

09 Researchers' Biographies



Nicholas John Clarke

Architect, Independent Built Heritage Consultant. Heritage Studies Associate, Department of Architecture - University of Pretoria, and part-time lecturer and PhD candidate - Delft University of Technology.

Nicholas Clarke, a South African-born architect, obtained his professional degree from the University of Pretoria in 1999. He continued his studies at the University of Cambridge, funded through a Commonwealth Scholarship, where he earned a master's degree in Environmental Design in Architecture in 2005. He has practiced as an architect in South Africa and served as full-time lecturer at the University of Pretoria from 2007 to 2013.

One of Nicholas' fields of interest and expertise is Shared South African- Dutch built heritage and the potential this holds for societal benefit. He has initiated a number of Shared Heritage projects and collaborated with many stakeholders in this specialist field.

Nicholas is internationally active in the field of world heritage, having undertaken a number of Reactive Monitoring Missions of World Heritage Properties, as well as desktop reviews of Nomination Dossiers on behalf of ICOMOS for UNESCO. He has co-authored and co-edited a number of books, including *Architectural Guide. South Africa* (with Fisher, RC, 2014. Dom: Berlin) and *ZA-Wilhelmiens. An Eclectic South African Architecture* (with Bakker, KA and Fisher, RC, 2014. Pretoria: Visual Books) and *Recentring Tshwane. Urban heritage strategies for a resilient Capital* (edited with Kuipers, MC, 2015: Pretoria: Visual Books). His research writing has received multiple peer recognition: the *Eclectic ZA Wilhelmiens* project received the biennial SAIA Award of Excellence in 2016, South Africa's highest national accolade for architecture.

Recently he (with Fisher, RC) acted as contributing author to the *Strategic Environmental Assessment for Shale Gas Development in South Africa* (Counsel for Industrial and Scientific Research, CSIR, 2016).

Nicholas has served on a number of civic and professional committees and is currently a member of the South African Academy of Arts and Sciences' Visual Arts Committee. He spends his time between South Africa and the Netherlands, where he is registered as a PhD candidate at the Delft University of Technology. Nicholas is registered as professional architect in both South Africa and the Netherlands.

Roger Charles Fisher

Emeritus Professor in the Department of Architecture, University of Pretoria, Professional Architect, Independent Heritage Consultant and Practitioner, and Architectural Critic and Writer.

Roger Fisher is a National Research Foundation rated researcher with research focus on heritage of the built environment as an agent of the cultural ecosystem, particularly where it reflects cultural osmosis and hybridity. His recent research activities have been, inter alia, as part of a multi-disciplinary and pan-qualification team who researched the engraved rock art site of Biesje Poort, Northern Cape Province, South Africa which culminated in the book *Engraved Landscape : Biesje Poort : Many Voices* (2012, Gordons Bay: Tormentosa); inventorying and assessing the built environment heritage of the Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg World Heritage Site and more recently the assessment of the shared C19 Dutch shared heritage of the Boer Republics resulting in the award winning book *Eclectic ZA Wilhelmiens – a shared Dutch built legacy* (with Bakker, KA and Clarke, NJ, 2014. Pretoria: Visual Books). He has most recently acted with Nicholas Clarke, as Contributing Author to the built environment heritage in the Heritage Report for the *Strategic Environmental Assessment for Shale Gas Development in South Africa* by the Council for Industrial and Scientific Research (CSIR, 2016).

The *Architectural Guide South Africa* (With Clarke, NJ. 2014. Berlin: Dom Verlag) was honoured with an award for Architecture by the Gauteng Institute of Architects and the South Africa Institute of Architects.

He is recipient of the South African Institute of Architects Writer's and Critic's Award (2010) and Heritage Association of South Africa's Gold Medal Award (2013). He currently serves as Councillor on the Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority. Roger Fisher serves member of the Education Committee of the South African Council for the Architectural Profession.

Siphiwe Semelane

Siphiwe Semelane holds a B(Hons) degree in Architecture from the Department of Architecture, University of Pretoria.

Siphiwe was born and raised in Kwa-Mhlanga, an informal settlement 60 km North of Pretoria. He matriculated from Hoërskool Erasmus in Bronkhorstspuit in 2011. He developed an interest in the different expressions of architecture between the two polarized socio-economic settings while traversing the divide of formal and informal on a daily basis during his years of secondary education.

Siphiwe currently works at GAPP Architects and Urban Designers as a student architect. Here he is involved mainly in housing, commercial and institutional projects.

