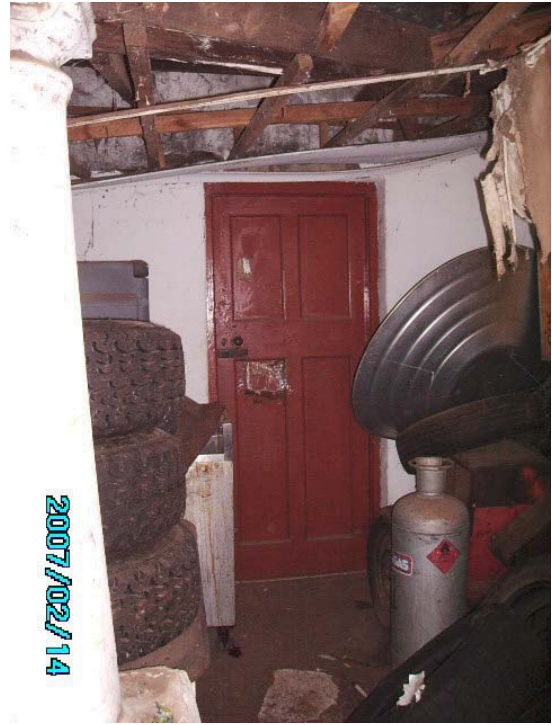


Figure 05. The general preservation of architectural detail is rather poor. Doors, locks frames and windows were originally of poor quality and much of the originals were replaced or are damaged beyond repair



Figure 06. The 1910's house as seen from the southwest. There is a vast array of farming implements and machinery still spread out over the farmyard



Figure07. The western elevation of the 1910's house. The back veranda was enclosed and a range of building material was utilised. This material detracts from the character of the building. A section of the corrugated iron was replaced with "new" material and the roof construction is also unstable.



Figure 08 . The northern side of the 1910's house is dwarfed by this large workshop.



Figure 09 The northern side of the 1910's house with the effect of the workshop and machinery that does not help for the preservation of the building.



Figure 10. Northern elevation of the 1910's house. The side door is not typical of the period.



Figure 11. The eastern veranda is a later addition.



Figure 12. The eastern wing of the 1910's house. Some minimal effort was made to decorate the gable.



Figure 13. The eastern wing of the 1910's house. This veranda was also enclosed at a later stage. The workmanship was of poor quality.



Figure 14. Eastern wing of the 1910's house.



Figure 15. The only decorative piece that survived the rigors of time is this pillar on the front stoep.



Figure 16. The 1960's homestead.



Figure 17. Two of the sheds on the farm. They are both of relative late origin. (1950 and 1980).



Figure 18. The two sheds that was utilized for milking. They most probably date to the 1940's.



Figure 19. The southern elevation of the two milking sheds. The mountains of plastic and cardboard dwarf the buildings.



Figure 20. The southern section of the Bluegum tree lane / plantation.



Figure 21. The Northern section of the Bluegum tree lane/ plantation.



Figure 22. The cemetery to the southwest of the farmhouse.



Figure 23. The graves of Barend Johannes (28-12-1887 to 9-10-1949) and Johannes Jacobus (20-1-1843 to 11-6-1915) Smith



Figure 24. The graves of Cornelia Johanna (Nee Van Niekerk) Smith (13-7-1857 to 25-7-1947) and Hendrik Cornelis Smith (17-6-1866 to 8-10-1948)



Figure 25. The graves of Johannes Jacobus (21-8-1889 to 31-1-1970) and Johanna Hendrina (3-7-1890 to 27-8-1974) Smith



Figure 26. The graves of Johannes Jacobus Smith (23-4-1914 to 19-6-1933) and Hendrina Magdalena (Nee Joubert) Smith (8-12-1905 to 25-8-1929)



Figure 27. Hermanus A Smith (25-12-1882 to 2-7-1942). Note the interesting African ceramic pot as grave decoration.

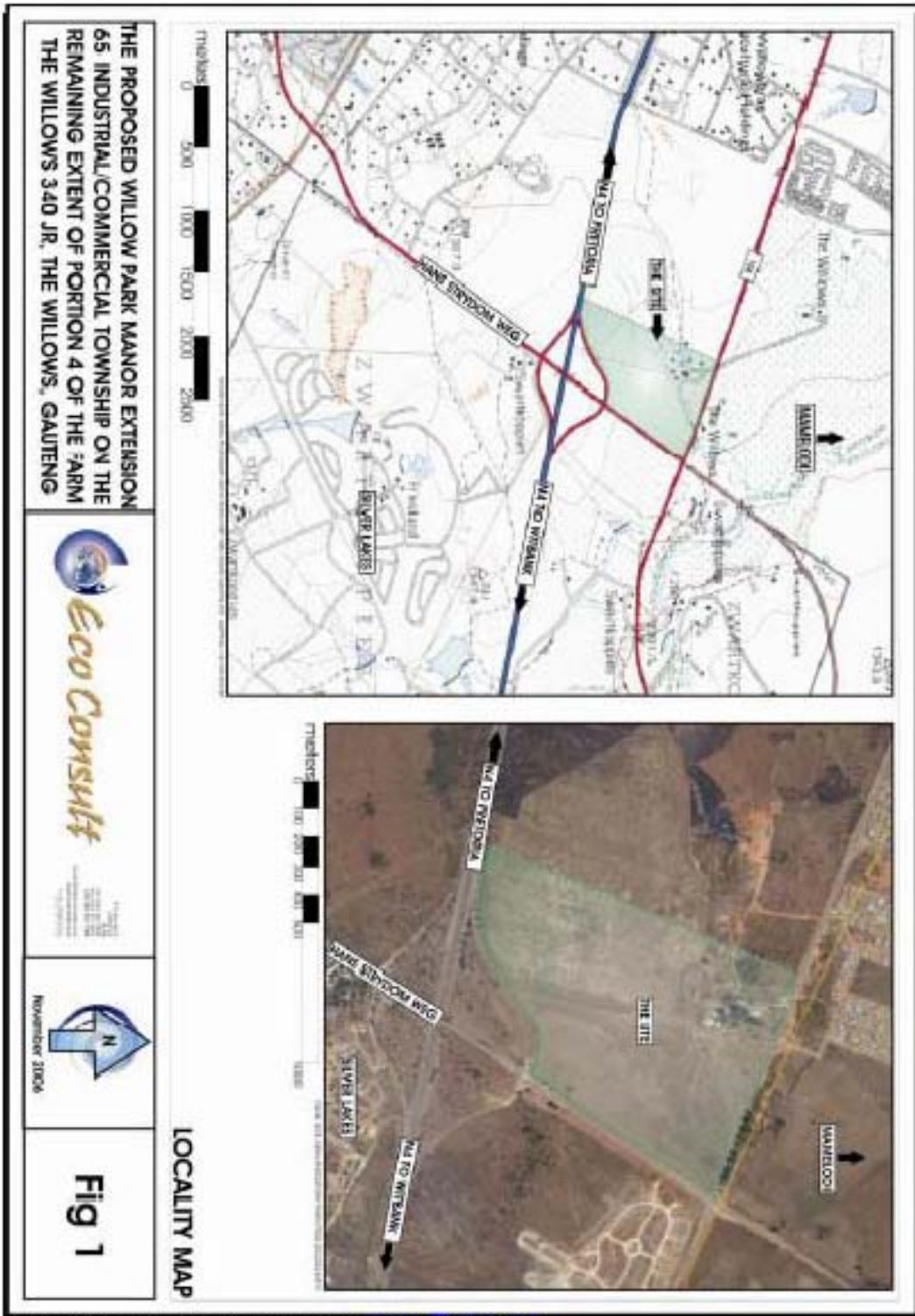


Figure 28. Walther Thomas Hayden (27-7-1885 to 15-9-1945) and Johanna (Nee Smith) Hayden (68 years in 3-2-1949)



Figure 29. The graves of Anna Catharina (5-10-1909 to 17-11-1993) and Hendrik Cornelis (6-4-1913 to 28-3-1984) Smith

MAP



SITE INFORMATION

Owners contact details: UNIQUON WONINGS (PTY) LTD, Plot 218, Hans Strydom Ave. Willow Glen, Pretoria East, Contact person: Mr. M.T.S. Botha, Cell: 082 560 7186, Fax: 012 809 0184
Developers contact details: UNIQUON WONINGS (PTY) LTD, Plot 218, Hans Strydom Ave. Willow Glen, Pretoria East, Contact person: Mr. M.T.S. Botha, Cell: 082 560 7186, Fax: 012 809 0184
Consultants contact details: Eco Consult Inc. 90 Kingbolt Street, Wapadrand, Contact person: Dawie Coetzee, Tel: 012 807 3348, Fax: 012 807 3433
Type of development (e.g. low cost housing project, mining etc.) Light Industrial,
Whether rezoning and/or subdivision of land is involved: Yes, from Agricultural to Light Industrial,
Full location of Province, Magisterial District/Local Authority, property (e.g. farm, erf name and number): Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the farm Willows 340-JR, Pretoria, Gauteng to be known as Willow Park Manor X65
Location map must have the polygon of the area to be surveyed on it and full geographical coordinates for all relevant points and where applicable indication of the area to be developed (footprint): Attached
If possible an aerial photograph of the specific area showing site location: Attached.

Residential Land Uses

- Res I:** *1 unit per erf, Single residential*
Res II: *15-20 units per hectare, duplex and simplex*
Res III: *20-40 units per hectare, group housing*
Res IV: *40 units or more per hectare,*

