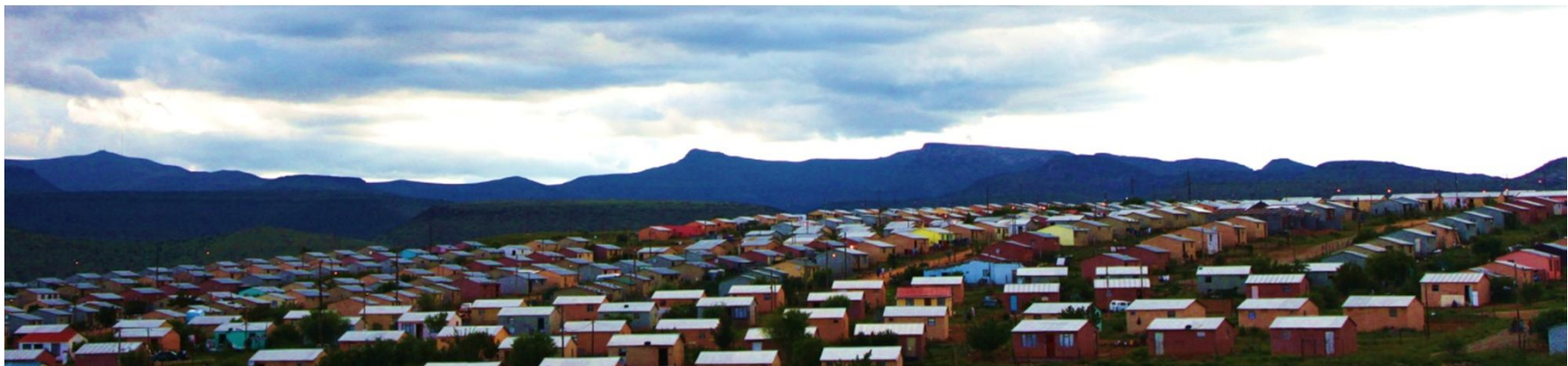


Land Divided, Cape Town March 2013

Femke Brandt / Marja Spierenburg
VU University, Amsterdam

How Game Fences Shape Community Boundaries

**Social configuration on Trophy-
Hunting Farms in South Africa.**



Lens: Karoo Farm Conversions

- Farm boundaries extended, growing properties
- Fewer people living on farms, mobility
- Contestations over land and labour in post-apartheid context.

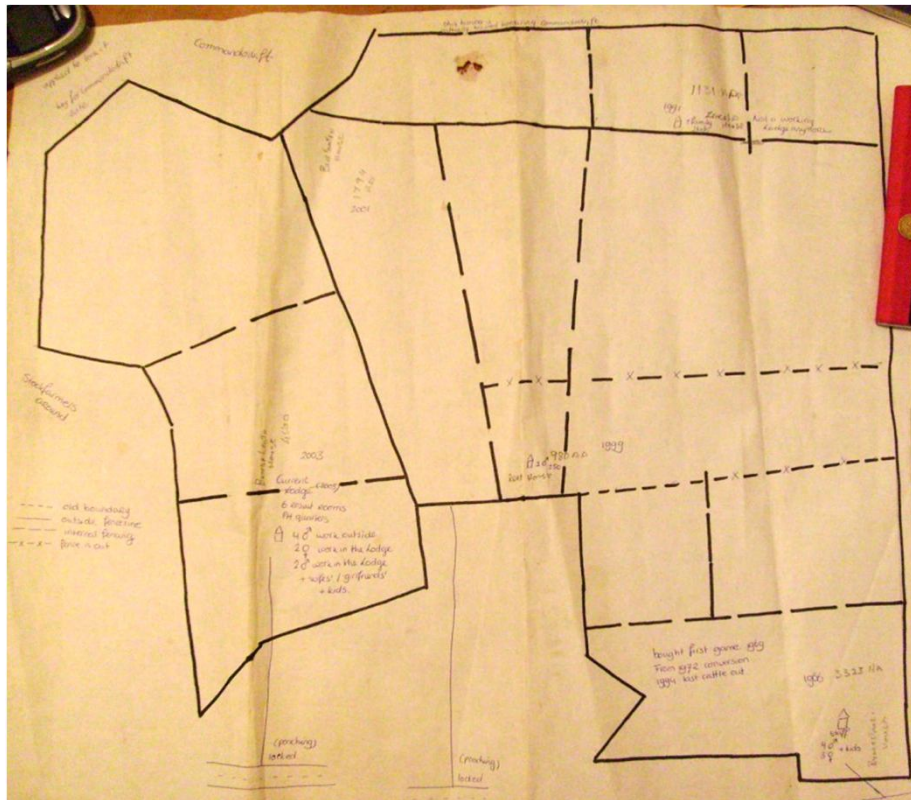


Power configurations



- Farm conversion as spatial and social reform process.
- Farmers' political fears concealed in economic discourse on commercial agriculture
- Spatial legacy commercial farming landscape: mobility restrictions
- Power to shape the environment

Spatial engineering



- Farm conversions gradual process from the 1970s
- Infrastructural destruction
- Human settlement minimalised
- Claiming land through removing remnants from the past
- Who is at home on the farm?



Infrastructural destruction

- *First the domestic animals are removed. Then the old fences go down and the old infrastructure is removed; windmills, staff houses, sheds etc. Then the game fences go up and the game comes in. And then the Lodge is build and new roads are made. The thing is that once you start game farming, you can never reverse back! And politically once the old farm infrastructure is out it becomes difficult to give the farm away to someone who wants to farm there. It is impossible to get this capital back and it is things the old government paid for (Karoo farmer)*

Shifting interdependencies

- Disconnecting home and work
- Reduced labour opportunities on trophy-hunting farms
- Paternalistic relations
- *If the people were united! Then they could strike. Among us, farm workers, there are people that receive more money, and those are not going to strike. We are not united and this is not going to improve (Farm worker).*





Land reform implications

- Ambivalent state
- Policy contradictions (separation Land and Labour Laws)
- Mobilities farmers and farm dwellers understood in historical context
- Implications for unionisation farm workers
- Home and work seperated, and working class divided.

Thank You



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