Heritage Western Cape

FARM OUDE POST No 577/8 & CONSOLIDATION OF NEW PTN WITH FARM OUDE POST NO 577/11 DARLING

NID

Notification of Intent to Develop in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act 25:1999

Submitted by ARCON Architects & Heritage Consultants (Graham Jacobs)



IMAGE 1: View of a large portion of the property looking north-east from the Malmesbury/Atlantis approach road to Darling. The trees in the distance (left side) form part of the Darling Club Golf Course which falls outside the property.

Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act requires that any person who intends to undertake certain categories of development in the Western Cape (see Part 1) must notify Heritage Western Cape at the very earliest stage of initiating such a development and must furnish details of the location, nature and extent of the proposed development.

This form is designed to assist the developer to provide the necessary information to enable Heritage Western Cape to decide whether a Heritage Impact Assessment will be required.

Note: This form is to be completed when the proposed development <u>does not</u> fulfil the criteria for EIA as set out in the EIA regulations. It <u>may</u> be completed as part of the EIA

process to assist in establishing the requirements of Heritage Western Cape with respect to the EIA.

- 1. It is recommended that the form be completed by a professional familiar with heritage conservation issues.
- 2. The completion of Section 7 by heritage specialists is not mandatory, but is recommended in order to expedite decision-making at notification stage.
- 3. Section 7.1 must be completed by a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist.
- 4. Section 7.2 must be completed by a professional heritage practitioner with skills and experience appropriate to the nature of the property and the development proposals.
- 5. Should Section 7 be completed, each page of the form must be signed by the archaeologist/palaeontologist and heritage practitioner
- 6. Additional information may be provided on separate sheets.
- 7. This form is available in electronic format so that it can be completed on computer.

FOR OFFICIAL USE	



DIAGRAM 1: Aerial view showing the site in relation to Darling and the surrounding rural areas

PART 1: BASE INFORMATION

1.1 PROPERTY	
Name of property	Oude Post Farm no 577/8 and Farm no 577/11
Street address or location (e.g. off R44)	On the eastern edge of Darling alongside the approach road from Malmesbury/Atlantis (north side).
Erf or farm number/s	Farm no 577/8 & Farm no 577/11
Town or District	Malmesbury District (Town of Darling)
Responsible Local Authority	Swartland Municipality
Magisterial District	Malmesbury
Current use	Agricultural (grazing land)
Current zoning	Agricultural Zone 1
Predominant land use of surrounding properties	North: Agricultural East: Agricultural South: Agricultural West: Single Residential development and Darling Club golf course.
Extent of the property	1 032,85 Ha

1.2	CATEGORY OF DEVELOPMENT (S. 38 (1))	Х	Brief description of the nature and extent of the proposed development or activity (See also Part 3.1)
1.	Construction of a road, wall, powerline, pipeline, canal or other similar form of linear development or barrier over 300m in length	X	Probably exceeding 300m with regard to service trenches and possible securing of the perimeter.
2.	Construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50 m in length		
3.	Any development or activity that will change the character of a site		
	a) exceeding 5 000 m ² in extent	X	Site is 1 032,85 Ha in extent
	 involving three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof 		
	 involving three or more erven or divisions thereof which have been consolidated within the past five years 		
4.	Rezoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m ²	Х	Rezoning to subdivisional area for residential
5.	Other (state):		purposes, and a golf course with club house

1.3 INITIATION STAGE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT		
Exploratory (e.g. viability study)		Notes:
Conceptual		The proposale are still at a very proliminary
Outline proposals	Х	The proposals are still at a very preliminary stage
Draft / Sketch plans		
Other (state)		

PART 2: HERITAGE ISSUES

2.1	CONTEXT	
Х	(check box of all relevant categories)	Brief description/explanation
	Urban environmental context	The development is earmarked for rural land occupying
X	Rural environmental context	a strategic position at the gateway to Darling and adjacent to the present Darling Club and golf course.
	Natural environmental context	
For	mal protection (NHRA)	
	Is the property part of a protected area (S. 28)?	NO
	Is the property part of a heritage area (S. 31)?	NO
Oth		
	Is the property near to or visible from any protected heritage sites?	NO
	Is the property part of a conservation area or special area in terms of the Zoning Scheme?	NO
	Does the site form part of a historical settlement or townscape?	NO
X	Does the site form part of a rural cultural landscape?	YES If forms part of a rural scenic open space system on the outskirts of Darling.
X	Does the site form part of a natural landscape of cultural significance?	YES The portion in the vicinity of the wetland has high botanical significance
	Is the site within or adjacent to a scenic route?	NO In the sense that there is no formally proclaimed scenic route.
	Is the property within or adjacent to any other area which has special environmental or heritage protection?	Not to the author's knowledge
	Does the general context or any adjoining properties have cultural significance ¹ ?	NO In the sense that there are no culturally significant properties within the immediate vicinity that would be negatively impacted upon by the proposals.

2.2	2 PROPERTY FEATURES AND CHARACTERISTICS		
Х	(check box if YES)	Brief description	
	Has the site been previously cultivated or developed?	NO	
x	Are there any significant landscape features on the property?	YES A wetland area exists within the northern half of the property. Apart from that, the site is devoid of distinctive features. The only other features of any prominence are some trees forming a line on part of the southeast boundary of the site.	
	Are there any sites or features of geological significance on the property?	NOT readily apparent and unlikely.	

	Does the property have any rocky outcrops on it?	NO
x	Does the property have any fresh water sources (springs, streams, rivers) on or alongside it?	YES A wetland area
	Does the property have any sea frontage?	NO
	Does the property form part of a coastal dune system?	NO
	Are there any marine shell heaps or scatters on the property?	NO
	Is the property or part thereof on land reclaimed from the sea?	NO

2.3	HERITAGE RESOURCES ² ON THE	PROPERTY
Х	(check box if present on the property)	Name / List / Brief description
For	mal protections (NHRA)	
	National heritage site (S. 27)	NO
	Provincial heritage site (S. 27)	NO
	Provisional protection (s.29)	NO
	Place listed in heritage register (S. 30)	NO
Gen	neral protections (NHRA)	
	structures older than 60 years (S. 34)	NO
Х	archaeological ³ site or material (S. 35)	POSSIBLY To be confirmed by a separate archaeological specialist report
	palaeontological ⁴ site or material (S. 35)	UNIKELY Given that the landscape has been disturbed by human activity, possibly over a period of up to 150 years
	graves or burial grounds (S. 36)	NO
	public monuments or memorials ⁵ (S. 37)	NO
Other		
	Any heritage resource identified in a heritage survey (state author and date of survey and survey grading/s)	NO
	Any other heritage resources (describe)	NO

2.4	2.4 PROPERTY HISTORY AND ASSOCIATIONS	
Х	(check box if YES)	Brief description/explanation
	Provide a brief history of the property (e.g. when granted, previous owners and uses).	The most recent title deed of the properties concerned are: Farm 577/8: T22676/1990 Farm 577/11: T19885/2007
		A record of earlier deeds is not known at this stage. The Groene Kloof valley, in which the site is situated, was, however, already being farmed in the 17 th century.

	The immediately adjacent farms of Waylands (formerly Karnmelksfontein) and The Towers (formerly Driepapenfontein) both have homesteads constructed in the 1800's. This is evidence of the valley's long settled history. Oude Post Farm has a more recent homestead (c1860) suggesting that it could have been a later subdivision off one of these two flanking farms. The site has never been built on, according to local knowledge, and therefore is very unlikely to contain even hidden evidence of past buildings.
Is the property associated with any important persons or groups?	NO
Is the property associated with any important events, activities or public memory?	NO
Does the property have any direct association with the history of slavery?	NO
Is the property associated with or used for living heritage ⁶ ?	NO
Are there any oral traditions attached to the property?	NO

2.6	SUMMARY OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICAN OF THE PROPERTY) (S. 3(3))	CE OF THE PROPERTY (OR ANY PART
Χ	(check box of all relevant categories)	Brief description/explanation
	Important in the community or pattern of South Africa's (or Western Cape's) history.	NO
	Associated with the life or work of a person,	NO
	group or organisation of importance in history.	As far as currently established.
	Associated with the history of slavery .	NO
	Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons	NO
X	Exhibits particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group	YES The property is located at the gateway to Darling alongside a rural approach forming part of a scenic agricultural open space system
	Demonstrates a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period	NO
X	Has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of natural or cultural heritage	YES With regard to botanical species in the vicinity of the wetland on the property.
X	Typical: Demonstrates the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places	POSSIBLY With regard to certain botanical species in the vicinity of the wetland on the property
X	Rare: Possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage	YES With regard to botanical species in the vicinity of the wetland on the property.

Please provide a brief statement of significance

The property, as a whole has contextual aesthetic significance. More specifically, it constitutes a landscape of local contextual importance contributing to a broader scenic setting within the Groene Kloof Valley, and is strategically situated alongside the main approach to Darling. It is characterised by an open, undeveloped topography generally sloping away from the entrance to the town and, therefore, visible from parts of the Malmesbury Road as well as the Darling approach road.

Parts of the property have scientific significance, containing relatively rare botanical species in the vicinity of the wetland.

The property contains no structures and, therefore, has no architectural significance. It has no known social, technological or spiritual significance.

PART 3: POTENTIAL IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT

3.1 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT		
Brief description of proposed development.	The proposal is for residential development with a golf course and club house constituting: • +/- 171 single residential erven of 400-500sq m each on 7,69Ha; • +/- 250 single residential erven of 250-300 sq m each on 6,3 Ha; • +/- 368 residential Zone 3 townhouses/retirement village on 7,68 Ha; • A golf club house on 0,4 Ha; • Open space constituting 1,02 Ha; and • Roads constituting 6,21 Ha. Gross density: 26 units/Ha Total development area: 29 Ha.	
Monetary value.	Approximately R350 million	
Anticipated starting date.	Still to be determined	
Anticipated duration of work.	Approximately 5 years	
Does it involve change in land use?	YES From Agricultural Zone 1 to Subdivisional Area for Residential Purposes including a golf course.	
Extent of land coverage of the proposed development.	Still to be fully determined. General coverage is as stated in the Brief Description above.	
Does it require the provision of additional services? (e.g. roads, sewerage, water, electricity)	YES Given that this will be a new development including services to local authority standards and, no doubt, in accordance with rezoning conditions imposed by the local authority as informed by the recommendations of Heritage Western Cape and the Provincial DEA&DP.	

Does it involve excavation or earth moving?	YES Excavation for standard depth residential foundations for structures not exceeding 2 storeys.
Does it involve landscaping?	YES In will need to in order to mitigate visual impacts on the rural fringe of Darling.
Does it involve construction work?	YES For the new residential units, club house and associated infrastructure.
What is the total floor area?	Still to be fully determined. General coverage is as stated in the Brief Description (previous page).
How many storeys including parking?	Single and double storey.
What is the maximum height above natural ground level?	Still to be determined but likely to be in the vicinity of 6,5 m
3.2 POTENTIAL IMPACT	
What impact will the proposed development have on the heritage values of the context of the property? (e.g. visibility, change in character)	 Mainly visual impact on the surrounding rural landscape on the urban fringe of Darling, but also, possibly, botanical impact in the vicinity of the wetland on the site. More specifically, the following will, or are likely to be involved: 1. Substantial alterations to the rural visual character on the south-east rural fringe and agricultural landscapes immediately beyond the town; 2. Alterations to the gateway characteristics of the rural landscape along the main approach to the town; 3. Possible impacts on areas of botanical significance on the site; and 4. Possible impacts on archaeological material that may still exist on the site, while at the same time recognizing that the property has been disturbed by cultivation over decades, if not over more than a century. Other impacts needing to be evaluated may include the displacement of certain existing mature trees, even though very few exist on the site.
Are any heritage resources listed in Part 2 affected by the proposed development? If so, how?	YES But likely to be of a minor nature only (if at all) relating to the trees and wetland, given that these elements occupy a very small part of the site and, therefore, likely to be easily accommodated within the proposed development.
Please summarise any public/social ber	nefits of the proposed development.

The proposed development will offer additional employment opportunities in an area close to the expanding suburb of Darling East (so-called 'Asla' township) and Darling North. , Considerable unemployment prevails in these areas.

Other empowerment initiatives linked to this development are still in a sensitive stage of discussion and, therefore, cannot be made known at this preliminary stage of the proposals.

PART 4: POLICY, PLANNING AND LEGAL CONTEXT

Х	(check box if YES)	Details/explanation
X	Does the proposed development conform with regional and local planning policies? (e.g. SDF, Sectoral Plans)	YES In the sense that they fall within an extension to the urban edge of Darling as approved by the local authority, but not yet approved by the provincial DEA&DP.
	Does the development require any departures or consent use in terms of the Zoning Scheme?	NO
X	Has an application been submitted to the planning authority? (If yes, submit copy) Has their comment or approval been	NO Not at this stage. N/A
X	obtained? (If yes, attach copy) Is planning permission required for any subdivision or consolidation?	YES
X	Are there title deed restrictions linked to the property?	NO Not to the author's knowledge at this stage
	Does the property have any special conservation status?	NO Although it does appear to contain botanical species of at least some significance.
	Are there any other restrictions on the property?	NONE To the author's knowledge.
X	Is the proposed development subject to the EIA regulations of the Environment Conservation Act (Act 73 of 1989)?	YES
X	Has an application (or environmental checklist) been submitted to DCAS? What are the requirements of DCAS?	YES In May 2008
	At what stage in the IEM process is the application (scoping phase, EIA etc.)	Basic Assessment Report Phase
	Has any assessment of the heritage impact of the proposed development been undertaken in terms of the EIA or planning process?	NO This application constitutes the initiation of this process.
	Are any such studies currently being undertaken?	N/A
X	Is approval from any other authority required?	YES Presumably at least the Dept of Water Affairs and the Dept of Agriculture.
	Has permission for similar development on this site been refused by any authority in the past?	NO
	Have interested and affected bodies have been consulted? Please list them and attach any responses.	NO Not at this stage

PART 5: APPLICANT DETAILS

REGISTERED PROPERTY OWNER				
Name	Darling Golf & Country Estate (Mr Zac Buys)			
Address	Postal & physical: 8 Barlinka St, Sonstraal, 7550			
Telephone	cell: 083 4450 602			
Fax	fax: (021) 975 9261			
E-mail	arcon@megaserve.net; mbuys@absamail.co.za			
Signature	As authorized by the owner	Date	4 September 2008	

DEVELOPER				
Name	Darling Golf & Country Estate (Mr Zac Buys)			
Address	Postal & physical: 8 Barlinka St, Sonstraal, 7550			
Telephone	cell: 083 4450 602			
Fax	fax: (021) 975 9261			
E-mail	arcon@megaserve.net; mbuys@absamail.co.za			
Signature	As authorized by the owner/developer	Date	4 September 2008	

PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THE FORM				
Name	Graham Jacobs ARCON Architects & Heritage Consultants (CS Design CC)			
Address	8 Fontein St Darling 7345			
Telephone	(022) 492 3320			
Fax	(022) 492 3320			
E-mail	arcon@megaserve.net			

Field of expertise & qualifications	B Arch (UCT), MA Conservation Studies (Inst of Adva Accredited Principal and Specialist Heritage Assessm Cape).		
Signature		Date	4 September 2008

PART 6: ATTACHMENTS

X	Plan, aerial photo and/or orthophoto clearly showing location and context of property. (Diagram 1)
X	Site plan or aerial photograph clearly indicating the position of all heritage resources and features. (Diagram 2)
X	Photographs of the site, showing its characteristics and heritage resources. (Diagrams 3A & 3B)
	Design guidelines, relevant sketch proposals, development plans, architectural and engineering drawings and landscaping plans.
	Responses from other authorities.
	Responses from any interested and affected parties.
	Any archaeological reports or other reports that may have been carried out on the property or properties within the immediate area.
X	Any other pertinent information to assist with decision-making. EIA Scope of Works report (Sillito Environmental Consulting)

PART 7. RECOMMENDATIONS BY HERITAGE SPECIALISTS

It is recommended that this section be completed in order to expedite the approval process.

7.1 RECOMMENDATION	RECOMMENDATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGIST/PALAEONTOLOGIST			
Further investigation required	Yes/No Describe issues and concerns			
Palaeontology				
Pre-colonial archaeology				
Historical archaeology				
Industrial archaeology				
No further archaeological or palaeontological investigation				
Other recommendations (use additional pages if necessary)	A separate specialist archaeological report is being prepared for submission to HWC's APM Committee in due course.			
I have reviewed the property and the proposed development and this completed form and make the recommendations above.				
Name of Archaeologist/Palaeontologist				
Qualifications, field of expertise				
Signature		Date		

7.2 RECOMMENDATION	ONS OF GEN	NERALIST HERITAGE PRACTITIONER
Further investigation required	Yes/No	Describe issues and concerns
Existing Conservation and Planning Documentation	YES	Scrutiny of the specialist botanical report on the property; and a brief review of applicable planning policy informing development in the area.
Planning	YES	But limited to a brief review of planning policy as mentioned above.
Urban Design	NO	
Built Environment	YES	 Relating to the nature of the visual and physical impacts on the rural visual character of the site and surrounding area with particular emphasis on: Overall development pattern and groupings within a strategic gateway rural fringe area; Overall densities in relation to adjoining rural agricultural spatial systems and existing urban fringe development; Overall massing and height with particular emphasis on roofscape; subdivision orientation in relation to site contours; and subdivision boundary definition and partitioning; Definition of the outer boundary of the site with particular emphasis on the interface between proposed development areas and adjoining rural agricultural landscapes.
Architecture	NO	Apart from as mentioned under Rural Environment above.
Cultural Landscape	NO	Apart from as mentioned under Rural Environment above. The site has no known intrinsic cultural landscape significance, but does contribute to a broader scenic landscape.
Visual Impact	YES	As mentioned in the last three sections above.
History		
Archival	YES	But limited to: a review of the earliest aerial survey of the area to confirm the non-existence of pre-existing structures on the site; and scrutiny only of the early survey sheets of the area and main title deed diagrams to ensure that no other features of historical significance existed on the site.
Title Deeds Survey	YES	But limited to informing the aspects referred to above. A full deeds search is regarded as unnecessary.
Published Information	NO	Chances of obtaining published material on the property and, indeed, Oude Post as a whole, is regarded as remote to say the least. (Oude Post homestead is given only a very brief mention in Fransen's Old Houses at the Cape, for example).
Oral History	NO	

Social History	NO	
Other specialist study (specify)	YES	 Botanical specialist input; Archaeology specialist input; and A VIA with particular attention to impacts on the main approach to Darling, and impacts on the surrounding rural agricultural spatial systems.
Public Consultation	YES	To be addressed as part of the statutory EIA public engagement process but including: A response from the Swartland Heritage Foundation; and (if deemed necessary): Input from the Cape Institute of Architecture's Habitat Committee.
Specialist Groups	As above	ditto
Neighbours	NO	
Open House	NO	
Public Meeting	NO	
Public Advertisement	NO	
Other	NO	
No further specialist conservation studies required	NO	
Heritage Impact Assessment required, to be co-ordinated by a generalist heritage practitioner	YES	But with a focus as outlined in the recommendations overleaf.

Other recommendations (use additional pages if necessary)

TO SUMMARIZE:

1 SIGNIFICANCE

- The property, as a whole, constitutes a landscape of local contextual significance contributing to a broader scenic setting within the Groene Kloof/Darling Valley;
- ii. It is strategically situated on the urban/rural fringe at the main gateway to Darling viz: a landscape characterized by extensive cultivated fields, grazing lands, land pockets set aside as botanical reserves and rural residential clusters:
- iii. It contains a relatively small wetland understood to include species of considerable botanical significance.
- iv. The site has no known social, technological or spiritual significance.
- 2 IMPACTS TO BE ASSESSED WILL BE MAINLY VISUAL IN NATURE AND SHOULD INCLUDE ASSESSMENT OF THE FOLLOWING:
- Overall development pattern and groupings within a strategic gateway rural fringe area;
- ii Overall densities in relation to adjoining rural agricultural spatial systems and existing urban fringe development:
- iii Overall massing and height with particular emphasis on roofscape; subdivision orientation in relation to site contours; and subdivision boundary definition and partitioning; and
- iv Definition of the outer boundary of the site with particular emphasis on the interface between proposed development areas and adjoining rural agricultural landscapes.

Botanical an archaeological specialist studies are being conducted separately and will be taken into account in the follow-up heritage study as defined in these recommendations.

3 GENERAL INVESTIGATION & RESEARCH

- i. Background research should focus on informing the measurement, significance and potential mitigation of the abovementioned impacts, as well as other impacts established in the course of the study. Investigations should include a deeds and map search focusing on the possible location of unknown pre-existing buildings and planting patterns on the property, and the relationship of these (if any) to the site's present day features.
- ii. A VIA with input from an accredited HIA Specialist practitioner based on the aspects specified in 2i-iv above.
- iii. The assessment may require 3D massing projections/montages of the proposals aimed at assisting in the assessment of visual impacts on the adjoining rural open space systems and the gateway approach to Darling.
- iv. An archaeological watching brief may also be required, but this will be informed by the separate archaeological specialist study.

4 RECOMMENDATION

It is, therefore, recommended that an HIA be prepared for the site focusing on:

- Potential visual impacts of the proposed new development;
- · The possible displacement of botanically significant species on the site;
- The site's historical archaeological potential; and
- · Mitigation of potential negative impacts

All as itemised in 2i-iv and 3i-iv above.

GRAHAM JACOBS

I have reviewed the property and the proposed development and this completed form and make the recommendations above.
Name of Heritage Practitioner Graham Jacobs, ARCON Architects & Heritage Consultants (CS Design CC)
Qualifications, field of expertise
AHAP (Western Cape) registered Principal and Specialist Practitioner B Arch (UCT), MA Conservation Studies (Inst of Advanced Arch Studies, York, UK) Pr Arch
SignatureDate 4 September 2008

Notes:

Cultural significance means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance.

- Heritage resource means any place or object of cultural significance.
 - "Place" includes -
 - (a) a site, area or region;
 - (b) a building or other structure which may include equipment, furniture, fittings and other articles associated with or connected with such building or other structure;
 - (c) a group of buildings or other structures [and associated equipment, fittings, etc];
 - (d) an open space, including a public square, street or park; and
 - (e) in relation to the management of a place, includes the immediate surroundings.
- Archaeological means
 - (a) material remains resulting from human activity which are in a state of disuse and are in or on land and which are older than 100 years, including artefacts, human and hominid remains and artificial features and structures;
 - (b) rock art, being any form of painting, engraving or other graphic representation on a fixed rock surface or loose rock or stone, which was executed by human agency and which is older than 100 years, including any area within 10m of such representation;
 - (c) wrecks, being any vessel or aircraft, or any part thereof, which was wrecked in South Africa or in the maritime zone of the Republic, any cargo, debris or artefacts found or associated therewith, which is older than 60 years or which Heritage Western Cape considers to be worthy of conservation; and
 - (d) features, structures and artefacts associated with military history which are older than 75 years and the site on which they are found.
- Palaeontologicial means any fossilised remains or fossil trace of animals or plants which lived in the geological past, other than fossil fuels or fossiliferous rock intended for industrial use, and any site which contains such fossilised remains or trace.
- Public monuments and memorials means all monuments and memorials
 - (a) erected on land belonging to any branch of ... government or on land belonging to any organisation funded by or established in terms of the legislation of such a branch of government; or
 - (b) which were paid for by public subscription, government funds, or a public-spirited or military organisation, and are on land belonging to any private individual.
- Living heritage means the intangible aspects of inherited culture, and may include cultural tradition, oral history, performance, ritual, popular memory, skills and techniques, indigenous knowledge systems and the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships.