

# Heritage Survey: Stellenbosch Rural Areas

by Penny Pistorius and Stewart Harris - June 2004

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## **Sub Area Name**

Jonkershoek

## **Catalogue Number**

02.30

## **Property Name**

Topas, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

## **Alternative Names**

Songeur

## **Farm Number**

334/10

## **Linkages**

Klein Gustrouw Historical property

## **Heritage Resource Name**

Topas

## **Type of Resource**

smallholding

## **Composites**

none



## **Photo Date**      **Photographer**

1980

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping

## **Photo Title**

Orthophoto with added cadastrals 1980



## **Photo Date**      **Photographer**

V

Penny Pistorius

## **Photo Title**

Stables below the dam



***Photo Date***      ***Photographer***  
05/05                  Penny Pistorius

***Photo Title***  
House in south west corner, next to Jonkershoek road.



***Photo Date***      ***Photographer***  
05/05                  Penny Pistorius

***Photo Title***  
Topas main house



***Photo Date***      ***Photographer***  
06/04                  Penny Pistorius

***Photo Title***  
Topas from Mount Happy, across the river



**Photo Date**      **Photographer**

CAM2-409

**Photo Title**

1902 map: Red blocks 17th century grants, yellow lines early 19th c, pink dots roads. Grey/black rivers.



**Photo Date**      **Photographer**

1938

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping

**Photo Title**

1938 aerial photo with added (current) cadastrals



**Photo Date**      **Photographer**

2000

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping

**Photo Title**

2000 aerial photo

## **Description**

### **Visual Description**

A long, narrow wedge-shaped property above the Jonkershoek Road, bounded west by Leef op Hoop and east by Bergsig. It is part of the rounded, gently sloping foothill that forms the eastern edge of the Klein Gustrouw-Leef op Hoop valley. The entrance is via a gateway in the south east corner, and a road with (young)

### **Notes**

4,3619 ha  
In 2002 the owner/main shareholder was K Strauli.

plane tree avenue runs up the east side past horse paddocks and a dam. There are several buildings, none of them older than 60 years. The main house near the top, below a triangle of vines, has a complex thatched roof that blends into the landscape (photos 5, 6). Two other cottages and a stable block are in an unobtrusive contemporary vernacular style (photos 7, 8).

### **History**

This property is a tiny piece of a historically important grant/s made in 1683 and confirmed in 1692 to freed slave Anthony of Angola or Louis of Bengal (see Klein Gustrouw People, photo 4). By 1696 as part of Klein Gustrouw/Leef op Hoop it had entered the Groenewald property empire (see Lanzerac) and was farmed as part of a greater whole. See Klein Gustrouw historical property for history of the larger property. The old north bank road may have run higher than the present road. In 1938 it appears not to have been subdivided, but to have been part of Bergsig (photo 3)

### **Historical Notes**

Deeds Office search not attempted.

### **Associated People**

See Klein Gustrouw Historical Property

### **Associated Events**

### **References**

- 1902 Brink Map CA M2-409 shows location of grants
- 1938 aerial photograph.
- 1980s orthophoto
- 2000 aerial photograph.
- 1950 Lockley photograph
- 1986 Sutherland photograph

### **Assessment**

#### **Significance Statement**

This property was previously part of the greater Klein Gustrouw/Leef op Hoop property and was subdivided in the 20th century. It has no historical buildings, but is an integral part of the cultural landscape of the valley.

#### **Significance Category**

A, E

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	

#### **Proposed Grading**

3 heritage area (s. 31)

#### **Vulnerabilities**

#### **Recommendations**

#### **NHR Act Status**

No buildings older than 60 years

#### **Date of Gazette**

#### **SAHRA File ref.**

#### **Official Grading**

### **Maps**

#### **Number of Ortho Photo**

**GPS X**

#### **Date of Ortho Photo**

**GPS Y**

#### **Aerial Photograph Date**

**GPS Model**

*Aerial Photo Number*

*GPS Setting*

*Composites (groups of clusters of heritage resources: sub-places and areas)*

*Property Name*

*Composite Name*

*Catalogue Number*

*Type of Resource*

*Objects*