



KLEIN GOEDERUST

CASE STUDY

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This is us

At the heart of Arch on Main Architects is an awesome father-daughter team. We're passionate about good design and making our client's dreams a reality.

Overview

Project:

- Klein Goederust Wine Cellar and Tasting Room

Location:

- Franschhoek

Team:

- Arch on Main Architects (Project Architect)
- Collaboration with HB Architects
- Oooh Inspired interior Design
- MPro structural & civil Engineers

Introduction

- Since its acquisition by the Siguqa Family in 2019, the estate has undergone a careful process of restoration and renewal.
- The family restored the farm's historic buildings with the aim of preserving the estate's heritage while gradually introducing contemporary architecture that reflects the farm's new chapter.
- The new architectural interventions continue this philosophy by establishing a dialogue between heritage structures and modern design.

Design Approach

- Developed a contemporary architectural language defined by clean horizontal lines, minimalist detailing, and strong connections to the surrounding landscape.
- Incorporated large expanses of glass to frame views of the vineyards and the dramatic mountain scenery of Franschhoek Mountains.
- Selected natural materials and muted tones to ensure the new buildings visually integrate with the vineyard setting.
- Positioned the buildings to create a sensitive relationship with the historic farm structures, ensuring the new elements complement rather than compete with the heritage architecture.

The need

To summarise the primary issues identified were:

- Heritage approvals
- Contextual design
- Landscape integration
- Thermal performance
- Project timeline

The Challenges

- Heritage & Council approvals: Navigating the approval process to ensure the new development respects the historic character of the estate while allowing for contemporary architecture.
- Contextual design: Creating a modern building that sits comfortably next to restored heritage buildings without overshadowing them.
- Landscape integration: Designing architecture that responds to the strong natural setting of vineyards and mountain views.
- Thermal performance: Managing solar gain caused by extensive glass façades to prevent overheating inside the building.
- Project timeline: Coordinating approvals, design, and construction to maintain the client's targeted completion schedule.



The solution

To summarise:

A contemporary architectural approach was adopted that carefully balances modern design with heritage sensitivity. Through considered building orientation, restrained material choices, and forms that respond to the surrounding vineyards and mountain landscape, the new structures integrate naturally with the historic context of Klein Goederust Wine Farm while addressing environmental performance and regulatory requirements.



The Solution

- Heritage-sensitive design approach

The new buildings were designed with a restrained contemporary architectural language that clearly distinguishes them from the historic structures while remaining respectful in scale, proportion, and placement. This allows the old and new architecture at Klein Goederust Wine Farm to coexist harmoniously without competing visually.

- Landscape integration

The buildings were carefully positioned and designed to respond to their natural setting. Horizontal rooflines and elongated forms echo the linear patterns of the surrounding vineyards and reflect the layered contours of the Franschhoek Mountains, allowing the architecture to feel grounded within the landscape.

- Managing solar exposure and heat gain

The extensive use of glass façades required thoughtful environmental strategies. Careful building orientation, deep overhangs, and shading elements were incorporated to reduce solar gain while maintaining uninterrupted views and natural daylight within the interior spaces.

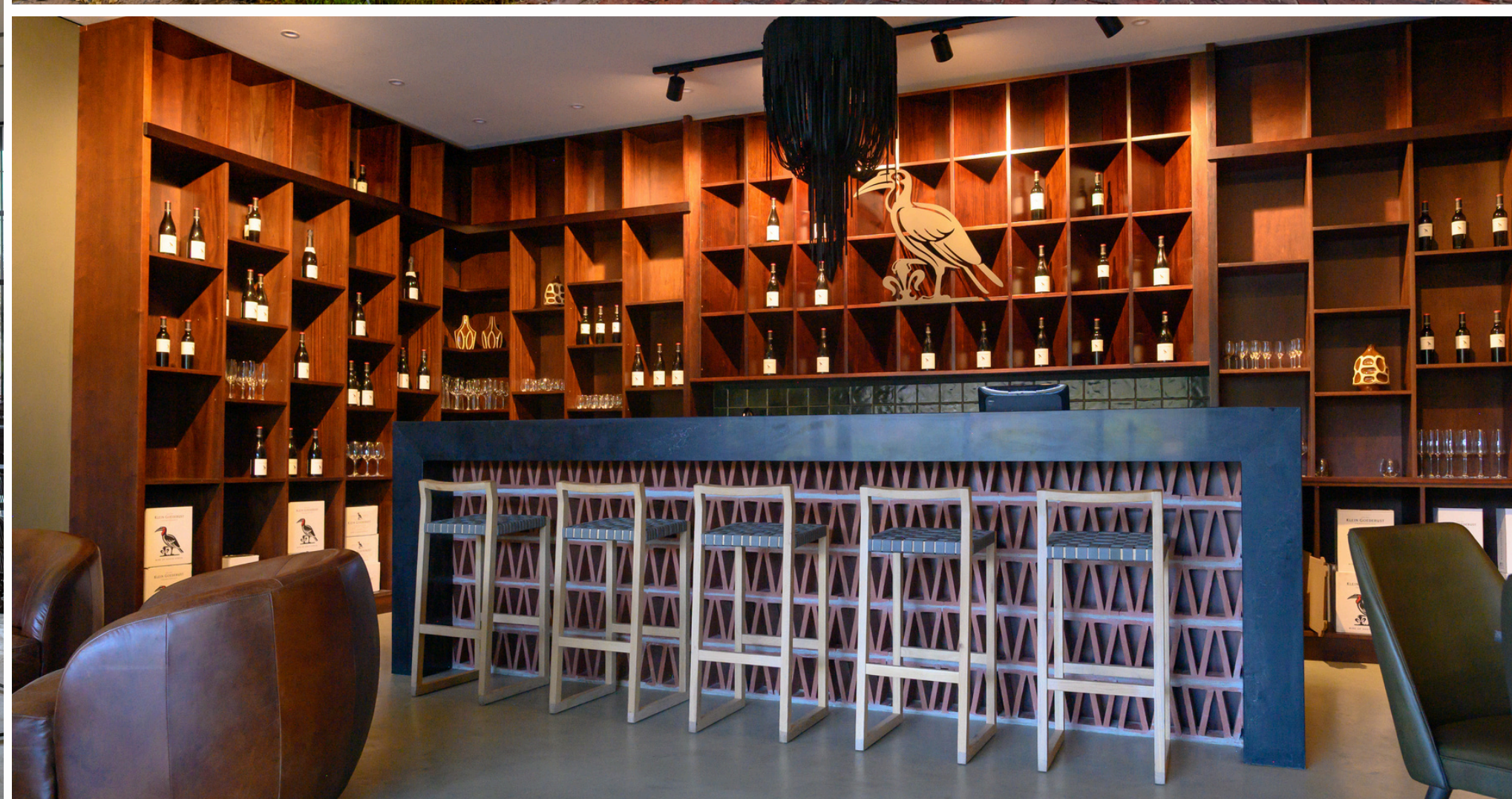
- Material selection and architectural restraint

A palette of natural, understated materials was selected to complement the surrounding agricultural landscape. These materials help soften the contemporary architecture and ensure the buildings visually integrate with the vineyards and broader rural context.

- Coordinated design and approval process

Close collaboration between the design team, consultants, and regulatory authorities ensured that the heritage approval process was successfully navigated while keeping the project aligned with the client's intended construction timeline.





The end result

The product

The careful planning and execution by the team resulted in a completely transformed building:

- A harmonious relationship between old and new

The new structures sit comfortably alongside the restored historic buildings, creating a dialogue between traditional Cape farm architecture and modern design without overshadowing the estate's heritage character.

- Architecture that responds to its landscape

The buildings frame views of the vineyards and the surrounding Franschhoek Mountains, strengthening the visual connection between the architecture and the natural setting.

- Light-filled, contemporary interior spaces

Expansive glazing allows natural light to fill the interiors while maintaining uninterrupted views of the surrounding landscape, creating calm and inviting spaces for visitors.

- An elevated visitor experience

The new development enhances the overall experience of the estate, combining wine, landscape, and architecture to create a distinctive destination within the Cape Winelands.

- A future-focused identity for the estate

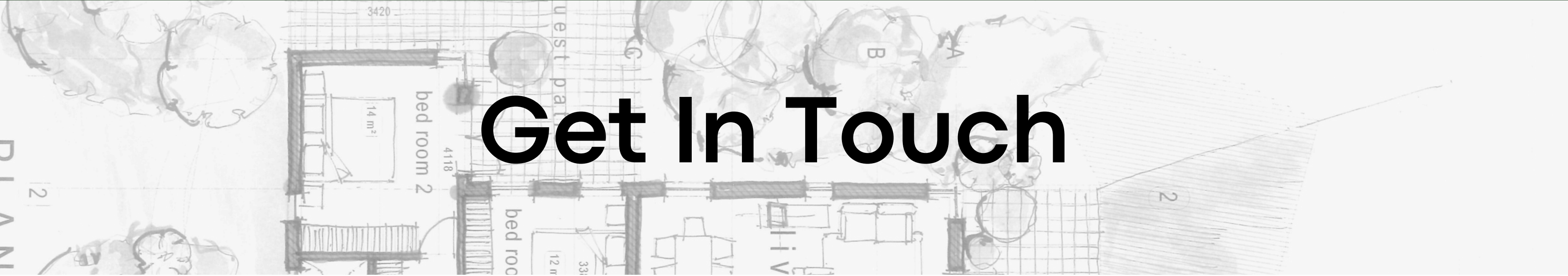
By thoughtfully integrating modern design within a historic context, the project supports the continued evolution of Klein Goederust as a destination that celebrates heritage, fine wine, and contemporary architecture.





To conclude

The project successfully weaves together heritage and contemporary design, creating a cohesive architectural narrative that respects the past while embracing the future. It stands as a refined expression of place—where landscape, history, and modern living converge to shape a distinctive and enduring identity for the estate.

A detailed architectural floor plan serves as the background for the central section. It includes various rooms labeled such as "bed room 2", "bed room", "living", and "vest patio". Dimensions like "14 m²", "12 m", and "3.3" are visible. The drawing is rendered in a light, sketchy style with some areas shaded in grey.

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