



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Fowl nesting places in the Assegaibosch werf wall



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Assegaibosch werf wall: entry steps in front of house

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

A wide, low whitewashed wall with pointed capping and low, fat pillars encloses the house and "garden". Below the house is a gateway and cement steps with low, narrow (single brick wide) walls as edging.

There is a gate behind the house, adjacent to the "kraal", giving access from the road that now runs up the east side of the werf. The road was previously west of the house (see 1938 aerial of the werf). The west wall turns at right angles to meet the stoep of the house, separating the front and back werfs.

Between two pillars in the east wall just below the house is a row of 5 arched nesting boxes. It is unusual to have open nesting-places, particularly in such a remote and "wild" location; they are usually in an enclosed fowl-run in which poultry could be protected from predators.

The wall has been largely rebuilt and replastered and is very smooth, level and crisp, lacking the softness and patina appropriate in a rural setting.

**Condition (short)**

good (over-restored)

**Architectural Style***Objects - History***History**

The wall was largely rebuilt during the 1960s restoration.

**Construction Date**                      **Associated People****Associated Events****References**

See James Walton's "Old Cape Farmsteads", 1989, for comparative examples of fowl-runs and nesting places.

*Objects - Assessment***Significance Statement**

The wall is a significant and typical element of Cape werfs. This one was largely rebuilt in the 1960s. The low, open nesting-places for hens are very unusual and impractical -- probably altered during restoration.

**Significance Category**

B, C, D, E

**Proposed Grading**

3

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Vulnerabilities****NHR Act Status**

&gt;60 yrs (S. 34)

**Date of Gazette****Official Grading****Recommendations****Composite - Objects****Property Name**

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

**Composite Name**

Assegaaibosch werf

**Heritage Resource Name**

Assegaaibosch kraal

**Catalogue Number**

02.14/01.03

**Type of Resource**

kraal



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Assegaibosch kraal



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Assegaibosch kraal, interior

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

Behind and west of the house is a large kraal (?), its base built of raw local stone and with a gate facing east. On top of the base wall a modern bagged brick shed has been built on the north side, and the walls raised on the other sides and roofed on the west and south to make open-sided sheds. The interior floor of the north half is level with, and slightly below the top of, the stone wall, while on the south side the cement floor rises with the ground, draining to a central channel.

**Condition (short)**

**Architectural Style**

***Objects - History***

**History**

The large square of this feature is clearly visible on the 1938 aerial photo, with a (probably pitched-roof) building on the north side and possibly with flat-roofed buildings on the west and south sides (see photo under werf Composite).

Fransen and Cook (1965) mention an early house, used as an outbuilding and possibly built by Peter Wuim, who owned the farm 1755-1792. It was probably the north building seen in 1938, the stone wall forming its plinth. It subsequently collapsed or was demolished. The present structure on the base probably dates from the 1965 Nature Conservation development.

**Construction Date**

18th C wall and plinth

**Associated People**

Peter Wuim. See Property history..

**Associated Events**

## References

### *Objects - Assessment*

#### **Significance Statement**

This feature may incorporate the remnants of the earliest known building on the property, dating from the 18th C. The modern building on top is appropriately low-key and not intrusive.

#### **Significance Category**

A, C

#### **Proposed Grading**

2/3

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

#### **Vulnerabilities**

#### **NHR Act Status**

>60 yrs (S. 34)

#### **Date of Gazette**

#### **Official Grading**

#### **Recommendations**

\* Further research required.

### ***Composite - Objects***

#### ***Property Name***

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

#### ***Composite Name***

Assegaaibosch werf

#### ***Heritage Resource Name***

Nature Conservation offices

#### ***Catalogue Number***

02.14/01.04

#### ***Type of Resource***

buildings



#### ***Photograph Date***

05/04

#### ***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

#### ***PhotoTitle***

WCNC research offices below Assegaaibosch werf  
(No 1 on detail drawing of werf composite)



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

WCNC research offices just below Assegaaibosch house (No 2 on detail drawing of werf composite)



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

WCNC research offices west of house (No 3 on detail drawing of werf composite)

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

Around the historical Assegaaibosch werf are various buildings of Western Cape Nature Conservation. Three house offices and research facilities. Two are below the werf (photos 1 and 2) and one is west of the house (photo 3). No 2 is a prefabricated building. The other two are in a similar pragmatic contemporary style with white masonry walls, low-pitched metal sheet roofing with rolled edges, long, high windows below the eaves and other metal windows. Parking areas and paths around the buildings are in rough, unpatterned brick paving.

**Condition (short)**

good

**Architectural Style**

contemporary

***Objects - History***

**History**

Built in 1965 by Cape Nature Conservation to house the flora and fauna section, which was moved from Jonkershoek. Designed by Chris Lochner.

**Construction Date**

1965

**Associated People**

**Associated Events**

**References**

**Objects - Assessment**

**Significance Statement**

The prefab is of no interest. The office buildings are architecturally undistinguished but relatively "quiet", which reduces their intrusive impact. They are of some cultural and recent-historical interest because of their association with the transformation of the farm to a nature reserve, and the scientific research that has taken place in them. Further research into Cape Nature Conservation activities required for assessment of the role of these dams. Further research into Cape Nature Conservation activities required for assessment of the role of these dams. Further research into Cape Nature Conservation activities required.

**Significance Category**

A, (F), (G), (H)

**Proposed Grading**

none

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Vulnerabilities**

**NHR Act Status**

**Date of Gazette**

**Official Grading**

**Recommendations**

**Composite - Objects**

**Property Name**

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

**Composite Name**

Assegaaibosch werf

**Heritage Resource Name**

Carports

**Catalogue Number**

02.14/01.05

**Type of Resource**

structure



**Photograph Date**

05/04

**Photographer**

Penny Pistorius

**PhotoTitle**

Carports below Assegaaibosch werf

**Objects - Description**

**Visual Description**

L-shaped rows of carports; metal roofs on pole construction. Directly below and in front of the werf and house.

**Condition (short)**

fair

**Architectural Style**

n/a

***Objects - History***

**History**

**Construction Date**

**Associated People**

**Associated Events**

**References**

***Objects - Assessment***

**Significance Statement**

Inappropriately positioned directly in front of the house, and intrusive in the werf environment.

**Significance Category**

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D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Proposed Grading**

none

**Vulnerabilities**

**NHR Act Status**

**Date of Gazette**

**Official Grading**

**Recommendations**

This parking area should be moved away from the area directly in front of the werf, where it intrudes on the view from the house. The area should be appropriately landscaped.

***Composite - Objects***

***Property Name***

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

***Composite Name***

Assegaaibosch werf

***Heritage Resource Name***

workpit

***Catalogue Number***

02.14/01.06

***Type of Resource***

structure



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Workpit, Assegaaibosch werf

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

Just above the kraal, next to the road is a concrete workpit with ramps to drive up, and steps down into the pit at the upper end. Presumably for servicing nature conservation vehicles.

**Condition (short)**

**Architectural Style**

***Objects - History***

**History**

Part of the 1965 CNC developments.

**Construction Date**

**Associated People**

**Associated Events**

**References**

***Objects - Assessment***

**Significance Statement**

Associated with broader nature conservation activities (but not with core activities).

**Significance Category**

**Proposed Grading**

none

**Vulnerabilities**

**NHR Act Status**

**Date of Gazette**

**Official Grading**

**Recommendations**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
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C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

## ***Composite - Objects***

### ***Property Name***

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

### ***Composite Name***

Assegaaibosch werf

### ***Heritage Resource Name***

workshop

### ***Catalogue Number***

02.14/01.07

### ***Type of Resource***



### ***Photograph Date***

05/04

### ***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

### ***PhotoTitle***

Workshop, Assegaaibosch werf

## ***Objects - Description***

### **Visual Description**

Monopitch workshop building with attached open-sided shed enclosed with metal mesh and gates. Large brick-paved yard in front, fenced from the road with split timber poles..

### **Condition (short)**

fair

### **Architectural Style**

n/a

## ***Objects - History***

### **History**

Part of the 1965 CNC developments.

### **Construction Date**

### **Associated People**

### **Associated Events**

### **References**

## ***Objects - Assessment***

### **Significance Statement**

Associated with nature conservation activities (but not with core activities).

**Significance Category****Proposed Grading**

none

**Vulnerabilities****NHR Act Status****Date of Gazette****Official Grading****Recommendations**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
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**Composite - Objects****Property Name**

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

**Composite Name**

Assegaaibosch werf

**Heritage Resource Name**

raptor aviaries

**Catalogue Number**

02.14/01.08

**Type of Resource****Photograph Date**

05/04

**Photographer**

Penny Pistorius

**PhotoTitle**

Raptor aviaries, Assegaaibosch werf

**Objects - Description****Visual Description**

Sited on a raised, level bank adjacent to the workshop above the werf, only part of what was once a long row of cages remains (the foundations of the remainder are visible). The aviaries are of steel pole and mesh construction; those that survive are "furnished" with stone water features, hollow logs, etc.

**Condition (short)****Architectural Style****Objects - History****History**

Hey (1995:131): " In order to complete the [flora and fauna research] facilities a series of large aviaries were built for research on the breeding of rare birds, such as the Cape parrot and Knysna loerie, with a view to reintroducing them into habitats where they had once occurred."

**Construction Date**

1960s

**Associated People****Associated Events****References*****Objects - Assessment*****Significance Statement**

Associated with a particular period in Cape Nature Conservation development when breeding of endangered species was an important activity. Further research into Cape Nature Conservation activities required for assessment of the role of these aviaries.

**Significance Category**

A, G, H

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
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D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Proposed Grading****Vulnerabilities**

Disused and mostly demolished; only a sample remains.

**NHR Act Status****Date of Gazette****Official Grading****Recommendations**

Conservation and interpretation as a demonstration of this particular activity in the history of CNC could be considered.

***Composite - Objects******Property Name***

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

***Composite Name***

Assegaaibosch werf

***Heritage Resource Name***

Staff house (south)

***Catalogue Number***

02.14/01.09

***Type of Resource***

house

***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Staff house (south) above Assegaaibosch werf.

### *Objects - Description*

#### **Visual Description**

The access road continues past the workshops up the hill, parallel with the west stream, and ends at an undistinguished bungalow with steel windows.

#### **Condition (short)**

#### **Architectural Style**

late 20th C

### *Objects - History*

#### **History**

Built by Nature Conservation in the 1960s.

#### **Construction Date**

1960s

#### **Associated People**

#### **Associated Events**

#### **References**

### *Objects - Assessment*

#### **Significance Statement**

No heritage significance

#### **Significance Category**

#### **Proposed Grading**

none

#### **Vulnerabilities**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
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#### **NHR Act Status**

#### **Date of Gazette**

#### **Official Grading**

#### **Recommendations**

### *Composite - Objects*

#### **Property Name**

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

#### **Composite Name**

Assegaaibosch werf

#### **Heritage Resource Name**

water-fowl rearing pens and dams

#### **Catalogue Number**

02.14/01.10

#### **Type of Resource**

tanks



***Photograph Date***

05/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Concrete tanks, west of WCNC's main research offices.

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

In the garden behind WCNC's main research offices is a row of concrete tanks, set into a bank., Built for rearing water fowl, they are currently disused. Beyond them, to the west of the werf, at the edge of the valley, are two dams, currently fairly overgrown.

**Condition (short)**

**Architectural Style**

***Objects - History***

**History**

Associated with Cape Nature Conservation research and breeding activities, which were characteristic of its early history as an organisation. Hey (1995:129): "One of the first developments [at Assegaaibosch after its purchase in 1960] was the erection of a series of rearing pens for water-fowl and the construction of four large ponds for adult birds." Further research required.

**Construction Date**

1960s-'70s?

**Associated People**

unknown

**Associated Events**

unknown

**References**

***Objects - Assessment***

**Significance Statement**

Associated with Cape Nature Conservation research and breeding activities. Further research into Cape Nature Conservation activities required for assessment of the significance of water-fowl research.

**Significance Category**

A, (G), (H)

**Proposed Grading**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Vulnerabilities**

Disused.

**NHR Act Status**

**Date of Gazette**

**Official Grading**

## Recommendations

### *Composite - Objects*

#### *Property Name*

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

#### *Composite Name*

Assegaaibosch werf

#### *Heritage Resource Name*

Access road and bridge

#### *Catalogue Number*

02.14/01.11

#### *Type of Resource*

road



#### *Photograph Date*

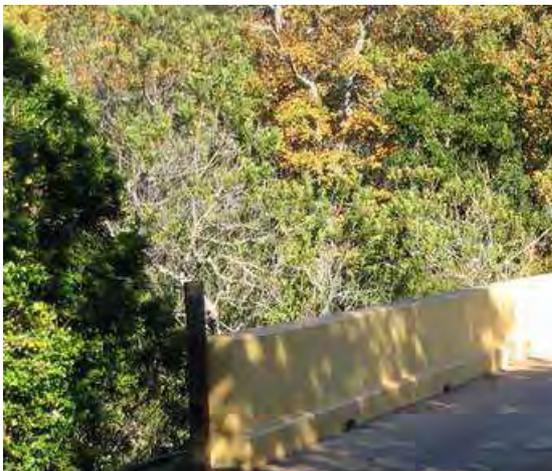
1938

#### *Photographer*

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping

#### *PhotoTitle*

1938 aerial showing road entering werf west of the house. The present road runs along the east edge of the field.



#### *Photograph Date*

06/04

#### *Photographer*

Penny Pistorius

#### *PhotoTitle*

Bridge to Assegaaibosch from Jonkershoek



***Photograph Date***

06/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Assegaibosch, road and parking for WCNC offices



***Photograph Date***

06/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Assegaibosch, road toward the werf wall



***Photograph Date***

06/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

The old road south of the river, typical riverine forest and oaks on the right.

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

The old road to Assegaibosch still runs from the west boundary along the south bank of the Eerste River. The main access road to the werf is now from Jonkershoek. It crosses the Eerste River over a concrete bridge and runs east of the werf, near the banks of the stream. It is paved in parts with rough brick, as are various parking areas associated with the offices.

**Condition (short)**

**Architectural Style**

## *Objects - History*

### **History**

The 1902 (Brink) map shows the main access road for the valley as a whole running along the south bank of the Eerste River, not the north as it does now. It entered Assegaaibosch and shortly thereafter crossed the river to the farms on the north bank. Although not shown, the road to Assegaaibosch continued on the south bank. This road is visible on the 1938 aerial, curving upwards parallel to and west of the axis of the house.

After the acquisition of the property by Nature Conservation in 1960, Hey (1995:129) writes that the "first step was to provide access from the hatchery. . . the Provincial Roads Department . . . Estimate of the cost was far beyond our means. We therefore decided to build the bridge departmentally, based on a simplified design . . . We were fortunate in finding a suitable site, where both the banks were higher than flood level and holes could be excavated to below the river bed, to cast solid foundations for the pillars. Using cut-off pine timber from the local saw-mill for shuttering, a strong reinforced deck with raised sides for added strength, was cast to connect the pillars. Despite all the dire predictions, the bridge has survived many floods and is still in use today, thanks to the good work and ingenuity of our foreman carpenter Mr James Adendorff and the works team."

The access road was moved to the east, probably at the same time. A line of trees on the werf still shows the alignment of the old road.

### **Construction Date                      Associated People**

1960

### **Associated Events**

### **References**

## *Objects - Assessment*

### **Significance Statement**

### **Significance Category**

A

### **Proposed Grading**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
C = information potential	H = assoc. NB person / group
D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

### **Vulnerabilities**

### **NHR Act Status**

### **Date of Gazette**

### **Official Grading**

### **Recommendations**

## *Composite - Objects*

### ***Property Name***

Assegaaibosch, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

### ***Composite Name***

Assegaaibosch werf

### ***Heritage Resource Name***

Assegaaibosch werf north meadow

### ***Catalogue Number***

02.14/01.12

### ***Type of Resource***

landscape



***Photograph Date***

06/04

***Photographer***

Penny Pistorius

***PhotoTitle***

Assegaaibosch werf north meadow

***Objects - Description***

**Visual Description**

Below the werf and above the old road is a meadow with clumps of trees, sloping up to the buildings and the dams to their west.

**Condition (short)**

**Architectural Style**

***Objects - History***

**History**

This gently sloping land was probably farmed from the earliest stages; in 1938 it was orchards.

**Construction Date**

**Associated People**

**Associated Events**

**References**

***Objects - Assessment***

**Significance Statement**

The open meadow provides a suitable "forecourt" for views up towards the werf and of the kloofs beyond; it is part of the werf landscape.

**Significance Category**

A, E

**Proposed Grading**

A = course / pattern of history	F = creative / technical
B = rarity	G = social / cultural / spiritual
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D = characteristic of type	I = slavery
E = aesthetic	

**Vulnerabilities**

**NHR Act Status**

**Date of Gazette**

**Official Grading**

**Recommendations**