

HARMONIE FARM 744
PORTION OF VERGELEGEN, SOMERSET WEST
HISTORICAL SURVEY AND STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATIONS
OF THE 18th CENTURY BARN (WORKSHOP)

JUNE 2009



THE HARMONIE FARMYARD AND DAIRY COMPLEX

Report Prepared for
NICOLAS BAUMANN & SARAH WINTER
Heritage Resource Consultants
P.O. Box 281 Muizenberg 7950

Prepared by
HENNIE VOS, MA
Historical Archaeologist & Consultant
ARCape Consultancy
P.O. Box 379 Stellenbosch
(082-217-0032 Fax 021 889-8956)

and
HARRIET CLIFT
Archaeologist & Consultant
7 Pypies Plein, Cape Town
(072-530-5598)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the Vergelegen farm, Somerset West, there is a sub-division of a farmyard Harmonie, which dates from the **18th century**. Its buildings stayed intact till about the late 19th century, when the H-dwelling and Outbuilding were demolished, leaving only an old rectangular **Barn** (see Fig.14, p.21) Lady Phillips added numerous buildings to this farm from the 1920s, all part of a large Dairy Complex. Anglo- American proposed the development of a Training Centre with Facilities on the Harmonie farm, which necessitated additional **scoping reports** (Baumann & Winter 2008; Snyman 2008; Clift 2008, 2009).

The Barn structure is 34.6m X 6.85m with a height of 3m and is relatively intact, though with **altered fenestration and some wall demolitions** on the eastern side, all of the 20th century. Nonetheless it has enough extant **old fabric** to warrant conservation / rehabilitation measures (see Fig.15, p.23). Structurally it could date to the early to mid-eighteenth century, though a picture of the area in 1777 does not show it.

Over its full length the Barn has its old **beams** (square hardwood and round poplars), its old ferricrete walls till eaves height, two old **door** openings (blocked-up), an intact **coach-door** opening and signs of an **oven**, indicating a kitchen and living quarters. At least two fires razed the roof timbers and it is presently under a new corrugated roof. Trial archaeological excavations and a little plaster stripping indicate that more structural investigations are required before / during the rehabilitation process (see **Recommendations p.61**).

Besides the Harmonie Barn, its demolished Outbuilding and Dwelling could be investigated archaeologically. The adjacent Altona farmyard is of equal importance, as both farmyards with their buildings are incorporated in part of the *Old Cape Freehold* of Vergelegen.

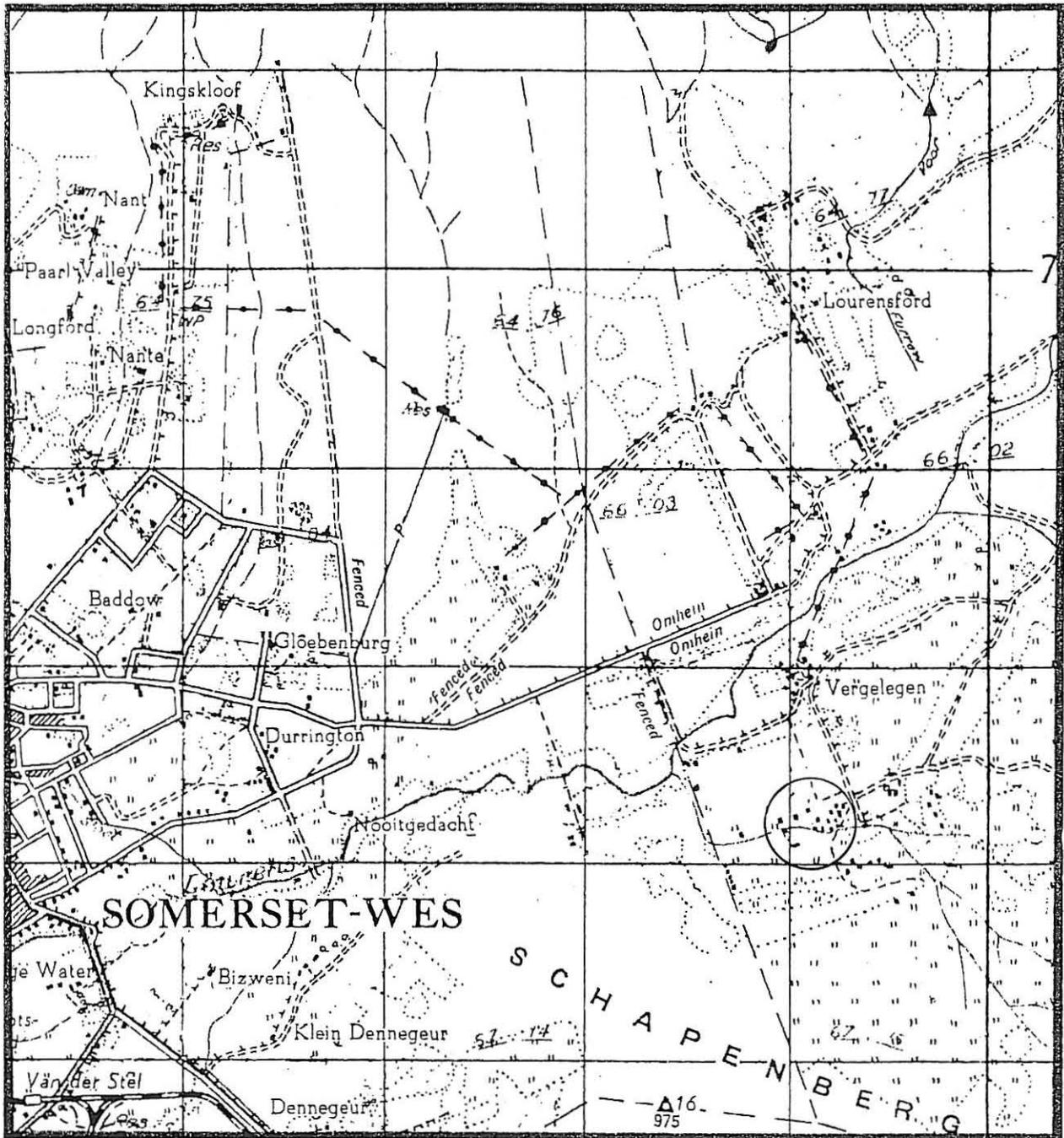


FIG.1 Harmonie, an OCF portion of Vergelegen, is circled with its numerous outbuildings and Dairy Complex (Map, Strand 3418 BB, 1:50 000).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report constitutes a combined effort by archaeologists Hennie Vos and Harriet Clift of the history, archaeology and structural analysis of primarily the Barn on *Harmonie*, and its relationship to Vergelegen and surrounding farms. Much of the historic research on the owners was done by Clift and is succinctly summarized in her report (April 2008). A fair amount of it is incorporated into this report.

The administrative staff of Vergelegen, Director Don Tooth, retired Secretary James Dickenson-Barker and Manager Les Naidoo, are gratefully thanked for facilitating this project. A word of thanks to the architect, Greg Goddard of Somerset West, for his accurate compilation of plans for the Barn, and our gratitude also to the personnel of the workshop.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report forms a component of the overall *Heritage Brief* of the Altona & Harmonie farmyards as expertly compiled by Baumann & Winter (January 2008). The Harmonie Barn-cum-workshop remains the only extant building dating to the 18th century, still on the Harmonie werf. The foundations of the opposing barn and the Harmonie homestead are still extant to some degree. In response to the *Heritage Brief*, HWC issued a ROD on 4.4.2008, requesting a structural analysis of the Barn (**Add.1**).

As the *Proposed Training Centre and Associated Facilities* were put on hold by Anglo American due to the financial climate, the Barn project was only completed in mid-April 2009. Note also the comprehensive *Application for Consent Use and Rezoning* of the site by Adri Snyman (August 2008), which has appended both the reports by Clift (2008) and Baumann & Winter (2008). As the Barn report falls within the category of a building older than 60 years (HRA of 1999, no.25: Section 38), its proposed development is subject to its regulations. Excavations by Clift have been done under HWC Permit No 2008 09 002.

2. GOALS OF REPORT

The goals of the Harmonie Barn report are to assess the heritage value of the site on different levels.

1. Place the Harmonie farmyard in relationship to the original Vergelegen complex and its early 1700 subdivisions.
2. Emphasize the historic road over Vergelegen and past Harmonie, across the Schapenberg to the Kloof or Gantouw Pass.
3. Record and assess the structural elements of the Barn in respect of materials, age and building methods.
4. Assess the heritage value of the building and make recommendations towards its conservation.

ABBREVIATIONS used in text

B&W	Baumann & Winter
CD	Corte Deductie (1712)

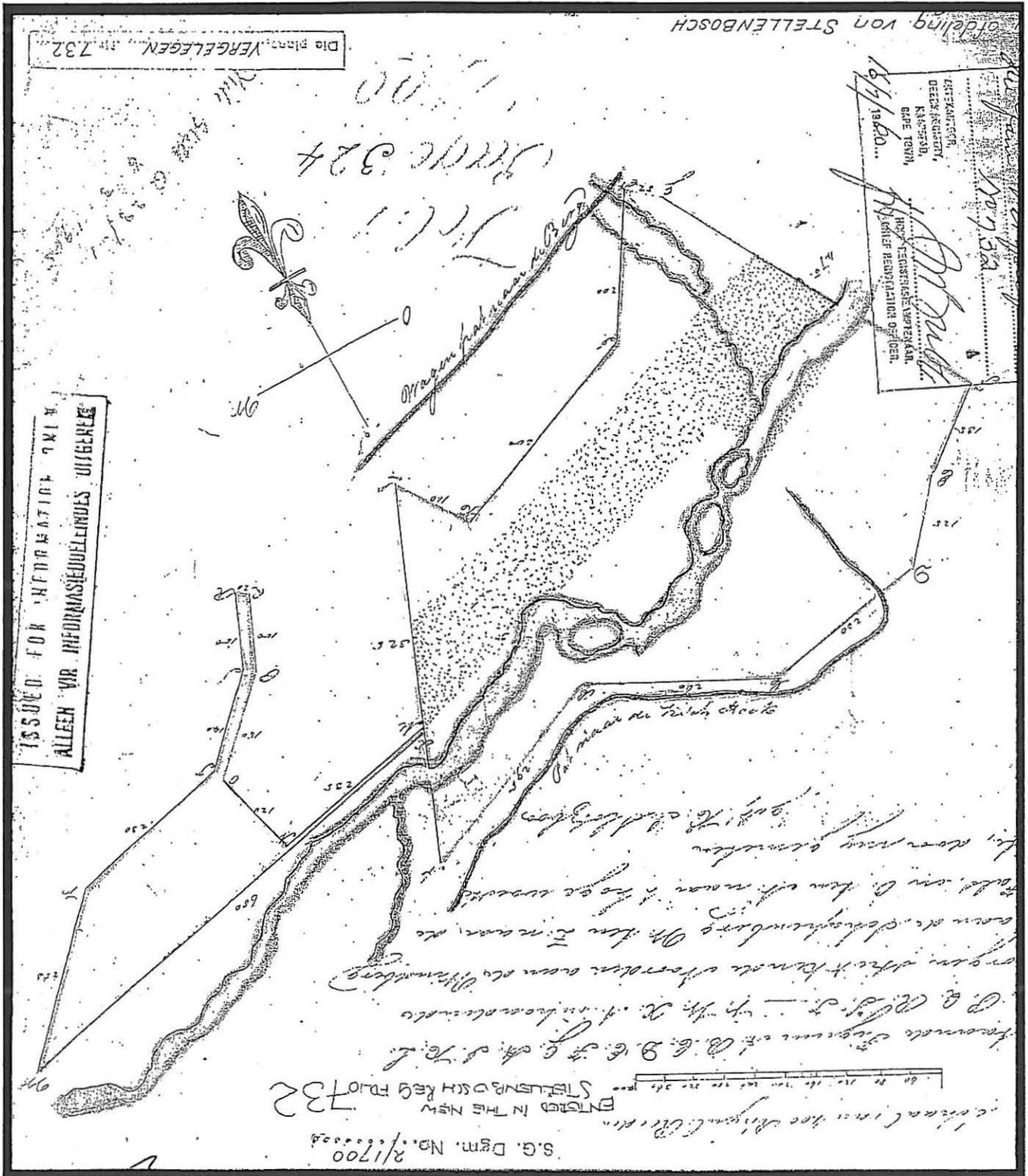


FIG.2 Original land grants of Vergelegen of 1700, with a major portion besides the Lourenz River. This large portion was connected by means of a narrow road to a landform looking a like a stylized mouse, its tail shadowing a river tributary (SGD 2/1700).

3. VERGELEGEN 1685 – 1712

The earliest beginnings of Vergelegen since 1685, has been summarized by Vos (March 2008:12-16). In July 1686 the Octagonal layout, barn, kraals, animal buildings, water furrows, etc were laid out by Simon van der Stel and implemented by slaves in control of landdrost Mulder of Stellenbosch (Sleigh 2004:161). The *Boerenhuis* or Manager's house was first built, but the lofty Manor house was only constructed in early 1700 by Willem van der Stel (see also Scheffler 2000:5-10). The first VOC post of 1673, situated near the Somerset West Pastorie site, also became in disuse by early 1700.

Governor Willem used the VOC surveyor Slotzboo to have the farm Vergelegen mapped in 1699 and it was granted on 1.2.1700 (FIG.2). Willem completed all the earlier buildings and had new ones built in an ostentatious display of power. After his dismissal (he only evacuated the site in April 1708), the farm was subdivided and auctioned into **four lots**. It is important to understand these lots, for they affect Harmonie and Altona.

In October 1709, 3 Portions were sold, while Portion 4 with the most buildings, was sold only in November to bachelor Barend Gildenhuys, brother-in-law to Jacob van der Heiden, who bought Portion 3. Under no circumstances was the latter to obtain Portion 4! (Add.2) (Fraser 1980:33).

Please consult the 4 Portions according to *Table 1* (Clift 2008), where the Werf of Vergelegen was divided right through the centre! (FIG.3). The fact that there was no mention of the Manor House in the official valuation or at the auction, confirms its (partial) demolition.

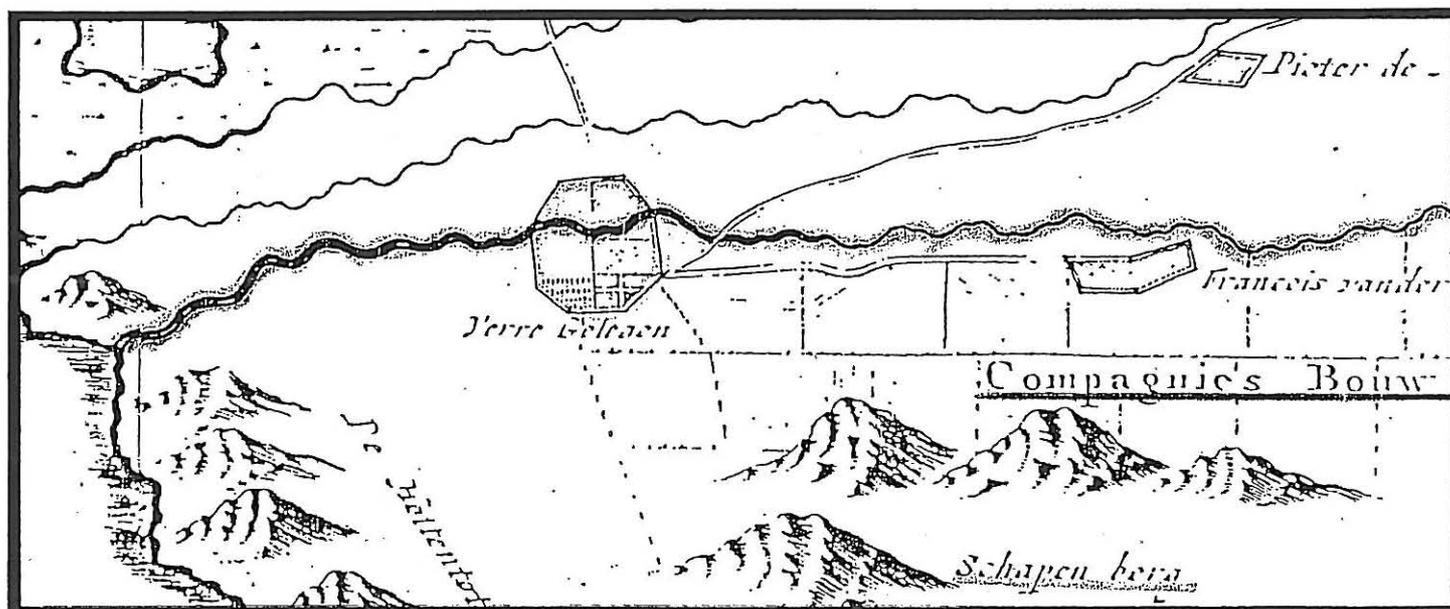


FIG.3 A map of late 17th c. showing an Octagon of land (!), divided in the centre by a road. Note the cultivated lands and Schapenberg (Map, CA).

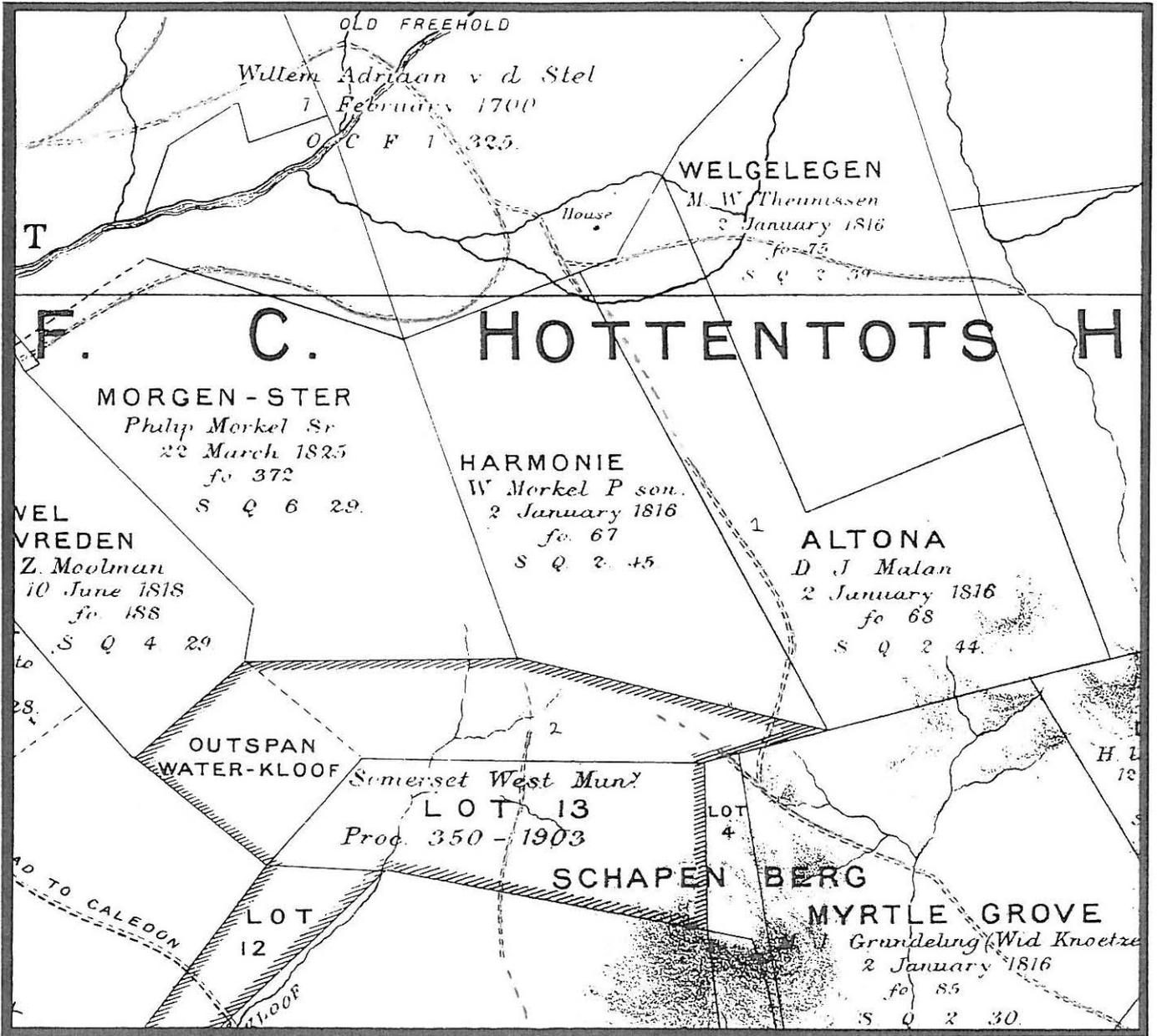
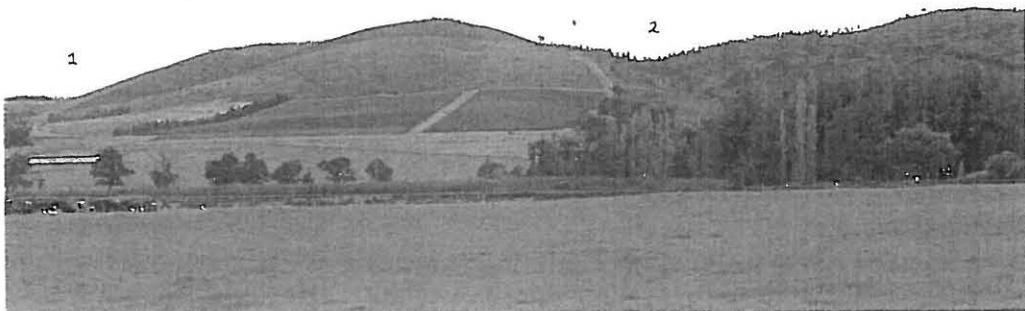
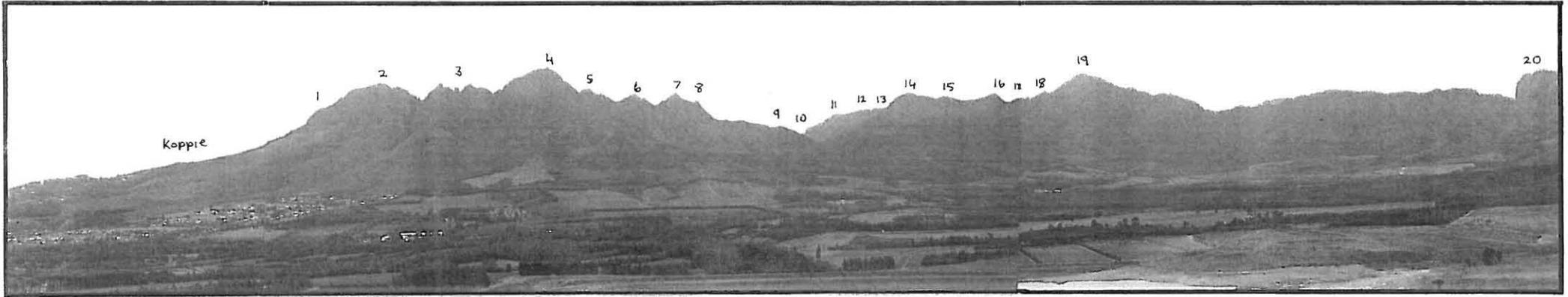


FIG.4.1 A map of 1890s showing distinctly the old (1690s) road, originally between Altona and Harmonie, crossing the Schapenberg towards Elandskloof (Brink map 1892, CA).



2. View towards to low hill-tops of Schapenberg from near the Vergelegen / Morgenster boundary. At left (1) is the crossing point from Vergelegen and right (2) was the road to the *Kloof pad* from Morgenster (looking S).



1. Panoramic view of Helderberg and Hottentots Holland mountains, in relationship to the old Freehold farms (looking N).

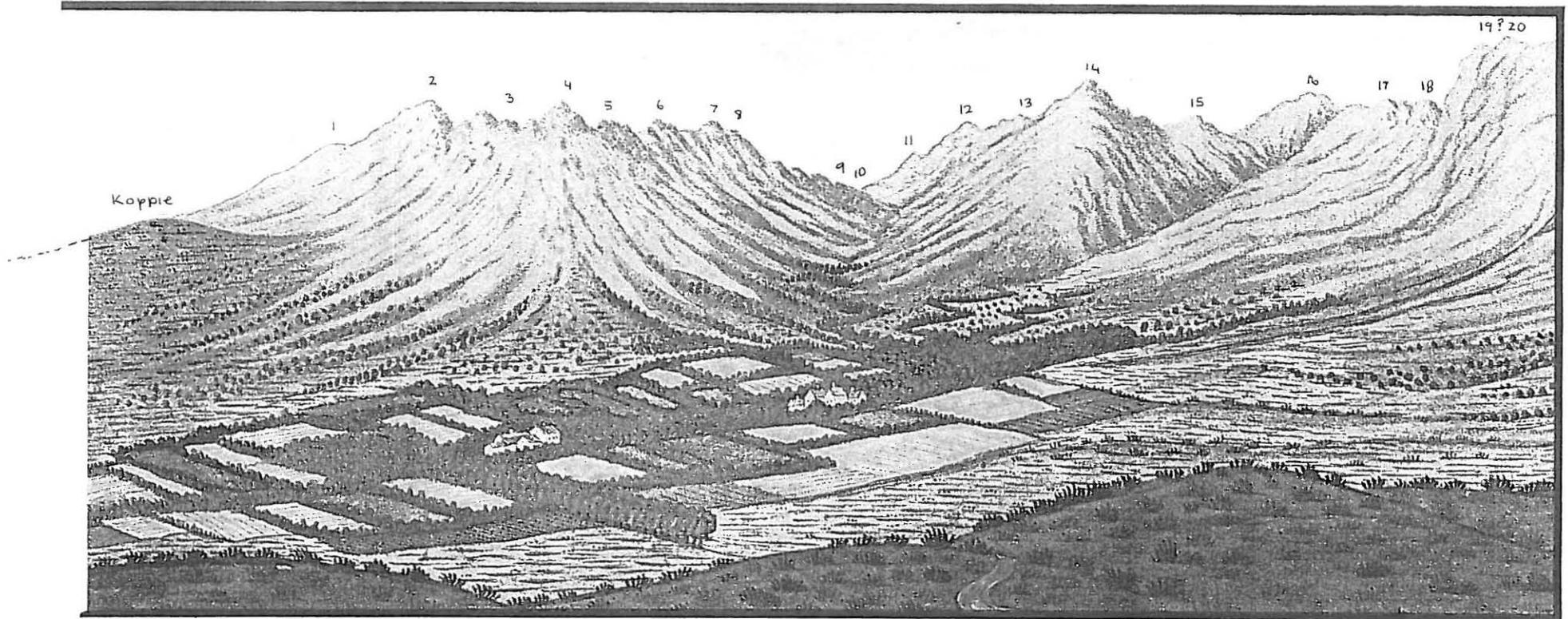


FIG.5 Schumacher's 1777 aquatint, with a possible scenario of Vergelegen (left) and Lourensford (Laaste Gift) right. The mountain peaks are correlated with the actual ones in the photographs. Note the mountain water-divide and the position of Vergelegen. Another interpretation could be Morgenster (left) and Vergelegen (right).

5. SCHUMACHER AQUARELLES 1777

Of particular value to us are the two Johannes Schumacher aquarelles made in about 1777, when he accompanied Col. Robert Gordon into the interior. They are reproduced in monochrome in Hallema (1951:1, 2-4). I shall discuss the Vergelegen valley drawing in detail (FIG.5).

5.1 VERGELEGEN VALLEY

This view is also reproduced in colour by Smuts (ed.) (1979:234). From the aquarelle it is clear that a path leads from an avenue of trees up the lower slopes of Schapenberg, from where the drawing was made. Though the outline of the mountain range *Windberg*, or the Hottentots Holland Mountains, are depicted rather crudely here, there is some similarity to them. Only two farmyards are depicted within the forests along the river.

Identifying the two farmyards is not as easy as it looks. Note by this time (1777), there should be two farmyards (but treated as one) at Vergelegen, the farms of Laaste Gift, and/or Lourensford, Erinvale, Zeemanshoop, Vrede en Hoop, Land & Zeezicht, Morgenster, Cloetenburg, etc. In order to interpret the aquarelle, I have taken photographs from approximately the same position.

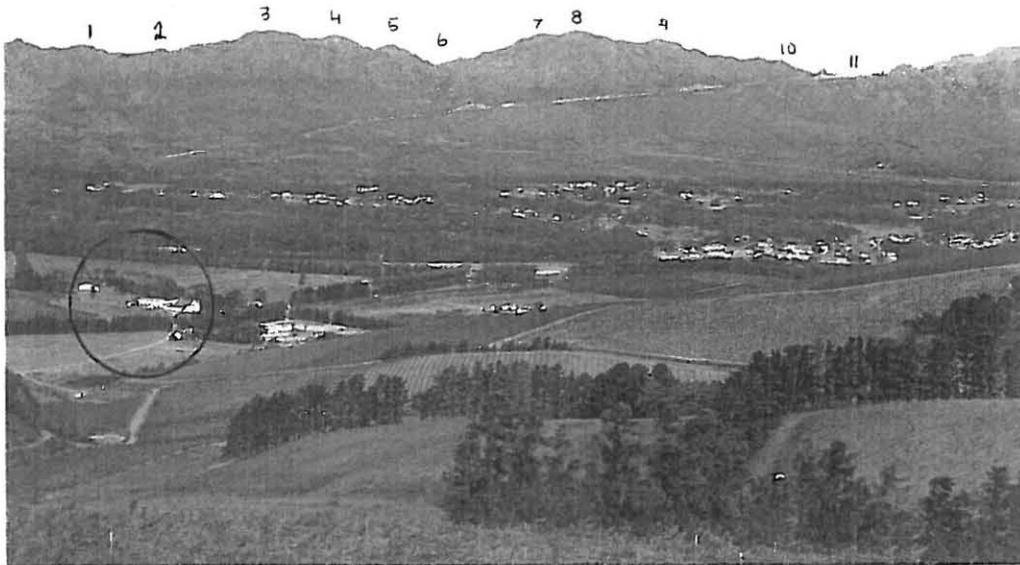
Farm 1 (east) shows a full length façade and outbuildings on both sides. The farm lies in line with Kloof 10 and toward the upper reaches of the valley.

It could represent: a) Laaste Gift / Lourensford
 b) Vergelegen as the main dwelling appears to be rather lofty
 (could be misleading).

Farm 2 (west) also shows a façade dwelling, but lower in height, with two outbuildings, one particularly large.

It could represent: a) Vergelegen
 The road leading up Schapenberg strongly suggests this possibility.
 b) Morgenster, but its relationship to the Windberg (see the water divide) makes it unlikely.
 Vergelegen seems to fit the geographical position.

Whatever the position of Vergelegen (Farm 1 or 2), there is no hint of buildings at Harmonie or Altona, which is "problematical". As will be seen in the structural analysis of the Harmonie Barn, there are elements which point to the first half of the 18th century and other elements to the second half of the 18th century. See my discussion on the subject. If Schumacher's drawing is interpreted as correct (though some buildings could be hidden behind trees), then the Harmonie barn may date at least to 1780s.



3. View from a Schapenberg hill overlooking the Hottentots Holland Valley, enclosed by the high mountain range. The distinctive, circled building at Myrtle Grove, was already extant in 1777. Note the old pass Elandskloof (6) and the oblique Sir Lowry's Pass (11) (looking S).

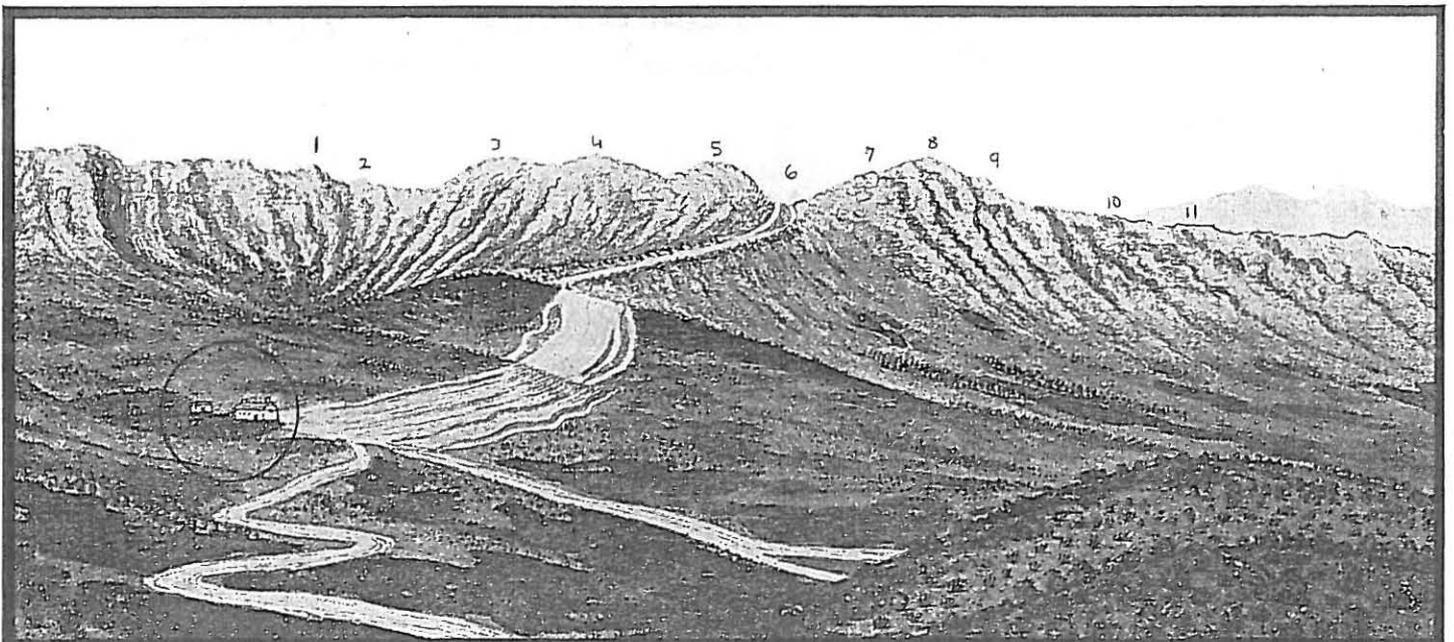


FIG.6 Portion of Schumacher's 1777 depiction of the Hottentots Valley, the roads leading towards Elandskloof. Presumably the first farm building is that at Myrtle Grove (Vos 1997). Note the large Outspan area, crisscrossed with wagon tracks.

5.2 HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND VALLEY

At the top of the Schapenberg, Schumacher drew a wide panoramic view of 200° wide, including False Bay and up to faraway Cape Town (**FIG.6**). One can see why Willem van der Stel desired to build a lookout post here towards Cape Town to see the shipping traffic. I took a similar photo-view, which I tried to correlate with the aquarelle. Towards the left front there is a dwelling with an outbuilding which appears to be identical in both views, possibly Myrtle Grove? Beyond the dwelling appear the vast outspan and innumerable wheel tracks over a century, crossing the landscape towards *De Kloof*. It looks as though there are also two tracks (one going, one coming) at the top.

The 2009 view shows the much longer incline of Sir Lowry's Pass, which was in use from the 1830s. **Goedeverwachting** was the main stop-over, later connected to Brinks' Inn, with the *Kloof wachter's* dwellings higher up the pass. These ruins still stand lonely guard alongside the old route.



4. From a Schapenberg hill, Table Mountain and the Bay is just visible in the haze. On a clear day with a telescope the ships in the Bay could be spotted. Willem van der Stel nearly had a lookout-post built here for this very purpose.

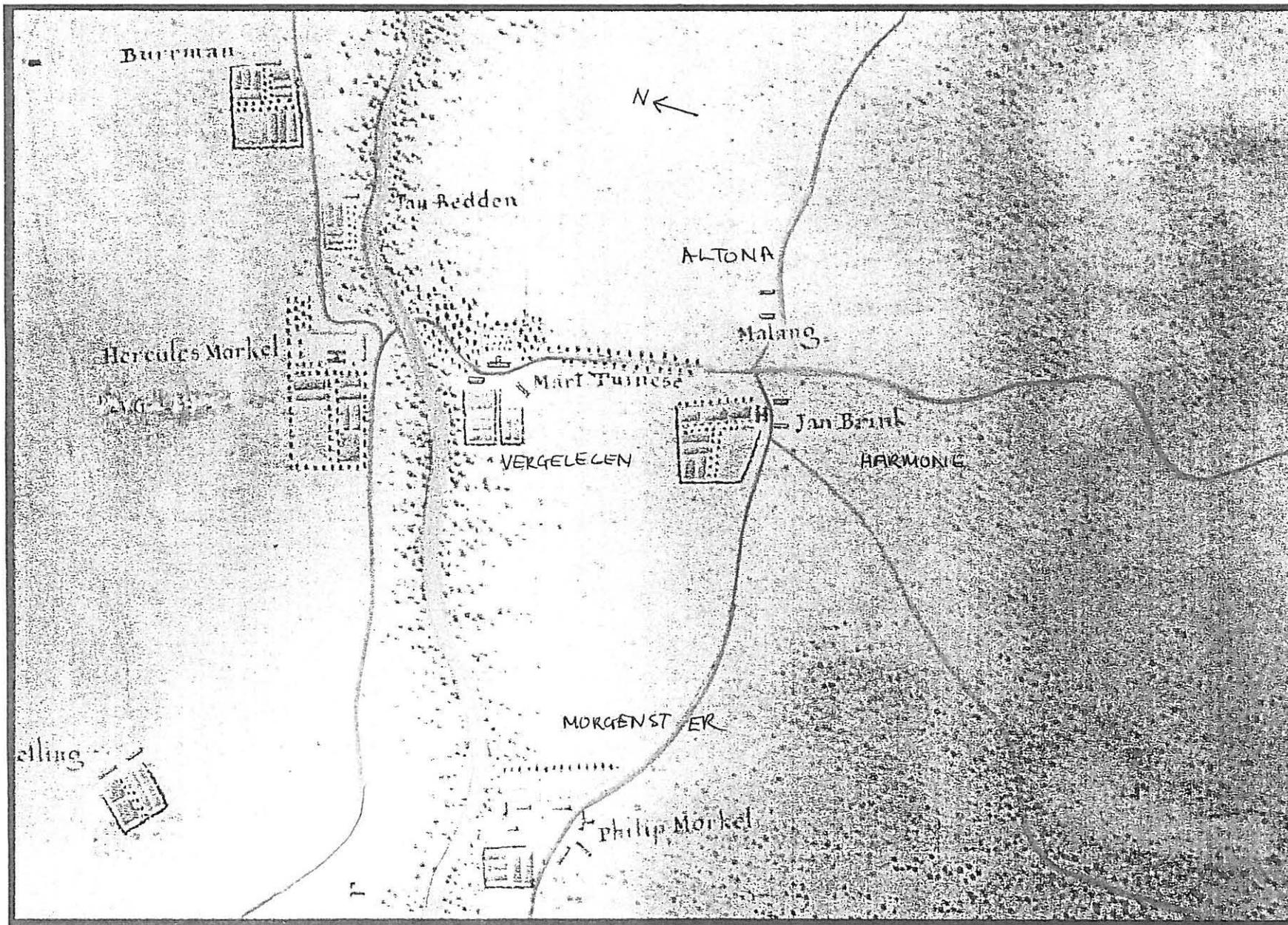


FIG.8 The British map of 1806 depicts the various farmyards of Vergelegen (Harmonie, Altona, etc.)(SGD M1/1610).

6. HISTORY OF HARMONIE

6.1 DEVELOPMENT 18/19TH CENTURY

Portion 3 of Vergelegen totaled 170m 80r² in 1711, of which Van der Heyden immediately sold 23m 373r² (Cliff 2008: Table 3)(Add.3). The remaining land with buildings (146m 305r²) went to Maasdorp (1752-63), Vlok (1763-75), De Waal (1775-82) and Daniel Malan (>1782). He subdivided the land, selling 40m 301r² 5ft², the southern portion of the old OSF, in 1785 to Johannes Brink for f4000. Note the L-shape of the land, which gave access to a portion of the river, yet circumvented the buildings of old Vergelegen (FIG.7). According to me some of Harmonie's 3 buildings could date from the 1720s, but all three certainly by the 1780s.

An 1806 military map of the whole valley shows the road from Vergelegen (owner Theunissen) passing between Harmonie (owner Brink) and Altona (owner Malan) (granted in 1805, with two buildings extant). Note that Harmonie has a very well-established yard equal to any of the surrounding farms (FIG.8).

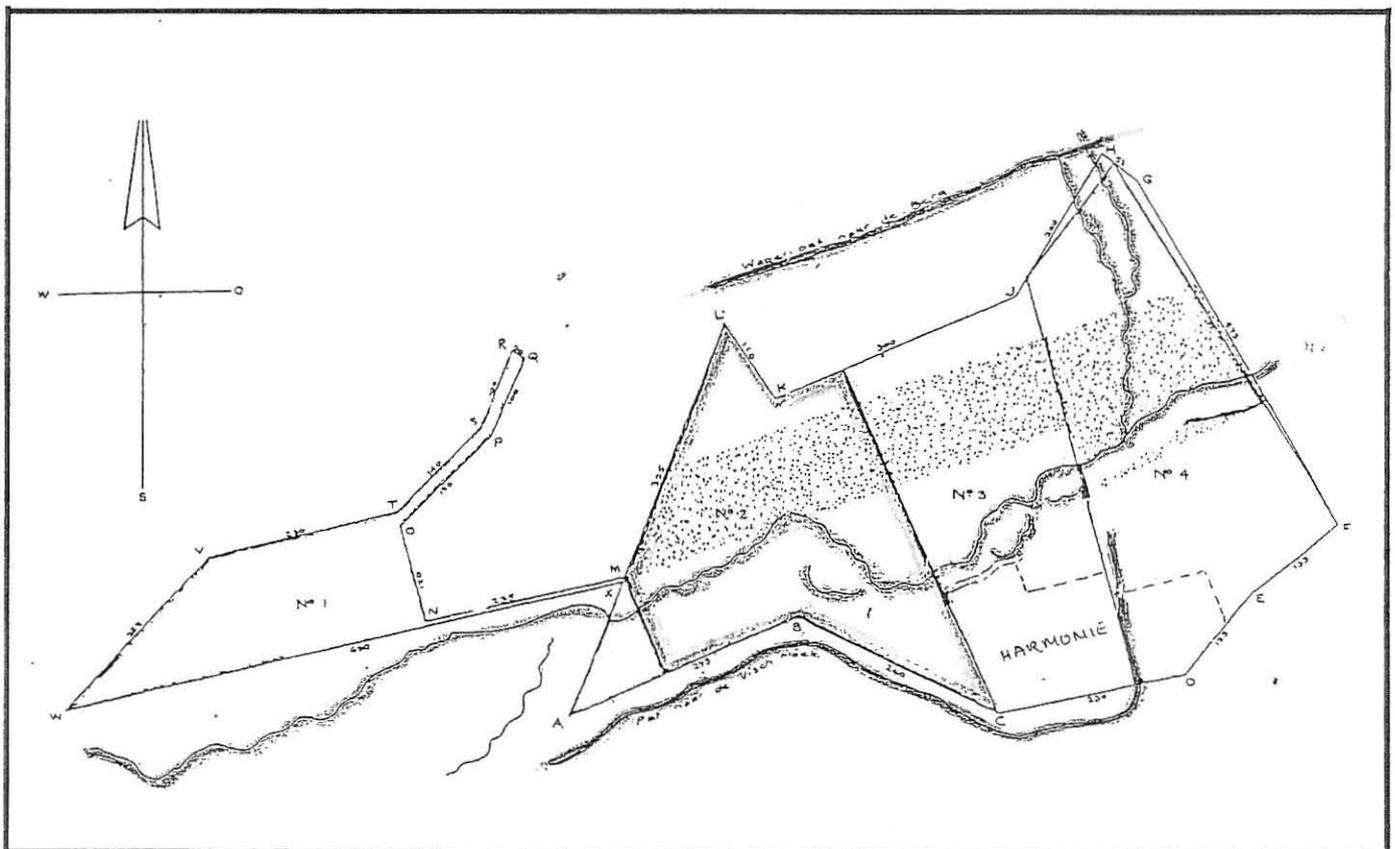


FIG.7 A copy of Slotsboo's map of 1700 of Vergelegen, where the 4 Portions are demarcated (Scheffler 2000:11.1). The Harmonie OCF (1785) is imposed on Portion 3, south of the Laurentz River. Its L-shape is because the buildings of Vergelegen had to be excluded (SGD 2/1700, amended by Vos).

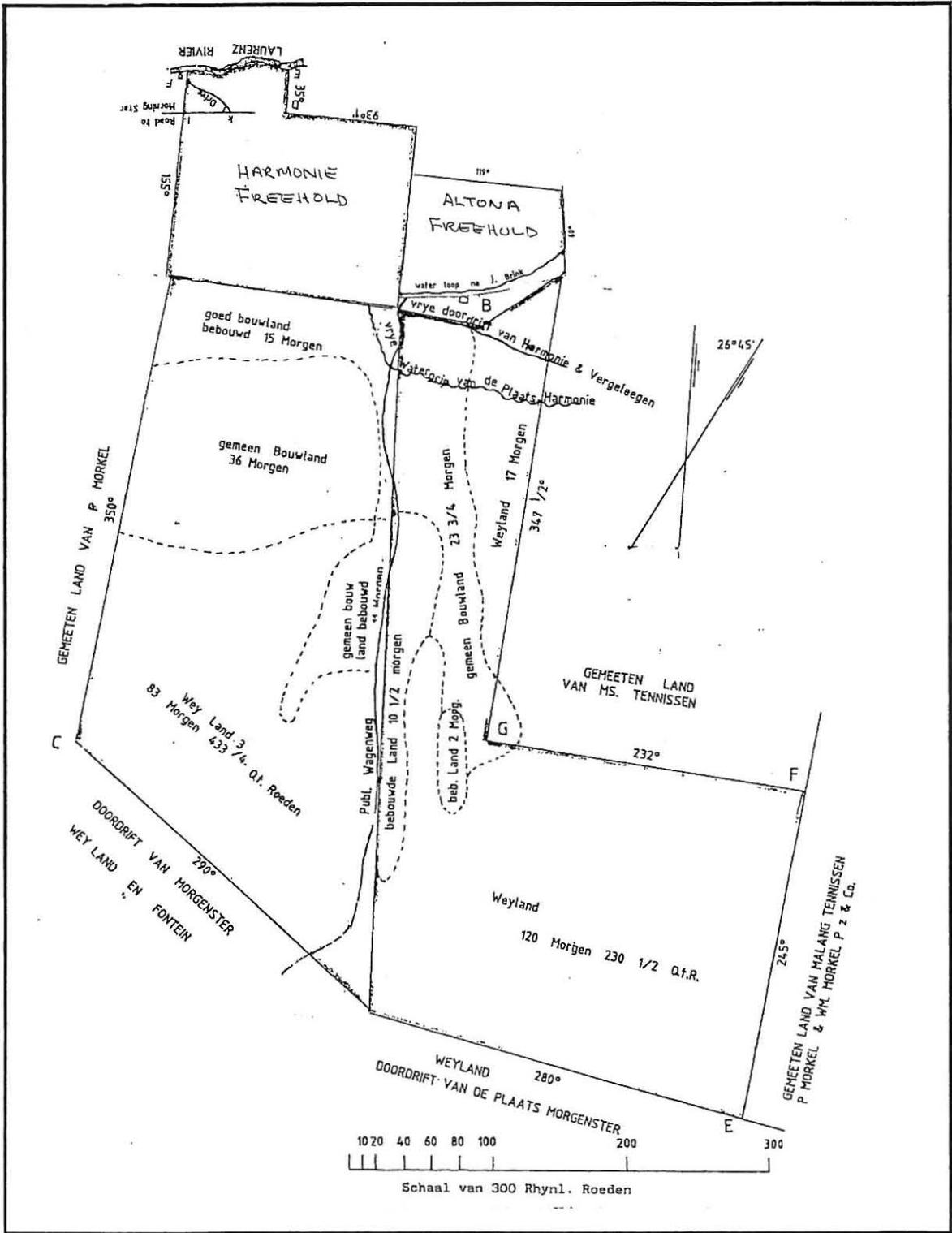


FIG.10 The adjacent portions of Harmonie (1785) and Altona (1805), with their respective Quitrents (Harmonie 1816, Altona 1816), are assembled in a composite map (SGDs).

Just south of the H-shaped dwelling (typical of the 1780s) runs an old road, identified by Clift (2008:7)(**FIG.9**). Two **Outbuildings** formed a rectangular open werf, of which the Barn (east) only remains. Note the avenue of trees between Harmonie and old Vergelegen. Is it about the same avenue of trees as shown on Schumacher's drawing?

In 1811 Willem Morkel paid Brink f4000 for the farm. In 1816 a huge 145m 433r² was added as an oblong strip towards Schapenberg (SQ 2, 45) (see Clift 2008). In order to understand the Harmonie and Altona farms, the two grants and the Quitrents have been consolidated into one diagramme (**FIG.10**).

Additional research into the tax-rolls would be required to ascertain to which degree vineyards were established on Harmonie. Was one of the barns a wine-press and cellar? Surprisingly, the widow Morkel and her second husband, Gideon de Villiers, were declared insolvent in 1834/5, the period of labour unrest and preceding the emancipation of slaves in December 1838 (Clift 2008:16).

Jacobus Daniel Malan obtained the enormous farm and a half share in the nearby *Langekloof*, about 814m, more than 4 times the size of the whole Harmonie! (**FIG.11**) No wonder the price of the farm increased from f4000 (40m+) to f69 500 (>500m). Presumably the latter price included animals and farm equipment (need to be checked).

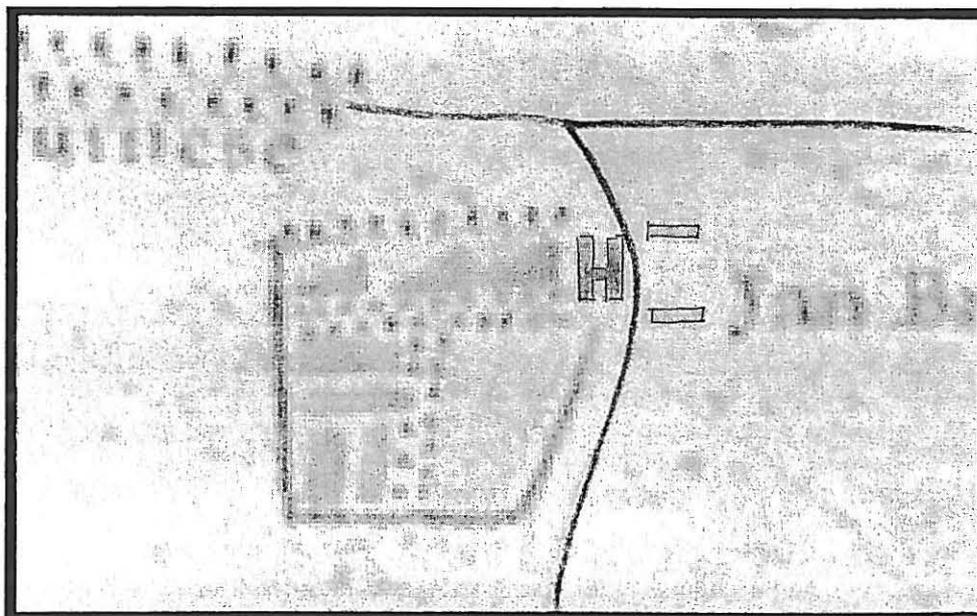


FIG.9 Close-up of the 1806 map shows the old road passing south of the H-dwelling towards Morgenster (SGD M1/1610).

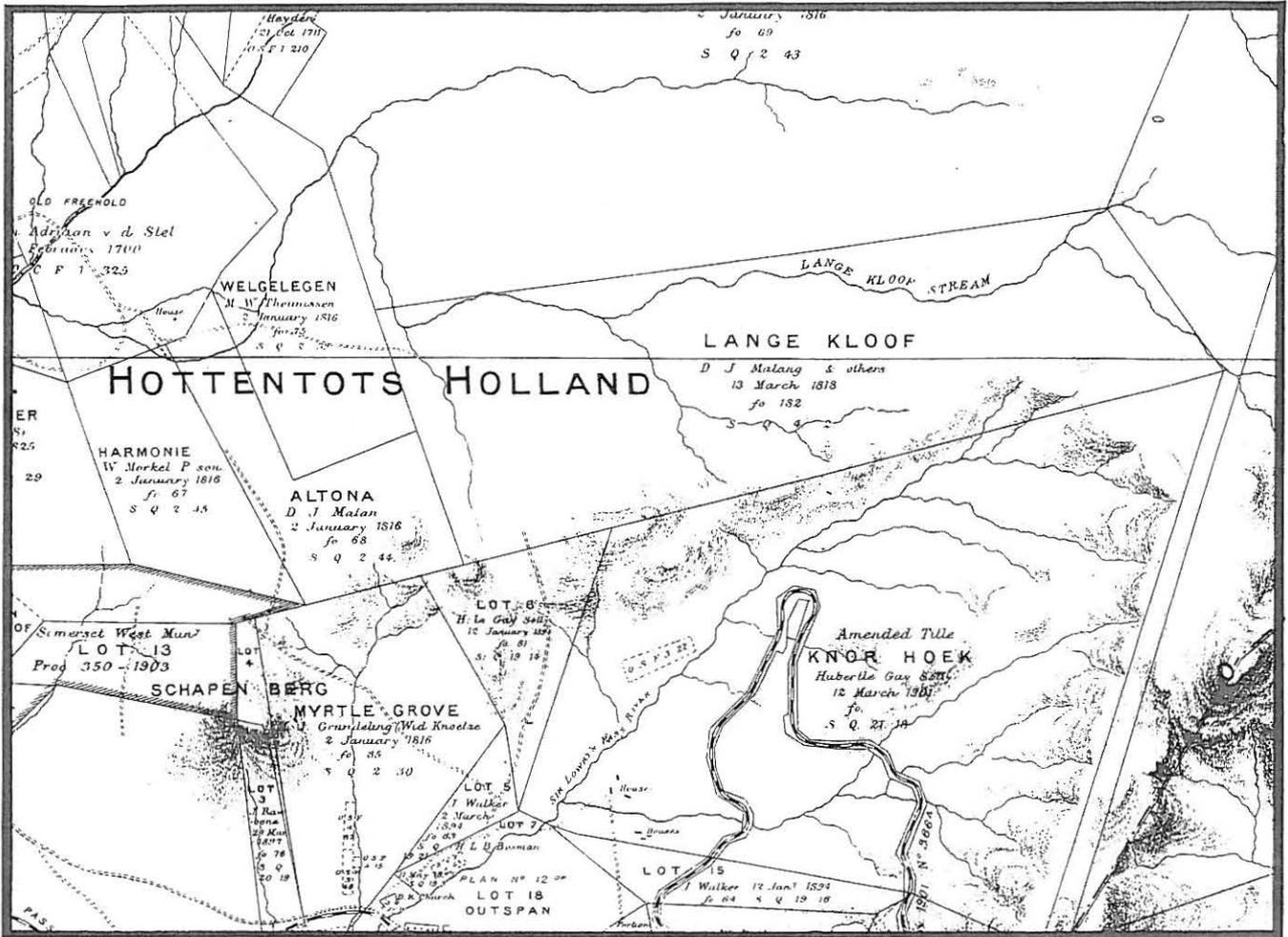
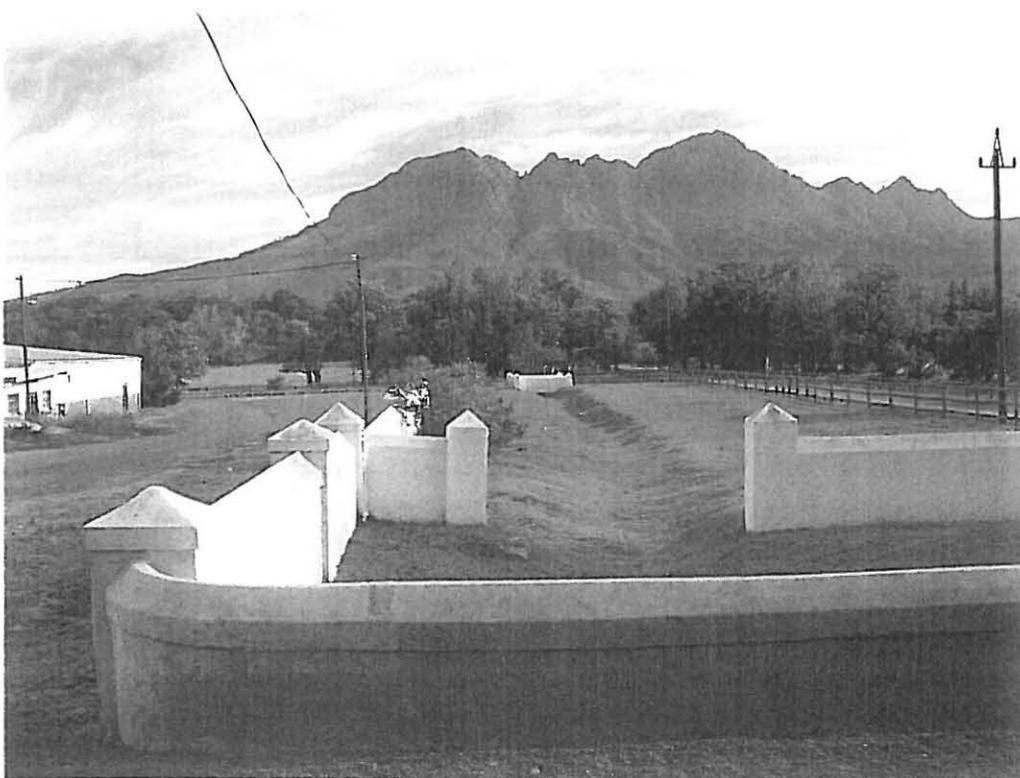


FIG.11 A depiction of 1892 of the Farms under discussion, including the large SQ to D.J. Malang, et al in 1818 of Lange Kloof, a fitting description of land watered by the Langekloof River (Brink map, CA).



5. Looking north towards Vergelegen, from Harmonie, along an earlier wide furrow, enhanced with more recent (20th c) boundary walls. On the right is the road dividing Harmonie and Altona farms.



6, 7. Simplistic cottage of 1880-1900, has sash-windows (4 large panes each), with a four panel door (1880) and plain fanlight. This cottage is built on the site of the H-dwelling (18th c) (looking S).



6.2 TWENTIETH CENTURY

6.2.1 SAMUEL KERR 1899 – 1917

All the owners are not listed between 1835 and 1896, but we know D.J. Malan (jr.) acquired it from D.J. Malan (father) in 1896 (Clift 2008:16). According to Fransen (1980:38, 39), businessman Sir James Sivewright bought Vergelegen, Harmonie, Altona and Langekloof, which the Irishman Samuel Kerr acquired on 29.3.1901 for £11 404 4s 6d; he also owned 6 surrounding properties since 1899. Apparently he vandalized the old Homestead with inappropriate alterations (Ibid.:39-40). It may have been he who demolished the one barn and the H-dwelling on Harmonie, erecting an Edwardian-like cottage, sited to some extent on its earlier foundations (see Clift 2008:6). Kerr died on 25.4.1905 (aged 62 years) and was buried in the graveyard at Vergelegen. His wife and 8 children lived a few more years at the old Vergelegen homestead and then let the whole place to a farmer De Villiers.



8. View of the cottage from the side with 3 large buttresses and unusual, steel-framed windows (re-used) (looking E).

9. View of the cottage from the back, with its lean-tos. Note the large 18/19th century oak tree, part of the werf of the H-dwelling (looking NW).



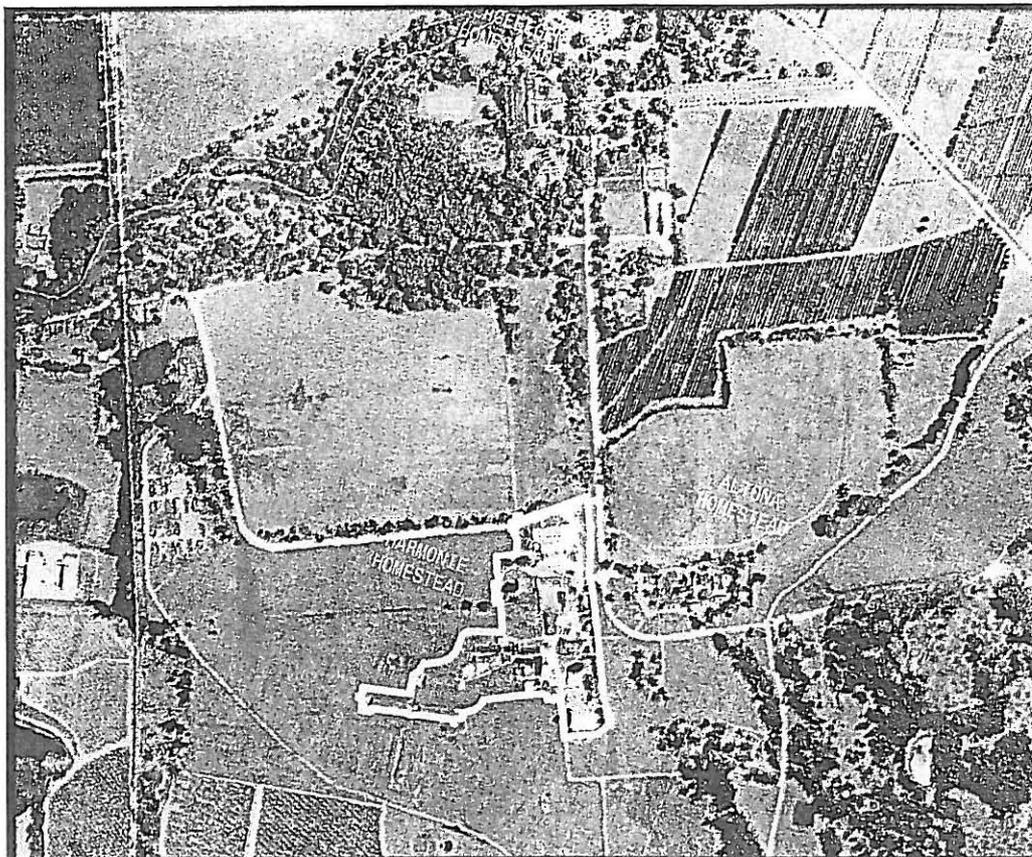


FIG.12 Aerial photograph of the farmyards of Vergelegen (N), Altona (E) and Harmonie (W), the latter outlined in white (Surveyors Friedlander, Burger & Volkmann, 24.8.2008, Ref. SA 744).

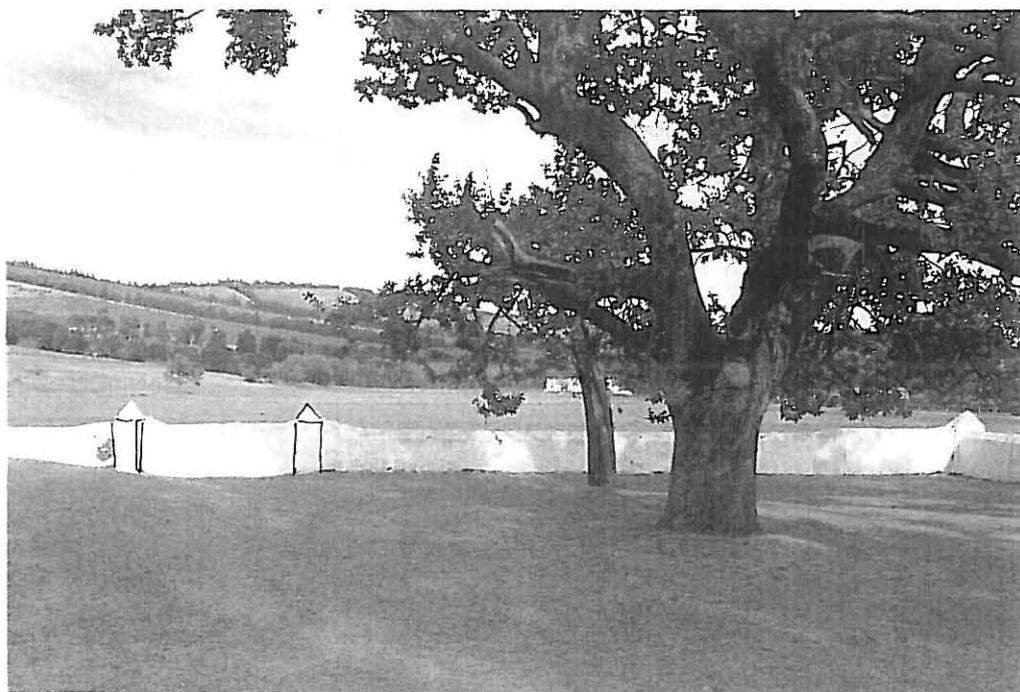


10. South of the Dairy Complex at Harmonie, is a well-worn coach-track with an avenue of cut trees. The old Barn is not visible (looking N).

6.2.2 THE PHILLIPS FAMILY 1917 – 1941

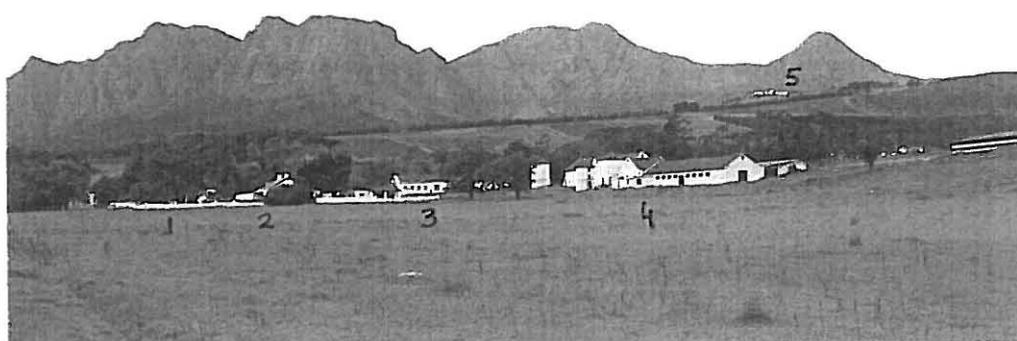
The Jewish adventurer and entrepreneur (in diamonds, gold, mining) Sir Lionel Phillips (1855-1936), bought Vergelegen – and Harmonie – on 31.3.1917 for his wife Dorothy (FIG.12). Dorothea Sarah Florence Alexandra Ortlepp was born in Cape Town in 1863 and died at Vergelegen in 1940). She was an extra-ordinary vibrant woman and both she and Lionel contributed greatly to many spheres in SA: mining, labour relations, land conservation, tree cultivation, animal stock, education, documenting the flora of SA, establishing the *Johannesburg Art Museum and Art School*, the *Michaelis Art Collection* in the restored *Burger Wachthuis* at Cape Town, the *Arts Department* at UCT, the restoration and refurbishing of *Koopmans De Wethuis*, the founding of *Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens*; and both were authors of a number of books on the Cape (Gutsche 1986:557-560). She does not deserve the disparaging remarks made by Fraser (1980).

Lady Phillips arrived in late 1919, but to her dismay her architect J.M. Solomon died in 1920. Consequently, with her new architect C.P. Walgate, they started to implement the restoration plans from November 1922. With the introduction of Kerry and Dexter cattle, primarily at Altona and Harmonie, she had grass and clover planted (Fraser 1980:45). A complex of buildings were erected on Harmonie to accommodate the milch cows, including a cooling tower, a large barn with a ceiling for fodder storage, butchering and milking facilities, etc. The Barn was probably made part of this dairy complex to some degree. Old walls and kraals were demolished or incorporated into this complex (see Baumann & Winter 2008). No viticulture was practised.



11. Portion of the old ringmuur yard of Harmonie on its NW perimeter. Note the blocked-up posted gate, leading to Morgenster (modern buildings in background). The old avenue of trees has retained a few stalwarts from the 18/19th century.

Lady Phillips' health deteriorated after the death of her husband Lionel (at Vergelegen in 1936), and she died in 1940. The temporary farm manager disposed of all livestock, which meant the buildings at Harmonie were standing empty or were under-utilized. In 1937 the farm was resurveyed towards consolidation (SGD 6214/1937), which *Consolidated Uniform Title* (CUT) was issued 27.9.1940, and established 3496m of land (**FIG.13**) (Clift 2008:13).



12. View towards Harmonie (looking E):

1. Farmyard wall (18th/19th c) 2. Cottage 3. Old Barn (>1720)
4. Dairy Complex 5. New wine-cellar (>1990).



13. View towards the Dairy complex (>1920), much dilapidated after many years standing derelict:

1. Barn with loft 2. Square cooling tower 3. Cowshed 4. Milking shed 5. Silo.
On the horizon are the flowing hills of Schapenberg (looking S).

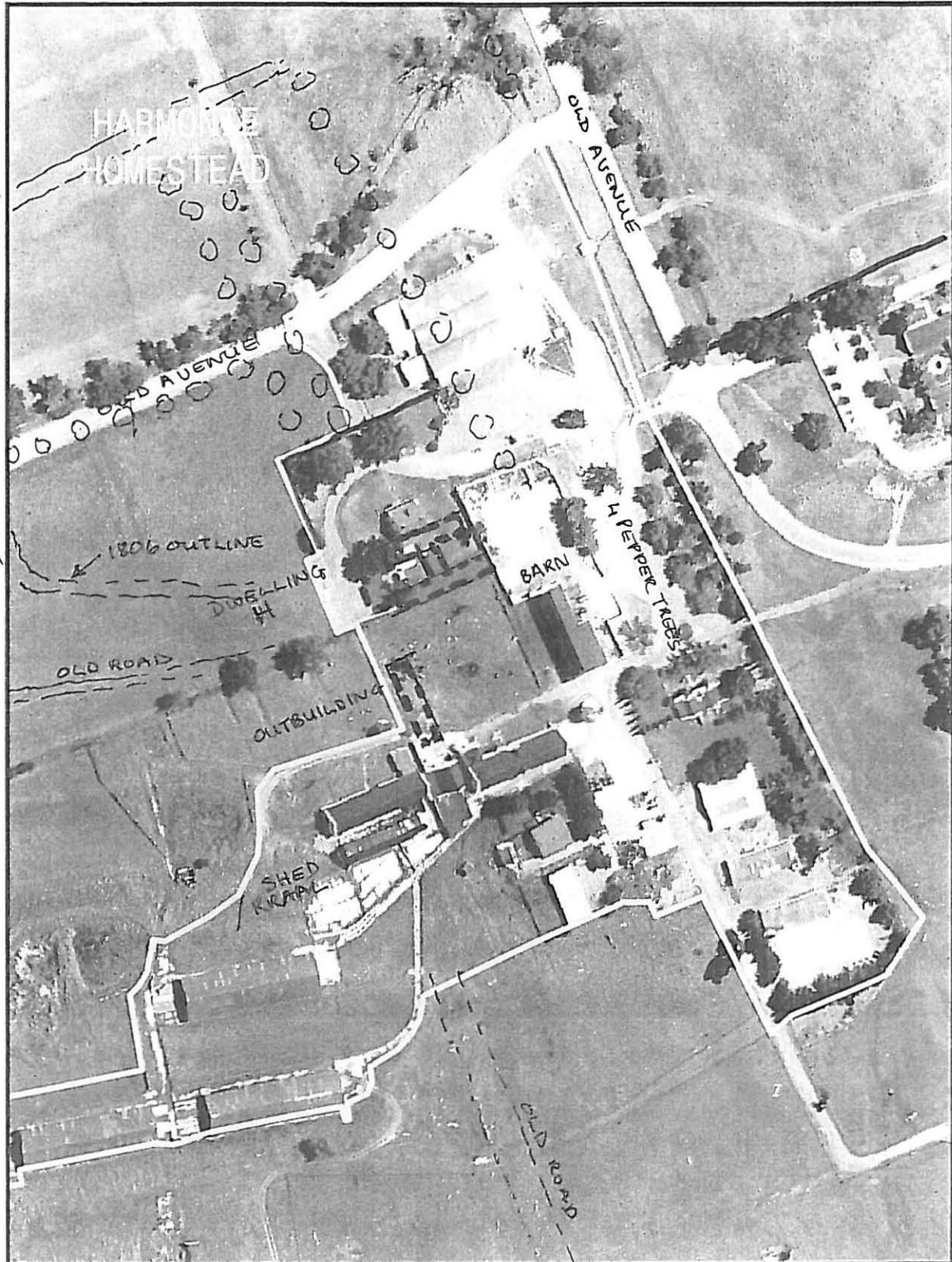


FIG.14 Close-up of Harmonie farmyard. The 18th/19th century werf walls are outlined in red, as is the old Barn (18th). The probable outline of the demolished H-dwelling and Outbuilding are shown (FB&V, 2008; in Snyman 2008: Section *Plans/Diagrams*).

6.2.3 THE BARLOW FAMILY 1941 – 1987

Charles Sydney (Punch) Barlow (born Durban 1905 – died Spain 1979), bought Vergelegen on 9.1.1941 at auction, and soon started renovating the rather derelict farm (Fraser 1980:46/7). Margaret Cynthia Barlow refurbished the homestead with old and new treasures. The Harmonie farmyard and dairy complex gained new life with the acquisition of five Jersey cows, forming the core of the famous Vergelegen "milk trade". Inadvertent poisoning of the cows led to their sale in November 1965.

It was during the 1940/50s that the Barn was turned into a workshop for repairing and servicing farm equipment (Punch started out in SA as a salesman for tractor and agricultural machinery) (Fraser 1988:30/1). On Altona stands an odd building used as a wine-cellar and cheese factory, which was possibly built by 1940s (Fraser 1980:49). When Tom Barlow (son) started farming in 1966, he reused this building as a dairy for his Friesland cows and probably also utilized all the other Dairy buildings on Harmonie (Ibid.:50).

Punch divorced Margaret and the farm was transferred to her on 29.12.1950. It was from her that Anglo American bought Vergelegen Estate in 1987. By the 1990s the Dairy complex was in disuse, but the Barn Workshop had become part of a small bounded yard by itself, as at present (FIG.14).

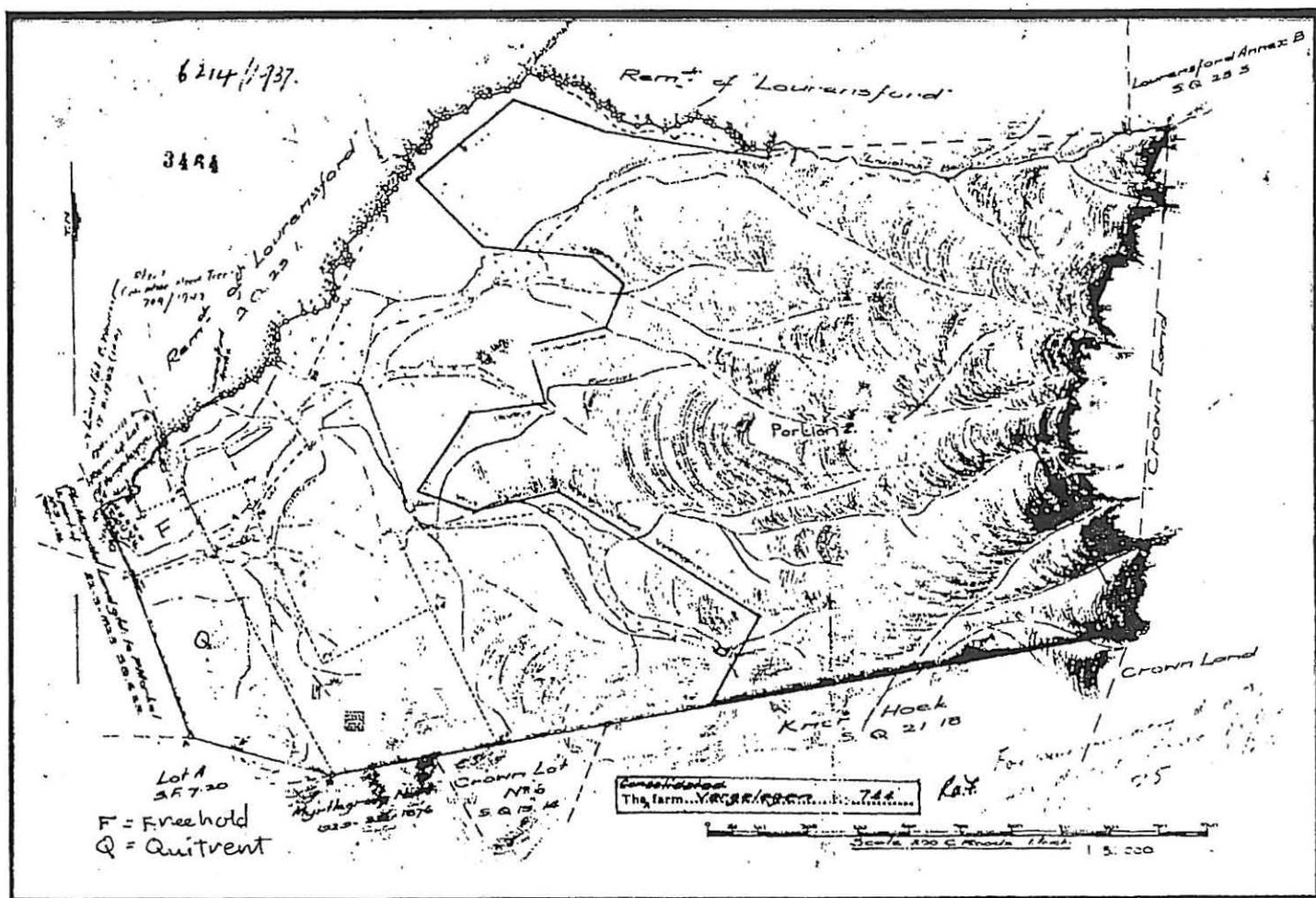


FIG.13 In 1937, at Lionel Phillips' death, the Vergelegen farms were consolidated. Note Harmonie on the far left with Altona adjacent (SGD 6214/1937).

HARMONIE BARN SITE PLAN 2009

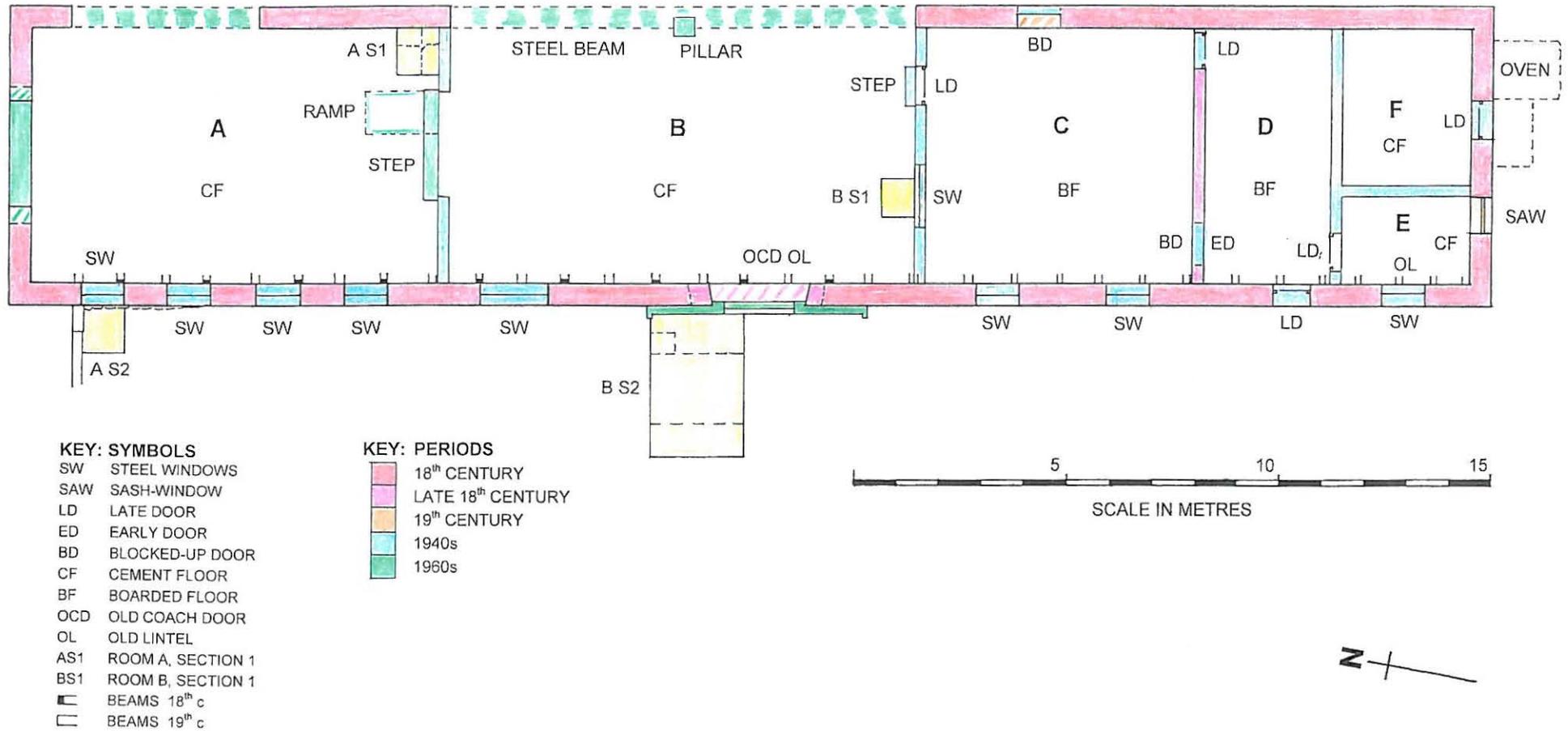


FIG.15 Site plan of the Harmonie Barn with a chronological interpretation and archaeological excavations. Note the lean-tos which distort its original outlay (Architect Goddard 2008; amendments Vos 2009).

7. STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATIONS: THE BARN

7.1 DESCRIPTION

The 18th century Barn is situated in the centre of the Industrial Farm werf of Harmonie. On the aerial photograph the approximate position of the demolished opposing Outbuilding and Homestead are outlined (see FIG.14).

The Barn constitutes a long outbuilding 34.6m long and 6.85m wide (exterior measurements), with wall widths of about 52cm. Its outer walls are built in ferricrete (*koffieklip*) and plastered either in clay (18th), lime plaster of different periods (18/19th) and gritty lime cement (early 20th). Above the circa 3.3m high wall is a modern (>1985), pitched corrugated roof, the previous one swept off by the wind (FIG.15). The interior floors are at three different levels, as the building slopes down from south to north. The three floor areas are:

- A: Service pit for vehicles.
- B: Workshop, with the eastern wall demolished.
- C D E F: Administrative office, store, bathroom and electrical room.

Throughout the Barn's length (A-F) the ceiling consists of beams, either poplar (round) or of indigenous wood (square-like).

The building had a make-over between 1940-50, and the fenestration on the west exhibits regularly spaced steel windows, with all earlier openings blocked-up. Lean-to extensions on the east are all post-1920 or 1950, and give the appearance of a larger building. Their functions are related to the main Workshop, e.g. various stores, workshops or administration offices (see also B&W 2008:13; evaluation of structures) (FIG.16, FIG.17).

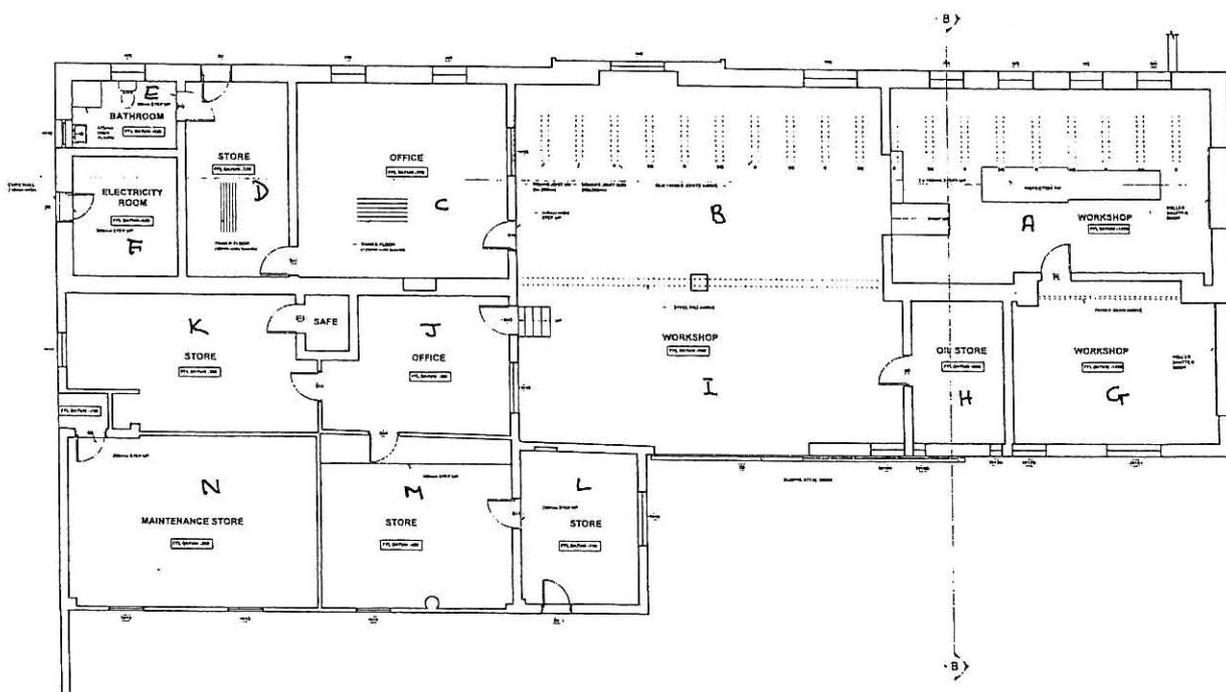
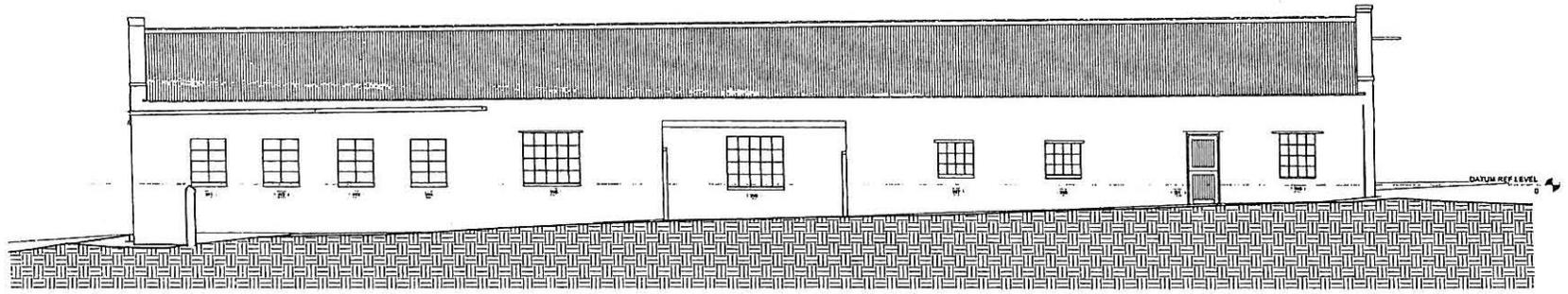
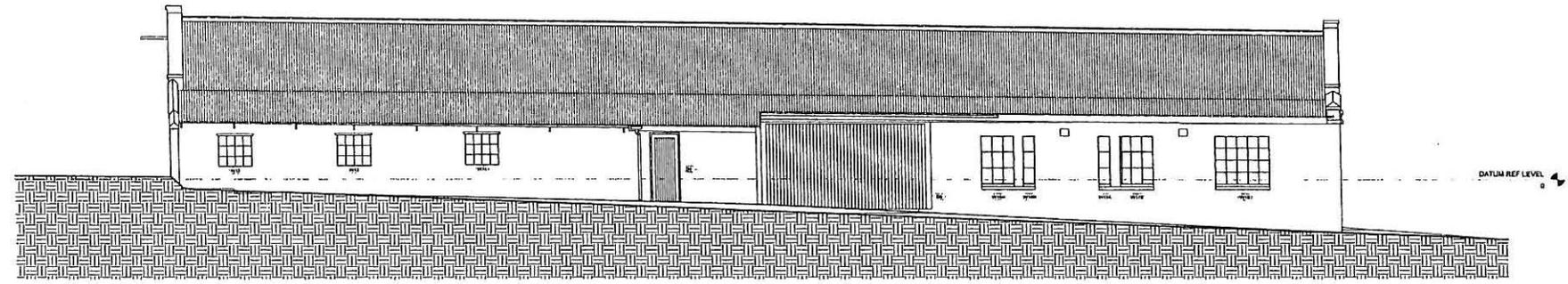


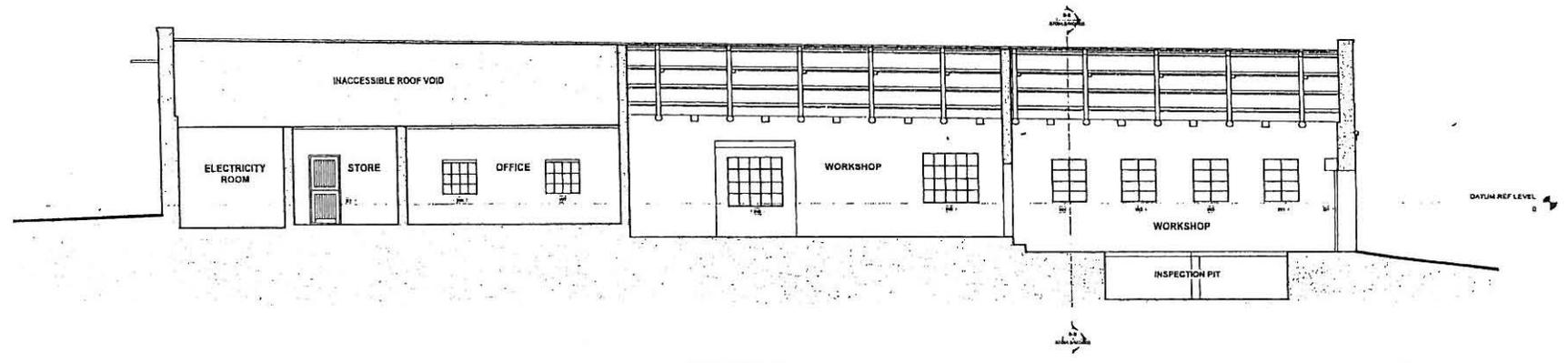
FIG.16 Site plan of the existing Barn as documented by the architect, with functional room layout (Architect Goddard 2008).



WEST ELEVATION
 1:50 @ A0
 1:100 @ A2
 1:200 @ A4



EAST ELEVATION
 1:50 @ A0
 1:100 @ A2
 1:200 @ A4

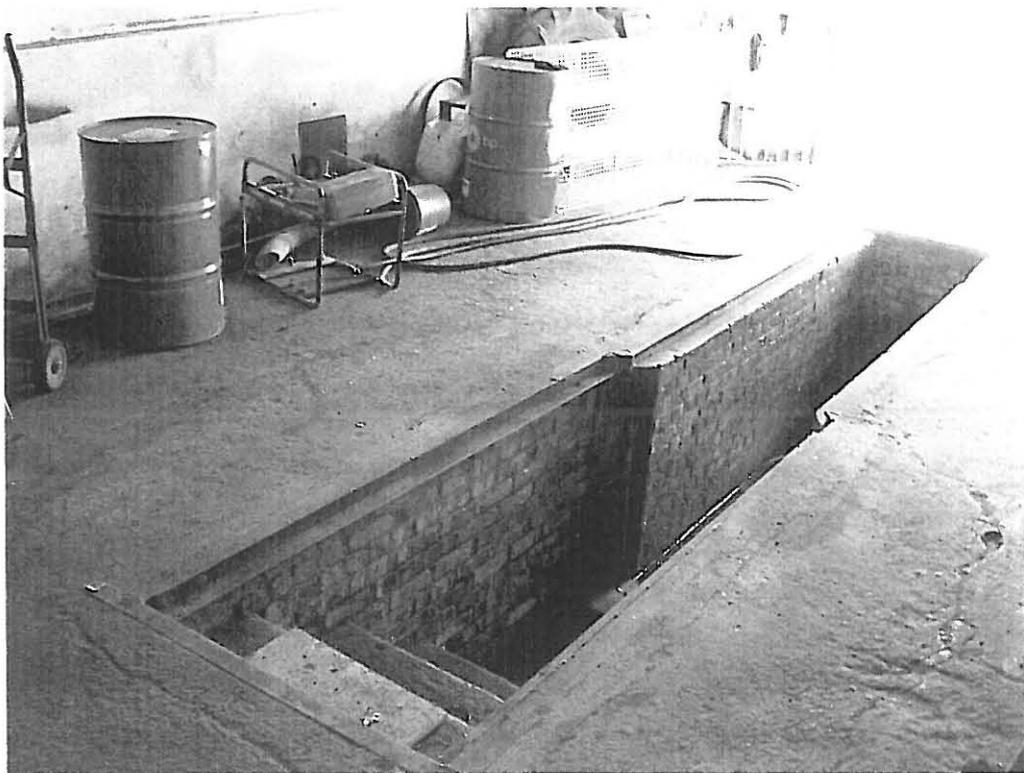


SECTION A-A

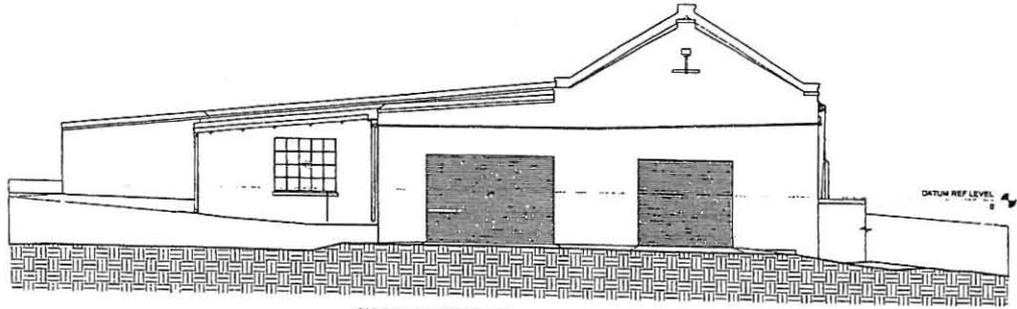
FIG.17 Elevation drawings of the Barn. Note the 3 different heights in Section A-A (Architect Goddard 2008).



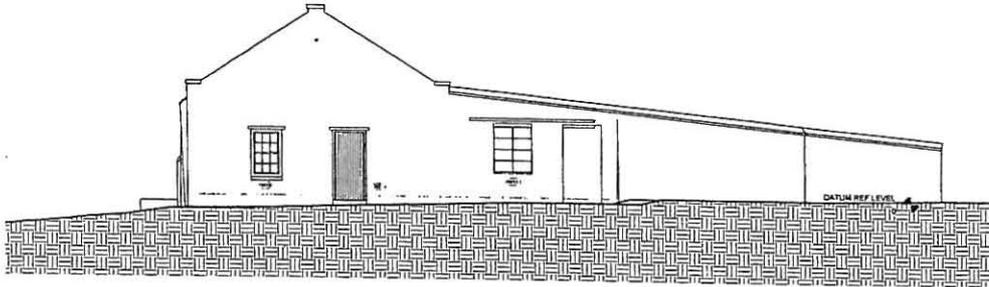
15. Same Room A, looking through a large opening with steps towards Room B. The beams alternate between square hardwoods (18th) and round poplars (19th) (looking S).



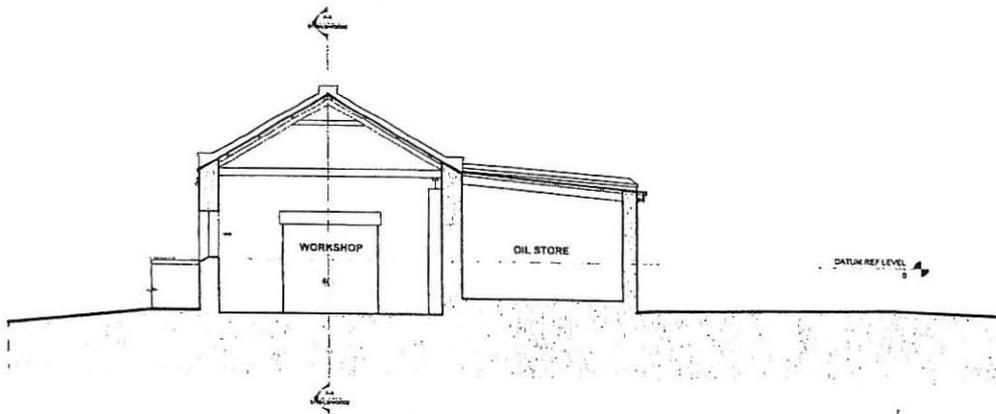
14. The Barn, Room A, with its >1940 oil pit, sunk into the old clay floor, with a cement topping (looking NW) (It can easily be filled in).



NORTH ELEVATION
1:50 @ A0
1:100 @ A1
1:300 @ A4

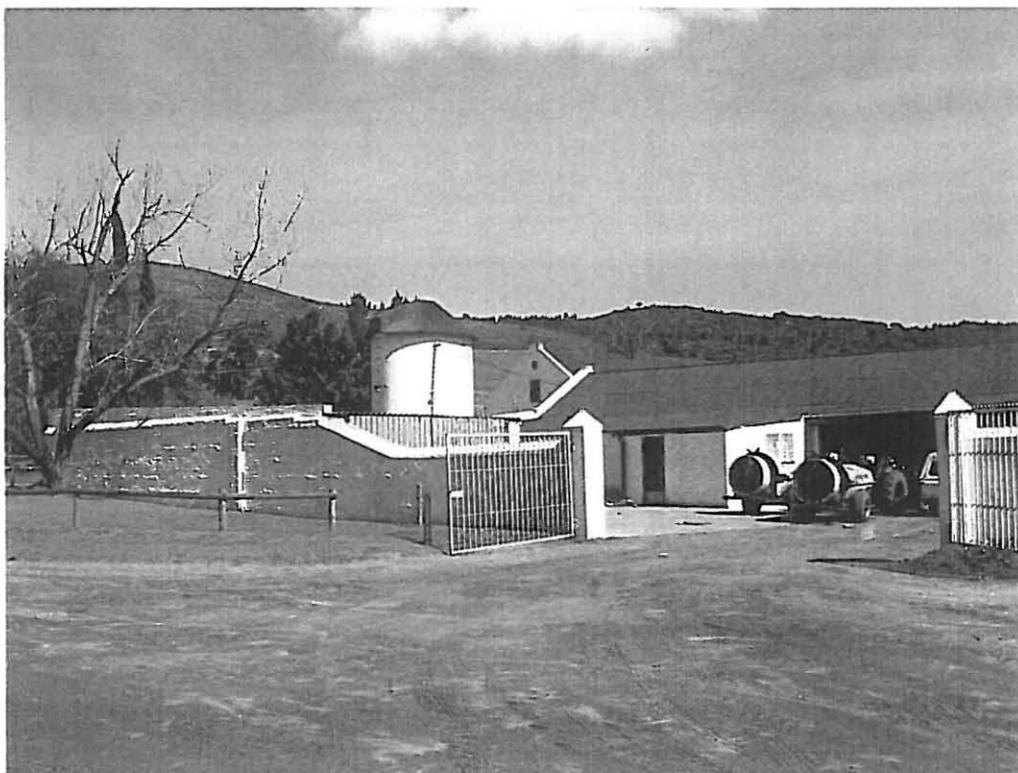


SOUTH ELEVATION
1:50 @ A0
1:100 @ A1
1:300 @ A4



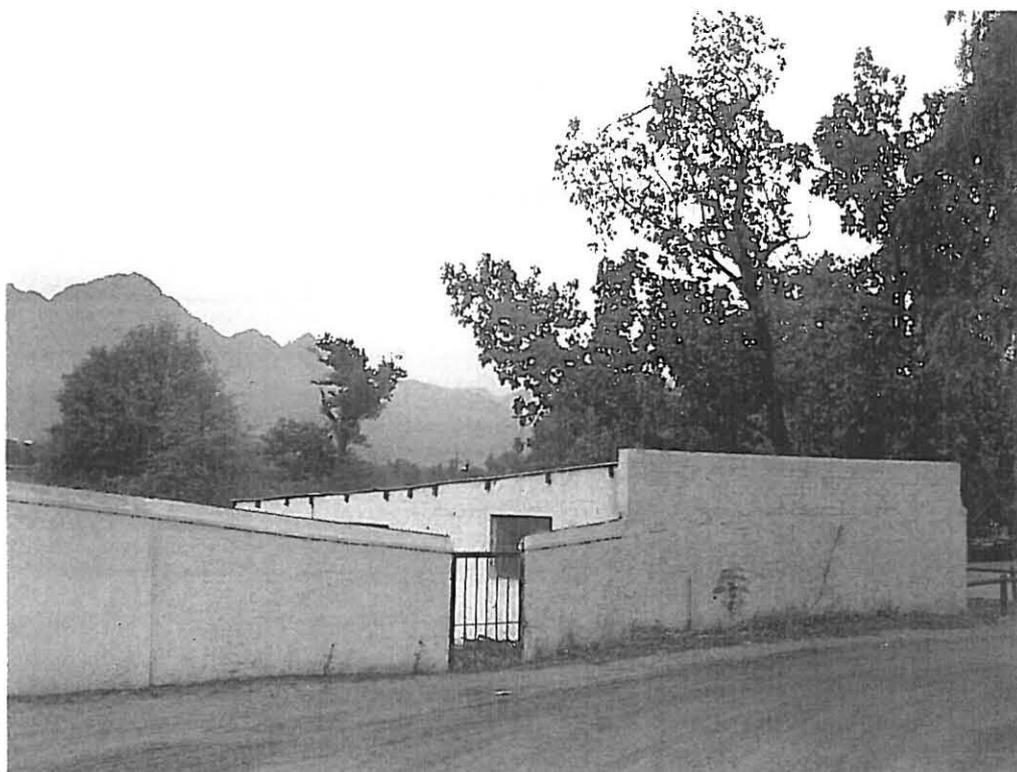
SECTION B-B
1:50 @ A0
1:100 @ A1

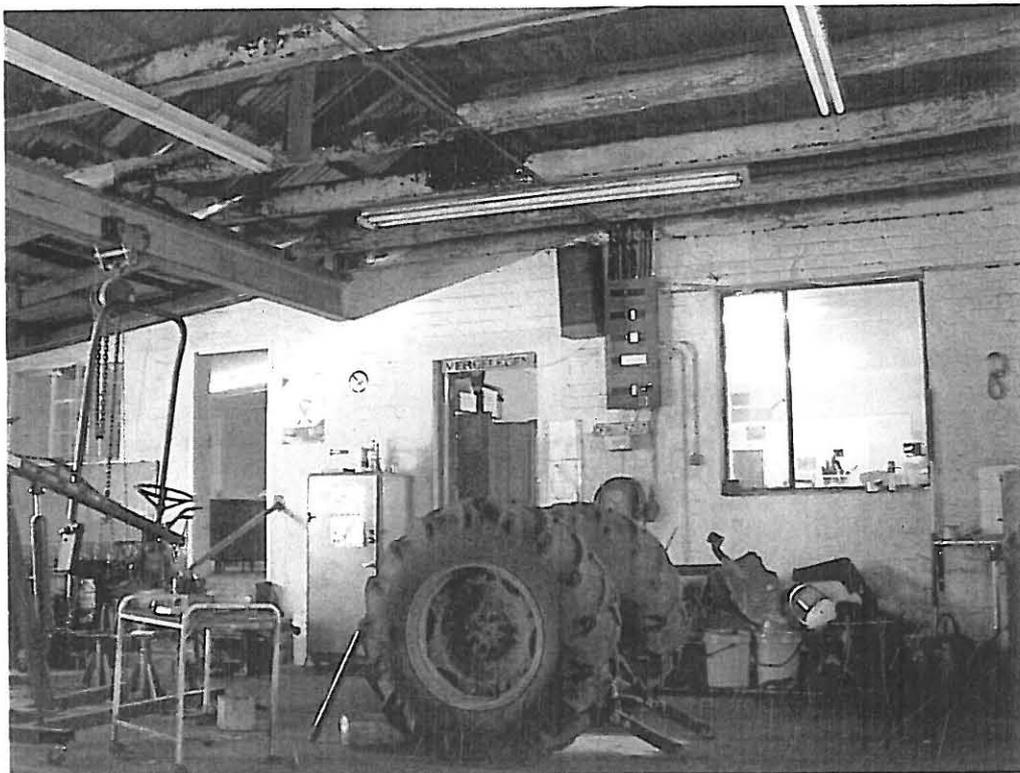
FIG.18 Various elevations and a cross-section of the barn in its width (Architect Goddard 2008).



16. View towards the modern lean-to's against the Barn (centre), with >1950 high boundary walls. The site formed part of the Dairy Complex (looking W).

17. Immediately east of the old Barn are these late 20th century walls and storage buildings (looking NE).

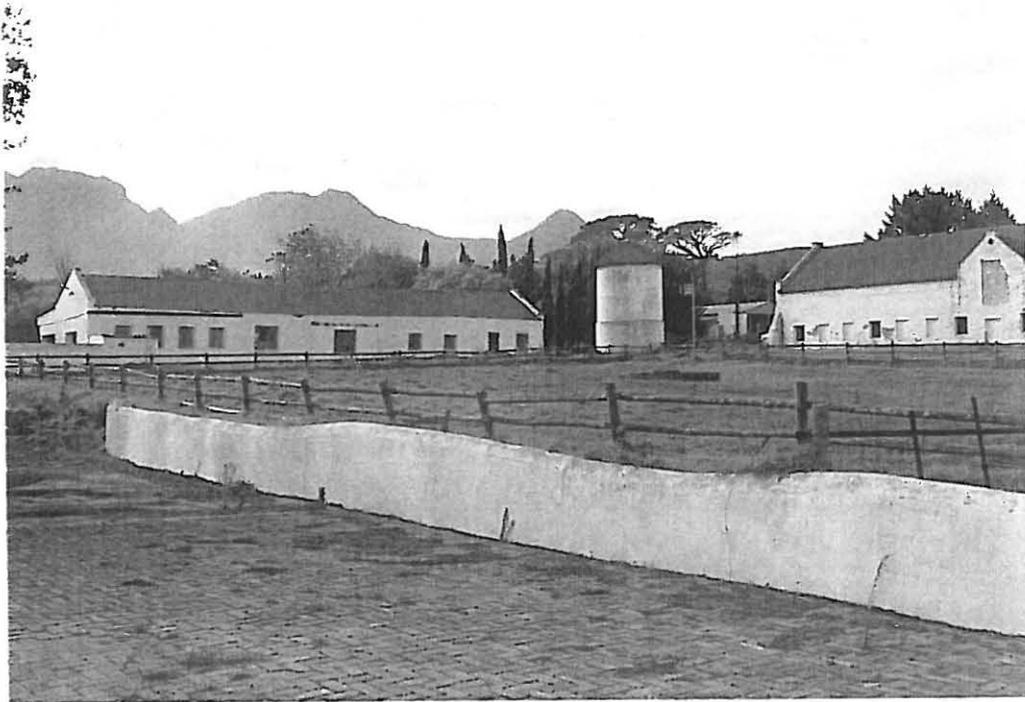




18. Room B has been particularly damaged by the workshop alterations of >1940. Nonetheless, in the rafters the old square and round beams are still in position. The wall (east) has been demolished and replaced by a yellow steel girder (looking S).

19. Another view of Room B, looking west, from the lean-to. Note again the steel girder, where the exterior wall would have been.





20. The long Barn with its intact walls and beams is in close proximity to the Silo and Dairy Complex. The undulating wall in front is modern and thin (30cm) (looking E).

21. The old barn (right) has a modern yard directly north of it, with the Green Cottage at the approximate site of the 18th c H-dwelling (looking N).

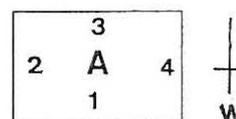


7.2 METHODOLOGY

During the rehabilitation and renovation process, and in particular of the wall investigations, new information will certainly be gathered which will confirm, add or challenge the results obtained up to now. Such information will override any of the conclusions reached in this report.

The methodology in analysing the building was as follows:

1. A very accurate ground plan of the building was drawn up by Architect Goddard, which forms the basis of all other interpretations (Architect's plan with amendments).
2. The different building materials (brick, stone, mortar and plaster), as well as wall thicknesses, are taken into account in determining the approximate age of the various architectural elements. I generally term this the *archaeotectural approach*, where archaeological techniques are used on above-ground architecture.
3. Archaeological excavations in the interior were possible (2 sections) and on the exterior (2 sections), and were conducted by Harriet Clift (2009) (**Add.5**).
4. To facilitate reference to specific walls or features, each room is designated by a letter of the alphabet and the walls are then numbered in a clockwise direction from WEST, the old façade fenestration. For example, the designation A3 indicates Room A, wall 3.



5. The different Rooms of the building will be discussed separately, but also taking into account their broad development over time, i.e. 18th, 19th and 20th century.



22. In this view of the Barn, the lean-to on its eastern flank, gives the impression of a much bigger building. Note the steel windows in the lean-to (looking S).

8. CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

8.1 EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

8.1.1 STRUCTURAL DATING

When exactly the building was erected during the 18th century is not clear. The historical data conflicts with the structural evidence, according to my interpretation of the building materials. The date of erection could be 1720s:

1. Barn built completely in stone to eaves height, an early 18th century technique. Generally by the mid 18th century brick for the upper $\frac{2}{3}$ would have been used.

2. The square beams (in Rooms A + B) appear to be indigenous or otherwise exotic (from Europe or SE Asia). Both these materials are indicators of the early 18th century.

3. The rough square beams are sawed, and not adzed. This evidence is ambivalent at Vergelegen, for Van der Stel had ample labour and mills by which the beams could have been sawed. Generally sawed beams are of the late 18th or mostly 19th century.

4. The brick sizes used in the building are only visible at:

- 1) Wide door opening B1 (>1760s) (h: 70mm)
- 2) The end gable EF4 (>1730s) (h: 65-70mm)
- 3) The dividing wall C4 (>1750s) (h: 65-75mm)

(At the Octagonal wall (1686) bricks were 55-60mm high.)

5. The stone wall eaves are about 2.75m high, which is rather low for post mid-18th century outbuildings. At Vergelegen where labour was plentiful, buildings would have been built higher than the minimum 2.5 metres of early 18th century colonial structures. Generally walls are easily 3m high during the first half of the 18th century.

6. The foundations are particularly shallow, as determined by Cliff at two different exterior walls.

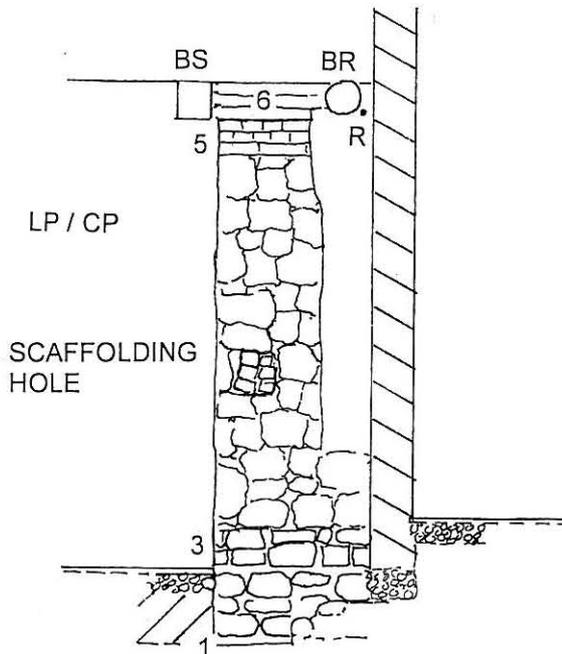
- 1) Section B3: East wall, interior:
Depth below stone plinth: 45cm.
- 2) Section A1: West wall, exterior:
Depth below stone plinth: 45cm.

Such shallow stone foundations in river cobbles are more common during the first half of the 18th century. Later they are easily 70-100cm deep.

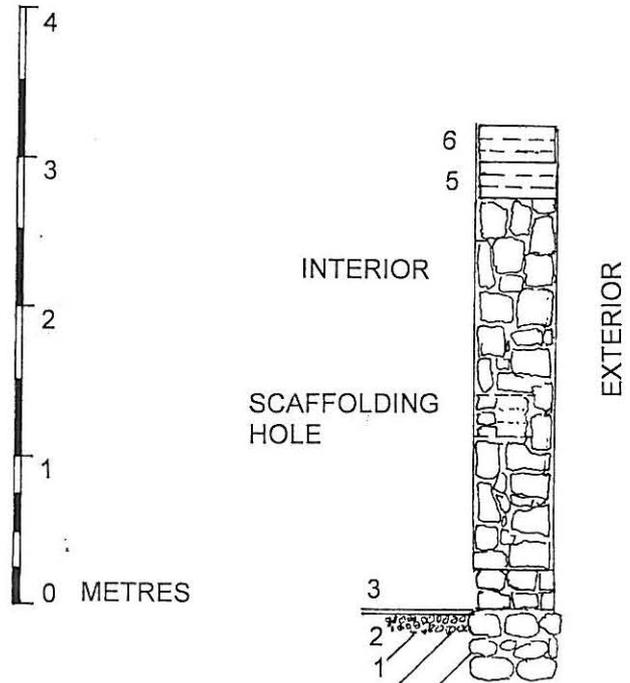
Note, at the Octagonal wall (1686) the foundations were a mere 40cm deep, very similar as at the Barn.

A number of questions would not be resolved unless plaster stripping over the full length and width of the building are done (see FIG.21).

ROOM A / B
INTERIOR VIEW
LOOKING EAST



ROOM A
CROSS-SECTION
WALL A3



WALL STRATIGRAPHY

1. DARK LOAM CLAYS, in situ
old 18th c surface destroyed
2. SUB-SURFACE RIVER STONE,
with slight plinth mid 18th
3. MOUNTAIN SANDSTONE,
Angular, in dark clay mortar
4. FERRICRETE CHUNKS
in dark clay mortar mid 18th
Plastered with 2 layers of clay;
upper layer with white-wash
5. ORANGE FIRED BRICK
in dark brown mortar late 18th
6. FIRED BRICK, PLASTERED
with yellow clays 19th

FLOOR LAYERS

1. DARK LOAM CLAYS 18th
2. BASE LAYER OF PEBBLES
In coarse lime cement 1940s
3. CEMENT SCREET 1940s

KEY: SYMBOLS

BS	BEAM SQUARE	18 th
BR	BEAM ROUND	19 th
R	IRON ANCHOR ROD	20 th
LP	LIME PLASTER	
CP	CEMENT PLASTER	

FIG.19 Wall excavation of Room A3 in the corner, showing the stratigraphic units of construction materials (Vos 2009).

8.1.2 STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

The **wall construction** is as follows, with reference to Section A3 (**FIG.18**).

1. Low river stone **foundations** of 45cm below the surface, sunk into a terribly hard clay loam. The cobbles were easily obtainable from the river and laid in about 3 rows with the dark clay dagha.

2. A 25cm high **sandstone footing** of dressed stone, from the foothills of the Schapenberg, was built above the plinth surface. These stones acted as a waterproofing and level surface for the above wall in ferricrete.

3. The primary **wall** was built in “**dressed**” **ferricrete** (*koffieklip*) with a thickness of 50cm (excluding the plaster). It was closely packed with smaller pieces in-between, also in a dark clay mortar. These stones are a pedocrete, which were (and still are) found in quantity on the surface of the landscape. It is thus clear that the stones were all easily obtainable from the direct environment. In addition the walls are superbly built as by skilled labourers.

4. The wall is smeared with a rough **plaster** layer of brown clay, followed by another thin similar layer, with relic signs that it was white-washed. This is more obvious at the wall section of A1 (partial exposure).

5. Though not enough plaster had been stripped, I suspect the beams would have rested level “within” the eaves of the stone wall. When the light falls correctly, there are signs in the plaster that this interpretation is viable.

6. The early **beam** construction (no ceiling) is not clear. Indigenous trees were cut from these valley and Kloofs from the 1680s for Stellenbosch buildings (e.g. – Church, mill and Drostdy). It would be more economically to cut trees locally and dressed them squarely, particularly for an outbuilding.

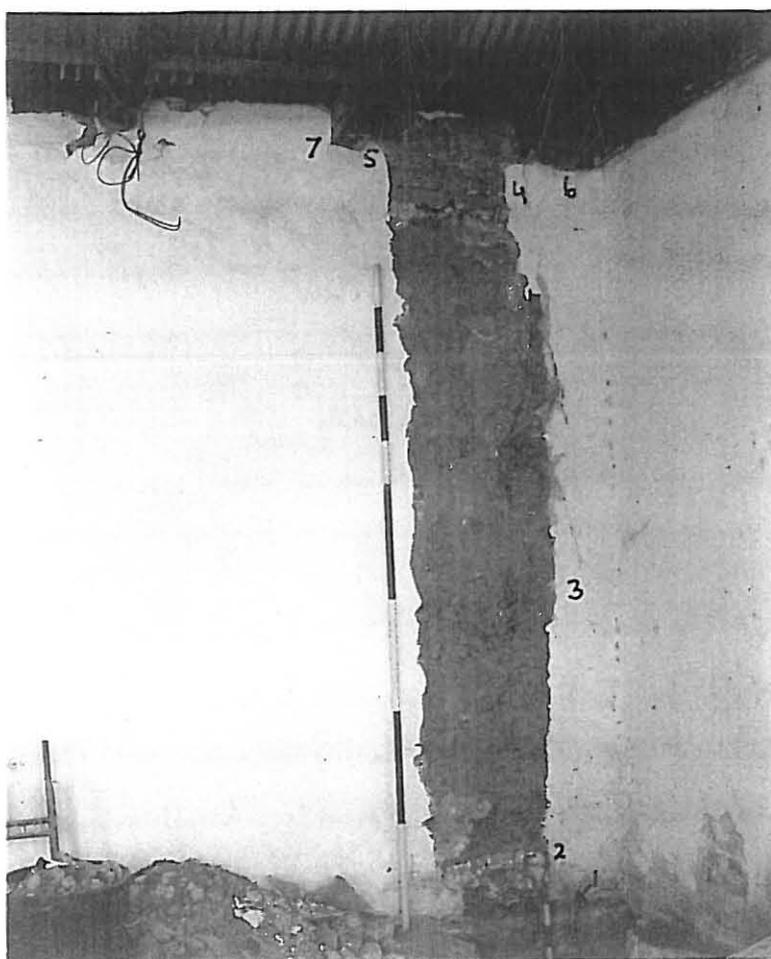
There are 11 such beams with sawed marks on certain sides, spaced about 2m apart, the general width of early “*gebinten*”. Relatively few beams were used in the Vergelegen outbuildings as recorded in the 1712 CD. The Barn beams are of a hardy, splintering wood, but unidentified. All are burnt black and are certainly reused in the extant building. I suspect they were contemporary with the earliest Barn.

7. The **floors** would have been hard clay, generally used throughout the 18th century. In Section A3, the upper portion of 15cm was replaced with a concrete cement floor during the 1940s. No original surface clays were thus encountered by Clift. In Room B, Section B4, below the concrete floor, there appeared to be signs of trampled layers above the *in situ* dark clay substrata. Unfortunately no excavation was done in the third level (ACDEF), which is covered by late floorboards (CD), which could possibly show some earlier surfaces. Clift's excavations are important and are fully included (**Add.5**).



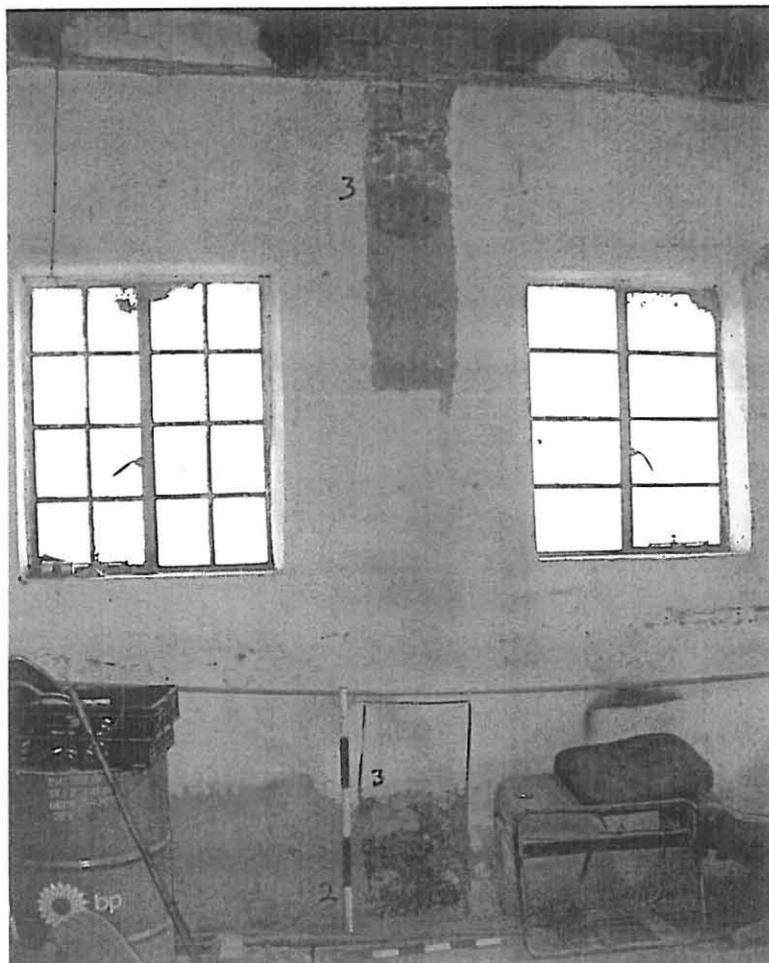
23, 24. In Room A3, corner, a portion of lime plaster was stripped vertically, revealing the:

1. Plinth and cobbling foundation.
2. Dressed sandstone footing (white "lime"/ mould).
3. Ferricrete wall with mud plastering (2 layers, one with white-washed patches).
4. Brick layers in brown mortar.
5. Upper brick layer with yellow mud plaster.
6. Poplar beam with iron rod (>1940) next to it.
7. Square hardwood beam, with soot (scales: 2m, 1m)(looking E).





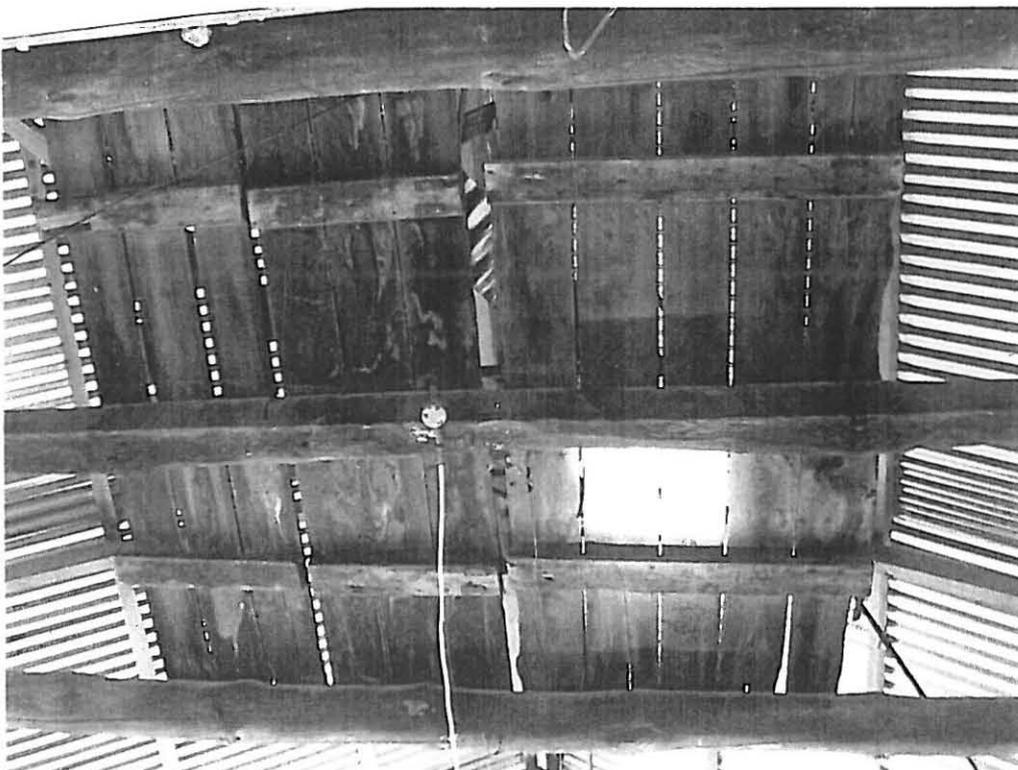
25, 26. In Room A1, a portion of **cement** plaster was chiseled off to reveal a similar constructed wall. 1. Cement floor 2. Sandstone below 3. Ferricrete 4. Bricklayers in brown mortar 5. Upper brick with mud plaster (scales 1m, 50cm) (looking W).

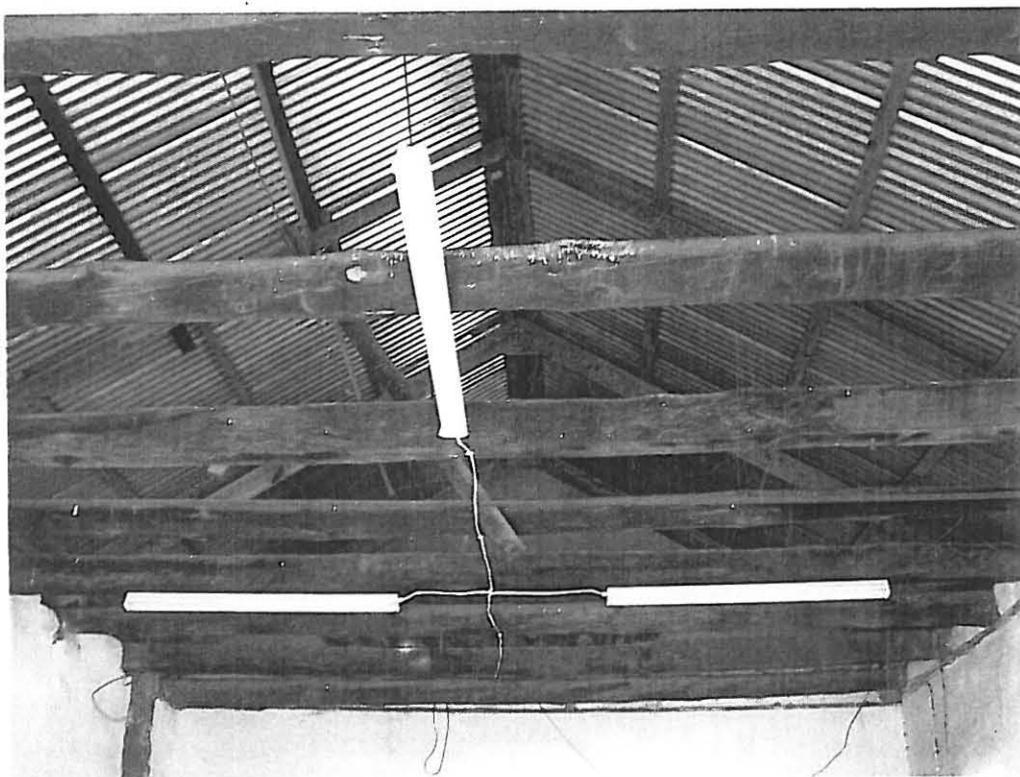




27. In Room A the steel windows (>1940) are regularly spaced in the old 52cm wall, cut into the 18th c ferricrete wall. Earlier openings are likely. Above the alternate beams the ceiling boards are absent (looking NW).

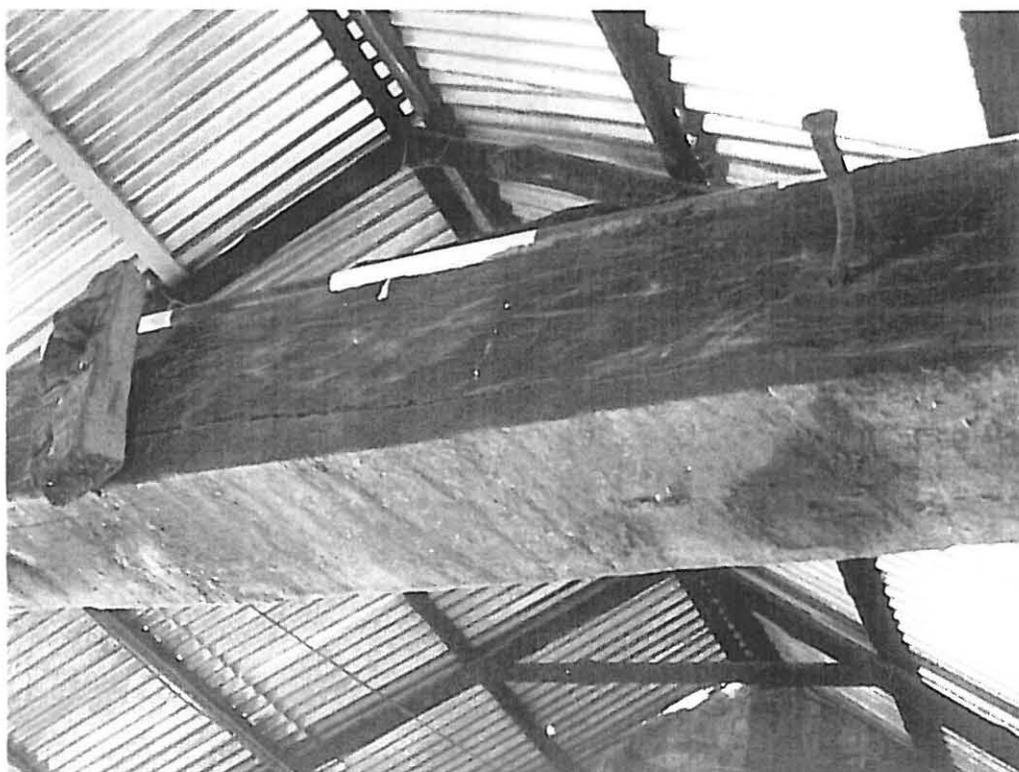
28. A number of pine ceiling boards (19th c?), some much blackened by fire, have been reused by being nailed together in broad strips (looking S and upwards).

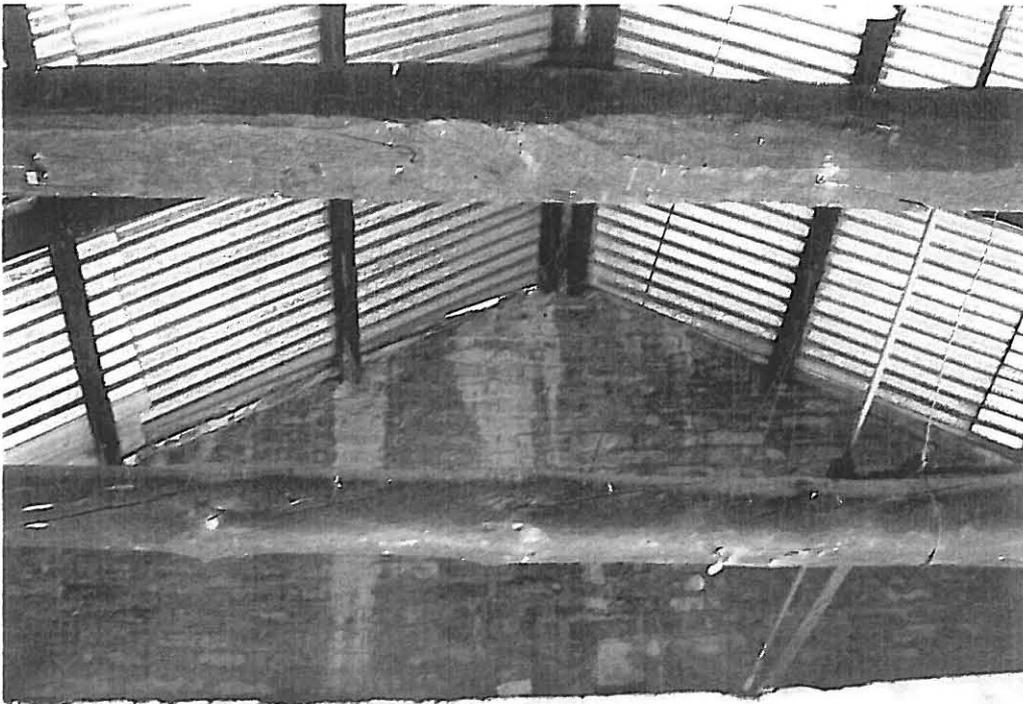




29. In Room A the alternating beams (square and round) give an indication of how intact the old Barn is (looking N).

30. Close-up of a square beam with an old nail (right) and a piece of wood, also with a nail. Note the "sawed" marks at the base and the blackened blotches (Room A).





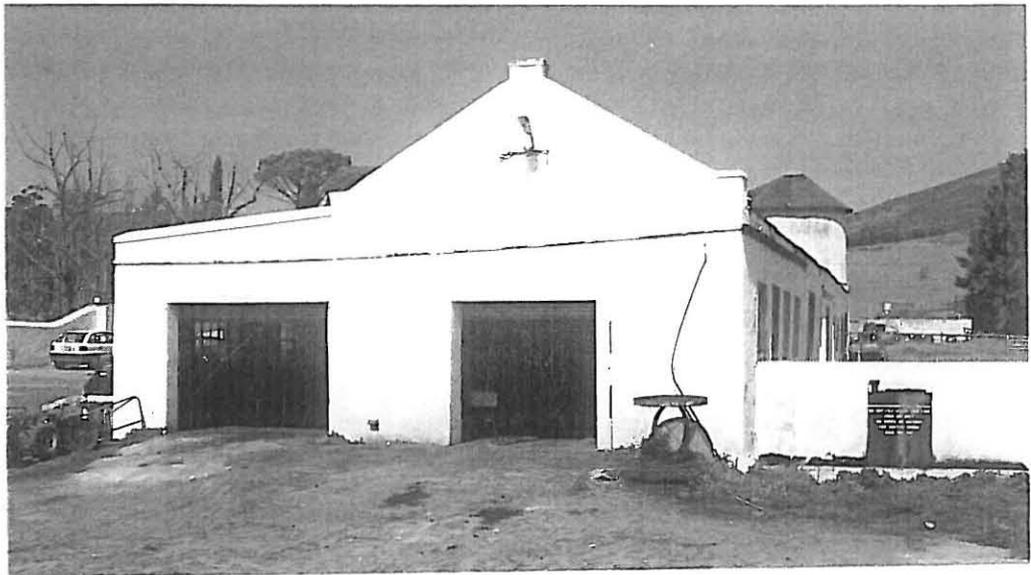
31. The end gable of Room A2 has been rebuilt in modern brick (>1960) (looking N).

32. In Room B2, the dividing wall is also in modern brick and cement mortar (scale 1m) (looking N).



8.1.3 ENDGABLES AND WALLS

1. The endwall in Room A2 is built in stone and the small exterior plaster strip revealed a large granite stone, indicating possibly a wall built in dressed granite, or of granite/ferricrete. The garage door opening is of 1940s with modern brick as reveals. Was there an earlier door or coach-door opening? The fact that granite is used here, while ferricrete in the rest of the building may indicate an early opening (18th century). But post the ferricrete period. A large portion of wall A3 has been demolished, but the extant portion indicates a solid wall, as the "back" of the building. The upper portion of the upper gable A2 is in c.1940 brickwork.

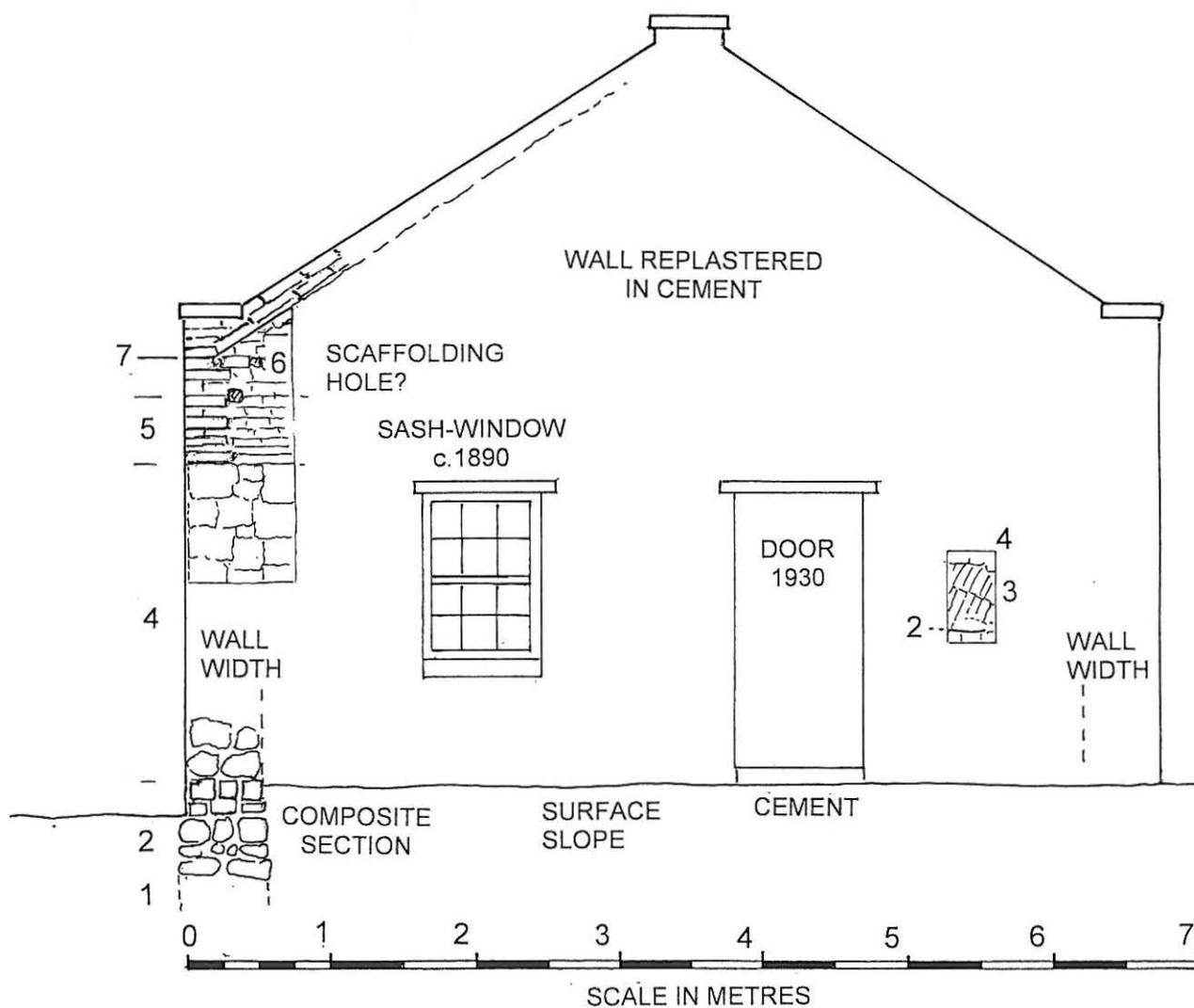


33. A clear view of the modern northern coach-door entrances of the Barn (scale 2m) (looking S).



34. Close-up of the right side of the after 1940 door opening. An extremely hard cement plaster, with mesh below, covered the old stone wall. The exposed stone is granite, with modern brickwork as a reveal (scales 1m, 50cm) (looking SW).

HARMONIE BARN
SOUTHERN ENDGABLE
LOOKING NORTH



STRATIGRAPHY OF WALL

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. HARD CLAY LOAMS, in situ | pre-colonial |
| 2. COBBLE STONE FOUNDATIONS | } 18 th |
| 3. DRESSED SANDSTONE BASE | |
| 4. FERRICRETE WALL | |
| 5. FIRED ORANGE BRICK, flat: 55 mm | mid-18 th |
| 6. FIRED ORANGE BRICK, flat: 60-70mm | late-18 th |
| 7. LIME PLASTER LINE | c.1890 – 1910? |
| 8. FIRED ORANGE BRICK, flat | c.1890 – 1910? |

KEY TO OVEN

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. MODERN BRICK & CEMENT | >1900 |
| filled in below plate | |
| 2. IRON PLATE, blackened | mid 18 th |
| 3. OCHRE OBLIQUE BRICK, | mid 18 th |
| raw or low-fired | |
| 4. FERRICRETE WALL | early? to mid 18 th |

FIG.20 Exterior wall elevation of endgable EF4 with a section of the possible oven on the right (looking N) (Vos 2009).



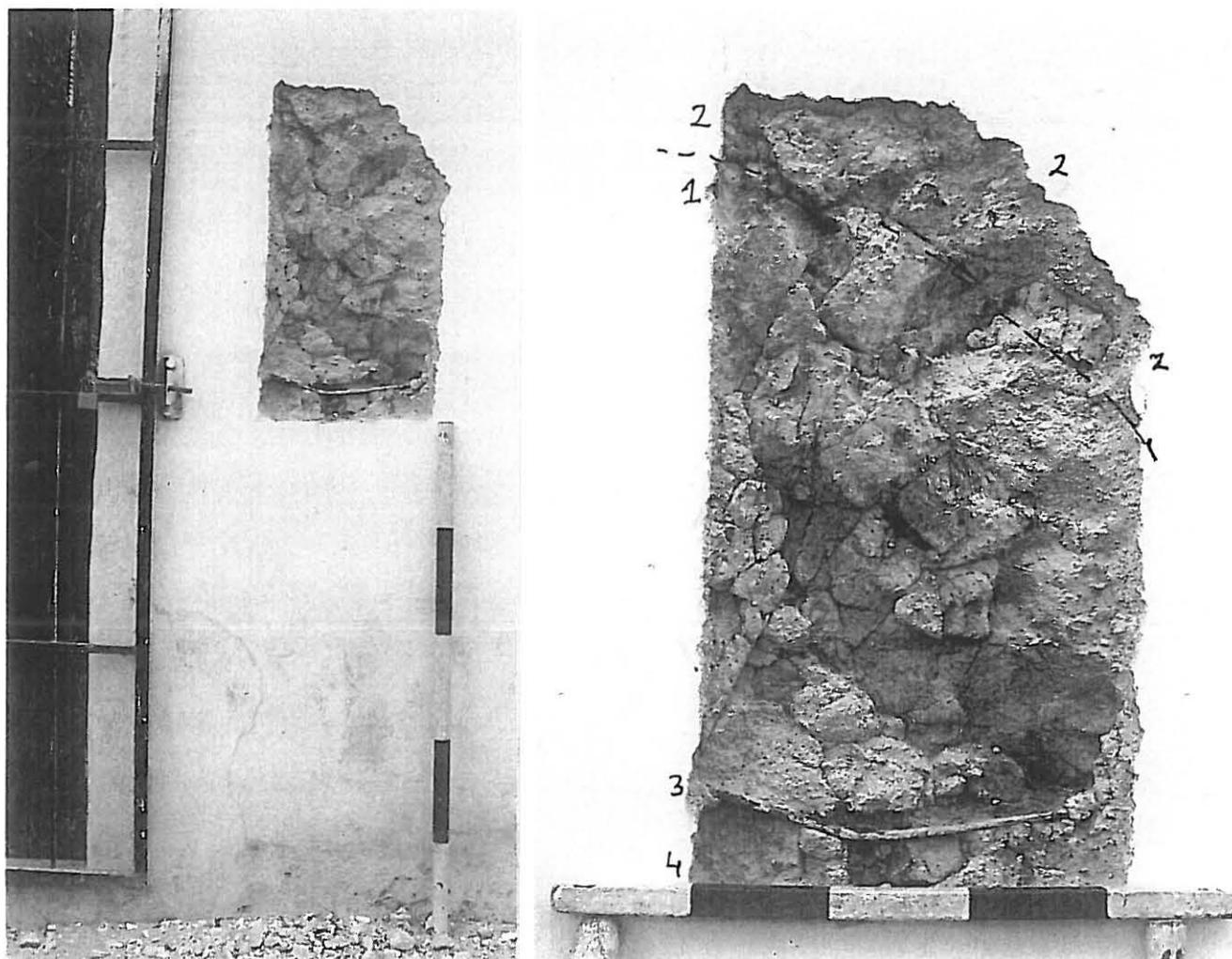
35. View of the southern endgable, with some plaster stripping visible.
(Compare with FIG.20)

1. left corner
2. oven area
3. Door leads to the electrical Room F
(scales 2m, 1m)(looking N).

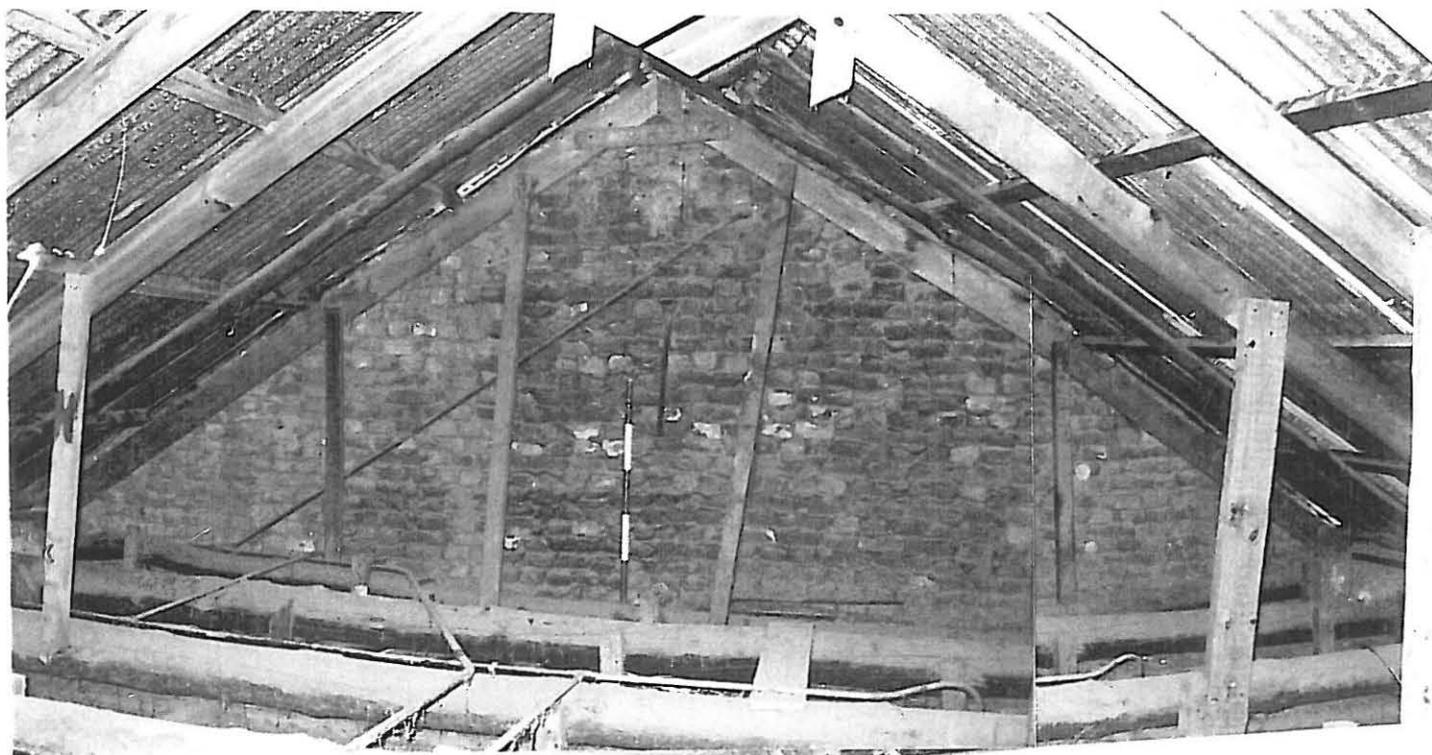
2. **Wall EF4** is of greater interest (**FIG.20**). Some plaster has been exposed on the **exterior** only. Once again the ferricrete is built-up to an height of 2.75m (same as in A3). Note that the old exterior surface is filled up with 25cm of gravel clay, which prevents one from observing any old artefacts or cobbling. The sash-window and door are of 19th/20th century, but earlier openings are possible.

An **oven opening** is of great importance in E4. A small section east of the door revealed oblique clays or clay brick (raw or low-fired) above an exposed portion of iron plate, all of the 18th century. Above the oblique brickwork (like a relieving arch?) are the ferricrete of the wall. Below the blackened iron plate the space is filled-up with hard brick and cement-like mortar, indicating the exterior oven was demolished after 1920s.

On the **interior of the upper gable** there is no indication of a chimney line, though there are black soot patches. The interior gable was unplastered, as was common. According to my interpretation the chimney was thus built-up on the exterior, with a bulging oven as a major feature (**Add.6**).



36, 37. Below the plaster, a very brittle clay brick was exposed, laid in an oblique manner, like a relieving arch (1). Ferricrete (2) overlay it. At the base is the iron plate (3), blackened, as is portions of the brown brick. Below the plate, the old oven opening (4) has been filled with modern brick (scales 1m, 50cm) (looking N).



38. A composite view of the interior of the upper gable (south) of Wall EF4. As usual, the inner wall is not plastered, affording the view of a two period brick layer, the earlier below with flatter bricks. All the beams are poplar, overlain with fine grey dust (scale 1m) (looking S).

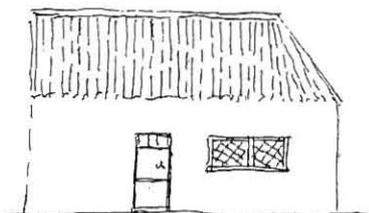


39, 40. The corner of the endgable reveals:

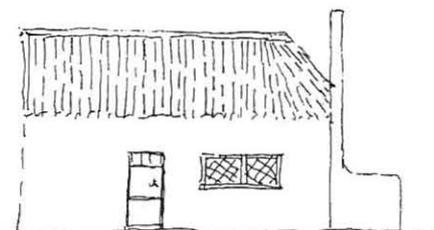
1. Ferricrete.
2. Thin brick layers.
3. Thick brick layers (hole = scaffolding hole?)
4. Plaster line of 40°.
5. Brick at 40° parallel to gable line.

The **upper endgable** may have developed as follows (very speculative):

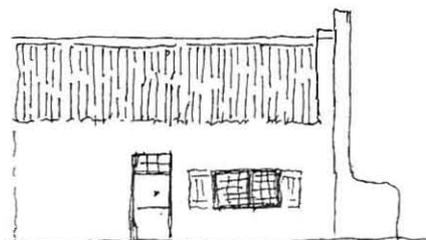
1. > 1720? Possibly started as a fully hipped endgable, typical of the Pioneer period. Lead-camed windows were common.



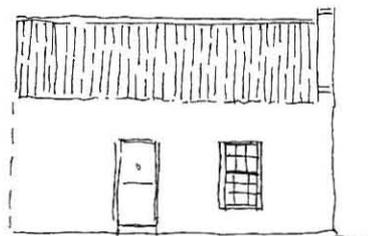
2. > 1750 Built as a half-hipped endgable, as there appears to be a break above the lower flat bricks (55mm) of the early 18th century on the interior. Above them are reused bricks (early and later), some with earlier white-wash on the bricks only.



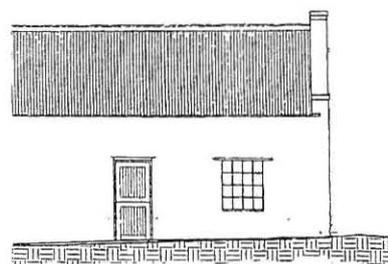
3. > 1770 End gable built of chimney type. Windows with wooden muntins and shutters.



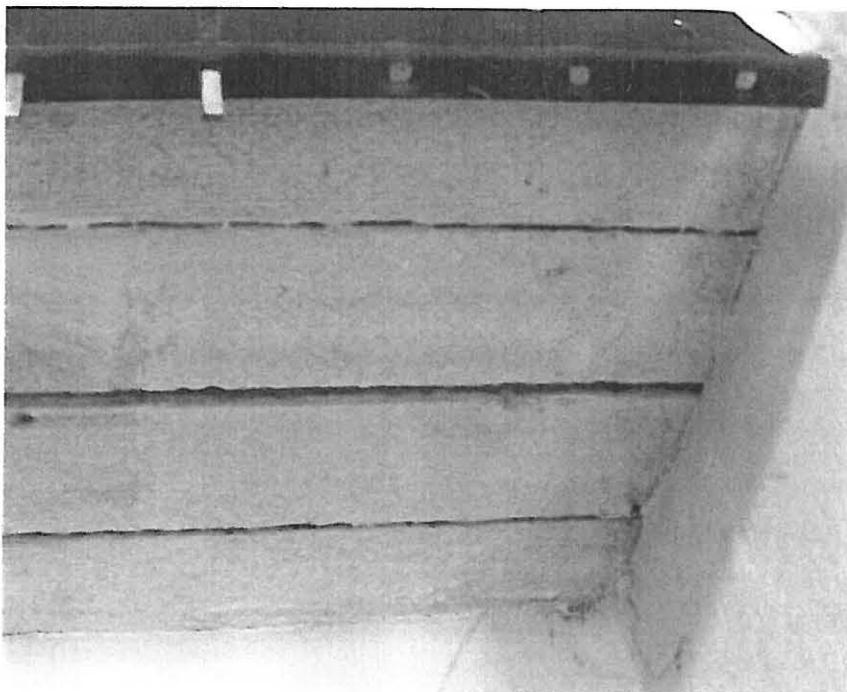
4. >1870 Oven demolished? Sash-window?



5. >1920 Finally the endgable was edged with a two-tier brick line with early sand-lime, "cement" mortar to form the present "chimney" type end gable. The date for this upper brick layer is uncertain.



3. Only the **dividing wall C4** (28cm) is of the 18th century, built in brickwork with heights of 65 to 75mm, indicating brickwork of about the mid 18th century. An older door opening is blocked-up. This wall may originally been solid with no openings.



41, 42. The only exterior door opening (19th?) (Room C3) is narrow and blocked-up, with a lintel consisting of 4 pine panels (scale 2m) (looking E).



43. Also in Room C4 is a dividing wall of 18th century, built in mud brick and mortars. It constitutes the only old interior wall (scale 50cm) (looking S).



44. Close-up in Room B1 of the 18th century lintel of the coach-door (looking W).



45. The blocked-up coach door of the mid to late 18th century in Room B1 (scale 2m).



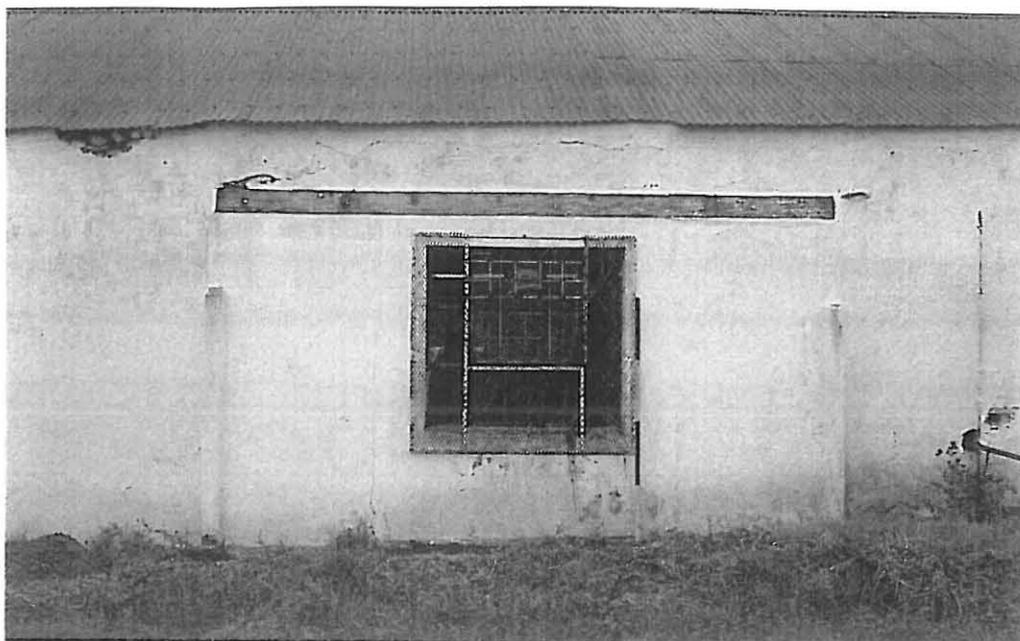
46. Below the work bench, the reveal of the coach-door shows brickwork in brown mortars (late 18th c, used to line the reveals of the ferri-crete walls (looking W).

8.1.4 WEST WALL: FENESTRATION

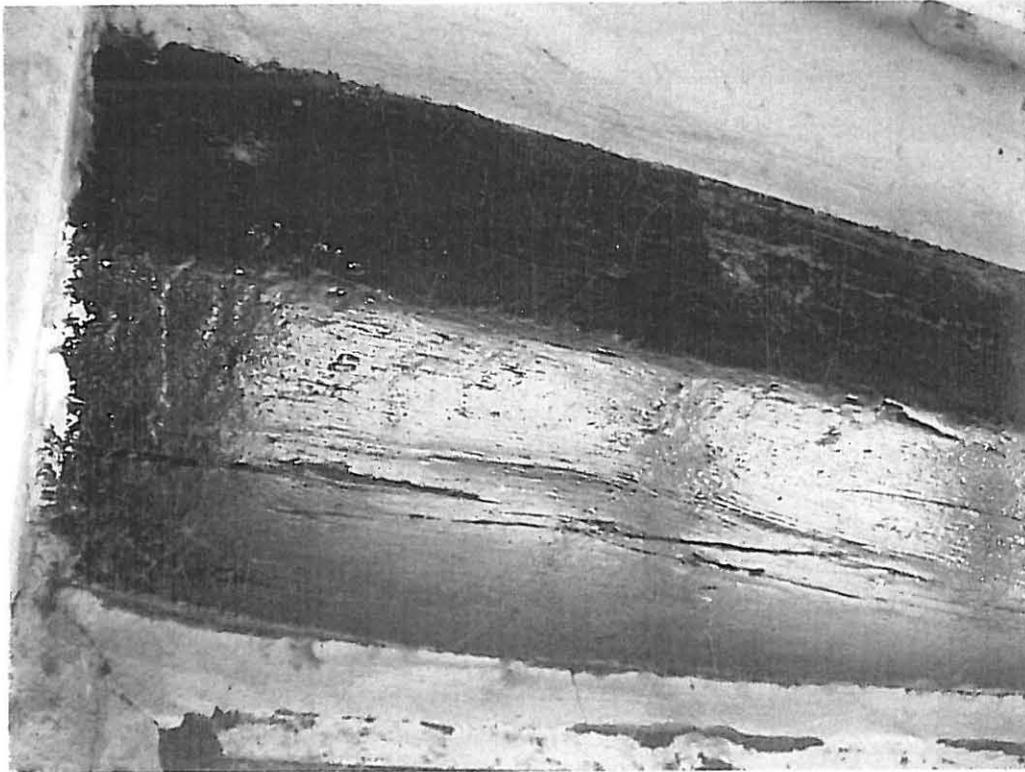
There appears to be only one "earlier" opening in the eastern back wall C3, a doorway blocked-up of recent date. Only some plastering stripping would reveal its age (probably 19th century). The buildings fenestration probably always faced west. This is confirmed by the blocked-up coach-door opening in B1. Its reveals are of light orange brickwork of 70mm with grey mortars; dated to mid-late 18th century. The opening may be original, or broken into the earlier ferricrete. An 18th century lintel with slight moulding is still intact.

The traditional fenestration has been replaced with steel windows on the western side. A band of plaster stripping would reveal earlier openings, which would indicate the function of the building. Narrow ventilation shafts could indicate a wine-cellar type building, while casements could indicate possibly living quarters, stable or barn activities.

Rooms DEF probably formed a single living unit, primarily a kitchen eating /sleeping quarters. Wall E3 may have had a casement, whilst a door and casement would be appropriate for rooms DF1. Note the sash-window in F1 contains an 18th century lintel, though the door is of the 1930s.



47. On the exterior (B1) the long lintel is obvious. The coach-door (c.1770) has been blocked-up in c.1940 with a steel-framed window (scale 2m) (looking E).



48, 49. In Room D1 another old, plain lintel (18th c) is to be seen above a steel window. Whether the lintel is *in situ* can be determined by plaster stripping (looking W).



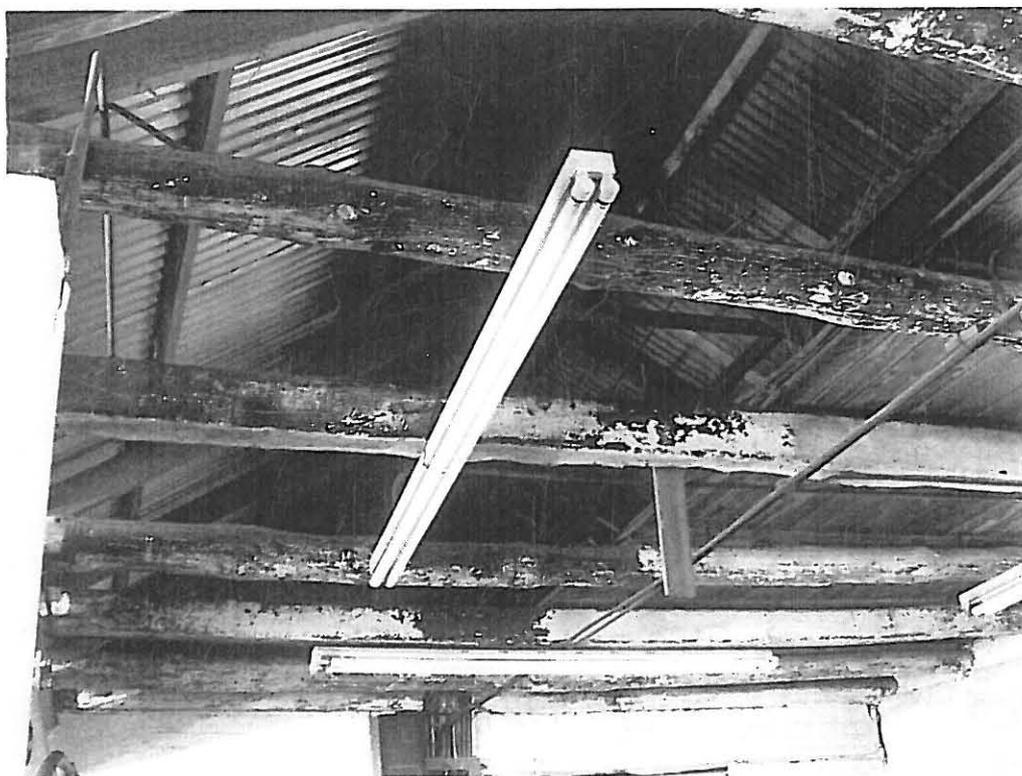


50. In Room B the loft (razed by an earlier fire) has been replaced with pine boards of the 20th century. Note the alternating poplar and square beams, all showing signs of fire soot (looking N).

51. End piece of a poplar beam, but loosely resting on the steel girder (Room B).

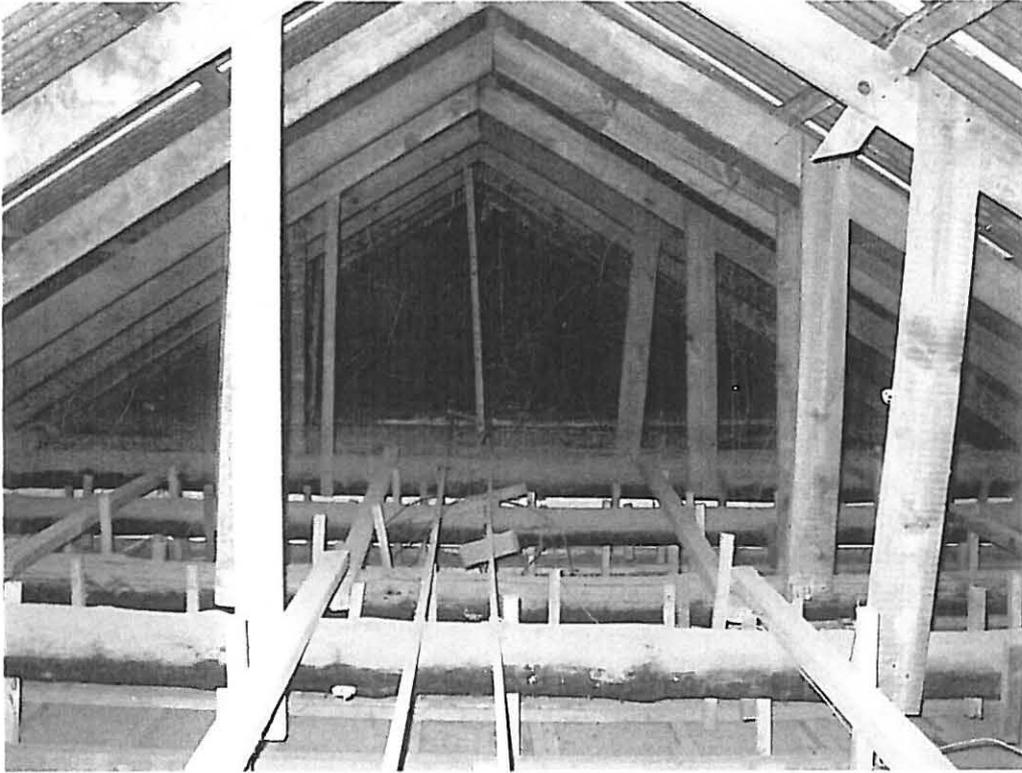


The **original beam** construction for Rooms CDEF is completely absent and replaced. The fact that the alternate beams of Rooms A and B are squared and "flat" on top, do indicate that a ceiling was possibly later placed above them. This may indicate also that a gable once graced the coach-door opening as it is exactly in the centre of the building. A window may have been put in the endgable A2, to provide light. Note the existing interior divisions are off-centre to the coach door B1.



52, 53. In Room B, the eastern side of the beams is fire-crazed and black, which were once lime-washed in white to disguise the carbonized beams (looking S).





54. In the loft above Rooms DEF, the large and thick (c.25cm) poplar beams are discernable (looking S).

55. Against the endgable corner (E3/4) the thick beams are level with the eaves, built-up in brick, plastered and white-washed (looking E).



8.2 NINETEENTH CENTURY

At the **turn of the 18th century**, or early 19th century, a **fire** razed the thatched roof. The hardwood of the square beams easily survived in Rooms AB, but the beams (yellowwood?) in Rooms CDEF were destroyed or badly damaged beyond use

Above the stone eaves are two tiers of bricks, each with three rows of bricks, built in clay mortars. The lower tier may have contained beams, but plaster must be sufficiently stripped to confirm this. The brickwork (25cm in height) accommodated the reused beams (square) and the new roof timbers. Bricks were particularly large, measuring 290 x 125 x 80mm. I speculate therefore that the 6 layers of brick were built after the fire, and the old square beams and alternating poplar beams were installed c.1810 in Rooms A + B, in order to strengthen the roof.

In section three (Rooms CDEF), some rather sturdy round poplars only were installed, indicating a different function. The window fenestration may have continued in a similar manner. The fire probably started in the kitchen DEF, and therefore the fire raged the most ferocious here.

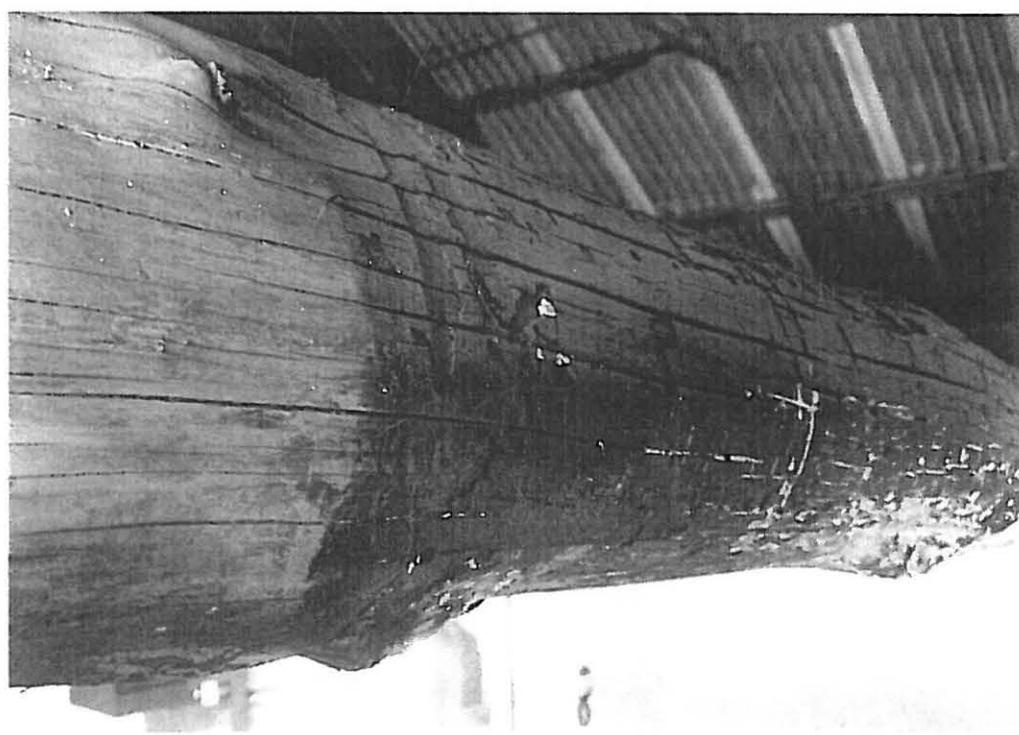


56. During the early 19th century the upper portion of the eaves were raised in brickwork, possibly in 2 stages, to accommodate the earlier square beams & the later (c.1820) poplar beams (Room A3) (looking E).

Towards the **late 19th century** (c.1890), another **fire** ravaged the building, but this time primarily Rooms AB. The burning thatch fell directly onto a boarded ceiling (solder), but apparently there was no *brandsolder* of clay bricks upon the board. The heat charred the poplars on top, as well as the square hardwoods. This second firing of the latter cracked and splintered some of them. Beetle infestation is visible on some of the poplar beams. The lintel above the coach-door was also burnt black, as well as the lintel in F1 and the panelled door in F2 (not the frame). It thus looks as though the sash-window in F4 was afterwards installed and the door F2 reused in this position after the interior walls were built (see FIG.15). A new corrugated roof would have been put up on a new frame of poplar/pine posts. The floor boards of Rooms C+D may have been installed then, but the existing ones may date also to the 1940s.



57. Close-up of a square beam with its hardwood showing distinct signs of carbonized, but only on the surface (Room B).



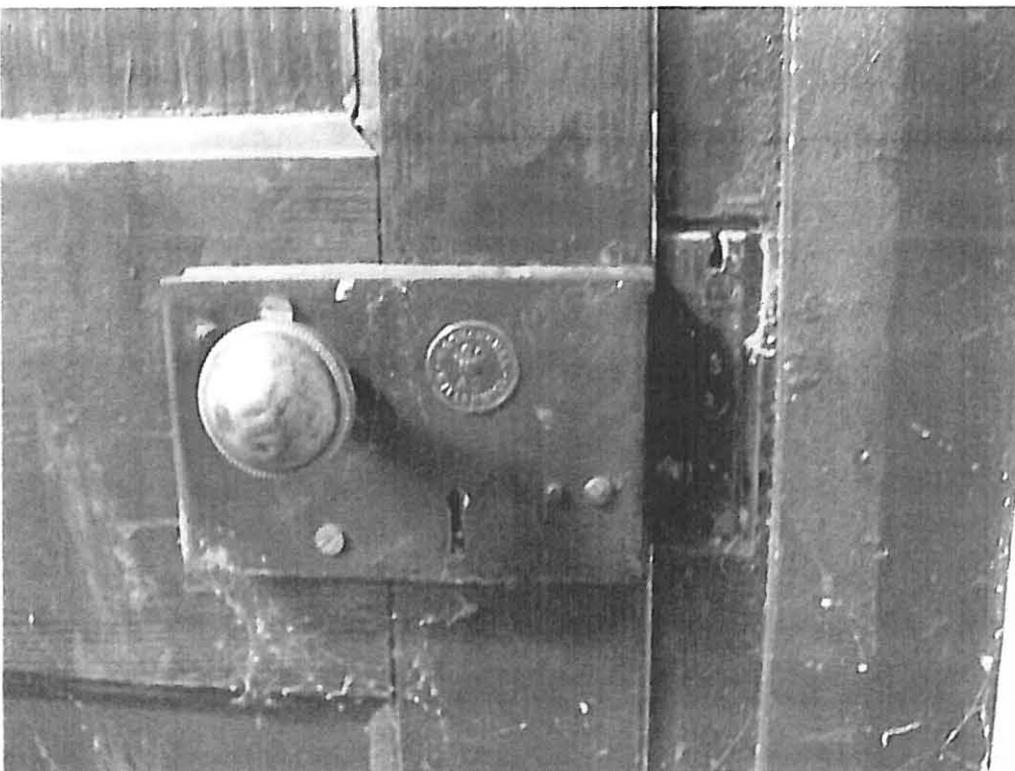
58. Similar close-up of a poplar beam (Room B).

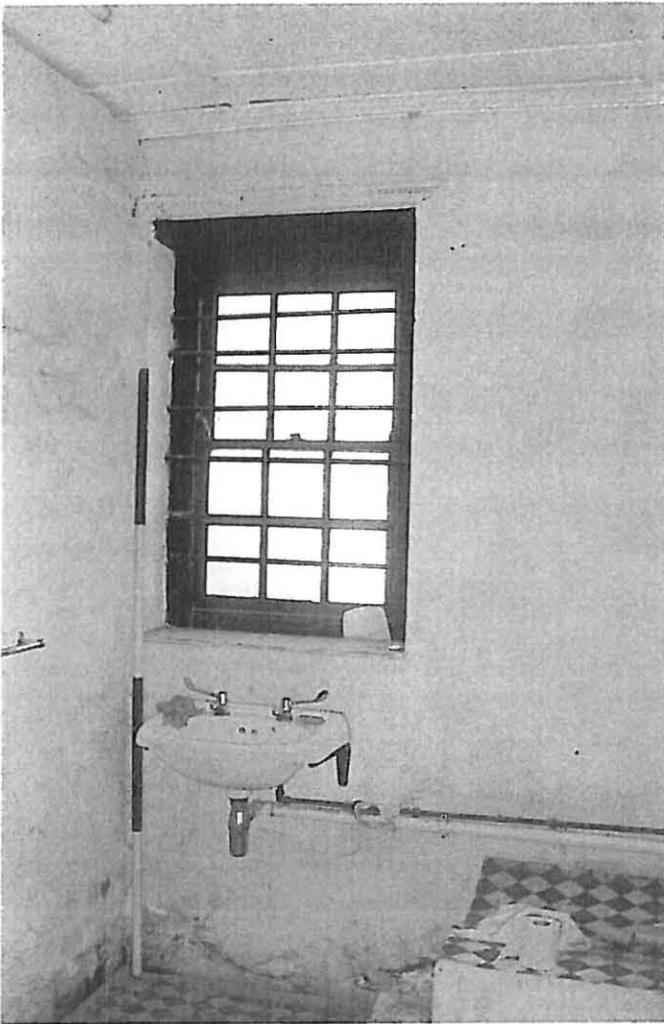


60, 61. The left door, 4 panelled, is of late 19th century and shows signs of having been in a fire. The doorknob and lock is typical.

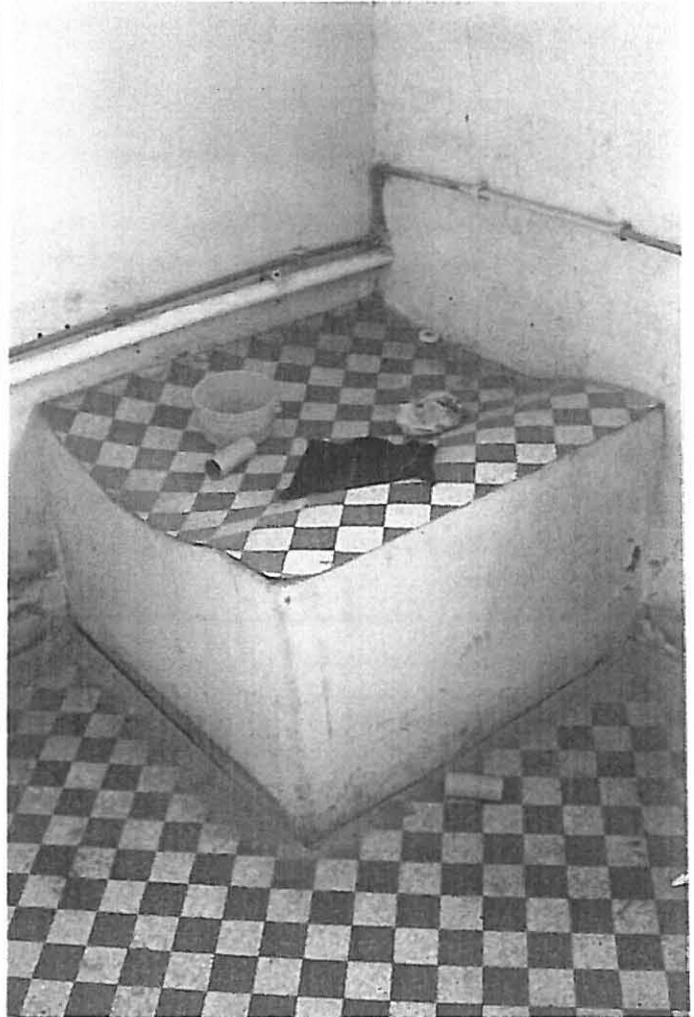


59. In Room D, the green stable door on right (D1) is late 20th c. The ceiling is typical of the 1920/30s (scale 2m) (looking W).





62. The sash-window (c.1880) has been reutilized in this portion (E4) (scale 2m) (looking S).



63. A wash basin / washing area(?) is seen on the right side.



64. A reused door of the 1930s is found in the lean-to J3 (looking E).

8.3 TWENTIETH CENTURY

There appears to have been three periods of alterations to the building. I propose that the **first period** was shortly after 1900 and is most obvious in Rooms DEF. The **second period** was after 1941, when the Barlow's turned the building into a workshop for servicing their farm equipment. Concrete floors were cast (A+B; E+F), new dividing walls built, but retaining the old wall C4. Steel-framed windows became the preferred fenestration and probably a lean-to at the back of Room A/B. The anchor rods (2) for the beams were probably installed then, fastened into the lean-to GH3 wall. Coach entrance B1 was blocked-up and the new one made in A2.



65. Practically all windows (steel-framed) on the western side of the Barn have been installed during the 20th century (looking NE).

66. The four steel-framed windows in Room A1 date all to about 1940s (looking NW).



A **third period** of greater alterations I date to the 1970s, when the farm may have become more prosperous. Sadly, portions of the back wall were demolished (A3, B3), door openings enlarged and others newly put in. Greater office and workshop space were created by additional lean-tos, all under cement floors. The old door of c.1930 in J3 was probably re-used from somewhere else.

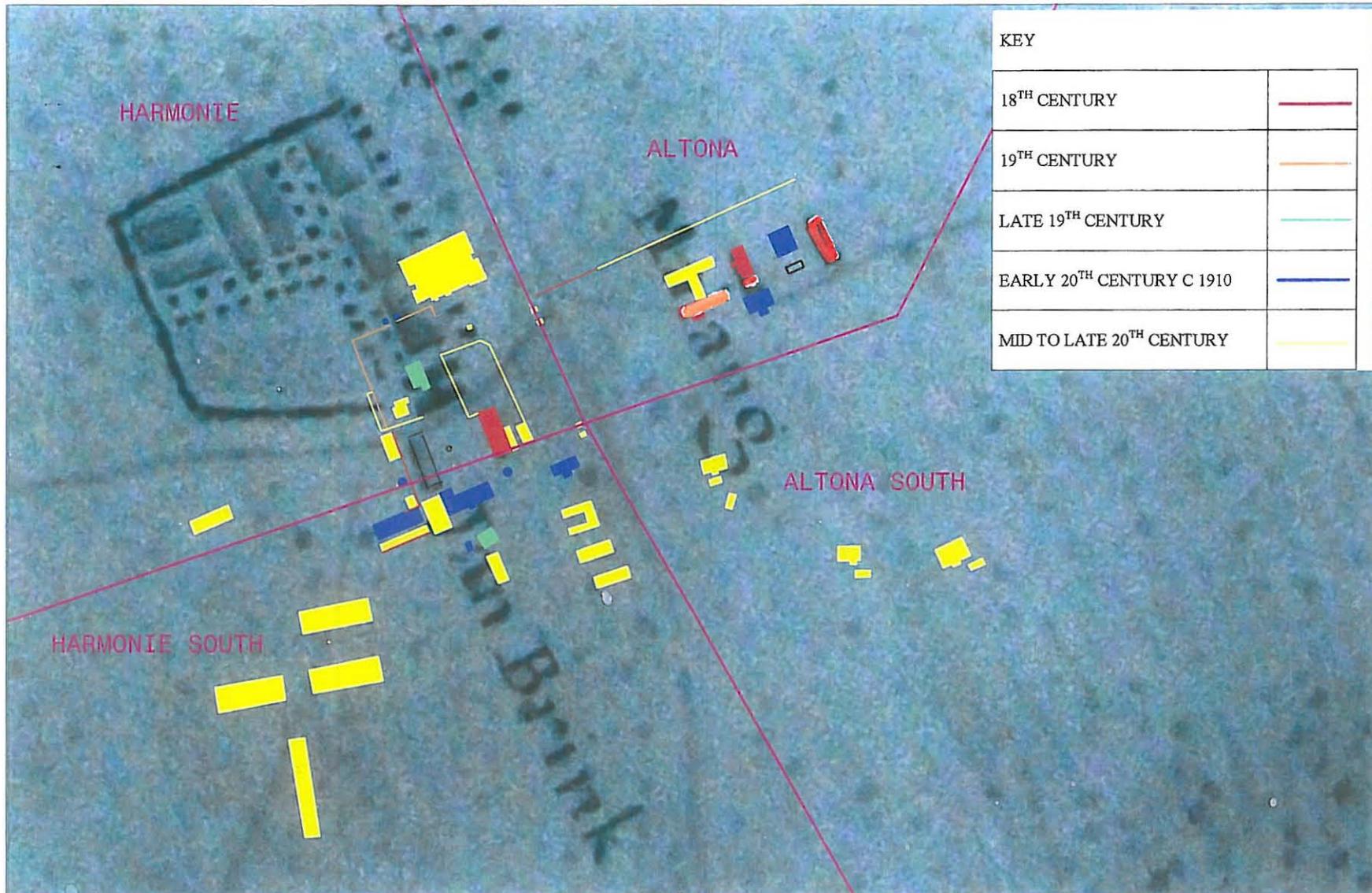
It is not certain why the endgable A2 was rebuilt. I presume when the corrugated roof was put up, a gable was in existence (19th c). When the new garage door was broken in (>1940s), the gable may have partially collapsed or was intentionally demolished. A new brick and cement gable was drawn-up.



68. The upper gable of B2 was also built about this time (looking N).



67. In Room B3, the exterior wall was demolished, and the beams placed on a steel girder in the 1970s (looking N).



KEY	
18 TH CENTURY	
19 TH CENTURY	
LATE 19 TH CENTURY	
EARLY 20 TH CENTURY C 1910	
MID TO LATE 20 TH CENTURY	

FIGURE 5 : BUILT FORM CHRONOLGY
 Vergelegen Training Centre: Heritage Brief
 Baumann & Winter Heritage Consultants



Scale 1:2500	Date:10/12/2007	Contours:N/A	System: WG 19
VERGELEGEN		FRIEDLAENDER, BURGER & VOLKMANN Professional Land Surveyors: Sectional Title Consultants Mapping Consultants Professionele Landmeters Deeltime Konsultante Kartering Konsultante	
Ref :SA744	Dwg :FIGURE5 - A3	27 Church Street / Kerkstraat PO Box / Postbus 154, Stellenbosch, 7509 TEL: 27 21 8894004, FAX: 27 21 8876088 E-mail: info@f.volsa.co.za	

FIG.21 On the 1806 British map of Harmonie, the possible dating of existing structures has been imposed, giving an idea of the development of the site over time. The dating was done by Vos and Winter in 2007, but the chart was incorrect in some ways and has been amended by Vos (Compilation by FB&V).

9. DISCUSSION

9.1 HISTORY AND AGE

Harmonie's history is intertwined with Vergelegen, since its founding in 1686. After the subdivisions since 1709, the OCF was built in more areas, resulting in farm buildings or yards which were only granted much later.

Though *Harmonie* was granted only in 1785, I conjecture that the Barn was built much earlier than 1785. According to the architectural analysis, the building served varied purposes, from barn (cereals), wine-cellar, living quarters with kitchen and possibly stabling. Its age at **post-1720** is based on:

1. The ferricrete built walls (no brick).
2. The low-built walls (2.75m).
3. The square (teak?) beams, surviving two fires.
4. The early kitchen oven brickwork and endgable brickwork (55-75mm height).
5. The c.1760 brickwork of the coach-door and dividing wall
6. The shallow foundations (45cm).
7. The mixture of building stones: river cobbles, dressed mountain sandstone, surface ferricrete and even granite. These non-homogeneous materials are indicative of the Pioneer period (see Vos 1993:246-251).

The earliest visual documentation of the valley is the Schumacher aquarelle of 1777. Due to much trees and done in haste, Schumacher's drawing only shows some partial farm complexes with buildings, but no outlying buildings. I may be wrong, but I think the Barn was in existence, but not visible. If I am mistaken, then the Barn dates early from c.1780 and thus the Harmonie farmyard, as is visible on the 1806 military plan (see FIG.12).

Though the historical brief of Altona and Harmonie (Clift 2008) is factual, it probably could be fleshed out by more research in respect of the actual transfers and prices, the tax-rolls and possible inventories, the social history of the owners, etc. This would give us a much better overview to place the farmyard in.

9.2 BUILDINGS

It is a pity the old **dwelling house** (H-plan) has been demolished, as it would certainly have led to greater conservation measures to rehabilitate its Outbuildings. This is generally the problem: once the main dwelling is gone, there is little incentive to conserve the surrounding environment. Fortunately the replacement c.1890 cottage is well-preserved and kept in order, which needs to be retained for context purposes. In regards to the farmyard, it is highly recommended that the old opposing Outbuilding (demolished 19th century?) be located on the ground and its outline visually delineated in the landscape (FIG.21).

In respect to the **Barn**, its exterior shell is still primarily intact. The two portions demolished I believe to be its back, which would have contained little fenestration anyway. All the beams are intact of the early 19th century layering, an important element in its conservation. The existence of a kitchen oven and small hearth (early) and the original coach-door entrance and its lintel (with another one), already add to the building's heritage value. The three different levels indicate three different functional areas, though Rooms A+B may have had a single sloping floor, and thus served "one" function, as is indicated by the similarity in beam structure.

The heritage indicators and principles applicable to the Harmonie site are excellently enumerated by **Baumann & Winter 2008**. **This report MUST be read in conjunction with this report.** In respect of the Harmonie werf-yard and preliminary shovel tests, the report of Clift (2008) is equally important.

The Barn is somewhat isolated as an 18th century structure and has taken a few knocks. Nonetheless its integration into the adjacent Dairy complex on the south and the Cottage, tree lines, werf wall and old access roads and furrows, contribute to its continued existence, though in a different milieu and functional context. I believe the Harmonie complex should also be viewed in its greater dual context with Altona, a farmyard still to be fully investigated, where I have with B&W identified also some 18th and 19th century structures. Note there is a barn (shown on 1806 map) similar elements in construction to the Harmonie Barn.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

My recommendations are limited to the Barn environment. for other recommendations of the werf and Dairy complex, see Clift (2008) and B&W (2008).

10.1 SHORT-TERM STABILIZATION

1. In its present state, the Barn is relatively stable, except for **wall B1**, where the coach-doors are situated. As none of the 10 beams are anchored on the eastern side (rest on a c.1990 steel beam), the roof forces are pushing this portion over. The water from the tin roof falls directly against the wall and on the clay soil. Cobble foundations in clay thus are plastic and facilitate movement of the wall. The engineer should make effective recommendations (Gutter, anchoring of beams, slope soil away from building, etc.).
2. On the exterior a little plaster has been stripped at the endgables A2 and at EF4. A soft lime plaster with lime only and sand (1:4) should be applied to protect the building against water penetration.
3. The areas where plaster have been stripped [A1, A3, B1 (coach-door), C4] should be kept open for future reference. The vertical strip at A3 is particularly significant and could easily become a permanent "display window" on the development of the building.
4. The archaeological sections (A3/4, B4) should be filled up with builder's sand and a cement topping. On the exterior the two sections (B1 and C1) should be filled with a material that prevents it as catchments of drainage water (use weak mixture of cement and sand, as per the engineer).

HARMONIE BARN
SITE PLAN 2009

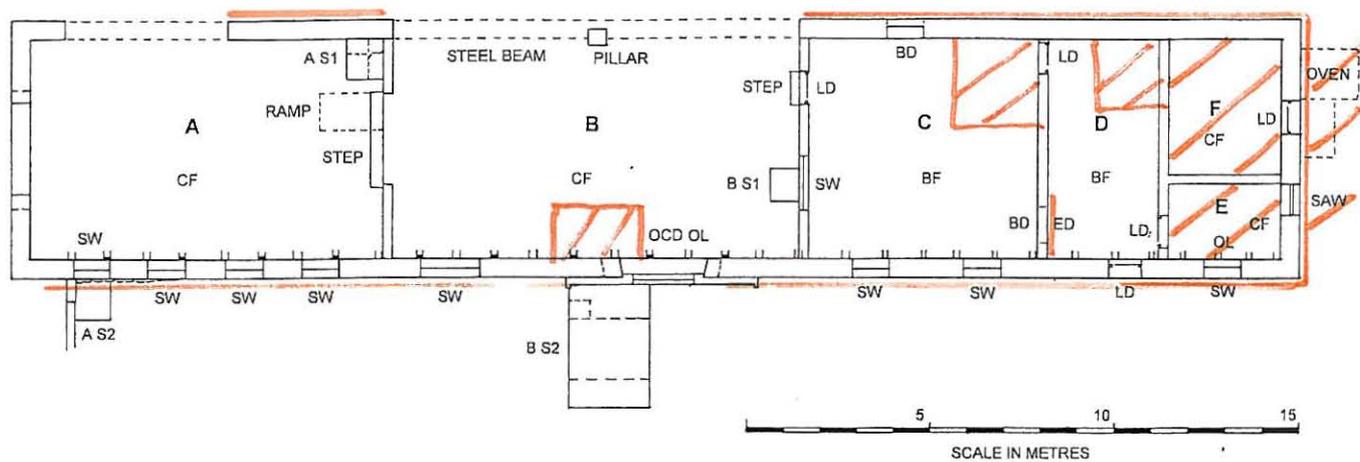


FIG.22 Site plan of the Barn with indications of plaster stripping and excavations to establish more definitive answers on the building's development.

10.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS: HARMONIE STRUCTURES

1. Besides the Barn, a number of 18th / early 19th **structures or features** need further archaeological investigations (see also Clift 2008:9-10). These include the remnant kraal / shed; the werf wall and portions demolished; the demolished opposing outbuilding; the environs of the Cottage built upon the H-shaped house; rubbish dumps; furrows, etc.
2. The **archaeological excavations** inside and outside are significant for their construction materials and what to expect in future (see Add.5).
3. The opposing, **demolished Outbuilding** is of particular significance. Clearing the upper area sensitively with a bulldozer would be easy. By means of a few test reaches the foundations could be relocated and then the four corner points marked visually in the werf landscape.

4. The Barn

4.1 This report should be seen as a **First Phase** investigation, preliminary to a full Phase II assessment, to be done prior or during the rehabilitation process according to conservation principles.

4.2 With the limited access to original fabric, the existing report could not answer definitely on function, fenestration and the Barn's development. To this end it further excavations and investigations are recommended (**FIG.22**).

They include:

- .1 Plaster stripping in a narrow band on the walls in order to locate earlier openings.
- .2 The form and size of such openings will date the building more accurately, as well as in determining the function of each part of the building.
- .3 Excavations of the floors in DEF are recommended, as Kitchens supply the most information.
- .4 The exterior area of the bakoond (DE) would be important for investigation.
- .5 Finding the original kitchen door would indicate the area of rubbish scatters or deposits.

4.3 Historical research into all the owners after 1785, possible inventories, auctions, etc. would flesh out the social history. Other old maps may afford clues to buildings and their uses.

4.4 After a compilation of all these contextual information, a better assessment can be made on the future conservation of the Barn.

4.5 I believe the importance of Harmonie should be connected with the Farmyard of Altona, where some very old buildings are extant. Note the line of 4 old pepper trees, some lanes, old trees and furrows and roads. As neighbours in close proximity, the significance of each is enhanced as part of the Old Freehold of Vergelegen proper. Plotting these historic landscape features and boundaries would increase the heritage value of the site.

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Add.1 Harmonie requires a structural analysis (HWC: ROD decision, 4.4.2008)



Ilifa leMveli
Erfenis
Heritage

Enquiries: M Abrahams
e-mail: muabrah@pgwc.gov.za
Tel. (021) 483 99680

Date: 4 April 2008

RECORD OF DECISION
Heritage Western Cape Built Environment and Landscapes Committee

Heritage Western Cape hereby notifies:

Baumann and Winter
P.O. Box 281
Muizenberg
7950

of its Comments and Recommendations in terms of
Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999)
and Regulation 3(3)(a) of PN 298 (29 August 2003)

For: Training Centre and Associated facilities

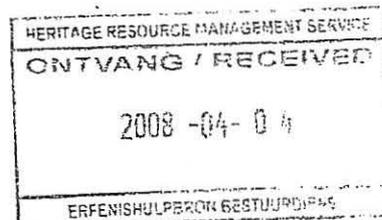
At: Vergelegen Farm 744

Heritage Western Cape has resolved to comment as follows:

The Committee supported the indicators and preliminary guidelines in the baseline study. The Committee requested the submission of a structural analysis report that had been undertaken by a historical archaeologist.

Yours faithfully

For Accounting Officer: Heritage Western Cape



www.capegateway.gov.za/culture_sport

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • Postal Address: Private Bag X9067, Cape Town
• Tel: +27 (0)86 142 142 • Fax: +27 (0)21 483 9842 • E-mail: hwc@pgwc.gov.za

Straatadres: Protea Assuransie-gebou, Groentemarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • Posadres: Privaatsak X9067, Kaapstad, 8001
• Tel: +27 (0)86 142 142 • Fax: +27 (0)21 483 9842 • E-pos: hwc@pgwc.gov.za

Add.2 Selling portions of Vergelegen (RPR (4) 14.11.1709)

C. 7, p. 495.

Donderdag den 14 November 1709, voor de middag. Extraordinarij vergadering.

Presentibus omnibus, dempto den guarnisoenboekhouder sr. Jacob Cruse.

Bij de opveilinge en vercoopinge van 't land vergelegen in Hottentots Holland, op ulto. October jongstleeden gedaan, het laaste perceel no. 4 met de gebouwen daar op staande, nevens de wijngaard en verdere bepotinge en beplantinge *bij den Ede. Hr. Gouverneur en gecommiteerdens*¹²⁹ 's Comps. wegen ingehouden zijnde voor de zomma van f9000. Ende den burger Barent Gildenhuis¹³⁰ naderhand voor 't selve stuk lands, conform de coopconditie daarvan opgesteld, geboden en gepresenteerd hebbende een zomma van f9500. Zoo is, op de propositie van wel gemelte zijn Ede. goed gevonden ende geresolveert 't voors. stuk lands, invoegen vermeld, aan hem Barent Gildenhuis voor de gemelte gebodene zomma over te laten, mits daarvoor stellende twee suffisante en genoegsame geërfde borgen: En verder onder conditie, dat hij het selve land noyt aan den burger Jacob van der Heiden ofte zijn erven, zoo lange hij van der Heiden in 't leven is, als reets een groot gedeelte lands en andere vaste goederen bezittende, direct of indirect, sal mogen vercopen of veralieneeren: om daar omtrent gehoorsaamst te voldoen aan de positive ordres van haar Ede. Hoog Agtb. de Heeren Majores in 't vaderland, vervat bij derselver missive van den 30 October 1706.¹³¹

Aldus gearresteert en beslooten in 't Casteel de Goede Hoop, ten dage en jaare voors.¹³²

JOAN CORNS. D'ABLEING.
K. J. SLOTSBOO.

L. v. ASSENBURGH.
JOAN BLESIIUS.
WM. v. PUTTEN.

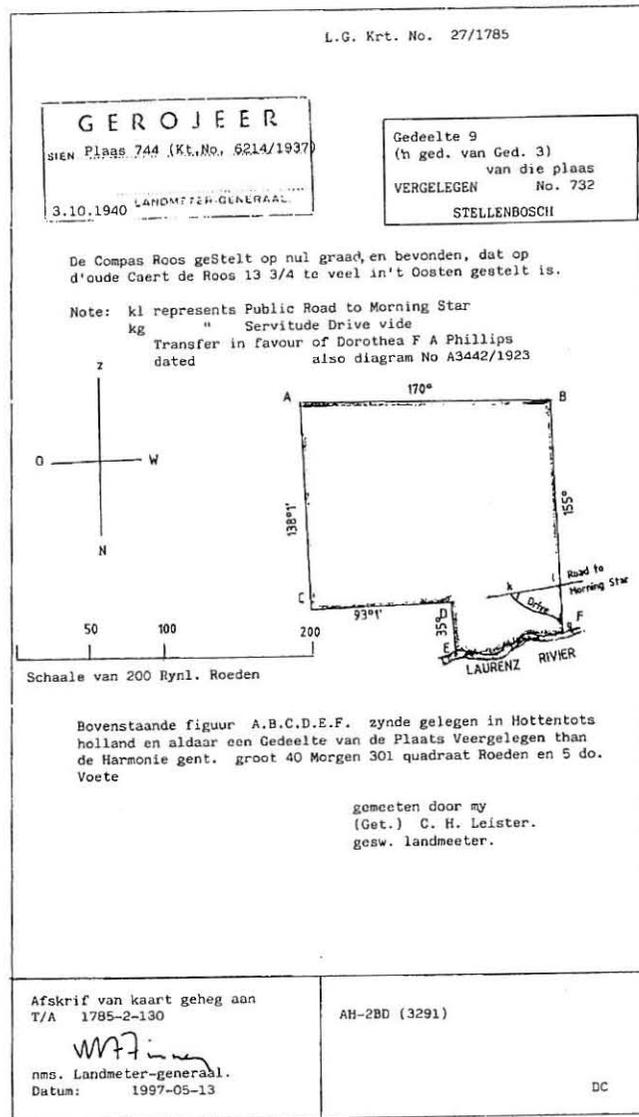
O. BERGH.
WM. HELOT.

ADD.3 OWNERS OF Vergelegen AND HARMONIE (CLIFT 2008: TABLE 3)

TABLE 1: DE HARMONIE (PORTION OF PORTION 3)

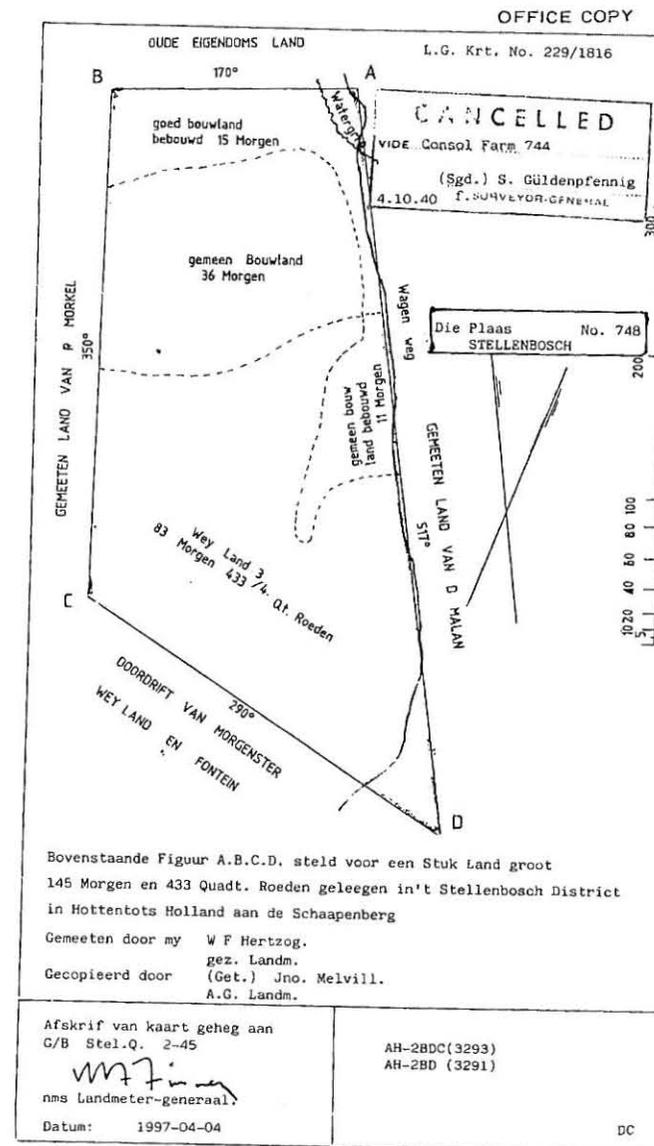
Farm No	Diagram	Deed	Date	Extent	From	To	Price	Comment
732	2/1700	OCF 1.324	1/2/1700	400 morgen – expanded to 613 M 220 SR	Grant	Willem Adriaan vd Stel		Vergelegen
732/1	4/1711	107	16/02/1711	101 M 585 SR	L van Assenburg	Catharina Lodewykse	3100 Cape Gulden	
732/2	3/1711	839	16/02/1711	171 M 75 SR	L van Assenburg	Jacob Malan	3300 Cape Gulden	
732/3	2/1711	109	16/02/1711	170 M 80 SR	L van Assenburg	Jacobus vd Heyde	8500 Cape Gulden	
732/4	5/1711	113	28/05/1711	170 M 80 SR	L van Assenburg	Barend Gildenhuys	9500 Cape Gulden	
732/3	2/1711	109	16/02/1711	170 M 80 SR	L van Assenburg	Jacobus vd Heyde	8500 Cape Gulden	
732/5	2/1711	113a	28/05/1711	23M 373 SR	J vd Heyde	Daniel Malan		
Rem 732/3		35	15/04/1752	146M 305 SR	J vd Heyde	Arnoldus Maasdorp		
Rem 732/3		8	3/02/1763	146M 305 SR	A Maasdorp	Nicolaas Vlok		
Rem 732/3		134	22/05/1775	146M 305 SR	N Vlok	Johannes de Waal		
Rem 732/3		1786 or 63 or 5277	29/07/1782	146M 305 SR	J de Waal	Daniel Malan		
732/8		144	17/09/1782	72M 502 SR 5 SF	D Malan	Edward Wium		
732/9		130	26/09/1785	40M 301 SR 5 SF	D Malan	Johannes Brink		Portion known as de Harmonie
Rem 732/3		5769	13/10/1893	33M 101 SR 90 SF	Estate JH Theunissen	½ share Jacobus Marthinus Theunissen		
Rem 732/3		5770	13/10/1893	33M 101 SR 90 SF	Estate JH Theunissen	½ share Marthinus Wilhelm Theunissen		
Rem 732/3		3122	27/04/1899	33M 101 SR 90 SF	Theunissen and 1 other	James Sivewright		
737/1		2294	29/03/1901	14M	James Sivewright	Samuel Kerr		

Farm No	Diagram	Deed	Date	Extent	From	To	Price	Comment
732/9		130	26/09/1785	40M 301 SR 5 SF	D Malan	Johannes Brink		de Harmonie
732/9		151	28/06/1811	40M 301 SR 5 SF	J Brink	Willem Morkel	f4 000 Indische Val	
732/9	229/1816	Stb Quit 2.45	2/01/1816	145M 433 SR	Grant	Willem Morkel		
732/9+ 748		5	6/10/1835	40M 301 SR 5 SF+ 145M 433 SR	Insolvent Est Gideon Mauritz de Villiers (2 nd husband of Wid W Morkel)	Jacobus Daniel Malan	f69 500	Includes ½ share of Langkloof
732/9 + 748		6158	22/09/1896	40M 301 SR 5 SF + 145M 433 SR	DJ Malan	Daniel Jacobus Malan	£2000	Includes ½ share of Langkloof
732/9 + 748		4187		40M 301 SR 5 SF + 145M 433 SR	DJ Malan	Samuel Kerr		
732/9 + 748		2122	31/03/1917	40M 301 SR 5 SF + 145M 433 SR	Estate S Kerr	Lady DSFA Phillips		
744	6214/1937	9526	27/09/1940	Consolidated: Certificate of Unified Title 3496 M	Lady Dorothea Sarah Florence Alexandra Phillips			See Table 1 for comprising portions
744		6272	1/07/1941	3496 M	Est DSFA Phillips	Charles Sydney Barlow		
744		20815	29/12/1950	3496 M	CS Barlow	Margaret Eileen Cyntha Barlow		
744/2/1		12788	6/09/1950	1969.5893 M	MEC Barlow	Vergelegen Timbers Pty Ltd		
744 Rem		12789	6/09/1956	1526.4107 M	MEC Barlow	Vergelegen Estate Pty Ltd		
744 Rem			1987			Anglo American		



732/9

SG diagram 27/1785 showing the extent of the freehold land, de Harmonie.



SG diagram 229/1816 showing the extent to of the quitrent land adjoining de Harmonie. Note the wagon route separating de Harmonie from Altona: this would be the route leading towards the Vergelegen homestead

Add.4 Example of kitchen oven on exterior (Walton 1989:46/7)

Verloren Vlei

One of the finest examples of a Cape longhouse was that at Verloren Vlei, on the southern shore of that vlei, near Elands Baai. Verloren Vlei was first granted as a loan-place in 1723. In 1762 it was leased to Gerrit Cloete, the elder, but between 1769 and 1773 it was owned by Andries Greef, who held a number of loan-places along the coast. After his death it passed to a son of Jacobus Coetsee Janz but from 1779 to 1787 the grazing rights of Verloren Vlei were rented by Jan Jurgen Kotze. Early in the nineteenth century Theunis Erasmus Smit acquired the farm and many related families, especially the older members, gathered around Oom Theunis to enjoy the peaceful atmosphere in their retirement. Today, Smits, Coetsees, Kotzes, Mosterts and others occupy the simple thatched houses which comprise the settlement that

represents the survival of a communal way of life which will very soon disappear.

When I recorded the buildings of Verloren Vlei in 1970 the one which was generally considered to be the oldest house of the settlement was an interesting longhouse over forty-five metres long (Fig. 70), which was later demolished. Like many longhouses it grew in stages. It began as a two-roomed dwelling of *voorhuis* and kitchen (Fig. 71), both with clay walls and floors and under a thatched roof. The end wall of the *voorhuis* was a complete gable projecting through the thatch and it retained its tiny window opening in the gable (Fig. 71). The *voorhuis* was open to the rafters but the kitchen had a board ceiling. The *voorhuis* was entered through a



Photo: James Walton 1971

Fig. 70 Verloren Vlei longhouse

46

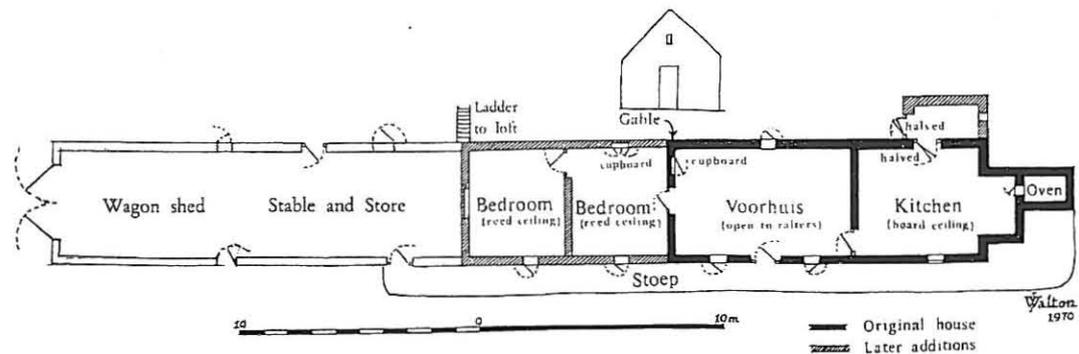


Fig. 71 Plan of the Verloren Vlei longhouse

central doorway, with a *bo-en-onder* door, which had a shuttered window opening on each side. The kitchen was illuminated by a small glazed window and it had a rear entrance, screened by a later lobby, both of which had *bo-en-onder* doors. At the end of the kitchen was a projecting chimney-stack with a large bread oven behind (Figs 70 and 71).

ADDENDUM 5

HARMONIE BARN: TRIAL EXCAVATIONS

HARRIET CLIFT ARCHAEOLOGIST 15 APRIL 2009

INTRODUCTION

During the heritage assessment for the proposed training centre, the old barn, currently used as the farm workshop, was identified as the only remaining structure associated with the de Harmonie homestead, dating to the late 18th/early 19th century.

An archaeological impact assessment (AIA) for the building was commissioned, at the time, to identify appropriate reuse within the scheme of the proposed training centre. The project has subsequently been put on hold, but it was decided to go ahead with the AIA.

Trial excavations were restricted to those areas to which access could be attained without hampering the workings of the workshop. It was not possible to do any tests in the southern end of the building which had (modern) wooden floors.

While in the immediate future, there are no plans to move the workshop, this type of use for a building of this age is not ideal.

CONCLUSION

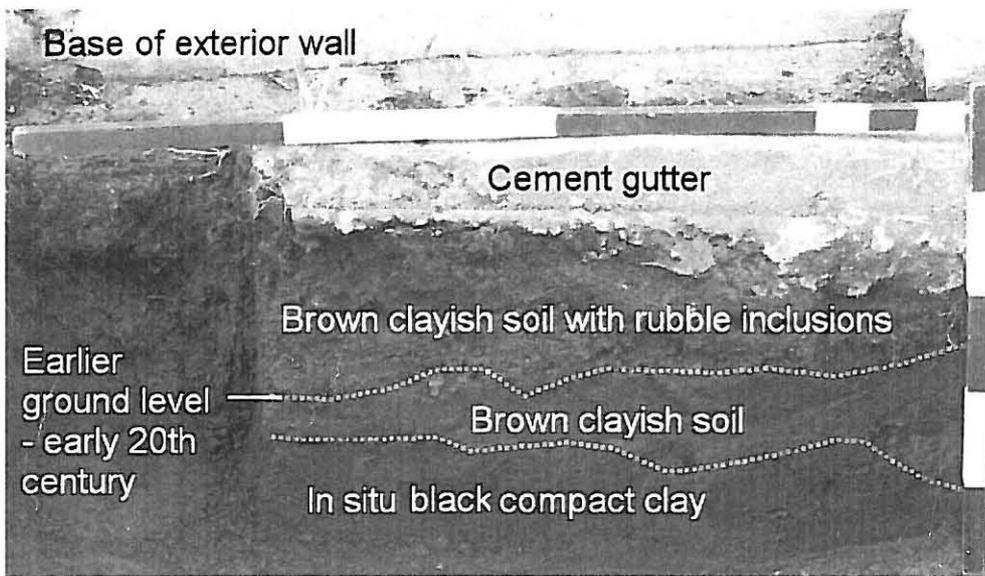
The construction method of the walls and the lack of artefactual material in the test pits suggest that the structure was functionally built as a utility building.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The building has in the past been considerably modified, the most dramatic being the removal of the NE wall. The SW wall is leaning, a condition which was probably caused by the removal of the NE wall. The problem is exacerbated by poor drainage on the SW side of the building; there is a build up of soil on this side of the building associated with the construction of the n the cowsheds and access road in the early half of the 20th century. Waste water from the workshop sink is not properly dealt with and has temporarily been drained into the adjacent water furrow.

While there are no immediate plans to relocate the workshop, it should be considered as the use of the building as a workshop is not appropriate. Attention should be paid to the maintenance of the building and care taken not to cause further damage to the remaining original fabric. As and when the building is rehabilitated, additional archaeological work is recommended to test the southern portion of the barn as well as testing for original interior walls.

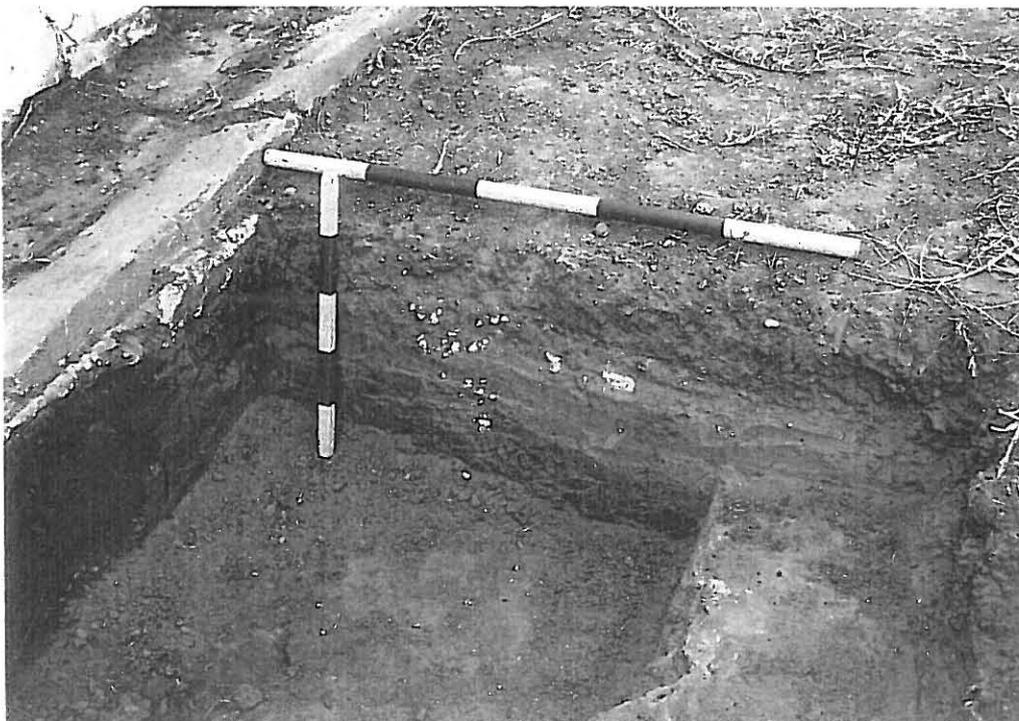
Test Section B1: Exterior of the building (SW wall) opposite built-up Doorway / *waenhuis* entrance.



Excavated 450mm away from the SW wall of the barn, along the cement gutter. The area to the south of the test excavation had cement surfacing. In September 2008, in response to the recommendations of the structural engineer, considerable soil overburden and grass was removed from this area, revealing the cemented surface.

In situ clay occurs 320mm below the cement gutter.

No artifacts were uncovered in this test.



69. Test section B1 on the exterior, is in relation to the gutter furrow and next to the blocked-up coach-door (scales 1m, 50cm) (looking SE)(Vos).

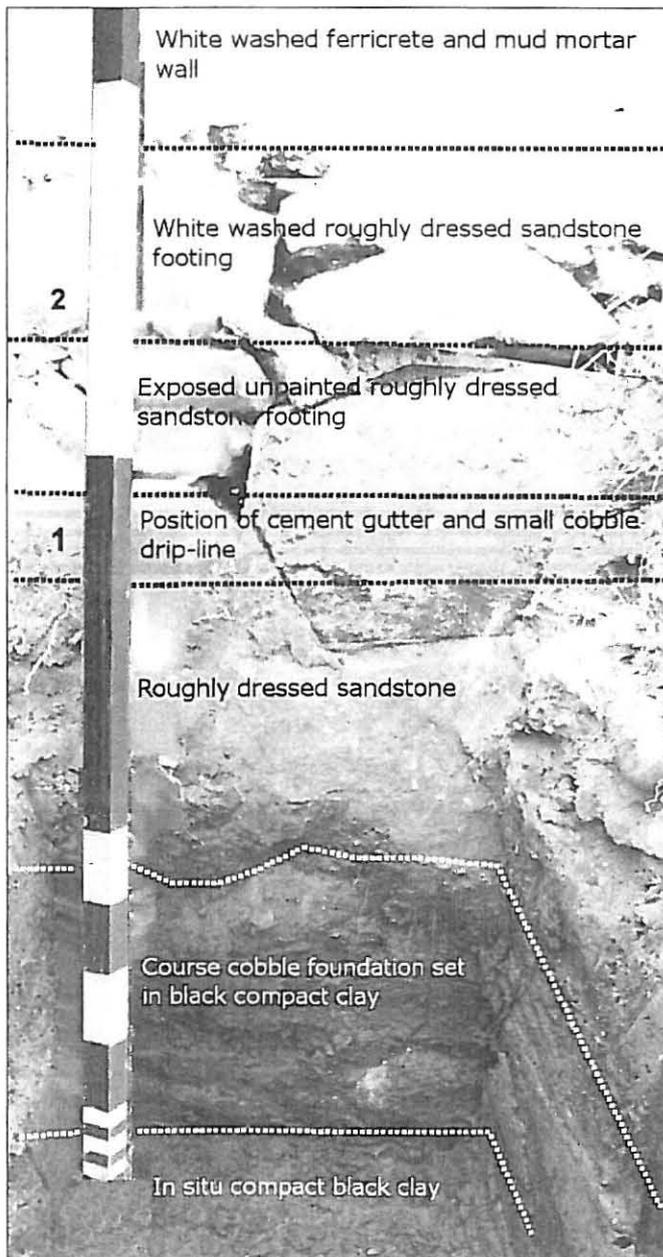
Test Section A1: Exterior: Near the northern corner of the NW wall



Test Pit 2 was situated along the northern edge of the SW wall where there was no cement guttering. The wall to the left of the image is modern



Roughly dressed sandstone was clearly visible near the base of the wall, appearing to form a plinth.



This test pit was excavated to the base of the foundation to a depth of 830mm below the present surface level.

As with the other test pits, the foundation was set in the hard compact black clay, and no artifacts were uncovered.

At least two surface levels were evident: (1) marked by the position of the cement gutter overlying a small cobble drip line and (2) marked by the white wash line on the roughly dressed sandstone, which more or less corresponded with the present surface level.

The foundation of the wall consisted of large river cobbles set in the black compact clay. In Test Section A1, the foundation was recessed by about 30mm beneath the sandstone.

The extra stone work in the wall may be in order to provide extra support as the surrounding ground is wet and the remains of an old irrigation furrow is situated a few meters to the south-west of the wall.

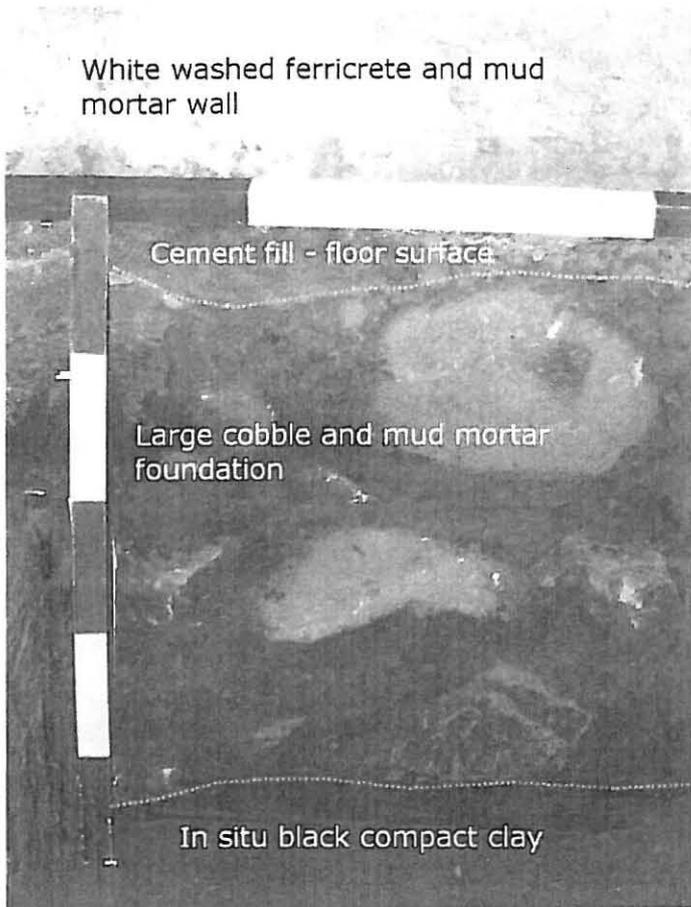


70, 71. Test section A1 on the exterior, showing the ferricrete wall, the sandstone footing and some cobbling. The lower portion is already filled in (scales 2m, 1m and 50cm) (Vos).



Test Section A3: Interior: motor workshop (Room A)

This test pit was situated in the E corner of the motor workshop; at the junction of the remaining portion of the NW exterior wall and an interior wall. The test revealed that the interior dividing wall A4, partially constructed of older brick, has a modern cement foundation and probably dated to the early 20th century.

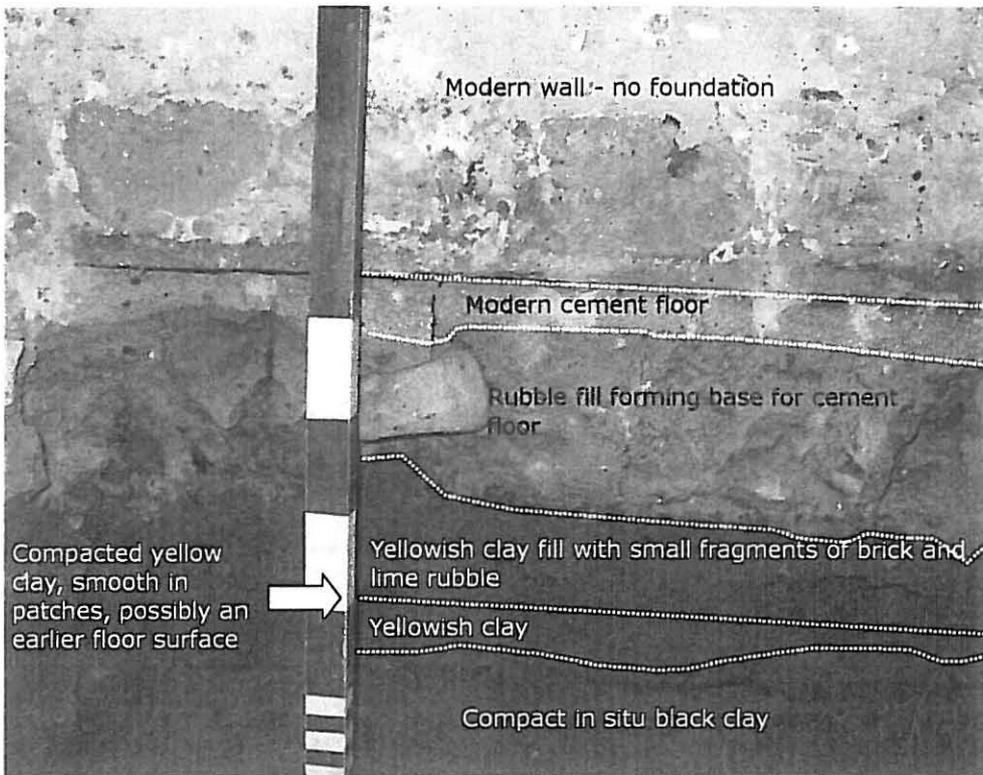


The large cobble foundation extended to a Depth of 400mm below the current floor surface. The base of the foundation was set in dark, compact black clays. No artifacts were found.

72. Test section A3, interior lower portion. The low cobbling is about 45cm below the concrete surface (Vos).

Test Section B4: Interior: Workshop area (Room B)

This test pit was situated in the workshop abutting the interior wall separating the office from the workshop area.



Test Section B4 was the only of the test pits that had a suggestion of an earlier floor surface, viz a compact yellowish clay layer in which patches were suggestive of a floor surface. No artifacts were uncovered in this test pit.



73. Test section B4 was the most informative and possibly least disturbed. Lower surface is the black clay (scales 1m, 50cm) (Vos).