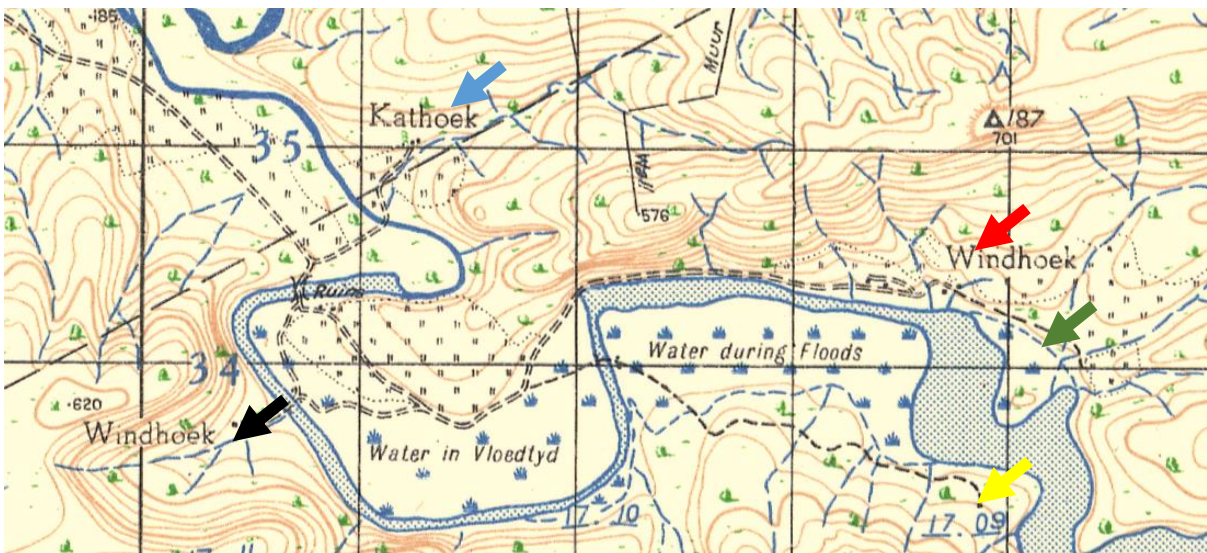


M. SALT RIVER GORGE

Field Note M7. Archaeology

There are two historical farms on the north bank of the Salt River Gorge, namely the Kathoek Farm and the Windhoek Farm, and two ruins on the south bank, which were the outbuildings of the Windhoek Farm. The road, on the north bank was used by the settlers (Figures 1 and 2).



Figures 1 (top) and 2 (bottom). Topographic maps from 2014 (top) and 1942 (bottom) showing the locations of the historic Kathoek Farm (blue arrow; the present Kathoek farm is located 2 km to the north), historic Windhoek Farm (red arrow), the ruin in Koleskloof (black arrow), the ruin near Fonteinkloof (yellow arrow) and the historic road (green arrow).

[Read more about the history of the farms in the gorge in Ann and Mike Scott’s book:” The people of De Hoop Nature Reserve”, 2002].

Farms

Apolstein, part of the Kathoek Farm is located some 350 m north of the Salt River. It is now abandoned and in ruins (Figures 3 to 6). (The modern Kathoek Farm is south of, and next to the road to Wydgeleë).



Figure 3. Satellite image showing the location (arrow) of the historic Kathoek Farm.



Figure 4. The ruins of Apolstein, part of the historic Kathoek Farm.



Figure 5. The ruins of Apolstein, part of the historic Kathoek Farm.



Figure 6. The ruins of Apolstein, part of the historic Kathoek Farm.

The Windhoek Farm is located on a hill 100 to 200 m north of the Salt River Marsh. It is now abandoned and in ruins (Figures 7 to 12).



Figure 7. Satellite image showing the location of the historic Windhoek Farm.



Figure 8. The Windhoek Farm. View from The Island.



Figure 9. The church of the historic Windhoek Farm.



Figure 10. The church of the historic Windhoek Farm.



Figure 11. The church of the historic Windhoek Farm.



Figure 10. Newer buildings on the historic Windhoek Farm. They were used as offices and staff accommodation of the De Hoop Nature Reserve, some decades ago.

Ruins

The ruin in Koleskloof is close to the spring (Figures 11 and 12).



Figure 11. Satellite image showing the location (arrow) of the ruin in Koleskloof.



Figure 12. The ruin in Koleskloof.

The ruin near Fonteinkloof is of a cottage, which was probably used by the shepherds of the Windhoek Farm (Figures 13 and 14).



Figure 13. Satellite image showing the location (arrow) of the ruin near Fonteinkloof.



Figure 14. The ruin (arrow) near Fonteinkloof.

Roads

A road was built by the settlers of the Windhoek Farm, probably to deliver the guano from the Guano Cave, southeast of The Island, (Figures 15 to 19).



Figure 15. Satellite Image. When the water level in the marsh is low, the road is exposed on a low dyke above the marsh floor.

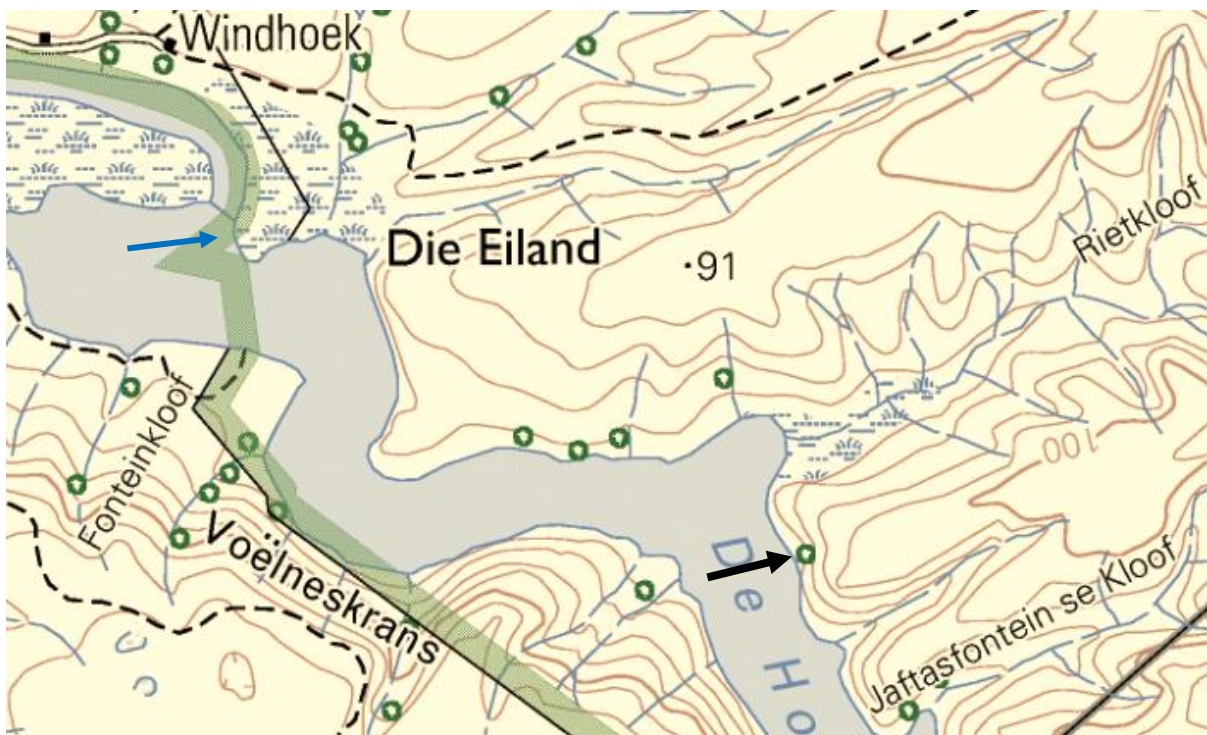


Figure 16. Map of the north part of the De Hoop Vlei. The Island location is indicated by the blue arrow. The entrance to the Guano Cave is indicated by the black arrow.



Figure 17. The road on a low dyke (yellow arrows) between The Island and the east shore of the Salt River Marsh. View to the east. The distance on the road to the Guano Cave is about 1.5 km.

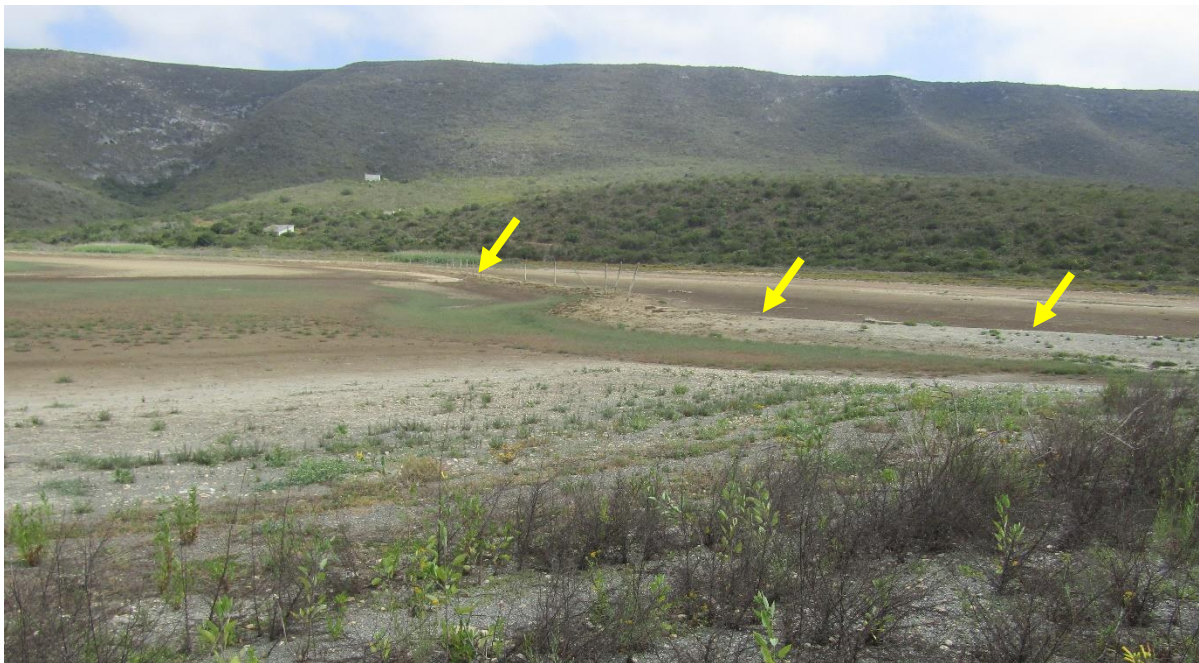


Figure 18. The road on a low dyke (yellow arrows) between The Island and the Windhoek Farm. View to the northwest.

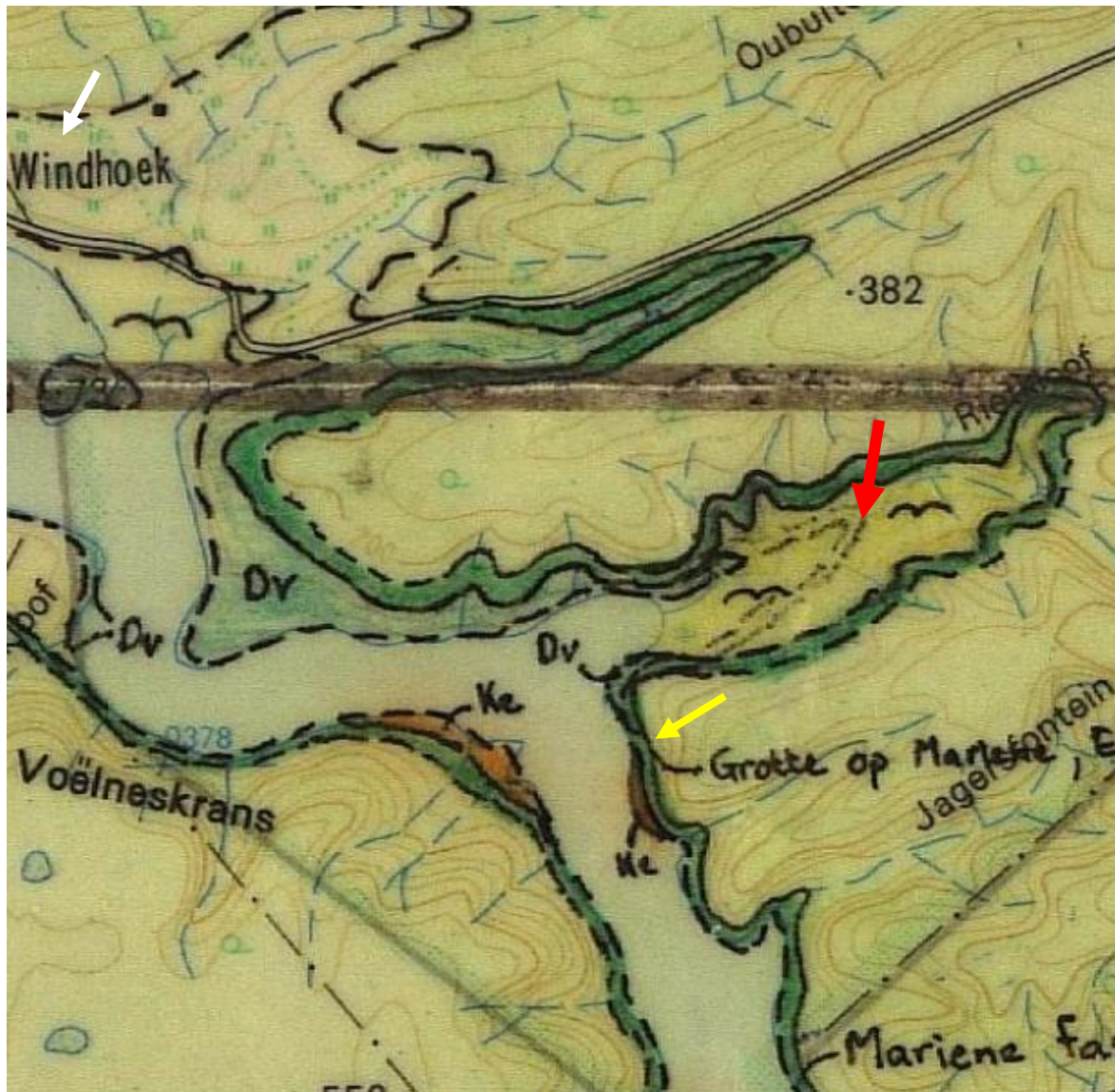


Figure 19. Section from the geology field sheet of the area. The red arrow points to what looks like a road, which took from the cave (yellow arrow) to the Windhoek Farm (white arrow), in the lower Rietkloof Valley. The Valley is overgrown and wet and could not be studied.