

# **Donkerhoek Farm**

## **Proposed Tourism Development**

Farm 956, Simondium



## **Visual Statement**

17 July 2020

prepared by Square One Landscape Architects Landscape Architects cc

for Aikman Associates

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The project involves the redevelopment of the historic farmstead Farm 956 Simondium. The intention is to redevelop the historic farmstead to allow it to function as a farm tourism destination, including the remodeling of the historic buildings and the erection of additional structures and interventions in the landscape.

The proposed development will change the character of a site larger than 5000m² and a Notice of Intent to Develop (NID) was submitted to Heritage Western Cape (HWC) in terms of Section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is required and will take a phased approach. During Phase 1, the broad conceptual framework will be assessed. Phase 2 will involve the assessment of more detailed site development plans, architectural and landscape proposals. Square One Landscape Architects (Square One) have been appointed to complete the required visual study to identify potential visual issues and concerns that could be associated with the proposed development as part of Phase 1 of the HIA.

#### **1.1.** Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this visual study is to:

- Prepare a spatial analysis of the farmstead within the surrounding landscape context and immediate context of the project to inform proposed development at the site.
- Identify issues and/or particular concerns as these pertain to visual and heritage resources.
- Prepare a visual statement/framework inclusive of visual and spatial analysis and recommendations that indicates suitable development areas and areas of sensitivity.

#### 1.2. Methodology

The methodology to complete the required visual statement involved the following:

- A site visit was undertaken 19 June 2020 to collate visual data and process visual information.
- Historic information, photography and reports were collected and reviewed.
- Visual landscape indicators were identified to inform guidelines and recommendations for appropriate landscape interventions at the site.
- A visual statement report was prepared, inclusive of a visual and spatial analysis and recommendations.

#### 1.3. Assumptions and Limitations

This visual statement will form part of the HIA that is being completed for the site. The visual analysis is derived from our understanding of the historic context of the site through the relevant heritage reports and the photographic evidence of the historic development of the farmstead. It should be noted that the HIA prepared by Henry Aikman contains definitive information relating to heritage resources and potential heritage impacts associated with the proposed development.

It is assumed that the information provided to Square One, including 3D modelling data provides an accurate representation of the proposed development at the site.

This report does not constitute a full Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) with assessment tables but rather serves to function as a brief Visual Statement summary of visual issues, concerns and recommendations.

The findings of this report are based on the available information and the professional opinion of the authors of this report. Should additional information regarding the proposed project become available, the findings of this report may need to be amended.

#### 2. VISUAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

#### 2.1. Site Location

The Donkerhoek historic werf complex (the site) is located at Farm 956/0, Simondium (see Figure 2.1). The site is accessed from the Klapmuts -Simondium road, close to its intersection with the R45. The site is located within an agricultural area associated with a series of historic farmsteads, including the Vrede en Lust Wine Estate. To the south, it is bordered by the Rupert and Rothschild Estate and to the northwest, by other wine estates. It is linked at the northwest to the farm Babylonstoren. To the west and north-west of the site lies the mountains of the Simonsberg Nature Reserve.

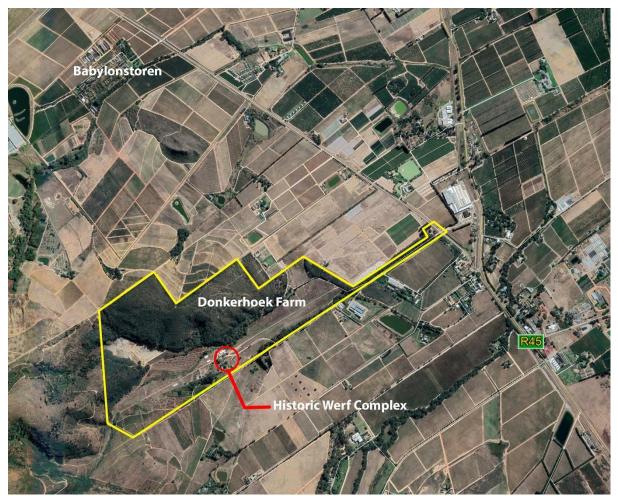


Figure 2.1: Locality Map

Source: Square One Landscape Architects

#### 2.2. Historical Development

The Donkerhoek historic werf is located in the Dwars River Valley (or Groot Drakenstein Valley), which falls into the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape. Todeschini and Pistorius, 2014, explain that the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape evolved as a result of the interaction between the rich and biodiverse scenic landscapes of the Cape and anthropogenic intervention and responses to these landscapes over time. These interactions have resulted in a unique vernacular architectural language, settlement pattern and scenic diversity. The Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape is considered to be of local, provincial, national and international significance (Todeschini & Pistorius, 2004).

The unique Cape vernacular architecture evolved through a range of historic stylistic influences, construction techniques and the use of limited available building materials at the Cape. Interactions and collaborations between people with diverse cultural backgrounds and artisanal skills played an integral role in shaping the evolution of this unique architectural style. Contributions from European settlers, slaves from various origins including the East Indies, the Indian subcontinent and Africa, and the indigenous peoples of the Cape, all contributed to its development (UNESCO, 2018).

Farms in the Drakenstein Valley were first granted in October 1687 by Simon Van Der Stel, the VOC governor at the Cape. Viticulture started early on in the Paarl area due to the influence and knowledge of the French Huguenots. The Donkerhoek farm was originally named Bergen Henegouwen, the original farm was sixty morgens in size and was first granted in 1694 in partnership to two Huguenots, Jean Durand and Jean Parisel. It was transferred to the Koch family in 1896, who owned the farm until it was bought by the current owners in 2018. The farm's name was officially changed to Donkerhoek in 1915 following its transferal to the Koch Family's Company, the 'Donkerhoek Fruit Syndicate' (Aikman, 2020).

#### 2.3. Heritage Resources at the Site

The Drakenstein farm complex includes buildings of historic significance, including a Homestead, Stables, Cellar and Worker's Cottages. The historic werf, including the Homestead, Cellar and Stable buildings is listed in the Drakenstein Heritage Survey (2010) as being of National or Provincial significance, while a series of farm workers' cottages located at a distance from the werf complex are graded as 3C. The rural landscape setting falls within the Cape Winelands Cultural Landscape, which has been earmarked for designation as a Grade 1 area (Aikman, 2020).

#### 2.3.1 <u>Architectural Resources</u>

The werf complex contains four buildings of architectural significance, including: the Homestead, the Cellar, the Stables and an Outbuilding (Worker's Cottage) (see Figure 2.2).

#### HISTORIC WERF COMPLEX ELEMENTS



Figure 2.2: Historic werf elements and buildings

The Homestead is U-shaped and was built, according to the gable on the homestead, in 1851. A historic photograph of the Homestead is illustrated in Figure 2.3. The Homestead is associated with two T-shaped outbuildings (the Stables and the Cellar) that form the forecourt (werf space) to the homestead. The Stables are located to the south of the Homestead and the Cellar is located to the North (see Figure 2.2).

A small structure is located to the west (behind) the Homestead. It was used as household staff quarters and is referred to as the Worker's Cottage. There are two additional worker's cottages located at some distance from the historic werf complex that were constructed in the 19th century

(see Figure 2.4). These are listed as a Category 3C heritage resources. There is an additional outbuilding located to the south of the Homestead and the Worker's Cottage, referred to as the 'Second Outbuilding'. Although the structure forms part of the werf complex, it does not have historical significance. Images of the various historical elements and buildings are illustrated in Section 2.4.



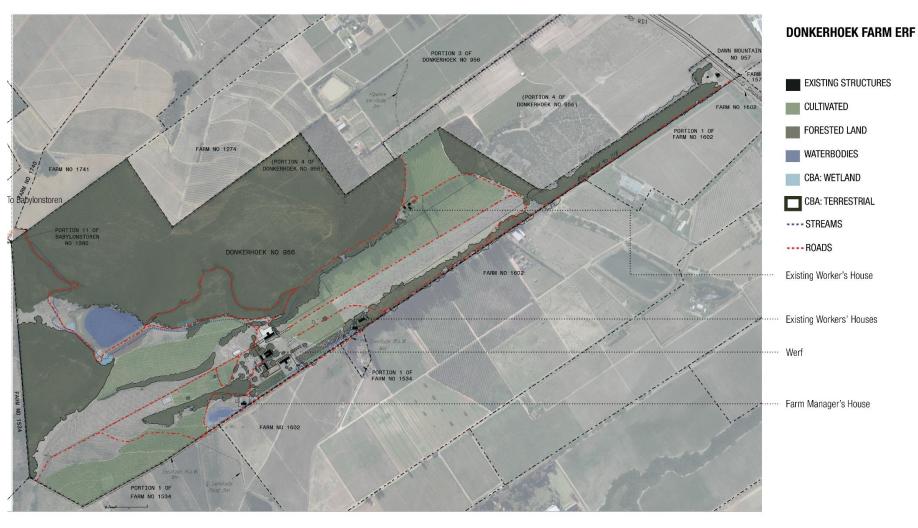
Figure 2.3: Historic image Homestead

(Source: Open City, 2020)

#### 2.3.2 Landscape Resources

In their in-depth analysis of the historic importance of Cape vernacular homesteads at the Cape, Fransen and Cook (1965) describe the importance of the werf within the context of Cape vernacular architecture. The Cape vernacular 'werf' is considered to be a unique and limited heritage resource. Werf layouts are generally distinctive and are influenced by the positioning of the buildings, and the natural features of the landscape, including topography, mountain peaks and rivers. Historically, the Cape vernacular 'werf' was a more-or-less enclosed and relatively flat green space in front of or to the back of Cape vernacular homesteads. The more significant farm buildings would normally lie on the boundaries of the werf space, and traditionally the space would be enclosed with a low white wall. These werf spaces are typically considered to be one of the most picturesque aspects of the Cape vernacular farm group (Fransen & Cook, 1965).

A schematic illustration of the landscape elements associated with the Donkerhoek farm is shown in Figure 2.4. The farm is characterized by cultivated and forested land. A scenic avenue of mature Eucalyptus (Gum) trees leads towards the werf complex. There are two constructed watercourses running to the north and south of the complex, with associated dam structures. The Simonsberg Mountains form a dramatic backdrop to the Homestead, with the Klein Drakenstein Mountains visible to the east of the historic werf. Large mature Oak trees frame the Homestead and a Norfolk Pine (Auracaria excelsa) forms a focal point on axis with the main gable. It was planted in 1906 by the Koch family. A Weeping Boerboom (Schotia brachypetala) was planted in 1911 to the north of the Homestead and is still evident today, although in poor condition. The main access route onto the werf space splits in two and form a triangular lawn area in front of the Homestead, with planted verges that obscure the facades of the Stable and Cellar buildings to some degree. Large Oak trees are located to the west of the Homestead, and along the southern façade of the Cellar, providing shade and screening and adding to the character of the space. The various landscape elements that define the werf space are described in more detail in Section 2.4.



**DONKERHOEK FARM ERF**NOT TO SCALE



Figure 2.4: Broader Landscape Elements

Source: Adapted from Open City, June 2020

Square One Landscape Architects

July 2020

#### 2.4. Site Photos

A number of site photographs were taken to illustrate the historic approach, the werf space and historic buildings in more detail. The location from where the photographs were taken is illustrated in Figure 2.5 and the photographs themselves are illustrated in Figure 2.6 and Figure 2.7.

Along the approach road to the werf space, the Norfolk Pine forms a focal point, with the Homestead and the werf complex forming a backdrop to the vista (Viewpoint 1). As one enters the werf space, the façade of the Homestead is framed by the mature and historically significant Oak trees on either side of the façade (Viewpoint 2). When standing at the Homestead entrance, underneath the main gable, the Norfolk Pine tree again forms a focal point as an axial line centered on the historic gable in an easterly direction (Viewpoint 3).

From the center of the werf space, the façade of the Stable building and its clipped gable forms the southern boundary of the werf. The building's façade is somewhat obscured by vegetation (Viewpoint 4). The façade of the Cellar building forms the northern boundary of the werf space and is associated with a row of large Oak/ Plane trees (Viewpoints 4 and 5).

The Worker's Cottage and Second Outbuilding located to the west of the Homestead are illustrated in Viewpoints 6 and 7. Large and mature trees provide shade and screening in this area, along the northern façade of the Homestead. The façade of the Second Outbuilding is located asymmetrically between the Homestead and the Worker's Cottage from this vantage point (Viewpoint 7).

Views towards the surrounding mountainous landscape are available from the southern façade of the Homestead, to the west of the Stables (Viewpoint 8). Clear views towards the southern façade of the Homestead and its thatched side gable are available from Viewpoint 9. Clear views are also available from the Stables to the Homestead (Viewpoint 10).

Viewpoint 11 illustrates the werf complex located within its mountainous landscape setting. The werf complex is nestled in a valley and the buildings have been oriented to align on landscape features, with the gable of the Homestead aligning on the peaks of the Simonsberg Mountains (see Figure 2.7).

#### **VIEWPOINTS FOR SITE PHOTOGRAPHS**



S Q U A R E O N E

Figure 2.5: Site Photographs

## SITE PHOTOS





werf in the foreground





Viewpoint 4: View onto facade of historic Cellar from forecourt werf





Viewpoint 7: View between Homestead and Worker's Cottage onto Second Outbuilding

Figure 2.6: Photographs from specific viewpoints within and surrounding the werf complex  $-\,1$ 

## SITE PHOTOS



Viewpoint 8: View from southern facade of Homestead onto surrounding landscape



Viewpoint 8: View onto southern facade of Homestead



Viewpoint 9: View towards manor house, Stables and second dwelling from southern site boundary



Viewpoint 10: View from Stables towards Homestead



Viewpoint 11: Perspective view from surrouding landscape to the east of the site illustrating the Homestead with it's mountainous backdrop.

Figure 2.7: Photographs from specific viewpoints within and surrounding the werf complex – 2

#### 3. GUIDELINES FOR INTERVENTION

#### 3.1. Theoretical Framework

#### 3.1.1 Burra Charter

The theoretical analysis for appropriate interventions in sensitive heritage contexts is underpinned by the principles of the Burra Charter (2013). The Burra Charter advocates for a cautious approach to change in heritage environments. It advocates for doing as much as necessary to care for a place, while changing as little as possible to ensure that the cultural significance of a place is retained.

Article 15 of the Burra Charter advocates for change where necessary in order to retain cultural significance, while noting that change is undesirable in cases where cultural significance would be reduced. The amount of change that could be tolerated in an area should be guided by the site's cultural significance. Any change which reduces cultural significance should be reversible. Where change is undesirable, it should be reversed, where circumstances permit.

Article 21 discusses the suitability of new work in a historic context. New work is considered acceptable where it respects the cultural significance of place and does not distort, obscure or detract from its interpretation and cultural appreciation. The Burra Charter states that new work should respect the significance of place through its interpretation of design informants such as location, size, form, scale, character, context, colour, texture and material. It is generally recommended that the imitation of existing forms within the heritage context should be avoided. Instead, any new work should be readily identifiable as such, must be respectful to the heritage context, and must have minimal impact on the cultural significance or sense of place of the site.

#### 3.1.2 Significance of the Werf Space

Fransen and Cook (1965) note that the preservation of the werf is at least as important as the preservation of the more significant Cape vernacular homesteads themselves. They iterate that the placement of modernized buildings in proximity to the werf had already spoilt the integrity of a number of historic werfs, and recommend that any modern building interventions should be placed away from the historic werf and must not impact negatively on the integrity of the werf. They also note that the 'cluttering' of the werf with shrubs and clusters of trees must be avoided, as this erodes the integrity, intimacy and scale of the werf in relation to the surrounding buildings. Particular attention should be given to werf spaces to ensure that the historic character of the area is preserved and enhanced. It is therefore important that any interventions in the werf space are carefully considered so as to ensure that the integrity of the werf is retained and improved where possible (Fransen & Cook, 1965).

#### 3.2. Landscape Indicators

Landscape indicators provide a frame of reference to guide potential interventions at the site, based on the principles outlined in the theoretical framework above. The identified landscape indicators draw from the unique layout composition and character of the werf space. Landscape indicators include: the composition of the werf space elements, the positioning of mature trees of historic significance and mature screening vegetation, important views towards historic buildings and elements within the werf space, and important views from historic buildings within the werf space. These indicators are illustrated and described in Figure 3.1.

Figure 3.2 provides a composite landscape indicator diagram illustrating the important landscape and visual informants that should guide any potential development at the site. A series of areas are identified and numbered as landscape indicators, with a description of appropriate responses within each of the areas elaborated upon in more detail. These indicators can be used as informants to guide potential interventions at the site, with the aim of retaining and enhancing the site's cultural significance.

### LANDSCAPE INDICATORS

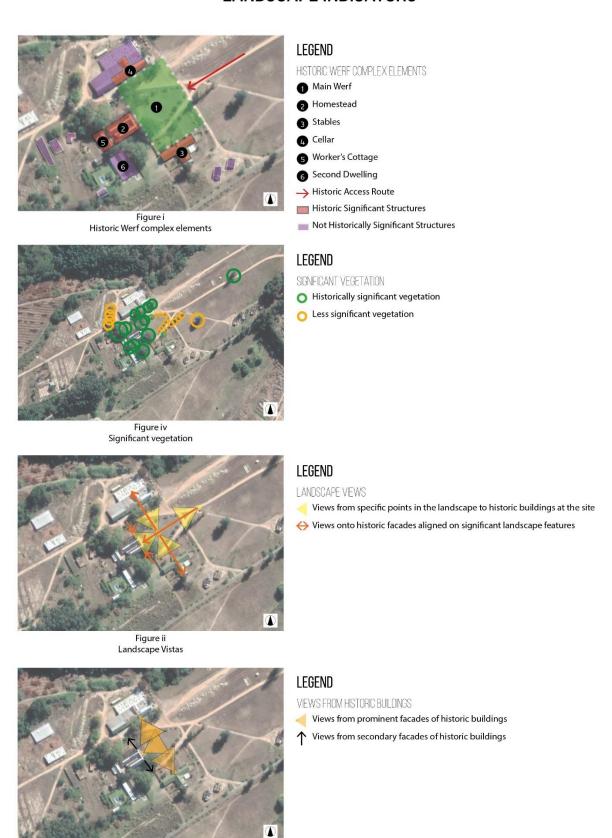


Figure 3.1: Landscape Indicators

Figure iii Architectural Vistas

#### LANDSCAPE INDICATORS: COMPOSITE



#### **LEGEND**

#### LANDSCAPE INDICATORS

- The integrity of the historic werf space must be retained, including the prominent visual axis toward the Homestead and the secondary visual axes towards the Cellar and Stables.
- The visual axis towards the historic Norfolk Pine (Auracaria Excelsa) from the Main Gable of the Homestead must be retained and enhanced where possible.
- 3 The historic vegetation within the werf complex must be retained, particularly the large Oak trees framing the Homestead. There are a number of shrubs/ smaller tree specimens within the werf complex. Where these do not contribute to the structure and significance of the werf space, they could be removed/ pruned/ where necessary. However, it is important that the design of the vegetation within the werf space is not overly formalised and that the rural character of the historic werf is retained as far as possible.
- The historic Weeping Boerboom (Schotia Brachypetala) seems to be in poor condition, although it forms an important component of the historc werf complex.
- Mature trees frame the Stable and Cellar buildings. Some of the vegetation associated with this portion of the werf is somewhat unkempt and foreground vegetation may detract from the prominence of the architectural facades.
- Visual axes onto the northern and southern facades of the Homestead should be retained and acknowledged in the design configuration.
- Mature vegetation surrounding the Homestead, Second Dwelling and Worker's Cottage frames and accentuates the landscape spaces. This vegetation should be carefully integrated into the design to ensure to ensure that the character is retained and that it becomes part of the design composition.



Significant vegetation

Figure A -Homestead and associated Norfolk Pine on visual axis



Figure B-Historic photographs of Norfolk Pine and Weeping Boerboom

Figure 3.2: Composite Landscape Indicators

#### 4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### 4.1. Project Description

The current development proposal for the site is illustrated in Figure 4.1. The intention is for the farmstead to be revived as the center-piece of a mixed-use working farm. Existing outbuildings and additional structures would be introduced such as blacksmiths shop, carpentry and joinery shop, bakery, kitchens, wagon sheds and animal barns. It is envisaged that these would function both as a tourist destination and an educational facility.



Figure 4.1: Proposed Site Plan Source: Open City, June 2020

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

The intention is for the historical buildings, namely the Homestead, Cellar, Stables and the Worker's Cottage to be restored and for their intrinsic significance to be re-established. Additional buildings will be introduced in line with geometric patterns based on the alignment of the existing structures.

3D representations illustrate the development strategy in Figure 4.2 to Figure 4.5. The first, Figure 4.2, shows the existing elements to be demolished. The historic buildings to be retained are shown in Figure 4.3, illustrating the basic historic spatial configuration of the buildings around the werf. The newly proposed buildings acknowledge and reinforce the historic werf building arrangement as shown in Figure 4.4.

Additional landscape elements are included in the design configuration, including new low werf walls, a kraal structure, and a new furrow that links two existing streams on either side of the werf, separating the historic werf complex from the new buildings. The intention is for most of the existing trees to be retained and for new tree lines to be established in line with the existing trees in front of the old Cellar and Stables. A small vegetable garden and orchard are proposed adjacent to the werf. This is illustrated in Figure 4.5.

Figure 4.6 and Figure 4.7 illustrate the various elevations of the werf complex, including the level changes associated with the new furrow.

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#### TO BE DEMOLISHED

The proposed demolitions are shown in red. Where additions have been made to buildings these are to be demolished to restore the original historical form of each building.

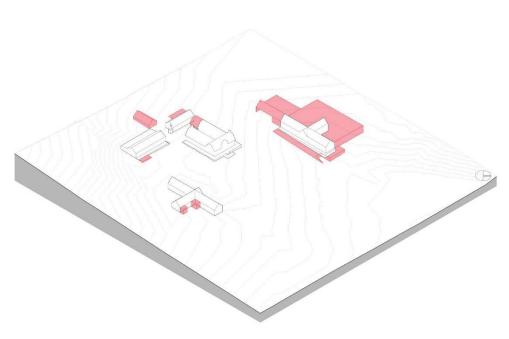


Figure 4.2: 3D Representation of the Existing Development showing areas to be demolished (in red)

Source: Open City, June 2020

#### HISTORICALLY RESTORED

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The historical buildings, namely the manor house, cellar, stables and the worker's cottage, are to be restored according to historical documentation and photographs. This will entitle reinstating the lost gables and that

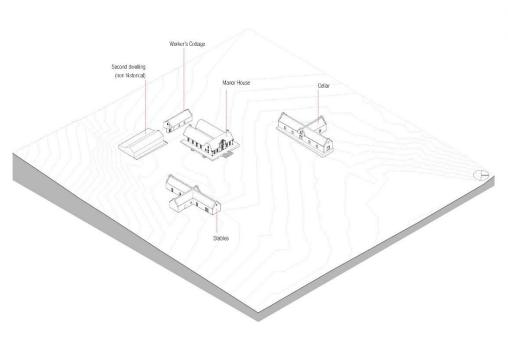


Figure 4.3: 3D Representation showing historic buildings to be restored

Source: Open City, June 2020

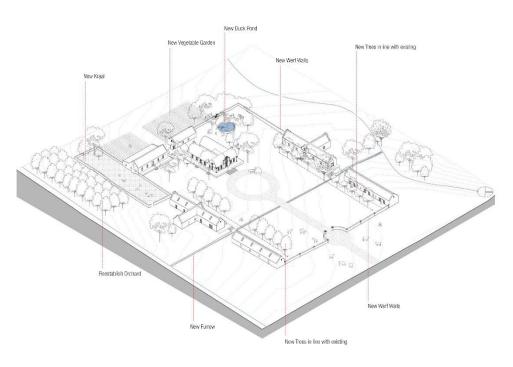
### NEW BUILDINGS

Two new barns are added towards the North, extending the werl approach to the Marnor House. This creates a more striking entrance and provides the accommodation for additional functions that will be required. The new barns are distinguished from the old by having plain end gebies and no central publics.

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Figure 4.4: 3D showing new buildings reinforcing werf structure

Source: Open City, June 2020



#### WERF WALLS

Werf walls are constructed in a historically relevant manner according to studies of other Cape dutch farmsteads. Other historically relevant functions, such as a knal, are also included in the new werf wall system that encloses the farmstead.

#### LANDSCAPING

Most existing trees are retained, and new tree lines are established in line with the existing tree lines in front of the old Cellar and Stables. This maintains the hierarchy of the existing Manor House with the two large celt rees that flank it.

A new furrow is proposed to link two existing streams on either side of the werf. The furrow forms the break between the old and new parts of the worf.

#### BEYOND THE WERF

Immediately adjacent to the werf a small vegetable garden and Orchard are proposed.

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Figure 4.5: 3D showing new buildings, additional werf walls and landscape elements

Source: Adapted from Open City, June 2020

#### CONTEXTUAL ELEVATIONS



Figure 4.6: Various contextual elevations towards the werf complex

Source: Open City, June 2020

#### CONTEXTUAL ELEVATIONS

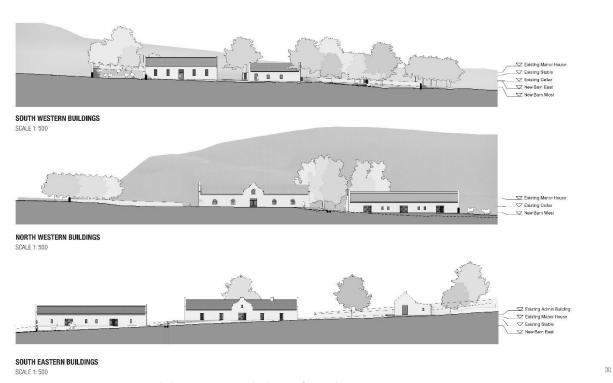


Figure 4.7: Various contextual elevations towards the werf complex

Source: Open City, June 2020

#### 5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Donkerhoek werf complex contains heritage resources of significant cultural value. Any potential development at the site must be designed in such a way to ensure the preservation of the site's cultural significance. Each Cape vernacular farmstead is unique in terms of its configuration. Buildings and werf spaces were historically configured in relation to landscape features in the surrounding natural environment. The configuration of the werf spaces and the associated historic buildings, mature vegetation and visual axes are key indicators informing the historic sense of place of the site.

The relevant site informants were analysed to develop landscape indicators that could inform potential development at the site. These indicators relate to the configuration of the werf complex, mature vegetation and important views and vistas to and from historic buildings within the werf complex. In addition to the landscape indicators that have been developed at the site, a number of design guidelines and recommendations have been identified to ensure that development at the site is sensitive to the heritage context. These are outlined in Section 5.1 below.

The design investigation conducted by Open City (June 2020) identified a number of similar werf configurations associated with farmsteads in the surrounding area (including Boschendal, Rhone, Babylonstoren and Lanzerac). Through the analysis of the werf spaces, it was determined that the geometrical expansion of the historic werf at Donkerhoek to the east of the Homestead would be an appropriate solution. The new proposed buildings mimic the scale and bulk of the historic structures, while retaining important visual axes within the werf space. The central furrow splits the historic werf space from the new extension to the werf space through a level change. The Homestead and its associated werf would then receive visual prominence in the configuration.

It should be noted that the over-formalization of the werf space is something that needs to be avoided in the design configuration. Historically, Cape vernacular werf spaces would have been very informal and understated. The introduction of additional structures and landscape elements into and along the boundaries of the werf space therefore needs to be carefully considered.

Overall, the configuration of the development is considered to be generally in keeping with the identified landscape indicators. However, there is some finer detailing and design articulation that needs to be taken into consideration to ensure that the sense of place of the historic werf is preserved as far as possible. Guidelines and recommendations are therefore provided here to ensure that the development proposal can incorporate these considerations during Phase 2 of the HIA. These guidelines and recommendations are outlined in more detail in Section 5.1.

#### 5.1. Guidelines and Recommendations

It is important that any future interventions respond appropriately to the heritage context and that the character of the historic complex is retained. In addition to the landscape indicators that have been developed for the site, must adhere to the following guidelines and recommendations:

- A suitably qualified arborist must be appointed to ensure that significant mature trees are
  pruned and trimmed where necessary and protected during construction to ensure that they
  are retained and enhanced in the design composition.
- The condition of the historic Weeping Boerboom (Schotia Brachypetala) must be ascertained and appropriate action taken to protect/ enhance its condition or to commemorate its existence.
- The approach to the werf space and the visual axis onto the Homestead and between the Homestead and the Norfolk Pine is of key concern. It is important that the low walls that may be introduced to delineate the extended werf space do not detract from the visual prominence of the Homestead when viewed from the historic approach, nor from the view from the Homestead towards the Norfolk Pine. There is a risk that the introduction of additional low walls could overly formalize the werf space and detract from its rural character.

The walls should be low, modest and subservient and the entrance gateway structure should be understated and simplified to ensure that the werf space retains its rural character.

- No entry or parking of visitor cars should be allowed in the werf space and cars should not be visible from the werf space.
- Intervention in the werf space should be limited as far as possible and the following considerations apply to any potential interventions within the werf space:
- Landscape interventions within the werf spaces should be recessive and subdued as far as possible, emphasizing the generosity and simplicity of the werf space. The werf space should be kept as naturalistic and simplistic as possible. The use of strong geometric design patterning within the werf landscape should be avoided where possible. Any introduced hard surface materials within the werf spaces should be kept as natural and recessive as possible, such as laterite or peach pips.
- Tree and shrub planting within the werf space should be carefully considered to ensure that it does not become over formalized. Tree planting that would enhance the significance and historic composition of the werf spaces can be considered. Trees should be implemented in such a way as to reinforce the integrity of the werf spaces and not to detract from the significance of the historic buildings. The over-formalized use of patterning in the werf landscape through the use of tree/ shrub planting should be avoided.
- O The construction of hard built structures (including decorations/ ornaments) in werf space should be avoided. Any decorative intervention (where considered necessary) should be 'placed' in the landscape rather than 'installed' and should be easily moveable. The use of permanent built structures and foundations should be avoided as far as possible.
- The introduction of low walls associated with the kraal and duck pond structures must acknowledge visual links between the northern and southern facades of the Homestead and the landscape. The walls should be configured in such a way that their geometries are subtly aligned on the geometries of the historic facades (particularly the side gables).
- The furrow structure that separates the historic and extended werf spaces must be designed
  in a sensitive and site appropriate manner. The materiality of the structure must be carefully
  considered to ensure that it references the site context, and contextually appropriate
  construction techniques. A level drop in the centre of the werf space must be avoided and
  appropriate grading must be done to ensure this is achieved.
- Interventions in the werf space, including pathways and circulation, the furrow, planting design, low wall and gateway structures should be designed in consultation with an appropriately qualified heritage Architect with heritage work in the Cape vernacular context.

#### 6. **CONTRIBUTORS**

Larissa Heyns PrLArch #20227 (SACLAP), MLArch (UCT), BSc ConsEcol (2005) is a professional Landscape Architect and Environmental Consultant with 10 years of experience. She graduated from UCT's Master of Landscape Architecture Programme with distinction in 2010. She became registered as a professional Landscape Architect in 2013 and subsequently worked as an Environmental Consultant on a number of large scale EIA projects within the Western Cape, Northern Cape, Angola and Guinea. She is registered with the Interim Certification Board for Environmental Practitioners, South Africa. Her expertise includes environmental planning and sensitivity analysis, landscape architectural design, VIA, EIAs, and EMPs.

Amy Feng, MLarch (UCT) 2007, BAS (UCT) 2005, Amy completed her Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS) degree at the University of Cape Town in 2005. She studied architectural theory and design, creating buildings with creative and functional interior spaces. In 2007, she obtained her Master of Landscape Architecture degree at UCT, expanding her knowledge in the field of landscape design where her studies focused on the design of outdoor spaces with an ecological approach. Having trained in both disciplines, her expertise lies in spatial design, detail design and technical detailing.

**Luke Coughlan**, #405 (SACLAP), MLAarch (UCT) 2018, BDes, he graduated from UCT's Master of Landscape Architecture Programme in 2018. His thesis project investigated the prioritisation of pedestrian public space through the reversal of modernist planning practices within Cape Town's CBD. His concept revolved around a reaction to the stark, harsh nature of modernism by using natural systems found on-site as inspiration for the design language that ultimately informed the practical aspects of the intervention. Luke is experienced in technical architectural and landscape modelling and 3D visualization for visual impact assessment purposes.

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