

Heritage Survey: Stellenbosch Rural Areas

by Penny Pistorius and Stewart Harris - June 2004

Sub Area Name

Jonkershoek

Catalogue Number

02.18

Property Name

Die Eiland, KJA Kamp, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

Alternative Names

Die Eiland, Sport for Christ Action South Africa

Farm Number

345/10

Linkages

Old Nectar Historical Property

Heritage Resource Name

KJA Kamp

Type of Resource

youth camp

Composites

none



Photo Date ***Photographer***

05/05

Penny Pistorius

Photo Title

KJA Camp entrance across cement ford over north stream of river.



Photo Date ***Photographer***

05/05

Penny Pistorius

Photo Title

KJA Camp field, looking west



Photo Date **Photographer**

CAM2-409

Photo Title

1902 map: Red/orange 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 (approximate current) cadastrals



Photo Date **Photographer**

1980

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping

Photo Title

Orthophoto with added cadastrals



Photo Date **Photographer**

05/05

Penny Pistorius

Photo Title

KJA Camp Main building from north east.

Description

Visual Description

Property bounded by the Jonkershoek road north, Eerste River south, 1841 boundary with Jonkershoek east, Old Nectar nursery west . An island between the Eerste Rivier and a minor side stream. Traces of other dry stream beds on the property. The central area is raised above the flood plain; on it is a large single storey building with a field west of it. Scattered around the remainder of the property are various outbuildings, water tanks, a timber cottage on stilts, and many adventure play items. It has a common entrance from the public road shared with the Jonkershoek picnic area; the cycle lane at the side of the road terminates here. Access is down a private track which crosses a concrete bridge (no side barriers) to reach the main building.

Notes

2.7472 ha

Owner: Dutch Reformed Church. Sport for Christ Action South Africa has a 60 year lease which commenced in 1999.

History

The property is basically the shifting bed of the Eerste Rivier, land that the Company did not grant when the Jonkershoek valley was opened up for development in the 1680s. Though farmers used the land in this vicinity for 150 years, this piece was not granted till 1841 when Charles Marais of Old Nectar acquired it. (See Old Nectar property 02.20). The 1902 map shows the Eerste River with several distinctly marked routes. Recent gabions throughout the course of the Eerste have given it a much stronger main bed than in the past. The need for gabions demonstrates that previously the area was regularly flooded.

Youth camps are characteristic of this end of the Jonkershoek valley. The generations of young people who have visited them will have strong memories. The camps were attracted here by the wilderness qualities of the area, and their presence helps protect this despite the spread of gentleman's residences up the valley. The 1938 aerial photograph shows there was a meadow but no buildings on the raised central area. There is said to have been an earlier house in the position of the main building, adjacent to a cement water tank (which has been converted into a store). Oral history is that the DR Church acquired the land in 1954. The KJA [?Jeug?] initiated the camping and outdoor pursuits centre. A similar group, Sport for Christ Action South Africa, has a 60 year lease which commenced in 1999. The property's history should be studied further and the above outline confirmed.

Historical Notes

Deeds Office search not attempted.

Associated People

See Old Nectar Historical Property

Associated Events

There may have been Youth associated events.

References

1902 Brink Map CA M2-409 shows location of grants
1938 aerial photograph.
1980s orthophoto
2000 aerial photograph.
Site inspection April 2005.

Assessment

Significance Statement

Part of the cultural landscape of the valley.

Significance Category

A, G

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

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