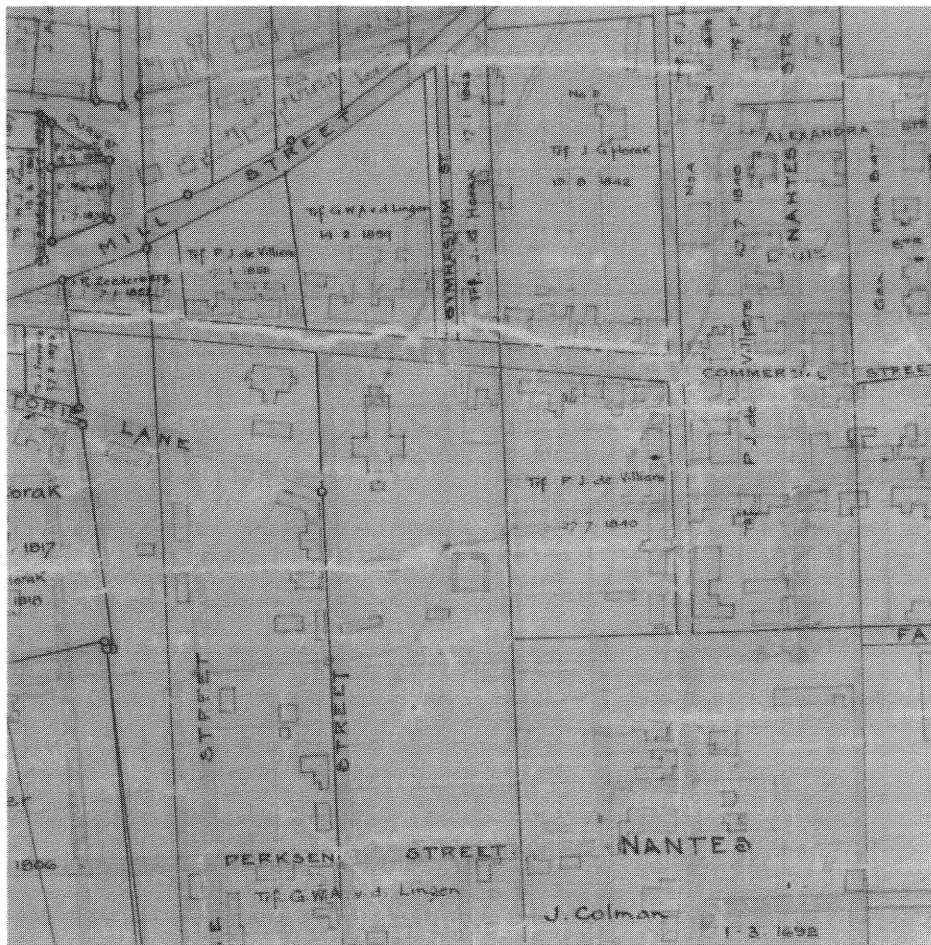


Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment,  
Erven 1164, 10841 Paarl and van der Lingen Plein with special focus on  
the Nantes Stream



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### *Executive summary*

This report was commissioned to assess the archaeological potential of the van der Lingen Plein parking area and the informal parking associated with the Paarl Museum and the Toring Kerk. A portion of the old Nantes Mill Stream runs along the front of the entrance to the Paarl Museum. The proposal is to repave and upgrade these parking areas.

Van der Lingen Plein is a relatively new creation. The Pritchard Survey of Paarl (1907-1912) shows that this area was essentially the backyards of the erven facing Main and Lady Grey streets, which date to the 1850s. Historical photographs at the Drakenstein Heemkring show that vineyards were grown on what became van der Lingen Plein until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the commercial development along Lady Grey Street started.

The mill stream is clearly shown on the Pritchard survey (1907-1912). Survey diagrams also show a water course running along Lady Grey Street. During the 1940s and the 1960s the mill stream was piped underground. The Drakenstein Municipality is currently undertaking a new survey of the underground pipes, and this may be available within the next few of months.

Although no alteration to the surface level has been proposed, any mechanical excavation should be monitored by a qualified archaeologist. If it is decided to extend the portion of exposed mill stream and to restore or renovate the furrow, archaeological testing to determine the exact nature of the furrow is recommended and should any concentrations of *in situ* archaeological material be found, the site archaeologist must be contacted immediately and allowed to sample and record the provenance of the material.

Anytime Investment No 14 Pty Ltd and the Drakenstein Municipality are the principal landowners.

## 1. Brief

This report was commissioned to respond specifically to a proposal to repave and beautify the parking areas of van der Lingen Plein and the informal Toring Kerk parking area to coincide with the centenary celebration of the church (Figure 1). This proposal forms part of a larger plan to upgrade the Paarl CBD and a Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) has been completed by Dr Elzet Albertyn and submitted to Heritage Western Cape in December 2006.

The main focus of this report is identifying the course of the Nantes Mill Stream and its context within the history of this area. Details regarding the provincial heritage sites and architectural significance of features and buildings within the study area are provided in Albertyn's report, and only a brief summary is included here.

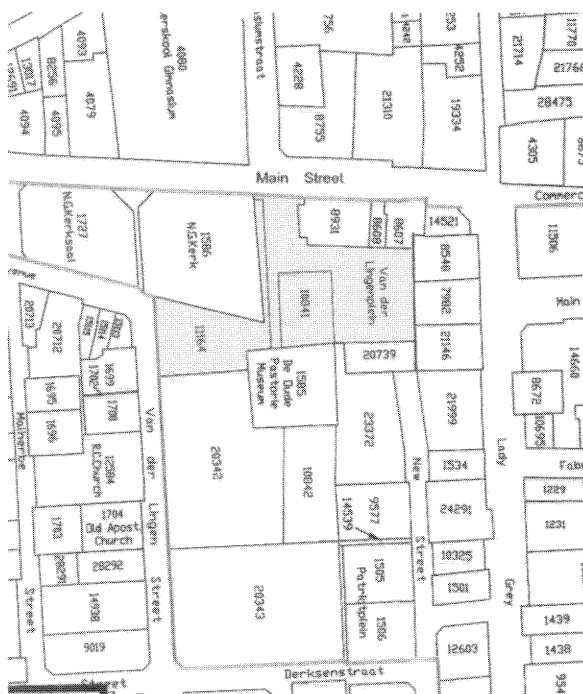


Figure 1: Location map. The parking area identified for the proposed upgrade is shaded yellow. A detailed design plan of the area is added as an appendix.

## 2. Historical background

In 1657 Abraham Gabbema 'discovered' the Paarl Valley while on an expedition looking for Khoekhoe. The Cochoqua grazed their herds in the Drakenstein valley, and during the early years of the refreshment station, were one of the major suppliers of cattle and sheep to the Castle<sup>1</sup>. Only in 1687 were farms officially granted in Drakenstein<sup>2</sup>. Land was granted free of charge, with seed, oxen on loan from the VOC and freeburghers were allowed to buy farm implements at a reasonable price on condition that the farm be made viable within three years. Wheat, barely and rye had to be planted and surplus produce had to be brought to Cape Town and sold to the Castle at fixed prices. Of the 23 farms that were originally granted in 1687, only three succeeded: Kunnenberg (Simondium), Paarl Diamant and Slot van die Paarl. The arrival of the French Huguenots at the Cape, initiated a new wave of settlement in the Drakenstein valley. Between 1690 and 1694, 75 farms were granted, coinciding with the development of Paarl, Daljosaphat and Franschoek. Farms on average, measured 60 morgen.

The town of Paarl had its beginnings in 1687, when five farms were granted to French Huguenots, in Suider Paarl. These farms, Picardie, Laborie, La Concorde, Goede Hoop and a few kilometres to the north, Nantes, measured 60 morgen each. These farms stretched from the slopes of Paarl Mountain to the banks of the Berg River. Between 1691 and 1699 De Zoete Inval and the so-called Pastorie

<sup>1</sup> Referring here to the VOC officials at the Cape, resident at the Castle.

<sup>2</sup> The area was named Drakenstein, in honour of Hendrick Adriaan van Reede tot Drakenstein, Lord of Mydrecht was bounded by Simonsberg and Paarl Mountain in the west, and the Drakenstein Mountains in the east

gronde were granted in Suider Paarl, and St Martyn, Honswyk, Vredenhof, Wittenberg and Optenhorst were granted in Noorder Paarl.

An important impetus for the development of the town can be attributed to the Drakenstein Mill, which was already under construction in 1699. The importance of the mill can be seen in the original route of the Paarl Main Road, which in 1809 still veered off sharply to the site of the mill before turning back to its course northwards to Wamakersvallei/Wellington (Figure 2).

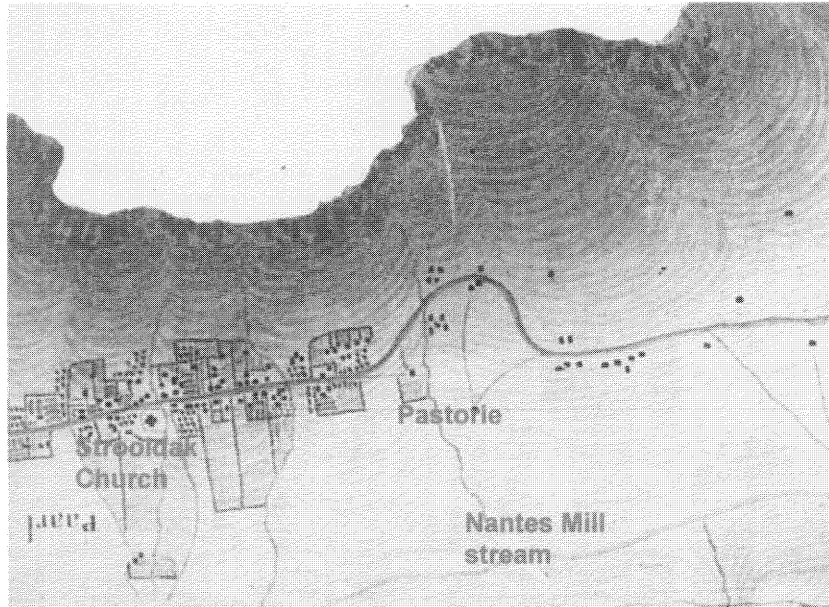


Figure 2: Payne & Dixon Military survey of Paarl c1809 (Cape Archives M1/2200).

### 3. Deeds summary

The study area (van der Lingen Plein and the informal parking area associated with the Toring Kerk) is situated on parts of two historical farms, viz the 'pastorie gronde' and Nantes (Figure 3).

Nantes was officially granted to Jan Colmar in 1692. Van der Lingen Plein and the commercial properties facing Main Road and Lady Grey Street are situated on a portion of Nantes which was transferred in 1840 to PJ de Villiers. Historical photographs at the Drakenstein Heemkring taken between 1890 and 1910 show this land being used as agricultural land until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The use of van der Lingen Plein as an open space, is relatively recent.

The remainder of the study area is situated on part of the 'pastorie gronde'. This farm was originally granted to Pieter Janz van Marseveen in 1691. According to the Le Roux & le Roux (b), van Marseveen may have rented the land of the neighbouring farm, Nantes, as well. In 1714 negotiations were under way for a new church to be built to replace the one at Simondium, and at the end of 1714, the farm was acquired by the Landrost and Heemraden of Drakenstein. In 1750, the land was transferred to the Diacony van Armen Drakenstein (the fiscal branch of the church at Drakenstein).

Although portions of the 'pastorie gronde' were already surveyed for subdivision in 1814, the farm was only subdivided and sold to private individuals in 1852. Portion D was acquired by GW van der Lingen and the Paarl Gymnasium was founded there six years later. The remainder of the portion of the 'pastorie gronde' were held in private ownership by the Thom family from the 1870s until 1904, when Portion F was sold to the Consistory of the Northern Paarl DR Church for the construction of the Toring Kerk.

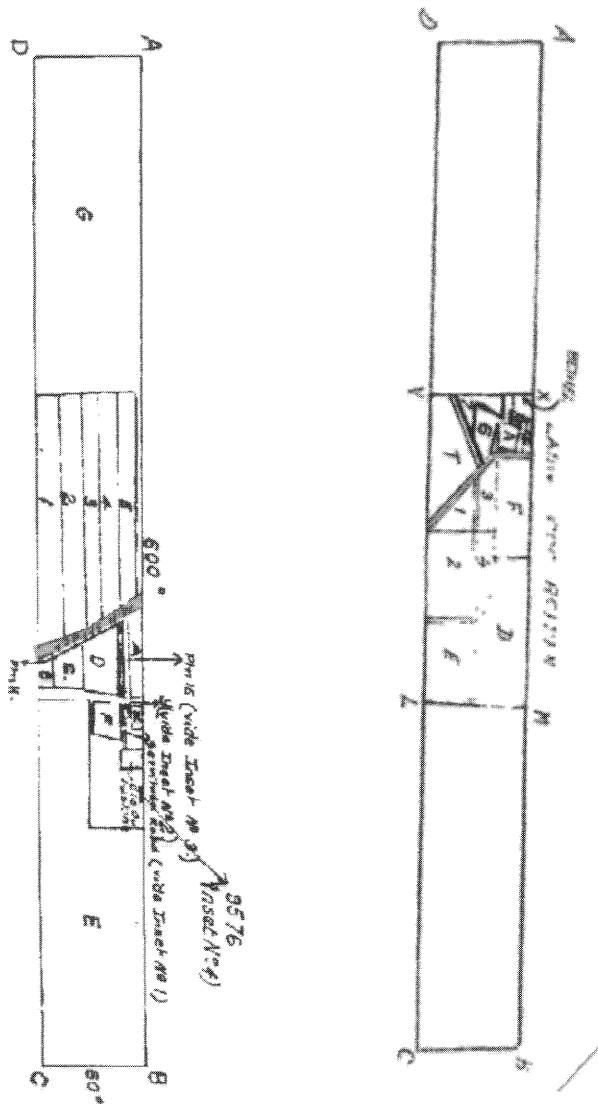


Figure 3: Survey diagram B44/1699 (Pastorie gronde) on the left and Survey diagram 37/1692 (Nantes) showing the subsequent subdivision. The main route is via Mill Street (shaded red).

#### 4. Heritage features within study area

##### The Parsonage/Paarl Museum (Proclaimed 1940)

Although a church serving the needs of the Drakenstein community was built in the vicinity of Simondium as early as 1694, the parsonage was established in Paarl, when the new minister refused to take the position unless adequate accommodation was provided: the old church being described as little more than a barn. So, by 1714, the land described as the 'Pastorie Gronde' was acquired by the Landrost and Heemraden of Drakenstein for the purpose of constructing a parsonage. When a storm (finally) destroyed the dilapidated church at Simondium, the congregation was obliged to hold its church services in the parsonage.

On 5 June 1717 a new erf was surveyed below the Paarl Mountain, measuring 5 morgen 140 SR on which a new church for the Drakenstein community was to be built. The church (the Strooidak Church) was rebuilt in 1799, and the building designed by LM Thibault, was completed in 1805. The minister continued to live at the old parsonage between 1715 and 1872. The original house, built in 1715/1716, was completely rebuilt in 1786. 11 ministers lived at the parsonage, including GW van der Lingen (1831 to 1869), the founding father of Paarl Gymnasium.

From the 1870s until 1924, the parsonage was owned by the Thom family. It was then bought by the Noorder Paarl congregation, and at some point was used as a boarding house for the Gymnasium School. In 1939, the parsonage was sold to the Paarl Municipality, reconstructed and opened as the Huguenot Museum (renamed the Oude Pastorie Museum and later the Paarl Museum). The building was proclaimed a National Monument in 1940, and is now a Provincial Heritage Site.

#### Paarl Gymnasium (Proclaimed 1968)

Paarl Gymnasium was started in 1858, founded by the Rev GW van der Lingen. The building itself was completed in 1868. The school was essentially a church school. The school was funded by church collections, as well as by van der Lingen himself. The school's medium of education was Dutch, and the school played a pivotal role in the "Eerste Afrikaanse Taalbeweging". Well-known characters in the Afrikaans language movement, who were associated with this school, include Arnoldus Pannevis, Rev SJ du Toit. The 'Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners' held their meetings here and the printing press was housed here until 1891. When the second DRC congregation was formed in Paarl in 1875, the left wing of the Gymnasium School served as a parsonage.

This building was proclaimed a National Monument in 1968, and is now a Provincial Heritage Site.

#### Toring Kerk (Proclaimed 1982)

The church was designed by Sherwood, Davidge & Pits and completed in 1907. It was declared a National Monument in 1982, and is now a Provincial Heritage Site.

#### 5. Mill stream

At least three streams flow from Paarl Mountain in the vicinity of Mill Street and the old Paarl Mill, viz Nantes, Bethel and Platte Klip streams (Figure 4 and 5).

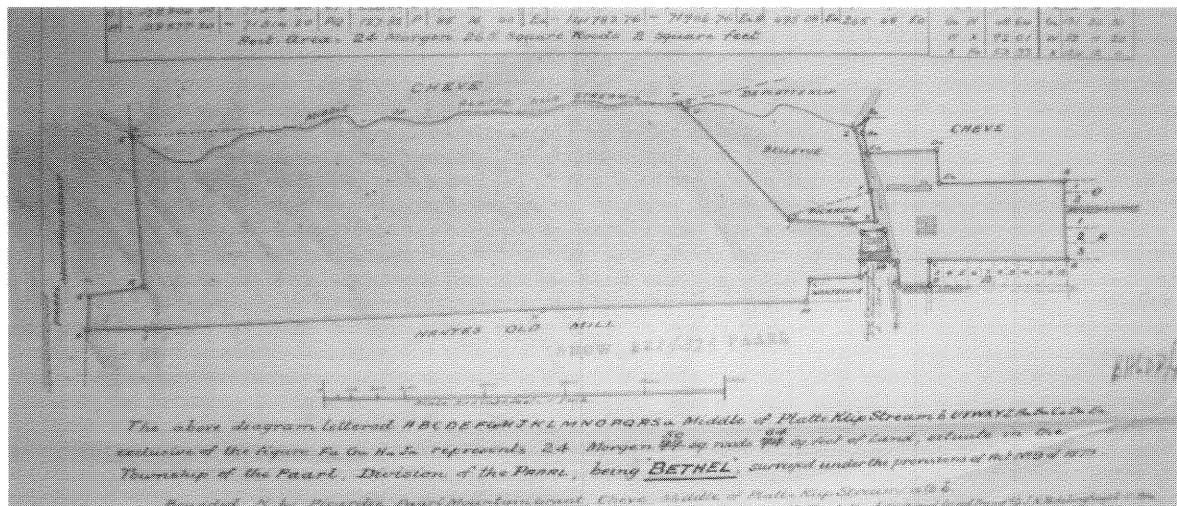


Figure 4: Survey diagram of Bethel, Paarl Freehold 3.5 of 1909 showing the course of the Platte Klip stream, which appears to be uncanalised.

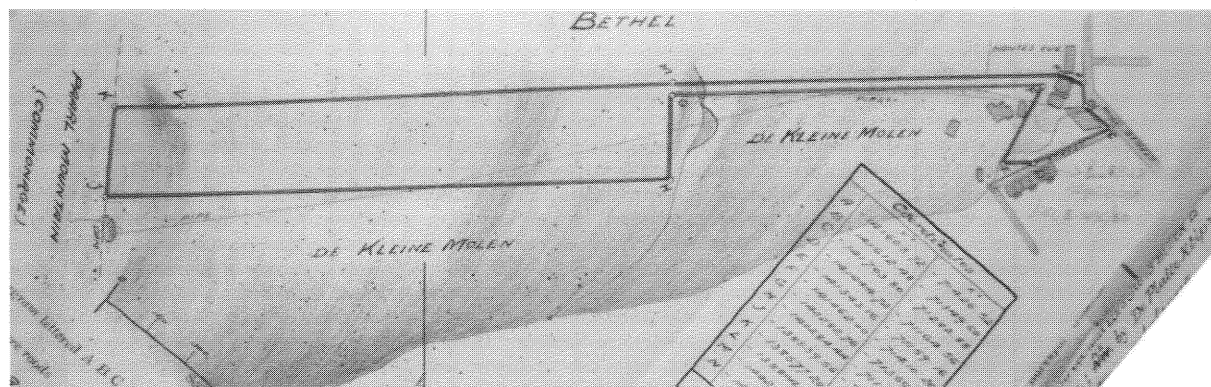


Figure 5: Survey diagram 1103/1909 of Nantes, Paarl Freehold 3.3 of 1909 showing the stream being piped from a small dam to the mill buildings.

In 1699 the construction of the mill was started. It was to be built next to the perennial stream on the farm of Jacobus van der Heiden, which was originally granted to Jan Colmar in 1692 (Nantes). During the construction, artisans brought in from Cape Town, lodged on Pieter Janz van Marseveen's farm ('pastorie gronde'). The mill was originally run by the VOC, but in 1712 the mill was leased and operated as a private concern. Detail regarding the actual mills can be found in Le Roux & Le Roux's booklet, *Drakenstein se Meul*.

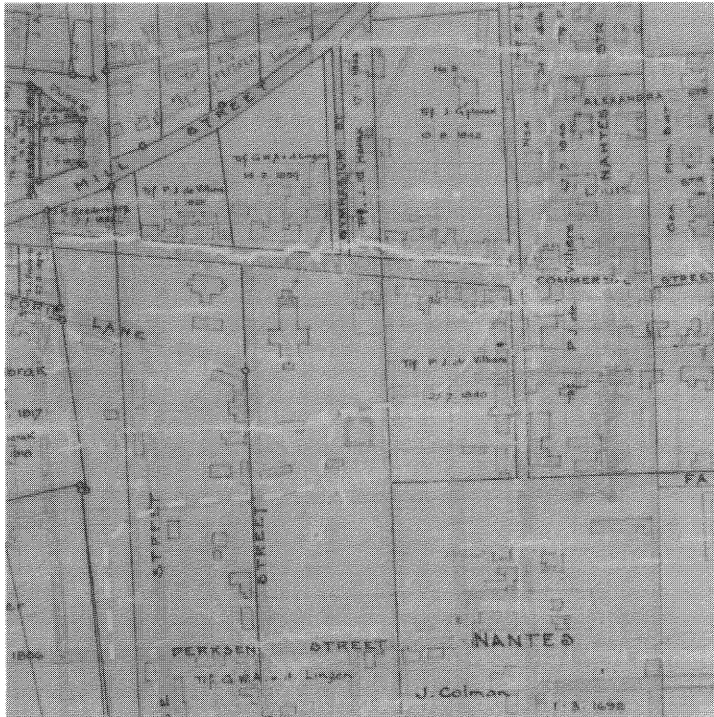


Figure 6: Pritchard Survey of Paarl 1907 – 1912 (Paarl Municipality) showing the course of the Nantes Mill stream highlighted by green dashed line.

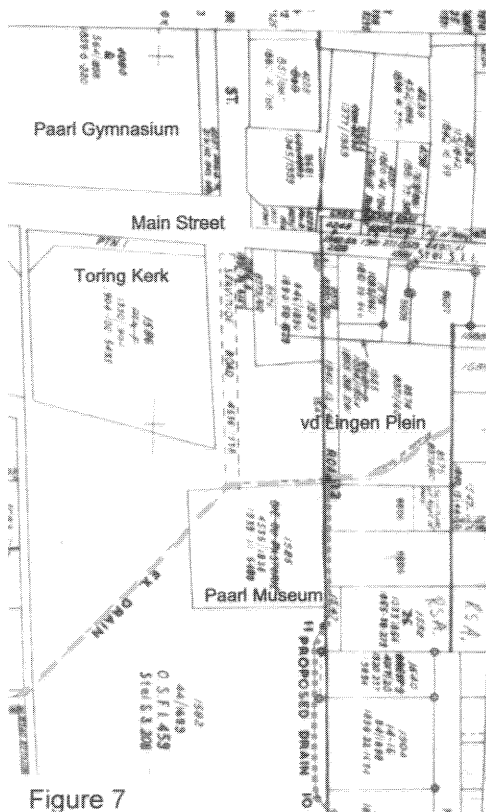


Figure 7

In the 1940s the Mill stream was piped and lead underground. In the 1960s additional storm water drains were laid, as the old pipes did not have sufficient capacity (Mr Knaggs pers comm.). According to Mr Knaggs, the Drakenstein Municipality is currently busy surveying the storm water drains and included in this survey would be the old mill streams and water courses which provided water to the households of Paarl prior to piped domestic water supply.

Figure 7 is a plan c1960 lodged at the Drakenstein Municipality showing the old drain (orange) and the new proposed storm water drain (red).

### **Nantes Stream and the Paarl Museum**

At the entrance to the Paarl Museum property, a section of the mill stream has been exposed, and the sides of the furrow seem to be of modern brick (which may date to the restoration of the building in the 1930s (Figure 7) and the piping on either side of the exposed section is visible. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Mrs Trotter sketched the front of the parsonage, showing a bridge over the mill stream, with wooden benches on either side, lining up with the gate posts of the boundary wall (Trotter 1900). It is unfortunate that detail of the actual stream and/or furrow is not shown.

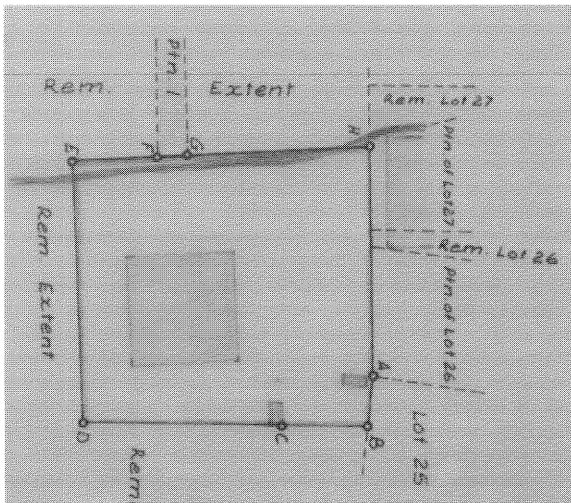


Figure 8: Survey diagram 4535/1938 of Erf 1585 showing the course of the mill stream before it was piped?

It has not been possible to determine the nature of the construction of the mill stream from the documentary evidence. The stream would initially have been a natural stream, which would have been modified to a furrow as soon as the water was being used for agricultural or household use as the town developed. The question is whether this furrow was cobble, stone or (later) brick lined, or a more simple dirt furrow.

At present, it is proposed only to recycle water through the existing exposed section of the mill stream at the Museum and to neatened and upgrade its appearance. Should it be decided to expose a larger area of the stream, along the full extent of the Museum boundary wall, test excavations would be required to determine and record the construction of the stream so that this information can be used to inform the reconstruction of exposed sections of the mill stream.

### **6. Recommendations and comments**

It is the recommendation of this report that any mechanical excavation lowering the ground level be monitored by a qualified archaeologist. Should it be decided to extend the portion of exposed mill stream in front of the Paarl Museum and to restore or renovate the furrow, archaeological testing to determine the exact nature of the furrow is recommended.

Historical photographs have shown that the van der Lingen parking area had vineyards planted on them until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, however, should any concentrations of archaeological material be found associated with the mill stream, mechanical excavation must cease, allowing the archaeologist to sample and record the material.



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Appendix 1  
Deed Summary: Pastorie Gronde

Erf No	Diagram	Deed	Date	Extent	From	To	Price	Comment
1582	44/1699	OSF 1(ii).459 1018	1699	60 M	Grant	Pieter Janz van Marseveen		
		2897	4/12/1714			Landrost & Heemraden van Drakenstein		
4084	34/1852	90/ T56	23/11/1750			Diacony van Armen, Drakenstein		
4099	212/1814	92/ T57	17/01/1852	397 SR 131 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Isaac Gerhardus Horak		
4098	213/1814		17/01/1852	2 M 468 SR	Board of wardens NPaarl	Tieleman Roos		Portion 2 above Main Rd
4079	35/1852		17/01/1852	2 M 552 SR	Board of wardens NPaarl	Schalk Theron		Portion 1 above Main Rd
4102	214/1814		17/01/1852	406 M 79 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Pieter Jacobus de Villiers		Portion C
4100	215/1814		17/01/1852	2 M 64 SR 72 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Pieter Jacobus de Villiers		Portion 5 above Main Rd
4078	36/1852		17/01/1852	2M 274 SR	Board of wardens NPaarl	Abraham Bosman de Villiers		Portion 3 above Main Rd
4101	1425/1825		17/01/1852	110 SR 4 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Johannes Zeederberg		Portion B
4103	A.565/1858		17/01/1852	2M 191 SR 72 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Johannes Zeederberg		Portion 4 above Main Rd
1587	A.566/1858		17/01/1852	20M 385.5 SR	Board of wardens NPaarl	Gideon Joshua Malherbe		Portion G
4080	564/1858		17/01/1852	17 M 225 SR	Board of wardens NPaarl	Gotlieb Wilhelm Arthur vd Lingen & GJ Malherbe		Portion E
4081	135/1872		1859	1M 217 SR 12 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Gotlieb Wilhelm Arthur vd Lingen		Portion D – Gymnasium situated on this erf
1583	846/1890		1872	87 SR 113 SF	Board of wardens NPaarl	Elizabeth JH vd Lingen (Widow)		Portion coloured blue on survey diagram
1584	1179/1891	1	1890	90 SR 140 SF	Mrs CV Thom	Johan Carel Thom		
1586	1330/1904		1891	5 SR 62 SF	Est Late Mrs CV Thom	Johan Carel Thom		
			1904	419 SR 8 SF	Est Late Mrs CV Thom	Consistory of the DRC NPaarl		Portion F – the Toring Church appears to be on this portion
1585	4535/38		1939	28870 SF	Trustees of Gymnasium	Paarl Municipality		Oude Pastorie Museum

4082	4657/44	1945	205 SF	Trustees of Paarl Gymnasium	Paarl Municipality	
4083	10292/54	1955	230 SF	Trustees of Paarl Gymnasium	Paarl Municipality	Portion 16 – street from Main Road to Museum
9576	10494	1975	111 m <sup>2</sup>			

**Deed Summary: Nantes**

Erf No	Diagram	Deed	Date	Extent	From	To	Price	Comment
1195	37/1692	OSF 1.294	1692	60 M	Grant	Jan Colmar		According to Le Roux and le Roux, he had been living on this land since 1690.
			1693		Jan Colmar	Jacobus vd Heiden		By the time the farm was surveyed, it was already owned by J vd Heiden.
			1700			Hendrick Rodenburg		
			1702			Berndt Burchardt & Lambert Smit		Berndt Burcherts appointed 1698 as member of Heemraad of Drakenstein. Drive behind the founding of the Drakenstein Mill
			1709			Guillaume Loree & Paul Roux		
Portion A			1803	41 M 120 SR		David G Roux		Nantes
Portion B			1809			Jan Roux		De Kleine Molen