

TWO RIVERS URBAN PARK

BASELINE HERITAGE STUDY

DRAFT REPORT

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The City of Cape Town has been preparing a spatial development framework (SDF) for the area defined as the Two Rivers Urban Park. The main objectives of the SDF are to conserve the ecologically and culturally sensitive areas and to provide landowners and prospective developers with guidance for the nature and scale of future development.

This baseline heritage study draws on existing documentation held by the City of Cape Town and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).

1.2 Terms of Reference

The Study team has been tasked with providing the City of Cape Town with maps which indicate on a provisional basis:

- The level and nature of sensitivity of different precincts in order to inform compatible land use options.
- Heritage values associated with the cultural landscape.

1.3 The Project Team

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1.4 Statement of Independence

This report must be seen as independent from the Two Rivers Urban Park: SDF.

2. METHODOLOGY

It is common cause that there needs to be an integrated approach for implementing a workable heritage management system within the concept of an Integrated Environmental Management System (IEMS) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

2.1 The Process

This study is formulated as a baseline study to inform the formulation of the SDF for the study area. It is not a formal Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) required in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). It should serve as a general basis for determining the appropriate scope of study for an EIA, HIA of planning and development proposals for the Two Rivers Urban Park.

2.2 Sources of Information

The baseline study has been informed by various sources of the documented developmental history of the study area. No primary research has been carried out. The process has included:

- Site inspections.
- Review of secondary historical research and public records.

2.3 Public Consultation

Time and budgetary constraints have prevented any public consultation. As the determination of heritage significance involves value judgements which should not be limited to heritage professionals only, this is a serious shortcoming. The values of the different individuals and communities attached to a place like the study area must be recorded in a future study. These values are frequently conflicting and contested and their resolution is fundamental to heritage management planning.

It is recommended that provision be made to present the findings of this baseline study to three target groupings for their input and comment.

2.3.1 Interested Parties e.g.:

- Cape Institute of Architects: Heritage Committee
- Simon van der Stel Foundation
- Vernacular Architecture Society of South Africa
- Professionals and Researchers
- Former staff and inhabitants of the various precincts
- Committees or groups with a strong association with the study area

2.3.2 Affected Parties e.g.:

- Provincial Departments e.g. Health, Education, Tourism, Agriculture, Arts and Culture, Sport.
- City of Cape Town
- Neighbouring landowners
- Current users

- Local residents / civic associations

2.3.3 Approval authorities e.g.:

- SAHRA
- DECAS

2.4 Assessment criteria

The heritage significance of the study area has been assessed at different scales. Consideration was also given to the physical fabric of the site, uses, associations and relationships. In addition, intrinsic, contextual, comparative and potential values were considered.

“Cultural significance” means aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, linguistic or technological value or significance (NHRA 1999).

<u>Historical</u>	Associated with an historic person or group. Associated with an historic event, use or activity. Illustrates an historical period.
<u>Architectural</u>	Significant to architectural or design history Important example of building type, style or period Possesses special features, fine details or workmanship Work of a major architect or builder
<u>Environmental</u>	Contributes to the character of the area Part of an important group of buildings or structures Landmark quality
<u>Social</u>	Associated with economic, social, religious activity Significant to public memory
<u>Technical/ Scientific</u>	Important to industrial, technological or engineering development New, rare or experimental techniques Important to archaeology, palaeontology

The following assessment criteria were developed by James Kerr (2000). They are useful in developing an understanding of the significance of a place in terms of its physical evidence, associational links and its sensory (non visual and visual) qualities.

- Ability for the physical evidence to demonstrate or contribute towards and understanding of a past design, style, period, technique, philosophy, belief, use or associated with an event or person/s.

The degree of significance of this physical evidence is determined by:

- age (how early)
- scarcity value (how rare)
- representational value (outstanding, important, typical)
- degree of intactness (original features, historical layering)
- fragility (physical condition and compatibility of use)
- Associational links with past event, persons and activities for which there is no remaining physical evidence.

The degree of significance of this association is determined by the intimacy and duration of that association and the intactness or evocative quality of a place and its setting relative to the period of association.

- Possessing qualities that give a place character of its own, sense of continuity with the past or sense of orientation and structure within the landscape. This includes the visual and non-visual experience of the place. It encompasses the physical properties (scale, form, edges, materials, texture, focal points, views, orientation) of a place and its setting. It also encompasses the sounds, smells or any other aspects affecting the experience of a place.

The degree of significance of aesthetic or sense of place qualities is informed by the level of coherence of the landscape, the importance of the relationship of the place and its setting, which reinforces the quality of both, and the level of evocative versus disruptive or intrusive qualities of contrasting landscape elements.

3. REVIEW OF RELEVANT STUDIES

The following studies have some relevance to this baseline study.

3.1 Black River Urban Park SDF. First draft March 1999.

Annexure C of this report provides a broad overview of the “built environment” and identifies the proclaimed Provincial Heritage sites (formerly national Monuments) and grades of the remaining buildings from grade one to grade two and what are referred to as “others”.

It also identified the three sites of archaeological importance.

While this work is valuable it failed to place these individual buildings and ensembles into a cultural landscape context.

3.2 Culemborg – Black River Contextual Framework: Stage B Report: 1993

Larry Aberman and Associates. This report did examine its study area in terms of “cultural landscape” layers e.g. the rivers, early occupation and so on.

Although the study area was much broader than that of the Two Rivers Urban Park, it provided valuable insights and useful references to maps, general plans and literature.

4. THE EVOLVING CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF THE TWO RIVERS URBAN PARK

In this summary, the gradual transformation of the cultural landscape has been plotted from its assumed primeval nature to the present.

4.1 The primeval landscape.

The Black and Liesbeek Rivers flowed into the Salt River and, together with the Diep River from the north, created an extensive estuarine system of marshes around Paarden Eiland.

Even in the 1865 map of the Peninsula Paarden Eiland is shown as a true island with rivers entering the sea to the north and the south; with a lagoon-like salt river. Geological evidence shows that these river mouths constantly changed, shifting up and down the Table Bay coastline.

The marshes extended well inland and it has been suggested that they formed part of a broader wetland system stretching from Rietvlei in the north along the foot of the mountain chain and across the Flats to Zeekoevlei and Sandvlei in the south.

Hippos and other large animals, like elephant and Cape buffalo, would have ensured that there were open channels and pools amongst the reedbeds and palmiet. The banks would have been varied with pastures for herds of grazing antelope and zebra as well as sand plain fynbos dominated by restios, riverine scrub and woodland, particularly near the mountain. Rondevlei today gives some indication of what parts of the landscape may have looked like. The biodiversity of the study area is inestimable.

For millennia, small groups of hunter-gatherers followed the seasonal round in this landscape, collecting plants and seafood, catching wild birds and animals. They found shelter in caves and rock formations and constructed windbreaks and waterproof "skerms" in more open areas. (Boonzaaier et al. 1996)

This landscape began to change about 2000 years ago.

4.2 The pre-colonial landscape.

Nomadic pastoralists started bringing their herds of sheep and cattle to the Peninsula each season. These people undoubtedly used fire to extend the

pastures but the grasses were only able to support the herds for short periods. Each year, as the grazing dried out and disappeared, they moved back into the interior or up the coast to the north west. The movement of large herds of domestic animals across the landscape created broad trails where once only narrow paths existed.

It has been suggested that these became the basis of the road system still used in part today (Mossop 1926). It is probable that this animal movement had a significant impact on the Peninsula ecology and on the study area in particular. The pastoralists were also hunters and used dogs to run down game.

The hunter-gatherers and pastoralists have left some archaeological evidence of their existence elsewhere in the Peninsula, but no surveys have been conducted in the study area.

4.3 Dutch colonial period - VOC

Further and much more dramatic change occurred once the Dutch East India Company (VOC) had established their refreshment station in Table Valley.

The early Dutch commanders were required to remain on friendly terms with the indigenous tribes in order to barter cattle for use by the settlement and the ships bound for the east or back home to Europe.

The pastoralists were progressively excluded from grazing their herds along the Liesbeek River until finally in 1657 freehold grants were given to settlers, the Free Burghers. This effectively ended Gorinhauqua use of the grazing. Between 1657 and 1660, palisades were constructed along the Liesbeek and Salt Rivers and the wild almond hedge was planted extending from the Salt River to the hill at Wynberg; where extensive sections still remain.

The settlers grew fruit and vegetables and planted wheat between the Liesbeek River and the main route to the south, the Wagenpad na t'Bos. Their main activity though was stock rearing like their predecessors. A group of farms developed in the vicinity of the present day Coornhoop known as "De Hollandse thuijn;" some remnants survive from this period, the dovecote of Coornhoop itself, the homestead from the farm Ouderneming now known as Wrensch House, the Westoc homestead, all imbedded in 19c and 20c suburban development.

Between Coornhoop and the sea was Jan van Riebeeck's own farm Uitwyk, later known as Malta farm. The homestead on this farm survived well into the 20c. The farm Vaarschedrift lay between Malta farm and the Salt River and its homestead was also only demolished in the 20c by the Union

Government. It was a cattle drift between the Table Valley settlement and the interior.

There were several farms between the two rivers, Valkenberg, Bloemendal and Vredenberg. There was little development to the east of the Black River which remained a wilderness of marshland and shifting sands and almost no grants of land were made. A series of windmills were however erected, the Oude and Nieuwe Molen, all built between 1780 and 1800, towards the end of the VOC period. The road network was extended with a number of crossing points over the rivers. Besides the Oude and Nieuwe Molen complexes the Valkenberg farmstead is probably the most significant remaining element from the VOC period. The extensive pastures and fields of grain have almost all disappeared under suburban development. The open nature of the landscape still creates a sense of the VOC rural landscape.

4.4 British Colonial Period

From the beginning of the 19c residential, commercial and industrial development began to encroach on the agricultural landscape. Land within the study area itself was largely unaffected by these processes and farming continued at Malta farm, Westoc, Coornhoop and Valkenberg. Dairy farming to supply Cape Town with milk grew in significance but grain, fruit and vegetable production continued throughout most of the 19c.

Road networks grew significantly and so did the 19c railway network. At the beginning of the 19c there were two main routes; the Main Road to the south and that to the north; today's Voortrekker Road. Residential subdivision, commercial and industrial development led to the development of a more complex road system but this still left the study area largely intact. The Mostert family who owned a number of farms in the area acquired Valkenberg in the early 19c and developed the property. It is suggested that the homestead dates from this era although probably built on 19c fabric (Fransen and Cook 1965).

The landscape character of the study area was distinctively agricultural, a patchwork of pastures for dairy cows who could drink at the river, plots of vegetables and orchards, fields of winter wheat and screens of poplars to protect them from the winds.

4.5 Institutional Period

Although the study area continued to remain an agricultural area well into the 20c it began to take on an increasingly institutional role. In 1827 a portion of Valkenberg was sold for the establishment of the Royal Observatory. It was designed to relay a time signal to the Time Ball Tower (now part of the V & A Waterfront).

A large complex was then developed around the Observatory including subsidiary residential and administrative buildings. From 1881 the institutional role of the study area grew in emphasis although the agricultural character was largely retained. Valkenberg was bought by the Cape Colonial government with money from the Porter Bequest Fund for the establishment of the Cape Colony's first reformatory. The Valkenberg manor house and outbuildings were used to house staff and young offenders. The farming activity was continued at the reformatory, possibly on a more intensive basis than when Valkenberg was in private ownership. The Porter Reformatory strove to be largely self-sufficient with farm work, the main training emphasis of the system.

The reformatory though was moved to Tokai in 1888 and the Valkenberg complex, which had been adapted for reformatory use was taken over by the Cape Colonial government as a replacement for the Robben Island lunatic asylum which was closed down. Again the authorities used the estate for farming primarily as a therapeutic activity. This carried on up until the 1950's when farming activities were phased out.

On the west bank of the Liesbeek River, the smaller farms in private ownership were gradually reduced in size through residential subdivision. Land along the river itself continued to be used for farming well into the 20c. This was mainly dairying. The old silo beside the river near Durban Road is a 20c relic of Louw's Dairy.

In 1899 a new mental hospital complex was developed and the old manor house at Valkenberg was once again used as a residential building for staff.

In 1901 the Cape Colonial government purchased the Nieuwe Molen complex with its mill Alexandra; and developed a military hospital on the site. Maitland was an important military camp at this time.

The complex was then converted for use as a hospital for the chronically ill mental patients and became known as the Alexandra Institution. Additional buildings were added and form and fine grouping.

The Oude Molen complex was also taken over for institutional use, first as part of the Porter Reformatory and then Valkenberg Hospital. It became the so-called Native Hospital.

The abandonment of farming by the authorities left large grassed open spaces, the former pasturage; but along the Liesbeek River the neglect has led to the fairly rapid development of woodland which is now an entirely new landscape element; which screens the Valkenberg manor house from view.

The Roman Catholic Community acquired land to the south of Oude Molen and established the St. Joseph's Sanatorium early in the 20c close to Raapenberg Road. This grew and eventually became known as the Vincent Palotti Hospital.

Maitland Garden Village was developed in the 1930's coupled to the development of Pinelands on Ebenezer Howard's planning principles. Apart from this intrusion most of the study area was unaffected by the urbanisation processes taking place around it on all fronts. It was however dramatically affected by the growing city's transportation requirements in the second half of the 20c.

4.6 Transportation

After World War II the City Council embarked on an ambitious freeway development programme and constructed Settlers Way, the Black River Parkway and Liesbeek Parkway during the 1950's and 1960's. This system cut through old historical links and spatial relationships. Valkenberg Road, which provided access to the hospital from Mowbray village in the south was closed. After 1959 access was only via Observatory Bridge. The road and bridge across the Black River from Valkenberg to Oude Molen was demolished and replaced with the bridge over the Black River Parkway.

The Black and Liesbeek Rivers were canalised following major flooding in the winters of 1941 and 1943. This began the transformation of the riverine landscape. The road construction programme led to the development of the landscape we know today. Large areas of wetland were filled in along the Black River canal to accommodate the Settlers Way - Black River Parkway interchange.

The development of the railway system had by the end of the 19c already led to the destruction of the Salt River marshes and the Varsche Vlei. By the end of the 20c the once extensive estuarine wetland was reduced to a few remnant reed beds near the Royal Observatory and along the Black River canal.

The Liesbeek has also been transformed with the canalisation and the development of sports fields where there were once water meadows.

5. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria used in assessing significance are outlined in Section 2.4 of this report. The categories of significance referred to below have been drawn from Section 3 of the National Heritage Resources Act. The heritage resources identified have not been graded.

5.1 Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance

Statement of Significance: 5.1 Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance.

The Two Rivers Urban Park landscape has great cultural significance. It has historical, social, aesthetic, architectural, scientific and environmental value. It contributes to an understanding of past attitudes, beliefs, uses, events, persons, periods, techniques and design. It has associational links with past events, persons, uses, community memory identity and oral history. Furthermore it possesses a strong sense of place. The cultural significance is expressed at several scales: the overall landscape, precinct site and object scale.

The inherited cultural landscape of the Two Rivers Urban Park has escalated from gradual change over millennia towards much rapid change over the last three hundred years and particularly over the last century. Each period has left its mark in the form of paths, roads, planting patterns, drainage and irrigation furrows, and structures ranging from terracing to walls, dams and buildings.

The overall landscape is a complex composite of natural cultivated and built landscape elements. It is a cultural landscape, one transformed by thousands of years of settlement history. This landscape expresses both artistic and innovative qualities in terms of its natural setting, architecture and patterns of planting.

It also has narrative qualities, possessing a rich layering of physical evidence brought alive by the oral history of the people who worked, lived or who were committed to the hospitals in the TRUP.

Different historical narratives are woven together to create a story of pioneering and philanthropy, social reform and identity, self-sufficiency, farming and institutionalisation.

It possesses a number of distinctive and inter-related precincts which serve to clearly demonstrate or are strongly associated with its various historical roles and uses as a place for indigenous hunter-gatherers, grazing grounds for herders, colonial farms, scientific research station, reformatory and hospitals.

Within each precinct are groupings of buildings, patterns of planting and routes, which have intrinsic social aesthetic and scientific significance and also contextual significance in terms of their contribution to an

understanding of the TRUP's inherited landscape qualities, its history and associated memory.

5.2 Historical settlements and townscapes

Statement of significance: 5.2 Historical settlements and townscapes

The Valkenberg farmstead, the Observatory, the Valkenberg Hospital, Alexandra Institution, Maitland Garden Village and Oude Molen complex represent distinctive settlement forms:

- The formal layout of the Valkenberg farmstead.
- The formal layout of the various institutions.
- The townscape of Maitland Garden Village.

The distinctive character of each of these settlements relates to the various roles and uses of the TRUP during the course of its history.

- Rural farm werf.
- Institutional facility.
- Village.

The TRUP possesses a layering of history spanning more than 200 years. There are a number of settlement areas within the TRUP which are of particular heritage significance. They are the Valkenberg farmstead, the Valkenberg hospital complex, and the Observatory complex, the Alexandra Institution, Maitland Garden Village and the Oude Molen complex. They represent archetypal settlement forms in terms of layout, response to topography and architecture.

Valkenberg Farmstead

The centrepiece of this extensive complex, the manor house is said to date from about 1830 (Fransen and Cook) although they contend that it probably incorporates fabric dating from the 18c. The various other elements were modified and extended by the Mostert family and then by the reformatory and hospital authorities. The manor house and outbuildings have been recently renovated and function as part of the Courtyard Hotel complex. This new hotel was controversially developed and is an unfortunate visual intrusion. The farmstead is the only remaining one on the Liesbeek River still retaining a sense of its agricultural past. All the others are now imbedded in suburban fabric or have been demolished. It is a proclaimed Provincial Heritage Site.

The Valkenberg Hospital

This complex was established in 1899 and was the first mental asylum designed according to modern principles. The symmetrical layout centred on the administrative block with inter-linking courtyards and buildings is

typical of 19c institutional complexes, demonstrating the strong hierarchical principles of control. The original 1899 complex is a proclaimed Provincial Heritage Site. Buildings were incrementally added to the complex throughout the 20c. They continued to be sited in an octagonal and coherent pattern in relation to the core of the complex.

The Observatory (The South African Astronomical Observatory)
The complex is centred around the original 1827 observatory building, which commands a dominating position on the small hill. The layout unlike that of the hospital is informal and buildings are loosely arranged in a park-like setting.

Alexandra Institution (Alexandra Care and Rehabilitation Centre)
As with Valkenberg Hospital a formal pattern of development has taken place on this site. It however incorporates the original 18c mill, which is a proclaimed Provincial Heritage Site. There are important planting patterns on the site, notably the avenue of palms.

Maitland Garden Village
This township follows planning conventions developed by Ebenezer Howard and others and is almost unaltered since its construction in the 1920's. This makes its unique in SA's planning and architectural history.

The Oude Molen complex
A formal layout was developed on this site following the institutional norm of the early 20c. The complex does however incorporate 18c fabric.

5.3 Landscape and natural features of cultural significance

Statement of significance: 5.3 Landscape and natural features of cultural significance

The evolution of the cultural landscape of the TRUP has been shaped by its natural resources including water, soils and climate. While much of the land and riverine landscape is degraded it retains the potential to become agriculturally productive and ecologically functional.

In Section 4 of this report the transformation of the landscape was described.

The institutional use of the TRUP has ensured that this vast area has not been urbanised like most of the land along the Black and Liesbeek Rivers. Much of the land was agriculturally productive until about the 1950's and still retains this potential. The re-introduction of agriculture to parts of the TRUP could strengthen its cultural significance.

The degradation of the riverine environment is well documented, as are measures to make the river systems more functional ecologically. These include reshaping, re-vegetation, alien plant removal and improvement of water quality.

5.4 Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of SA's natural or cultural places

Statement of significance: 5.4 Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of SA's natural or cultural places

The TRUP possesses a rich layering of historical evidence that has the potential to contribute to a greater understanding and interpretation of the significance of its cultural landscape and places associated with its history.

The only archaeological survey undertaken to date within the TRUP was related to the renovation of the Valkenberg farmstead.

There are a number of sites which have been identified as having the potential to yield historical evidence relating to the pre-colonial, colonial and institutional periods (physical, documentary and oral).

The Nieuwe Molen Site

The mill is surrounded by the Alexandra Institution buildings and it is likely that archaeological material may have been lost or disturbed.

The Oude Molen Site

While the mill has been lost, buildings thought to be associated with the mill, the miller's house and grain store, still exist. Land in the vicinity of the complex is claimed to be of cultural significance to the Cape Cultural Heritage Association who represents Khoi-san interests. This potential has not been investigated.

Vaarschedrift Farm

There are no visible remains of this complex. It began as a VOC post protecting the drift or crossing place of the river and could be of enormous archaeological interest.

5.5 Geological sites of scientific or cultural significance

Statement of significance: 5.5 Geological sites of scientific or cultural significance

There are no known sites of significance with the study area.

5.6 Sites related to the history of slavery

Statement of significance: 5.6 Sites related to the history of slavery

The Valkenberg farmstead and the two mill sites date from the end of the 18c when slave labour no doubt played an important role in the transformation of the TRUP landscape into a productive agricultural landscape. Further documentary and archaeological research has the potential to yield more information on the history of slavery on the property.

The Free burghers used VOC slave labour and owned slaves of their own. They undoubtedly also would have made use of indigenous cattle keepers dispossessed of their own herds and coerced into surviving as servants.

Slavery effectively ended in 1838 once the so-called “apprenticeship” period was over, but many freed slaves remained trapped in servitude due to the Vagrancy Acts and stayed on as wage labourers on the farms. The legacy of centuries of slavery at the Cape is still strong among local communities; but its negative connotations have recently become transformed more into a source of pride than shame.

5.7 Archaeological Sites

Statement of significance: 5.7 Archaeological sites
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The archaeological significance of the TRUP is at present only partly known (Valkenberg farmstead). However a number of archaeologically sensitive sites have been identified.
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In Section 5.4 the sites with potential to yield information were described.

5.8 Graves and burial grounds

Statement of significance: 5.8 Graves and burial grounds

The graveyard forms part of Valkenberg farmstead and is a typical family graveyard associated with a farm. There are no other known sites within the study area, but further research may lead to the discovery of others.
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- 5.9 Strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of SA.

Statement of significance: 5.9 Strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of SA.

Rev. Fearon Fellowes founded the Royal Observatory in 1827, which at that time was the most important observatory in the southern hemisphere studying the southern skies. He was succeeded by the Astronomer Royal, Sir John Herschel, who undertook important research work at the Cape. Sir William Porter is associated with Valkenberg. His Porter Bequest Fund purchased Valkenberg.

These two men were important in the development of scientific astronomy at the Cape and in SA.

Sir William Porter was the Attorney General of the Cape Colonial government from 1839 to 1865. He died in 1880 in the United Kingdom leaving an enormous sum of money (£20 000) towards “the establishment and maintenance of reformatories for young offenders sentenced by the Colonial Courts.”

In terms of his will Valkenberg was purchased in 1881 and the farmstead was adapted into a reformatory for offenders under 16 years. In 1890 as a result of objection by local farmers to the establishment of a lunatic asylum on the Tokai Estate, which had been purchased by the Colonial government, the reformatory was moved to Tokai and Valkenberg became the site of the lunatic asylum.

Porter’s will therefore saved this property from probable urbanisation.

5.10 Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievements at a particular period.

Statement of significance: 5.10 Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievements at a particular period

The Valkenberg manor house is an important example of rural vernacular architecture dating from the early 19c. It has an impressive relationship to the river and Devil's Peak.

The surviving mill, Nieuwe Molen, although no machinery remains was technically significant at the end of the 19c. Its bullet shaped tower is unusual. The Valkenberg Hospital was the first mental hospital designed according to "modern" principles in SA.

The Valkenberg Manor House

This has been discussed in Section 5.2

The Nieuwe Molen

This was discussed in Section 5.2. It is worth noting that the series of mills established in this general area at the end of the 18c were based on Dutch windmill technology. This was the most advanced in the world at the time; having grown out of the vast 17c drainage and land reclamation projects.

The Valkenberg Hospital

This was designed on the most modern principles of the late 19c when the health authorities were moving away from the prison conditions of institutions like Bedlam.

5.11 Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.

Statement of significance: 5.11 importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.

The TRUP possesses numerous aesthetic or sense of place qualities, which relates to its various historic uses and roles. It possesses a sense of history, which is expressed in some of the architecture and old trees. There is a strong institutional aesthetic associated with the various hospitals and the Observatory. The relatively vast open areas in a highly urbanised part of the city are of aesthetic significance.

The development of the TRUP landscape has been described in Section 4 of the report. Its visual qualities are experienced by motorists moving along the road network and by workers and visitors to the various parts of the area.

- 5.12 Places to which oral traditions are attached and are associated with living heritage.

Statement of significance: 5.12 Places to which oral traditions are attached and are associated with living heritage

The various institutions within the TRUP have strong institutional memories arising from their uses over 100 years. Oral history research has the potential to yield further information relating to the lives of staff and patients, changing attitudes within the health administration as well as its role in the institutionalisation of social values and potential ideologies of the 20c.

Living heritage refers to the intangible aspects of inherited cultural tradition, oral history, performance, ritual and popular memory. These aspects have not been researched but, given the long history of the various institutions, this work could be expected to yield valuable insights.

- 5.13 Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Statement of significance: 5.13 Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

The Cape Cultural Heritage Association has claimed that land in the vicinity of the Oude Molen complex has significant cultural value for their members. This requires further research.

At present there is no physical or documentary evidence to support this claim nor is there any oral evidence to pinpoint sites within the study area of significance to the Khoi-san people the Association represents.

Further research would be suggested.

5.14 Places important in the community or pattern of South African history.

Statement of significance: 5.14 Places important in the community or pattern of South Africa's history.

The TRUP represents a microcosm of Cape history. It reflects the pattern of South Africa's social, architectural, political history spanning the pre-colonial, colonial, apartheid and more recent history. It strongly reflects changing attitudes to mental health in the health system, represented in physical fabric and probably in oral history associated with various institutions.

The layout, design and sequence of buildings forming the various institutions can be linked to decisions taken about security, care, supervision and control exercised over patients, increasing segregation, levels of mental health and race.

5.15 Movable objects of cultural significance.

Statement of significance: 5.15 Movable objects of cultural significance.

It is probable that there are collections of movable objects related to the various institutions; equipment, instruments, machinery, artefacts, art objects and furniture. These have not been researched but would be of cultural significance.

Over the long history of the institution, objects of heritage would have been acquired, made and developed. These are of heritage significance and research should be undertaken to identify them for their conservation and curation.

- 5.16 Historical links between a place and other places in the region or South Africa.

Statement of significance: 5.16 Historical (as above)

The South African Astronomical Observatory is linked to the development of the modern observatory at Sutherland in the Karoo. The original observatory in the TRUP became largely obsolete as lighting levels in the city increased and created a “loom”. The Observatory is still used as a research centre and for some observation.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The preliminary assessment of the heritage resources of the TRUP reflects the results of the limited research project. Unfortunately, time and budgetary constraints have prevented any public consultation.

This study should be seen as the beginning of a heritage management plan for the TRUP.

On the attached map, five heritage areas have been identified. Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) should be mandatory within these areas for any physical intervention. Any detailed spatial planning should involve a Stage One HIA: Scoping Stage analysis as the fundamental design informant.

Before commencing with any interventions, the following heritage management steps should be considered:

- 6.1 Specialists be appointed to record the oral histories of the various institutions.
- 6.2 An inventory of movable objects be compiled.
- 6.3 Specialists be appointed to survey the building complexes and their archival history.
- 6.4 Specialists be appointed to survey the trees on the property, to map and record their status and health.
- 6.5 Archaeological Phase One Surveys to be commissioned for the sites identified in Section 5.7.
- 6.6 Information on the heritage resources of the TRUP should be presented to, and solicited from, the public.
- 6.7 Interpretive material should be assembled to reveal the heritage resources of the place.

7. REFERENCES

7.1 Published Literature

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7.2 Maps

- 1685 Pieter Potter's General Plan of Cape Town showing the farms of the Liesbeek Valley.
- 1807 Leeb J. L. Military sketch of the ground near Rondebosch.
- 1827 Thompson's Plan of Cape Town and its environs.
- 1862 Snow's Municipal Survey.
- 1885 Boyle's Southern Suburbs of Cape Town.
- 1894 Richards' Map of Cape Town and its suburbs.
- 1934 Trigonometrical Survey: Cape Peninsula.