An Investigation of the Regional Expression of the Vernacular Architecture and Cultural Landscape in the Sandveld

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Abstract
Much of the work undertaken in the field of Vernacular Architecture on the West Coast of South Africa has focused on the Verlorenvlei settlement. The buildings of this small settlement have come to define the Vernacular Architecture of the Sandveld. The Sandveld, however, is a relatively poorly understood region in terms of historical research, particularly in the 19th century, but forms an important link between events in the Cape and events on the Northern Frontier in the late 18th and 19th Century. The purpose of this study is to explore, modify and expand the characteristics of Sandveld Vernacular Architecture and build on the empirical and theoretical work done at Verlorenvlei and elsewhere through increasing the sample of buildings recorded. Additionally, the study seeks to pay attention to specific historical and biophysical contexts and considers the development of the vernacular landscape at three analytical scales, a broad, macro-scale, a mid-scale, and the detailed micro-scale. To do this I have drawn on multiple strands of evidence in both the documentary and archaeological record. These multiple strands of evidence contribute to an understanding of the Vernacular Architecture of the Sandveld that confronts variability that defies a singular definition of a Sandveld Vernacular.
Plagiarism Declaration
I know the meaning of plagiarism and declare that all of the work in the dissertation, save for that
which is properly acknowledged, is my own

Guy Robert Musson Thomas

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Chapter 1 Introduction

The study of vernacular architecture has provided us with many detailed descriptions of houses, their fabric and their contexts. Mathew Johnson urges a loss of innocence in the field of vernacular architecture studies and argues that the continuing focus on the fabric and a descriptive approach to vernacular architecture is missing the point. He compares this approach to a half-baked cake, in that the ingredients for understanding are provided, but the follow-through that is required is not. Rather, he suggests a set of principles in order to address the new priorities for Vernacular Architecture Studies, which is the interpretation of the meaning behind vernacular architecture. His principles are geared towards discovering something about the people who built the houses, not just describing the houses (Johnson 1997).

Johnson argues that the initial approach should be to examine Cultural meanings. How did people see the world around them, and what meanings did they ascribe to the world and in particular how are these meanings reflected in their buildings. These meanings vary according to where in time and space a person may be. These meanings are rarely expressed specifically, but rather are acted out in the material culture that people create. The meanings are not necessarily what the observer may consider common sense. This assumption needs to be addressed in that the data created during the recording process contributes to an etic perspective about the people who built the houses, whereas the interpretation of the data through the lens of social theory and social action in space can bring us closer to an emic perspective on the people in the houses.

Johnson argues that cultural meanings are communicated in the active organisation of space and material culture, and further that cultural meanings and attitudes will vary based on the individual interpretations and localised context. Therefore there is no single right or wrong interpretation of vernacular architecture. Johnson continues by arguing that certain core factors need to be taken into
account, including that cultural meaning is embedded in everything, as well as the importance of the context of both the subject of study and the context of the observer (Johnson 1997).

These principles translate into what Johnson (1997) calls a new agenda for vernacular architectural studies. Johnson suggests that certain key themes need to be addressed in modern vernacular architecture studies. These include, in his context: a focus on the transition from temporary to permanent housing, the meaning of the open hall and technical systems, gendered relationships of spaces and built forms, the interrogation of the so-called "death of vernacular" (The conversion from a predominantly vernacular housing system that was individualised to a predominantly polite architectural system). Also included in his new agenda is the popular representation of vernacular architecture.

Johnson’s agenda is important in highlighting several areas of vernacular architectural research that contributes to increasing the relevance of vernacular architecture. While the importance of ascribing one’s own ideals or biases to the subjects of study, there is an element of personal reflection that is important in describing architectural forms. The use of one’s own subjective perspective can be useful. The scholar of vernacular architecture can use their experience of an architectural form to better explain the feel of a place or the lived experience. This ability is important, but it should be used carefully.

It is with this new agenda in mind that I approach the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld.
Figure 1: Map of the West Coast of the Western Cape, indicating the Sandveld in the Black Ellipse.
Figure 2: Map Indicating Farms Included in this Study on the Sandveld Landscape
The Sandveld region on the West Coast of South Africa stretches from the Berg River in the south to Lamberts Bay in the North. The area is bounded by the Cedarberg Mountains in the east and the Atlantic Ocean in the west. The Piketberg Mountains are situated in the middle of this region, forming a natural barrier between the sandy flatlands between the mountains and the sea, and the somewhat greener and more fertile valley to the East, known as the Piketbergvlakte. While the term “Sandveld” is commonly used to describe the above geographical area, the actual Sandveld, as in the underlying geology and ecology, is fairly ubiquitous from Milnerton in the south up until the point at which the mountains meet the sea north of Lamberts Bay. The landscape is open and sparse with few water sources, many of which are slightly brackish even at the best of times. The valley between the Piketberg and the Olifantsrivierberge to the east of the central Piketberg mountain range appears less desolate, and has better water stability.

In the following chapters I attempt to place the built environment of the Sandveld and in particular certain farms in the Piketberg within a context that both responds to and contributes to a new understanding of vernacular architecture in this region.

In chapter two I describe the previous work undertaken in the region of defining and describing vernacular architecture. This chapter is intended to set up a discussion around the previous work done at the Verlorenvlei and its applicability to the rest of the Sandveld and Piketberg. In this chapter I explore the various arguments and types of material that have contributed to the understanding of vernacular architecture in and around the Verlorenvlei settlement. I critique these approaches and elaborate on which strengths and weaknesses, as well as which arguments are applicable to the study at hand.

In chapter 3 I provide a general overview of the historical context of the Sandveld and provide some discussion of the challenges of historical research in this region, especially in the latter part of the 19th century, the primary interest of this study. The historical context of the Sandveld area provides a broad scale against which the development of each farm can be evaluated. The scale of the broad
The historical context of the region is important, as it applies equally to each farm, as well as the Verlorenvlei settlement.

Chapter 4 provides a description and comparison of the various individual farm sequences. This chapter looks at the detailed history of each farm through documentary records. Again the scale of interpretation and description is shifted to focus on a mid-range. Certain common characteristics of each farm are interrogated and compared, allowing a discussion of the various factors that have played a part in defining their structure and sequence.

Chapter 5 provides an in-depth description of the built environment of two of the farms, namely, Wagenpad and Voetpad. This description provides an individual sequence of each building, as well as a discussion of the material and building techniques used in each building. This chapter serves to address the micro scale in the study, dealing with the individual variability and history of each structure.

Chapter 6 provides a discussion of the various findings of the previous chapters. The broad macro, mid and micro-scale are discussed and compared. The purpose of the chapter is to evaluate what is distinctive about Sandveld vernacular architecture, and how the various strands of evidence contribute to understanding the buildings on the three farms as part of a developing cultural landscape from the early 19th century.

The concluding chapter summarises the findings of the study, as well as some of the opportunities for future research.

In beginning the discussion of the Sandveld vernacular, the previous work undertaken in the area must be addressed. The next chapter takes a look at the previous work on vernacular architecture in the Sandveld, and suggests some questions to be taken forward.
Chapter 2 Approaches to the Sandveld vernacular

As stated in the introduction, Matthew Johnson’s new agenda highlights several issues to be taken forward in examining the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld. While not all applicable to the Sandveld context, some of the issues identified have strong resonance with some of the questions below and this chapter explores them in relation to previous work undertaken in the region, and how these issues can be examined for a greater understanding of the Vernacular architecture of the region.

Such issues include the relationship between impermanent and permanent housing, The exploration of technical systems, of gendered relationships between spaces and built forms, the progressions of vernacular to polite architecture, the exploration of the Vernacular threshold, the integrity and authenticity of the forms visible on the landscape, the popular representation of Vernacular Architecture and the context against which the built forms are understood.

My particular focus reacts to and builds on previous studies that have been undertaken in the Verlorenvlei and Piketberg areas. These studies have ranged from architectural theses to books of interest in the historical architecture of the area, as well as mapping and documentation studies. I have chosen to deal with each of these studies in chronological order. Interest in the area initially began with studies aimed at popular literature, focussing on the picturesque nature of the historic buildings on the West Coast and was then picked up by academics and has resulted in several studies. I briefly outline the approach, reasons for and outcomes of each study. These range from descriptive studies with some contextual background, to studies that are increasingly informed by social theory and move towards the issues urged by Johnson given above.

Sharyn Sinclair (Sinclair 1980) initially outlined the need to preserve and document the architecture of Verlorenvlei in her 1980 thesis on the settlement geography of the Verlorenvlei. Sinclair’s work was an early example of interdisciplinary approaches to explaining the nature and form of the settlement, using models and methods from a settlement geographer’s perspective. She also
incorporated architectural studies, as well as historical research into her study (Sinclair, 1980). She focused on the economics of the area, and how this economy was shaped by social and environmental factors.

The Verlorenvlei is a large estuary situated in the north of the Sandveld. The estuary flows into the Atlantic Ocean at the present day settlement of Elands Bay. The settlement of Verlorenvlei is situated approximately 3.5Km to the east of Elands Bay, on the southern bank of the estuary. Besides the immediate area around the estuary, the area is arid and has poor water sources.

![Figure 3: Map Indicating the Verlorenvlei and Elands Bay.](image)

Sinclair identified several economic factors that contributed to the development of the settlement into its current form. The settlement was built around the production of wheat, cattle and the economics of fishing.

Sinclair draws on the work of Chisholm (Chisholm 1962) in which the idea is formulated that a new farming community’s economic needs are governed by a series of spatial relationships of the settlement to its lands, and by its connections to the outside world. While these are constraining
factors to a settlement’s development, Sinclair, in referencing Chisholm (1962) makes the point, that a settlement should not be analysed in such a way that assumes a perfect fit with its surrounding contexts. Chisholm remarks that human agency would be unlikely to result in a perfectly adapted settlement, as this would imply total dominance and control over the surrounding landscape. This would effectively mean that human settlement would not be affected by factors such as climate, economics and social interactions, but rather that the *eidos* of the settlement is imposed on the landscape and can be viewed as being a perfectly realised design.

![Figure 4: Map Indicating Verlorenvlei Settlement.](image)

Consequently, Sinclair identifies several further factors that have created the settlement pattern at Verlorenvlei. These include separate land ownership, individual wheat processing units (little or no communal infrastructure between families), differential access to water for drinking and irrigation, fuel and access to building materials. Sinclair also identifies several factors not mentioned by Chisholm, such as the availability of labour pools, in the form of either extended family, or the local poor, landless populations. Sinclair argues that the pattern of the Verlorenvlei settlement is a result of the compromise between these various factors.
Additionally, Sinclair discusses some of the reasons and factors contributing to the decline of the Verlorenvlei community from the 1930s onwards. These include the attrition of interest in continued living within the community by the youth, many of whom saw the settlement as being stifling and uninteresting. The size of the settlement did not provide many opportunities for education, employment or land ownership. Sinclair notes that the practice of dividing land into shared units equally between the male inheritors resulted in land portions being too small to function as economic units. This has resulted in little need for the building of new infrastructure, with buildings often standing empty (Sinclair 1980).

Attrition on the viability of the settlement also stems from the short term perspective of the Loan Place System, which resulted in extensive over farming and grazing, and as a result the natural resources connected to the settlement were seriously taxed. The Loan Place System did not encourage long term planning and investment in a farm, as each loan place was only rented on a yearly cycle. Added to this, the growing settlement compounded the need for resources, resulting in serious environmental degradation. This meant that in the long run the farming potential of the region controlled and in service to the settlement was made barren and unable to serve the needs of the community. Sinclair argues that this environmental degradation contributed to a decline in the production potential of the settlement, as well as resulting in fewer opportunities for the younger generation, thus increasing the pull of urban centres.

Sinclair’s study was an early example of an interdisciplinary approach to explaining the nature of the Verlorenvlei as a settlement. While her thesis is mostly concerned with describing the settlement in relation to environmental factors, her inclusion of the sequence and development of properties and architectural information indicated the need for a more in-depth study of the individual buildings and their own smaller scale sequence.

Following Sinclair’s study, some studies were undertaken that did not deal with in depth reasons as to the meanings or reasons behind the built forms and werf development of the settlement.
Hugh Floyd led a team of architecture students to measure up and record the buildings at Verlorenvlei (Floyd 1980). The drawings that were produced provide some excellent visual descriptions of the form and fabric of the houses and outbuildings at that time, including the semi-ruined structures. These recordings have set the baseline for the level of detail required for the recording of vernacular buildings. Hugh Floyd's project did not interrogate any of the meaning of these buildings, or look at models regarding their development.

James Walton recorded some of the buildings at Verlorenvlei in the 1970s (only published in late 1980s). Unlike Hugh Floyd, he was concerned about context and with drawing similarities between the long houses of Verlorenvlei and the architecture of European villages, where some long house forms are known to exist. His work addressed the fabric to some extent, but more importantly it was also an early attempt at using the building form as a means of interrogating the meaning of the buildings. He addressed the sequence of the buildings, but made several assumptions as to the ages of the buildings. Specifically the assumption that in general long houses predate the more complex H shaped buildings (Walton 1989).

While Sinclair was mostly concerned with description, incorporating multiple methodological approaches in her multidisciplinary study, she only touched on the history of the settlement as being significant in so far as it applied to the settlement itself. John Gribble's intention in his 1987 honours thesis was to explore the historical factors around which the Verlorenvlei settlement developed (Gribble 1987). He was concerned with bringing together both the archaeological methodology of the description of the settlement, as well as the historical methodology of exploring the written sources regarding Verlorenvlei. This shift in focus constitutes a change in scale of the study of the west coast vernacular. Sinclair was focused on the broader dynamics of settlement development and economics, whereas Gribble's approach shows a shift in the paradigm to interrogating the relationship between the building fabric and the social meaning of the houses.
In his honours thesis, Gribble explores the history of land management, economics and frontier expansion of the cape colony, and contextualises the role of the Verlorenvlei settlement within the frontier experience of the Cape during the 18th and 19th centuries. He explores two approaches towards interpreting the development of a building, and tests these approaches by applying them to the oldest house in the Verlorenvlei settlement (Gribble 1987). The approaches are set out as follows.

Gribble attributes the rapid expansion of the Cape frontier to two different processes described by Neumark (Neumark 1957) and Guelke (Guelke 1974).

Neumark (1957) attributed the rapid expansion of the frontier in the 1700s to fluctuations of supply and demand in the cattle market and describes the graziers’ lifestyle as being economically attractive due to the profits garnered through trade with the VOC. He argues that major expansion events of the colony would have mirrored the relationship between supply and demand. On the other hand, Guelke (1974) argues that the history of colonial expansion shows that expansion happened regardless of the fluctuations in the economy and he also suggests that the graziers’ lifestyle offered security. The granting of freehold farms was discontinued by the VOC in 1717 and this deprived individuals of the opportunity to gain land outside purchasing or inheriting it. For young men without prospects, the loan place system was their only opportunity for getting land without capital.

Despite the different emphases placed on the mechanics of colonial expansion by Neumark and Guelke, Gribble feels that the two theses are actually not in opposition but rather that they both describe the same process, but in two stages. Gribble suggests that the initial expansion of the colony into the Swartland was driven by the need for extra grazing land, but that after 1717, the expansion was increasingly driven by un-established farmers looking to increase their prospects by using the loan place system as a way of getting land. This contributed to the increasing
establishment of a population of farmers who were outside of the immediate economic control of the VOC.

Gribble also shifts the scale in looking at various analyses of the Verlorenvlei buildings. These include the approach of Walton (Walton 1965) (Walton 1972) and Upton and Vlach (Upton & Vlach 1986). Walton’s approach stems from the analysis of the development of Cape Dutch architecture in the Cape urban centres and towns like Stellenbosch. His approach is in essence functionalist and that the main driving force behind the expansion of the houses was due to the need for accommodating the expansion of the family through time. Gribble rejects functionalism on a theoretical level, but does admit that the function of a house is an integral characteristic that needs to be taken into account when performing analysis.

The second approach that Gribble incorporates into his study is that of Upton and Vlach (Upton & Vlach 1986). The Upton and Vlach approach is that the main driving force for the modification and expansion of the house is that of the conspicuous display of wealth in order to display social status (Upton & Vlach 1986). This approach also resonates with Brink (Brink 2008).

Gribble argues that both of these approaches are too specific and exclusive for explaining the development of the Verlorenvlei houses on their own. Rather he argues that both of these factors play a role in the historical development of the house, and are both true for different levels of abstraction. In concluding, Gribble argues that there are several factors that need to be addressed in order for the development of Verlorenvlei to be evaluated. These include the fact that the documentary sources needed for such a study do not provide an adequate context for the farm, as well as the need for a broad recording project in and around the Verlorenvlei (Gribble 1987).

Gribble (1990) built on his honours thesis by performing the broad scale recording project he previously argued for. His masters dissertation, completed in 1990, described many buildings from the Verlorenvlei settlement, as well as many other farms along the Verlorenvlei estuary. Gribble
approached this study from a structuralist point of view drawing heavily on the work of James Deetz (Deetz 1977) and Henry Glassie (Glassie 1975). Similar to Glassie and Deetz, his goal was to create, a grammar of mind for the builders of the structures in and around the Verlorenvlei settlement. Furthermore, he attempts to define what he calls the “architectural competence” (Gribble 1990: 123) of the creators of the built environment in this area. This study is the first to really interrogate the cultural meaning of the architecture of the Sandveld.

In extending his study of architectural forms in the Verlorenvlei, Gribble draws on three influential studies. These include Henry Glassie’s 1975 study of folk housing (Glassie 1975), James Deetz’ book “In Small Things Forgotten” (Deetz 1977) and Dell Upton’s study of Virginian vernacular buildings (Upton 1988). While all of these studies are similar, but with small differences in their theoretical approach, Gribble makes the point that they follow the same theoretical principle of treating the structure of material culture as expressive of a deeply embedded cognitive grammar similar to the grammar of language.

In drawing on Deetz’ (Deetz 1977) work, Gribble (Gribble 1990) argues that the structuralist analytical approach goes one step further than the use of typologies to understand material culture, as it explores the reasons behind the patterns and structures within an assemblage. It is argued that this approach can get into the mind of the person or persons who used the artefacts. Gribble (Gribble 1990) argues that Culture is in essence the result of a mental process by which implicit, and subconscious rules govern the ways in which people act out and express their culture, and that these rules are a result of the mediation between binaries such as Private and Public, Nature and Culture. Therefore according to Glassie (1975) artefacts are “… always genuine, [being] an expression of the makers mind” (Gribble 1990 quoting Glassie 1975: 10).

In my opinion this structuralist approach works well in certain contexts where a study deals with a generalised scale of focus, but does not account for the continued use of an object over time, or
allow concepts of re-use or re-appropriation to be explored. Objects may retain their form but be used differently, or mean different things to different users.

Gribble argues that the use of a structuralist approach to analyse and understand the vernacular architecture allows the buildings to be analysed in a setting where contextual information has been stripped away and the buildings can be examined in their component parts. These de-contextualised objects can fit cleanly into Gribble’s grammar of architectural competence, as he is able to create rules that apply generally to his selection, without having to account for any differences that specific to each building. Therefore Gribble’s structuralist approach can be regarded as an over simplification of the architectural detail of the Verlorenvlei and can only account for these forms at a certain level. The grammar is general and non-specific and is not concerned with the detail of each building (Gribble 1990).

Gribble argues that the pursuit of the vernacular architecture as a heuristic for understanding the architectural competence of the builders is superior to that of polite architecture. Vernacular architecture is a better way of understanding the mind of the builders, than using polite architecture, as vernacular architecture is built using implicit understandings and motives, whereas polite architecture is explicit. Gribble initially intended to survey and record 62 houses from around the Verlorenvlei area. Due to time constraints and practicalities, he recorded 41 houses that were included in the Verlorenvlei study.

In looking for buildings to record, Gribble deliberately sought out examples of houses that best resembled the current image of vernacular architecture of the area. This was because vernacular structures better express the building competence of their builders than “polite” or “designed” structures. In so doing he avoided any buildings that were different from the imagined vernacular. While Gribble’s study was concerned with the creation of a grammar of cultural thought and deed, the fact that he selectively recorded buildings that represented what he thought were good examples of the Vernacular, that is, one style or group of forms makes his study somewhat
problematic. There may be several vernaculars in terms of the architecture found in the Sandveld. Many styles can be seen through time including Victorian and post war 1950s building forms that also have older components incorporated into their structures (Gribble 1990).

Gribble measured his buildings using a folk measurement system. The Cape Foot was used as a unit of measurement by the people at the Cape when measuring out structures. The Cape Foot is equivalent to the English foot in a ratio of 1 Cape foot equalling 1.033 English feet. Therefore Gribble used English feet to measure the buildings as the difference between them was negligible. This use of a folk taxonomy is useful in interrogating a buildings historical context. Gribble argues that the hand of the builder can be seen in the size and shape of the rooms and that the use of the folk taxonomy is a way of understanding this connection.

Gribble’s grammar of architectural competence takes the form of mental rules that are translated into the built environment. The full grammar can be found in Gribble (1990), whereas I have attempted to recreate Gribble’s grammar as it would be applied in reality (see Figure 5). Gribble describes various rules for the form of the building. These forms are then mediated by a set of exceptions. Gribble’s rule set describes the base structure of each house as being a rectangle that can then be extended both in a linear direction, to create a long house, or laterally to create a double volume house. Gribble describes how each house will have a chimney and that the base structure is extended away from the chimney. In the case of two rooms being created in a linear fashion, a third room can be added at right angles to the existing structure. Gribble argues that this type of extension needs to be analysed separately from the base structure as conceptually the extension is another house being built on the first one and represents a conceptual reset of the mental design process. This grammar provides a potential generalised sequence for the base form of each building.
Gribble states that the context of the house under analysis is important and distinguishes between the physical context and the symbolic context of each house. Gribble argues that the statement of architectural competence that has been constructed from the architecture of the region can be generalised for the entire time period that the buildings have been on the landscape. The architectural competence can change over time and therefore the exploration of time is an important factor to address. In order to analyse the houses as objectively as possible, the structuralist approach is effective because it allows the buildings to be broken down into their conceptual component parts, free of the contextual details of their individual physical settings. However Gribble argues that in order to address the change in the architectural competence over time, the physical context is important and therefore has to be introduced into the equation again.
So while the statement of architectural competence is de-contextualised and therefore generalised, when time is reintroduced, the statement of architectural competence is acknowledged as changeable, thus confirming the need for analysis within the buildings contextual setting. Unfortunately Gribble does not actually describe how this architectural competence has changed over time. He describes the historical background against which these buildings were created, but does not draw specific parallels between the houses and the historical context.

In my opinion Gribble's vernacular grammar is effective up to a point. While it does describe a general trend in one type of Sandveld vernacular, it is too general to be effective in accounting for potential different house types seen on this landscape. Gribble has described one architectural style very well, but in such a way that it is only useful in describing how the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld, and in particular the Verlorenvlei Valley, is different from other locales such as Stellenbosch and Cape Town as described by Brink (Brink 2008). Gribble is unable to provide an analysis of the change in architectural competence over time, as he has only chosen to record house forms that seem to be from the very earliest ages of colonial occupation (late 1700s). Alternatively it may be that the buildings are built later in time (late 1800s), but reference an older building style. This is an issue that would need to be looked at in the study at hand.

If the purpose of architectural studies in the Sandveld is to know the mind of the builders, as Gribble attempts, then there is potential for interrogating how other, later polite architectural movements have come to be expressed on this landscape of relative isolation. There are examples of both Victorian architecture and 20th century post war architecture on this landscape that have been expressed in ways that clearly differ from their urban counterparts. The ways in which these styles and motifs have been transposed on to the Sandveld landscape creates a clear question as to the nature of the regional variation of architectural forms outside of the traditional west coast Verlorenvlei-type-architecture.
Following Gribble's 1990 study, Natalie Swanepoel shifted the scale of focus again. Her study focussed on one house in particular, moving the scale to a more detailed level. This in contrast to Gribble’s 1990 study which was broad and generalised, ignoring the particular details of each houses context. Swanepoel’s study focussed on the farmstead of Klaarefontein, and tried to create a sequence of development for the house through time.

Swanepoel is critical of previous studies conducted on the built environment of the Cape particularly of studies which focus on buildings and which remove the people from the picture (for example Fransen & Cook 1980 and Walton 1989). Johnson (1997) is similarly critical of these types of studies. Swanepoel is also critical of the practice of trying to link Cape architecture to its European origins. Instead she focuses on the specific sequence of one house. She is the first to document the individual life history of a house in such a way, in the Sandveld.

While Swanepoel is critical of the approach used by previous studies, she does not offer a conceptual framework as confidently as Gribble does. Her theoretical approach is not as concerned with creating a new approach, but she is more straightforward in treating her subject as a product of history. She is not trying to access the mind, as the structuralist approach of Gribble intended, but rather to describe the history and context of Klaarefontein from as many interdisciplinary approaches as she can.

To this end she is inclusive in her use of multiple sources such as the architectural form of the building, ceramics from excavations next to the building, pictorial evidence from the 19th century, both paintings and photographs, the history of land management and ownership of the Klaarefontein house, and oral history. She compares the ceramic styles from the house with the styles described by Michael Taylor in his analysis and interpretation of an assemblage at Verlorenvlei (Taylor 1990).
This work on the Sandveld vernacular was an extension of research on the archaeology of the VOC period at the Cape and specifically on domestic dwelling and the dwelling sequence within Table Bay and the surrounding towns and farmscapes. Martin Hall was influential in this research and indeed, in the development of the discipline of historical archaeology at the University of Cape Town. While he did not write much on vernacular architecture he was influential and is relevant to this study, because he supervised both John Gribble and Natalie Swanepoel in their respective projects focussed on the Verlorenvlei.

In his own research he provided some cogent studies that focused on the archaeology of the underclass, and especially the archaeology of power. The latter concern surfaced in his analysis and interpretation of the development of Cape Dutch architectural style, with a particular emphasis on the symbolic attributes of the ‘ebullient’ gable. This interpretation was set against the political economy of the Cape and the fraught relationship between the autocratic control of the VOC on the one hand, and the agricultural independence of the Free Burghers, on the other. This tension manifested soon after the Free Burghers were granted licenses to farm early on in the VOC period. This tension was the result of the control the VOC asserted over the Free Burghers, especially in their control of tariffs. Hall discussed the development of the gable in this context, where Free Burgers who had made good, built elaborate symmetrical houses fronted by gables that ‘spoke’ out about that success in defiance of a VOC intent on keeping people in their place. In contrast to these grand houses and gables, Free Burgers lower down on the social ladder, many of whom married women of Khoesan and slave descent, lived in more menial dwellings and vernacular forms of which the long-house was one. The excavation of ‘Paradise’ in Newlands Forest (Hall et al 1993) provided a key sequence for the development of larger and symmetrical Cape Dutch houses from the 1740s and 1750s that was juxtaposed with a more ‘common’ I-house, probably occupied by a lowly VOC garrison. This side-by-side juxtaposition of two dwelling forms at Paradise perhaps is parallel to the generic Verlorenvlei long houses and the slightly more ‘pretentious’ symmetry of Klarefontein.
Hall’s work and that of Yvonne Brink (Brink 2008) built upon the structuralist approaches of Henry Glassie (Glassie 1976, 1999) and James Deetz (Deetz 1977). But while Deetz, for example, invoked the symmetry of the Georgian house as an expression of a deeply rooted cognitive structure, Hall and Brink sought to place the form, and especially the particular stylistic expression of symmetry of Cape dwellings, within the local historical context. As indicated above, and aside from Swanepoel’s work, a more contextual approach to the Sandveld vernacular has not been attempted.

In this regard, and although this being an archaeological project, Laura Mitchell’s writing on the 17th and 18th centuries in the Cedarberg has strong parallels to the historical and contextual approach advocated here for the Sandveld and Piketberg. Mitchell attempts to show that the mundanities of everyday life, as recorded in the archival records of this time and place, hold greater significance in describing the colonial experience on the northern frontier. Mitchell focuses on the settlements of the Cedarberg in her online book “Belongings” and argues that the nature of and changes to social practice around settlement, the eventual stabilisation of the region and incorporation into the Cape colony can be understood through examining the colonial frontier as it moved through the region. She draws on Leonard Guelke’s (Guelke 1985) discussion of frontier and the terms outlaw and orthodox he promulgated. Mitchell redefines outlaw as heterodox and argues that the perspectives and commonly held beliefs and ideals of individuals in the frontier space were either heterodox, and encompass themes of diversity, resistance, alternative domestic patterns, or marginal and informal relationships to land, on the one hand, or orthodox, encompassing themes of authority, some degree of cultural homogeneity, a general idea of “normal lives”, deference to colonial laws and morals, conformity with colonial policy and practice, on the other.

Mitchell adds that by including the designations of heterodox and orthodox, it is possible to understand cultural practice in society on a more nuanced level than approaching the subject through “colonial” versus “native” designations. The process of incorporation of an outlying region
into the colony, through the movement of the colonial frontier can be understood as the progressive assertion of orthodoxy.

Mitchell’s framework requires a particularly close and specific method of ‘reading’ the written records,

“The Dutch East India Company kept copious records, meaning that the Cape has an abundance of written source materials, unlike most regions of Africa in the eighteenth century. However, the ledgers, accounts, and administrative reports of a merchant company do not record the whole story of colonial interactions. To understand the social implications of land tenure, family structures, and the basis of identity, we need to delve into carefully preserved archival documents, stretching them as far as they can go, a method with significant precedent.” (http://www.gutenberg-e.org/mitchell/chapter2.html paragraph 18)

More specifically, Mitchell discusses identity, degrees of social inclusiveness and how people interacted in society in terms of race, social status and how a social taxonomy was used in controlling labour and the interactions between people with a multiplicity of colonial identities. Additionally, Mitchell highlights the importance of intermarriage and dynasties in controlling access to land and labour. The movement of the colonial frontier meant that people who had initially been on the periphery were increasingly made to interact with the land, property, water resources and in social situations through processes defined by the colonial authorities. For instance where access to land was previously unregulated, access for grazing had to be negotiated through the loan place system. The moving of the colonial frontier meant that previously un-incorporated people were forced into adopting colonial structures in order to enter into the economy or indeed colonial society.

Mitchell illustrates these points by examining individual historical events surrounding family, kinship, dynasty, material ownership and land management. In connection with control and dynasties, land
management and ownership was secured through endogamous marriage patterns. Colonial material culture was actively sought and displayed as reinforcing colonial identities. This material culture was often redistributed in death auctions that both reinforced colonial identities, but allowed the descendants of the deceased to raise capital to buy farms, or pay off creditors.

Mitchell's work deals predominantly with the shifting frontier. Because she uses the shifting frontier as a heuristic for understanding cultural change, her focus does not extend past the 1830s. By this time the frontier had shifted to the north and east, and the area of the Cedarberg was firmly within the administrative and cultural control of the Cape Colony.

As Mitchell clearly articulates the methodology employed in the close scrutiny of archival sources, gives access to a level of detail that frames social interaction at a scale that is useful for comparison with the archaeological record.

The methodology employed in the close scrutiny of archival sources, allows a level of detail that frames social interaction at a level that is useful for comparison to the archaeological record.

Chronologically, Swanepoel's work has been the most recent academic study performed on the built environment in the Sandveld. In dealing with the various scales of interpretation it is clear that context is extremely important. This examination of the previous work done in the Sandveld elicits a return to Johnson's new agenda and several important themes that need to be addressed.

The relationship between a shift from impermanent to permanent housing presents an opportunity to look at the differences between the architecture present on the landscape before formal permanent settlement and the architectural forms that followed this. Some of the interesting elements that could be investigated include under what circumstances the central point, or Opstal (homestead) of a farm shifted from impermanent built fabric to formal built fabric. This is also tied to the degree to which later housing forms of permanent material, follow earlier forms constructed from less permanent material in their design and shape.
The exploration of technically building a structure and systems of ‘engineering’ holds out many avenues of enquiry in the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld. Technical systems included the fabric, materials and approach to building used in the creation of vernacular architecture. The regional variations of built forms can be explored both in comparing the regional variability of the Cape Dutch vernacular form to the Sandveld, forms, as well as the regional variability within the Sandveld forms themselves. As addressed in detail below, the regional variability of the development of land management processes through time is also of central interest.

Looking at the social internal workings of houses, the theme of how different spaces can be read in terms of gender and the structuring and expression of gender relationships is also of interest. The development of structures or forms that may have different meanings based on gendered usage/experience may be reflected in the built forms and additionally, they may be different through time. The forms of *buitekamers* and the location of kitchen hearths may, for example, be of importance.

In order to address this issue of changing built form through time, careful dating and fabric analysis of the buildings is needed. There are some buildings that may have characteristics that are similar or in keeping with the early vernacular ‘needs’ of the builders, but at some point the design of the building took on additional meanings. Essentially the issue of sequence within a building comes down to when did an earlier function, of a vernacular design solution start to mean new things to the people who built them, or in some cases, change completely in usage and/or meaning?

Maudlin (2010) explores the theme of the Vernacular threshold, also known as the polite threshold. He first defines vernacular architecture as being intricately linked to social status. Vernacular architecture is generally about rule-of-thumb construction where the builders are also the occupants, as opposed to construction by design through architects. Maudlin argues that vernacular architecture studies are concerned with traditional architecture and that the point at which the polite threshold is found the best way to address traditional architecture. This point of conversion is
best understood in its regional contexts (Maudlin 2010). Maudlin argues that the emphasis on the vernacular threshold makes use of archaeological methodology, and that this often can take the focus away from the human scale. The study of specifically Vernacular Architecture moves away from traditional architecture and instead brings the argument into a discussion about the social status, place context and time of the progression from vernacular to polite architecture. This theme of the threshold between polite and vernacular architecture is important in the following study, however the exact context described by Maudlin is not the same in South Africa as it is in Europe. The polite threshold in the European context largely deals with a change from feudalism to individualised ownership models. This threshold is set at around the 16th century. In the 18th and 19th centuries in South Africa, the vernacular threshold is more difficult to pin down, as it does not correspond to a direct political/economic change as in Europe. More likely the threshold in South Africa is linked to changing land management and the beginnings of global economy and its cultural influences (Maudlin 2010).

Establishing the integrity and authenticity of the forms observable on the landscape in the present is important. Many building forms may not have survived but equally, those that have may be a curated assemblage of buildings that have survived because of layered recycling and re-meaning and obviously, in such a sequence they are used, function, and structure social relationships in ways that they were not originally intended. If so, and apart from significant social change, what has contributed to this? Biased preservation and/or selective conservation? Consequently, in order to establish sequence in a building dating phases of the built fabric is therefore extremely important. This is a theme picked up on in the discussion of Gribble’s (1990) work as discussed above.

These academic considerations of vernacular architecture aside, their popular representation is important as in many ways, it contributes to the greater public’s understanding of architecture and how it relates to identity and history. The popular image of West Coast vernacular architecture implicitly communicates a vision of quiet fisherman’s cottages with white washed walls and thatched
roofs. The Verlorenvlei longhouses have contributed much to this image. The representation and interpretation of this so-called singular West Coast vernacular is somewhat problematic when compared to younger developments that reference other traditions and influences of West Coast architecture. Consequently, one of the goals of this project, and probably the most direct and clear question that is asked is what actually is characteristic about the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld, and by extension, the wider region of the West Coast. Furthermore, is the vernacular form of Sandveld and West Coast architecture an offshoot of so-called Cape Dutch style, or do Sandveld vernacular forms predate the Cape Dutch style with a more independent genealogy?

Lastly, this study places importance on the context of the buildings and the specific context of the farms within which they were built. Context is addressed in several ways, for example, and Dyer emphasizes this through a landscape history approach (Dyer 2006). This emphasises the connection between the sequence and history of houses and the broader substrate of agricultural, social, economic and demographic history within which buildings are built and subsequently modified.

Dyer argues that the house must be contextualised in multiple layers of geographic scale, such as the immediate plot, and the larger settlement, parish and region. The plot is foundationally important as it constrains the initial house form and he illustrates this through the example of a 16th century urban plot in England. In relation to the Sandveld this specific issue is less relevant as the region is almost an entirely rural context, but on the other hand context still must address the opposite where most structures in this study are not spatially restricted and constrained to single plots. The scale of settlement raises the issue of nucleation and the ongoing development of farm settlements into dense clusters of buildings. What formed the larger settlements and their shift towards hamlets and towns as areas of permanent settlement that supported activities other than farming? What factors determined that other farms remained as farms? In Europe, Dyer identifies an agrarian, pre-settlement period that underpins the later form of the European landscape. This can be considered
for the Sandveld, and that as argued below, it is far more evident in the loan place system and more informal land management of the 1700s (Dyer 2006).

The above mentioned authors have all raised the need for the inclusion of a rich contextualisation of the houses.

It is with these themes and questions in mind that I have approached the current study. This chapter has stressed the importance of addressing the contextual detail of houses, in terms of the variability in their physical make up, and form and how this may relate to the historical and physical context of their construction, modification and continued use.

In the next chapter I provide a short history which provides some of the contextual backdrop against which the development of the built environment and farm development in the Sandveld took place. This provides part of the historical context for interpretation of the built environment at a broad scale.
Chapter 3 Historical background

In this chapter I describe the contextual history of the Sandveld region. Various historical studies have dealt with the Sandveld, however most follow the progression of the northern frontier of colonial expansion. This has led to a fair amount of time and focus being afforded to the 18th and early 19th century, but the end of the frontier period in the 1840s presents both a shift in the frontier, as well as historical interest in the Sandveld region. It is surprising to see that there is not a definitive historical text for the Sandveld region dealing with the period following the 1840s. Dealing with the history of the region for the latter half of the 19th century and the early 20th century would require an examination of primary texts. This is beyond the scope of this project; however some examination of the various histories of the outer lying settlements of the region is included.

The Cape Colony at the beginning of the 18th century was experiencing unprecedented change. The refreshment station, set up in 1652 by the Dutch East India Company, had initially been able to supply many of the resources required by passing ships. This included fresh water, vegetables and crops. The refreshment station was not initially intended to be a colony, but increased demand for resources from passing ship traffic, meant that the refreshment station quickly fell behind in its ability to provide these resources (Penn 2005). A proposal of making a small contingent of the Capes European population able to farm as “Vryburgers” was approved, resulting in a greater farming community developing around the Cape. This farming expansion allowed for greater production of grown produce, such as wheat and vegetables, but the sourcing of meat for the refreshment station was still problematic.

The VOC eventually fell to trading with the indigenous Khoe in order to bolster the meat production of the colony. The free burgers were prohibited from trading cattle with the Khoe. The VOC instituted this ban in order to keep the prices set by the Khoe low, as well as to avoid the rampant trade in cattle stripping the Khoe herds (Penn 2005). By the beginning of the 18th century, several factors were contributing to the expansion of the colony beyond the immediate Cape Flats valley.
Penn (2005) identifies factors such as monopolisation by the VOC of food production, corruption, and the need to explore other markets as contributing to free burgers trekking inland independently to trade with the Khoe. The ban on trading with the Khoe was eventually repealed by Willem Adrian Van der Stel in 1700.

The first years of the 18th century saw accelerated expansion by the colony to the north and east. As the company had feared the opening up of the cattle trade with the Khoe resulted in exploitation and the loss of cattle on both sides, due to theft. This aggravated tensions between the colony and the Khoe, resulting in many instances of violence, with both sides suffering losses as a result of cattle raiding. Johannes Starrenbergh, the Landrost of Stellenbosch, notes in 1705 that the Khoe in and around the area of the Verloernevlei had been raided of almost all of their cattle following the opening of the livestock trade (Penn 2005).

The early 1730s saw many cases of violent raids, by both the Khoesan and the colonists. Many expeditions were launched to recover cattle, or to take cattle. This increasing Khoesan resistance in the Sandveld eventually culminated in the Barbier Revolt and the Frontier war of 1739 (Penn 2005: 60 - 65). The eventual pacification of the Khoesan on the northern frontier allowed the colonists to move into the interior, however due to the extreme distances of the frontier from the Cape, the colony was increasingly challenged in exerting effective governance on the frontier (Penn 2005). Effectively the frontier in the Sandveld had closed with the end of the 1739 war. The open frontier shifted to the outlying regions of the colony with the areas closer to the Cape becoming more stable (Giliomee 1981).

**Early Travellers**

The area of interest in this study is essentially the Piketberg farming district. This area of the west coast was one of the first to experience European expansion outside of the Cape peninsula and Stellenbosch region. Some of the earliest travellers to the region were explorers, often searching for
mythical civilisations in the African interior. These explorers often recorded useful accounts of the region in their journals.

Several travellers traversed the Sandveld during the 18th and 19th centuries and kept diaries and records of their travels.

Olaf Bergh was an employee of the Dutch East India Company at the Cape. He was sent on two salvage missions by the company for the ships *Joana* and *La senhora de los Milagros*. Each trip was very beneficial to the coffers of the company at the Cape of Good Hope; however the second trip landed Bergh in some trouble. He was imprisoned for a short time and later freed in order to undertake a bartering expedition to the north (Mossop 1931).

Bergh left the cape on Friday, the 30th of October 1682 and travelled north towards the Land van Warveren. His expedition included 31 white company employees, six wagons, one cart and 111 head of oxen. Bergh and his party marched north, eventually meeting up with the *Zoute Rivier* around the area of present day Hopefield. The party followed the river north eventually crossing the Berg River at the Berg/Zoute confluence on the 2nd of November. The crossing was easy as the river was shallow with a depth of only 3.5 feet (Mossop 1931).

On the 4th of November they marched east and then north east towards the Piketberg mountains. Here the party noted good drinking water in the river, as well as a meeting with some “somquaas”, armed with assegais and bows. The *Somquaas* accompanied the party towards the Bushman’s River where the party turned north and travelled alongside the river, eventually crossing it and turning towards modern day Aurora. The party continued north passing the site of Aurora, the small mountain of Klein Tafelberg to the east, and eventually arriving at the *Sand Rivier* (Verlorenvlei) on the evening of November 5th. The following day they crossed the Verlorenvlei at Wittedrift, now known as Redelinghuys, and thereafter the party moved on to the north.
After the expedition reached its most northerly point, the party returned by the way they had come through the Sandveld between December 11th and 15th 1682 (Mossop 1931).

The descriptions of this trip revealed no European settlement across the Berg River. The population of Khoesan pastoralists was still present, even in the modern day Swartland, as the bartering episode describes. Ample game was still present on the landscape, with the party shooting two hartebeest, with one found even to the south of the Berg River.

Berg proceeded on a second trip to the north in August 1683. This journey took him and his party to the east where he crossed the Berg River at the modern-day crossing of the N7 at the south eastern point of the Piketberg Mountain. The party then proceeded across the southern edge of the Piketberg, eventually crossing the Bushman’s River at the previous place where they had crossed two years before. The party then proceeded along the route of the previous expedition encountering no settlers in the Sandveld (Mossop 1931).

The next traveller across the Sandveld was Rhenius who left the fort at the Cape of Good Hope on the 15th of September 1724 with 14 members of a party. The party travelled to Saldanha Bay, and then on to the farm “Bosjesmans Kloof” just to the south of the Berg River. The following day (21 September 1724) they crossed the Berg River on the farm Rietfontein, later the location of the town of Piketberg. On the 22nd the party travelled to the southern entrance to the “Sonquas Kloof”, the site of modern day Kapteinskloof. The party travelled through the kloof to the north over to the Farm Goergap, then owned by Olaf Bergh, and later loaned to his widow Anna de Conink. The party continued on to the Verlorenvlei and crossed the vlei on the 26th of September 1724, continuing on to the north (Mossop 1947).

Brink travelled through the Sandveld on his return journey to the Cape, following a trip into the interior in 1762. They crossed the Sandveld along the western side of the Piketberg between the 17th and 22 of April 1762. The diary does not describe anything from the trip, other than the farms
that they stopped at included, Verlorenvlei, Driefontien, Klipfontein, Groenfontein and Klip Bank south of the Berg River (Mossop 1947).

Thunberg travelled through the Sandveld in October 1774, staying on the farm of Mr Hanekom, 10km north of Piketberg. The naturalist describes several different types of plant, as well as describing the "tygers" of the Sandveld, or rather leopards. Thunberg further describes how the elephants in the area had been reduced in number. Thunberg travelled along the eastern side of the Piketberg, staying at Groenevallei and Drogerijskloof. Thunberg describes the landscape including the types of crops. The farms were planted with "vineyards, corn fields and beautiful gardens"). Thunberg travelled further to the Verlorenvlei, where he encountered a "multitude of birds." (Forbes 1986)

While not a traveller in the sense of the other writers mentioned here, O F Mentzel described the Cape in detail in 1787, including the Piketberg and Sandveld. He describes the Piketberg as consisting of "only a few farms in the proper sense of the term below the Piquetbergen where cattle-rearing rather than agriculture and viticulture is practised. There is some good soil but most of it is sandy and not very fertile; the appearance of the country is rather displeasing." (Mentzel 1787).

Paterson travelled through the Sandveld in June 1779. He does not describe his trip in detail at this stage of the journey. He describes crossing the Berg River by ferry and the next day arriving at Het Kruis, on the northern end of the Piketberg. He then travelled on to the Verlorenvlei and had to stay there longer than expected due to the vlei being impassable due to flooding. Paterson’s party stayed the night with "Mr Geuff" or Mr Geuss. The Paterson party crossed the Verlorenvlei and continued through to the north, returning by a different route to Cape Town (Paterson 1790).

George Thompson visited the cape in the 1820s. In July and August 1824 he embarked on a trip to the Roggeveld, returning to Cape Town via the west coast and crossing the Sandveld towards the end of August 1824. He specifically does not describe the land of the Sandveld, as he felt that this
had been sufficiently covered by previous travellers. He does however provide some observations from his trip along the edge of St Helena Bay.

Having crossed the Piekeniers kloof pass and the Kapteinskloof, Thompson arrived at St Helena Bay, near Veldrif on the 30th of August 1824. He describes the occurrence of a red tide and the subsequent stranding of many aquatic species. He describes the surrounding land as sparse and only good for grazing (Forbes 1967).

**Settlement**
The Piketberg region saw increased settlement by white colonists in the early years of the 18th century. Farmers sent their cattle across the Berg River into the Sandveld, in order to gain access to relatively underutilised pasture. Penn (2005) notes that following the opening of the livestock trade, and the subsequent denuding of the Khoe flocks in the area, many traditional Khoesan groups in the region had started a process of evasive migration. Many Khoe groups left the Sandveld, and other areas bordering on the colony, and moved north towards the Orange River. This was done in order to avoid colonial aggression, but also as a result of the livestock herding lifestyle of the Khoe being destroyed by the loss of cattle.

Grazing permits for the Piketberg region were issued towards the end of the first decade of the 18th century. The eventual implementation of the loan place system in 1714 set out relatively uniform farming structures across the Sandveld and Piketberg region. Each loan was defined as a roughly circular area, drawn out from a central point based on a radius of half an hour’s ride at a steady walk. The average loan place amounted to 2420 Ha (Penn 2005: 42). In areas where the loan place was situated on flat terrain, this meant that farms were roughly circular. However the role of the topography should not be downplayed, as many loan places, and the subsequent quitrent surveys were defined by the underlying topography, resulting in semi-circular farms nestled up against the mountains, or linear farms situated in kloofs, or along rivers.
The loan place system would require an individual to apply for their license, and then re-apply after several years. The records of the loan place system, as recorded in the Receiver of Land Revenue records in the Cape Archives show that in many cases, land transfers were not recorded, and that there was a fair degree of informal transfer between individuals. This implies a degree of independence in the area, where the colonial authorities could not entirely control the events of the colonists living in the outer lying areas of colonial society. Loan places were rented at a rate of 12 Rix dollars a year. The enforcement of this rent was not strictly implemented, indicating that the area of the northern frontier was peripheral with little government interference. The annual price of the loan place rental was increased in 1732 from 12 Rix Dollars to 24. Penn (Penn 2005: 44) argues that the real expense of an aspirant farmer was the infrastructure investment, namely the Opstal, farming equipment and stock

The loan place system was used in the colony until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the new British administration at the Cape brought in the Quitrent system. Many of the subsequent farms that were granted in the early nineteenth century were based on the divisions as set out under the loan place system. The area of the Sandveld was, and indeed continues to be a water scarce landscape. Farms were granted usually with at least one water source. The quitrent grants were granted following a survey of the property, which usually took place several years before the official grant. The process of unofficial transference of ownership was carried on in the early years of the quitrent system, with the official records displaying breaks and inconsistencies in the chain of ownership.

The Sandveld during the nineteenth century saw a consolidation of colonial land ownership. The change in government at the beginning of the 19th century not only changed certain laws regarding land ownership and inheritance, but also affected the economy of the Cape Colony (Ross 1994: 38-39). The power structure of trade in the colony was shifted. Previously under the Dutch administration, international trade had been facilitated through merchants in the Netherlands. Now
under the new British dispensation, new players had arrived on the scene. Business connections were made through partnerships both, professional and personal, allowing British merchants to find connections in the Cape and for powerful merchants in the Cape to find trade networks within the British networks (Ross 1994: 39).

The town of Piketberg (Piquetberg) was founded in 1831 (Fransen 2006). The area had been administered as part of the Stellenbosch district from 1750. From 1801 to 1814 the Piketberg was under the administration of the Tulbagh district, followed, until 1826 by Worcester. In 1826 till 1855, it was part of the Swartland District. From 1855 onwards the Piketberg area was administered as its own district. Porterville and Veldrif became their own districts in 1949 and 1960 respectively (Burger 1975: 1).

The early 1830s also saw unprecedented change in colonial life with the abolition of slavery, as well as the beginnings of the great trek. The end of slavery was not absolute as slaves were required to work for their masters for a period of four years before they could leave the service they had formerly been required to endure (Ross 1994). This changed the labour dynamics of the farming communities. Land within the boundaries of the colony was almost all taken up by farmers, allowing little space for both prospective newly freed slaves to become independent farmers, as well as younger sons to carve out their own livelihoods. The few Khoesan groups who had not been forced to trek into the interior, or be absorbed into the labour systems of the colony were also increasingly under pressure.

The difficulty for the newly freed slaves provided an incentive for newly freed people to move to the mission stations. Goedverwacht, on the southern edge of the Piketberg was founded specifically as a result of this need. The mission station was founded in 1845, but only became official in 1889 (Fransen 2006: 138). The Witteewater mission station was set up in 1859 as a satellite station to accommodate the large numbers of people who were migrating to the mission station (Fransen 2006).
The frontier in the Sandveld closes around 1845. By this time permanent settlement was well underway and well established across the landscape. Some of the main towns outside of Piketberg had been established.

Redelinghuys was founded in 1866 as smaller *Kerk Dorp*. The settlement has always had strategic importance as it was one of three fording points for the Verlorenvlei river, the others being at the mouth of the Verlorenvlei and the other at Het Kruis further to the north east (Burger 1975).

Aurora was founded in a similar situation to that of Redelinghuys but much later in 1909. Site for a church development had been sought from as early as the 1880s but due to funding issues and the delay in finding the correct site meant that the church was only established in the early 20th century (Burger 1975).

Elands Bay was founded in 1863 with people moving to the area in order to partake in fishing and crayfishing. Elands Bay formed part of a fisheries network that stretched along the west coast. The crayfish was exported to Cape Town, and then on to Europe, particularly to France and England. This industry was at its height during the early years of the 20th century (Burger 1975).

The fishing industry on the west coast was largely subsistence based and closely linked to each individual settlement. The individual fisheries were gradually eclipsed by The Stephan Brothers, who dominated the fishing industry in the later 19th century. A crayfish boom in the early 1900s saw the crayfish stocks decimated by the end of the 1920s. The main resource for fisheries on the west coast was decimated, and the economic viability of the industry was therefore in jeopardy. This likely meant that the towns on the West Coast suffered a period of financial downturn, and this encouraged people to move to other areas, or to revert to subsistence farming. The easy flow of wealth from the fisheries inland was cut off. This additionally left the population vulnerable to the 1930s depression. I have not been able to pursue this history, without delving into primary
resources. The events of the 20th century are important when compared to a discussion of the various settlement histories in later chapters (Malan et al. 2013).

The historical context of the Piketberg and Sandveld region shows that the area was initially settled very early on in the history of the colony. The Sandveld was opened up for development in the 18th century, but was stalled through the livestock raiding and inevitable competition for resources between the Khoe and the settlers. Following the end of these hostilities in the 19th century, the frontier shifts to the north as well as historical interest. The history of the latter half of the 19th century is not dealt with in much detail. The economic factors at play across the Sandveld suggest that the area was enjoying the results of the newly found stability and development was taking place across the area by the mid-19th century, but that this was relatively short lived, with the failure of the fishing industry in the early to mid-20th century gradually impoverishing the area.

In the next chapter I address the individual historical development of each farm included in the study. This chapter serves to address the documentary record for the farms, and the various chains of ownership.
Chapter 4 Farm Histories and the Documentary Record

This chapter deals with the documentary evidence that contributes to the understanding of the various farm werf sequences. This discussion includes looking at various types of sources that have contributed to understanding the werf development through time, as well as the selection of the various farms to be included in the study. The various sources contribute different types of information and represent multiple strands of evidence for understanding farm development. The purpose of this chapter is to begin to construct the midscale in understanding how development has happened across the landscape, and to further contribute to the context of the buildings on each farm. What factors played significant roles in defining the development of each farm?

Discussion of Sources

Aerial photos, visual sources, survey diagrams and the accounts of the earliest travellers are all essential sources for examining the impact of human activity on the land, as well as for understanding the development of a cultural landscape in the Piketberg region.

There are several types of visual source available for the researcher. These include early maps, loan place records, survey diagrams, subdivision survey diagrams, paintings, sketches, aerial and historical photographs. All of these sources cover different time periods and as such can function as short synchronic windows into the past. While most of these sources describe elements of the landscape individually, many of the sources function in tandem with a farm registry describing the ownership dynamics of a farm which would determine the structure of eventual subdivision, or the several different versions of survey diagrams that have been created over the years between the 1830s and the early twentieth century, many of which show slightly different information.

The earliest maps from the explorers who traversed this part of the country are quite general and do not show much specific information regarding the land use, and presence of early settlers on the land. These maps were created between the late 1600s and the early 1700s. While they are interesting in describing some of the landscape before the area was settled by white farmers in the
early 1700s, they show no specific information for the three farms I have examined. Other than passing references to some of the farms owned by large personalities present in the political sphere of the Cape at the time, very little is mentioned about the landscape itself. Some of the travellers do mention some European settlement, but they also describe the landscape before European settlement and this is equally valuable. As the travellers’ accounts deal with specific farms very rarely, it is useful to examine them generally for the whole area of the Piketberg/Sandveld landscape.

The earliest maps with specific description of the landscape and infrastructure of farms are the quitrent survey diagrams created by the surveyor general following the British takeover of the Cape. The Dutch administrators had instituted a freehold and grazing license system from the late 1600s onwards, but due to limits imposed by the VOC in terms of expansion and trade, the Piketberg region only rarely experienced these types of land use.

Several freeholds were present on the landscape in what is now the Piketberg magisterial district, such as the farm St Helena's Fontein on the western side of the district near the bay of the same name. Almost every farm that was granted as a quitrent in the Piketberg district was based on a pre-existing loan place. However, the loan place grazing licenses were not based on a formally surveyed description of land, and the records that are now part of the National and Provincial archives do not have a description of the landscape, other than, in some cases, the name of the river or valley that the loan places was situated on. So while there was a land management system in place from the early 1700s, it was only in the early 19th century that formal maps were created for the district with a degree of trustworthy accuracy.

Many of the early quitrent farms were granted following an official survey. The survey diagram was usually commissioned a few years prior to the granting of the farm. Although not always the case, some quitrent survey diagrams show the pre quitrent loan place circle (the area defined by the half hour horse ride), as well as some topographical features such as cliffs, springs, water courses, roads,
and the boundaries of the property. However the degree to which the researcher can trust the accuracy of the survey diagrams is questionable. The accuracy relies largely on which surveyor created the diagram. Although many diagrams do show buildings often the building indicated is nondescript and often any other buildings on a werf are ignored.

Although not ubiquitous across the historical landscape of the Western Cape, many areas of the Colonial Cape were depicted in paintings and drawings by naturalists, artists and travellers. Paintings of the landscape provide a snap shot of the appearance of the landscape at a certain time. While not every painter has the same degree of accuracy or skill, these paintings are a valuable contributor to a visual depiction of the landscape in a time before photography. Several paintings were created in the late 1840s by Johan C Poortermans during his travels through the region (Walton 1982). While he only created nine paintings during his trip through the Piketberg, he managed to capture several visual depictions of various farm werf around the Piketberg. As a source these paintings are incredibly valuable, both in terms of showing the nature of the built environment, the material culture of the people on the landscape and the degree to which the landscape has been changed.

Farm registries

Farm registries are the list of owners that have owned pieces of land under the freehold and quitrent systems. Each farm has a registry that tracks the farm owners over time, as well as the subsequent ownership of the later subdivisions. The farm registries record the ownership of the farms from the early 1830s until the mid-1980s. In many cases the early ownership changes of the farms following the grant were not accurately recorded. Farms changed ownership without the sale being recorded by the officials in the deeds office. This occurred frequently in the early years of the quitrent system, but the accuracy of the records increased dramatically in later years. The registries allow the reconstruction of a chain of title of the farm with detailed records of the time periods of ownership.
Photographs

Photographs are an extremely valuable resource in describing buildings that have been altered over
the course of the late nineteenth and twentieth century. Many of the renowned Vernacular
Architecture recorders, such as James Walton and André Pretorius (Walton 1989; Pretorius 1997)
have documented buildings over the last 50 years. Many of these buildings are no longer observable
on the landscape, and as such the records created through photography are extremely valuable in
reconstructing the sequence of the buildings. Many of the buildings have been left derelict or
abandoned since they were recorded by the various photographers and the photographs provide an
important snap shot in time to when the buildings were still in use. While almost all of the
photographs of the built environment of the Sandveld are a product of twentieth century
endeavours, there are a few images from the 1800s, for example a photograph of the first car in the
district at Klaarefontein in the 1880s.

Subdivision survey documents

Survey diagrams provide graphic information as a snapshot in time. Usually the original quitrent was
of a large farm, when the amount of infrastructure on the farm was at a minimum. The later
subdivision survey diagrams usually provide far more information in terms of describing the built
environment. This is due to the fact that many of the land parcels were smaller than the original
grants, and as such the resolution of the maps was slightly better.

Aerial photos

Aerial photography is a powerful tool in terms of understanding cultural landscape. The advent of a
publicly accessible Geographic Information System like Google Earth has made it incredibly easy to
conduct desktop surveys of the areas of interest. Google Earth is a powerful tool, but only if the time
period of interest is that of the 21st century.

Aerial photography from the early twentieth century provides the first detailed aerial pictorial
description of the landscape. The aerial photography of the 1930s and 1940s was the beginning of
regular aerial recording in South Africa. This allows the reconstruction of the sequence of change on
the landscape at a much higher frequency than in the 19th and 18th century. During the survey of
the available imagery, the earliest aerial photos of the West Coast found were taken in 1938.
Although infrequent at first, the number of aerial photographic surveys of the country increased
over the twentieth century, allowing a far greater time resolution.

The various types of source have shown that each farm has a wealth of information to be explored.
In knowing what type of information is provided by each type of source, the subjects of the study
come into focus. The farms that were chosen for this project can now be discussed.

Choosing the Farms

The scope of the study undertaken for this dissertation was initially aimed at the broad scale view of
the Sandveld in general. Initially a general study of the farm registries was undertaken in the
northern area of the Piketberg Magisterial District. This entailed the recording of the date of the
granting of the farm, as well as the date at which the farm registry reflected a sharing of the farm,
and then the date of the farm’s formal subdivision. This study resulted in a general overview of the
ownership pattern across the landscape. While this information did not reveal any notable sequence
of grants, or any obvious correlation between the farm number and the order of the grant, the study
did show that at least two events took place across the landscape in terms of ownership patterns.

A general trend was observed with farms being defined by loan place grants in the 1730s and
formalised in the 1830s via the British quitrent system. Almost all of the farms on the landscape
were granted within five years of each other, between 1830 and 1835. Various farms reach a shared
situation in the late 19th century and the early 20th century, with subdivision happening in the
1930s and 1940s. This may be driven by an economic event, reflecting the Depression and instability
of the war years of the 1930s and 40s, or may be a result of a generational issue, where the first
generation is granted the farm, the second generation shares the farm informally (siblings), and the
third generation formally subdivides the farm (cousins). These general trends were observed across
the landscape and are only observable at a general scale. In order to explore the individual farms, a more detailed approach was undertaken in interrogating the archival record.

Three farms were chosen for the study at the mid and micro scale. The initial study focussed on the material expression of the built environment of two farms, Wagenpad 50 and Voetpad 83. The farm Groenfontein was added later when it became apparent that there was an interesting line of comparative research regarding the subdivision of the farm.

Wagenpad was chosen for several reasons. Initially two characteristics presented promising leads in introducing the researcher to the architecture of the Sandveld.

The first was the issue identified in Chapter 2 in that the Vernacular Architecture and historical context of the Verlorenvlei needs to be compared to the broader regional expression of the Sandveld and Piketberg. One of the criticisms of Gribble's (1990) Verlorenvlei study was that the buildings that were included in the study were chosen because they 'looked like the vernacular'. In dealing with this criticism, I decided to measure and record everything that was extant on the landscape of the farms. Wagenpad presented a good opportunity as there seemed to be, at face value, a good sequence of buildings on the farm. The 18th century form of the Verlorenvlei-like longhouse, the 19th century clay structures and the pre-cast forms of the mid 20th century are represented on the farm.

The second characteristic of Wagenpad that presented an opportunity is the association of the farm to the Smit Family. The Smit family historically owned half of the Verlorenvlei settlement. Additionally, the patriarch of the Smit Family, Erasmus Smit, owned the farm adjacent to Wagenpad, and in fact moved to Wagenpad in the final years of his life. This chain of title is described later in this chapter. Wagenpad therefore presented as a node point for the greater network of the Smit family across the landscape.
The farm Voetpad presented an interesting set of buildings that had been relatively well preserved. This farm had been visited by James Walton and Andre Pretorius who photographed various different aspects of a few buildings on the farm. Walton included Voetpad in his 1982 discussion of farms painted by Poortermans (Walton 1982), arguing that two of the buildings on the werf are the buildings shown in the painting. As argued in chapter 5 it is likely that the painting of the Ezelshoek werf is of buildings other than those indicated by Walton. The Voetpad werf is nonetheless an interesting farm location and presented a good opportunity to interrogate some interesting architecture.

The third farm included in this study is Groenfontein. The farm was chosen late in the study, after the buildings on the previous two farms had been recorded. The buildings on Groenfontein could not be recorded as part of this project, but the spatial layout and farm history of Groenfontein presented a very interesting subject.

The interest in Groenfontein was originally started as a result of the farm being painted by Poortermans during his 1849 Sandveld visit. The painting showed a farm with an interesting werf, similar to those found closer to Cape Town with its square precinct. When visiting the farm, it became clear that the buildings shown in the painting were mostly absent from the werf. Additionally the spatial layout of the farm showed interesting continuity between the loan place, quitrent and eventual subdivision on the farm.

The study of the above farms has greatly benefitted from discussion with the various occupants and owners of the farms who have all shown an intense interest in the history of their farms, and in preserving and celebrating the buildings.

Several other farms were considered for inclusion in the study, but for time constraints were not included. These included, Kapteinskloof, Moutonshoek, Kleigat, Weltevreden and Banghoek. These
farms all have interesting built environments. Some of these farms have been included in an oral history project.

The following description of the farms, serves to construct the mid-scale in understanding the layering of cultural landscape in this region. The documentary evidence provides a sequence for each farm that shows their underlying characteristics. These characteristics allow for comparisons between farms and show various constraints and strengths that each farm has enjoyed. These comparisons should be able to help the observer to understand how each farm has developed through time. The following descriptions form the basis for this discussion.

Figure 6: Map Indicating Various Werfs around Wagenpad 50 Farm.
Figure 7: Map Indicating Buildings on three Werfs on Wagenpad 50
Figure 8: Map Indicating Buildings on Waterval Werf, Wagenpad 50
Figure 9: Map Indicating Buildings on Sit-Maar-So Werf, Wagenpad 50
**Wagenpad**

Wagenpad 50 is a large farm granted as a quitrent in the 1830s on the northern end of the Piketberg (See Appendix 1: Wagenpad). The farm is situated in a large horseshoe shaped valley, but the borders of the farm also spill over into neighbouring valleys. A main road running from west to east crosses the farm resulting in the name Wagenpad or *wagon road*. Maps of the Piketberg have indicated the northern most valley of the range with varying degrees of accuracy, with some not indicating the presence of the valley at all, while some have shown a general horseshoe shape.

The farm was originally granted as a loan place. While the original loan place record could not be sourced in the archives, Smith (1985) states that the farm was granted as “Wagendrift on the Janko Rivier” (Cape Archives Receiver of Land Revenue Record: KAB RLR 12/207.) The farm was originally loaned to Erasmus Smit on the 7th of April 1750. While this information is luckily included in the book *Boerepioners van die Sandveld*, no other mention of the Janko River could be found.

The earliest map specifically showing infrastructure on the farm is that of the 1839 quitrent survey diagram (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 1). The diagram shows several fields of cultivated crops, as well as the roads and rivers on the farm. A single house, labelled as *DW Huis*, is indicated on the southern side of the road. Several springs are labelled on the survey diagram as well as their resultant water courses. The main river draining to the east is noted as being a *perennial stream*.

An area of grazing commonage is indicated in the area where the modern day secondary werf of Oorwinningsfontein is situated. A small dam is indicated next to the road where the *perennial stream* crosses the road, as well as the *Uitspan: Grazing to the North and West of the Road*. The former loan place of Wagendrift is indicated on the quitrent survey as a roughly circular area extending over the whole of the valley and up until the position of the modern main road to Elands Bay.
The Ceres Imperial Map, part of a series, made between 1900 and 1919, shows the position of Wagenpad on the landscape in relation to the other farms around it (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 2). Although the quitrent farm boundaries are indicated, no other farm infrastructure is described.

The farm was subdivided in 1940, but a survey diagram describing the different portions of subdivisions was created in 1939 (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 3). The farm was surveyed in September of 1939 by Mr C C Moodie. These survey diagrams are the first to describe the built environment in any detail. In particular the survey diagram describing the central werf of portions 9 (later 19 and 21), 10 and 11 is very useful. The diagram shows several buildings on the werf. Many of these buildings are still extant, while some of them are no longer visible on the landscape. Notably all of the buildings described in the measured drawings of this project were already existing on the werf (WP1 - WP8) in 1939, with the exception of WP7, which based on the materials of the building, appears to be a modern construction. However there are several buildings present on the werf which are no longer extant. These include the figures indicated as WPD 1 - WPD 8 (possibly one of the buildings is WP7).

Interestingly the form of some of the buildings that are still partially intact are drawn in on the survey diagram with slight differences to how the ruins appear today, in particular the form of WP04, which appears to have a small room added on the eastern side, giving the structure a slightly fattened L shape. There was no observed material on the ground indicating that any fabric of this added room remained.

The form of the Long Barn (WP02) is also represented fairly differently to how the building is viewed today. The building is represented as having various small additions appended to it. Several small structures protrude from the rectangular core of the building. These structures are no longer extant, but are possibly visible in some of the remaining foundations around the structure.
Wagenpad is next described in one of the earliest aerial photos of the region taken in 1942 (Job 168, Flight path 9, photo number: 37919)(Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 4). This image was taken soon after the creation of the previously described survey diagram, and represents the first objectively accurate description of the farm in graphic form. The image itself was sourced from the Surveyor General’s mapping office, but unfortunately is not of as high a resolution as it could have been. The original negatives have been lost, and the diagram included in this project is a high quality scan of the contact sheet. Nevertheless, I have tried to identify the relevant buildings. By creating a georeferenced overlay of modern images from Google Earth and other aerial photos from the late twentieth century, it is clear that several buildings are no longer present on the werf (represented in pink), while others have survived (represented in green).

The form and position of WP07, as well as the materials used in the construction of the building shows that the building is clearly modern. However two buildings further up the slope to the south of WP07 are indicated on the 1942 aerial photo, but are no longer present on the ground. On inspecting the site, no trace of these structures was found.

In comparing the modern imagery of the farm, and the 1942 photograph, it is clear that the road structure on the central werf is very different. The two buildings that have not survived are placed close to the road that seems to arc between the positions of Rooiheuwel and Keurbos. This road structure is different in the modern day, with the road splitting next to the position of the Roussouw house, and continuing towards Rooiheuwel and Keurbos separately.

A clear distinction between the 1942 aerial photo and the modern day werf is the position and appearance of the "Tap Huis". The building was situated and orientated with clear reference to the surviving barn/longhouse form of WP02. No trace of the structure is found today, but this area of the werf is very overgrown with mature trees, and it was very difficult to gain any form of good visibility on the ground. There may be the remains of some foundations hidden in the brush, but other than that there is virtually no trace of the building. Through interviews with Mrs Barnard, it is
clear that the building at least one time functioned as a cellar and tap huis. Oral histories associated with the site include reference to the building being burnt down by the disgruntled wives of a few regular patrons of the tap huis. While this may have been the case, we know from the photographs, that this event definitely post-dated 1942.

Wagenpad has a good water supply in the form of several springs and resultant rivers. These springs feed into the main water course on the farm which flows down the valley to the east. The river eventually empties into the Verlorenvlei to the North West. These springs are prominently displayed on the survey diagrams from the 1830s and the 1940s. The aerial photos from 1942 show a much more heavily wooded farm, with several large stands of mature gum and poplar trees. Compared to the present, the 1942 aerial photo shows a farm where many of the trees have reduced the water supply on the farm fairly drastically. The modern farm has several dams situated around the secondary werfs and homesteads on the farm. Many of the stands of trees have been removed on the modern werf, partly through projects aimed at working for water, as well as the fire risks associated with the mature trees.

The secondary werfs of Wagenpad are only represented in the 1939 survey diagram and later; Rooiheuwel, Keurbos, Waterval and Oorwinningsfontein. The absent werfs include Morewag and Sit-Maar-So. The 1942 aerial photo does not show Oorwinningsfontein (the high definition image is cropped) and Morewag. However, the image does show Sit-Maar-So very clearly.

The Rooiheuwel werf is described on the 1939 Survey Diagram as consisting of three buildings (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 3.1). A slightly larger building is described as falling on the northern side of the border line between portion 9 (central werf), and portion 5 (Rooiheuwel). I believe this is the main house on the werf (WP09). Two smaller buildings with similar orientations (all the buildings run in a west-east orientation) are situated to the south east of WP09. According to the survey diagram these buildings are situated on the central portion 9 of the farm, but due to their close proximity to the Rooiheuwel portion (5) I have grouped them together. The 1942 aerial photo shows
three thatch buildings situated on the south eastern section of the Rooiheuwel werf. It is likely that the extant building WP10 now positioned on the south eastern end of the Rooiheuwel werf is the longest of the three.

The Keurbos werf is described in the 1939 survey diagram as consisting of two buildings situated at some distance from each other (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 3.2). The two structures indicated are not consistent with the 1942 aerial photo. They are positioned in such a way that one structure is situated much further up the slope on the southern side of the valley, while the other is lower down. The modern werf, as well as the one described on the 1942 aerial photograph show a somewhat different situation. The road ascends the hill and then turns to the east. It then feeds on to the centre of the Keurbos werf. The werf is roughly ordered into a linear East West running structure, with WP16 situated on the northern side of the road, with WP15 situated on the eastern end of the werf. The 1942 aerial photo suggests that the unmeasured residential house is also extant at this point, as well as WP16 and WP15, however the contact scan is of poor quality (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 6). An additional building is situated on the western end of the werf as the road curves. This building is no longer extant, and no trace of it was found when the site was inspected.

The Keurbos werf has no standing water bodies described on the survey diagram or on the 1942 aerial photo, however as is the case with the majority of the secondary werfs on the farm, dams have been built in the interleading years between the early 1940s and the present, resulting in each secondary werf having its own reservoir.

The Waterval werf is shown on the 1939 survey diagram in the same position as it is today (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 3.3). Three structures are described, positioned around the end of the approach road to the werf. The buildings correlate to the two extant Waterval buildings and the demolished opgekleide structure to the west of the werf. The fourth ruin observable in the present is not visible in the 1942 Aerial photo or on the 1939 survey diagram. Waterval 1 and Waterval 2 are both positioned to the east of the werf, while the now demolished building is situated to the west.
This building is shown in its complete form to have been a long linear building with a thatched roof. The modern ruin, built from red brick and modern plaster, is not visible in the 1942 aerial photo, and was likely built after the photograph.

The Sit-Maar-So werf is not indicated on the 1939 survey diagram. The 1942 aerial photo shows the presence of both Sit-Maar-So 1 and Sit-Maar-So 2 on the werf (Appendix 2: Wagenpad: Figure 7). This photo, as well as the materials of this small complex of buildings indicates that the building postdates 1942. The Sit-Maar-So werf is much less wooded than in the present day with small patches of mature trees, but not the scale of the current trees.

The Morewag werf is not indicated on the 1939 survey diagram, or the 1942 aerial photo. The 1939 survey diagram indicates the convergence of several farm roads in the general vicinity of where the werf is today, but in comparison with the 1942 aerial photo, there is no evidence of any built structures present on the landscape. The Morewag werf is the modern day functional heart of the farm. Several buildings are present including the farm manager’s house, the large barn for farm vehicles and horse stabling, as well as several farm workers cottages. A large dam (the biggest on the farm) is also situated just upstream and to the west of the werf.

**Wagenpad - Chain of Title**

The farm Wagenpad is situated in a bowl shaped valley on the northern tip of the Piketberg Mountains. While the route from Piketberg through to Het Kruis has been well travelled since the end of the 17th century, many of the farms that are mentioned in the travellers' accounts are neighbours to the Wagenpad property, such as Groenevallei and Drogerijskloof (Mossop 1931). The valley is secluded and is much more inaccessible than its neighbouring properties. The farm is named after the wagon road that used to pass through from the valley to the west of Wagenpad. This track is still visible when the vegetation is low.
Wagenpad was originally inhabited as a loan farm under the name "Wagendrift on the Janko Rivier." The farm was originally loaned to Erasmus Smit on the 7th of April 1750 (RLR 12/2 P.321) for the grazing of cattle. The farm was leased by Erasmus Smit until the 13th of December 1756, when the loan place was leased to Gerrit Hendrik Meyer (RLR 14/2 P.435 Vol Folio 203). Gerrit kept his lease until the 26th of May 1758. In his detailed history of the Smit family, Smith (1985) does not mention the Meyer interlude in the history of the Wagendrift loan farm. Erasmus Smit re-leased the Wagendrift loan place and installed his son Johannes Erasmus Smit as the overseer of the farm. In 1769 Johannes Erasmus Smit took over as the leasee of Wagendrift. His father had lived at Drogerijskloof since 1739 (Smith, 1985), but following the death of J E Smit’s mother, Cornelia van Emmenes in 1769, Erasmus Smit gave Drogerijskloof to his second son Gerrit, and moved to Wagendrift to live with Johannes Erasmus Smit (Smith 1985).

By this time line it is known that the loan place Wagendrift had been in the possession of Johannes Erasmus Smit from before 1769. Smith (1985) describes Johannes Erasmus Smit owning the Wagendrift loan place until his death in 1799. The loan place was then leased by Johannes Erasmus Smit's son in law, Gideon Koegelenberg.

Quitrent

The farm was eventually granted as "Wagenpad" to the widow of Gideon Koegelenberg on the 15th of April 1839. The farm was transferred again in 1889 from the estate of J D Koegelenberg to Pieter François Theron. P F Theron owned the farm until 1905 when the farm was shared equally between Michiel Willem Gerhardus Koegelenberg, Petrus Michiel Koegelenberg, Arend Albertus Van Widleigh Olivier, Nicolaas Andries Hanekom, Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg, Willem Edward Visser, Barend
Fredrik Burger, and Fredrick Willhelm Koegelenberg. On the same day the share owned by M W G Koegelenberg was transferred to Nicolaas Andries Hannekom (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Wagenpad, at this point was shared by eight individuals. The period between this sharing and later subdivision in 1940 is extremely complex. I have tried to describe the chronological ownership of each 1/8th together.

As stated above, the share bought by M W G Koegelenberg was transferred on the same day to the ownership of Nicolaas Andries Hannekom. N A Hannekom held a cumulative total of one quarter of the share of Wagenpad between 1905 and 1913. In 1913 half his share was transferred to Alwyn Bernhardus Smit. Smit kept his eighth share until 1927 when it was transferred to Charles S Van Der Westhuizen. Van Der Westhuizen held his share until the subdivision in 1940 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

N A Hannekom's other share was eventually transferred to William Adrian Johannes Willem Smith and Alwyn Bernardus Kotze in 1917. Their individual 1/16th shares were transferred on to Petrus Joseph Johan Van Der Westhuizen in 1921. P J J Van Der Westhuizen's share was transferred to Willem Edward Benjamin Visser in 1923. (W. E. B. Visser also concurrently owned 1/4 of the farm in 1940) (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

The share bought by Petrus Michiel Koegelenberg, was held by him until 1909. His 1/8 share was transferred on to Daniel Johannes Smit who held the share until 1916 when the share was spread between 3 individuals. The share was taken up by George Fredrik Smit, Johannes Petrus Smit and the minor, David Johan Smit. The 1/8th share held by the three Smits was eventually transferred to Benjamin Klein in 1928 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

In 1905 Arend Albertus Van Widleigh Olivier bought an 18th share in the farm Wagenpad. He held his share until 1915. Willem Edward Visser took up an 1/8th share in 1905 as well, and in 1915 took
over A A Van Widleigh Olivier's share, resulting in W E Visser owning 1/4 of the farm. This share in conjunction with the share he bought from P J J Vander Westhuizen meant that in 1940 he owned 3/8ths of the farm (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Barend Fredrik Burger (Owner and resident of Banghoek over the Piketberg) bought 1/8th of the shares of the farm in 1905. He held his share until 1917 when Gert Petrus Theart took over his share. G P Theart owned an 1/8th of the farm share until 1938 when it was transferred to Jan Christian Albertus Theart who held the share until subdivision (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

The relationship between the remaining two 8ths of the farm taken out in 1905 is fairly complex. The 7th share was bought by Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg. He held the full 1/8th of the Wagenpad share for one year, at which point the farm registry records half of N. A Koegelenberg's share being transferred to Daniel Louw Rossouw. He held his share until 1926. In 1914 Nicolaas Andries Rynart Streuth owned a part of the 7th share. He held his share until 1919 when it was transferred to Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg. N A Koegelenberg kept his share until 1931 when it was transferred to Jurguns Jacobus Olivier. The ownership of the share by J J Olivier was not to last long and it was transferred back to Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg in 1933. N A Koegelenberg held the share until the subdivision in 1940 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

The last part of Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg's share was bought by Lourens Erasmus Richter in 1916. His four sons, Gabriel L Richter, Hugo A J Richter, Adrian J Richter and Johannes A M Richter, inherited his share in 1927. The four brothers transferred the share to Benjamin Klein a short time later in 1929 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

The 10th share of the farm, created in 1905 was bought by Fredrik Willem Koegelenberg. He held the share until 1915 when the share was transferred to four Rossouw brothers, Johannes Albertus Rossouw, Daniel Louw Rossouw, Hermanus Engelbracht Rossouw and Adrian Louw Rossouw. 1921
saw some shuffling around of ownership between the Rossouws. The share owned by Daniel Louw Roussouw, transferred from Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg in 1906 was transferred along with the four shares from the Rossouw brothers to Alwyn Bernardus Kotze and Willem Adrian Johannes Smith in 1921. Kotze and Smith owned the combined shares together until 1926 when Kotze took over Smith's share. Kotze owned the two shares until 1927 when they were transferred to Benjamin Klein (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

In 1940 prior to subdivision, the farm was owned by Charles S Van Der Westhuizen (1/8th) Willem E B Visser (3/8ths), Jan Christiaan Albertus Theart (1/8), Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg jnr (1/16th). Technically Christiaan Rudolf Brink Mostert was also an owner at this point but the first piece of land that he owned in the farm share was on the same date that subdivision happened (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Subdivision

On the 30th of August 1940 the farm was subdivided. The farm was initially divided into 11 portions with several more being created in the following years. Portions 1, 10 and 11 were bought by Christian Rudolf Brink Mostert, portions 2, 5 and 8 were bought by Willem Ewald Benjamin Visser, portion 3 was bought by Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg, portion 4 was bought by Charles Stephanus Van Der Westhuizen, portion 6 was bought by Huibrecht Maria Sophia Burger and portion 7 was bought by Jan Christian Albertus Theart. Portion 9 was shared and later subdivided by all of the above owners (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

The farm was subdivided in a way that the central werf was mostly kept together as one portion (portion 9). The other central portions include portion 11 and portion 10. The rest of the subdivisions of the farm form a ring around the central werf (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).
Portion 1 is situated on the northern slope of the mountain to the south of the farm. The portion is the biggest on the farm. C. R. B. Mostert bought portion 1 in the 1940 subdivision and held it until 1945. In 1945 the portion was further subdivided with portion 12 and 13 being created out of portion 1. The remainder of portion 1 was sold to Hendrik Justinus Johannes Tolken. He owned the portion until 1960 when the portion was shared between Hendrik Johannes Fredrik Tolken and Jan Gabriel Du Plessis. The portion was shared between these two until 1971 when H J F Tolken bought out J G Du Plessis' share. Tolken held the farm until portion until 1981 when it was transferred to Izak Petrus Albertus Smit (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Portion 10 and 11 are smaller portions situated on the central werf of the farm. Each portion consisted of a house and an area of land around it. Portion 10 was bought by C R B Mostert in 1940 but was transferred to the same day to Hermanus Engelbrecht Roussouw. H E Roussouw owned the portion until his death. His widow Susanna Elizabeth Roussouw owned the portion for one year (1963). Johanna Helena Van Zyl Smit then bought the portion at the beginning of 1964 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Portion 11 was also technically owned by C R B Mostert for a day before the portion was transferred to Johanna Wilhelmina Josina Roussouw. J W J Roussouw sold to Johannes Fredrik Lambrechts in 1945 who held the portion for 6 years, eventually transferring to Jan Hendrik Marthinus Smit in 1951. J H M Smit held the portion for many years until 1979 when following his death the portion was transferred to his widow Jacoba Christina Smit (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

C R B Mostert owned a share of portion 9 for half of 1940 he transferred his share to Johannes Gideon Koegelenberg. J G Koegelenberg held the share until 1967 when Johannes Stephanus Petrus De Beer took ownership (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).
Wilhelm Ewald Benjamin Visser bought portions 2, 5 and 8 in 1940 along with his share of portion 9. He held the three portions and share together until 1950 when the portions passed to his inheritors. The portions were then shared between Wilhelm Ewald Benjamin (WEB Visser's son), Johannes Daniel Koegelenberg Visser and Alberta Johanna Helena Carstens (nee Visser). The three held the portions until 1960 when a portion of portion 2 was subdivided and portion 18 of Wagenpad was created. The Visser siblings held the portions for another two years until it was transferred to Pieter Carstens in 1962. Pieter Carstens held the four portions until 1967. He owned two additional portions (Portion 6 and share of portion 9). The records for Portions 2, 5 and 8 become fairly inconsistent following Carstens' sale. Portion 2, 5 and portion 8 were sold to Jacobus Cornelius Gideon Kamfer in 1967. Both portions 2 and 8 were sold on to the Vrede en Lust Salon property company in 1969. The share in portion 9 was also sold to Kamfer in 1967 but was then shared between Kamfer and Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer in 1969 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Portion 6 was bought in 1940 by Huibrecht Maria Sophia Burger. She also had a share in the central werf portion 9. In 1950 it was transferred to Hendrik Valentyn Retief who held both portion 6 and the share in portion 9. Pieter Carstens bought portion 6 and the share in portion 9 in 1962, along with the other portions mentioned above. Both portions were transferred to J C G Kamfer in 1967. J C G Kamfer sold portion 6 to Vrede en Lust salon Property Company in 1969. At the same time the share of portion 9 was shared between J C G Kamfer and Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Portion 7 was transferred in 1940 to Jan Christian Albertus Theart. The portion was transferred again in 1944 to Dirk Richard James Theart who held the portion until 1957 when the portion was transferred to Petrus Albertus Cornelius Smit. The portion was re-granted to P A C Smit in 1966 and he continued to hold the portion. The registry ends at this point (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).
Portion 3 was bought by Nicolaas Albertus Koegelenberg in 1940. He transferred the portion on to Hendrik Cornelius De Beer who owned the portion until 1957 when the he sold it on to Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer. H C De Beer concurrently owned Portion 13 in 1945 when it had been subdivided from portion 1. He held the portion until 1951 when it was transferred to Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

Portion 12, also created by the subdivision of portion 1 in 1945, and was bought by Nicolaas Cornelius Koegelenberg. He owned the portion for one year at which point it was transferred to Percy Daniel. Percy Daniel then sold again in 1950. Between 1950 and 1959 the portion was shared between Gabriel Andries Jacobus Van Der Westhuizen and Gerhardus Petrus Cornelius Van Der Westhuizen. In 1959 G A J Van Der Westhuizen took over Gerhardus’ share and continued to own the portion until 1967 when the portion was transferred and shared by Alwyn Bernhardus Smit and Coenraad Hendrik Smit (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).

A B Smit and C H Smit were already owners of part of the Wagenpad farm. Portion 4 had been bought by Charles Stephanus Van Der Westhuizen in 1940 but then transferred to the Smit brothers in 1945. The Smit brothers held the portion (the Waterval houses are situated on the portion) from 1945 until, with the brothers’ concurrent ownership of portion 12, both portions were sold to the Vrede en Lust Property Company in 1986 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50).
Figure 10: Map Indicating Werfs on the Farm Voetpad.

Figure 11: Map Indicating Buildings on the Main Werf of Farm Voetpad.
Figure 12: Map Indicating Buildings and Structures Present on the Landscape of the Main Werf of Voetpad, 1942.

Figure 13: Map Indicating Zwartrug Werf
Voetpad

Voetpad or "Het Voetpad" is situated on the northern side of the Kapteinskloof Pass along the road between Zoar and Het Kruis (See Appendix 1: Voetpad). The farm is situated on the northern slopes of the mountain, and the farm looks out over the sandy flats to the north. The farm takes the form of an irregular quadrilateral, with part of the farm being defined by the mountain ranges to the east and south. The farm is also bordered to the southwest by a large river. This river flows to the north, and eventually arches around to the east, thus completing the natural borders of the farm in the North West.

The farm was granted in 1838 as quitrent. The original opstal had been defined by the former loan place that was granted sometime in the early 18th century (Smith 1985). The exact dates are unknown as the document has been misfiled in the archives. The farm was subdivided in the early 20th century (1925), with three portions created, as well as the remainder. The remainder was eventually subdivided further into two portions (1953).

The farm was recorded first in the missing loan place record, followed by the 1834 survey diagram. The farm was later recorded in a painting by the artist Johan C. Poortermans, who visited the farm in 1849. The farm was next recorded in the 1925 subdivision survey document, and next in an aerial photo from 1942. The farm is described in the 1952 aerial photo, as well as the survey diagram of 1953. The last historical aerial photo of the farm was taken in 1960.

The farm was visited by Andre Pretorius and James Walton in the 1980s and early 1990s, and these researchers took many photos of the surviving buildings on the farm.

The 1834 survey diagram shows several features on the farm. These include areas of cultivated fields, where crops are actively being grown (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 1). The survey diagram describes four areas under active cultivation. Two large fields of 22 and 16 morgen are situated on either side of the road to the south of the farm. A third field is situated just to the north with an area
of 6 morgen. The fourth field is situated just to the north of a small river and consists of 2 morgen of cultivated ground. A weak spring feeding a small river is shown to the east of this fourth field. A single house is situated just to the north of the 2 morgen field. The house is rectangular and is orientated in a south east to North West direction.

A road bisects the farm running in a north south direction. The road passes through the farm, but leads to the house directly, rather than the modern situation where the road runs through the farm, with a small section breaking off and leading up to the Main werf on its own. There is a section of road indicated on the northern end of the farm that breaks off to the east where it eventually leads off the diagram onto the neighbouring farm of Namaquasfontein.

The boundaries on the farm are indicated as being drawn between several natural features, such as large or flat rocks, high rocky points, perennial streams, to the North West and larger periodic streams.

Elements of the farm were next recorded in the 1849 painting by J.C Poortermans (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 2). Poortermans travelled around the Sandveld painting scenes of several farms. Some of these paintings show buildings that have survived into the modern day. J C Poortermans arrived in the cape in 1833 and died in Paarl in 1870. He spent two years (1848 and 1849) on the west coast travelling and painting scenes (Walton 1982). In 1849 he travelled through the Piketberg and painted several farms including Ezelshoek and Groenfontein. The Ezelshoek painting is elevated amongst the other paintings as being the painting that is least closely related to its supposed modern day werf. However I believe this to be false.

James Walton (Walton 1982) argues that the werf reflected in the painting is the same werf as the modern day Ezelshoek werf of central Voetpad. He argues that the eastern most ruin of the two bywooner ruins is the main building reflected in the painting. He describes the farm as follows.
Over the pass north of Banghoek lies the farm Eselshoek, which Poortermans described as the ‘Corn Estate of Mr P. Van Zyl. Piquet Mountains. Pass to Bang Hoek, leading by a long Valley to Cape Town.’ The Poortermans painting depicts two dwellings and a wagon shed. What appears to be the principal dwelling has an entrance near one end of the front and this part is illuminated by two shuttered windows. At the opposite end is shown a second doorway, leading to a buitekamer. This building, the walls of which were built up of layers of mud mixed with chopped straw and cow dung, was still in existence in 1965. The windows had been filled in and an extension had been added at one end, as is shown by a break in the thatch, but the building portrayed by Poortermans was still easily recognizable. A second building at Eselshoek is not shown on the Poortermans painting but it was built shortly afterwards and is typical of many of the Piquetberg buildings which Poortermans recorded. It is a long rectangular building with a hipped thatched roof and a main entrance in one end. A second doorway affords access to the kitchen at the opposite end. On the painting of Eselshoek is a roof-shelter with a gable entrance, and four similar shelters are shown on the painting of Kapteinskloof (Captains Clove). Judging from the number of people standing or sitting in the vicinity of the shelters, it would appear that these housed the Hottentots and Coloureds who worked on the farms. Similar shelters may still be seen on many Piquetberg farms. (Walton 1982)

Following the survey of the Voetpad farm, I believe that the houses described on the landscape by Walton are not the houses depicted in the painting. The painting is actually of the ruins described here and measured as the "Poortermans Ruins". I believe the structures show direct similarities in the location of windows and doorways shown in the paintings.

The painting shows many elements that are interesting. The painting depicts four structures. Three are very obvious including a large cottage with a linear form and two barns. The third structure is situated on the right hand side of the painting. It has a pitched roof, but is situated low to the ground. This is a Kapstylhuisie.
The first structure is a cottage with three entrances. The roof is pitched with end gables. A chimney is situated on the left hand side of the building. The chimney has a small bakoond situated on the left hand side of the building. The facade facing the viewer shows two windows with a structure of, from left to right, a door, a second door, a second window, a featureless gap, and finally a third door. The right hand side end gable is visible, as the building is represented in an isometric position. A small square window is positioned in the centre of the attic space of the end gable. The structure has several figures positioned in front of it. The second door is shown to be a stable door.

The second structure is positioned just below the first in the picture plane. The structure is situated down the slope from the first building, and is slightly shorter in appearance. The building has end gables, is positioned in such a way that it appears to be an I shaped building with a thatched roof and appears to be constructed out of stone. There are several small piercings in the wall facing the viewer, as well as a single door on the right hand side of the wall facing the viewer. There are two small piercings in the end gable on the right hand side of the building.

The third building is situated on the right hand side of the picture. The building is painted in an isometric position with the end gable visible to the viewer. The building is an “I” shaped structure with a pitched, thatched roof. The building is end gabled, but no chimneys are obvious. The end gable visible to the viewer shows an off centre double door with a small window positioned just to the left of the door. The door shows an ox wagon inside the building. There is a small piercing just above the door, probably representing an access door to the solder above the main room of the structure. The side of the building visible to the viewer shows 10 small slit-like windows, followed by a single door, situated next to another single door. The rest of the side of the building is blank.

The fourth building is a small Kapstylhuisie. The building is situated on the same contour as the first main structure, and shows a small figure cooking just to the right of the structure. The building is whitewashed on its ends, but appears to have a thatch roof running down to the ground on each side.
The painting additionally shows several features, such as the road winding up to the mountains behind the werf, as well as a team of eight oxen ploughing a field. There are several areas of land under cultivation, as well as a stand of poplar trees and an orchard of trees, probably citrus.

Voetpad was next recorded on the 1925 sub-division diagram. The farm was divided into three portions and a remainder. Bovlei, Matjiesfontein and Zwartrug are all shown as portions on the 1925 drawing (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figures 3, 4 and 5). The overall tracing of the survey diagrams is very sparse and does not show any topographic details. The individual survey diagrams for each portion are very detailed and are the first descriptions of the built environment of the secondary werfs of the various portions on the farm.

Bovlei was subdivided off as portion 1 of the farm Voetpad (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figures 3). The 1925 survey diagram shows one house located in the top north western corner of the farm next to the road as it curves next to the river on its way north. However due to the fact that portion 1 of the Voetpad was sold to one of the pre-existing shareholders of the farm, who had owned a share of the farm since 1893 (Appendix 3: Voetpad), it is likely that the house indicated on the survey diagram predates the turn of the century. Other than the Bovlei house, the road and river are described, but no cultivated lands are described on the portion. A small spring is described in roughly the middle of the property.

Matjiesfontein, portion 2 of the farm 'T Voetpad, is shown on the 1925 survey diagram (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 4). The portion is situated to the south of the greater 'T Voetpad farm, and borders the neighbouring property of Banghoek. The portion bought by Barend Fredrik Burger in the 1926 subdivision, and probably served as an extension to his existing property of Banghoek. BF Burger lived on the neighbouring farm, and had also been a shareholder of the Voetpad farm since 1883. The survey diagram shows no built structures on the portion, but uncharacteristically it does show a lot of detail such as the contours of the landscape (it is a very mountainous and sloping portion) and the rivers thereon, running out to the north. The road is indicated running through the middle of the
farm, and splitting off towards the east where the main "Ezelshoek" werf is situated. This intersection is different than how it is today, where the main turn off to the Ezelshoek werf is situated at the Zwartrug house.

Zwartrug was the third portion created in the 1926 Subdivision (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 5). The survey diagram describes the later subdivisions of Zwartrug, as well as the road, rivers and houses on the farm at this time. The actual Zwartrug werf is described; however the T-shaped building that is evident on the landscape now is described as linear form. The neighbouring structure (the barn) is present as well. The Bovlei house is described on the survey diagram to the north of the Zwartrug house. The road leading to the Ezelshoek werf is indicated on the survey diagram, however, the modern day road running between Voetpad and the neighbouring farm of Kleigat is not indicated on the diagram. Interestingly the road is shown to be running on the western side of the Zwartrug houses, whereas the road runs along the edge of the portion in the present.

Voetpad was next described in the 1942 aerial photograph (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 6). The quality of the photo is extremely poor, but it does contribute to the layered history of the farm. The central werf of Ezelshoek is shown with many of the same buildings that are on the werf today already existing. Notable differences are seen in the roof structure of the long house attached to the van Zyl house, protruding to the west of the werf towards the Victorian farm house. The van Zyl long house is shown on the photograph; however the addition of the second kitchen is not obvious. The Bywooner houses (1 and 2) are indicated on the photo in their current positions, as well as two structures situated in alignment with the buildings to the west. The structures are no longer extant and are likely underneath the barn situated at this position in the present. The wagon house appears largely the same as it is today. An additional structure is shown lying parallel to the van Zyl long house. It is situated in the centre of a triangle described between the van Zyl longhouse, the Bywooner 2 house and the wagon house. This structure is no longer extant, but the foundations can be seen on the ground today. The barn to the south of the werf is largely un-changed today.
Interestingly the 1942 aerial photo shows distinct kraal structures surrounding the werf. Some remnants of these can still be seen today. The walls and kraals are shown as dark lines in the photo, and they were likely to have consisted of vegetated packed stone walls. Various square kraals are shown along these walls. These walls are no longer obvious on the werf.

The 1952 aerial photo shows much the same situation as the 1942 photograph, with the addition of a structure to the west of the wagon house although the image is fairly washed out, the shadow of a structure is clearly visible (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 7).

The 1953 Survey sub-division diagram shows a very similar status quo to the 1952 aerial photo, with the buildings of the Ezelshoek werf described in relation to the various new boundary lines (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 8). Interestingly the border described on the farm between portion 5 and the remainder of the farm runs straight through the second Bywooner house, and in the present this remains relevant, as the fence line across the werf runs through the ruin of the house.

The 1960 aerial photo is the most well defined and clear image from the historical aerial photo record (Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure 9). The photo shows several changes to the werf. The most notable are the deterioration of some of the structures on the werf. These include the two small structures positioned on the western side of the Bywooner houses, as well as the structure positioned between the Van Zyl long House and the Wagon House. All of these structures are shown to be deteriorating due to the outline of the walls being visible. This suggests that the buildings no longer had roofing.

The 1942 photo describes the secondary werf shown in the Poortermans painting. The photo shows four structures in the locations of the Poortermans ruins as described in the later chapter. The positions of these structures differ from the way the structures are shown in the 1849 Poortermans painting. The structure indicated on the lower left hand side of the painting in particular. A road
leading from the main werf is also shown in the aerial image. This road is not obvious in the subsequent pictures.

The 1952 aerial photo shows the secondary werf of Ezelshoek. The two structures to the west of the werf are no longer obvious, although the image is of a poor quality. The large linear structure of the Van Zyl ruins 2 is visible. The structure is already in a decayed state, as the walls are visible. The same cannot be said of the Van Zyl Ruins 1 building which does not show evidence of any visible walls, and appears to have an intact thatch roof, indicating that the structure is still somewhat intact.

The 1960 aerial photo shows the Van Zyl Ruins 1 building with a deteriorating roof. The structures exposed walls can be seen in the image. The van Zyl ruins 2 building is still present on the landscape but is significantly more degraded.

**Voetpad - Chain of Title**

This description should be read in conjunction with the Images provided in Appendix 3: Voetpad

**Loan Place**

The farm Voetpad was originally granted as a loan place in the mid-18th century. While the exact nature of the loan place are unknown and misfiled within the archives, some mention of the farm before it was officially granted as a quitrent in the 1830s is found in Smith (Smith 1985).

Although not directly relevant to the farm, the first mention of Voetpad by Smith is in relation to a dispute with the neighbouring farm Driefontein owned by Jan Coetzee since the 7th of June 1750. The dispute was over the use of a field abutting Voetpad. The neighbouring farmers from Kleigat, Voetpad and Goergap lodged a complaint with the government and Jan Coetzee was forced to leave the loan farm.
Smith describes the loan place of Het Voetpad (shortened to Voetpad) as being inhabited by Johannes Nicolaas Smit, the grandson of Erasmus Smit from 1797 until 1804. J N Smit is described as an extremely successful farmer and later a pillar of the community in the form of a veld kornet. In 1804, the new farmer of the neighbouring farm, Driefontein, Jan Basson, swapped farms with J N Smit. Smit moved to Driefontein and Basson took up residence at t’ Voetpad (Smith 1985).

Smith describes how the farm passed to Dirk Van Zyl in 1820; however the following mention of the farm shows that the farm was loaned to Johannes Erasmus Van Zyl in 1822. It is likely that Dirk and Johannes were relatives, but the exact relationship could not be ascertained. Johannes Erasmus Smit held Voetpad as a loan place until 1839, at which point the farm was granted to him when the new quitrent system came into use.

**Quitrent**

The farm Voetpad was granted as a quitrent to Johannes Erasmus van Zyl on the 28th of February 1838. The original farm was 3195 morgen in size and was located on the site of a pre-existing loan place farm with the same name (C.Q 9-26). The farm register for Voetpad shows that the farm was shared between several owners over the next 75 years. The farm was collectively owned without subdivision by several individuals who held informally agreed on shares of the farm. It is possible that there is a fair amount of sharing and change in ownership that was transacted in informal ways, and was consequently not recorded in the farm register (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t’Voetpad 82).

The farm was owned by the original grantee for most of the nineteenth century. In 1883, a share of the farm was transferred from the estate of W G Van Zyl to another Willem Johannes Van Zyl. At the same time a significant share of the farm was transferred to Barend Fredrik Burger from the estate of A M Kotze. This was followed some years later in 1890, with B F Burger having a further share transferred from G Kotze. There is no record of how the shares transferred to B F Burger and W G
Van Zyl were transferred from the original grantee J E Van Zyl to the individuals that owned them before to B F Burger and W G Van Zyl. The share of the farm bought by W J Van Zyl was eventually transferred to Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl in 1893 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t’Voetpad 82).

Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl proceeded to take up much of the farm from 1893 to 1907. Between 1907 and 1909, the farm was shared between Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl, Barend Fredrik Burger and the estate of Johannes Erasmus Van Zyl. This changed in 1909 when the remaining share of Johannes Erasmus Van Zyl was transferred and shared between 5 individuals: Hendrik Johannes Fredrik van Zyl, Jacobus Francois Van Zyl, Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl (the majority land owner at this point for the whole farm), Dirk Jacobus Van Zyl and Gert Van Zyl. This share was only in place for one year, at which point the five shares were transferred to Marthinus Johannes Koorts in 1910 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t’Voetpad 82).

M J Koorts held his share until 1914, when it moved to Dirk Jacobus Visser. D J Visser held his share until the end of 1918 when the share was transferred to Fredrik Hendrik Jacobus Carstens. F H J Carstens owned his share until 1923, at which point it was taken over by Nathan Schapiro and Saracharity Chasman. At the same time two records stand out with the same date. The first describes the transfer of a significant share from the estate of J [G or E] Van Zyl to the estate of Anna Frederika Carolina Van Zyl. The second record shows the transfer on the same date as the above of the same share between the estates of A F C Van Zyl to Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl. This appears to be the final transfer from the original grant to a new owner (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t’Voetpad 82).

Subdivision

1926 saw the official subdivision of the farm. The farm was divided into three erven with a remainder erf. The farm became four farms, with portion 1 being named "Bovlei", portion 2 being
named "Matjiesfontein" and Portion 3 becoming "Zwartrug." For two years before the sub division the farm had been shared, with Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl owning a large share of the farm, as well as Barend Fredrik Burger, and the partnership of Saracharity Chasman and Nathan Schapiro owning somewhat smaller but still significant shares (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82).

In the subdivision process, portion 1 (Bovlei was bought by Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl, Portion 2 (Matjiesfontein) was bought by Barend Fredrik Burger, and portion 3 (Zwartrug) was bought by Saracharity Chasman and Nathan Schapiro. The remainder of the farm was also bought by Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl.

Bovlei was held by Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl until 1952 at which point the farm was transferred from his estate into the ownership of his inheritors: Johannes Gert Van Zyl, Erasmus Jacobus Van Zyl, Gysbert Nicolaas Van Zyl and Johannes Erasmus Van Zyl. Later that year, G N Van Zyl’s share was transferred on to Johannes Erasmus Van Zyl. In 1958 Bovlei was subdivided with just over half the farm being named portion 4 and the remainder. A total of 332.6514 morgen (portion 4) was bought by Johannes Van Zyl, and the remainder (225.3486 Morgen) was bought by Johannes Gert Van Zyl and Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82).

Matjiesfontein (Portion 2 of ‘t Voetpad) was bought by Barend Fredrik Burger following the sub division of the farm. B F Burger had already owned a share of ‘t Voetpad from 1883 onwards.

Matjiesfontein is situated on the southern side of the farm adjacent to Banghoek. B F Burger lived at and owned the farm Banghoek to the south. B F Burger was the owner of Matjiesfontein until 1937 when the farm was sold to Johannes Christian Burger and Casparas Bosman Burger. The Burger brothers held the farm as a share until 1957 when the ownership was transferred to the estate of J C Burger (born 2.5.1902). The farm was held in J C Burger’s estate until 21.3.1960 when the farm was bought by Barend Fredrik Burger (born 3.1.1930) and Johannes Christian Burger (born 1.8.1939). J C Burger held his share until 1967 when he was bought out by Barend Fredrik Burger who held the farm until 1977. In 1977 Matjiesfontein was sold to Johannes Marthinus Augustus Ehlers. The farm
changed hands again in 1980 to Dirk Adriaan Jourdaan, and again in 1984 to Albertus Johannes Bester (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82).

Zwartrug, the 3rd Portion of the farm was bought in 1926 during the subdivision by Nathan Schapiro and Chasman Esrachowitz. They held the portion until 1938 when they sold to Fredrik Hendrik Jacobus Carstens. F H J Carstens owned Zwartrug until 1954 when he sold on half the farm share to Willem Johannes Van Zyl Brand and Floris Johannes Jacobus Brand. Later that year the rest of F H J Carstens' share was transferred to Sophia Johanna Barendina Carstens. In 1955 her share was transferred to Alwyn Nicolaas Jacobus Carstens and Fredrik Hendrik Jacobus Carstens. Zwartrug was eventually formally subdivided in 1959 when it was divided into portion 6 and portion 7, with the two partnerships described above (W J Van Zyl Brand and FJ J Brand, and A N J Carstens and F H J Carstens) owning roughly even shares (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82).

The remainder of the original farm was bought following the subdivision in 1926 by Erasmus Johannes Van Zyl. He held the remainder until 1928 when it was transferred to Marthinus Melk Brand Van Zyl and Dirk Albertus Johannes Van Zyl. These brothers shared the farm until 1958 when the remainder was officially subdivided, with each brother taking one half of the property. Dirk A J Van Zyl became the owner of the northern portion (portion 5 of 't Voetpad), and Marthinus Melk became the owner of the southern remainder (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82).
Figure 14: Map indicating Central Werf of Groenfontein

Figure 15: Map indicating buildings on the Central werf in 1938 and original subdivision boundaries.
Figure 16: Map Indicating Modern Buildings and Subdivision Boundaries

Figure 17: Map Indicating Old and New buildings on the Central Werf. Surviving Structures from 1938 are Ringed in Blue.
**Groenfontein**

The farm Groenfontein 142 is situated on the southern edge of the Piketberg Mountains and the farm werf is situated at the base of a slope of the mountain. The property is defined in part by the slope of the mountain, as well as the Bushman's River to the west. The cultivated lands are situated on the flatter portions. The *heweltjies* that are present over much of the Sandveld are prevalent on the farm. There was a large collection of houses, many of which have been demolished over the years. The property has been owned by the Lambrechts family since 1797, when Hugo Lambrechts leased the farm as a loan place (Smith 1989). It is likely that several of the early travellers through the region passed over the land that now forms part of this farm.

The first depiction of the farm is the 1819 survey diagram (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 1). The diagram was made in order for the farm to be granted as a quitrent by the colonial government of the time. The farm was granted some time later in 1838. This is unusual, as most survey diagrams only predated the actual granting of the farm by a year or two.

The survey describes the borders of the farm, as well as the roads, some rivers, and the former boundary of the loan place. The loan place as defined by the half hour horse ride, is only a semi-circle, abutting the line of the mountains rather than a round area around the central *ordanasie*. This shows that while the area of the farm could have included the mountainous region, the utilisation of land was focussed towards the flat land to the south, and as such shows that the natural topography played a significant role in the formation of the farm as a geographic unit.

The survey diagram shows two buildings in the centre of the farm, in the position of the modern day werf. Two rivers flow from the north down the slope towards the houses. These rivers converge before they reach the houses. The water course continues South and East. A *woonhuis* and an *ordenatie* are shown on the diagram just to the south of the convergence of the two rivers. The *Woonhuis* is shown as a T shaped building with its front facade facing south. There are two areas of
grazing indicated on the diagram the fields are shown as consisting of 26 and 59 morgen of grazing land respectively.

The Groenfontein werf was next represented in the painting created by JC Poortermans in 1849 (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 2). James Walton described the werf and the painting in his 1982 article.

"When Poortermans drew the farm on 6 March 1849 it was apparently quite an extensive estate owned by D. Lambrechts. It had a main dwelling-house consisting of a front block with a central voorhuis, flanked by a bedroom on each side. The doorway was closed by a bo-en-onder door and the voorhuis was illuminated by a single shuttered casement on each side of the entrance. Each bedroom had a double shuttered window. Judging from the position of the chimney, the house had a I-plan with the kitchen occupying the central wing, thus conforming to the typical Cape L-plan. This dwelling survived until 1965, when I photographed it, although it was then unoccupied and falling into ruin. After it was painted by Poortermans, buitekamers were added at each end but the central part remained as shown by Poortermans. Nearby an I-plan house had been built which was almost a replica of the original homestead and is a delightful example of Piquetberg vernacular architecture. The dwelling was fronted by a garden, the boundary wall of which can still be traced, and the pathway from the entrance led to a cattle kraal and a threshing floor. Around the kraal were a number of quite substantial buildings, exhibiting a variety of styles, all of which, however, can still be found in the Piquetberg. Most of them were simple rectangular structures with hipped or half-hipped thatched roofs and entrances in the gable end. One was quite a large I-plan dwelling. None of these outbuildings has survived but older residents on the farm can still remember some of them, which conformed to the painting. (Walton 1982)

The farm was subdivided in 1916 (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 3-6). The process of subdivision for Groenfontein produced the subdivisions of the Central Werf (portion 1), Weltevreden (portion
2), Houmoed (portion 3), Kaffirskloof (portion 4) and a remainder. The farm was subdivided in such a way that it takes on the appearance of half a wagon wheel. The central werf remains as the nexus of the farm, with the various subdivisions radiating out like slices of pizza.

The central werf was shared between several members of the Lambrechts family, and this has continued to be the case up until the present. The werf is an 'L' shaped portion, with the top of the L sitting flush with the northern edge of the farm. The foot of the L is positioned in such a way that the majority of the houses on the werf were positioned within this portion.

The Central werf subdivision survey diagram shows a furrow running along the centre of the L (in a roughly north east to south west direction) (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 3). Two houses are situated on the western side of the furrow, with four houses aligned in parallel on the eastern side of the furrow. A small dam is built across the furrow on the south western edge of the werf. Most of the buildings indicated in this diagram are no longer present on the werf.

Weltevreden (portion 2) is situated on the south east section of the farm (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 4). The portion is roughly triangular and is positioned against the edge of the mountains. The survey diagram does not describe any built structures, except for two roads, running roughly parallel through the portion. The more northerly of the two eventually leads up to the werf. The southern road crosses part of the remainder to the west and eventually leads to Aurora. The mountains to the east are described on the east of the diagram.

The 1916 survey diagram for Houmoed shows several features that contribute to the understanding of the portion (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 5). The area of the parent portion of Houmoed is described, with the subsequent subdivisions of portions 6, 7 and 8 of the farm Groenfontein being described, as well as the remainder of the portion Houmoed. They are described with differing colours, being purple, green, red and pale blue, respectively. Each portion has a small section of the
portion connected to the central werf while the rest of the portion usually radiates out, taking the form of a wedge.

Two roads are indicated on the portion, with both running roughly in a north south axis. The road to the west is the road from the Piketberg/Aurora road to Kapteinskloof, while the second road to the east is the road from the central werf running towards the entrance to the Kapteinskloof. A river is indicated on the survey diagram running from the central werf to the south. The river does not run from the dam as indicated on the central werf diagram, but it should be noted that the border of the Houmoed portion is located at approximately the same place as the dam would be located.

The 1916 survey diagrams describe Kaffirskloof as the fourth portion of the farm Groenfontein (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 6). The survey diagram does not show any built structures, but two roads are indicated on the diagram. The portion is bounded by the mountains on the east, as well as a section of the mountains across the north of the portion. This shows the use of natural boundaries in terms of defining the farms form. The two roads shown on the Houmoed survey diagram are shown continuing to the north. The portion is bounded to the north by the Bushman's river flowing from the Kapteinskloof to the north.

Following the 1916 survey diagrams, the remainder of the farm was subdivided further into Trutershalt in 1935 (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 7). Trutershalt was subdivided off and became the 5th portion of the farm. Trutershalt is the only portion on the farm that does not abut the central werf. It is also the only portion of the farm to have built structures besides the central werf. The survey diagram from 1935 shows the main road between Aurora and Piketberg as well as the turn off from the road to the central werf. The house on the portion is indicated at the northern end of the portion next to the road. The house is indicated as being a linear rectangular structure.

The 1938 aerial photo shows the werf in great detail (Appendix 2: Groenfontein: Figure 8). The diagram shows many structures that are no longer extant on the farm. The 1938 aerial photo is best
discussed in comparison to the werf as it is represented in the present. The 1938 photo shows several buildings within the bounds of the L shaped werf. In comparing these two images, I geo-referenced both images and created an overlay in a GIS program.

In the methodology of geo-referencing an image, one must find common features between the image to be geo-referenced, as well as the base image which already has the correct attribute data. In looking for this commonality, it quickly became apparent that there is very little commonality between the two images. Much of the wooded areas have changed, as well as the fairly reliable and constant housing footprints. Eventually the commonalities were distilled down to four buildings that still have the same footprint, and are present on both images (figure 17).

In terms of the buildings positions, several structures are indicated on the 1938 image. Many of these buildings, indicated in pink in the maps provided in Appendix 1: Groenfontein are situated parallel to the base of the slope to the north of the werf. Most of them appear to be fairly regular in their widths, with many of the structures seeming to conform to a 'long house' typology. When compared to the modern structures (mid-20th Century), a difference is observed. The modern structures are squarer, and have rambling additions.

The buildings indicated on the 1938 aerial photo are situated for the most part inside the L shaped werf. Almost all of these buildings have now been demolished the modern werf shows the modern buildings all on the various "pizza slice" portions, but still abutting the central werf. This indicates that at some point a disconnection was experienced between the inhabitants of the central werf and the surrounding werfs. People went from living in one place and controlling or working on a different property entity, to having to live on that remote property entity. The reason that the houses are still situated in a position where they abut the historical werf is likely one of resources, as one of the only reliable water sources on the farm is found on the central werf.
The demolition of the buildings on the central werf is interesting, as it implies that when compared to a farm such as Voetpad, these buildings were treated with less sentiment. It may also be accounted for by a new owner coming in who does not have the same level of involvement with the Lambrechts family. The picture presented by the modern day map of the site shows that each dwelling has a discreet land unit around it, and there seems to be a larger degree of separation between the inhabitants of the farm. The 1938 image describes a farm where communal infrastructure was shared, including water, livestock management facilities (the kraals represented in dark blue) and the small secondary fields/orchards positioned to the north of the werf.

**Groenfontein - Chain of Title**

This description should be read in conjunction with Appendix 3: Groenfontein.

**Loan Place**

Groenfontein was first granted as a loan place in 1724 to Jacobus Louw (Smith 1985). He owned the lease for the following three years, until 1727 when Gideon Slabbert took over the lease. Gideon Slabbert owned the lease until half way through 1735 when the loan place passed to Gerrit Van Schalkwyk. Van Schalkwyk owned the loan place for a further 18 years until Jacob Cuylets took over the lease. Jacob Cuylets owned the lease from 1754 until his death in 1758. The farm then stood empty for four years until 1760 when the farm was leased by Dirk Coetze. Dirk Coetze owned the lease until 1770 when the lease was sold to Johannes Van der Westhuizen. Van der Westhuizen sold the lease the same year to Dirk Van Schalkwyk, who owned the share until 1797. Following 1797, the farm was leased to Hugo Lambrechts who held the farm until the farm was granted as a quitrent in 1831 (Smith 1985).

**Quitrent**

The farm Groenfontein was granted as a quitrent on the 21st of November 1831 to Hugh Lambrechts. Although the farm had been owned by Hugo Lambrechts as a loan place since 1797,
Smith (1985) notes that Hugo Lambrechts had four sons: Hugo, Jan, Amos and Pieter, therefore it is possible that the "Hugh" referred to in the farm registry is in fact Hugo Lambrechts. Further on this point, the original grantee of the quitrent farm, Hugh Lambrechts is not the transferee indicated on the transfer of a share of the farm to Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts in 1889. Rather the share is transferred from the estate of "A Lambrechts", possibly the Amos Lambrechts indicated above (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Hugh Lambrechts owned the farm in its entirety until 1889, when one quarter share of the farm was transferred from the estate of A Lambrechts to Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts. Two years later the remaining three quarters was bought out by Hugo Amos Lambrechts, Fredrick Christoffel Lambrechts and Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts. H G Lambrechts owned his share until the farm was officially subdivided on the 25th of September 1918. H A Lambrechts also owned his share until it was it was transferred to Hendrik Johannes Brink on the same day as the farm was subdivided. F C Lambrechts held his share until the 17th of April 1917 when it was transferred to Beatrus Hendrina Hanekom, who the same day transferred the share to Daniel Andries Jacobus Lambrechts. D A J Lambrechts owned the share for one year until the farm was subdivided. D A P Lambrechts owned his share until Subdivision when it was transferred to Gesie Maria Lambrechts on the same day (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

**Subdivision**

The farm was subdivided on 25 September 1918 resulting in four portions and a remainder. The portions were named thus: The Central Werf (portion 1), Weltevreden (portion 2), Houmoed (portion 3), Kaffirskloof (portion 4) and the remainder. The remainder portion was later further subdivided into Trutershalt (portion 5) and a remainder (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142). Portion 1 will be dealt with later and separately.
Portion 2 Weltevreden was bought by Daniel Andries Jacobus Lambrechts during the subdivision process. D A J Lambrechts held the portion until 1920 when it was bought by Coenraad Hendrik Lourens Kellerman. Kellerman held portion 2 until 1945, when the portion was bought by Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1890). J J Lambrechts owned the portion until 1970 when it was bought by a group including: Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Gideon Andries Petrus Lambrechts Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1910, Amos Daniel Lambrechts and Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts. This group owned the portion from 1970 until 1983 when the other shares were bought out by Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Portion 3 of the farm Groenfontein, known as Houmoed, was bought by Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts. HG Lambrechts owned the portion until 1929 when it was shared between his son, Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts (jnr), as well as Hugo Amos Lambrechts, Fredrik Hugo Lambrechts and Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts. In 1933, the share held by Hugo Amos Lambrechts was bought out by Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts (jnr), Johannes Dietrich Lambrechts and Elizabeth Ceceilia Lambrechts. The remaining shareholders, as well as the two new shareholders held the portion until 1952 when the portion was itself subdivided into portions 6, 7, 8 and remainder (of portion 3) of the farm Groenfontein (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Portion 6 was bought by Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1890). J J Lambrechts half the portion until 1970 when the portion was bought by Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Gideon Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (1910), Amos Daniel Lambrechts and Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts. In 1983 the portion was bought by Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Portion 7 was bought in 1952 by Hugo Amos Lambrechts, Renier Adriaan Koegelenberg, Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts and Johannes Diedrich Lambrechts. This group held the portion for one year, when J D Lambrechts bought out the other members in 1953. J D Lambrechts held the portion until 1981 when the portion was briefly held by Petrus Arnoldus Jurgen Brand between 1981 and 1984,
after which the portion was bought by Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1945) (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Portion 8 was bought by Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts in 1952. The portion was held until 1956 when the portion was briefly shared between Jasper Coetze Lambrechts and Amos Daniel Lambrechts for one year. In 1957 A D Lambrechts bought out JC Lambrechts share. A D Lambrechts is the last owner of the property indicated in the farm registry (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

The remainder of portion 3 was bought by Fredrick Hugo Lambrechts in 1952. F. H Lambrechts held the remainder until 1976 when the portion was bought by Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts. The portion was eventually bought by Jan Hendrik Lambrechts in 1981 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Portion 4, known as Kaffirskloof and situated to the north west of the farm Groenfontein, was bought by Gesie Maria Lambrechts (Nee Smit) in 1918. The portion was held by her and eventually transferred from her estate 1957. The portion was bought by a group including Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Fredrick Christophe Lambrechts, Hugo Amos Lambrechts, Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts and Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1910). This group held the portion for two years, with Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts and Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1910) eventually buying out Fredrik Christoffel Lambrechts share in 1959. The group owned the portion together until 1970 when Jacobus Johannes Lambrechts bought Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts' share. The rest of the portion was then either bought the following year by J J Lambrechts, or in 1977. The farm registry is somewhat ambiguous in this point, due to the hand writing of the clerk who wrote down the transfer. It is more likely to be 1977 based on a comparison between the previous dates and the 7 in 197# (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).
The remainder of the Groenfontein Farm was bought by Johannes Hendrik Brink, following the subdivision in 1918. J H Brink held the remainder of the farm until 1935 when a portion of the remainder was subdivided off as portion 5 of the farm Groenfontein, also known as Trutershalt.

Portion 5 was bought by Dirk Johannes Brink and Andries Cornelius Brink. The remainder continued to be owned by Johannes Hendrik Brink until 1946 when the remainder was bought by Andries Cornelius Brink (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Trutershalt was initially bought by Dirk Johannes Brink (born 1892) and Andries Cornelius Brink (born 1889) in 1935. The two owned the portion until 1950, where on the same day the portion was transferred into two shares owned by Andries Cornelius Brink (born 1914) and Coenraad Fredrik Brink (Born 1926), as well as, Andries Cornelius Brink (Born 1918), Abraham Josia Brink (born 1920) and Petrus Johannes Brink (born 1922). On the same day both share portions were transferred to Andries Cornelius Brink (born 1914) and Coenraad Fredrik Brink (Born 1926). A C Brink and C F Brink owned the portion until 1955 when C F Brink bought out A C Brink's share. C F Brink owned Trutershalt until 1966 when he sold it to Jasper Coetze, Daniel Andries Petrus Coetze and Nicolaas Johannes Melk Coetze. The three held the portion until 1974 when the portion was bought out by Jasper Coetze (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

The central werf of the farm was shared between Johannes Hendrik Brink, Daniel Andries Jacobus Lambrechts, Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts and Gesie Maria Lambrechts. Johannes Hendrik Brink held his share until 1946 when it passed to Andries Cornelius Brink. A C Brink is the last owner indicated in the farm registry for that particular quarter of the werf.

D A J Lambrechts' share passed to Coenraad Hendrik Lourens Kellerman in 1920. Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1890) owned this share until following C H L Kellerman from 1945 until 1970 when the share was taken over by a group of owners. This group included Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Gideon Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1914), Amos Daniel Lambrechts and Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts. This group held the share until 1983 when
the other shareholders were bought out by Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts' share was shared between four owners in 1929. The four owners included H G Lambrechts (6) who maintained his ownership, but shared with Hugo Amos Lambrechts (7), Fredrik Hendrik Lambrechts (8) and Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (9). H G Lambrechts maintained his share until well into the 1980s (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

(7) H A Lambrechts has his share taken over fairly soon after this with H G Lambrechts, Johannes Diedrich Lambrechts and Elizabeth Cecelia Lambrechts taking over (10). The group kept this share until 1977 when the share was transferred to Johannes Diedrich Lambrechts (born 1922). J D Lambrechts kept his share until 1981 when the share was transferred to Petrus Arnoldus Jurgen Brand (23) and eventually on to Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1945) in 1985 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

(8) Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts owned his share from 1929 until 1979 when it was transferred to Hendrik Gerhardus Lambrechts (born 1923) and two years later on to Jan Hendrik Lambrechts (born 1956) in 1981 (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

(9) J J Lambrechts share was transferred to the group of Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Gideon Andries Petrus Lambrechts, Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1914), Amos Daniel Lambrechts and Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts. This group, as mentioned above, concurrently also took control of another share on the werf. This group held the share until 1983 when the share was transferred to Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts (born 1933) (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

The original fourth share of the central werf was owned by Gesie Maria Lambrechts until 1970 when the share passed to a group consisting of Anna Elisabeth Lambrechts Fredrick Christoffel
Lambrechts, Hugo Amos Lambrechts, Coenraad Hendrik Lambrechts and Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1910). This group owned the share until 1977 when the share was split between Johannes Jacobus Lambrechts (born 1910) and Jacobus Johannes Lambrechts (born 1935) (Quitrent Summary Books: Piquetberg, Groenfontein 142).

The central werf of the farm experienced a major shift in ownership around the time of 1970 with a different group taking over at least half of the share of ownership.

The three farms described in this chapter show distinct characteristics that are a result of a discussion between various elements of the physical setting, ownership patterns and the genealogy of the various families that lived on the farms.

Wagenpad has a shared central werf that was kept as a shared resource between the various inhabitants of the farm. This werf was a central node around which other subdivisions developed, such as Waterval, Sit-Maar-So and Keurbos. These subdivisions initially had genealogical relationships to the central werf, but this connection became more removed as time went on. The centre of Wagenpad provided a place of shared infrastructure and the outlying werfs depended on this werf for some functions, such as farm infrastructure, a shop, a tap huis and a school. This created a central focal point and was key in the place making of Wagenpad.

This role of the central werf as a "central place" was likely to have been present on the landscape before 1940 when the subdivision took place.

The role of Voetpad as a central place is likely to have been very different to that of Wagenpad. Voetpad had various portions that were bought by neighbouring farmers, or at least were used by neighbours since before the subdivision. While the centre of Wagenpad had a strong central sense of place, the central werf of Voetpad is somewhat more limited in its influence over the areas around it, with the neighbouring farms instead exerting a strong influence over Voetpad. The role of water on the landscape (in relation to Voetpad) is not as strongly correlated to development as it is
on the other farms. Water is found in a number of places on Voetpad. I believe that most heavily contributing factor to the form of Voetpad today is the various owners and their relationships on the farm. Characteristic of this is the split central werf, with the buildings on the one side of the werf owned by the Van Zyls being better maintained.

Groenfontein shows strong characteristics that both genealogy and natural resources played a central role in creating the pattern seen on the landscape today. There is only one historically reliable water source on the farm and the central werf has grown up around this resource. The farm has also historically only been held in one family. The degree to which the Lambrechts family is invested in the history of their land is notable.

In the next chapter I describe the built environment of Wagenpad and Voetpad. This chapter is intended to explore the individual sequences and fabric of the houses, as well as to describe the variability of the various house forms. This again represents a change in scale in trying to understand the how the built environment sits in the landscape.
Chapter 5 Structure and House Sequences

This chapter deals with a thick description of the built environment on the farms Voetpad and Wagenpad and explores the form, layout, material and variability of each building considered in this study. Both farms have several buildings in various states of decay and decrepitude. Each building has been recorded by taking measurements; making drawings and taking a set of relevant photographs (see Appendix 4). I have recorded agricultural buildings, animal pens and residential buildings. The physical process of closely observing, recording and drawing each building contributes to gaining a greater understanding of each structure and allows an interrogation of the sequence of construction of the elements of each building.

The majority of the field work for this study was undertaken between March and June 2013. The buildings were measured using a Leica Disto (TM) laser distance meter. The dimensions were recorded as sketches on graph paper. The laser measurer is accurate to half a millimetre, however due to the use of the graph paper, the measurements are accurate to within 10cm.

The sketches were scanned at 200 dpi and loaded into Photoshop. The sketches were then traced by hand using a Wacom Bamboo (TM) stylus and tablet.

While many computer programs exist that make drawing and architectural description more efficient, the process of drawing the buildings by hand was paramount. The walls are rarely straight and require some flexibility in order to bring across some of the nuances of the buildings. The choice of visual style is also important. The study of vernacular architecture in South Africa owes much to James Walton, including the visual style that has been used to describe buildings as they are recorded.

The stark drawing style of Walton has been repeated in Hugh Floyd's work (Floyd 1980), Hans Fransen (Fransen & Cook 1980), Andre Pretorius (Pretorius 1997), John Gribble (Gribble 1990) and many other vernacular architecture scholars. The style is clear and uncomplicated, and easily
communicates the form of the building. I have tried to represent this visual language in this study, while also increasing the accuracy of the scales used to determine the relative size of the buildings.

The final drawings are all represented at the same scale. Each building can be printed out and compared on an A4 piece of paper and will be accurate relative to each other. I have provided high resolution images of each building, as well as plans in appendix 4. All scales are in meter intervals.
Wagenpad

Several houses exist on the original farm of Wagenpad 50. The extant houses on the farm are distributed around the various subdivisions of the farm. There is however a cluster of ruins in the centre of the farm that is currently in a state of decay. The central werf of Wagenpad is extensive. Several buildings still stand, but several ruins are also evident. The surviving buildings include a long house, with clay walls, a restored barn, the ruins of a milking pen and the ruins of a large T shaped house. The central werf also includes more recent buildings such as a farm school and several smaller houses. The original farm has several outlying smaller homesteads. These include the buildings found at Morewag, Sit-Maar-So, Waterval and Rooiheuwel. The buildings are described below. I have provided small thumbnail images for each section, but this chapter should be read with Appendix 4 for accurate and high resolution imagery.

The central werf of Wagenpad consists of several buildings. Many of these buildings are still intact, with a few in an advanced state of disrepair.
A large T shaped building occupies the centre of the werf. This building is in a very advanced state of decay. The building consists of a front wing built in a number of stages that run in an east-west direction, and a back wing situated at 90 degrees to the front wing and extending in a southerly direction. The front facade faces down slope away from the rest of the werf. There is a small stoep built on the front of the building facing the former road through the farm. The front wing of the building is 36m long, while the western side of the front wing is 4.5m wide. The eastern end is 5m wide. The back wing extends for 11 m, and is 6.5 m wide.

Due to the building’s advanced state of decay, there are many areas that are missing. Some of these components are critical to understanding the sequence of the building, and have now been lost. Fortunately several interpretations can be made from elements that still indicate some characteristics of the building, without illustrating them directly.
The sequence of this building can be interpreted through analysing the materials used, positions of extant walls and added features such as cement hearths and the stoep. The first building in the buildings sequence is most likely room A. Half of the walls of this room have been destroyed. This is extremely problematic as Room A ties the sequence of the house together. The South Western corner of room A abuts the western wall of the back wing, however the northern wall of room A is part of the same construction event as room B. The remains of a thin (20cm) internal (E-W) wall are still present abutting the southern wall of Room B. The relationship between this internal wall and the rest of room A is unclear as the end of this wall has been destroyed.

The extant walls of room A, B and C are all of the same material. The wall dividing Room A and C has been destroyed, but the presence of the wall is undeniable as there is significant wall collapse present on the ground. Because the wall between Room A and C has been destroyed, as well as the common corner between room C and D, the only way to infer the sequence between the rooms is through the room size. Room C is slightly wider than room A and B. Because the Rooms A, B and C are of the same material, I would argue that they were built in close proximity chronologically. The order I would suggest would be A, B and then C. Room C has also been modified at a later stage using more modern materials, such as cement mortar, as well as one of the windows being filled with similar materials used in constructing the possible *buite kamer* of room F.

The relationship between Room B and Room E is somewhat more obvious than the rest of the building. The walls of Room E abut those of room B. Room E has some parts of its wall missing, but from what is still present the following description can be made. The room has a window in its southern wall. The window is 1.5m high, 80cm above the ground and 80 cm wide. The end gable of the room is constructed out of undressed stone with a clay mortar. The gable itself is half hipped, and built out of unfired clay brick. There is a possibility that this end gable also supported a chimney, as there is no evidence of a cooking hearth in any other part of the building and significant wall collapse debris at the base of the gable inside the room. Although the northern wall of this room is
missing, I would argue that there is a strong likelihood that there was a door present in the north wall. This is due to the presence of a step in the stoep along the northern edge of the building.

Due to the missing walls and corners of room A and D, the sequential relationship between Room D and the rest of the house is problematic. It is possible that either room C or D was built first. The profile of Room D’s Western wall shows that Room D abuts Room A. It appears to me that the fact that southern wall of Room C is not built in sympathy to the southern wall of Room A. This is assuming of course that Room A’s Southern Wall was in line with that of Room B. I believe that it is possible that room D was built before room C. However it should be noted that from my experience of Sandveld houses, this would be unusual. The feel of this building is T shaped rather than L shaped.

There is some discrepancy between the aerial photos of 1942, and the survey diagram of portion 9 (surveyed 1939). The survey diagram shows the central werf as it stood in 1939, with several buildings still standing that are now no longer present on the werf. WP01 is shown in the correct position, but it is not shown as it appears in its current form. The building is drawn as a T shaped building, but the back wing is much shorter and thinner than in reality. Obviously there are issues regarding the accuracy with which these survey diagrams described the built environment, but some effort has been taken to indicate all of these houses, and it does not seem that the surveyor would deliberately describe the buildings inaccurately, while describing the portion boundaries correctly.

In the survey diagram from 1939, the house appears more like a langhuis in the sense that Gribble (1990) describes at Verlorenvlei, than a proper "T" shaped house. The back wing appears tacked on. The extended langhuis / barn of WP02 is indicated below, but unlike WP01, the building had numerous added abutting structures. These structures are no longer visible on the ground.
The Wagenpad central werf has a surviving building from the 19th century. The WP02 Barn is a long linear structure reminiscent of the Verlorenvlei form, consisting of two shorter "I" shaped structures. The sequence is in two parts. The first is the western structure, to which another was added. The walls are largely constructed with opgekleide walls with sun-dried bricks in places.

The first part of the sequence has a number of internal walls that have collapsed. The walls abut the external walls. The reconstruction of the internal walls is largely based on the marks that can be seen on the inside of the external walls. The original floor level has also been obscured due to these walls having decomposed.

The building is accessed through two doors in the southern wall, and two in the north. The two western most doors, one in the northern and one in the southern wall, both provide access to the two rooms in the western end of the building. Both of these rooms may have been buite kamers, opening directly onto the exterior of the building. The eastern side of the first sequence includes two rooms also accessed from both sides of the building. The easternmost of these rooms has an internal hearth with a chimney that protrudes through the ceiling.

The windows of the first sequence include two windows in the northern wall and one in the centre of the southern wall.
The first part of the sequence has a reed ceiling with a corrugated iron roof. The roof is hipped at the western end, but had an end gable that the second part of the sequence is built up against. The roof has been corrugated iron since at least the 1940s as reflected on the 1942 aerial photo.

The second part of the sequence is not well shown in the drawing. The exact measurements are not recorded, neither is the relative placements of the piercings. The second part of the sequence is one large open space with a wagon entrance in the eastern end of the building. It is likely that this room was used as a wagon house. The room has no internal divisions, but has four windows in both the southern and northern walls. The roof meets the western side of the building, and continues at the same pitch towards the east. The second sequence has an end gable on the eastern end, with access to the roof space. The room has a reed ceiling on top of wooden beams.

The aerial photos from 1942 suggest that several small structures abutted the building. These are no longer present on the ground and I have not been able to record them.

WP03

A converted barn is situated to the west of the central werf. This building has a linear design (16.4 meters long and 5.6 meters wide on the outside) and is orientated in an East-West direction. The large rectangular structure has a pitched roof with end gables, and the outer walls are approximately 50 cm thick. The building has been modified into its present form with an internal wall being removed, as well as two doors being bricked up. The western end wall has also been restored. Inside
there are 16 beams and a reed ceiling with a brand solder above. The solder is entered through an attic door above the large wagon door in the eastern facade of the structure. The walls of this structure are solid clay, with a low stone foundation.

There is a collection of several Vark-hokke abutting the western end wall. These compartments seem to have been built to abut the former end wall of the structure, but now stand several centimetres away from the end wall as the new wall is thinner than the original wall. Two doors opposite each other in the respective north and south walls of the building have been bricked up, but the extreme thickness of the original walls and the thin nature of the newer walls allows the viewer to see the lintels and door cavity of the doorways. These doors were originally 2 meters high and 90 cm wide. Several meters to the east of the door in the northern wall there is a wooden pole that has been ensconced in the wall and plastered around. While there is no immediate function for this pole’s placement in the interior of the building, there is an iron loop that has been placed into the wood on the exterior of the building. This could perhaps been used as a tethering spot for a horse or other livestock.

The sequence of this building shows that at some point it had two rooms, probably a pig enclosure with two doors on opposite sides, and a store room, probably used as a wagon house. The wagon house was also used as a shearing shed, with several tick marks on the walls documenting the number of sheared sheep.
Two enclosures are situated to the north-west of the werf. Both are fairly similar in their design and function with both buildings situated in line with each other.

WP04 is the southerly building of the two enclosures. It has a row of feeding troughs running along the western wall. The walls are extremely decayed but where still intact, show that the northern wall is constructed from clay with a stone foundation. WP05 is rectangular, with a free standing wall running in a westerly direction on the western side of the building. The building is in a state of decay and is constructed from clay and packed stone and contains feeding troughs. The northern section of the building has been partially destroyed, but some of the foundations remain.
WP06

WP06 is a small dwelling on the central werf of the farm. The surrounding plot is subdivided off from the rest of the werf, and it is the only structure on portion 11 of the farm. The building has at least two phases to its sequence. The first sequence represents the core of the building (A, B and C) and the second part of the sequence is represented by the front rooms of the house (D, E and F). These rooms were added in several stages, rather than in one event. The building has a flat roof angled to the rear of the house. The front rooms had an afdak that slanted to the north, but has now been demolished.

The first building was a linear structure consisting of three rooms running in an east-west orientation. The three rooms include a kitchen, *sitkamer* in the centre and a bedroom on the western end of the house. Each room is accessed by a door in the eastern wall, as well as a door in the northern wall. Room A (the kitchen) has a small *muurkas* in the eastern wall. Room C is roughly square with a *muurkas* situated in the northern wall, as well as a window in the southern wall. Room C is accessed through an internal door.

The front rooms were added at a later date but have since been demolished. They all had different wall widths. The main house is accessed through Room E (an enclosed stoep that became a bathroom?) with its small set of stairs and a pre-cast pillar. There is a small square structure to the rear of the house (south) that was used for a water tank.
WP07

WP07 is situated on the southern side of the road but lies parallel to the road in an East-West direction. The building is linear in design and is built from modern brick and mortar materials. The walls are one brick thickness in width, resulting in the walls having a thickness of between 10cm and 12cm. The internal dimensions of the structure are 12m x 5.3m. The structure is used as a barn and garage by the current farmers. The structure has no internal divisions and only has one floor with open rafters. The structure is accessed by a pair of double doors on the eastern end of the building. The door way is 3.1m wide.

A second large door has been bricked up on the western end of the northern wall. The exterior of the northern and southern walls both have two columns protruding out of the walls, which are likely the support structure for the roof. The plaster has peeled away to show the diagonal wall ties.
WP08 is positioned on the southern part of the Wagenpad central werf and located on portion 9 of the farm. While the building is situated to the south of the werf, it is also the furthest up the slope and looks over the whole werf. The building is separated from the rest by a small orchard. The orchard is mostly untended now, but is clearly visible in early aerial photographs.

WP08 was built and used as a school. The white children living on the farm attended the school, while most of the coloured children on the farm attended school on the neighbouring farm,
Drogerijskloof. The building is rectangular with a small protruding hearth on the southern-western corner. The building runs in an east west direction, and is accessed both through the northern side of the building, as well as two doors in the southern wall. The building is now used for storage.

The sequence of the building indicates that it was likely built in one event. The walls are all relatively uniform in their dimensions, and the materials and fabric of the building are consistent across the whole structure.

The school building on Wagenpad is one of the most complex buildings on the werf; however the material and form of the building suggests that the building was built in one event. There is very little suggestion of sequence in the building.

WP09

WP09 is the main farm house on the Rooiheuwel werf and situated on portion 5 of Wagenpad. As it stands in the present, the werf of Rooiheuwel consists of only two structures, however in the past at least two more structures were present.

WP09 is used as a dwelling and weekend residence and is in a good state. The house is rectangular and takes the form of two parallel rows of rooms lying in an East-West orientation. The house is 14.3m long and has a stoep on the southern side.
The corrugated iron roof is hipped on the western end, but has an end gable on the eastern end where the attic space is accessed through a set of external stairs and a door situated in the centre of the wall. There are three bedrooms, a lounge, bathroom, and kitchen. The house has one sequence, and was likely built in one event. Small additions and modifications take the form of a bathroom in room C.

**WP10**

The second structure on the Rooiheuwel werf consists of a converted feeding barn, with a later addition on the western side of the building. I was unable to gain access to this building, except for one room. The southern side has been converted into small residence. The feeding troughs are still present but are no longer used for this purpose.

WP10 is a functional building with previous agricultural uses. The building has been added on to with the addition of structure C on the western end and has been altered further with the change in use from agricultural to residential. The building is shown on the 1942 aerial photo.
The Sit-Maar-So werf is situated to the south west of the main central werf of the farm. The main building no longer has a roof and has lost most of its external paint. The building has only a single sequence with the external walls having been built first and the internal walls abutting them. While the building is roughly rectangular, it is not precisely so. The building is double volume with roughly two rows of rooms.

Rooms A, B, C, D, E and G are accessed either through a door in the southern wall, or through the door in the eastern wall in room D. Room A is accessed through the door in the southern wall next to the hearth on the south side of Room B. Room D is situated in the centre of the building and is accessed through a door in the eastern wall. It still has some intact roof beams running in a west east direction. Room F is a buitekamer with the door situated in the eastern wall just to the north of the exterior door to room D. The room has four surviving beams across the ceiling, but otherwise no roof structure. The two doors in the eastern wall have a set of steps leading down to ground level.
WP12

WP12 is a collection of garages and storage rooms situated to the west of the main Sitmaarso house. The building has three components in its sequence. The earliest is a linear rectangular structure stretching in a north-south orientation. The second and third component are also linear structures abutting the first, but are orientated in a perpendicular manner to the original structure.

The original structure is represented by Rooms A and B and is a large rectangular building. The walls are built from a clay material similar to that used in the walls of the Sitmaarso main house (WP11). It has inclusions of small crystalline chunks and chips. The dividing wall is built from a different clay source more similar to the houses on the main werf. Room A has a built-in workbench against the southern wall.

Room C is built from modern brick and mortar. The section abuts the eastern wall of the first component in the sequence. It is used as a garage with a set of double doors on the eastern end. Room D is similar to room C in that it abuts the eastern wall of rooms A and B. Only the foundation is still visible.
WP 13 is actually two different structures, but they are so closely situated that it is worth considering them one entity. The structures are both built from modern bricks with cement mortar and the walls are very thin. Due to the uniformity and consistent nature of the materials used, as well as the close proximity of the two structures, it is likely that the buildings were built at the same time.

Rooms A and B form a rectangular structure that runs in a north-south direction. Room C is a single roomed rectangular structure with a hearth in the corner. The hearth is small with a width of 1.3m and a depth of 0.9m and the chimney is built right on top of the walls with a small flue on top.

While the structures represented by A, B and C are in a ruined state and do not include any roofing material, Room C has some surviving roof beams. There is no evidence to suggest that the building had a pitched roof and the structures were not indicated on the 1942 aerial photo and so was likely built after that date.
WP14

WP14 is the main house on the Morewag werf and is positioned just to the north of the main road through the farm. The building has been altered a number of times and includes at least three stages in its sequence. The building has ten rooms, but rooms D and G could be considered the same room. The house runs in an east west direction and is situated parallel to the road.

The three components to the sequence of the building are represented in order by the grouping of rooms A, B, C, E and F. The second component is represented by rooms D and G, while the third is represented by rooms H, I and J.

The rooms in section one are mostly bedrooms and living rooms. Room A is accessed from the central passage way that runs the length of the inside of the building. Between rooms E and F a second passage joins the internal passage in the centre of the building. Room B is situated next to room A along the southern wall and is accessed through an internal door joining the passage way. Room C is the last of the bedrooms in the house. Room E is used as a lounge. It is also accessed by a door leading into the same passage way. Room F is situated to the west of room E. It is accessed both by a door leading into the dining room and kitchen (Rooms D and G), as well as a door leading into the first passage way. The room is used as a lounge and television room.

The door leading from room F to room G is different to the others in the building. The end of the first passage sits parallel to the interleading door between room F and G. The end of the passage is
slightly indented into the wall between rooms D and C and this would suggest that the door leading into room G from Room F was originally wider and was probably a double door.

Rooms D and G could be considered as one room. However the two spaces are now separated by a low wall that forms the base of a kitchen counter. The walls of these two rooms abut those of the first part of the sequence, as well as being slightly thinner (the later ones are 30cm wide, whereas the former are 70cm thick). Rooms D and G are also accessed through an external door situated in the centre of the western wall.

The third part of the sequence takes the form of a series of rooms tacked on to the northern side of the building. Room H is a small study, while rooms I and J are two bathrooms accessed via the second passage way. Room H is accessed by a an external door which opens on to the stoep on the eastern side of the building. The stoep is 5.1m wide and 2m deep. Rooms I and J are both accessed through the second passage way. The rooms are both built abutting the main the first sequence in the building with much thinner walls (30cm). Room I is a small bathroom with a shower. Room J is a slightly larger bathroom and also has a built in cupboard in the southern wall.

The cupboard is built into a recess in the wall where there may have been a doorway into Room R, and is discussed in the discussion chapter. Rooms I and J may be constructed on a previous stoep: the windows match each other but are not found elsewhere in the house. Passage 2 may be an old entrance way, or was put in to break up what had been a large room E and F.

The roof of WP14 is a corrugated iron pitched roof, with hipped ends. The roof above the H, I and J section of the building, is a slanted corrugated iron roof that dips towards the north. The exterior of the southern wall shows the stone material used to construct part of the wall. The eastern elevation shows that the house has been embellished somewhat with the addition of some brick pillars on the stoep, as well as some *broekie lace.*
WP15 is situated to the south of the Keurbos werf. The building has four components in its building sequence. Although the building is used by the farmers, I was not able to get inside the western residential part to take measurements. The building runs in a west-east direction.

Section A's internal dimensions are 9.3m x 8. Section A has a hipped roof made from corrugated iron. Although the roof is technically hipped at both the east and west ends it is more like a pyramid.
Section B is a set of double garages. Section C is a store room used for storing farm equipment and various hardware, and the walls abut those of section B. The roofs of Sections B and C are both flat. Section D abuts section C. The roof slants towards the east.

WP16

WP16 is a large ruined building that was used as a feeding pen, as well as storage. The building has four components in its sequence. The structure is situated on the northern side of the road leading up to the Keurbos werf, and west of the actual werf. The building is now disused and is in a poor state of repair. Much of the roof has fallen away, as well as several of the external clay walls.

The four components of the building’s sequence include the first structure which is represented by rooms A, B, C and D, the second by room E, the third by room F and the fourth by rooms G, H, I and J.

Rooms B and room C are actually one (15.7m x 3.1m) but the two spaces are separated by a central bank of feed troughs that runs down the centre. Room E and Room F are situated on the western ends of the structure. Room E abuts the eastern end of the first component of the building and Room F is somewhat larger with an open northern wall. It is likely that the room was open to allow a vehicle to enter on the northern side.

The northern side of the building has four animal enclosures similar in size which were likely all built at the same time. Every enclosure is accessed through a door in the northern wall and has a small water basin in the corner. The enclosures are covered with a slanting roof that meets the roof of the
main structure just under the eaves. The roof is supported by central posts that are set into the troughs, with wooden beams. The animal enclosures are constructed from stone with cement mortar. The hinges for the enclosure gates are set into the mortar of the walls.

**WP17**

Two houses are situated near to each other and north-east of the Keurbos houses. They are situated down the slope from the Keurbos werf and next to a small dam. The houses are both small, two-room dwellings with hearths.

The first (WP17.1), is mostly intact except for its roof. The dwelling consists of two rooms separated by a dividing wall. The building is roughly square. Room A is accessed by an internal door leading into room B. Room B has the only external access in the house. Room B abuts room A with walls that are slightly thinner (20cm). A small hearth is situated in the south eastern corner of the room with a chimney rising above the walls of the building. The roof has been removed, but the remains of the support beams are still evident. It was likely flat and slanting.

The second structure (WP17.2) is situated to the south of WP17.1. It is extremely decayed, with only part of the internal wall and the foundations still visible. The house is a linear, rectangular structure with a hearth on the southern end, and one door allowing access to the building in the eastern wall. The inside of the building is divided into two rooms. The building is built from modern brick and mortar. The building’s roof is no longer extant and therefore cannot be described or recorded.
Waterval 1

Waterval 1 is probably the second residential house built on the Waterval werf. The front facade of the house appears modernised with mid 20th century fabric, such as the front columns and balustrades. The internal core of the house is much older with thick stone walls and a muurkas in the central room.

Waterval 1 has 10 rooms. Rooms B, C, D, E represents the first stage in the sequence of the house, with room A representing a later addition. The whole front section of the house, represented by rooms F, G, H, I and J were a later addition. Room K is a further addition, abutting the second sequence of rooms F through J. Room A is a small, low roofed addition on the northern side of the house.

Rooms B, C, D and E form the oldest part of the sequence in this house and the initial structure consists of three rooms and a large chimney space (kitchen). It would have been a linear structure similar to a Verlorenvlei long house. Rooms F, G, H, I and J were added to this building and consist of two bedrooms (F and G), a passageway (H) and a bathroom (I and J).

The last room in the sequence is room K, which is square and abuts the eastern wall of the room J and is accessed through a door with steps down about 15cm. The room has one large steel framed window on the eastern wall and the roof is flat.
The Waterval 1 house is interesting in its layering. The building sequences of the house show distinct building materials and floor plans. The wall thickness in the initial sequence shows that the building was likely a linear three room structure to begin with, but was later added to with the front rooms. The front rooms were likely added in the mid 20th century. This is illustrated by the inclusion of the pre-cast columns on the front of the building. The room on the northern side of the building is likely later than the front facade, as it also includes a newer sink.

**Waterval 2**

Waterval 2 is a large barn with two additions added on the northern side of the building. The sequence of the structure includes three stages, with rooms A and B representing the first stage, D the second and C the third. The first section of the sequence is a large linear barn structure. The foundations take the form of a packed stone pediment at the base of the building, with solid clay and low-fired bricks being used as wall fabric. The roof of the first part of the sequence is a corrugated iron pitched roof, with wooden rafters. The internal parts of the building have a reed ceiling with a brand solder.

Room A is used as a storage shed and barn. It is 8.7m x 5.1m with a large door on the eastern end and no windows. The solder space is accessed through a door in the eastern wall. Room B was likely used as store room and is accessed through a door in the southern wall. It has no windows and is separated from room A by an internal wall.
Room D is a small room with a sink and a small muurkas, accessed through Room B and an external door. It no longer has a roof, but likely had a flat roof sloping to the north.

Room C is a large storage area on the northern side of the building. The room no longer has a roof, and is accessed through a door in the eastern wall. The walls are extremely thin, and are constructed out of modern bricks and mortar. The roof of this addition was likely a slanted afdak sloping towards the north.

The building of Waterval 2 is likely to date from the late 19th century at its earliest iteration. Based on the materials used in Room C, the second iteration was likely added in the mid 1900s. The third iteration was likely added in the late 1900s. The 1942 aerial photo shows that the first iteration of the building was present, but the second and third iterations were only added after 1942.
**Voetpad**

The farm Voetpad has several werfs that have developed through time. The central werf of the farm still has extant buildings on the site. This werf was divided in 1953. In addition to the main werf, there is a small set of satellite buildings to the north east, as well as the Zwartrug and Bovlei subdivisions (not recorded in this study). I have provided high quality images in Appendix 4, as well as the relevant photographs. Additionally small thumbnails have been provided for each description. All scales are in meter increments.

**Zwartrug**

The Zwartrug house is located to the west of the Kapteinskloof road. The building is T-shaped with the T-wing orientated in a roughly northerly direction. The building forms part of the third farm werf originally part of modern day Voetpad. The house has been constructed in several stages and has been modernised, with electrical infrastructure still visible in some rooms.

The core of the building takes the form of the base of the T-shape. The kitchen (Room A) takes the form of room with a large chimney stretching across most of the end wall. The chimney opening is approximately 2.5m wide and stands at 1m high. The kitchen and dining room (Room B) are separated by an internal dry wall extending two thirds of the way across the room. The kitchen and dining room have a shared door on the northern wall of the room. There are windows in both the northern and southern walls. The kitchen and dining room is one room unit in this house.
The rest of the base of the T is taken up by a bathroom, split into two rooms (Rooms C and D), as well as the interleading passageway on the north edge of the wing, and a bedroom (Room E). The subdividing walls in the base wing are in poor condition but the bathroom divisions can still be seen. Every room in the base wing has a window passing through the southern wall. The kitchen and bedroom on the western end of the base wing have an additional window. There is a substantial external buttress supporting the southern wall as the topography starts to drop away towards a drainage to the west of the house.

The northern tail of the T-shaped house takes the form of three rooms with a large lounge (Room F), a secondary room divided off from the lounge with an internal dry wall (Room G), and an externally accessed buitekamer on the northern end of the wing (Room H). Room F is entered from the outside and a second door is opposite. The divided room to the north of the lounge was probably part of the buitekamer initially, with the room being subsequently divided and part of it was consolidated with the lounge.

The roof of the Zwartrug house has collapsed. Photographs from 1995 show that the building had a thatch roof that was still in decent condition. The roof of the base wing would have had a straight end gable on the east end and was hipped on the western end. The northern wing of the house has a hipped roof at the north end and a straight end gable on the south wall. Roof access was gained through a door in the end gable of the southern wall.

Generally the Zwartrug house is unique, as it is the only house in the sample with a dormer gable. Usually the architectural characteristic of a dormer gable denotes the conceptual front of a house, for example Klaarefontein or Sout Kloof. The front door is usually situated below the dormer gable. In the case of the Zwartrug house, there is no door in the southern wall where the dormer gable is situated. The conceptual front of the house is not the southern aspect of the house, but rather the eastern side of the northern wing. This argument is reinforced as this is the side of the house that
faces the road. This side of the house also has an added stoep that faces the road, indicating that this is the location of the formal entrance and egress of the house.

Figure 18: Sout Kloof (Pretorius 1997)

Van Zyl Ruins

The ruins found to the north-east of the main Ezelshoek werf are interesting for a number of reasons. For instance, they are on an area of the farm that has not been used for some time. There is no road to get to this werf.

This werf is extremely disturbed. It now falls within the lower part of a field that is used to grow oats and wheat, and has therefore been ploughed over numerous times. The ruins constitute the remains of four definable buildings. The fabric of only one building is still visible. There are likely to be several other structures present on this part of the farm, but it is difficult to make them out.
Van Zyl Ruins 1 (the relatively intact building) was positioned up slope from the rest. Two buildings, both of a linear form, are positioned down slope from the first building, and hug the side of the small hillock, running on the same contour. The fourth building is positioned on a slightly lower contour than the first building, but some way to the West. Based on these relative positions, I believe that these buildings are the ones painted by Johan Poortermans in 1849, and not the buildings on the Ezelshoek (central Voetpad) werf. The additional images included with the plans show the positions of the building footprints on the landscape as I recorded them. I believe there is a strong correlation between the form and layout of the surviving ruin and the main house as depicted by Poortermans in his painting, as well as a strong correlation between the position of the other buildings and the outbuildings depicted in the painting.

Due to this strong correlation, I believe that a description of the fabric of the buildings using both the recorded plans that I have made in the course of this project as well as using the painting as a historical document and a record of the buildings in their prime is appropriate.

### Van Zyl Ruins 1

This building is by far the most intact building on this werf. It is linear in its form and runs roughly in an east-west orientation. It is constructed with a packed stone foundation and solid clay walls, though only the eastern and southern walls are still moderately intact. The internal walls have decayed to the point where the room division are no longer visible.
The building has a chimney on the eastern end of the building. While the actual flue of the chimney is absent due to the decay of the structure, the hearth area is still discernible. There is a small depression in the rear of the hearth. The southern wall is relatively intact. This wall has four piercings, two windows and two doors. The door is severely decayed. The northern side of the building is extremely decayed with the western end of the northern wall almost completely gone. The structure of the wall is still visible at the eastern end of the building however, and two doors are visible in close proximity to each other. The rest of the northern wall is decayed but the Poortermans painting does show the front of a building that I believe is this same building.

The Poortermans painting (Ezelhoek corn estate of Mr. [P] van Zyl, Piquet mountains, Pass to Banghoek, Leading by a long Valley to Cape Town)(Appendix 2: Voetpad: Figure: 2) shows a building with two doors on the eastern end of the building, as well as a chimney. The doors depicted show what James Walton called a bo-onder-deur, Walton which directly translated is an "above below door", otherwise known as a stable door. Poortermans depicts several figures leaning out of the doors. The piercings on the depicted house show that there are two doors on the eastern end of the house's northern wall, and a window and a door at the western end of the building. These piercings are in keeping with what remains of the ruins. There is a piercing on the western most extent of the northern wall, but the exact nature of this is impossible to ascertain.

The building depicted in the painting has a chimney on the eastern end of the building with what appears to be the hearth area of the chimney protruding out towards the east of the end of the building. The building is end gabled with a thatch roof. There is a small window in the western end gable piercing the attic space. The building has the remains of a stoep extending three meters in front of the northern wall of the building.
Van Zyl Ruins 2

This building is situated down slope from building 1. This structure, like the other structures on the site, is extremely decayed and has been disturbed through ploughing activities on the fields around it. The structure has a long linear footprint and runs in an east west orientation. Two rooms are visible. There is a piercing in the northern wall of around 1m but due to the decay of the structure the exact nature of this door is unknown.

In describing this building it is useful to examine the J C Poortermans painting of 1849 of the Ezelshoek werf. It is possible that this building is one of the two lower "shed" type buildings seen in this painting. Due to the open eastern end of the building, it is likely that the building shown in the painting on the right is the building in question, as the open end corresponds with the form of the packed stone foundations.
Van Zyl Ruins 3

This building is situated close to Van Zyl Ruins 4. It is extremely decayed and only the packed stone foundation is visible. The building is much smaller than the other Van Zyl ruins. The structure has been extremely disturbed by ploughing and the decay of the building. The eastern wall is broken, while the rest of the walling is intact. The building has a formal piercing in the northern wall, with a width of 1m. There is a small abutting structure on the western wall. There are the remains of two circular structures to the north and North West of the structure. The 1849 Painting shows a small kapstylhuis at the rear right of the painting, with a small figure sitting next to the building. This structure may be Van Zyl Ruins 3 or 4. The two round features may be threshing floors.

Van Zyl Ruins 4

This building is situated to the north east of the werf. The building consists of two rooms. The building is extremely decayed, with only the packed stone foundation visible. The building is linear in its form, and is orientated in an east west direction. Room A has no visible external piercings. The
room is accessed through an internal door leading into room B. This internal door is severely decayed and the exact width of the door is unknown.

Room B is almost exactly square apart from the interleading door into room A the structure is accessed through a piercing in the northern wall. As stated before this structure or Van Zyl Ruins 3 may be the small *kapstylehuis*.

**Victorian Farm House**

![Victorian Farm House](image)

This building is situated to the south of the main Ezelshoek werf. The building is roughly in line with the main 1899 house, but is not orientated in line with it; rather it follows the same contour as the 1899 building.

I was unable to get inside the building to measure the internal dimensions due to the owner being absent during my fieldwork period. However the external features were recorded. The building is in a very good state, and is likely to be fairly intact. Some alterations have taken place, and the building has several features that have been replaced and modernised.

The building is rectangular. The southern end of the building has a chimney abutting the southern wall on the eastern end. The two slender windows with a width of 0.5m each are situated midway along the southern wall. These windows are slightly off centre from the midpoint of the southern wall, and are substantially different in their appearance to the other windows on the house. A small
rectangular vent is situated on the midpoint of the southern wall. This vent is directly below the eves of the building and is above the two windows.

The chimney on the southern wall presents as a rectangle with a cut off triangle on top. The chimney has been decommissioned with the top of the chimney having been removed and the flue being covered with a sheet of corrugated iron.

The eastern side of the building has been modified the most out of the four sides. This side has been renovated to include a double door and two sets of windows. The wall has three windows and three doors; the first widow is on the southernmost end of the wall, followed by a stable door. The set of matching windows situated on either side of the double doors are each 1.2m wide. The double door has been situated on the midpoint of the eastern wall. The double door is flanked on either side by the matching windows. The same small vents seen in the southern wall are situated just less than a third of the wall length from each end of the eastern wall.

The northern wall is completely bare. There is a small vent situated on the centre line of the wall, in the same setting as in the southern wall.

The Western facade of the building has several elements in addition to the doors and windows. The western side of the building has a stoep extending 2m to the west. The western facade is similarly symmetrical as the eastern facade. The stoep, which is constructed out of mortared stone, is reinforced and supported by eight buttresses constructed from modern brick. The central door of the western wall is flanked on either side by large windows. The northern end of the western facade has a door of 1m width. The southern end of the western wall has a large window. A set of steps leads up to the stoep in line with the central door in the western wall. An afdak is built on to the western side of the house. This corrugated iron roof is supported by eight columns. The vents found in the other walls of the house are absent in this wall.
The roof of the second farm house is corrugated iron. The roof is hipped at both ends, but as the building is almost square, this is not pronounced.

**Bywooners 1**

The bywooner houses are situated on the northerly part of the Werf. The buildings are positioned in line with each other, and follow the contour of the slope. The buildings are both in a ruined state, but photographs from the James Walton collection show the buildings in use in the latter half of the twentieth century.

Bywooner 1 is the Eastern most building of the two. The building is in a ruined state, but the ground plan is still easily observable. The building is a linear structure with two sequences. Rooms A, B and C represent the core of the building, with room D added at a later stage. The structure of the building is made from solid clay built on a packed stone foundation. The western wall is built with packed stone, at the base, mortared brick and solid clay at the top. Two external packed stone buttresses are present on the exterior of the western end wall. The wall is much thicker than other walls of the house, and the material used in construction is also different. The buttresses are in a fairly ruined state, but photographs from the end of the 20th century show that the buttresses used to extend right up to the level of the top of the north and south walls.
Room A is situated on the western end of the building. The room is accessed through a door in the southern wall, as well as a possible internal door leading into room B. The internal door between room A and room B cannot be described as the internal wall has collapsed.

Room B is the largest in the house. The room has access points both in the southern wall, and the northern wall. The room has two windows opposite each other on the western side of the room, there is one window situated in both the southern and northern wall. The door in the southern wall has been partly filled in. This was noted in James Walton’s description of the building (Walton 1982).

The separation between room C and B is problematic, as there are no remains of a wall present except for a small mound running the width of the room (indicated on the drawing). The room is accessed through the end wall with a central single door. The door is flanked on either side by a window. Room C has windows flanking the door.

Room D abuts room C towards the east. The only remains of the room are some small remnants of clay walls and the packed stone foundation. The room has a chimney in the North Eastern corner of the. The room is accessed to the room gained through a door in the southern wall approximately 2 m from the rooms interface with the remains of room C. It is impossible to ascertain the width of the door as the room is in a very serious state of decay. The room is also accessed through the interleading door with room C.

The remains of a small packed stone buttress are present on the southern side of the building. The buttress is built so that it covers the interface between the walls of room C and room D. There is a stone stoep that runs the length of the building on the southern edge.

Although difficult to reconstruct from what is present in the building as it stands today, the roof of the building was photographed by James Walton before it fell into an advanced state of ruin. The roof was built from timber and thatch and was pitched with a hipped end on the western wall. The
eastern end of the building is not recorded in the photographs, but was possibly end gabled, as there was a chimney present on that end (Walton 1982).

Bywooners 2

The second Bywooner House is in a far greater state of disrepair compared to the first house. The building is built in line with Bywooner 1 and is approximately the same width. There is no evidence to suggest that this building has more than one sequence. The building has two rooms of approximately the same size. The building was built in the same fashion as Bywooner 1, with a packed stone foundation with solid clay walls built on top. The building also has various packed stone buttresses. The building is situated in an east west direction, and is of a linear form (I). Much of the building has fallen down, with the western end wall and the southern wall the only obviously remaining structures. The rest of the building can still be made out from the foundation that is intact.

Room A is the most westerly of the buildings rooms. The room is accessed by a door in the western end wall, and possibly through an interleading wall in its eastern wall. There is a gap in the northern wall that is potentially a door or window. The room has a window in the southern wall. The door in the western end wall is still present in the fabric of the building, and is constructed from wood. The door is a stable door with the hinges on the right hand side when entering the building. This same
right hand column that connects the door to the building wall is built from a different grade of clay to the rest of the wall.

Room A and B are separated by an internal wall that abuts the external dry walls. The wall is in an extremely ruined state (basically a hump that runs the width of the building), but the remains of the wall suggest that there was an internal interleading door between room A and B that was situated in the middle of the wall.

Room B is accessed by a door in the northern wall. The foundations of the walls of the room, which are still intact, suggest that this was the only entrance to the room. The door is situated approximately half way along the length of the room. The remains of a chimney are situated in the north east corner of the room. Due to the decayed state of the building, it is impossible to define the measurements of the chimney accurately. The chimney was built on a packed stone foundation. Although there is no obvious window in the southern wall of room B, the wall is very decayed, and therefore the remaining fabric could be misleading.

The exterior of the building has two packed stone buttresses. The first is situated on the northern side of the external door in the West end wall of room A. The buttresses is built from packed stone.

The roof of the building has decayed, but photographs published by James Walton show the building before its roof was destroyed. The building was whitewashed on the exterior. The roof was built from thatch and was hipped at the western end. The eastern end of the building is not visible in these photographs, but the presence of the chimney standing above the thatch on the northern side of the building suggest that the roof was also hipped at the eastern end.
The Long House is situated in between the main farm house and the wagon shed. This building is different from others on the werf as its orientation is at 90 degrees from every other building on the Voetpad werf. The building has a sequence of two stages. The initial stage is that of the long house.

This part of the building has a chimney situated on the western side of the southern wall. The kitchen (A) associated with this chimney takes up half of the buildings lateral volume, with an internal division running north along roughly the centre of the building. The kitchen is accessed through a door in the western wall, as well as an interleading door into the sit kamer, which is now used as a bed room. The kitchen also has a small window in the western wall.

The sitkamer (D) stretches across the full volume of the building’s width. The space opposite the kitchen (rooms B and C) is semi divided with an internal wall. These spaces are divided into roughly square rooms. Room B is accessed by a door in the south wall. This door is built in sympathy with a door built above it in the southern wall that gives roof access. Room C has two small windows in the Eastern wall. Room D has both a door in the western wall and a window in the eastern wall. It is divided from room E by an internal wall. This wall has evidence of two door openings that have been bricked up. The lounge also has a muurkas in the North West corner of the room that penetrates into the outside wall. Room E is a reflection of room D. This room has access from the eastern wall, as well as an interleading door in its north wall leading into room G. Room E has a window.
penetrating the western wall. A small *muurkas* is present symmetrically positioned to the interleading doorway to room G.

The northern most two rooms in the original house are situated in parallel with each other (Room F and G). The western room (F) has a door in the western wall, as well as a window near the north western corner of the original building. The dividing wall between room F and G has a door built in line with the exterior door in the western wall. Both rooms have windows. Room F has a door in its north east corner allowing access to the kitchen. This door is part of a larger door that has been partly filled in. The internal walls in the northern part of the building are a later addition. The three rooms in the northern part of the building were once a larger space, with no subdivisions. This space is made up by rooms E, F and G were likely a wagon shed, and this fact has been confirmed with the farm owners.

The second kitchen is an addition abutting the western side of the northern wall of the long house. Unlike the long house, the second kitchen has a flat or slightly angled roof slanting towards the west. The kitchen is accessed through an exterior door in the western wall. The kitchen has a chimney on the northern wall. The cooking surface of the chimney is about 10 cm higher than floor level. This is probably because the second chimney was built later in an era when stoves were incorporated into the cooking infrastructure of the house.

The house has a pitched corrugated iron roof, with roof access obtainable from both the southern end gable and the opposite northern gable. The kitchen has a flat corrugated iron roof slightly slanted to the west. The house has two chimneys. Both chimneys have small windows in their back walls. This probably had a dual function to allow the chimney to draw correctly, as well as to illuminate whatever was being heated in the fire space. The building has been kept in good condition, and is built out of solid clay built on top of a packed stone foundation. The exterior surface of the building has been whitewashed.
The longhouse has had various functions over the years. According to the owners of the farm, the longhouse was built in the final years of the 19th century. While a part of the building was always used as a residential building, the owner, Mr Van Zyl remembers how this longhouse was the residence of the 2nd and third generation families on the farm. The grandparents would live in the main house, but their adult children and their subsequent children would live in the longhouse until such time as the grandparents passed away and the main house was left vacant. The lounge room in the long house is still used as a bedroom, but the rest of the house is now used for farm storage. The conceptual front of the building is towards the west, but due to the accessibility of all sides of this house, I would argue that it is quite versatile as a structure and that the idea of the “conceptual front” does not fully apply to this building.

**Wagon House**

The Wagon House is situated at the northern end of the Voetpad Werf. It is a square, squat appearing building and is now mainly used for vehicle storage. At some point in the past the building had multiple functions, but this building was never intended for residential use.

The building has been constructed in two sequences. The first is the actual barn structure consisting of two parallel rectangular halls, both with loft spaces above each hall (A and B). This initial sequence is located up slope and to the rear of the building. A later addition has been added on to the southern side of the building (room C). This addition abuts the existing barn and represents the 2nd sequence in this building’s life.
The first sequence consists of two long rectangular halls. Room A is accessed by a door in the eastern wall situated under a ramp built to access the loft space. The northerly hall is also entered through a small pedestrian door in the north western corner of the building. There is a feeding trough that runs the full length of the room along the northern edge. There is a small muurkas situated in the north wall approximately on the midpoint of the walls length. The 2nd storey is separated from the ground floor by means of a wooden floor which runs the length of the building in both the loft spaces of rooms A and B. Access to room A is granted through the means of an exterior stone stair case that has been supported with modern concrete. This staircase is positioned against the exterior northern wall at a right angle to the wall. There is a second access door located in the northern wall leading to the loft space, but this door has no access staircase.

Room B is almost identical to the room A. The entrance to the room is a large double door situated in the eastern Wall and is arched. This double door is the only access into the room. The south western corner of the room has a large built in tank, which was formerly used to ferment grapes. Although never the main industry on the farm, there was a small vineyard to the east of the farm werf. Room B is now used to contain various types of farm equipment, as well as a functioning ox wagon. The loft space for the southern room is accessed by the means of a ramp constructed with cemented corrugated iron laid across the tops of two packed stone pillars. The door to the loft is in the eastern wall and is made from wood. It is situated next to the dividing wall between the north and south rooms.

Room C was built to provide more workshop room for the farm. It includes a blacksmith and additional space for farm vehicles. There is also evidence that the room was used as a shearing shed for stock animals. There are notches carved on the inside of the clay walls. The main door in the east wall is not arched like room B. The far end of the room C has a small chimney. This end of the room was used as a smitswinkel. The chimney juts at a right angle from the western wall of room C and
has a small hearth surface of roughly a meter squared. The room has a window in the southern wall situated 3m from the corner of the western and southern wall.

The southern wall of the building has a brick moulding design etched into the plaster of the wall. The brick designs are regular and extend along the southern wall, but do not hug around onto the lower reaches of the western and eastern wall. The brick design rises up by a level at the two ends of the wall. There is a packed stone buttress propping up the southern wall. Room C has no loft space and the roof slants towards the south of the building. While it is more formalised, room C could be described as a lean too addition.

The wagon house has a tin roof, and was likely to have been built in the late nineteenth century. It is doubtful that the building ever had a thatch roof, as the pitch of the roof would not have facilitated water runoff if the roof had ever been thatch.

**Barn**

The barn is situated down slope from the main farm houses. The building runs in a north south direction, with entrances on every side. The core of the building is represented by the rooms labelled A, B and C. Two later additions have been added on the western side of the building (labelled D and E). The core of the building is constructed with solid clay walls on a packed stone foundation. The two additions abut the core on its western wall and are constructed out of mortared stone. The building has a tin roof, and is in a moderately dilapitated state. The core of the building (ABC)
functions as a barn and *smitswinkel*, while the abutting addition functions as a feeding pen for calves.

Room A has one piercing in the form of double door in the northern wall. The partitioning wall between room A and B has been added recently the room was initially much larger room B has one door in the western wall. Although not visible in room B, there is the remains of an interleading door between room B and C. It has now been partly bricked up and converted into a *muurkas* in room in the northern wall of room C. Room C is used as a *smitswinkel*. The room is roughly square. Including the chimney the room has three piercings with a door in the eastern wall, and a small window. The window closely abuts the chimney wall. The *muurkas* (the walled up door) is situated opposite the chimney and may have been built in sympathy to each other. The external walls of the core structure are fairly thick. The walls on the side of the lowest elevation of the building are the thickest to lend support to the structure. The external southern wall is also buttressed on the south eastern corner. The core structure has a pitched tin roof with an internal *rietdak*. The *rietdak* runs the length of the building with roof access gained from a door in the northern end of the building.

The two abutting additions to the barn were probably added at the same time, but Room E was built first. Room D has a double door situated in the northern wall. There is a second door in the western wall. The walls are built from mortared stone. Room E is the same size as Room D strengthening the likelihood that they were built concurrently. Room E has a 1 meter wide feeding trough built from mortared stone running the length of the eastern wall. The room has two doors, one in the Western wall built symmetrically in relation to the door in Room D, as well as a door in the southern wall. There is a small window midway along the western wall of room E. The roof of rooms D and E is slanted towards the West. The roof sits directly on top of the western stone wall with thin beams supporting the roof on the inside of the room.
Van Zyl House

The 1899 house is one of the most well maintained buildings on the werf. This building is still used as a weekend getaway by the Van Zyl brothers and their extended family. The building reads as two separate structures that have been stuck together. The structure represented by rooms A-I reads as one part of the sequence, whereas the rooms described by the rooms labelled J - O are separate (The grey walls of M, N, O are a reconstruction). The nine Rooms of A to I are positioned in a square lattice, reminiscent of a keypad.

Room A is used as a bedroom. The room is situated in the south east of the building. The room is pierced by a window in the eastern wall. The room has a door in the western end of the northern wall. Room B is a larger room with several piercings. The room is currently used as the *sitkamer*. The room has several entrances and piercings. The eastern wall has a door in the south eastern corner of the room, with a window just to the north in the eastern wall. The room has a door in the North
West corner linking room B to Room C and two doors in the south western corner. Both doors link room B to Room A and Room E respectively.

Room C is situated in the north eastern corner of the first component of the building. The room is pierced by a window in the eastern wall, as well as a door linking room C to room B. Room F is situated on the southern edge of the building. The room is used as a bedroom. The room has three piercings, two doors and a window. The window is in the southern wall. The room is accessed through a door in the northern wall linking it to room E. A second door links the room to room G.

Room E is the central room of the 3x3 square arrangement of the house. The room is used as a dining room and is mostly taken up by a large table. The room has interleading doors linking to room F, B, D and H. A muurkas is present in the southern wall. A window is positioned in the western wall leading to the enclosed courtyard (room H) with a width of 1m. Room D is linked to Room E with a door of 1m wide in the south western corner of room D. Room D currently functions as a pantry with a small muurkas in the southern wall of the room. Room D also has an external door that links to room J, which currently serves as a kitchen. The muurkas in room D is positioned underneath a staircase which gives access to the attic space. The staircase is positioned along the western wall and runs in a north south direction.

Rooms G, H and I form a linked series, with room H serving to link the other two. Room G is the bathroom of the house at the moment, but was formerly a bed room. The room is accessed through a door into the adjoining room F, as well as a door into Room H. Room H is not really a room, but rather a courtyard that has been partially enclosed and is accessed by an external door set in the middle of the western wall. The room also links rooms G, E and I. Room I currently functions as a bedroom,. This room is only accessed by the interleading door with room H. Room I has an external window in the western wall of 1m wide.
The second part of the Van Zyl house is represented by rooms J to O. The observable structure of this second sequence is only visible in the rooms described as J, K and partially L. Room J is the kitchen of the house. The room is tacked on to the square grid structure. The external features on the walls of the 1899 house are visible on the inside of the kitchen walls. The kitchen is a rectangular room and is accessed through the doors linking room D and room K. Room J is accessed from the outside through a door in the eastern wall. A window is also situated in the eastern wall to the south of the door. The chimney in the kitchen is situated in the western wall. The hearth is a large open space and takes up nearly the whole western wall of room J.

Room K is situated to the north of room J and is currently used as a storage room and scullery. The room is partially divided from room J by a wall, but there is no door. The eastern wall is pierced by a, but the northern wall has a muurkas positioned to the east of the centre line of the northern wall. A small window is situated in the western wall looking out over the back yard of the building.

The now external room L is now used as a braai area for the family. This room is partly demolished and the current owners of the house have made use of the partially destroyed walls as a wind break around their braai area. The remains of a window leading into room L can still be seen in the western wall.
The exterior facades of the 1899 house are of interest. The eastern facade of the 1899 house has a low pediment that rises to a level of 1m above the stone stoep. The walls are fairly thick at this point with a width 70cm. At 1m high, the walls thin slightly by 10cm, resulting in a ledge that runs around the outside of the house at a height of 1m. The building has quoining on the exterior of each piercing (around the doors and windows on the exterior of the building), as well as on the corners of the house. The quoining is interesting as the effect achieved by the mouldings is different in terms of polite Victorian design of an interlaced set of bricks, but rather an alternating long and short series of bricks sitting on the corner of the building. This is described in the sketch below. The set of quoining on the left is found on numerous examples of Victorian buildings in the cape and could be considered ubiquitous, whereas the quoining described on the left of the diagram describes the kind of quoining found on the corners of the 1899 house. This variant is slightly less common than the first, but examples exist in many places. If this building can be described as a vernacular expression
of a polite architecture, then the fact that this quoining seems to have been expressed differently could be seen as one of the most important characteristics of the building.

![Diagram](image.png)

**Figure 19:** Image indicating types of quoining.

Another notable characteristic of the 1899 house is that the quoining around the windows and doors is only found above the ledge representing the top of the base pediment described above. The first "long" brick in the bottom of the quoining is thinner than the other bricks. This may be to do with the height of the window, as in positioning the quoining correctly on the upper corners of the window would have resulted in the laying out of the quoining design flowing from the top of the window towards the base. This would mean that the last brick in the quoining sequence was stretched or shortened in order to be accommodated in the available space. What it does imply is that the quoining bricks were built to a pre-existing size and then applied to the building design,
rather than the builders taking the length of the window and dividing the space up evenly to create a uniform brick shape.

The Eastern Facade of the building has three windows and a door on the ground level surrounded with the quoining described above. The ground floor is topped with a two tier ledge moulding that runs the length of the facade. Directly above this ledge moulding, three large vents rest on the ledge. The vents consist of a series of angled wooden planks positioned in a down sloping position reminiscent of a venetian blind. The vents pierce the eastern facade wall and provide ventilation to the roof spaces on the second floor. The three roof spaces are long linear rooms running in an east/west direction. The rooms are linked through breaks in the wall above the doors linking rooms F, E and D. The roof spaces mirror rooms A,F and G, B and E, C, D and I. The eastern facade is topped with a cornice that stretches through the middle third of the eastern facade. The cornice is in three tiers. The middle third is ringed by a moulding in the same form as the lower moulding on which the vents are situated. The date of 1899 is inscribed on the centre line of the eastern facade above the middle vent.

The western side of the building has quoining on the corners of the building. The quoining that is situated around the windows on the eastern and southern piercings is not found on the western windows. The two wings on the western side of the building represent the top of the fattened U shape that is the 1899 house. The two roof sections slant to the north on the northern side of the house, and to the south on the southern side. A small area of the roof slants to the west situated above room B. The northern slope found on the northern side of the 1899 house is continued in the newly added roof slanting down over the JKL house.

The southern facade of the building is fairly featureless compared to the east and west facade. The single window in the middle of the wall has quoining around it, as well as the quoining on the corners of the building.
The various buildings recorded in this chapter show significant variability. The buildings on Wagenpad show several stages of a sequence between the early 19th century and the mid to late twentieth century. The buildings follow a sequence with the earliest buildings being found on the central werf of the farm, and the younger buildings following the subdivision development of the farm, with the buildings found on the outer lying werfs displaying Victorian and even industrial forms from the mid twentieth century. The central werf has a deeper sequence in that the buildings in the centre have examples of every stage of the sequence.

The buildings found on Voetpad have a sequence that seems to indicate that the buildings mostly come from the turn of the century. The oldest part of the sequence is likely no longer present, however the subsequent buildings on the farm show many interesting characteristics, indicating a regional expression of Victorian architecture in at least two of the main buildings.

The thick description provided above has allowed a close interrogation of the material and individual sequence of each building. The result, a strong sense of variability, and a dataset in which parallels can be drawn between different buildings is discussed in relation to the broad contextual constraints of the landscape, and the individual histories of each farm provided by the documentary evidence.

The following chapter provides a discussion of the various strands of evidence and an approach to understanding the built environment of the three farms in this study.
Chapter 6 Discussion

In attempting a discussion of the findings of this dissertation, one must return to the previous work done in the Sandveld. These studies have focussed on Verlorenvlei and a search for “the vernacular” that is predicated on an assumed standard form. The work of Hugh Floyd (Floyd 1980) and James Walton (Walton 1995) (Walton 1989) focussed on the description of typologies of building forms. Their work contributes to exploring the fabric and materiality of the buildings, however there is no discussion of the chronology of the buildings. The implicit assumption is that the buildings are in their final form and that this form has remained unchanged through time. The detail of the building’s descriptions in Floyd and Waltons work has set the standard for fabric analysis in vernacular architecture studies on the west coast.

Sharyn Sinclair (1980) explored the human geography of the Verlorenvlei farm. She provided a contextualisation of the werf, positioning the farm in historical and spatial context, however, the purpose of the study was not to interrogate the fabric or intent behind the buildings.

John Gribble (Gribble 1987) (Gribble 1990), in two studies, provided an historical context and an interrogation of the sequence of building development. In so doing the sequence of each building is explored and a model is put forward describing the different forms of building development.

Swanepoel (Swanepoel 1996) provided an historical perspective on a particular building on a farm. This explored the ownership, genealogy, building fabric werf characteristics and the historical context of the building.

These Verlorenvlei studies have provided a thick description of the iconic West Coast longhouse house form, but the degree to which this form is present in other parts of the Sandveld has not been properly investigated. The Verlorenvlei buildings embody a certain set of characteristics and these have been used to define a vernacular architecture.
There is evidence, however, to suggest that there are several vernaculars and the description of the buildings given here has shown that the vernaculars of the late 1700s may have been re-appropriated and used again or re-referenced in the 1800s and 1900s.

Therefore to focus on one type of building or form as representative of the wider region is clearly problematic. Rather the sequence of the buildings and the sequence of the development of the landscape become important. The findings of this study indicate that the buildings have to be understood in terms of their specific contexts and setting in a cultural landscape. In understanding this cultural landscape, the various strands of evidence and information contribute to understanding the cultural landscape on three different scales. These are the Macro, Mid and Micro Scale.

I have structured this discussion in a way that the most salient issues to emerge from the study are dealt with first. This focuses specific discussion on the mid-scale, followed by the broader regional scale (macro scale) and lastly, the individual detail of the built environment of each farm forms the micro scale.

As suggested above, the significant results of this study are demonstrably those that derive from the mid-scale of the cultural landscape. The development of settlements, the constraints and benefits of the various locations, and how these were affected by factors such as kin dynasties, the structure of inheritance, topography and transport are discussed below.

In answering the issue of why some farms developed into micro settlements and why others did not, one must look at certain forces and events that underpin the development of settlements in this area. The crux of this issue comes down to opportunities created by topography and the development of infrastructure. When one farm develops infrastructure that can be used by other satellite farmers around the initial farm, this development automatically makes it less likely that the neighbouring farms will duplicate and develop similar infrastructure.
A generic example of this can be seen in the development of a church or shop. The first farm, due to several factors that will be explored later, may create a shop. The shop would require a market, and would likely have a market that extended further than just the inhabitants of that farm. The shop would also need to be supplied. As a result of this the shop would benefit from being close to a transport route, or to the primary source of the shop’s stock. The shop’s market would be defined by the demand for whatever products the shop would supply. The market may have a certain carrying capacity for this demand. This would mean that within a closed system, there could only be a finite number of shops supplying certain products.

In relation to the development of infrastructure on the landscape in the Sandveld, and Piketberg, certain types of markets can be identified across the landscape. While there is the obvious relationship between a shop and its market there are other related forces at play such as the relationship between a church and its parishioners, a school and its learners, or a dynastic farm and the myriad of family members spread out over the landscape. Several of these types of relationships have influenced the development of nodes across the landscapes.

Several large church communities have developed over the Sandveld. These include all of the main settlements of Piketberg, Redelinghuys, Aurora, Eendekuil and Porterville. Fransen identifies Piketberg as a "19th century church town". The town was founded as an infill church town located between Tulbach, Malmesbury and Clanwilliam. This was to cater for the people in the area who were having trouble attending the church services of the Clanwilliam, Tulbach and Malmesbury (Fransen 2006: 190).

Later church development took place in secondary church nodes such as Aurora, Redelinghuys and Eendekuil. The Aurora church was founded in 1910, whereas the previous church stood on Rietvlei several kilometres to the north in a far less formal setting (Burger 1975: 212)
The synchronous development of a level of agricultural production that would sustain commerce in a regional centre and the development of a church is discussed by Ross (Ross 1994: 39). Ross identifies the early trade industries in the rural areas as informal. The *smousen* (informal travelling traders) would travel from farm to farm trading, to be gradually replaced by formal trading when the established agricultural production of an area attracted merchants and traders. This coincided with the development of a church and usually a small town. Therefore the relationship between productiveness and development of infrastructure is strengthened. The factors that influenced the level of production, including topography, transport, dynasty and inheritance are discussed below.

The topography on which a proto settlement develops is the base building block in recognising whether that site is worth investing in the first place. Out of the three farms that were included in this study each has a distinct topographical setting that has influenced the development of the form of the farm. In the case of Wagenpad, the original survey diagram shows that the farm had rich water resources spread fairly evenly across the valley. It is also worth noting, that the physical boundaries of the circular valley meant that there were certain natural features that defined the land area of the farm. It is no surprise that when it came to subdivision, the portions of the farm that were cut off from the rest of the farm by natural barriers such as the high cliffs of the mountains on the western side of the farm, meant that portion 7 of Wagenpad was eventually consolidated with the farm on the western side of the mountains.

Further, there were still enough resources on the farm, that following the subdivision of 1939, each new portion could function fairly independently without having to allow for neighbours to have access to a the only water sources on the farm. This contributed to the settlement pattern seen on the farm with each portion having its own small werf with its own water source, and allowing each werf to be relatively remote and independent from the central werf. The central werf of the farm was maintained as a shared entity, which allowed the farmers to make use of one of the only formal
dams on the farm, as well as the established fields and storehouse infrastructure in the centre of the old werf.

On the farm Groenfontein, the other end of the spectrum is evident. The farm was subdivided in 1918. The farm also maintained a shared werf, until 1971 when the central werf was bought out by a different group of people. The original survey diagram is fairly spartan in terms of described water sources. While Wagenpad has several strong springs situated fairly evenly across the farm, Groenfontein has only one smallish river that runs across what is now the central werf. The original survey diagram shows that this river was dammed on the south-western edge of the central werf. This river was the main source of water for the whole farm throughout its history, including the 20th century.

As with Wagenpad, one of the main constraining factors on the shape and development of Groenfontein was the topographical feature of the sloping mountains against which the farm abuts. These mountains played a role in the farms planning and layout right from the earliest stages of the farm, with the loan place (1724) with a semicircle abutting the mountains, with the central "ordanasie" situated over the later central werf.

Following subdivision in 1918, Groenfontein was divided in such a way that every portion had a small section that abutted the central werf. Again like Wagenpad, this central werf was shared. The farm took on the appearance of a semi-circular radial pattern, with each portion emanating out from the central point. Following the end of the shared werf, with the central area all coming under the ownership of one individual in the mid twentieth century, the various farmers built their own farm houses in the areas of each portion that abutted the central werf. One way of interpreting this could be that there was a strong family connection to the central werf. However, another interpretation could suggest that this water scarce land contributed to the central importance of the resource of the "Groenfontein", and therefore could not be entirely privatised, due to the scarcity of water resources.
In tracking the theme of topography as a factor in defining the settlement nodes on the landscape, Voetpad contrasts with both Wagenpad and Groenfontein, and is difficult to interpret. In terms of physical boundaries, the farm is defined on its southern boundary by a set of high mountains. The farm is also partly defined by the river to the west, and some low hills/mountains to the east. A small river runs through the centre of the farm supplying the Ezelshoek werf with a water resource, however, the werfs of Zwartrug, the van Zyl ruins, and the Bovlei houses have no water source. It is not uncommon for farms in this area of the Sandveld to share water sources, as evidenced by survey diagrams of other farms describing servitudes with common access rights for the droving of cattle across the landscape from one farm to another for the purposes of watering cattle.

The 1834 survey diagram of Voetpad shows only two water sources on the farm. The first is situated in the far north eastern extent of the farm and is described as a "weak spring". This is likely the spring that supplies the water course that runs just to the north of the van Zyl ruins. The second "weak" spring is situated just to the east of the main Ezelshoek werf, and feeds a small intermittent river that flows to the south of the house towards the west.

The initial subdivision of Voetpad included the creation of three portions on the east of the farm. The first (Matjiesfontein) has no independent werf and was used by the neighbouring farmer as an extension to the Banghoek farm. The northern two sub divisions both have independent werfs. The Bovlei portion has a small spring and a small river, as does the Zwartrug portion.

The role of transport routes across the landscape has also influenced the development of settlement nodes. All three of the farms in this study have direct relationships to main transport routes through the landscape. Both Wagenpad and Voetpad refer to "roads" in their names. Groenfontein is situated a short distance away from the main road between Aurora and Piketberg. The transport network must be understood in relation to the goal of overcoming the topographical barriers and impositions that are presented in the geography of the Sandveld landscape. These barriers include the Berg River in the south, the mountains of the Piketberg in the centre of the Sandveld, and the...
two estuaries of the Verlorenvlei and the Wagendriftsoutpan further to the north. The mountains to the east of the Piketberg also provide a significant boundary to travellers crossing the Sandveld.

The farm Wagenpad is situated on the northern end of the Piketberg and is bound on its eastern edge by the main road between Piketberg and Elands Bay. While this road is no doubt a recent main road, travellers have been using this route with small variations since the 1700s. Thunberg passed along the route of this road, in October 1774, overnighting on the neighbouring farm, Drogerijskloof (Forbes 1986). This farm has always been acknowledged as being intricately related to its role in a transport network, with the original loan place record acknowledging this in the name "Wagendrift op die Janko Rivier", as well as the later quitrent name of Wagenpad. The actual "Wagenpad" in question is the road linking the agter-Piketberg with the eastern side of the valley. The road is no longer used as modern infrastructure, however it has remained as a foot track as recently as the 1950s when Mrs Barnard (a resident of Oorwinningsfontein and childhood resident of the central werf of Wagenpad) used the track with her older relatives to walk to school and visit her aunt who lived in the agter Piketberg (pers. Communication April 2013, Oorwinningsfontein).

Voetpad is situated on the main road between the Bushman’s River, Kapteinskloof and Het Kruis. The road provides one of the main links between the southern Piketberg and the agter Piketberg. The road runs directly through the Voetpad farm just on the northern side of the pass. The road has changed position slightly over the years, as evidenced by the aerial photos from the beginning of the 1940s. The Poortemans painting of the werf also suggests that at around 1849 the road went directly to the van Zyl ruins werf.

This route was used by Rhenius in 1724. He describes using a wagon to traverse the "Sonquas Kloof" travelling along the southern edge of the Piketberg to the entrance of the "Sonquas Kloof", in so doing most likely traversing Groenfontein. From the entrance of the Sonquas Kloof Rhenius travelled through the Kloof to the farm of Goergap, then leased to the wife widow of Olaf Bergh. He would
have travelled over the farm of Voetpad, likely before the farm was granted as a loan place (Mossop 1947).

Verlorenvlei lay on an important transport route and the settlement sits on the intersection between the fisheries of Elands Bay and the interior of the Sandveld and the Piketberg. The settlement is positioned on the major transport route of the Verlorenvlei itself. This body of water is both a major barrier as well as a useful transport route, linking the fisheries of the Elands Bay and Verlorenvlei with the settlements of Redelinghuys and the Piketberg to the east. Elands Bay, Verlorenvlei, Redelinghuys, Het Kruis, the Bushman’s river valley, Aurora and Piketberg represent the nodes of a network of transport routes that spans across the Sandveld landscape. These routes are not all roads, but also include rivers and eventually the railway line in the beginning of the 20th century. The main routes followed by the various travellers through the Sandveld are similar to those used today. Some travellers would proceed along the eastern side of the Piketberg Mountains with several travellers staying at the farm Groenevallei (situated two farms to the south of Wagenpad). This route included crossing the Berg river at the present day location that the N7 crosses the Berg River, travelling along the eastern side of the Piketberg, to Het Kruis. Travellers would then either cross the Verlorenvlei and continue north at three different locations including Het Kruis, Redelinghuys, or at the Verlorenvlei settlement. The alternative route across the Sandveld was along the southern edge of the mountains, either continuing along to Aurora or through the Bushman’s river valley to the north.

The farm Groenfontein is situated on the southern slopes of the Piketberg. The farm is not directly situated on any main road, but is situated just to the north of the main Aurora/Piketberg road. The farm is also situated just to the north of the turn off to the Bushman’s river valley with the settlements of Kapteinskloof and the farm Banghoek. The farm of Groenfontein was undoubtedly traversed by Olaf Bergh on his trip though the Sandveld, as well as several other travellers.
The Groenfontein werf does not have a direct relationship to the main road, unlike the farms of Wagenpad and Voetpad. The main road in this area passes to the south, however secondary roads, now defunct, have passed through this werf. The werf layout does not speak to a strip development, that is, development in a linear fashion in relation to a main road or similar feature, and it does not appear that the layout of buildings, even in the older pre-subdivision werf layout, were positioned around a werf that was accessed by a single road.

The discussion of dynasty and the potential for each farm to be defined by the group of owners is also important in understanding how each farm has developed. I introduce the concept of a "dynastic farm", which is a farm that has a certain sense of place or meaning tied to it by the farms inhabitants. A dynastic farm has the sense of history behind it. It is "the grandparent's farm" or "our Farm" as opposed to the farm.

All three of the farms included in this study are perhaps superficially dynastic farms. Wagenpad was originally a Smit farm, with the patriarch Erasmus Smit owning the farm from the early 1700s. Voetpad was initially leased by several different owners, but was eventually bought by the van Zyls, and the van Zyls have maintained a presence on the farm in some form ever since. The ownership history of Groenfontein reveals a very tightly knit group of owners where the Lambrechts name has survived intact from the original quitrent (1831), and even earlier into the loan place history of the farm. The Verlorenvlei farm, was initially owned by one owner, but has been partially owned by the Smits and Coetzees for many years.

The trend of ownership has shown that farms have been owned by a single individual from the date of the quitrent being granted in the 19th century, followed by a shared ownership, usually amongst siblings from the late 19th century and into early twentieth century, followed finally by a series of subdivisions and introduction of non-related owners into the ownership structures in the early to mid 20th century. The process of sharing the farm was likely related to the practice of endogamous marriage and is likely an extension of the 18th century phenomenon described by Mitchell (2008).
The development of the farms included in this study have been defined by different factors at the mid-scale and these factors have also been influential in differing strengths and intensities. The farm Wagenpad has enjoyed a topography that has been conducive to farming and development, but was not accessible enough to form a convenient or obvious settlement. The farm has good farm land, ample water supplies, natural boundaries, but is only marginally connected to good transport routes. In terms of dynastic control, the farm has historical connections to the powerful Smit family, but has remained the property of in-laws and other members of the family that have married into the clan, rather than individuals with the "Smit" surname. The fertile land of the Wagenpad valley has also meant that the various other families were able to buy up portions of the farm that were agriculturally viable, and have brought a degree of self-sustainability and diversity to the farm.

The farm of Groenfontein does not have the same wide-spread water access that is available on the Wagenpad farm. The farm's shape is further constrained by the poor water and topographical shape of the land. This has been the case since the farm was first partly defined as a loan place. Groenfontein has easy access to the transport routes between Veldrif, Aurora and Piketberg, as well as being strategically positioned at the mouth of the Bushman's River Kloof. The dynastic ties of the farm are very strong. The farm has been in the Lambrechts family since it was granted (1831). While the other farms have been locked, and have ceased to function as farms where the inhabitants farm their land, this had not happened at Groenfontein. The farm is still farmed and used extensively in agricultural activities. Wagenpad, and Voetpad have had portions of the farm broken up and sold to new, unrelated owners or realtors towards the end of the 20th century, however, Groenfontein has had its chain of title maintained in the Lambrechts family. I believe that this factor contributes strongly to the primary function of the farm being maintained.

Voetpad has a good water supply and farm land, as well as an advantageous, topographical location. The farm has a strong dynastic history, but has now been relegated to a weekend getaway farm, rather than a farm that is owned and farmed by the current farmers. The core of the farm is still
owned by the original family, with various portions of the farm being bought out by new migrants to
the region, or being bought by neighbours, such as the Matjiesfontein portion. The rest of the farm
is still farmed but by other farmers from the district who rent the farm land.

The factors of the mid scale, as described above, sit within the broad historical context of the Macro
Scale. The Mid-scale determines how each farm physically develops, while the factors of the Macro-
Scale affect each farm equally.

In understanding the cultural landscape, the broad historical background functions as a set of
constraints that apply to the region as a whole. These constraints include the broader social-
economic context of the world around the farms, the global economy beginning to form during the
1700s and 1800s and the political context of the country over this time. The Macro-scale is also
determined by the degree to which the local economic, political and social contexts of the area been
influenced by its connections to the global events of the last two centuries? The different ownership,
land management processes, importation of skills, time frames of colony boundaries, Khoe cattle
trading restrictions, slavery and missionary work are discussed below

Under the Dutch administration at the Cape, two forms of land management were commonly in use.
These included the freehold grants from 1659 onwards and the loan place system from 1714. Up
until the formal allotments of loan places in the Sandveld the landscape was almost free from
European settlement. Rather the indigenous population had been impoverished through cattle
raiding. This created a situation where the land could be exploited fairly easily by the colonists.
However, due to the loan place system requiring short term leases of various opstals, there was little
incentive to permanently settle the area.

When the British quitrent system was implemented in the Sandveld in the early 1830s, almost all of
the granted farms were based on the loan places of the previous system. However, one of the main
differences came in the formalisation of farm boundaries. The boundaries between farms were not
clearly defined until surveyed under the British system by land surveyors as part of the quitrent implementation. In some cases these surveys were commissioned by the farmers, but in other cases the state sponsored the surveys for the quitrent grants.

The Sandveld is situated in an area of the west coast that was initially outside of the colony. The official border for the Cape Colony was the Berg River, defining the southern boundary of the Sandveld. Up until 1714, no formal colonial land management existed in this area, other than the ban on cattle trading which influenced the interactions between the indigenous population and the colonists. The town of Piketberg was founded as an infill church town (Fransen 2006) intended to cater to the Sandveld area because the churches of Clanwilliam and Malmesbury were too far away. For much of the later 1600s and 1700s the Sandveld was a liminal space where the control of the colonial authority was only loosely enforced.

The two land management systems, as well as the boundary of the colony, created a situation where many loan places were slow to develop infrastructure, as there was no incentive to invest time and money into developing houses or agricultural buildings on the werf because the ownership security on the farm was not guaranteed. This meant that development in the Sandveld was slower than it could have been, and that the majority of houses that were present on the landscape were multipurpose and impermanent buildings. This slow process retarded development on the majority of farms and large scale permanent infrastructure developed only at the beginning of the 19th century and an incentive to invest in permanent settlement was increased by the stabilisation of the frontier at this time.

The type of buildings that would eventually be built as a result of the more secure settlement at the beginning of the 19th century was influenced by the skills of the builders. The VOC provided an opportunity for many individuals from Europe to find employment in the colonies. While the company is known as a Dutch company, the employees of the company were not necessarily Dutch, rather the company employed a broad spectrum of Europeans who brought various cultural
identities, skills and building styles to the Cape Colony. The importation of these skills were expressed in the local context of the Sandveld, but were reinterpreted using the local available materials, as well as the various requirements for shelter as defined by the climate.

The terms of the livestock trade with the local indigenous Khoe population in the Cape colony was initially meant to bolster or supplement the production of the colony in order to provide meat for passing ships, but was seriously abused to the detriment of Khoe pastoralists, and the trade was suspended by the colonial authorities. The cattle trade, or rather the unhindered exploitation of the Khoe groups by colonists meant that the wealth structure of the Khoe was completely decimated by the beginning of the 1700s. The trade was reopened at this time, but the damage had already been done, with an impoverished indigenous population was forced to either rely on the colony for employment or to trek into the interior.

This decimation of the wealth structure of the Khoe on the west coast resulted in violence and gave the colonial authorities the means to settle the Sandveld. The colonial military actions, coupled to the economic decimation of the indigenous population, allowed the loan place system to come into effect fairly easily, with many wealthy farmers using the loan place system as a way of grazing their livestock on the periphery of the colony, while not living on the farm. This represented an opportunity to invest in farms closer to the heart of Cape Town or Stellenbosch, but still being able to make use of the better grazing land on the West Coast.

The insecurity for the Khoe that had been created by the colonists in the ability of the indigenous groups to maintain a foot hold on the landscape meant that the area could be settled with a greater sense of security by the colonists. In addition there was an increasingly available labour pool that required employment, as well as ample space for settlement. The demand on this labour pool was increased with the end of slavery in 1834 (Ross 1994).
The slave trade in the late 1600s and the 1700s allowed the importation of low cost labour into the colony. This allowed those in the colony to greatly expand their agricultural production. However the Sandveld was settled somewhat later than the southern areas such as Stellenbosch and the Southern Cape. The slaveholdings of farmers who lived and worked in the Sandveld were far more modest than those in the southern areas. A rich farmer in the Sandveld may have had 10 or 12 slaves. While there was definitely wealth in the area, the built environment does not reflect the same type of slave housing infrastructure that would have been found in the Cape or Stellenbosch. It is likely that each house had a few slaves, who were housed in the homes of their masters.

Additionally much of the farm infrastructure that has survived to the present day was most likely built at the beginning of the 19th century (the exact dating of the buildings is a problem as the records are so scant). It is possible that the infrastructure required to house a lot of slaves has not survived, although the probate inventories of the farmers from this time do not suggest that there were many slaves on the landscape. It is possible that much of the labour needed in the Sandveld came from indentured Khoe who had not trekked out of the area.

The abolition of the slave trade in 1834 saw the development of two missionary communities on the southern flanks of the Piketberg. The mission towns of Witte Water and Goedverwacht were both havens for freed slaves who required a secure place to make a living or to contribute to the communal farming on these sites. However, there were some individuals who managed to secure access to quitrent farms, such as Adam Kok, a freed slave, who owned the farm Stinkfontein at the mouth of the Bushman's River Kloof (Smith 1985).

The factors described above created a situation at the beginning of the 19th century that was ripe for development in the Sandveld region. This resulted in strong incentives for development, both on farms and in newly formed settlements such as Piketberg, and the mission stations mentioned above.
The broad scale factors that have influenced the contextual profile of the landscape have created a canvass against which the mid scale and micro scale can be projected. The late development of the Sandveld, the changing labour dynamics and trade control by the VOC have been defined by the macro scale. The micro scale can now be discussed. In particular the discussion focuses on trying to define the characteristics of the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld, in the face of the great range of variability seen on the landscape.

The following discussion includes a discussion of the sequence of buildings and their material and position for the two farms of Wagenpad, Voetpad and Groenfontein, with a view to defining the characteristics of the buildings.

Wagenpad has a strong sequence of buildings built from the early to mid 19th century until the mid 1960s on the satellite erven. The central werf was locked (passed from being actively, primarily, an agricultural settlement to a non-active farm) fairly early on in the 20th century, but the outer erven have maintained some need for development later into the century. Therefore there is not a clear built form as seen at Verlorenvlei. In contrast Verlorenvlei was likely locked in the 1930s as argued by Sinclair (1980), following a decline in the economic viability of the settlement. Verlorenvlei had different constraints to Wagenpad in that water was freely abundant, and that the development of the fishing industry of Elands Bay initially brought wealth in to the district; and the use of the Verlorenvlei as a transport route most likely contributed significantly to the development of the Verlorenvlei settlement, as the settlement was strategically positioned to take advantage of both farming industries and the fishing industry. The eventual decline in the settlement, as argued by Sinclair (1980) was likely closely connected to the failure of the fishing industry in the early to middle 20th century (Malan et al. 2013).

On Wagenpad, the building forms have changed due to practical and functional constraints, materials and skills. Some buildings have older cores where newer additions have been made and the original fabric is almost completely hidden. This is more evident on the outer lying werfs.
The sequence of buildings follows the development of subdivision and outward expansion. In practice this means that the werf with the most complete sequence of buildings is the central werf. The outlying werfs have partially complete sequences with some of the older buildings corresponding with the mid range aged buildings on the central werf. There are some buildings with similar fabric that suggest that they were built at similar times such as the extensions to the Waterval 2 house, and the material used to build the Sit-Maar-So house and the oldest part of the Sit-Maar-So garage. In both cases the clay wall structure, built on top of a packed rock foundation has a very similar appearance and texture.

There are several building forms visible on the Wagenpad farm. These forms include the earliest opgekleide buildings reminiscent of the Verlorenvlei forms (WP01, WP02 and WP03), the late nineteenth century Victorian buildings (WP09), early twentieth century such as the school on the central werf (WP08) or the Morewag House (WP14). Lastly the newer buildings, such as the farm workers cottages (WP17 or WP13), represent a mid- to late 20th century development.

Some buildings on the farm display stylistic attributes of more than one form such as the Waterval 1 house that displays a core structure made from stone with thick walls, while the outward appearance of the house looks like a mid twentieth century building with preformed fabric and other modern materials. This building is a sequence of reuse. It also shows that without a detailed fabric analysis this building would appear to be of mid twentieth century origin, however, with the internal core of the building being shown to have an older component, the building was clearly reused, added to and altered in order to achieve its immediate function.

Wagenpad was locked in the late 1950s, (the central werf was likely locked somewhat earlier, as stated above, but development continued on the outer lying werfs.) Discussions with a farm manager have shown that the farm was poorly managed for many years with an absentee owner (P. Carter pers Comm.) but that the development of infrastructure on the farm indicates however that
there was still a need for farm worker houses and newer storage facilities. The ownership records show that portions of the farm were sold to realtors from 1968 onwards.

The farm Voetpad has a slightly different profile to that of Wagenpad. Voetpad has several buildings that have survived from the 19th century but the earliest buildings on the werf have been demolished. The werf is still the same central werf from the grant, but the land that the werf administers is smaller. The secondary werf of Bovlei consists of modern buildings but the built fabric of this werf has not been preserved.

The Zwartrug werf consists of two large buildings of which one is recorded in this study. Both buildings are likely to be from a single context with small revisions and renovations. The Zwartrug buildings have a similar form to the Verlorenvlei langhuis typology, but are also different in some ways as well. The building is a T-shaped structure but appears to have been built in one sequence, rather than being an I-shaped building with a T-shaped addition. The fabric of the building is very similar to the second building on the werf.

The earliest building on the Voetpad central werf is the building that is now the kitchen of the 1899 house. This building used to be a separate structure, and was eventually amalgamated with the later 1899 house. This building is partially demolished but the pantry, now attached to the kitchen, as well as the room, that is now used as an outside braai area both survive.

The Voetpad farm sequence is likely as follows:

Early 19th century, even 18th C. Old opgekleide house, now demolished incorporated into Van Zyl House

Langhuis

Ezelshoek ruins- early 19th century.

Bywooners houses
Van Zyl House 1899

Victorian Farm House

Wagon house

Modern buildings

Voetpad was locked in mid 1950s. The farm werf has been maintained as a weekend getaway. The land is not farmed by the owners, but is rather leased to other farmers. The outer portions of the farm have been leased to other active farmers for a long time with the earliest example being of the relationship between the Banghoek farm and the Matjiesfontein portion. The buildings on the werf are in far better condition than those on other werfs. This is partly due to the fact that the farm is used as a weekend retreat. The identity of the owners is caught up in the maintenance of this werf. The driving force behind infrastructure maintenance is not agricultural, nor purely functional, but is romantic and symbolic.

Houses have been modified to include modern services. This is in part driven by the normal comforts of city living being brought to the country, but are also driven by practical concerns, such as access to a clean and functioning bathroom.

The attitude of the owner of the farm to the land is interesting. The owner Mr Van Zyl supplied me with an annotated aerial photograph showing the names of various features on the landscape, such as rock outcrops, springs, the fields and large trees, interestingly he only supplied this for the portion of the farm that he directly owns, whereas the van Zyl family has owned the farm for over 200 years, however this is not in living memory. It is clear that the inhabitants of this farm have a deep historical attachment to their farm.

This attachment is similarly expressed on the farm Groenfontein. Up until the mid 1970s, the Groenfontein werf had a large contingent of authentic old buildings in the shared central werf. The
buildings were in fairly good condition, and took the form for the most part of thatched long houses.

In examining the change in the werf over time, a process of geo-referencing of historical aerial photography was undertaken. This process involves the identification of points of reference that are the same in each image. I was struck by the major differences between the image of the werf in 1938 and that of the present. Almost all of the buildings indicated on the central werf in 1938 had been demolished, and only a handful of buildings can be correlated in both images. The chain of title does not suggest that a single owner bought out the central werf, but there have consistently been several owners sharing the central werf.

The central werf of Groenfontein has not been locked. The farm is still active, however much of the farming takes place on the extended areas of the farm, away from the central werf. The buildings on the central werf were likely destroyed in the mid 1970s (Mr Lambrechts pers comm). Many of the newer buildings clustered around the central werf are located on the sites of the old kraals indicated on the 1938 photograph. These buildings are likely positioned to take advantage of the central water source, but are also located on their own land allotments that are not shared and have discreet owners. While the sense of invested history that is shown on Voetpad is also found on Groenfontein, many of the younger generation have left the farm and urbanised.

In returning to the theme of Sandveld vernacular, the elements of the vernacular architecture identified at the Verlorenvlei are evident in some places on the three farms in question. The vernacular of the Verlorenvlei, typified by long, rectangular buildings with small additions, *buie-kamers* hipped thatched roofs, the absence of gables, and solid opgekleide walls with lime plaster, can be seen in the earliest infrastructure development on the farms of Wagenpad, Voetpad and Groenfontein, however the farms in question also have a rich sequence of building styles that incorporate the use of stone and tin in their construction, as well as modern materials such as preformed concrete pillars and modern bricks and mortar. The term *building styles* should be understood to include all aspects of the building but should be taken at face value. By this I mean
that two buildings that look the same on the outside but have different materials and different fabric, should still be considered the same style. They have just been realised differently.

With this in mind it is evident that some of the oldest buildings on Wagenpad, the T shaped central werf building, and the long house barns are of a similar typology to the Verlorenvlei longhouses. However there are several building forms found on the farms in question that are less similar to the Verlorenvlei forms. These include square forms with Victorianised facades. Some of these square forms also have facades with more modern forms, such as the Waterval, or Morewag houses. Wagenpad has the added component of the late 20th century forms built from fully modern material, for example the farm workers cottages on the Keurbos werf, and the modern barn on the central werf.

There are clearly different types of vernacular architecture present on the landscape that are more varied and complex that just those that can be accounted for by the Verlorenvlei studies. These different types of building are found in different time periods, and in fact have been shown to straddle different time periods through the process of reuse in response to new needs.

In the final and concluding chapter I provide some comments on the outcomes of the study, as well as a discussion of some approaches to future research.
**Conclusion**

The previous chapters have dealt with the previous work undertaken in the region regarding vernacular architecture, the contextual history, the documentary sources and ownership histories of each farm, and the detailed description of the buildings on two of the farms.

The previous work done in the Sandveld provided an avenue of research to interrogate the integrity and regional expression of a particular type of Sandveld vernacular architecture. The degree to which the architecture seen at the Verlorenvlei is consistent across the landscape was a key issue to be addressed. The question of scale in understanding the built environment was also extremely important.

The historical context presented the broad constraints of the development of the built environment across the landscape. This initial slowness of the development in the area, followed by the rapid advancement of the frontier meant that wide scale development in the mid 19th century only began to pick up in the second half of the century. This places the majority of development on the farms in the late 19th century.

The sequence of each farm’s development, as described by the documentary resources, show that various factors have contributed in different ways. Each farm has enjoyed different advantages and disadvantages. Understanding the development of the farms at this level explains much of the potential behind each farm’s built environment, and shows that it is a factor of each farms context. Going further, this level of interpretation can explain the amount of development on each farm, but not the individual design choices or material of each house. The mid range of interpretation also suggests that some of the farms have a clear preservation bias, and that this may be due to several factors including the strong investment of each family in the history of their farms.

The individual material characteristics of each house, shown in chapter 5, indicate that there is a large degree of variability in the built environment of each farm. Different buildings from different
periods in history all occupy the same werf, with some buildings including multiple stages in their sequence. It is clear, following the recording of every building on a farm, that there are different repeated designs that are tied to different time periods. This means there are likely different vernaculars that correspond to different time periods. The regional expression of different building types can be clearly seen on the landscape, but is diverse.

Vernacular architecture on the farms can be understood as a layer in the cultural landscape of the Sandveld. The buildings show a variability that is difficult to account for without attributing the various forms to the individual locations, context of the builders and proposed functions of each building. The level at which the analysis really works is at the mid scale described above, with the broad macro scale of interpretation providing a broad set of constraints for development on the landscape.

Several opportunities and gaps in knowledge have been identified as a result of this study. These include accurate dating, an examination of post 1830 probate inventories, accurate historical context of the late 19th and early 20th century in the Sandveld area.

One of the major constraints identified in the present study is accurately dating the ages of the various buildings included in the study. Hardly any of these buildings have accurate plans, and hardly any of the buildings would have had plans originally. As is described in chapter 4, the degree to which a researcher can gain a look into the past in the 19th century is constrained by the documentary records, as well as the degree of accuracy of these records.

A set of clear dates on strategically chosen material from a building would go a long way to increasing the confidence of the ages attributed to these buildings.

In addition to more accurate dates, the examination of the post 1830 probate inventories would present an additional strand of evidence for describing the links between the architecture on the landscape and the people who lived in the buildings. While these inventories exist, they are not in an
easily accessible format, and would need to be sourced individually in the archives. These inventories would in some cases allow for an evaluation of the estate of each individual at their death, and would perhaps include additional information that could be extrapolated into house sequence data. This would allow for a richer history of each house.

In returning to the ever present issue of context and its importance for understanding the vernacular architecture on the landscape, a clear need is presented for historical accounts from the late 19th century and early 20th century in this area. It appears that historical interest in the Sandveld region has waned following the shifting of the frontier, and that the area is often overlooked. A good historical text, dealing with the economics and social development of the area would help to situate the vernacular architecture in the late 19th and 20th century, and perhaps lead to explanatory correlations between building development and historical events.

In returning to Johnson’s new agenda and the questions asked at the beginning of this project, some answers have presented themselves and some have not. At the beginning of this project, some themes were presented including the relationship between impermanent and permanent housing, the exploration of technical systems, of gendered relationships between spaces and built forms, the progressions of vernacular to polite architecture, the exploration of the vernacular threshold, the integrity and authenticity of the forms visible on the landscape, the popular representation of vernacular architecture and the context against which the built forms are understood. These themes have been examined, and the present study has provided some discussion on these issues.

An examination of the relationship between permanent and impermanent housing has been attempted. While there is some evidence to suggest that some of the earliest houses were present on the landscape in the late 1700s, the conversion to completely permanent housing likely predated the closing of the frontier by a few decades. Certainly there were permanent houses on the landscape by the beginning of the use of the quitrent system in the early 1830s.
Technical systems used in the construction of buildings on the landscape have been explored in chapter 5 with the thick description of each building. Technical systems provide some of the links between the oldest expression of the vernacular architecture in the Sandveld and the Verlorenvlei forms. These systems seem to be fairly ubiquitous across the landscape, but are linked to time periods.

The progression of vernacular to polite architecture and the exploration of the vernacular threshold are again hampered by the issue of accurate dates on building, however, it is clear that at around the turn of the century, regional expressions of more far reaching architectural styles were cropping up on the landscape, as well as the importation of premade architectural forms into the landscape were resulting in a move away from traditional material, however it is my opinion that these new found forms were being used in such a way that was not entirely in a so called “polite” context, as the premade forms, found on buildings from the mid 20th century, were also fairly ubiquitous across the landscape. It can be argued that these forms are another expression of vernacular architecture in the Sandveld.

On the theme of premade architectural forms, it was shown in chapter 5 that while a building may present itself as a 1950s farm building, there is often a far older core to the building. Similarly a building that appears old may in fact be referencing a previous architectural style, which may be misleading, such as the Zwartrug house. In interrogating the authenticity of these buildings through a thick description, measured drawings of the building and graphic records such as old photographs, these buildings can be accurately described, and the study at hand demonstrates this.

The exploration of gendered space in the buildings described in this project is problematic and virtually outside of the scope of this project. A closer look at the post 1830s probate inventories would be helpful in addressing this, but unfortunately could not be adequately addressed in this project.
The popular representation of the vernacular architecture on the west coast of South Africa has many problematic themes in the modern day. There is an implicit assumption that the white walled/thatched roof style of the Verlorenvlei and other fishing towns along this coast represent the vernacular. In providing the thick description above, I hope that I have provided several alternatives to this assumption. Additionally, in understanding the way in which the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld is positioned in the landscape, both from a planning point of view, as well as from the point of view of its cultural meaning, it is argued that it is not just the form of the buildings that is important in defining this architecture, but the buildings position and sense of place in the landscape that has an equal role to play.

Lastly, the issue of context is ever important. While the context of the 19th century has been dealt with, there is a clear need, as identified above for historical research of the Sandveld in the late 19th and 20th century. While this is not the only strand of evidence in constructing the context of Sandveld landscape, it would go a long way to providing the back drop on to which the more accurately dated buildings could be understood.

In attempting this project I have drawn on multiple strands of evidence including historical records, surveyor diagrams, records of buildings and my own experiences on the farms. Using the new agenda for vernacular architecture studies, I have been able to show that the vernacular architecture of the Sandveld is far more varied in both time and in built form, than is accounted for by the Verlorenvlei settlement. The buildings on the landscape are one of many layers in a complex cultural landscape in the region that has shaped and has been shaped by the people of the Sandveld and Piketberg.
Glossary

Afdak: Roof structure built abutting a standing wall.

Bakoond: An oven. An architectural feature usually built on to a chimney hearth.

Bo-En-Onder Deur: A stable door, with separate hinges for the top and bottom of the door.

Brandsolder: A ceiling constructed to protect the contents of a house in the case of the thatch roof catching fire. Usually consists of a ceiling of reeds or boards, with a layer of clay on top.

Buttress: A built feature providing support at the ends of a wall.

Bywooner: A tenant, usually unrelated to the family living on a farm werf.

Casement Window: A window with hinges on the side, opening horizontally.

Dormer: A vertical window inserted into a slanted roof, sometimes coincidental with a gable positioned above the window, hence a dormer gable.

Heweltjies: Fossilised ant hills found in the sands of the Sandveld. These ant hills manifest as little hills across the landscape.

Hipped Or Half-Hipped: A type of end gable where the apex of the pitch of the roof slants to the eaves of the building, or at least part of the way to the eaves of the building. (image)

Kamer: Generic term for a room.

Kraal: An animal enclosure, sometimes built of rocks or piled brush

Landrost: A magistrate with a jurisdictional area (drostdy). Senior government official in an area.

Muurkas: A wall cupboard, usually recessed into a wall.

Opgekleide: Literally a clayed-up wall. A process of construction using solid clay walls built on packed stone foundation. (Image)
Quoining: An architectural feature of interleading stretcher and spacer brick forms, usually found on the corner of a building, or around a door or window. (image)

Rietdak: A ceiling made from hard reeds. Often built with a clay layer to form a brandsolder

Sitkamer: A sitting room or lounge

Smousen: Travelling pedlars who moved from farm to farm. Often providing the majority of outside traded items in an area. Often associated with Jewish traders.

Somquaas or Sonquaas. One of the groups of indigenous hunter-gatherer/herder groups present in the cape in the early years of the Cape Colony.

Stoep: A veranda or raised platform on the edge of a building.

Tap Huis: A tavern or brewery that serves alcohol

Threshing Floor: Circular structure used for separating wheat from chaff. Wheat is lain on the ground, and oxen are used to trample the wheat out of the waste chaff. Often ringed by stone enclosure.

Vark-Hokke: A pig sty.

Veld Kornet: A Sherriff, but also with additional official responsibilities. Usually a civilian attached to the office of a Landrost.

Voorhuis, Voorkamer: The front room of the house. Usually the front door opens into this room.

Werf: A farm homestead or farmyard, refers to the structural layout of a homestead.

Woonhuis: A residential building.
Reference List:


doi:10.1179/174962906X158228


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Cape Archives Receiver of Land Revenue Record: KAB RLR 12/2 P.321

Cape Archives Receiver of Land Revenue Record: KAB RLR 14/2 P.435 Vol Folio 203

Deeds Office Records:
Quitrent Summary Book, Piquetberg, Wagenpad 50

Quitrent Summary Book, Piquetberg, t'Voetpad 82

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Sources Included in Appendices:

Appendix 1:
All Figures: Aerial imagery Sourced from Google Earth June 2015.

Appendix 2:
Wagenpad:

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Figure 2: Cape Imperial Map 1900-1919, Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray

Figure 3: SG Survey Diagram: 7271/1939, Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 3.1: SG Survey Diagram: 7280/1939, Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 3.2: SG Survey Diagram: 7272/1939, Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 3.3: SG Survey Diagram: 7275/1939, Cape Town Deeds Office
Figure 4: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Figure 5: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Figure 6: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Figure 7: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Figure 8: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Voetpad

Figure 1: SG Survey Diagram: 6257/1959 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 2: Poortermans, J.C 1849 "Ezelshoek corn estate of Mr P van Zyl Piquet mountains pass to Banghoek leading by a long valley to Cape Town" Museum Africa.

Figure 3: SG Survey Diagram: A2224/1925 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 4: SG Survey Diagram: A2226/1925 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 5: SG Survey Diagram: A2225/1925 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 6: Aerial Photograph: Job 168, Flight Path 11, Photograph 37988: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.

Figure 7: Aerial Photograph: Job 304, Flight Path 1, Photograph 57343: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.
Groenfontein

Figure 1: SG Survey Diagram: 231/1819 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 2: Poortermans, J.C 1849 "The Estate Groenfontein property of D Lambrechts Piquet Mountains, Cape of Good Hope, 6 March 1849" Museum Africa.

Figure 3: SG Survey Diagram: 1332/1962 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 4: SG Survey Diagram: 1331/1962 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 5: SG Survey Diagram: 1334/1962 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 6: SG Survey Diagram: 1333/1962 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 7: SG Survey Diagram: 4425/1935 Cape Town Deeds Office

Figure 8: Aerial Photograph: Job 126, Flight Path 8, Photograph 10235: Survey and Mapping Office, Mowbray.
Appendix 1
WAGENPAD
VOETPAD
Appendix 2
Figure 1: 1839 Survey Diagram, Wagenpad
Figure 3.1: 1939 Survey Diagram Portion 9, Wagenpad
Figure 3.2: 1939 Survey Diagram Portion 1, Wagenpad

Baken bestekwng.

ABC...KLX ab is ydeppe onder klipstapel J 1 1
F.G.HJNOPQT is ysterstandards wat 18° uitstrekt.
R is h klipstapel 4' deursnede x 3' hoog.
S is h yster hoekpaa in konkrete.
UV is opgemesselle klipstapel J' deursnede x 3' hoog.
Z is h yster hoekpaa, met oomadigamerie is!
W. Geen baken.

Die oorr..pronklik--.,-=,=t

(5-gedeelte van Gedeelte,----) van die plaas

Wagenpad,---- Nr. 50.

PKETBERG

Die figuur ABCDEF/HJKL,MONQRSTUWXYZ seinteboeklroot YZ
stel voor 110:39:58 Morge grond, synde

GEDEELTE 1 van die plaas WAGENPAD

gelie in die AFDELING Piquetberg PROVINSIE KAAP die GOEIE HOOP

Opgemeet in September 1939 deur my

c. c. Moodie, Landmeter.

Hierdie kaart is gelaan op

kaart, alleg M. No. 5549

gedate 30 1 1930 geneal

geanwa van B.R.

Registrator van Akte.
Figure 3.3: 1939 Survey Diagram Portion 4, Wagenpad

Die figuur ABCDEFGHJKLM stel voor 39/8789 Menge grond, synde

GEDEELTE 4 van die plas ' WAGENPAD

geleë in die AFDELING PIQUETBERG PROVINSIE KAAP die GOEIE HOOP

Opgemeet in September 1939 deur my

c.c. Hoodie Landmeter.

Hierdie kaart is geskryf aan Transfo, Coll No 9853
gedateer 30/8/1940 en
gemate van B.J. van de Wallewyn.

Registratur van Actes.

Die oorspronklike kaart is L.G. No 7275/1939
M.S. No E.1956/1939

Goedgekeur.

Landmeter-generaal.
Figure 6: Aerial Photograph Keurbos 1942 (Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919)
Figure 7: Aerial Photograph Sit-Maar-So 1942 (Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919)
Figure 8: Aerial Photograph Waterval 1942 (Job 168, Flight Path 9, Photograph 37919)
VOETPAD
The above diagram represents the Loanplace 't Voetpad, situated in the Cape District behind the Piquetbergen, occupied by Johannes Erasmus van Zyl, together with the adjoining Government Ground, in extent 3195 Morgen and 242 Square Roods.

Extending W. to the Place Kleigat.
N. to Witterwater.
N.E. to the Wilgenhout drift.
E. to the Place Namakasfontein.
S. to the Mountains and Quitrent Land of J.W. Smit.

Surveyed by Order of the Civil Commissioner, 1834,
by me,
(Sgd.) J. Knobel.
Sworn Surveyor.
Figure 2: Painting of Ezelshoek by J Poortermans 1849
Figure 3: Portion 1 of Voetpad Bovlei - 1925

The above Figure, lettered a, b, c, d, mid, old course, m, d, mid, represents 655 Morgen. Square Roods, Square feet of Ground, situated Piquelberg Division, being Bovlei portion of the farm Voetpad granted to J. S. Zyl 26/6/1819.

Bounded as indicated above (a portion of Portion 1) of the farm Voetpad

PIKETBERG

Surveyed and beaconed by me according to regulations.

Government Surveyor.
August 1924

[Name]
Chie, Clerk.

T. HABBOY WALTERS
Stationer, CAPETOWN.
Figure 4: Portion 2 of Voetpad Matjiesfontein - 1925

The above figure represents 367 Morgen, Square Roods, Square Feet of land, situated in the Piekberg Division, being Matjiesfontein a portion of 't Voetpad granted to J E van Zyl on 28 Feb 1839.

Bounded as indicated above

Surveyed and beaconed by me according to regulations

May 1925.

Government Land Surveyor.

Registrar of Deeds.
Figure 5: Portion 3 of Voetpad Zwartrug - 1925

The above Figure, lettered a, b, c, d, e, f represents 4.31 Morgen, Square Roods, Square feet of Ground, situated at Pickelberg Division, being Portion of the farm 'Voetpad' granted to J.E. Van Zyl on 28 Feb, 1819.

Bounded as indicated above.
Figure 8: Remainder of Voetpad - 1953
Figure 9: 1960 Aerial Photograph (Job 437, Flight Path 16, Photograph 5135)
GROENFONTEIN
Figure 2: Painting of Groenfontein by J Poortemans - 1849
Figure 3: Groenfontein Central Werf - 1916

1916-148-9647

Portion (Werf)

Portion of the farm

Groenfontein No. 140

PIKELBERG

Scale: 100. Cape Roods = 1 Inch.
The numerical data of this diagram are

The above diagram represents 905 morgen square

roads square feet of land situate in the Field Cornetcy of

Division of Picketberg being the farm "WELTEVREDEN" portion of the farm Groene Fonkien, granted to Hugo Lombrecchts 21st Nov. 1831.

Bounded N. by Werf and Remainder
" NE " Riet Kloof
" W. " Wolf Kloof and Remainder
" SW " Zand Drift.

Surveyed and beaconed by me according to Regulations

Govt. Land Surveyor
July 1916
Figure 5: Portion 3 of Groenfontein Houmoed - 1916

Examiner.

The numerical data of this diagram are

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<td>g</td>
<td>+ 2939.92</td>
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<td>h</td>
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Area: 792 Morgen 559 Squads

The above diagram a b c d e f g h represents 792.45 Morgen 138 square roods square feet of land situate in the Field Cornetey of Division of Piquetberg, being the farm "HOUMOED" portion of the farm Groene Fontein, granted to Hugo Lambrecht, 21 Nov. 1831.


Surveyed and beacons by me according to Regulations.
Figure 6: Portion 4 of Groenfontein Kaffirs Kloof - 1916

Substitute Log
Vide Dgn
20/7/1971

Stink Fontein
Laure Fontein
Houmoed
Werf
Wolf Kloof

Co-Ordinates

y.
a + 3016.95
b + 2564.72
c + 2294.64
d + 1951.37
e + 2086.09
f + 2669.10
g + 2909.92

Area = 792 Morgen
Figure 7: Portion 5 of Groenfontein Trutershalt - 1935

The above diagram lettered a,b,c,d represents 200 acres of
100 Sq. Roads of land called Trutershalt, a portion of the
farm de Groenfontein, Division of Piquelberg, granted
to Hugo Lambrecht on 21st. 1835 - Case No 5/70.

Bounded as indicated above.

Surveyed and beacons by me according to Regulations.
July 1936

This diagram belongs to the Deed of
Transfer made the 29th day of Oct. 1935
in favour of D.J. Drink and another.

Chief Clerk
Figure 8: 1938 Aerial Photograph (Job 126, Flight path 8, Photo 10235)
Appendix 3
Wagenpad Loan Place and Quitrent Ownership Before Subdivision

The Widow Gideon Koegelenberg

Pieter Fredrich Theron
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<td>1B</td>
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<td>Jan Gabriel Du Plessis</td>
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<td>9B</td>
<td>Johannes Gideon Koegelenberg</td>
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<td>9C</td>
<td>Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer</td>
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<td>10B</td>
<td>Hermanus Engelbracht Rossouw</td>
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<td>10C</td>
<td>Susanna Elizabeth Rossouw (Widow of HE Rossouw)</td>
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<td>10D</td>
<td>Johanna Helena Van Zyl Smit</td>
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<td>Johanna Wilhelmina Josina Rossouw</td>
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<td>Jan Hendrik Martinus Smit</td>
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<td>Jacoba Christina Smit</td>
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<td>Albertha Johanna Helena Carstens</td>
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12E  Alwyn Bernhardus Smit
     Coenrad Hendrik Smit
12F  Vrede Lust Salon
13A  Hendrik Cornelius De Beer
13B  Johannes Stephanus Pretorius De Beer
Deze pagina bevat een tekening van een gebied met verschillende delen aangeduid met de namen Ged 1 tot Ged 12. Het gebied is verdeeld met lijnen en er zijn verschillende notities en afbeeldingen. De tekening is mogelijk een plattegrond van een natuurgebied of bosgebied.
VOETPAD
The above diagram represents the farm 't Voetpad, situate in the Cape District behind the Piquetbergen, occupied by Johannes Erasmus van Zyl, together with the adjoining Government Ground, in extent 3195 Morgen and 242 Square Roods.

Extending W. to the Place Kleigat.
N. to Wittenwater.
N.E. to the Wilgenhout drift.
E. to the Place NamaquaFontein,
S. to the Mountains and Smit'streat Land of J.N. Smit.

Surveyed by Order of the Civil Commissioner, 1834,
by me,
(Sgd.) J. Knobel.
Sworn Surveyor.
The above diagram represents the Loanplace 't Vootpad, situated in the Cape District behind the Piquetberg, occupied by Johannes Erasmus van Zyl, together with the adjoining Government Ground, in extent 3195 Morgen and 242 Square Roods.

Extending W. to the Place Kleigat.
N. to Wittewater.
N.E. to the Wilgenhout drift.
S. to the Place Namquasfontein.
S. to the Mountains and Quitrent Land of J.N. Smit.

Surveyed by Order of the Civil Commissioner, 1834, by me,
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Surveyed by Order of the Civil Commissioner, 1834,
by me,
(Sgd.) J. Knobel.
Sworn Surveyor.

B.B./C.A.
GROENFONTEIN
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>1900</td>
<td>17.7.1</td>
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<td>Hugo Amos Lambrechts</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>17.3.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts</td>
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<td>17.7.2</td>
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<td>Jacobus Louw</td>
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<td>Godoel Stuhhert</td>
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<td>Gerrit Van Schalkwyk</td>
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<td>Dirk Coetzee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugh Lambrechts</td>
<td>1910</td>
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**Central Werf**

<table>
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<th>Central Werf</th>
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<td>Daniel Andries Petrus Lambrechts</td>
<td>1906</td>
<td>17.7.2</td>
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South

WP02

Wagenpad

North
WP04
Central Werf
Wagenpad
WP05
Central Werf
Wagenpad
WP05
Central Werf
Wagenpad
WP06
Mrs Barnards House
Wagenpad
Central Werf
Wagenpad

WP07

North
South
East
West
WP08
Central Werf
Wagenpad
Sit Maar So
Wagenpad
Sit Maar So
Wagenpad
WP12
Sitmaarso
Wagenpad

East

West

North

South
WP12: March 2013
WP13
Sitmaarso
Wagenpad
WP15
Keurbos
Wagenpad

West

East
WP16
Keurbos
Wagenpad
WP13
Sitmaarso
Wagenpad
Waterval 1
Wagenpad
Waterval 1: March 2013
NORTH

WENental 2

Wagenpad

EAST

SOUTH

WEST
Waterval 2: March 2013
Waterval 2: March 2013
Waterval 2: March 2013
VOETPAD
Zwartrug
Voetpad
Zwartrug
Voetpad
Van Zyl Ruins 1
Voetpad
Van Zyl Ruins 1: May 2013
Van Zyl Ruins
Voetpad
Victorian Farm House
Voetpad
Victorian Farm House
Voetpad
Victorian Farm House: November 2013
Bywooner 1
Voetpad
Bywooner 1: Pretorius 1993
Bywooner 2
t’Voetpad
Bywooner 2
Voetpad
Bywooner 2: 1965 in (Walton 1982)

Fig 14: Eselshoek. A dwelling with gable entrance and a kitchen entrance at the opposite end. Built after Poortermans made his painting but typical of many Piquetberg houses which he illustrated.

James Walton 1965
Van Zyl Long House
Voetpad
Van Zyl Long House
Voetpad
Van Zyl Wagon House
Voetpad
Wagon House: June 2013
Wagon House: June 2013
1899 Van Zyl House
Voetpad
Van Zyl House: September 2012