-Pretoriana-

THE rare colour picture below of Church Street East was taken in 1904, two years after the Sammy Marks Building was erected opposite the Pretoria market. The market site is now occupied by the State Theatre, part of which can be seen in today's picture alongside.

The Marks Building was designed by a Mr De Zwaan, a Dutch architect who also drew the plans for the Nederlandsche Bank Voor Zuid-Afrika on Church Square.

In the early years, shops in the Marks Building included the hardware store of DS Hughes, the agricultural implement department of TW Beckett, and M Liebman's Bottle Store.

The adjoining small building (the verandah is on the extreme right of the picture) was used as an armourer's shop by George Kynoch & Co. The site where the Nectar Tea advertisement was is now occupied by the giant Standard Bank Centre.

Last week, plans by a banking group to preserve and restore Marks Building and the Kynoch building were shelved. Restoration will continue only if a new sponsor can be found for the project.

(Pretoriana picture submitted by Mr Paul van Zeyl, Box 29012, Sunnyside. Text by staff writer Daan de Beer.)



Iretoria News 11 - 3 - 1988