

Heritage Survey: Stellenbosch Rural Areas

by Penny Pistorius and Stewart Harris - June 2004

Sub Area Name

Jonkershoek

Catalogue Number

02.34/00

Property Name

Klein Gustrouw historical property, Jonkershoek, Stellenbosch District

Alternative Names

formerly Leef op Hoop

Farm Number

334 (all portions)

Linkages

All portions of farm 334: Klein Gustrouw, Bo Gustrouw, Leef op Hoop, Die Eiland (Municipal), Oude Nektar, Bergsig, Konstanz, Olien, Topas, Klein Gustrouw waterworks, River House, Le Cilliers, Chase Farm

Heritage Resource Name

Klein Gustrouw historical property

Type of Resource

historical farm

Composites

none

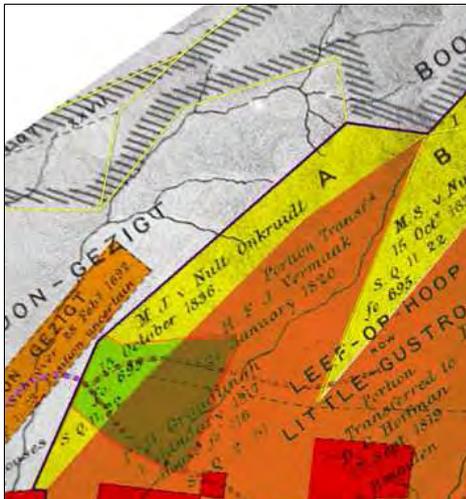


Photo Date

Photographer

CAM2-409, Penny Pistorius

Photo Title

Klein Gustrouw: historical growth (overlay on 1902 map). 17th C red; 1817 orange; 1836 yellow; present Klein Gustrouw green overlay.

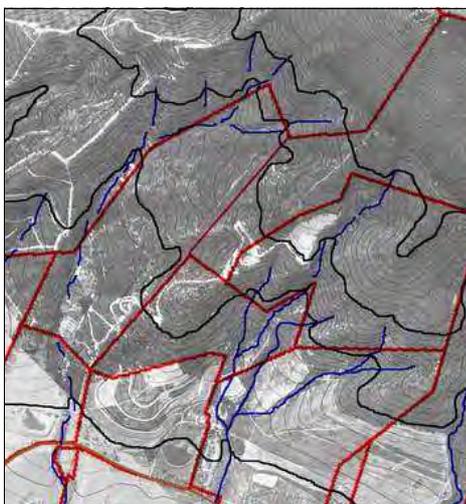


Photo Date

Photographer

1980

Chief Director: Surveys & Mapping, Penny Pistorius

Photo Title

Klein Gustrouw: historical property: 1980 orthophoto with added cadastrals, rivers and selected contours.

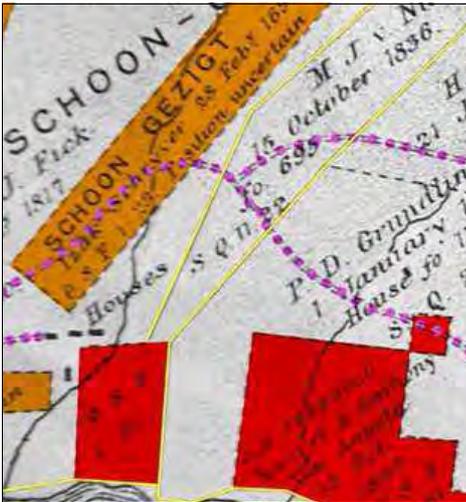


Photo Date **Photographer**

CAM2-409

Photo Title

1902 map showing original grants. Louis of Bengal's is the two pieces on the right, each side of the Eerste River. Anthony and Manuel of Angola's grant included all the other red pieces, to the left of Louis'.



Photo Date **Photographer**

1950s

Studio Lockley

Photo Title

Historical Klein Gustrouw stretched from the crumpled ridge left to the ridge with a high field just right of centre, and included the sloping plain near the river, behind Lanzerac (bottom left).

Description

Visual Description

Klein Gustrouw at its largest (1836 -1841) was a very large farm which stretched from historical Lanzerac (Schoongezicht) in the west to historical Old Nectar (Weltevreden) in the east, and from the ridge of the Jonkershoekberge in the north to the Eerste River in the south (See photo 1).

The historical farm comprises the valleys of two important north bank tributaries to the Eerste River -- the Pontakkloof stream in the west, and the Kleinplaaskloof stream in the east. The western edge of the historical property is a crumpled ridge that sweeps down from Botmaskop, with various knolls stepping out from it; it culminates in a cone-shaped hill above the flat, gently-sloping plain which stretches down to the Eerste River along the southern edge of the farm. Between the two streams is another ridge of stepped knolls, descending to a rounded hill. The eastern edge is the sharp ridge we call the Bult (now part of Konstanz and Oude Nectar west), which comes down almost to the river and divided historical Klein Gustrouw from historical Old Nectar. (Photos 2, 3) See current Properties for further descriptions.

Notes

History

A thousand years before the Cape was settled, the Jonkershoek Valley was visited in January each year by the Khoi, who grazed their herds on the plain and the water meadows each side of the river. In late summer as the fynbos grew depleted they moved on towards Malmesbury. To encourage re-growth for cattle and sheep grazing, they burnt patches of

land. A cultural landscape came into being, an environment modified by the herds' close grazing and the fired fields.

In the 1680s agriculturalists settled in the valley. Their principal mission was to grow grain, but they also planted vineyards and had extensive herds of sheep and cattle. To plant their crops they probably utilised fields on the plain already fired by the Khoi, and the water meadows grazed back by Khoi herds. The first grants were a patchwork of six or seven disconnected fields, given in c1683 and confirmed in c1692, but over the years the settlers used all surrounding land they found to be arable (photo 4).

The principal pioneer was Anthony of Angola -- D'swarte Anthoni is mentioned among significant farmers drawn on a map of the South Western Cape in 1688/90. He had a partner, Manuel of Angola, who soon disappears from the records; together they were granted nearly 58 morgen. (See People for more details.) Anthony flourished. In 1688 the census records him with horses, 18 cattle, 196 sheep, fields of wheat and rye and 600 vines -- giving an insight into how the land was being used -- and by 1692 he had increased his vineyard to 4 000 stocks. By this time land modifications had been introduced. Most importantly, the Pontakkloof stream was dammed and led by different routes to irrigate the vineyards and the vegetable garden for home consumption. There can be no doubt that a werf was also created in a position fed by the new water supply. It is not known where this was but, since werfs seldom change their location once water supplies are established, it is assumed that the essence of the present Klein Gustrouw werf was formed in the 1680s. Interestingly, the werf was located outside the boundaries of his grant, on land used 'as by right', as at Lanzerac nearby.

Another pioneer was Louis of Bengal, also a freed slave. (See People.) His farm, east of Anthony's, drew its water supplies from the Kleinplaaskloof stream and was called Leef-op-Hoop, about 29 morgen. His grant was made in 1683 and confirmed in 1692 but it may not have been a very productive farm -- no crops are recorded in the 1688 census though this may be an omission. He got into financial difficulties and sold it in 1696. No werf has been traced and it might have been a makeshift affair. There is an intriguing possibility that it was located at the present Bergsig farmstead.

This pioneer stage lasted about 12 years. In 1696 the owner of Lanzerac, Isaac Shryver, acquired both farms. Since he had a werf close by, those on the Angola and Bengal grants may have degraded, in one case melting completely away. But the water systems were looked after, and possibly expanded. He and his family gradually acquired all the farms in the Jonkershoek valley excluding Assegaibosch (See Lanzerac history.)

So matters stood for more than a hundred years. The Jonkershoek farms were modest, not expensive when compared to great Cape estates elsewhere. In 1790 the valley farms were acquired by CJ Albertyn from his grandmother's estate. He subdivided the family holding c1808. He sold the Angola and Bengal grants to Pieter Daniel Grundlingh and retired to Old Nectar where he built the famous gable in 1815.

In 1817 Grundlingh was granted considerable amounts of land around the original grants: adding the land around the patchwork of fields on the gentle slope, acquiring the traditional werf area for the first time and getting more land reaching up the valleys of the two main tributaries that fed his land (see photo 1). By this time it is probable that Grundlingh had built the U shaped house at the core of the present Georgian house, and with it the outbuildings necessary to run a farm (see Klein Gustrouw, 02.34, and Leef op Hoop, 02.32).

In 1836 the farm passed to Mynhardt Jacobus van Nult Onkruydt, who renamed the property Klein Gustrouw and is said to have Georgianised the house. He added more territory: the ridge between the Pontakkloof and Kleinplaaskloof streams and the ridges both east and west of their catchment areas. The historical property was now at its fullest extent. In 1852 the farm passed to Onkruydt's adopted son Mynhardus Onkruydt Marais, and stayed in the Marais family until it was broken up.

In the early 1900s the estate was divided through the middle of the homestead, dividing the werf in two -- the west side is now Klein Gustrouw and the east side Leef op Hoop (02.32). The two sides continued to be owned by branches of the Marais family - Lourens Marais on the west, Klein Gustrouw side, and Tielman Marais on the east, Leef op Hoop side. A descendent of MO Marais still owns Leef op Hoop. By the end of the 20th century the farm had been divided into 16 pieces. See modern Properties 02.24 and 02.26-35.

Historical Notes

Deeds Office search not attempted. It is essential and may influence the social heritage values of the place and link them to building episodes and the sweep of history. It will also produce land surveys showing boundaries and possibly buildings and landscape features, and suggest areas with archaeological potential.

Associated People

* 1683 - c1696 -- Anthony of Angola

Freed slave from Angola who was granted the large farm on the Angola stream in 1683, regranted 1692, later called Klein Gustrouw, with a partner, Manuel of Angola [qv]. The grant was nearly 58 morgen in size -- twice as big as other farms in the Valley. It was in several parts, scattered fields and water meadows probably established by Khoi herders. It was sufficiently notable to be marked on a c1688 map and Anthony and Manuel were efficient farmers: between 1688 and 1692 they increased the number of vines from 600 to 4000. Boeseken 1977:88-9 writes that he 'had been among the first slaves brought to the Cape ... in 1658. He was sold [several times, eventually to] Wijnant Leendertz, who was the owner of a farm bordering on the Company's property called Rustenburg. This deed was signed on the 13th of February 1671. Anthony probably learned to farm here. He must have been manumitted during or before the year 1680 ... [after which he worked] as a knecht until 31st May 1683. He would plough and sow and gather in the harvest for f200 a year ... In the muster roll of 1685 he appears on the list of Free Burghers as a Free Black married to Lijsbeth from the Cape. He found a partner in Manuel from Angola [and in 1683] they were given a farm... Together they bought a slave, Sijmen Ham ... [who] was killed in an accident in 1690 while he was helping to pursue a group of rebellious slaves. Anthony asked the Council of Policy to compensate him for the loss of his slave, naming a sum of f600 [but because] he caused his own death by stumbling over a flint-lock [Anthony was given] half the amount he asked for, which was still f45 more than the slave had cost the partners six years earlier ... There is no evidence that Manuel and Anthony bought another slave*, but in 1694 Hans Jes from Sleewijck became a labourer on the farm and when Anthony died, a slave woman Susanna and her child were liberated. When Anthony from Angola died in 1696, his estate was small but solvent. On his farms he had built a small house with a thatched roof. One bed and bedding with two pillows, a kist with clothes and a large box containing carpenter's tools, two iron pots and a tin platter, a space, two chairs and a tea table completed the furniture. On the farm various implements and seven oxen and a cow were found. ... On a map [CA M42] which was drawn probably in the late eighties of this century [c1688-90], the farms of 'de Swarte Anthony' and of Anthony de Kaffer' are

marked as two different farms.'

* Shell 1994:22 states that he hired a free knegt Willem Teerling and later an ex-soldier, Christian Marenz from Hamburg. (CA M42, OSF1:61 or 63, 1902 Brink Map CA M2/409, Boeseken 1977:88-9, 124, 128, 142, Albertyn c1997:3-7, 10, Shell 1994:116, Fransen and Cook 1965:60-2, Smuts ed 1979:66-68, Hattingh 1980.)

* 1683 - c1692 -- Manuel of Angola

Freed slave from Angola who was granted the large farm on the Angola stream in 1693, later called Klein Gustrouw (with a partner, Anthony of Angola). There is no reason to think they were related; they were possibly captured on the same slaving expedition of 1658. He and his wife Elisabeth were liberated by Hester van Lier in 1681. The grant was nearly 58 morgen in size -- twice as big as other farms in the Valley. Anthony and Manuel were efficient farmers: between 1688 and 1692 they increased the number of vines from 600 to 4000. He was regranted the farm with Anthony in 1692, but is never mentioned in the census records of the period, nor is he mentioned when the farm was sold in 1696. (OSF1:61 or 63, 1902 Brink Map CA M2/409, Boeseken 1977:88-9, 139, 142, Albertyn c1997:3-7, Shell 1994:116, Fransen and Cook 1965:60-2, Smuts ed 1979:66-68.)

* 1683 - 1696 -- Louis of Bengal

Slave born in present day Bangladesh c1651, servant to high-ranking Dutch East India Company officials. Brought to the Cape c1670. Ambitious and entrepreneurial man who bought his freedom when aged about 21. His name appears as a 'Free Black' on the list of residents virtually every year from 1673 till 1716. In 1675 he was granted a piece of land in the Table Valley (Gardens Shopping Centre) and next year a town erf in Hout Street, corner of St George's Mall. On this he built a house with a thatched attic in which his own slaves lived. By 1683 he was living in Stellenbosch, where he was granted a 29 morgen piece of land in the Jonkershoek Valley which he called Leef-op-Hoop. In 1688 he lived there with his wife, a knegt and three slaves. No crops are recorded but since he had a knegt this may be an omission -- typically he would have had a vineyard, wheat fields and many sheep. He had a very unhappy marriage to Lysbeth Saunders of the Cape*. She was a slave he met (1678), bought (1680), freed (1683), had two children with (1680 and 1686), and married in 1687. That Louis had a knegt to run the farm suggests he may have been absent for extended periods at his other properties in Cape Town (where he had had a child by another woman in 1685). Soon after marriage, Lysbeth Saunders started a torrid affair with the knegt, a 56-year-old Englishman called William Teerling. Louis fired him and Lysbeth left. The couple were divorced in 1688, a scandal at the time in which Louis pressed for Lysbeth's re-enslavement (which he would continue to do for the next 27 years). Louis seems to have got custody of the children.

In 1690 he left the Stellenbosch district and returned to the Table Valley. His Leef-op-Hoop grant was confirmed in 1692 but the Stellenbosch census does not record him as present. He may have put the farm on the market from about this time, but could not find a buyer for in 1696 it was sold to the Orphan Chamber for f400, distinctly under-priced. By 1697 he was in financial difficulties and in 1705 he was forced to sell his Hout Street property to repay a debt. In 1712 he sold the last of his properties.

Despite his acrimonious divorce, and though he was financially stretched, Louis was widely respected in the community. All Free Blacks at the time were received into the Dutch Reformed Church but Louis was the only one to be confirmed. Friends frequently asked him to be Godfather at their children's christenings. He married Rebecca of Macassar in 1694 and died about 1716. Amongst his household goods were a round table, two mirrors, six high-backed chairs made of ebony, an ordinary bed and a four-poster. His three daughters were absorbed into the white community and were among the ancestors of notable Afrikaans families such as Du Plessis, Pretorius, Myburgh, Coetzee, etc.

*Boeseken and Hattingh disagree on several points, including how legal the marriage was. Boeseken also mentions that while Louis was a slave, his huisvrouw was d'Hottentoinne Zara -- the only Khoi woman to have married a slave. (1902 Brink Map CA M2/409, OSF 1:61 or 63, Hattingh 1980, Boeseken 1977:89-91, 97, 142, 113 (his signature mark), Guelke 1990 (property transactions), Albertyn (census data), Shell 1994).

* 1696 - 1790

Isaac Shryver, Anna Hasselaar and other members of the Groenewald family

See Lanzerac Historical Property

* 1790 - before 1817 -- Coenraad Johannes Albertyn b1c11

Born in 1768, he had close connections with families in the Jonkershoek Valley. One grandmother was Anna Hasselaar and the other was the widow of Jan de Jonker (See Jonkershoek). He married Gertruida de Villiers in 1787, and they had 10 children 1788-1808. In 1790 he bought the four lower farms in the Valley, Mostertsdrift, Lanzerac, and both parts of Klein Gustrouw, from the estate of Anna Hasselaar. He sold Mostertsdrift, Lanzerac in 1808 and possibly Klein Gustrouw at the same time. Bought Old Nectar in 1813, named it Nektar and built the house that stands today with a gable dated 1815. Regranted large area around Old Nectar in 1817. Sold Old Nectar in 1823 for f76,884. Ten years earlier he had paid f15,000 -- a five-fold increase (Albertyn c1997:28, De Villiers and Pama 1981:8, Fransen and Cook 1965:61, Simons 2000:121-2, 1902 map, van der Spuy 1969:34).

* before 1817 - 1820 -- Pieter Daniel Grundling b1c4

Acquired both original grants of Klein Gustrouw before 1817, possibly c1808. He was granted a considerable area around them in 1817, and built the core of the house or considerably improved a building already there (the werf is shown on 1817 land, well above the old grant) (Fransen and Cook 1965:60, 1902 map). (From the map it seems that in 1819 he sold the enlarged east portion around Louis of Bengal's grant, and in 1820 sold the west portion with the house on it.) Born 1783, married 1806 Johanna Elisabeth Hauptfleisch. Three children 1808-later than 1815 (de Villiers and Pama 1981:273).

* 1841 -- ID Grundeling & Co

Were granted land high on the Jonkersberg slopes behind Klein Gustrouw in 1841 (1902 map). No ID Grund[e]ling[h] in genealogies.

* 1836-1852 -- Mynhardt Jacobus van Nult Onkruidt

Owner of Gustrouw in Hottentots-Holland when he acquired the property: he probably renamed it Klein Gustrouw. He is said to have Georgianised the house. He added more territory: the ridge between the Pontakkloof and Kleinplaaskloof streams and the ridges both east and west of their catchment areas. (Fransen 2004:198)

* 1852- ? Mynhardt Onkruidt Marais

Adopted son of Mynhardt Jacobus van Nult Onkruidt. 'Stamvader' of the Marais family whose descendant still farms at Leef op Hoop (NMC plaque Leef op Hoop)

Associated Events

None identified.

References

1902 Brink Map CA M2-409 shows location of grants
1938 aerial photograph.
1980 orthophoto
2000 aerial photograph.
Smuts ed 1979 for 1788-90 map
Fransen and Cook 1980
1776 Schumacher view
1950 Lockley photograph
1986 Sutherland photograph
1998 Hoberman photograph
Mr Kobus Marais and Mr Chris McDonald, pers. comm.
See also sources in Associated People

Assessment

Significance Statement

See modern properties.

Significance Category

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

Vulnerabilities

Recommendations

<i>NHR Act Status</i>	<i>Date of Gazette</i>	<i>SAHRA File ref.</i>	<i>Official Grading</i>
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Maps

<i>Number of Ortho Photo</i>	<i>GPS X</i>
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<i>Date of Ortho Photo</i>	<i>GPS Y</i>
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<i>Aerial Photograph Date</i>	<i>GPS Model</i>
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<i>Aerial Photo Number</i>	<i>GPS Setting</i>
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Composites (groups of clusters of heritage resources: sub-places and areas)

<i>Property Name</i>	<i>Composite Name</i>
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<i>Catalogue Number</i>	<i>Type of Resource</i>
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Objects

