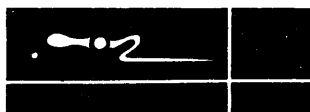




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Bewaring en Patriotisme

Die besef dat die wêreld se hulpbronne nie onuitputbaar is nie word allerweë erken. Natuurlike hulpbronne, olie, minerale, bosse, word skaarser en duurder. Steeds word gesoek na alternatiewe roumateriale, steeds word metodes vir konservasie bedink en toegepas. Die mensdom is afhanklik van wat die aarde kan oplewer.

Dat die mens egter van brood alleen nie lewe nie is aksiomaties. Hy het geestelike hulpbronne ook nodig. Die verskeidenheid van sulke geestelike hulpbronne is legio. Godsdienst en kultuur, hoe dit ook al gedefinieer mag word, is die oorkoepelende terme vir geestelike hulpbronne.

Bewaringsmense bepaal hulle by die fisiese voortbrengsels van kultuur; in besonder geboue, stadsgesigte, straatfronte, omgewings, as die tasbare bewyse van beskawing, prestasie, vaardigheid, vanaf die verlede tot die hede. Hierdie estetiese sensitiwiteit en geskiedenis word aangetref op plaaslike, regionale en nasionale terreine. Die plaaslike en streeksgemeenskappe se verknogtheid aan hul eie kring uit tot 'n nasionale trots in die hele volk se kultuurgoedere wat in dié sin 'n saambindende faktor in die volkslewe word. Hierdie faktor verskaf 'n apolitiese, maar nie neutrale nie, basis vir onderlinge identifikasie en erkenning uit die herkenning van die sigbare.

Dat daar ook ander faktore in hierdie sfeer werksaam is, is vanselfsprekend. Maar alleen die fisiese skeppinge, geboue, dorpe, forte, passe, kunswerke, van die verlede verskaf onweerlegbare bewyse van die volk se geskiedenis wat vir iedereen sigbaar is. Dit vereis nie hoë geletterdheid, ontwikkelde abstrakte kennis, om waarneembaar te wees nie. Iedereen weet dit is daar want hulle sien dit, ervaar dit, weet dat dit kom uit die gemeenskap en volk waaraan hulle behoort. Dit sê vir hulle wie hulle is.

Bewaring is inderdaad in belang van geestelike weerbaarheid. Dit is tog seker waarom patriotisme gaan.

WJP

Conservation? Yes!

Editor's Note

This article was extracted for a brochure published by the British Tourist Authority last year to advertise the numerous architec-

tural heritage tours available in Britain in conjunction with the 1975 European Architectural Heritage Year.

Although now past, the EAHY was a very important event and this article summarises very well what it was all about.

The Simon van der Stel Foundation's plans for a similar event in South Africa are well advanced, economic weather permitting!

The world is squandering its resources at an unprecedented rate. Some of these assets are natural, like the minerals below the ground. Some are man-made, like the great works of art we have inherited from the past. All are irreplaceable. Once lost, they can never be recovered, never be replaced.

Paintings, sculpture, the craftsman's objects - these we put into museums. But what of the historical monuments, the buildings, the towns and villages? All over Europe the supreme heritage of Western man is being eroded and destroyed, through neglect, demolition and redevelopment. This precious legacy of culture and beauty was built up slowly, lovingly, over many centuries. We have a duty to preserve what is left of it for the benefit of future generations and its obliteration must not be accepted as the inevitable price of progress.

Great Britain is the custodian of an important part of Europe's architectural heritage. Have you ever looked westward to the setting sun from Harlech Castle, or eastward to Holy Island from Bamburgh across the surf on the rocks below? Have you ever touched the ancient stones of the Roman Wall as it snakes its way across Northumbria? Places like these are part of Britain's history, part of the European heritage. Think of the incomparable richness of the great cathedrals and abbeys; of Durham and Salisbury, and the vaulted tracery of King's College Chapel in Cambridge. Think of the City spires by Wren and of innumerable parish churches, folded in the hills or marking the plains. These too are part of our heritage. Think, then, of the great houses, their parks and their gardens, so many of them open now for us all to enjoy; they constitute something very special in the tapestry of the European heritage.

These great monuments are acknowledged by all. But now turn your thoughts to those captivating towns and villages. Have you ever fallen under the sway of Rye, or Lavenham, or Haddington or Chipping Campden? Have you not felt

refreshed by the civilised values of Eighteenth Century Bath or Edinburgh? All these are a vital part of our heritage. But perhaps we tend to take these for granted. Towns reflect the changing needs of those who live in them. A terrace comes down here, a road is widened and straightened there, a new slab block rises above the roofline. There are garish advertisements, overhead wires, derelict corners which become dumps for old prams and mattresses.

This is happening all over Europe and it is to alert people to this fact that 1975 has been designated European Architectural Heritage Year.

It was the Council of Europe that originally elected 1975 as EAHY. Many countries throughout Europe are participating in their broad aim to halt this steady loss of irreplaceable monuments and the erosion of character in historic European towns. The detailed objectives of the Year are:

- To awaken the interest of the European peoples in their common architectural heritage.
- To protect and enhance buildings and areas of architectural or historic interest.
- To conserve the character of old towns and villages.
- To assure for ancient buildings a living role in contemporary society.

Launched in 1973, the campaign will reach its climax in 1975. It is being conducted at international, national and local levels and throughout Europe National Committees backed by government money and patronage are hard at work.

In Britain, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh is president of the United Kingdom Council for Heritage Year and the detailed co-ordination of the UK campaign is the responsibility of an Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of the Countess of Dartmouth. There are also national committees for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The UK Council in their 'declaration' on the occasion of their first meeting invited 'the people of the United Kingdom to play a full part in this concerted effort of the European peoples to conserve their common heritage'.

With the Countess of Dartmouth, Chairman of the UK Executive Committee, we must make efforts to see that in 1975 'dustbins are full of plans for unsuitable buildings which did not go up'. But

more than this, we must make hard plans for the conservation of those buildings and areas which we cherish for their quality or their character.

Much of the basic activity in connection with Heritage Year will be carried out by local authorities, amenity societies and voluntary bodies. For example there are plans for the enhancement of 'conservation areas' in historic cities, towns and villages; traffic control in historic cities and towns; tree planting; the undergrounding of ugly overhead wires; re-toration of individual historic buildings.

Restorica

Restorica is the semi-annual official magazine of the Simon van der Stel Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1959 as the South African national trust for historic preservation and aesthetic conservation. The magazine formerly known simply as the Bulletin, was first published in April, 1960. This is the 34th edition. Circulation is 7 000 and readership 30 000.

Restorica should be a quarterly or even a monthly. Regrettably this is beyond the financial resources of the Foundation which must find 80% of its funds privately through donations, membership fees,

rents and sundry income. Even in times of prosperity this was barely the equivalent of a subsistence allowance. Under present economic conditions it has become well-nigh impossible to maintain services, let alone progress.

Restorica's content quality has been improved, we are very grateful for the increase in support from knowledgeable contributors. Very substantial savings in production costs have been effected in various ways. Inflation however has invariably almost nullified the saving on production cost relative to the previous issue.

In response to the many requests from our members and other readers and also from advertisers for more regular and less bulky issues of *Restorica*, we must ask that you please bear with us. To publish two issues per year of 100 pages each is very much cheaper than four issues of 50 pages each or six issues of 30 pages each.

In the meantime thank you for your support and interest. Please recommend *Restorica* and membership of the Foundation to your friends, which by the way makes an excellent Christmas gift. A note or phone call will ensure that a subscription form is mailed to you right away.

Editor

biljoen rand toeriste-bedryf. Brittanje moet Brittanje bly, Nederland moet Nederland bly om toeriste te kan trek. As Amsterdam maar net nog 'n internasionale hoogbou-stad was – waarom daaraan gaan as dit net soos Johannesburg of New York lyk.

U weet waarskynlik dat Suid-Afrika verlede jaar 730 000 besoekers uit die buiteland ontvang het. Hierdie besoekers het ongeveer R300 miljoen aan buitelandse valuta vir Suid-Afrika besorg. Dit is meer as R400 per persoon, reisgeld hierheen uitgesluit.

Binnelandse toerisme het ongeveer R350 miljoen van eienaars laat verwissel. Baie, baie mense het hieruit hul brood verdien. Wat was u streek se aandeel hierin? Ek weet nie, maar wil glo dat daardie aandeel verhoog kan word.

Die spreekwoord sê geld maak geld – dieselfde geld natuurlik vir mense, maar ek wil dit anders stel – mense trek nog meer mense aan. Ek wonder waarom hierdie gebied nie die sentrum van die wêreld se halfedelsteenbedryf is nie. Dit word hier gemyn, behoort hier verwerk te word tot verbruikersprodukte van absolute top gehalte – geoloë, entrepreneurs, ontwerpers, juweliers, sakemanne – mense wie se aanwesigheid nog meer mense sal trek.

U weet dat sommige mense 'n baie vaste vakansieprogram het. Hulle gaan maar elke jaar Durban toe. Daar is egter nog meer mense wat verkies om meer van hulle eie land te sien en te wete te kry. Daar is baie mense wat in meer as net nagklubs, strande en perdewedrenne belangstel. Hulle soek nie net liggaamlike ontspanning nie, maar geestelike verkwikking. Die opvoedkundige en ekonomiese waarde hiervan is belangrik.

Om die volle waarde daarvan te kan kry, moet die volle waarde aangebied word. Die volle waarde behels nie net natuurskoon en vermaak nie, maar ook die kulturele aspekte van die betrokke gebied se samestelling. Dit vereis dus ook navorsing oor en aanbieding of dan beskikbaarstelling van die gebied se historie. Die historie behels sy pre-historie of dan sy paleontologie en argeologie, en sy vestigings- en ontwikkelingsgeskiedenis, en sy hedendaagse geskiedenis.

Die beskikbaarstelling hiervan lê in die aanbieding daarvan en dit impliseer uiteraard die bewaring daarvan. Museums, opelugmuseums, gerestoureerde geboue, aangeduide plekke en die bereikbaarheid daarvan, en die beskikbaarheid van maklik leesbare en hanteerbare lektuur daarvoor.

Verder nog verg dit die bekendstelling, tot selfs buite die landsgrense, van die betrokke gebied se volle toeristiese bates. Die is die taak van die plaaslike owerhede, plaaslike verenigings, streekkomitee, die Departement Toerisme, Satoer, SAL en die private ondernemers in die toerisme-bedryf, die reisagente, hotelle en so meer.

Bewaring en toerisme

Toespraak en Referaat: W J Punt

Elfde Jaarkongres en Simposium
Oranje-Namakwa-Strekkomitee vir die
Bevordering van Toerisme
Keimoes
21–22 September 1976

Dit mag vir sommige mense vreemd opval dat 'n bewaringsman 'n toerismekonferensie open. Maar die dae dat bewaring die belangstelling van slegs 'n klein groepie historici en monumentebewakers was, is al lang verby. Die Stigting Simon van der Stel is in 1959 opgerig en het Suid-Afrika bewaringsbewus gemaak. Simon van der Stel is die burgerlike liggaam en die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenwaardighede is die statutêre of staatsliggaam.

Geboue, pleine, straatfronte, stads- en dorpsgesigte, strukture, voorwerpe en terreine word nie om hul eie onthalwe bewaar nie, maar wel vir mense. Dus, vir wat hulle vir mense beteken. En, nie net vir die mense wat hulle eienaars of bewoners mag wees nie, maar ook vir diegene wat hulle toevallig, of by geleentheid, of periodiek, in die aanwesigheid van sulke geboue of plekke bevind. Hieruit kan mens al dadelik die afleiding

maak dat, benewens al die ander oorwegings, bewaring en toerisme, as menslike aktiwiteite, by mekaar gaan uitkom. In hierdie streek, wat 'n ontsaglik groot lap aarde behels, is daar sekere aspekte wat u as toerisme-bedrywers interesseer. Die Oranje-Namakwa-gebied het besondere topografie, 'n besondere landbou en besondere natuurverskynsels soos die veldblomme, diere, Augrabieswaterval en 'n besondere geskiedenis; die gemeenskappe het 'n eie karakter. Daar kleef 'n hele reeks interessantheite aan die geskiedenis hier – die ontdekking van die Augrabies-waterval, eerw. Schroder, oubaas Lutz en die merkwaardige kanale. Die Duitsers se inval! Die Rebelle en kanoneiland.

Aan sommige van hierdie dinge word in u toerismebeworderingslektuur aandag gegee. Die geskiedenis van die streek kry ook aandag, maar gesien uit 'n bevooroordeelde standpunt, onvoldoende aandag. Toe maar, u is in goeie geselskap, dit is bykans ooral in Suid-Afrika die geval. In Europa en tans in die VSA ook, is dit anders. Kultuur, of dan die fisiese manifestasies van geskiedenis, is daar van geweldige belang vir toerisme. Bewaring is hoogs ontwikkel in bv Groot Brittanje en Nederland waar dit absoluut van sentrale belang is in hul multi-

Die bevordering van toerisme hier, as 'n aktiwiteit om die volle potensiaal van u streek se toeristiese bates te ontgin, kan die vertrekpunt wees vir die bewaring van die Oranje-Namakwa-streek se erfenis. En dan moet u ook onthou dat daardie erfenis 'n breër betekenis het as net van u streek – dit is ook 'n Suid-Afrikaanse erfenis – daarom dat u met reg kan verwag dat Transvalers, Natallers, Vrystaters ook belang stel en belang daarby het dat die Oranje-Namakwa-streek se erfenis bewaar moet bly.

Elke gemeenskap, stam, volk, nasie, ontwikkel van tyd tot tyd sy eie kulturele kenmerke. So byvoorbeeld, kry mens die verskillende argitektoniese style, klassieke, gotiese, ens. Vir ander groepe word hierdie verskillende kenmerke interessant en hieruit vloei een van die belangrike beweegredes vir toerisme. Die mens is 'n nuuskierige wese, 'n ondersoeker. Hy ervaar graag. Hy weet graag meer as net van homself. Hierdie propensiteit is belangrik vir toerisme.

Die potensiaal vir toerisme van Suid-Afrika se erfenis uit 'n buitengewoon ryk heterogene kulturele agtergrond en opset word nie ten volle benut nie.

Ons het wel ons pragtige Kaaps-Hollandse argitektuur wat redelik goed bekend is, ook in die buiteland. Maar, dan ook maar net oppervlakkig. Daar is veel oor gepubliseer maar meestal in duur boeke wat buitendien haas onverkrygbaar is. Werklik toerisme-aangepaste lektuur oor die onderwerp weet ek nie van nie. Dit is ook die geval met ons ander argitektoniese verskynsels, monumente, gedenktekens en geskiedkundige geboue, pleine, omgewings en voorwerpe. Dit is veral so wat betref spesifieke verskynsels, plaaslike omgewings en streke.

Daar is wel een kaart wat deur die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede uitgegee word wat verklaarde nasionale monumente aandui. Maar as 'n mens dink hoe ver die RNG agter is met wat verklaar behoort te word, dan is dit nog maar net 'n stap in die regte rigting. Ter verdediging van die RNG moet ek hierby sê dat die RNG sy bes doen met 'n pynlik klein begroting. Die RNG is 'n statutêre liggaam en kry sy fondse van die staat. Die staat begryp nog nie waarom dit gaan nie, sy bydrae is tans nog so minimaal dat dit maar net op 'n nominale bydrae neerkom.

Hiervoor moet u en ek, die burgers, die skuld kry. Die staat bestaan ten behoeve van ons, dit is ons owerheid en as hy onbewaringsbewus is, is dit omdat ons self onbewaringsbewus is.

In Europa en die VSA is dit anders. Die sentrale regering, ander owerhede uitgesluit, in die VSA het verlede jaar \$27 miljoen net vir dollar-vir-dollar subsidies vir restourasiewerk toegestaan. In Nederland is daar verlede jaar vir R80 miljoen restourasiewerk onderneem en hier van het die verskillende owerhede R40 miljoen bygedra. Maar dan in Nederland

word die toeristiese waarde, onder andere, natuurlik baie deeglik besef. Nederland se monumenteskat is sy enkel belangrikste toeristelokmiddel. 'n Stad soos Amsterdam byvoorbeeld, met sy gragte en gewels, ontvang daaglikse vele duisende toeriste wat juis om daardie rede daarheen gaan.

Die restourasieprojekte uitgevoer deur die Stigting dien 'n verskeidenheid van doelstellings. Dit is: Direkte toegepaste bewaring; indirekte bewaring deur 'n voorbeeld te stel; bied geleentheid om ondervinding op te doen aan restourasie-argitekthe; bied studiemateriaal aan studente van restourasie, bewaring en kultuurgeskiedenis; skepping van 'n aantreklikheid vir die plaaslike gemeenskap; bevordering van toerisme; skepping van bewaringsfasiliteite vir antiek, dokumente en voorwerpe; voorstelling van verskillende argitektoniese style; voorstelling van verskillende kulturele bydraes tot Suid-Afrikaanse argitektuur; voorsien die Stigting van noodsaaklike bates en inkomste.

Toegepaste konservasie in die vorm van gerestoureerde geboue is maar deel van die Stigting se werk. Die Stigting kan nie self al die so broodnodige doen wat op hierdie intens menslike terrein, die bewaring van restourering van die visuele en tasbare voortbrengsels van beskawing in Suid-Afrika, te doen is nie. Bewaring is vir mense. Geboue, pleine, stadsgesigte, natuurlike mooi omgewings en kunsvoorwerpe word nie om hul eie onthalwe bewaar nie maar wel vir wat hulle vir die mens beteken. Hulle vorm deel van en bepaal die aard van die omgewing waarin mense leef. Die ryphed van ouderdom en historiese verband en die menslike skaal van voor-hoogbou se geboue, strate en stadsgesigte het 'n positiewe sielkundige uitwerking op mense. Sulke omgewings behoort beskerm te word. Die Stigting verwelkom ontwikkeling, daardie nuwe geboue, paaie en fabriek wat nodig is vir ekonomiese vooruitgang. Maar dan nie onnodiglik ten koste van historiese en estetiese rykdomme nie. Dan word ontwikkeling vernietiging.

Dit is in die bevordering van die aanvaarding en toepassing van konservasie dat die Stigting sy hoof funksie vervul. Oral in Suid-Afrika is daar voorbeelde van toegepaste bewaring wat die direkte of indirekte resultaat is van een of ander optrede aan die kant van die Stigting. Die Stigting adviseer, ondersteun en help daaglik individue, ander verenigings, staatsinstellings, maatskappye, kultuurliggame en plaaslike owerhede betreffende bewaring en restourasie. Amptenare, raadslede en ere-assistente van die Stigting lê jaarliks 500 000 km in Suid-Afrika en die buiteland af om lesings te gee, te adviseer, te protesteer en te leer met betrekking tot bewaring.

Hoe verder 'n mens met verloop van tyd weg beweeg van die skeppende prestasies

van 'n besondere tydperk, hoe waardevoller word hulle vir die huidige en komende geslagte. Hulle verteenwoordig skakels met die verlede en is voorwerpe van enkulturatiewe waarde. Vir Benvenuto Cellini was sy silwer bokale bewyse van sy vakmanskap, vir sy tydgenote was hulle kunstige gebruiksvoorwerpe, vir ons is hulle kunswerke van onskatbare waarde. Vir die Voortrekker was sy kakebeenwa maar net 'n vervoermiddel, vir ons is dit 'n tasbare skakel met 'n trotse epog in ons geskiedenis. Vir die temmers van die Noordweste was hulle korbeelde-huise bloot strukture gebore uit die noodsaak van bou-met-beskikbare materiale en tegnologie. Vir ons is hulle manifestasies van pioniersvernuif en deurstellingsvermoë. Hulle is bewys van 'n diepe invloed van omgewingsfaktore op argitektuur.

Elke mens het 'n ingeboude psigologiese behoefte om te weet waar hy vandaan kom. Dit verskaf geestelike ankers vir die huidige en riglyne vir die toekoms. Hierdie verskynsel kom tot uiting in gesinsverband – grootouers, ouers, huis en sy inhoudsvoorwerpe – ook in familieverband, dan nog breër in sibbe of stam- of gemeenskapsverband – pioniers, leiers, geboue, kerke, dorpe, nalatenskappe – en so ook dan in volksverband en nasieverband. Hierdie bande met die verlede is baie belangrik vir die betrokkenes.

Natuurbeewaring is 'n algemeen erkende en begrepe begrip. Historiese bewaring is nog nie so goed bekend nie en nog minder die estetiese omgewingsbewaring.

Natuurbeewaring word toegepas ten behoeve van die plante en diere en die mens. Vernietiging van die natuur lei nie net tot oorlewingsprobleme vir plante en diere nie maar ook vir die mens. Dink maar net aan die lugsuiweringfunksie van bome, byvoorbeeld.

Historiese bewaring en estetiese omgewingsbeskerming word egter nog nie so duidelik verstaan nie. Ons word nog dikwels van obstruksionisme, van 'n anti-voortuitgangmentaliteit, beskuldig. Ons is kwansuis romanties met ons koppe in die wolke. Allermens, ons is besig met harde realiteite van gesonde fisiese en geestelike lewenswyses.

Ons weet dat moderne tegnologie feitlik verseker dat prakties enigiets, hetsy gebou of voorwerp, deur iets anders wat tegnologies meer funksioneel en winsgewend is, vervang kan word. Die ervaring leer egter dat die tegnologie nie altyd verseker dat die nuwe gebou of voorwerp subjektief, dus psigologies, esteties, sosiologies, beter sal wees nie en 'n groter bydrae tot die kwaliteit van die lewe sal kan maak nie.

Dit wil natuurlik nie sê dat bewaringsmense teen nuwebou of die moderne kuns en tegnologie is nie. Alles behalwe, ons sit ook graag in lugverkoelde kantore, ry ook liever op snelweë, gebruik ook liever 'n rekenmasjien as 'n abakus.

Trouens, bewaring sluit ook in die moderne wat goed is. Bewaring is vir die komende geslagte, dit is ook hulle erfenis wat bewaar moet word. Ons is maar net die trustees vir die huidige.

Wat om te doen

Om nou by die praktiese sy van die saak te kom. Wat kan mens doen onder bestaande omstandighede om die toerismepotensiaal in bewaring te benut?

– Eerstens meen ek, moet ons poog om die skynbare onvermoë van toerismeowerhede en -bedrywers om die kulturele skatte van die land raak te sien, oorkom. Dit kan beste gedoen word deur die praktiese toepassing van bewaring. Dink maar aan die gerestoureerde Kerkstraat in Tulbagh. Voor die aardbewing het Tulbagh maandeliks ongeveer 200 toeriste getrek. Nou na die restourasie het die syfer tot 2 000 gestyg. Selfs op weksdae sukkel mens om 'n tafel in die Paddagangrestaurant te kry.

Cradock het na die 1974 vloed 'n soortgelyke geleentheid as Tulbagh gehad en dit laat verbygaan. Die twee strate met die oudste huise aan die rivier, kon, gerestoureerd, Cradock op die toeristekaart geplaas het.

Om plaaslik bewaringsbewustheid aan te wakker is daar verskeie metodes beskikbaar – 'n streekkomitee van die Stigting, 'n plaaslike historiese vereniging, 'n plaaslike museumkomitee, 'n bewaringsbewuste plaaslike owerheid.

– Projekte wat onderneem kan word deur sulke persone en instansies kan insluit:

- 'n lystingsprojek – dit is die fotografeer en beskrywing van bewaringswaardighede – die opteken van die fisiese erfenisse, dus.
- 'n plaaslike geskiedenisprojek – dit is die opteken van die herinneringe van plaaslike oues van dae.
- 'n aanmerkprojek – dit is die aanbring van muurplate op ou en nuwe geboue wat die historiese verband van die gebou of die een wat daar gestaan het aandui. (Die Stigting doen dit byvoorbeeld in Kaapstad waar keramiekplate aangebring word.)
- aanmoedigingsprojekte – dit is die aanmoediging tot restourasie en versorging deur die eienaars van historiese of estetiese geboue en plekke.
- aanmeldingsprojekte – dit is die aanmelding van bewaringswaardighede by die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede.
- opvoedkundige projekte – dit is gespreksvoering met plaaslike stadsraadslede en amptenare, lesings, filmvertonings en uitstappies soos staptoere deur die dorp en bustoere in die omgewing. – Uit sulke ondernemings sal die inligting kom wat nodig sal wees vir die

noodsaaklike toerisme-aangepaste lektuur en die stimulus vir die skepping van toerismegerigte fasiliteite. Hier word bedoel die bereikbaarheid, sigbaarheid, besoekbaarheid, van geboue en terreine.

Die wyse waarop historiese geboue en plekke tentoongestel of aangebied word, is vir toerisme uiters belangrik. Oor die algemeen word dit in Suid-Afrika swak gedoen.

Waarde van bewaringsgeoriënteerde toerisme

● Politieke waardes

Deur die kulturele en estetiese verskynsels van 'n land of landstreek of dorp korek, eerlik, aantreklik en verstaanbaar aan te bied, word die besoeker die geleentheid gegee om tot apolitiese gevolgtrekkings oor die aard van die omgewing en sy mense te kom, om eie insigte te verkry. So 'n toeris gaan terug na sy land of kontrei met indrukke wat hy tot gebalanseerde meningsvorming kan aanwend. Hy kan 'n ambassadeur word. Kwaadwilliges natuurlik uitgesluit, aan hulle kan mens tog nie veel doen nie.

● Ekonomiese waardes

Ek meen dat dit nie nodig is om veel hieroor te sê nie. Dit spreek feitlik van self dat die hele gemeenskap baat by die geld wat toeriste agterlaat.

Een aspek wat dien genoem te word is dat bewaring op sigself ekonomies verantwoordbaar is. Restourasie is bykans sonder uitsondering goedkoper as nuwebou. Daar is in die afgelope 25 jaar in Suid-Afrika nog bruikbare geboue ter waarde van ongeveer R2 500 miljoen gesloop. Ek wonder of ons dit kan bekostig.

● Sosiologiese waardes

Ek meen dat uit wat ek reeds gesê het, die sosiologiese waarde van bewaring reeds na vore gekom het.

Morele weerbaarheid is belangrik. Trots in jou eie, in jou geskiedenis, in jou omgewing, bevorder morele weerbaarheid. Vir ons in Suid-Afrika het dit 'n besondere belangrike konnotasie. U weet dat die fisiese erfenisse van 320 jaar van Westerse beskawing in Suid-Afrika die enigste onweerlegbare en tasbare bewyse is van ons eiendoms- en vestigingsreg hier te lande is. Waarom sloop ons dit dan?

Bewaring hou ook verband met die sosiologiese uitwerkinge wat omgewingsinvloede op die mens het. Voor hoogbou, dit is hoër as ses verdiepings, was beboude omgewings vir die mens verteerbaar. Jy was nie oordonder deur geboue wat so groot en hoog is dat hulle visueel nie meer te verwerk is nie. Daar was nog nie Johannesburg se “concrete canyons” nie. Die sosiologiese ewels van Hillbrow word grootliks aangehelp deur die

hoëdigheidsbewoningsfaktor van oormatig groot en dikwels esteties, buite so wel as binne, onaanvaarbare geboue. Dié besef is nou sterk in lande soos Brittanje en Nederland.

Finansiering van bewaring

Ek het reeds in die breë sin hierna verwys. Wat finansiering van plaaslike toegepaste bewaring betref net dit.

Die eerste verantwoordelikheid om hand in die sak te steek vir bewaring, lê by die burger self. Dit is sy en sy kinds-kindere se erfenis wat hy moet bewaar. Dit impliseer eie geld en eie deelname in verenigings en restourasies.

As belastingbetaler het die burger egter ook die reg om hulp van sy owerhede te verweig. In die verband dan hulptoelae van sy plaaslike owerheid, provinsie en staat. Vir verklaarde gedenkwaardighede is daar restourasie- en instandhoudingsubsidies beskikbaar van die RNG.

Die gemeenskap as sodanig behoort bydraes te maak, dit skakel met die burger se partikuliere bydraes, deurdat byvoorbeeld, sakeondernemings skenkings en borgings beskikbaar stel vir publikasies, restourasies en so meer.

Adam Small in die Kol

Proud ou gabou
pathetic pëllie
stil ou
dij fancy dij staan nog
one-way
dij fancy nog: one day, *one day*?
'Is wishful thinking daai
proud ou gabou
pathetic pëllie
quiet ou
dij word gedemolish sê ek vi djou!
Wat was dij?
'n Cash-store?
'n Kerk?
Ma daai was once upon a time, pëllie,
once upon a time . . .
Nou wiet ek nie exactly wát is onse crime
ma ek en dij
is suppose' om te wiet crime doesn't pay!
So pëllie,
dis geskryf en gesign en dis 'n must
dij sil vanish hieso in 'n cloud of dust!

Hoor dij die pèrepote vannie bulldozers?

Ek sil djou miss . . .
Nou sak djou kop
Nou briek djou hart
Kô lat ons hyl dan, ma nie te hard nie
oor mense wat mal is, pëllie,
soes dij val . . .
dja, mál, pëllie

Adam Small

Uit: *Oos Wes Tuis Bes Distrik Ses* deur Jansen en Small. Human en Rousseau

1973

Whose city?

Planning for people

Graeme Binckes

Honorary Chairman
The Vernacular Architecture Society of
South Africa
March 1976

There is a very deep and widespread concern for environmental matters in Europe today. A great many people feel that cities are becoming dehumanised; buildings are so large and complex that they bear no relationship to human scale and the architecture of the "international style" results in so considerable a degree of uniformity that cities are losing their local characteristics. Architects are frequently blamed for this – perhaps rather unfairly as they do not initiate projects but have to serve their clients. In addition there is concern over dwindling natural resources and at the pollution that results from wastage of these precious materials. Above all there is concern for social justice – that people should be treated as people and not as financial ciphers.

These were among the impressions gained by my wife and myself during our study-tour of Europe in August, September and October last year. Our intention was to study environmental conservation and as 1975 had been designated by the Council of Europe as European Architectural Heritage Year, this was a very appropriate time to make the trip. We visited Greece, Italy, France, Britain and the Netherlands and in each country interviewed representatives of state and private conservation organisations, found out as much as possible regarding legislation in respect of conservation and visited various urban renewal schemes. We travelled as official representatives of the Vernacular Architecture Society of South Africa.

We also spent two weeks studying the hill towns of central Italy. These essentially unchanged mediaeval cities embody many of the "human" elements that are missing from the city today; buildings are in scale with people, there are no freeways dividing cities into segments and spreading noise and pollution, there is a variety of architectural incident and spaces are provided for social intercourse. These towns are fortunate to have been isolated on their hilltops; towns built on flat ground are more susceptible to expansion which results in increased ground values in the old centre and consequent replacement of existing buildings with new and larger structures together with continual waves of new-

comers establishing themselves on the outskirts in new areas or taking over existing areas.

Amongst the urban renewal schemes we visited was that in the Trastevere district of Rome. This area, previously inhabited by working-class people, is being taken over by the more wealthy; while the exteriors of the buildings may not be altered, the interiors are being transformed. The unfortunate aspect of this change is the displacement of the existing population.

The same thing is happening in Le Marais in Paris. Originally built for the aristocracy and abandoned by them in the eighteenth century, the mansions of this district have been subdivided and the open courtyards in the middle of the blocks built over with workshops; the courtyards are now being cleared and the buildings restored to their former condition. This project is being carried out in terms of the "Malraux Act" which makes provision for the co-ordination of work between the Ministries responsible for housing and for conservation work respectively and also for public consultation. Unfortunately, these excellent provisions do not appear to be working in practice, possibly due to the traditional centralisation of authority in France. The previous inhabitants are being moved out – very much against their will, we understand – and there are numerous advertising signs on various buildings drawing attention to the marvellous accommodation that is being prepared. A further aspect is that the population of the district is to be reduced from 90 000 to 60 000.

It is obvious that something has gone wrong but in order to understand the situation it is necessary to describe something of the history of conservation and to define some of the terms which, though widely used, are not generally understood.

The movement that might now be described as that of "conservation" had its beginnings in the revulsion against the appalling conditions created by the industrial revolution. Apart from structural deterioration many great buildings were demolished, or so threatened, because of rapidly-increasing pressure on urban space and the consequent rise of urban land values. Accordingly many countries set up official bodies to protect those buildings of especial historical or architectural significance; our own National Monuments Council is such a body.

For a long time the main concern was

with individual buildings or "monuments". It was frequently necessary to "restore" them, after which they had to be "preserved". In our view these terms may be defined as follows:

Restoration: reinstatement in condition existing at some previous point in time. Includes – Repair (to existing components); Renovation (painting, cleaning, replacing damaged, decayed or missing components).

Preservation: in existing/restored condition. Includes – Maintenance (continuous restoration); Protection (indirect preservation, eg by legislation or prohibition of public access).

It is essential that preservation work be based on adequate research. Many buildings in South Africa and elsewhere have been ruined by misguided attempts at "preservation" in which the evidence contained in the original structure has been destroyed.

In recent years it has been realised that it is not enough to "preserve" an individual building alone as an unsympathetic setting will greatly detract from its effect; also that the exterior space of historic areas is as valuable as the interior space of historic buildings. Consequently interest has extended from individual buildings to groups and streets and to entire districts and towns.

At the same time, it was realised that large numbers of individual buildings could not be preserved indefinitely as "monuments" but that it was necessary to keep them in use. If they could not continue in the use for which they had been designed it was necessary to adapt them to new uses. Thus we can now add an additional term to our list of definitions:

Adaptation: to new or expanded uses. Includes – Alteration (basic or superficial changes to entire entities or to components); Addition (new entities or components attached to existing).

Also the term "conservation" came to be used to cover all three forms of intervention (restoration, preservation, adaptation) taken together or singly.

However, we have seen in the Trastevere and Le Marais that even this apparently complete approach is inadequate. Both these districts are termed "conservation areas" and the work proceeding in each case conforms to the definition of "conservation".

It was in this situation that the Council of Europe commenced its studies. It should be mentioned that the Council was inaugurated in 1949 as an international body with the object of increasing co-operation between its 18 member States, especially in cultural matters; each State is represented on the Council by its Foreign Minister and meetings of these Ministers or their deputies (with full powers of decision) take place each month in the headquarters in Strasbourg. In 1973 at its Congress at Zurich the

Council decided to designate 1975 as European Architectural Heritage Year, with the following objects:

1. To awaken the interest and pride of the European peoples in their common architectural heritage;
2. To draw attention to the grave dangers which threaten it;
3. To secure the action required for its conservation, not merely for the sake of its historical significance, but also for its contribution to the enrichment of the quality of life”.

It is the latter object that is the most significant. For the first time a social motive is assigned to the idea of conservation; in fact this is the first statement indicating that the conservation of buildings may have a wider application than historical or architectural interest. This new policy is referred to by the Council of Europe as “integrated conservation”, its stated intention being to involve the architectural heritage with the life of contemporary society.

This policy may well succeed in the twofold aim of retaining buildings, districts and towns of historical or architectural significance and thereby retaining also the example so often provided by these complexes of a “human environment” – that is, one in scale with human beings and emphasising the continuity they require of that environment; together with the example, in many cases, of the vernacular architecture of the area, from which it may be possible to derive principles for contemporary application as an alternative to the “international style” of architecture.

In order to provide further research material for this new policy 50 “pilot projects” were arranged by the countries participating in EAHY. These conservation projects varied in size and being in different localities were based on different situations. The Council of Europe undertook to arrange comparative analyses of the various social, legal and financial aspects involved and to arrange seminars, study-tours, visits and exhibitions. In addition a large number of minor projects were undertaken; there were 1 300 in Britain.

A congress was arranged in Amsterdam as climax to EAHY. This took place from 21 to 25 October 1975 and consisted of the presentation of papers and subsequent discussion on various themes connected with conservation.

We also visited various urban renewal schemes which embody the principles of integrated conservation.

The scheme in Bologna (Italy) covers the conservation of the entire historical centre of the city, an area of some 450 ha with 83 000 inhabitants. It was established that it would be cheaper to retain the existing buildings than to replace them with the equivalent area of new building on the periphery of the city; furthermore the latter course might well have resulted

in transport problems. It was also decided that each person involved would have the opportunity to remain in his or her original accommodation. This was achieved by erecting small new blocks of flats on vacant sites and moving the nearby inhabitants into these “parking houses” as they were called, while the conservation work was in progress; when this was complete the people involved were given the alternative of moving back to their original homes or of staying in the “parking house”. Naturally a preliminary social survey had to be carried out in order to ensure that the existing patterns of social interaction were not disturbed by this process and we had evidence in our visit to one “action area” that this object had been attained. When complete the project will have enabled the city-centre to increase its population to 100 000.

In the Jordaan district of Amsterdam and the Wensum district of Norwich the conservation schemes under way involve the maintenance of rentals at low or middle levels and every inhabitant who so wishes will be able to remain. The latter scheme is also of interest in the number of organisations that are involved; these include the Norwich Municipality, the local Association of Architects, a building investment company, the local traders’ association, a conservation trust, two amenity societies and the local church.

An excellent example of integrated conservation nearer home is that of the fishing village of Arniston, near Bredasdorp, where 80 cottages are being conserved. Once again full investigation have been made into the social and economic background of the inhabitants and measures to improve these are being planned; also all those involved will remain in occupation of their cottages instead of being turned out and the buildings converted into “seaside cottages”.

It is thus apparent that there is considerable scope for local action on “integrated conservation”. In general there is a great need for public education in matters concerning the environment and for the establishment of an information cen-

tre for this purpose and also to provide a data-bank and library for those concerned professionally with conservation. We also need a private property-owning trust independent of Government subsidy and the possibility of establishing a National Trust-type body is at present being discussed between the Vernacular Architecture Society and the Council for the Habitat. It is obvious that the Government cannot undertake all the work that has to be done and there is tremendous scope for private initiative. The Vernacular Architecture Society has carried out considerable research into the aims and work of the National Trust in England commencing in May 1975 when we brought a representative of this organisation to Cape Town for a period of four weeks, this project being supported by the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects and *THE ARGUS* and continued by my wife and myself while in England later in the year.

There is no doubt that the urban environment of Cape Town is becoming as dehumanised as that of any large European city. In our once-beautiful city it is no longer possible to walk up either side of Adderley Street without being forced underground; there is no continuous pavement any more and at one point it is necessary to negotiate either a staircase or escalators – no consideration has been given to the aged or the infirm, to persons in wheelchairs or pushing prams. The Foreshore, previously linked to the old city only in the most tenuous manner, is now further cut off by the widening of Strand Street to motorway proportions – a step which should not have been necessary in view of the mammoth ring-road constructions which incidentally still further separate the city from the sea.

It is only through the concern and involvement of our citizens and of local and other authorities with the conservation of our environment and with positive measures in planning for people rather than for large institutions that the great doubt that exists regarding the answer to the question “Whose City?”, may be removed.

Is die bewaring van ons erfenis ekonomies te regverdig!

Dr. Anton Rupert, voorsitter van die Rembrandtgroep

Hierdie onderwerp dek ’n veld so wyd, so omvangryk, dat ’n mens byna nie weet waar om te begin nie, maar tegelyk so boeiend interessant en so lewensbelangrik vir enige beskaafde volk dat ’n mens miskien nie gaan weet waar om op te hou nie.

Oor net meer as drie eeue het hier in Suid-Afrika ’n nasionale kultuur ontstaan wat ons met trots kan vergelyk met dié in alle ander lande. Gesien teen ons eie getalle – soveel kleiner as één enkele wêreldstad – moet dit beskou word as een van die grootste prestasies in die kultuurgeskiedenis van die mens. Het ons dan nie in die relatiewe korte

tydsbestek van net meer as 300 jaar twee oorspronklike en belangrike bydraes tot wêreldkultuur gemaak nie – naamlik ons unieke Kaaps-Hollandse argitektuur en die lewenskragtige, soepele Afrikaanse taal, die jongste en mees moderne taal van die Westerse wêreld, waarvan ons vanjaar juis die eerste eeufees vier.

Maar basies is ons van Afrika en ons kultuursiening mag ons op geen ander kontinent as in Afrika plaas nie. In sy geheel is ons beskawing en ons kultuur net so min suiwer Europees of Westers as wat ons taal suiwer Nederlands is.

Van herkoms is ons kultuur nóg pleknóg tydgebonde.

Die Suid-Afrikaner is, benewens sy Europese herkoms, in wese van Afrika. Sy kulturele identiteit wat oor meer as 300 jaar gestalte gekry het, dra ook die stempel van Afrika en van sy saamleef met die kulture van hierdie vasteland. As dit nie so was nie, sou ons nasionale kultuur veel nader gewees het aan dié van die VSA, wat feitlik net so oud, en in hoofsaak uit dieselfde Wes-Europese stamlande gevoed is.

Die kultuur- en geestesgoedere van ons voorgeslagte is 'n erfenis wat nie net nagelaat mag word nie, maar wat opnuut deur elke geslag verwerf moet word. Sonder hierdie erfenis wat ons aan die verlede anker, bestaan daar geen norm vir die waardebeplanning van wat elke geslag voortbring nie; is daar geen rigsgnoer om iets groots te verhef bo die absoluut tydelike nie.

Daar kan nie slegs op dié erfenis geteer word nie, want dit moet gevoed word deur eietydse bydraes sodat elke geslag opnuut 'n erfenis kan nalaat. En uit die weefsel van elke geslag se leefwyse groei die tradisies van môre.

Daarom dan dat ek 'n beleid van vennootskap tussen kapitaal en kultuur bepleit – om te help bewaar dit wat vir ons nagelaat is, maar ook om 'n teelaarde te bied vir die skep van kultuurgoedere vir die geslagte wat kom.

En die geskiedenis lewer die bewys dat materiële vooruitgang nie noodwendig in stryd met kulturele opbloei hoef te wees nie.

Die taakstelling vir die toekoms lê vóór al in die opvoeding. Veel meer moet in ons huise, op ons skole en aan ons universiteite gedoen word om by almal, en nie net by die handvol bevoorregtes wat daarin kan spesialiseer nie, 'n liefde en waardering te kweek vir wat ons eie is – die eie wat hier geskep en voortgebring is, maar ook die eie wat deur ons herkoms ons onvervreembare erfreg is in die groot wêreldkultuur.

Ons lewe in 'n tydsgewrig van snelwisselende waardes – in baie opsigte van dubbele standaarde; van beroering en verwarring regdeur die wêreld en in die besonder in Afrika. Maar óns is gelukkig nog bevoorreg om in 'n land in Afrika te kan leef, waar daar vir meer as 300 jaar reeds 'n ordelike beskawing bestaan en

floreer, waar ons geseënd is met 'n stabiele regeringstelsel, arbeidsvrede en 'n gesofistikeerde ekonomie. En dit terwyl daar sedert die groot vrywording van Afrika-state in 1960 nie minder nie as 137 gepoogde staatsgrepe regdeur hierdie kontinent was, waarvan 44 geslaag het.

Maar in ons voortstuwende ekonomiese en materiële vooruitgang het ons ons kultuurerfenisse, veral ons historiese geboue, skromelik verwaarloos. Van die 4 000 statige herehuise wat aan die begin van hierdie eeu nog bestaan het, is daar vandag slegs 'n paar honderd oor. En van eens skilderagtige dorpe soos die Paarl, Wellington, Swellendam, Uitenhage en selfs Stellenbosch is daar vandag haas geen ongesonde straatbeeld meer oor waar daar nie motorhawes, vulstasies en supermarkte ingedring het nie.

1975 – Bewaringsjaar in Europa

Hierdie verwydering van historiese geboue en hele wyke, wat dan sogenaamd in die pad van vooruitgang sou staan, is natuurlik 'n wêreldneiging. In ons stamlande vind ons egter dat daar in die afgelope twee dekades kragdadig opgetree is en wel deur middel van effektiewe Monumentewetgewing en verbeeldingryke dorpsbeplanning, waar die klem val op bewaring as integrale deel van toekomsontwikkeling, waar doelgerig beplan word om die verlede by die toekoms te integreer.

En om dit te bewerkstellig, vind ons dat feitlik alle lande van Wes-Europa oor 'n goed gedokumenteerde inventaris, 'n volledige register van historiese geboue, wyke, straataansigte en hele dorpies beskik.

In Holland is daar 75 000 geboue en gebiede op hulle “Monumentenlyst”; Frankryk het 'n volledige lys van meer as 1 000 historiese dorpe en meer as 40 000 gelyste geboue; in Engeland is daar bykans 100 000 geskiedkundige geboue en terreine op hul bewaringslys.

Dit is vanjaar die Europese bewaringsjaar waaraan sewentien lande deelneem in 'n gesamentlike poging om die behoud van die Europese argitektoniese erfenis te bevorder.

As deel van 'n gekoördineerde bewaringsplan en met 'n verbeeldingryke leuse van “'n Toekoms vir ons Verlede” is hulle besig met meer as 50 groot rehabilitasie-skemas van monumente en plekke van historiese belang, versprei oor die hele Wes-Europa.

As voorbeeld: Holland

Daar is min lande ter wêreld wat soveel doen as Holland, waar daar nie minder nie as 250 afsonderlike instansies en stigtings is wat geaffilieer is by 'n sentrale liggaam, die “Bond Heemschut”.

Op 'n “Monumentenlyst” is daar ongeveer 70 000 gekatalogiseerde geboue van historiese, argitektoniese of estetiese waarde wat gerestoureer is of op 'n prioriteitslys vir restaurasie is. Hieronder is 600 kerke en 700 windmeulens.

Danksy 'n verligte “Monumentenwet”

mag 'n gebou geproklameer word met of sonder 'n eienaar se toestemming. In die geval van belangrike geboue dra die Staat ongeveer 50% van die restaurasiekoste, die betrokke provinsie 'n verdere 15% tot 25% en die plaaslike bestuur tussen 5% en 10% by. Dit laat die eienaar met net tussen 15% en 20% van die koste. In die geval van ander kategorieë van verklaarde historiese geboue, soos byvoorbeeld privaatwoningen, dra die genoemde instansies in totaal tot 50% van restourasiekoste by.

Die Nederlandse regering ken jaarliks ongeveer R7 miljoen vir bewaring toe. Daar is begroot vir 'n totale subsidie van alle instansies van R25 miljoen vir 1975.

In Amsterdam

In terme van die „Monumentenwet” van 1961 is daar reeds 7 000 geskeduleerde geboue in die stad Amsterdam.

Die meeste hiervan is private wonings en pakhuisse. Die eienaar of sy argitek of kontrakteur kan ook vry professionele advies en argitekstekeninge sowel as toesig en die dienste van navorsingspecialiste verkry – almal verskaf deur die “Buro Monumentenzorg”, wat as 'n integrale deel van die munisipale departement van publieke werke, deur die stadsraad in 1953 ingestel is.

Sedert 1957 is die Buro in verband met meer as 1 800 geboue geraadpleeg. In 1972 het die stadsraad R2 600 000, die provinsie van Noord-Holland R432 000 en die regering R1 400 000 vir restaurasie-subsidies bewillig. En die eienaars self het R8 miljoen aan restourasiekoste bygedra.

Sedert 1870 is baie huise in winkels en kantore omgeskep en sedert 1945 het talle assuransie maatskappye en banke sulke eiendomme vir kantoorgebruik bekom. Maar die straatfronte is behou.

Aangesien verskeie sake-ondernemings nou na die voorstede verhuis, is daar tans weer historiese geboue as privaatwoningen beskikbaar. Interessant is hoe gesog hierdie geboue tans is as gevolg van die eentonigheid van die woonstelblokke in die nuwe voorstede.

Daar is selfs ook trusts wat huise koop op die grondslag van deelneming in beleggingsprojekte sodat 'n persoon 'n deel van 'n huis kan besit.

Daar is lang waglyste van persone wat in die geskiedkundige wonings wil woon, presies soos ons dit ook op Stellenbosch vind.

Maar behoud van geboue is nie genoeg nie – gapings tussen geboue verminder die gesamentlike kwaliteit van die omgewing, wat daartoe bydra dat die oorblywende eienaars minder geneig voel om hulle huise in stand te hou. Die resultaat is nog meer vervalle huise wat gesloop moet word en een gaping kan die verval van 'n hele buurt veroorsaak.

Vir gevalle waar sulke gapings gevul moet word, het die „Buro van Monumentenzorg” twee moontlikhede. Die

eerste is om 'n gebou te herbou volgens ou planne of foto's. Die tweede is om 'n gebou te herbou wat elders afgebreek is en waarvan die Buro besonderhede en materiale bewaar het.

In geval van onvoorkombare slooping van 'n geskeduleerde gebou word die bakstene, klip, hout en lyste geëvalueer en veilig bewaar om akkurate rekonstruksie moontlik te maak. Die inventaris van hierdie boubenodigdhede in besit van die „Buro van Monumentenzorg” bedra meer as 1 500 000.

Hoe ver skiet ons nie hierby te kort nie!

Bewaring in Suid-Afrika

En in Suid-Afrika? Hier het ons skaars 500 geproklameerde Historiese Monumente waarvan net meer as 400 geskiedkundige geboue is. In ons jong, voorespoedige land met relatief soveel minder om te bewaar as in ons ou stamlande, staan ons vergelykenderwys so oneindig ver agter by hulle. Ondanks simposia, kongresse, weskroepe, referate en toesprake sedert 1959 beskik ons vandag nog nie oor 'n landwyse register van historiese geboue, van bewarenswaardige straatbeelde, gebouekomplekse of selfs hele dorpieë nie – en van 'n prioriteitslys vir bewaring is daar derhalwe nog geen sprake nie.

'n Begin is reeds in sekere dorpe en stede gemaak met die inventarisasie van historiese geboue – Stellenbosch, Kaapstad en Johannesburg asook Suidwes het reeds voltooië voorlopige lyste, terwyl Durban 'n taamlik volledige lys het.

Maar van 'n volledige landwyse opname, gegrond op sekere vasgestelde basiese bewaringsnorme, is daar helaas nog geen sprake nie.

Gesien die uiterste belangrikheid en omvang van so 'n nasionale register is dit mi 'n saak wat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in samewerking met die Raad vir Geesteswetenskaplike Navorsing, die Stigting Simon van der Stel en die SA Instituut van Argitekte dringend aandag aan moet gee om, desnoods met 'n staatsubsidie, die koste van 'n bekwame vakkundige ondersoekspan te borg.

Ons Monumentewet het, ondanks sy verhewe doelstellings, geen tande nie – gelukkig dus dat dit eersdaags gewysig gaan word. Ek verwys later weer hierna. En van geordende stadsbeplanning waarvan bewaring 'n vooropgesette mikpunt moet wees, is daar helaas nog geen teken nie. Inteendeel, stadsrade skyn meer behep te wees met straatverbreding as met bewaring.

In Stellenbosch het die Stadsraad reeds 'n aantal belangrike historiese geboue geresoureer, waarvoor ons hulle dankbaar is, soos byvoorbeeld die Bergzichtkompleks, Grosvenor-huis, die Transvalia-woonstelkompleks, maar aan die ander kant het die Raad 'n interessante straathoek uit 1815 gesloop sonder genoegsame regverdiging.

En wat is die volgende stap: die voorgestelde verbreding oor 'n afstand van 1 km van Birdstraat teen 'n totale koste van bykans R1 miljoen. In die proses sal 'n vyftigtal jong eikebome in die slag bly wat nog 'n bietjie karakter aan hierdie reeds verminkte straat gee.

Die beoogde verbreding mag selfs nie bydra tot gladder verkeersvloei nie – inteendeel, dit sal waarskynlik meer motors en vragmotors in die middedorp en dus nog groter parkeerprobleme tot gevolg hê.

Ek kan nog voorbeelde noem, maar sal volstaan met Swellendam, waar die hoofstraat teen 'n koste van bykans R1 600 000 verbreed is en waardeur 'n hele aantal skilderagtige ou woonhuise en gevestigde eikebome vir altyd vernietig is.

En in Graaff-Reinet, my geboortedorp, moes ek tydens 'n onlangse besoek tot my ontsteltenis vind dat al die statige ou bome in Kerkstraat afgekap is om plek te maak vir nog 'n duur straatverbreding wat ten minste R200 000 sal kos. Vergelyk nou hierteenoor die bedrae wat aan restaurasie en bewaring bestee is in hierdie drie geskiedkundige dorpe en wat dit uit 'n toeristeoogpunt vir hulle beteken het.

Die besteding van ongeveer R250 000 in Graaff-Reinet aan die restaurasie van die Reinethuis-museum, die Drostdyhofkompleks, die Hester en John Rupert-Kunsmuseum en -gallery en 'n paar woonhuise, het die besoekersvloei so laat toeneem dat, ondanks die aanbou van 'n nuwe hotel, die toeriste-akkommodasie daar tans so ontoereikend is dat meer as 500 persone onlangs in een maand weg-gewys moes word.

Die bewaringswerk het onteenseglik veel daartoe bygedra dat daar nou weer groei in dié Karoodorp is. Tans is Historiese Huise van Suid-Afrika besig om die geskiedkundige ou Drostdy-hotel in Graaff-Reinet te restoureer tot sy eertydse glorie. Dit is oorspronklik in 1804 opgerig as die Drostdy na 'n ontwerp van Thibault en word vir meer as 'n honderd jaar al as 'n hotel gebruik.

In Swellendam is na raming ongeveer R200 000 bestee aan restaurasie en bewaring en in Stellenbosch kan die syfer nog nie R1 000 000 beloop nie, dit wil sê, ongeveer soveel as die koste van die voorgestelde verbreding vir Birdstraat.

Dit kom daarop neer dat al die restaurasie- en bewaringswerk wat u in Stellenbosch en in Graaff-Reinet en in Swellendam sien tesame slegs sowat die helfte bedra van die werklike en beoogde koste van die verbreding van een straat elk in hierdie drie historiese dorpe. En in die Paarl het verbreding van die Hoofstraat alleen die restaurasiekoste van historiese geboue seker drie maal oorskry.

In Holland, België, Frankryk, Engeland en Duitsland, waar die motor- en toerbusverkeer oneindig swaarder is as by ons, word die skilderagtige nou straatjies in geskiedkundige dorpe liefderyk be-

waar en word die verkeer afgelei na minder belangrike systrate. Wat meer is, daar vind mens die motorhawens en vulstasies in die systrate, of by die ingang van die dorpieë, beslis nie in die historiese kern daarvan, soos by ons nie.

Verkeersvrye sones

Dit word noodsaaklik dat ons verkeersvrye sones in ons geskiedkundige dorpe en in ons stede daarstel soos in Duitsland, waar daar reeds meer as 'n honderd plekke is waar dorp- of stadsentra geherorganiseer is deur middel van verkeersvrye voetgangersones.

In 1972 het die „Deutsche Industrie und Handelstag” 38 stede ondervra oor hulle ondervinding met hierdie nuwe konsep. Die bevinding was dat meer mense in sulke areas gekoop het en dat omsette gestyg het. 'n Soortgelyke bevinding kom voor uit 'n studie wat Harold Ludemann vir die „Deutsche Städtetag” gedoen het. Die waarde van geboue het in die area gestyg.

In Rome was die ondervinding soortgelyk. Toe besluit is op verkeersbeperkings vir die Piazza Navona was die winkeliers in opstand, gesteun deur die grootste dagblad in Rome. Dit is tog deurgevoer en al die winkeliers is nou bly daaroor, want hulle omsette het verhoog.

Om die hart van die historiese te bewaar, is dit dikwels nodig om die vryheid van die strate aan die voetganger terug te gee.

Uit 'n ander ekonomiese aspek beskou, wat sou met R3 500 000, dit wil sê die totale koste van die straatverbreding in Stellenbosch, die Paarl, Swellendam en Graaff-Reinet vermag kon word op bewaringsgebied?

Neem die geval van die maatskappy Historiese Huise van Suid-Afrika en die resultate wat hierdie vrye onderneming in die minder as tien jaar van sy bestaan behaal het. Met 'n kapitaal van slegs R550 000 het hierdie maatskappy 46 historiese geboue aangekoop, geresoureer of deeglik opgeknop en in lewende monumente omgeskep wat die gemeenskap dien waarin hul staan.

Wat sou 'n mens nie met R3 500 000 kon vermag nie; seker meer as 'n tweehonderdtal geskiedkundige geboue sou gered kon word, of 'n aantal straatbeelde – of selfs 'n hele geskiedkundige dorpie. Die potensiële rentelas vir die belastingbetalers sou voldoende wees om talle historiese geboue jaarliks te red en te bewaar.

Waar gaan ons prioriteite verkeerd? Lê die fout nie in 'n groot mate by onself nie – die stadsrade is tog maar net die verteenwoordigers van die belastingbetalers. En die onproduktiewe – eintlik negatiewe – besteding van geld moet uiteindelik tog weer deur die belastingbetalers opgedok word. In radeloosheid vra 'n mens jouself af wanneer sal ons eendag

ons prioriteite regkry, wanneer finaal besef dat ons erfenisse nie net kultuurbates, maar ook toeristebates is – ons wie se dure plig, as bewaarders daarvan, dit is om hulle vir die nageslag in pand te hou. Neem die geval van Tulbagh. Ná die aardbewing van 29 September 1969 is die hele Kerkstraat, Tulbagh keurig gerestoureer. Van Januarie 1963 tot en met die aardbewing in September 1969 het gemiddeld 153 persone per maand die besoekersboek in die museum geteken. Die afgelope 18 maande, sedert die museum gerestoureer en weer in gebruik geneem is, is die gemiddelde toeristetal wat die besoekersboek geteken het 572 per maand – dit wil sê 'n toename van 273%.

Onthou dat talle toeriste net die volledig gerestoureerde Kerkstraat besoek – veral op Sondag wanneer die museum gesluit is – en dat baie mense ook nie die besoekersboek teken nie.

Groot Constantia in Kaapstad het verlede jaar bykans 90 000 besoekers gelok en die getal besoekers wat reeds bespreek het om die gerestoureerde Huis Gideon Malherbe in die Paarl te besoek is meer as 8 000 vir die eerste maand. Daar is pas berig dat in die eerste week na die oopstelling nagenoeg 3 000 mense die museum besoek het.

Stratford-upon-Avon, Shakespeare se geboortedorp in Engeland, lok jaarliks meer as 1,5 miljoen besoekers. Meer as 'n miljoen mense het verlede jaar besoek gebring aan die verskillende geskiedkundige geboue wat met Shakespeare verband hou. Van die getal het ongeveer 'n driekwart-miljoen van die buiteland gekom en ongeveer 'n halfmiljoen het oornag. Hierdie interessante syfers is die oortuigende bewys van die ekonomiese waarde van bewaring van 'n dorp.

Die ekonomie van bewaring – 'n voorbeeld

Hier wil ek graag in die eerste plek verwys na 'n praktiese gevallestudie, naamlik die maatskappy Historiese Huise van Suid-Afrika Beperk, waarvan ek reeds vlugtig melding gemaak het. In 1966 is dié maatskappy gestig met die verklaarde doel om bewaring op sakegrondslag te onderneem. Hy het sy fondse verkry deur aandele uit te reik aan belangstellende persone en goedgesinde maatskappye wat bereid was om te help om ons immerkwynende getal geskiedkundige geboue te bewaar.

Van sy 136 stigtersaandehouers was 100 privaat individue en 36 publieke maatskappye. Met 'n uitgereikte kapitaal van R550 000 het die maatskappy tot dusver 46 historiese geboue aangekoop en gerestoureer of omgeskep om 'n praktiese en waardige nut daarvoor te vind. Al die geboue word op kontrak verhuur en dit is dus 'n gereelde bron van inkomste. Hierbenewens het Rembrandt self, en van sy personeel, 17 historiese geboue gerestoureer.

Maar Historiese Huise het ook in sy vooropgesette doel geslaag deur te bewys dat bewaring wel op suiwer sakebeginsels suksesvol onderneem kon word. Vir elke jaar van sy bestaan het die maatskappy tot dusver 'n dankbare netto wins getoon. Totale winste vir die nege voltooide boekjare beloop R133 251, benewens 'n kapitaalwinst van R317 000 (d.w.s. reserwes beloop bykans 82% van kapitaal) wat oor die eerste agt jaar teruggeploeg en aangewend is om nog historiese geboue aan te koop en te restoureer.

Dit is met baie groot genoeë dat ek nou hier kan aankondig dat die direkteure besluit het om 'n aanvangsdividend van 3% uit die netto wins van die afgelope boekjaar te verklaar.

'n Belangrike bykomstige ekonomiese oorweging is die voortdurende toename in waarde, dit wil sê die kapitaalappresiasie, van gerestoureerde geskiedkundige geboue. Ek mag net byvoeg dat Historiese Huise behulpsaam was met die stigting van Historic Grahamstown (Pty) Ltd – 'n soortgelyke maatskappy wat hoofsaaklik Britse Setlaars-argitektuur op sakegrondslag bewaar. Hierdie maatskappy het ook reeds trotse prestasies behaal. Om te kan slaag met 'n verbeeldingryke bewaringsveldtog moet die klem op ekonomiese wingewendheid deur praktiese benutting van gerestoureerde geboue val. Waar nodig, moet nuwe ekonomiese gebruike vir ou geboue gevind word. Die ondervinding van die maatskappy Historiese Huise bewys dat dit wel moontlik is.

So byvoorbeeld is ou woonhuise gerestoureer en met geringe omskepping as kantoorakkommodasie ingerig, wat heel gou prestige stelle kantore geword het, of as spesialiteitswinkels.

Groter historiese wonings is in keurige en gerieflike woonstelle omgeskep, 'n ou kerk dien tans as kunsgalery, 'n ou wynkelder as restaurant en in Swellendam is 'n statige ou Kaaps-Hollandse woning noukeurig gerestoureer en ingerig as hostel en klaskamers vir 'n skool vir seuns wat spesiale sorg en onderrig vereis.

Die maatskappy het nog nooit enige probleem ondervind om 'n nuttige, waardige dog praktiese doel vir sy gerestoureerde geboue te vind nie.

Soos reeds gesê funksioneer die maatskappy op 'n streng sakegrondslag. Ten einde sy restaurasiekoste so laag moontlik te hou, het hy kort ná sy stigting reeds sy eie bouspan aangestel. Hierdie toegewyde bouspan is vandag gespesialiseer in die kuns van restaurasie en lewer werk van 'n hoë gehalte.

Boonop doen hulle die so nodige instandhouding van die maatskappy se eie geboue – en onderneem hulle, wanneer hul bouprogram dit toelaat, buitorestourasiewerk op 'n koste plus grondslag.

Dit is interessant, in hierdie taalfeesjaar,

dat dit juis Historiese Huise se bouspan is wat gevra is om Huis Gideon Malherbe, die eertydse hoofkwartier van die Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners, so keurig te restoureer soos dit vandag weer daar pryk.

Die rol van plaaslike owerhede

In teenstelling met Wes-Europese lande, waar plaaslike owerhede grootskaalse bewaringswerk doen, word daar hier te lande, behalwe in geïsoleerde gevalle, soos op Stellenbosch, nie veel deur ons plaaslike owerhede gedoen nie.

Verskeie lande in Europa het reeds gevind dat behuisingsprobleme soms lonend opgelos kan word deur bestaande ou geboue, strate of hele dorpswyke te restoureer en te rehabiliteer om sodoende weer 'n nuttige, lewende en genotvolle deel van die dorp te word.

Insiggewende vergelykende statistieke blyk uit nege rehabilitasieprojekte in ou stadswyke en ses nuwe behuisingskemas wat in 1967 reeds deur die Greater London Council voltooi is. Daar is gevind dat bewaringskoste 63% van vergelykbare nuwebou bedra. Die koste van 'n nuwe wooneenheid het toe R10 400 bedra teenoor slegs R6 600 vir 'n gerestoureerde gerieflike ou wooneenheid wat dieselfde akkommodasie bied.

Nog twee interessante vergelykende studies kom uit Frankryk. 'n Belangrike agterbuurtopruiming- en restaurasieveldtog in Avignon het, teen alle verwagtings in, lonender uitgewerk, naamlik R230 per vierkant meter teenoor R260 per vierkant meter vir nuwe akkommodasie. En in die Saint Jean-distrik in Lyon was die vergelykende syfers ewe-eens ten gunste van bewaring, naamlik R200 per vierkant meter teenoor R285 per vierkant meter vir nuwebou.

Plaaslike owerhede in ander Wes-Europese lande het insgelyks reeds aansienlike sukses behaal met bewaringsprogramme. Stadsrade word daar met staatsteun aangemoedig om wonings in agterbuurtes, of in dele van stede waar daar 'n geleidelike agteruitgang is, te restoureer, te rehabiliteer en die geboue daarna te verhuur of te verkoop. So byvoorbeeld het Middelburg in Holland 11 000 huise met staatshulp gerestoureer, tot geldelike voordeel van die stadskas, en terselfdertyd die toeriste-besienswaardigheid van die binnestad laat herleef.

Hoe ver skiet ons nie tekort hier in Suid-Afrika vir sover dit georganiseerde bewaring op landwyse skaal aanbetref nie? Maar laat my toe om teen die agtergrond van hierdie aanklag kortliks na drie uitstaande en grootse restaurasieprojekte te verwys, naamlik die herlewenis van die hele Kerkstraat, Tulbagh, die restaurasie van die skilderagtige ou myndorpie Pelgrimsrus en die beoogde Karoo-Natuurreservate in Graaff-Reinet en Beaufort-Wes.

Kerkstraat, Tulbagh, die grootste restaurasieprojek in Suid-Afrika, is tot op hede

die treffendste voorbeeld van wat bereik kan word deur doelgerigte idealisme, daadkrachtige deursettingsvermoë en ge-koördineerde samewerking tussen die private en publieke sektore op bewaringsgebied – die dankbare volvoering van 'n geloofsdaad van die Tulbagh-Restourasiekomitee.

En ek is oortuig daarvan dat u graag saam met my hulde wil bring aan vier lede van die Werkekomitee aan wie die hoogste toekenning op bewaringsgebied in Suid-Afrika, die goue medalje van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, gemaak is, tw die sameroeper, I M Hoogenhout, die sekretaris, G L Frone-man en die argitekspaar mnr en mev G Fagan.

Die keurige restourasie van Kerkstraat, Tulbagh oor sy volle lengte is moontlik gemaak deur bydraes van private persone, publieke maatskappye, plaaslike owerhede, die Administrasies van die vier provinsies en Suidwes-Afrika en die Staat. Heel gepas het die Eerste Minister in sy inhuldigingsrede op 14 Maart 1974 gesê: „Waar die private sektor toon dat hy bereid is om sy regmatige deel by te dra om 'n belangrike restourasieprojek te finansier, kan daarop gereken word dat die Staat simpatieke oorweging sal gee om so 'n verdienstelike saak finansieel te steun”.

Pelgrimsrus

Teen die einde van 1967 het die Departement Argitektuur van die Universiteit van Pretoria besluit om 'n projek te vind waaraan alle argitekstudente kon saamwerk. Die projek moes 'n aktuele probleem behels, 'n historiese inslag hê en breë sowel as detailbeplanning insluit. Die herontwikkeling van die sterwende dorpie Pelgrimsrus het al die eienskappe bevat.

Twee-en-sewentig studente van tweede tot vyfde jaar het gedurende 1968 aan die beplanning gewerk. Die waarde van die skema kan nie net aan die resultate daarvan gemeet word nie, maar ook aan die uitwerking wat dit op die studente gehad het. 'n Groter waardering vir die verlede en veral vir die kultuurhistoriese skat van ons eie bodem is feitlik deurgaans aangewakker.

Hulde moet gebring word aan die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie vir die aankoop van dié hele ou goudmyndorpie in die natuurskone Oos-Transvaal. Restourasiewerksaamhede het reeds 'n aanvang geneem en by voltooiing sal dit een van die verbeeldingrykste restourasieprojekte in Suid-Afrika wees.

Die hele dorpie met sy meer as 100 outydse mynhuisies, sy goudreduksiewerke en oorspronklike elektriese treintjie sal in 'n vakansieoord sonder weerga om-tower word. Benewens die belangrike kultuurwaarde daarvan vir die hele land, sal dit op die langtermyn 'n lewensvatbare belegging vir die Provinsiale Administrasie van Transvaal wees.

Natuurreservate

Maar die bewaring van ons erfenis sluit natuurlik ook natuurbewaring, sy-aansy met kultuurbewaring, in. Daarom wil ek graag melding maak van die beoogde vestiging deur die SA Natuurstigting van twee wild- en natuurreservate by Graaff-Reinet en Beaufort-Wes. Benewens die belangrikheid van albei uit 'n ekologiese oogpunt sal die een in Graaff-Reinet ook uniek wees in dié sin dat die historiese dorpie deel sal vorm – tewens gesetel sal wees binne-in die natuurpark, wat sulke belangrike landbakens soos die Vallei van Verlatenheid en Spandaukop insluit.

Daar staan vandag in Graaff-Reinet nagenoeg 500 huisies van die sierlik-simmetriese Karoo-argitektuur wat ouer is as Johannesburg. 'n Aantal hiervan is reeds gerestoureer en die ideaal word gekoester dat die oorgrote meerderheid, indien dan nie almal nie, eendag ten volle gerestoureer sal kan word.

In Graaff-Reinet word die unieke geleentheid nou geskep om 'n hele omgewing te herskep om natuur- en kultuurbewaring te verenig en die dryfkrag te voorsien om 'n hele historiese dorpie te bewaar – 'n pragtige erfplanting aan die nageslag.

En wat sal dit kos om 'n gebied van meer as 30 000 akker om Graaff-Reinet as 'n Karoopark daar te stel? Waarskynlik net 'n derde van die koste om een kilometer van Birdstraat, Stellenbosch te verbreed. Die groot verskil is dat die Karooparkfondse moeisam van private persone ingesamel word en nie deur die maklike weg van belastings nie.

Die rol van toerisme

Meer vrye tyd en hoër persoonlike inkomste het die toeristebedryf in Europa 'n geweldige stoot vorentoe gegee gedurende die afgelope twee dekades, waarby veral historiese belangrike stede en dorpe gebaat het. Toerisme is vandag vir baie lande 'n uiters waardevolle bron van inkomste, dikwels 'n onontbeerlike verdienster van buitelandse valuta.

In Engeland het Lord Kennet enkele jare gelede gesê: “Why do people come to this country? They do not come for the sunshine, or for the good food, or for the famous wines, or to ski.” Hy wys dan daarop dat die bedrag wat buitelandse toeriste in die vroeë 1970's in Engeland sal bestee sowat £500 000 000 per jaar sal bedra en dat dié syfer meer as 6% van die land se fisiese uitvoer be-loop. Die werklike bedrag wat die 8 miljoen besoekers aan Engeland in 1974 gespandeer het, het bykans R1 300 miljoen beloop.

Duitsland ontvang jaarliks meer as 17 miljoen besoekers wat R1 800 miljoen spandeer. Italië en Spanje ontvang elk jaarliks meer as 34 miljoen besoekers wat aan elk 'n inkomste van nagenoeg R1 600 miljoen besorg. Vergelyk hiermee Suid-Afrika se getal besoekers van

net meer as 600 000 wat ongeveer R200 miljoen jaarliks bestee.

'n Treffende voorbeeld van grootskaalse restourasie en heropbou, is beslis Williamsburg in die VSA, waar nie net die hele geskiedkundige 18de-eeuse dorpie nie, maar ook die permanente inwoners „gerestoureer” is. Alle denkbare soorte tuisnywerheid, presies soos dit oorspronklik beoefen is, word hier aange-tref, soos geweer-smid, silwer- en goud-smid, spin en weef, meubelmakery, grof-smid, kuipery, musiek-instrumentemake-ry, gemoedelike ou herberge en koffiekamers – alles netjies ingerig op die byna 100 akker wat die dorpie beslaan. En die besoekerstal: 1 100 miljoen per jaar, 3 200 per dag!

Dit is seker nie onvanpas dat van die toeristenywerheid verwag kan word om bewaring in 'n mate te steun nie – historiese geboue en dorpe is tog een van sy vernaamste bates. In hierdie verband is dit interessant om 'n vergelyking te tref tussen die bedrae wat in die lande van Wes-Europa van owerheidsweë aan bewaring – en in die besonder aan die instandhouding van historiese dorpe en geboue – bestee word en die inkomste wat buitelandse toeriste aan die betrokke lande besorg. In Frankryk is die verhouding 2,5 tot 100, in Nederland, Spanje en Engeland is dit 1 tot 100. En in Italië, wat moontlik die winsgewendste toeristenywerheid ter wêreld het en wat grootliks aan sy belangrike geskiedkundige stede en dorpe te danke is, is die verhouding 0,5 tot 100.

Bepaling van die koste van bewaring

Soos reeds aangetoon, kan bewaring van geskiedkundige geboue, strate of wyke, lonend wees mits aan sekere voorvereistes voldoen word. In die buiteland, Europa sowel as Amerika, word daar vandag op steeds groter skaal gebruik gemaak van koste-voordeel-ontleding om te bepaal hoe bewaring ekonomies geregverdig kan word. Insiggewend is dat ekonomiese hulle hiermee sal inlaat, en nie slegs met waardering en begrip nie, maar met onweerlegbare logika.

Ek verwys na die beredeneerde kommentaar oor die winsgewendheid van restourasie en bewaring van twee bekende ekonomiese van die Verenigde Koninkryk, naamlik Nigel R Stocks en prof A J Youngson.

Youngson is die mening toegedaan dat bewaring op die lang duur selfbetalend sal wees – maar nie altyd direk nie, ook nie in alle gevalle ten volle nie. Die vraag ontstaan dus hoe kan die ware koste van bewaring bepaal word – en daaruit volg hoe dit gefinansier kan word.

Hy haal dan 'n heel eenvoudige voorbeeld van koste-voordeel-ontleding aan wat sowel hy as Stocks aanbeveel as 'n effektiewe metode om die relatiewe koste van bewaring so juis moontlik te bereken. In eenvoudige taal kom dit hier op neer:

Gestel dat ons 'n historiese gebou wil bewaar wat op 'n terrein aangemerkt vir sake-ontwikkeling staan. Wat sal nou die maatskaplike koste wees om daardie ontwikkeling te voorkom? In beginsel blyk die antwoord heel duidelik te wees: bereken die finansiële opbrengs van die voorgestelde ontwikkeling op daardie terrein – sê 1 000 vierkant meter kantoorruimte – en vergelyk dit met die opbrengs wat verkry sou word deur vergelykbare akkommodasie op die tweede beste terrein op te rig. Die verskil in opbrengs, voldoende gekapitaliseer is dan die werklike koste van die behoud van die betrokke historiese gebou.

Hulle verduidelik verder: die koste van bewaring is nie slegs die verlies van ontwikkeling op terrein A nie, omdat as ontwikkeling nie op genoemde terrein plaasvind nie, dit in normale gevalle elders sal geskied. Die ware koste van 'n saak word gemeet met inagneming van die opbrengs op die beste alternatiewe gebruik van die betrokke middele. Dit is tog 'n belangrike ekonomiese beginsel.

Beide Stocks en Youngson bepleit koste-voordeel-ontleding as 'n belangrike metode om tot 'n rationale besluit oor bewaring te kan geraak. Dit is gegrond op 'n vergelyking van keuses, en sodra die onmiddellike koste daarvolgens bepaal is, kan besluit word op welke wyse dit gefinansier kan word, asook die alternatiewe keuse(s) wat mag bestaan. Veral by plaaslike owerhede is hierdie metode belangrik, naamlik die verband tussen koste-voordeel-ontleding, programbegroting en besteding oor 'n aantal jare. Waar 'n koste-voordeel-ontledingsberekening met die plaaslike owerheid se jaarlikse uitgawebegroting in verband gebring kan word, kan dit daartoe bydra om te voorkom dat historiese geboue summier gesloop word op sterkte van die verskoning dat dit 'n fortuin (ongespesifiseerd!) sal kos om te restoreer.

SA Monumentewet strem bewaring

Kragtens ons bestaande Monumentewet van 1969 word beperkings gelê op 'n eiendom wat tot Historiese Monument geproklameer is, sonder dat die eienaar enige voordeel daaruit trek. Ek hoop dat die gewysigde wet voorsiening sal maak vir 'n vorm van aanmoediging, byvoorbeeld by wyse van 'n subsidie aan die eienaar om sy eiendom te restoreer, op voorwaarde dat hy dit daarna tot Historiese Monument sal laat proklameer. Dit, terloops, is reeds die geval in Holland, Frankryk en België (en in spesifieke gevalle in Engeland en Duitsland), waar 'n restaurasie-subsidie van tot 50% toegestaan word.

'n Noodsaaklike verdere wysiging is dat toegewings gemaak behoort te word aan eienaars van historiese geboue as aansporing om hulle te laat restoreer en proklameer. Die huidige posisie is dat die eiendomsbelasting op 'n vervalte ou huis, wat moontlik van groot historiese waarde

mag wees, gebaseer is op sy teenwoordige lae waardasie. Sodra dit gerestoureer is – teen groot persoonlike uitgawe vir die eienaar – word dit dadelik veel hoër herwaardeer met 'n gevolglike aansienlike styging in eiendomsbelasting. Pleks van die voordeel te trek vir sy belangrike diens aan die land deur 'n kultuurerfenis te red, word die eienaar dus gepenaliseer. En as die gerestoureerde gebou boonop op 'n erf staan wat vir sake- of woonsteldoeleindes gesoneer is, word die eienaar daarvoor nog verder aangeslaan ofskoon die ontwikkelingspotensiaal nooit benut mag word wanneer die eiendom tot Historiese Monument geproklameer is nie.

Ek pleit daarvoor dat, in plaas van verhoogde belasting te moet betaal, die eienaar wat bereid is om 'n historiese gebou te restoreer en te laat proklameer, vir 'n verminderde belasting – of selfs algehele kwytstelling – behoort te kwalifiseer. So 'n toegewing sal, veral by gebrek aan 'n restaurasie-subsidie, 'n aanmoediging wees aan ander eienaars van geskiedkundige geboue om dit te laat restoreer en proklameer.

'n Verdere ernstige tekortkoming in ons Monumentewet is dat die eienaar van 'n geproklameerde Historiese Monument nie verplig kan word om dit in stand te hou nie – ongeag hoe histories of esteties belangrik die gebou mag wees. Hier ook moet die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in staat gestel word om, in geregverdigde gevalle, die eienaar te help met 'n subsidie vir die voortgesette instandhouding van so 'n geproklameerde Historiese Monument.

Die belangrikste tekortkoming is egter dat staatseiendom normaalweg self nie geproklameer word nie, soos die ou poskantoor in Pretoria.

Verering deur bewaring

Bewaring is 'n belangrike maatstaf van 'n volk se beskawingspeil. Een waardige manier waarop hy eer kan bewys aan sy groot seuns – hetsy beroemde staatsmanne of gevierde kunstenaars, skrywers en digters – is om hul wonings vir die nageslag te bewaar.

Wat sou byvoorbeeld 'n pasliker monument vir generaal J B M Hertzog gewees het as dat sy pragtige voorvadershuis in Kaapstad gerestoureer en bewaar kon gewees het. Slegs die Anton Anreith-beeldjie in 'n pediment aan die straatkant van dié eens statige ou herehuis was geproklameer tot Historiese Monument – en dié gaan – as 'n spesiale toegewing deur die ontwikkelaars! – êrens ingebou word in die nuwe toringblok wat op die terrein opgerig word.

Soos die geval is in baie oorsese lande, behoort daar ook in Suid-Afrika van owerheidsweë voorsiening gemaak te word sodat maatskappye of private persone wat bereid is om sulke, vir die nageslag belangrike, geboue op eie koste aan te koop en te restoreer, dié tegemoet-

koming gegun sal word om die restaurasiekoste as 'n gedeeltelike inkomstebelastingaftrekking te kan eis.

Wat moet ons bewaar?

Wat moet ons in hierdie veelfasettige geboorteland van ons bewaar?

Kortliks saamgevat:

1. die tydelike woninkies van die eerste veeboere en trekboere na die binneland, naamlik–

(a) kapsteilhuisies in Suid- en Wes-Kaapland;

(b) hartbeeshuisies (letterlik hardebiesies) verder Noordwaarts;

(c) byekorff-kliphuisies aan die hange van die Kareeberge, tussen Williston en Carnarvon.

2. Ons gracieuse Kaaps-Hollandse argitektuur – Suid-Afrika se bydrae tot wêreldkultuur.

3. Die sierlike-simmetriese platdakhuisies in Graaff-Reinet, Colesberg ens. wat ek graag as Karoo-argitektuur beskryf.

4. Britse setlaarsargitektuur, wonings van ryke verskeidenheid in Oos-Kaapland.

5. Duitse Setlaarsargitektuur, stewige praktiese huise rondom Oos-Londen en omgewing.

6. Georgiëanse en Victoriaanse argitektuur waarvan uitstaande voorbeelde nog in baie dorpe en stede van Kaapstad tot in Johannesburg bestaan – asook “Volstruispaleise” uit dieselfde tydperk in Oudtshoorn en omstreke.

7. Interessante voorbeelde van Bantoe-boukuns, onder meer die tradisionele hutte van die Ndebele-stam met hul veelkleurige geometriese ontwerpe.

Dit alles is ons ryke, gemeenskaplike, argitektoniese erfenis wat ons liefderik vir die geslagte ná ons moet bewaar – ons wat op hierdie tydperk slegs die kuratore daarvan is.

Waarom moet ons bewaar?

1. Ons moet bewaar omdat 'n volk sonder geskiedenis soos 'n man sonder geheue is. Historiese geboue is 'n versinbeelding van die geskiedenis – die mylpale daarvan. In die bewaarde gebou kry geskiedenis sy gestalte.

2. Ons moet bewaar omdat die geboue uit die verlede 'n bewys is van die feit dat ons lank reeds hier is en hier hoort. Die historiese geboue is die eiendomsreg en transport tot die land wat ons liefhet.

3. Ons moet bewaar omdat ons nie die voetspore van ons voorsate goedsmoeds mag uitvee nie.

4. Ons moet bewaar omdat ons deur behoud van die goeie uit die verlede verhoed dat alles orals saai en eenders lyk.

5. Ons moet bewaar omdat 'n stad wat organies groei veel meer van die mens is as iets wat vir hom beplan word. Die beste bewys hiervan is dat Niemeyer, beplanner van die grootste en mooiste moderne stad ter wêreld – Brasilia – nie self daarin kon uithou nie en teruggevlug het na Rio de Janeiro. In Brasilia is alles

beplan, niks onverwags nie. In Rio het elke straat daarteenoor sy verrassings.

6. Ons moet bewaar omdat ons ou dorpie en stede beplan is voordat die motor ons lewens oorheers het. In Brasilia is daar rekening gehou met al die eise van moderne verkeer en die strate is so groot en wyd en voorspelbaar dat daar niks onverwags meer oorbly nie, behalwe die jaagbane! Daarom verkies ek Graaff-Reinet en Stellenbosch met die gevoel van „saamwees” liever as die jaagbane van „reisigers na nêrens”.

Daarom verkies ek ’n stad soos die ou Kaapstad waarin daar mense gewoon het, bo die „Foreshore” waarin niemand meer woon nie.

Daarom is Paarlita-park, die dorpie binne ’n dorpe, wat ons groep vir ons fabriekwerkers in die Paarl opgerig het, met sy wisseling van planne en plasing, sy erkenning van die „privaat wees”, maar tog „saamwees”, soveel beter as die normale sub-ekonomiese skema of die eentonige woonstelkompleks.

7. Ons moet bewaar omdat dit ook vandag meestal sosiologies sowel as ekonomies goedkoper is om te herstel as om net maar te sloop.

Bewaar dus, want bewaring beteken die behoud van eie identiteit en die vermyding van dodelike eentonigheid.

Slot

En nou glo ek u en ek is op dieselfde golfengte wanneer dit gaan oor die betekenisvolle belangrikheid, uit kultuurhistoriese oogpunt gesien, van bewaring vir enige beskaafde land, en in die besonder vir ’n jong snelgroeiende land soos Suid-Afrika, waar ons soveel minder het om te bewaar as in die veel ouer wêreldlande.

Kan ek u vertel wat die Nobel-pryswenner, die verbanne Russiese skrywer Aleksander Solzhenitsyn, gesê het nadat hy op 4 Julie vanjaar ’n eerste besoek aan Williamsburg gebring het, waar meer as 10 000 besoekers die 199ste viering van die Amerikaanse „Declaration of Independence” bygewoon het. Sy woorde was – en ek haal aan –

“Die bewaring van ’n volk se tradisies is ’n baie belangrike faktor vir die behoud van nasionale identiteit.

“Dit is bitter jammer vir ’n land wanneer sy tradisies soos met ’n byl afgekap word – soos tans in Rusland. My besoek aan Williamsburg vandag het my oortuig dat die VSA wel sy tradisies kan bewaar en in stand hou en selfs uitbou.” Sover Solzhenitsyn.

My eie bede is dat daar eendag ook van Suid-Afrika gesê kan word dat sy haar tradisies bewaar, in stand hou en selfs uitbou.

Elke beskaafde land is trots op die spore wat hy getrap het op sy ontwikkelingspad – en die sigbare spore van ons kultuurerfenis is ons historiese geboue. Laat ons hulle dus sorgsaam bewaar en in pand hou vir die nageslag, want hulle

is inderdaad die „transportaktes van dié land wat ons liefhet”. Mag die geslagte wat kom ons nooit dáarvan beskuldig

dat ons ons eie voetspore doodgevee het nie.

Tegniek, Oktober 1975

Bewaringskonferensie Pretoria 2 Junie 1976

Gevra: ’n nasionale beleid

Martie Retief

Sommige sê dis die elfde uur; ander sê dis die dertiende uur, maar wat ook al, dis duidelik ten minste kwart voor twaalf wat bewaring in ons land betref.

As die Administrateur onlangs ’n vergadering in Pretoria bygewoon het, sou hy seker darem nie so maklik gesê het nie dat diegene wat nog teen Kerkplein se vernietiging wil kla, net hul tyd mors. Hy sou ’n vergadering van mense, professore, beplanners, navorsers, argitekte en doodgewone studente, gevind het wat téén die stofwolke van stootskrapers met erns, kommer en doodgewone gesonde verstand beplan het.

As Kerkplein dan ’n verlore saak moet wees (en niemand wat ’n jota of ’n titel vir bewaring omgee, sal dit glo totdat die Wesfasade nie meer daar is nie,) is daar genoeg mense met genoeg kennis en insig in die land wat sal sorg dat wat ons eie is, wat ons kulturele erfenis is, wat ons natuurbesit is, in die toekoms beveilig gaan word.

Hierdie mense se wapen is ’n nasionale lys van bewaarbare dinge in ons land.

Al wat hulle kortkom, is ’n nasionale beleid.

Aksieplan

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel en die Instituut van Transvaalse Argitekte was vandeeweek die gashere op die vergadering wat dinge bespreek het soos ’n plan van aksie om bewaring deel van ons bestaan te maak.

Die boekhouding van die volksgevoel en bewaring staan op die oomblik so: ’n onteenseglike bewys van bewuswording van die omgewingsleer, ’n behoefte om argitektoniese sierade, geskiedkundige bakens, dinge wat ons identiteit as Suid-Afrikaners in hierdie land staaf, te red.

Hiervoor beywer talle mense dwarsoor die land hulle in klein plaaslike verenigings, of alleen as studente of net as belangstellendes om lyste te maak van ons eie-goed; om die geskiedenis daarvan te skryf, of om vir die behoud daarvan te stry.

Dit is ’n spontane volkswil wat nee sê teen ongebreidelde sloping, stadsuitbreiding, beplanning en minagting van die mens en sy behoeftes.

Lewenskwaliteit is die woord om die mens se krisis te beskryf.

Die gevaar

Die spaghetti van paaië wat stede ver-

wurg, die platteland ontsier; die ongehooflike amptelike rompslomp om ôf ’n ja ôf ’n nee vir ’n huis langs ’n spruit of ’n woonstelgebou op ’n koppie, of ’n toringgebou voor ’n bergkruin te kry; die vernietiging van geskiedryke, aanskoulike geboue om plek te maak vir ’n glaskas met meer ruimte, (dikwels die werk van die oorspronklike eienaars van die ou gebou!) – al hierdie dinge wil die mens tot onderdeel van die masjien van menswees dwing.

In Europa en Amerika het hulle die gevaar gesien. Ons het talle voorbeelde van die pogings van mense om hul lewensklimaat te verbeter, en, om hul identiteit te behou.

Na sulke voorbeelde en met bykomende navorsing het die bewaringskomitee van die Instituut van Transvaalse Argitekte ’n aksieplan opgestel. Die provinsie word in nege streke verdeel. Elke streek sal gefynkam word om geboue en antiek aan te teken wat bewaar moet bly (nie net ou geboue nie, selfs jonger wat spesiale argitektoniese en kultuurhistoriese en selfs tegniese merkwaardigheid besit).

Hierdie leiding word deur die ander provinsies gevolg.

Habitatraad

Die Habitatraad is ook besig om natuurgebiede te lys en toenemend word kennis geneem van kleiner verenigings wat hul spesiaal op spesifieke bewaring toelê, soos o.m. die Morelettaspruitvereniging. Om ’n moederliggaam oor hierdie lande maar afsonderlike pogings te span, is vandeeweek besluit om die Raad van Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede te erken as die opperliggaam. Duidelik sal hierdie raad meer magte, beslis meer geld moet kry.

Om verdubbeling van werk te voorkom, sal die Stigting Simon van der Stel as die burgerlike samesnoerder gesien word, terwyl die Habitatraad die natuurbewaringspogings sal saamsnoer.

Dinge soos finansies, regsprobleme (legio in die bewaringswêreld!) koördinasie van en met regeringsliggame, is onder oë geneem.

Niks kan eintlik die bewaringsgedagte stuit nie, want hoewel geld altyd ’n probleem is, blyk dat daar wel middele beskikbaar is by dese en gene navorsingsinstansies.

Stadsargief

Vir my baie bruikbaar, was ’n voorstel dat stede en dorpe hul eie argivarisse

aanstel. Geen meer koste nie. Vervang net die publisiteitsvereniging en moontlik die skakelbeampte. By so 'n bietjie nadink moet 'n mens jou tog afvra: wat presies dóén 'n publisiteitskantoor nou eintlik vir 'n stad. 'n Argief kan die werk óók doen – net deegliker.

● Miskien wás die heel dwingendste gedagte op die vergadering die noodsaak dat bewaring nasionale beleid moet word – soos aparte ontwikkeling nasionale beleid is.

En in min dinge, sou ek dink, word die owerheid so goed deur die volkswil gelei as juis in hierdie behoefte om te bewaar.

Die Beeld, 4 Junie 1976

Conservation conference

Move to preserve historic sites

The Institute of South African Architects, working in conjunction with the Simon van der Stel Institute and various Government Departments, are doing a survey throughout South Africa in order to find all places of historical value, with the idea of having them restored, preserved and declared national monuments. The Institute has nominated a convenor for each of the areas that they are working in and the convenors are assigned to find places of historical value that have possibly been neglected or have never received their proper acclaim and to subsequently have these places restored. Mr A O Endres, an architect from Johannesburg, has been nominated to convenor for the Lowveld area stretching from Tzaneen to Badplaas and from Lydenburg to Komatipoort and including all the towns that lie within *The Lowveld*'s circulation area.

The Institute has written to the mayors of each of the towns in the area, asking them for any help or suggestions and also outlining their task.

Mr Endres has made an appeal to all persons living in his area, who have a historical background or interest, to work with him and help him to locate any unknown or unrecognised places of historical value, to do research on the places. He intends later to form a sub-committee of interested persons in each town, that will help in this work.

The historic places can be houses, bridges, roads, tunnels, trees, block houses, or any other places that could have been connected with the very rich Lowveld history.

After the places have been located, research will have to be done by the volunteers on their history and background, photographs will have to be taken, and the place in question will have to be categorized and classified on a

points system. After this the file will have to be submitted to a meeting of the committee that is made up of all the convenors of the respective areas.

The convenors will then decide which of the places of interest are worthy of preservation and these will be sent on to the Institute of South African Architects for their approval. Following their approval the files will be sent to the various Government Departments and the Simon van der Stel Foundation for possible financing for the restoration and preservation works.

Mr Endres said that it is a long term project and could take up to 20 years, but, he and the other convenors are certain that people in their areas who have a historical interest would gladly come forward and do this rewarding work without expecting remuneration.

Mr Endres gave an example of people that they wanted to work with them and in his list he mentioned all professional people such as teachers, lawyers, architects, doctors, shop keepers, general businessmen and journalists.

He stressed that the Institute could offer these people no salaries, the volunteers would be placed under no obligations and it was an extra-mural activity that would help to preserve the history of our country.

As an example of a place that would be researched and delved into is the reputed tree, somewhere between Nelspruit and Komatipoort, where the President of the Transvaal Republic, Mr Paul Kruger, gave his last public speech in the Transvaal before he crossed over to Mocambique and then into exile.

The volunteers would be delving into the history of places like this.

They would have to ascertain the exact location and do research and find out if the history connected to it was factual and then would come the compiling of a file on the place, with the aim to having it categorised, and photographing the actual tree.

All interested persons can get into contact with Mr A O Endres at Box 9030, Johannesburg (telephone 834-4527) or write to White River, Box 557.

Die Laevelder, 2 Julie 1976

Conservation conference

Points System for Old Buildings

Transvaal architects have a plan which they hope will lead to the preservation of all the Transvaal's significant buildings, reports

James Clark of CARE

Take your favourite old building – maybe it's the Rissik Street Post Office or a

farmstead out of town. Now ask yourself how you would argue for its preservation against an authority which wanted to demolish it to make room for a modern office block.

How would you go about "proving" it was worth preserving?

The need to assess the value of significant buildings is very important – particularly as one is, most of the time, arguing against engineers and economists who mainly have to justify their own decisions with statistics.

The Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects has decided on a method which should satisfy most people, and may well, it hopes, one day be incorporated in legislation controlling development and demolition in urban areas. The institute wants to use the method to establish an inventory of significant buildings worthy of preservation in the Transvaal.

Mr S A Abramowitch, chairman of the institute, told *Care* that by the end of the year the institute hoped to have a preliminary list of buildings which "in terms of a value system we have worked out, are judged worthy of preservation". By the same time the institute hopes to have drafted some model legal clauses which could be incorporated into the appropriate legislation.

The Transvaal has been divided into four regions and each will be researched by a sub-group of the institute for the purposes of identifying "buildings and environments of significance".

As far as measuring the worth of buildings is concerned a 35-point value system has been established, and if a building rates 25 or more points then it will qualify as a "Significant Transvaal Building proposed for preservation".

The points system goes like this:

Architectural merit 5
Cultural significance 5
Historical significance 5
Environmental situation 5
Structural significance 5
Use of materials 5
Functional significance 5

The Star, March 1, 1976

Apology

The illustration "Advertising Preservation" which appeared on page 66 of *Restorica 2* came from *Preservation News* of February, 1976. We regret that acknowledgement was inadvertently omitted.

Konferensie oor hoë geboue

WAAK TEEN MONUMENTE

Minister J J Loots

Die waarnemende Minister van Openbare Werke, mnr J J Loots, het gevra dat daar gewaak moet word teen verkwinging in die bou van hoë geboue.

„As ons hoë geboue moet bou, laat dit goeie hoë geboue wees wat die beste waarde vir geld is. Laat ons verkwinging vermy en nie daarvoor veroordeel word dat ons nuttelose monumente bou nie.” Mnr Loots se toespraak is aan afgevaardigdes voorgelees deur die Sekretaris van Openbare Werke, mnr A Howard, by die driedaagse Suid-Afrikaanse konferensie oor Hoë Geboue wat in Johannesburg gehou is.

Mnr Loots het die belang van die bouwyerheid bekragtig deur daarop te wys dat die totale beleggings hierin jaarliks R3 000 miljoen beloop. „Baie van die beleggings is in hoë geboue omdat ekonomiese druk ons dwing om hoër te bou. Die vraag ontstaan egter of hoë geboue die antwoord is. Los dit ons bouprobleme op of is dit miskien 'n bron van nuwe probleme? Hier word in besonder verwys na die vraag of die huidige benadering tot die oprigting van hoë geboue korrek is, gedagtig aan die besondere behoeftes in Suid-Afrika. Is die geboue ekonomies geregverdig en nodig, of word ons houding teenoor hulle miskien buitensporig deur aspirasies tot grootsheid of die begeerte om monumente ter ere van tegnologie op te rig, beïnvloed?”

Mnr Loots sê dat dit algemene kennis is dat die koste verbonde aan die oprigting van die geboue geweldig styg. So ook styg die waarde van grond in die sentrale sakegebied en daar word voorgestel dat nog hoër gebou moet word.

Die Transvaler, 19 November 1975

Hoër bly kos meer

Dit is gewoonlik moontlik om 'n gegewe hoeveelheid huisvesting goedkoper te verskaf in 'n lae gebou as 'n hoë. Hoe hoër die gebou, hoe hoër is die verskil in koste.

In 'n redelik omstrede toespraak het mnr D Sampson, direkteur van 'n firma van raadgewende handelsekonomie, aan afgevaardigdes by die SA Konferensie oor Hoë Geboue gesê dat in Johannesburg die verskil tussen 'n blok van hoë en lae geboue tot soveel as R2 miljoen kan wees.

„Maar,” waarsku hy, „selfs al word geboue weer laer gebou, is dit te betwyfel of enige besparing in huurgeld of kostes hieruit sal voortspruit. Dit sal eerder ingeplou word in 'verbeterings' of 'gesteel' word deur eienaars of ontwikkelaars wat 'n baie skerpsinnige gevoel het oor wat die huur kan wees.”

Mnr Sampson, wat gepraat het oor die ekonomie van hoë geboue, het voorgestel dat die owerhede nie geboue van hoër as tien verdiepings moet toelaat nie. „Dit is nou nodig om op kapitale uitgawes te besnoei. Daar is geen nodigheid om hoë geboue te bou nie,” sê mnr Sampson.

Die Transvaler, 19 November 1975

Kind nie kind in die hoës

„'n Bevinding waarvoor navorsers geen-sins verskil nie is dat hoë geboue ongeskik is vir opvoeding van kinders.” Sô het mnr C F Swart, senior navorsers by die Instituut vir Stedelike Studies by die RAU, gesê toe hy by die Suid-Afrikaanse Konferensie oor Hoë Geboue in Johannesburg opgetree het.

„Deskundiges oor kinderopvoeding toon aan dat speel uiters noodsaaklik is vir die ontwikkeling van die kind en dat die geriewe hiervoor dikwels in hoë geboue ontbreek. Dit is veral kinders op die hoër verdiepings wat probleme ondervind om in aanraking met die natuur te kom. Moeders kan dikwels nie die kinders na buite vergesel nie, met die gevolg dat hulle binnenshuis moet speel. Benevens die groot waarde wat aanraking met die natuur vir die kind se opvoeding inhou, het dit ook die fisieke voordeel van daaglikse verkeer in die ope lug.

„Wanneer kinders nie deur ouers vergesel word nie, verswak die beheer oor die kind. In sulke gevalle kom die kinders dikwels onder slegte invloede wat nie deur die ouers geneutraliseer kan word nie, met gevolglike spanning tussen ouer en kind. Steurnis word veroorsaak wanneer die kinders in die woonstel self moet speel. Op hierdie wyse speel hulle dan minder met ander kinders, behalwe hulle broers en susters. As gevolg van die min ruimte in die woonstel is die kinders voortdurend in die ouers se teenwoordigheid en kan hulle ook nie maats ontvang nie.”

Mnr Swart het verder gesê dat die in-

vloed van die fisieke omgewing op die gesondheid van die mens blyk uit 'n hele aantal studies. In een ondersoek is bevind dat bewoners van hoë geboue die spreekkamers van 'n dokter meer dikwels besoek as bewoners van huise. Bewoners van hoë geboue is ook meer dikwels na 'n spesialis verwys en 'n hoër frekwensie van longsiektes kom voor as by hulle eweknieë in enkelwoninge.

Nog 'n ondersoek het getoon dat neurotiese simptome drie maal soveel onder moeders tussen die ouderdomme 20-29 voorgekom het. „Die voorkoms van psigoneurotiese faktore is twee maal soveel by inwoners op die boonste verdieping as by diegene op die grondverdieping. 'n Geleidelike toename is waargeneem hoe hoër beweeg is. Vroue oor 30 jaar het, ongeag die soort woning, ooreenstemmende psigoneurotiese koerse getoon.”

Mnr Swart het bevind dat hoë geboue geskik is vir jong mense en getroudes sonder kinders. „Die grootste probleem wat jong mense in die stede in die gesig staar, is isolasie en daar bestaan dus 'n dringende behoefte aan kanale om ander jong mense te ontmoet?”

Navorsing het getoon dat 70 persent van diegene wat na hoë geboue verhuis het, dit gedoen het omdat hulle daardeur in noue kontak met hulle geesgenote wou kom. Anders as gesinne met kinders het enkelinge dikwels nog nie primêre kommunikasienetwerke opgebou nie en bied die toringgebou moontlikhede in hierdie verband.

Ander ondersoeke het die rol wat die hysbak speel in die totstandkoming van sosiale verhoudinge baie sterk beklemtoon. Dit word gesê dat die hysbak sosiopetaal is – dit bring mense na mekaar toe. Dit dien as 'n vertikale straat wat alle inwoners moet gebruik.

Op hierdie wyse voorsien hoë geboue vanweë hulle groter digtheid die moontlikhede vir interaksie en asof die negatiewe aspekte in 'n mate geneutraliseer kan word indien besondere groepe mense hierdie geboue bewoon.

Rapport, 23 November 1975

Urban Design 76

At a recent symposium organised by the Transvaal Provincial Institute of Architects, Professor David Crane, a leading American authority on urban design, outlined current concepts in America which are having a significant influence on the urban scene.

Professor Crane stated that architecture and urban design are shaped by the changing social, economic and political outlook of the people. Current national policies in the US create more contacts

between architects and government than previously. While encouraging the development of the theory of urban design, this contact also illustrates the fact that there are very few true and inexorable solutions to the problems of urban design – problems which are particularly resistant to solution.

Pluralistic development

Urban design is as old as the Tudors – there is nothing new about its basic concerns, but the term itself first came into use 20 years ago in Pennsylvania. At that time it was an expression of the revulsion of architects against interdisciplinary planners who, they felt, had left out a sense of art in their over-all planning. Since then the term has changed its meaning according to the changing outlook of the times. Today it is concerned with the natural environment. The forces of urbanization have led industrialists, sociologists, etc. to question the effectiveness of traditional professions such as architecture and town planning. In the past forty years there has been a diminution in the traditional role of the architect. The rapid world-wide urbanization, the radical changes in communication which have in turn changed the fabric of our social life, have led to the establishment of new financial and political institutions – even to the formation of new states. This pluralistic development in our value systems has destroyed any possibility of a homogeneous society – where once there were kings there are now bureaucracies.

On the positive side, there has been an increase in urban consciousness in all sectors of society – government, educational and corporate life have all been deeply affected by this. Lawyers, businesses and other sections of the community have all begun to develop specialised education programmes to cope with the manifestations of this consciousness. Professor Crane believes that this trend has important implications for the professions involved – the specialists must now all contribute to a process, where management is the most important instrument.

In America there is now a comprehensive industrialized approach to urban affairs – architecture still has a great deal to contribute but must make fundamental changes in its approach if it is to be a part of the process. Traditional ethical concepts – such as the one where the architect stands between the client and the contractor – no longer pertain. Today the user of the space, the source of the finance, the developer, the differing regulatory agencies all have a client-type role while the building industry is equally fractionated. The designer is now working for a number of different interests, which changes the allegiances between the designer and the client.

Strategy for design

Professor Crane stressed that what is needed is a more influential “strategy for design”. Urban design is a strategic concept for influencing form. A new theory for urban architecture is needed – a concept based on the pluralism of our societies.

This theory must be based on better information – it must have an element of objectivity and reflect the population’s deeper urban consciousness.

The architect must recognise the basic ascendancy of human values and needs and must reconcile his own needs accordingly. The alternatives must be designed in so that the design can be held up to the light and can be changed if it conflicts with important interests not previously considered.

The designer must be aware of the immaterial character of the city – solving a problem does not necessarily mean physical action, as there are institutional means which can be used as well. In fact the city is difficult to conceive in a finite sense – it is fundamentally dynamic. Professor Crane used the term “cities on wheels” – the means of mobility fundamentally change the possibilities of architectural form and its ingredients. Our cities are subject to continuing growth and change – the fact that this change is sometimes violent should not allow us to wipe out everything of value.

The city is the product of a thousand designers, and it cannot be conceived by one person or group. The citizen must therefore be invited to participate.

All these conditions require that there must be greater versatility in the designer’s approach – he must learn to be strategic. Urban design can apply to systems, not only to buildings. It must be shaped by the policies and social contacts of the citizen, and the decisions which he makes about the shape of his society. In this context traditional definitions of the architect and how he must be taught have changed – he must now work as part of a process in which many other specialists are involved.

Planning & Building Development,
20 May/June 1976

Road plan causing chaos

Transvaal local authorities are crippling township developers and have helped jack up land prices by as much as 36% in the last two years, through holding back township applications until their proposed new road plan for the PWV (Pretoria / Witwatersrand / Vereeniging) area has been adopted.

Hitting out at the authorities, developers

say that there are many areas relating to the preparation of this master plan which savour of inefficiency and decided heavy-handedness in the authorities attitude to the township industry.

Two years ago, the Roads Department of the Transvaal Provincial Administration decided to prepare a blueprint of major road networks for the PWV area, and since then the whole industry has been in a turmoil, with the continued “freezing” of substantial areas of land for which payment might only be made in many years time.

Township developers point out that the demand for single dwelling units in the Witwatersrand area alone is approximately 12 000 to 15 000 units a year, and the slowing down or “freezing” of township applications has brought about an artificial shortage of residential erven.

This artificial shortage, in turn is unrealistically jacking up prices of stands, and adding to the inflationary spiral.

Despite repeated pleas from the township developers, it would appear as if the Roads Department is just not able to attract men of a high enough calibre to the department to handle the day-to-day problems of a gigantic scheme of this nature. Or perhaps, they say, certain officials are just not prepared to delegate some of their powers.

Proposed highways will, in certain instances, pass through built-up areas with the result that owners of homes will be let in a state of suspense for many years to come.

Township developers say that they will just not be able to process township applications as speedily as they should be doing, until the PWV road mess has been sorted out.

The Sunday Times, July 18, 1976

State help needed

Without adequate funds the immense task of preserving historic buildings is something of a lost cause and the case for State support was admirably presented by the MEC in charge of Local Government, Mr Frans Conradie. Unless the system of financial priorities was adjusted “historically valuable and irreplaceable buildings cannot be saved”. He singled out the old Sendinggestig in Long Street and the west side of Church Square in Pretoria, and preservationists could no doubt add many others to the list. A country is judged by the respect which it accords to the past and Mr Conradie’s argument emphasizes that action is not a matter of ifs and buts and rather for placing in the forefront of Government spending. The

planning requires a sense of urgency and a re-assessment of our scale of commercial and cultural values. The cause of preservation has been argued many times in these columns and, in view of Mr Conradie's contribution, it is timely to revive the case for the establishment of a National Trust similar to that which operates so successfully in Britain. Some two years ago a correspondent who has ploughed large sums of his own money into a magnificent restoration project wrote in a letter to the Editor: "In South Africa there is no equivalent of the British National Trust which has financial and public backing for taking over houses and even large tracts of land for preservation for the public." The observation goes to the root of the problem. It would be ungracious not to acknowledge the work which has been done by organizations like the Historical Monuments Council, the Simon van der Stel Foundation and several private bodies, but it is not enough. The inroads which are being made by developers have reached alarming proportions and only the State can provide, in Mr Conradie's illuminating phrase, "planning with teeth - money teeth".

The Cape Times, July 21, 1975

6 New wildlife areas on way

Six new wilderness areas are to be proclaimed in the years ahead, Mr Braam Raubenheimer, Minister of Forestry, said recently.

Opening in Pretoria southern Africa's first symposium on endangered wildlife he said the new areas would more than double the present size of wilderness protected by the State.

But he asked if enough land is being set aside to protect endangered wildlife in natural surroundings.

More people will be wanting to visit reserves which should be easily accessible to them while being large enough to cope with the influx and conserve at the same time, he said.

Wilderness areas are preserved mainly for posterity and sometimes for scientific reasons have to be closed to the public. But as the full development of man's character, intellect and physique can be achieved only if he maintains contact with the natural environment of which he is a product, the public is encouraged to visit reserves, he said.

The Pretoria News, July 23, 1976

R200 000 om natuur te bewaar

Die SA Natuurstigting het reeds bykans R200 000 ingesamel vir die stigting van natuurreservate in die Groot Karoo, het dr Anton Rupert in Johannesburg aangekondig by die algemene jaarvergadering van die stigting. As president van die SA Natuurstigting het dr Rupert die reaksie van die publiek en veral die skoolkinders van Suid-Afrika geloof wat meer as 400 000 spesiale Karoo-seëls verkoop het.

„Vir die eerste keer in die geskiedenis van ons land word twee natuurreservate,

te Beaufort-Wes en Graaff-Reinet gelyktydig, deur die publiek self daargestel. Dit is 'n pragtige blyk van vertroue in ons toekomst hier en 'n aansporing vir almal," het hy gesê.

„Gedurende die afgelope jaar is planne vir 'n grootse nuwe bewaringsprojek deur die owerhede bekend gemaak. Dit behels die skepping van 'n aaneenlopende natuurbewaringsgebied in Suidwes-Afrika, wat van die Skedelkuspark tot die Etosha-Nasionale Park sal strek en ongeveer 72 000 vierkante kilometer sal beslaan. Dit is driemaal die grootte van die Krugerwildtuin en bykans dubbeld so groot as Switserland."

Hoofstad, 10 April 1976

Some thoughts on domestic architecture

C W Dreyer

A house is usually the family's biggest single investment. This being so, does enough forethought and preparation precede its construction? In my experience more trouble is taken preparatory to the purchase of the family car.

Every cultivated individual will surely live more creatively in surroundings tending towards architecture which can be defined as the material expression of culture. Children might even be happier in such an environment, and could become more cultivated individuals as a result of this early experience than would be the case were they to mature in a succession of impersonal speculation houses, which by their very nature can only with great difficulty be transformed into homes. Researchers in psychology have found that those children who were given the opportunity to listen to good music during their early years often had an intellectual advantage over those from less artistic backgrounds. How much greater is the influence of architecture?

Poetically reposeful surroundings combined with a sense of shelter, with flowers, shrubs, trees, graceful lawns, quiet walks, sequestered nooks, interpenetrating the spatial outflow of the house, all intimate and according to the human scale, a mature retreat that can truly be called a home, need not be beyond the reach of those who can afford the average pattern book house available today in its many neo-what-have-you stylistic variations.

An organic or natural house requires long-term planning. In order to avoid unnecessary expenditure, and to achieve

the most personal result this preparatory work can be done by the building owner himself.

The first essential is to choose and buy the site. Difficult land to build on can often be bought for less than an uninspiring flat site. Ingenuity, coupled with the techniques available today make it possible to build almost anywhere. Rocky and uneven sites sometimes have more artistic potential. In my opinion a view is now essential where privacy is paramount. The spatial and sculptural experience afforded by the house and garden, contact with and appreciation of natural materials and plastic structural continuity more than compensate for a spread of cement tile roofs. View and privacy can be combined by incorporating a roof garden. Land is sometimes cheaper in the older lower class suburbs. This is an important factor when one realises that some of the newer outlying suburbs will, due to building quality being so low, become very shabby before the older areas have changed much. Itinerant workers should, I feel, concentrate more on flats, cluster houses and leasing. It is only when one becomes established in a particular place that one can put down roots. Other practical considerations such as proximity to schools, cultural centres, shops, work and availability of transport, must be attended to. If possible the land should be paid off before starting to build and use made of the interim period for planning, allowing plenty of time for the design to mature and take its final form. Farmhouses and homes on smallholdings will require different and further considerations as to siting. Finally, the local au-

thority should be consulted about future development of that particular area.

Before consulting an architect who, due to his depth of experience, knowledge of materials, construction, planning, administration, feeling for landscape, design ability and acquired culture, can help one carry through embryonic ideas and avoid costly mistakes, the owner should try to design the house himself, or at least draw up a long-term programme of accommodation, which may include additions at a later stage, reflecting one's lifestyle and noting that necessary to ensure its continuance, furniture, valuable personal possessions etc. When selecting an architect, examine his executed works and if possible, some of his drawings. A good quality to look for is an infinite capacity for taking pains. There should also be empathy and a common cultural background. It will prove well worth while to read books on the appreciation of architecture, of which many are available. Does one not do the same when developing a taste for music? Hosts of magazine cuttings showing the desired appearance of the house can only be an impediment and is also superficial. Rather allow group character to reflect by way of spatial orchestration, mass, surface, three dimensional composition, the nature of materials, appropriate structure, integral ornament, landscaping and environment, lighting, – as a development of and rooted into a truly practical, but not mundane, solution of the problem presented. No magazine cutting or postcard will then be able to do justice to the aesthetic experience of the house and garden.

Points of appreciation include simple natural materials such as brick, stone, wood, baked clay, faience, and others for example concrete, metals, glass and some synthetics, – all used naturally for their own sake and carefully chosen according to the elimination of the insignificant with a view to the organic whole as a simple intrinsic entity. Also, consider the soft glow of white limeplastered overhanging eaves extending over a window without a visible lintal and reflecting light into a room; the translucent opalescent diffusion of light through glass fibre; the soft shading and play of shadows on well massed brickwork; the venerable green of copper sills and copings blending into the landscape; the coruscating reflected light from small panes not in one plane; the tactile warmth and texture of natural fabrics and hangings; the warmth and sense of shelter of a low-pitched weathered shingle roof; the integration of house and garden affected by creepers on sandstone walls laid on their natural bed; a reflecting pool projecting through plate glass into the living room. An organic house and environment can be a continuing aesthetic experience and enrich one's life immeasurably.

I do believe that a house should not be thought of in terms of a box orientated on a particular site fenced all round, but rather of a structural core, developing from within outwards into the landscape, with ventilation, daylighting and sun control of living spaces. Glazed and opaque insulating screens and filters can then take the place of external walls. These need no foundations and can rest on a mesh reinforced slab which could extend out into the garden, forming terraces, verandahs and lanais. The internal walls then become the expressed structure and because of their mass are very convenient sound insulators. This principle plus clerestory windows and skylights make it possible to design for comfort on any site. Walls, screens and planting extending thus from the nucleus to and along the boundaries insure privacy where it is required, or otherwise open out into the landscape. Deciduous planting shades in summer and allows the sun to penetrate in winter. Even the smallest erf can provide environmental experience in this way and not seem cramped.

When the design has fully matured, all that remains of the initial major effort is its execution. This can well be done by the owner and his family under the supervision of an architect, with specialists employed where necessary. The architect will be able to arrange for municipal approval and inspections, advise as to finance, supervision of artisans, programming of construction, ordering of materials etc. In this way money can be saved and ploughed back into quality materials, greater accommodation and more extensive design. Although it will take much longer to build, the result will be uniquely personal, and, I think, well worth the effort. The experience itself can be educational, creative and pleasant.

Ons erfenis moet bewaar word

'n Aardbewing was nodig om ons bewus te maak van watter half-vergete skatte daar op baie van ons ouer dorpe is. Nou, ná die restaurasie van baie geboue wat deur die aardbewing beskadig is, laat niemand wat 'n besoek aan die Boland bring, die kans verbygaan om 'n draai by Tulbagh te gaan maak nie. Selfs buitelandse besoekers word daarheen gebring. Tulbagh is as 't ware met 'n skok terug op die kaart gebring.

Ander geskiedkundige en skilderagtige Bolandse dorpe soos Stellenbosch, Swellendam, ens. het daardie skok nie nodig gehad nie. Daar was gelukkig ywerige

en bewaringsbewuste persone en instansies wat vroegtydig ingespring het om te voorkom dat waardevolle ou wonings en ander geboue die prooi van stootskrapers word.

Iemand het onlangs ná 'n besoek aan Stellenbosch gesê dat hy elke keer wanneer hy daar kom, wil huil omdat dit vir hom so mooi is. 'n Mens kry dieselfde gevoel as jy op Tulbagh of op Swellendam kom.

Gelukkig is daar ook op heelparty ander dorpe mense wat hulle vir die bewaring en restaurasie van mooi ou geboue uit die vorige eeue beywer. Maar daar is nie genoeg nie. En die tyd raak so bitter min. Ons dorpe word modern. Strate word verbreed, winkelsentrums gebou en parkeerterreine aangebring. Dit is alles nodig en goed, maar so dikwels is dit ten koste van wat behoue behoort te bly.

Miskien moet 'n mens die skuld nie op die stadsrade pak as daar oorhaastig tot sloping besluit word nie. Stadsrade bestaan gewoonlik uit sakemanne, praktiese mense wat daaraan gewoon is om met koue feite te werk en wat moet sorg dat begrotings klop. Op elke dorp of in elke distrik moet daar darem 'n groepie mense wees wat sterk voel oor dié dinge wat besig is om te verdwyn. Hulle behoort die voortou te neem en 'n opname te maak van wat eie aan hul dorp en omgewing is en wat werd is om gered te word. Dit is verbasend wat 'n paar geesdriftige, bewaringsbewuste mense kan vermag.

Ons erfenis moet bewaar word. As 'n mens 'n besoek aan Tulbagh bring of as jy in Stellenbosch se Dorpstraat op ry, besef jy waarom.

Die Huisgenoot, 11 September 1976

Monument spending cut back

Spending on national monuments has been cut by nearly a third this year.

The National Monuments Council says that it spent R114 000 – that is R54 000 less than in the 1974–75 financial year.

Mr. A.H. Groenwald of the Council said that details of a further "special allocation" for the Old Drosdy in Tulbach were not available as yet.

The breakdown was as follows – Administration: R58 000, Capital Expenses: R43 000, Tulbach: R50 000, the Strooidakkerk in Paarl: R15 000, Voortrekker kerk in Lydenburg: R2 000.

The totals for both the previous financial year and the present one in South West Africa were R6 000.

The Pretoria News, September 24, 1976

Report of a visit to South Africa 1976

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Introduction

1.1 My visit was undertaken by invitation of the Institute of South African Architects and arranged by the Commonwealth Association of Architects; my first acknowledgement must be to Mr T Watson, Mr C Crichton and all the members of the Provincial Institutes who acted as hosts, drivers, guides and companions during a crowded programme. The tour was perfectly organised and I cannot imagine greater kindness and hospitality than I received everywhere.

1.2 The programme was:

10 March	Johannesburg
11 March	Pretoria
12 March	Johannesburg
13-15 March	Cape Town
16 March	Port Elizabeth
17-20 March	Durban
21 March	Pietermaritzburg
22-24 March	Bloemfontein
25 March	Johannesburg
26-27 March	Pilgrim's Rest

1.3 During the tour I lectured 8 times, gave seminars at 2 universities, and joined the staff twice in one university for criticisms of the students' work; I also talked at length to at least 50 architects and met many more during visits to universities and at social events kindly arranged by my hosts. My impression is that the architectural profession is becoming increasingly dissatisfied with the official attitude to what can be called in general terms 'environmental control', including conservation of existing buildings and existing areas. The Provincial Institutes vary in the scale of action they have already taken through exhibitions, lectures or other means, but in each city I found an evident concern that too much building stock of quality and usefulness is being destroyed unnecessarily. There is a growing reaction against the effect on the environment of newly constructed or proposed freeways, of planning rezoning decisions taken apparently without consideration of the effect they will have on the existing, often visually and socially high, quality of the environment, and of the total destruction of existing residential and commercial areas. In an attempt to make a possibly useful contribution based on observation of similar concerns in other countries, I offer the following comments.

Commentary

2.1 *Protective legislation*

It is an essential requisite of any effective protective legislation that there should be recognised criteria of values. It is difficult to avoid subjective judgment altogether, but it is possible to set down a list of basic reasons for protecting certain buildings and areas. These provide a national standard which can be used when discussing the merits of a case, or when preparing lists of buildings of architectural and historical importance; it is necessary to have these standards if the list is to become a statutory document in legislation. Perhaps I may refer here to the excellent list prepared by the Natal Provincial Institute, which appears to have been based on the type of criteria adopted in several countries; this could be taken as a model, but it is obvious its effectiveness is restricted because it has no authority in existing legislation. Yet the publication of such a list may be the only way a case can be made for new legislation; if so, it should be circulated as widely as possible. It is beyond the scope of this report to suggest how this legislation might be introduced, but where it exists it has usually come through combined professional and public pressure. The most valuable recent conservation legislation in Britain, the Civic Amenities Act, was largely the result of action by a national amenity society, the Civic Trust. In considering the amount of work and research undertaken in order to prepare a worthwhile list that can be used as a respected statement on architectural and historical values, the potential contribution of university departments cannot be overlooked; I was especially interested to visit the Department of the History of Art in RAU to hear about the inventory of buildings being prepared there.

It has been found in other countries that the protection of individual buildings has usually been followed by wider legislative powers to control the planned changes in an area and/or to control the development within a defined radius of a listed building. Cities in South Africa, as in other countries, can provide examples of new developments which have reduced or destroyed the effect and quality of a protected building; in considering desirable legislative measures this might be remembered. But a more important consideration is the protection of the character of certain urban or rural areas. When this character can be identified, as it

certainly can, for example, in some parts of Cape Town, Pietermaritzburg, Durban and, more obviously perhaps, in Stellenbosch, it seems desirable to have additional powers of control (other than normal town planning control) over proposed changes; these are needed to preserve the character, but not necessarily the existing fabric. I suggest a pilot study might be made of such an area (possibly in Pietermaritzburg which would offer a good subject) as a model for discussion about proposed legislation; but such a study must obviously be practical and economically sound. It would be an advantage if it could be commissioned officially by the appropriate central or provincial government department, but it would still be worth doing by a Provincial Institute.

2.2 *Conservation techniques*

Full though my tour programme was, it gave me an opportunity to see only a few examples of conservation in practice. It is possible those I saw are not representative, but I have an impression that a more conservative method might be an alternative worth considering. In Pietermaritzburg, for example, I visited Dudgeon's fine college, which I believe is scheduled as an historic monument; if I may venture to comment, I noted a considerable quantity of sandstone dressings (copings, plinth moulds, string courses, etc.) were being cut back and faced with cement, and that the whole of the tiled roof has been renewed although many of the old tiles (which are on the ground) appear in good condition. Perhaps a more moderate treatment might have been preferable, and it is unfortunate the original, effective pattern of the roof tiles has not been perpetuated in the renewal. Another example of replacement, which be thought excessive, can be seen on one of the older buildings in the university at Bloemfontein where the original sandstone dressings, often elaborately carved, are being replaced with copies in granite; apart from the technical difficulty of reproducing the carvings, the result completely changes the appearance and character of the building. Possibly over-enthusiastic, and probably unnecessary replacements such as these are not unconnected with the lack of protective legislation and an official attitude to the treatment of historic buildings, based on certain generally accepted principles.

I was impressed by the potential educational value of Pilgrim's Rest, which could be an outstanding industrial archaeological museum. Yet I was told a decision has been taken to impose a rigid terminal date of 1910 and later buildings have been, or will be, taken down. This freezing of history is not unknown in some other countries, but it is increasingly criticised, and a more rational and flexible criterion might be an advantage in helping to keep Pilgrim's Rest as a

living community as well as an important living museum. Much work already undertaken there seems to have been based on common sense, which might be preferable to a doctrinaire rule.

'Restoration' is a word used more frequently in South Africa than in some other countries. Perhaps that suggests the methods used, for example, in treating Cape Dutch houses in the past, have become a part of an accepted national attitude to old buildings. If so, that must be respected as a valid principle, stressing only the need for thorough research and on-site investigation before any decisions are taken.

2.3 Training for conservation

It might be thought training for conservation is premature before the latter has a legally recognised existence; but equally one might argue conservation is a part of good design. If that were accepted by clients, administrators and the building professions, there would be no such thing as 'conservation', but even if the present situation falls short of that ideal it seems obvious a good designer does not disregard the context in which he designs, or the quality of a building he is extending or altering; yet one knows these considerations are not always treated as seriously as they deserve in some schools of architecture. It was encouraging to find something close to this incorporated in some programmes in universities I visited, but on the other hand my attendance at studio criticisms confirmed how difficult it is for a relatively unsophisticated student to understand the problem of old-plus-new unless his previous studies and lectures have helped to prepare him. Yet, at a time when economic restrictions are likely to result in a reduced volume of new work and an increase in the rehabilitation and adaptation of existing building stock, it is only realistic to encourage a greater knowledge of the creative possibilities of such commissions and the need to design sympathetically and sensitively in an environment that is already there.

I had an opportunity to discuss the possibility of post-graduate courses with the professors and lecturers in several universities. I believe it is essential to offer such studies, but in relatively few centres. The number of suitable applicants is not likely to be great, and the number of suitably experienced teachers small; consequently it might be advisable to begin in a modest way with a short course as an experiment to test the response. The relative merits of part-time or full-time courses is a subject probably better left to discussion later, after it has been possible to assess the demand.

2.4 The extent to which the Institute of South African Architects should be actively involved in opposing proposals and decisions concerning redevelopment, traffic and the environment generally,

was one question raised in several cities. For what it is worth, my opinion is that official professional opposition is often regarded with suspicion; motives are seldom credited with being disinterested, and it is probably better that architects should act in a private, individual capacity through an amenity society representing a wider community interest. Many of these societies have been formed with the help of architects who can offer the professional knowledge and experience necessary if opposition is going to be informed, rational and positive. However, if I may be allowed to repeat one of the constant themes in the lectures I was invited to deliver, legislation for conservation is likely to be brought about by public pressure (including the architectural profession), and it will work well only if the pressure and concern continue.

Conclusion

3.1 In concluding, I would like again to thank the Institute of South African Architects for inviting me to visit some of their Provincial Institutes and universities. If I have ventured to make some criticisms and suggestions, it is only because I realised during my first visit to the Republic that it has a great deal to admire and, I hope, to be conserved.

Too many people Greatest threat to nature and the environment

A warning from our State President

"... that the population growth and the problems that it causes have become of vital importance, is a fact which must be accepted and is one which requires the most urgent attention."

How many mouths to feed?

	1970	2000	2020
Whites	3 822 000	6 890 000	9 204 000
Asiatics	651 000	1 215 000	1 617 000
Coloured	2 097 000	4 890 000	7 720 000
Blacks	15 468 000	37 293 000	62 798 000
Total	22 038 000	50 288 000	81 339 000

The State President, Dr N Diederichs (1976)

How much land do we have left?

The population growth rate in South Africa is one of the highest in the world and 90 per cent of our arable land is already being cultivated. This is more than the 80 per cent in Europe and South-east Asia and considerably more than the 50 to 60 per cent in North America and Russia. In 1973, when the total population reached 23 million, there was 0,57 ha of arable land per person in South Africa. In the year 2000 there will only be an estimated 0,32 ha per person which

is less than the 0,4 ha considered necessary to provide one person with sufficient food.

Dr W A Verbeek, Secretary of Agricultural Technical Services (1974)

And what about nature?

Due to the phenomenal growth in population and man's insatiable demands on the environment, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the conservation measures of yesterday are not adequate to deal with the situation today, and even less so to meet the challenge of the future . . . The general degradation of the environment, by destroying the habitat, presents a far greater threat to the future of wildlife than the poaching of individual animals or plants.

Dr D Hey, Director of Nature and Environmental Conservation (1971)

What are the consequences?

Over-population led to famine, lack of educational opportunities, with concomitant ignorance and inability to make a greater contribution to economic development.

That in turn led to diminishing opportunities for employment, unplanned urbanisation, uncontrolled pollution of air and water, further deterioration and degeneration into slums, which again led to greater social decay, extra-marital births, uncontrolled population growth and even greater poverty.

This vicious circle is the all-important question which is forcing mankind to come to its senses and to take urgent action.

Dr C P Mulder, Minister of the Interior and Information (1971)

What is the solution?

Unless the ZPG (Zero Population Growth) formula, which provided for an average of two children per family, was adopted as an urgent remedy, the social and economic structure of South African society will collapse under the sheer weight of numbers in the foreseeable future . . .

Dr C P Mulder, Minister of the Interior and Information (1971)

Issued by the Cape Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation, PO Box 659, Cape Town, 8000.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr M H de Kock, Kaapstad
Mnr J A Grobler, Koppies
Mr R C Harris, Port Elizabeth
Prof A F Hattersley,
Pietermaritzburg
Mev E Hugo, Parktown
Mrs U Klink, Cape Town
Mev A Preller, Kaapstad
Sy edele dr L C Steyn,
Viljoenskroon
Mr H C "Dumps" Willis,
Simonstown



Personalia

Mary Cook ontvang erepenning

Dr Mary A Cook, bekende kultuurhistorikus het in Kaapstad die Stigting Simon van der Stel se Erepenning ontvang. Die oorhandiging is gedoen deur Mnr F D Conradie LUK, Nasionale Ondervoorsitter van die Stigting. Mnr Conradie het gesê dat dit vir die Stigting 'n voorreg is om 'n persoon soos Dr Cook op hierdie wyse te kan vereer. Sy het 'n merkwaardige bydrae tot die kultuurgeskiedenis van die Wes-Kaap gemaak. Haar merkwaardige kennis van die Kaapse geskiedenis in die vorm van sy geboue en gebruiksvoorwerpe bly steeds vir vakkundige en leek 'n bron van verwondering en kennis.

Mary Alexander is in 1902 in Engeland gebore. Sy bekwaam haar as medikus en trou met 'n Anglikaanse predikant, eerw. Cook. Hulle kom in 1926 na Suid-Afrika. Haar belangstelling in Kaapse geskiedenis en kultuur word al gou geprikkel en sy begin om haar daarin te verdiep.

Dr Mary Cook ontvang die Stigting Simon van der Stel se erepenning van mnr F D Conradie LUK, Nasionale ondervoorsitter van die Stigting.



Na die dood van haar man in 1957 kry sy 'n pos by die SA Museum en in 1964 word sy kuratrise van die Swellendamse Drosdymuseum. Mary Cook het in hierdie pos en tydperk haar grootste werke gelewer en alom bekend geraak as kultuurhistorikus van formaat.

In 1971 ontvang sy 'n welverdiende eredoctorsgraad van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Dr Cook tree in 1974 af as kuratrise te Swellendam en na 'n tydperk van adviseurskap by die museum, verhuis sy na haar rentenierswoning in Tulbagh se pragtige gerestoureerde Kerkstraat.

Mary Cook was van die heel eerstes van ons kultuurhistorici wat raakgesien het dat ons Kaaps-Hollandse gewels volgens stylperiodes geklassifiseer kan word mits 'n mens die veelheid van gewels en Europese style deeglik ken en kan raaksien. So ook het sy Kaapse meubels en gebruiksvoorwerpe intiem leer ken en beskryf.

Hiervan getuig onder vele ander geskrifte, *The Old Houses of the Cape* wat sy saam met Hans Franssen geskryf het en *The Cape Kitchen*.

Die Direkteur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, mnr Willem Punt, het die

gaste by die geselligheid verwelkom en gesê dat die Stigting as die nasionale burgerlike bewaringsliggaam sy erepenning toeken vir besondere bydraes wat lede van die Stigting en ander burgers lewer tot bewaringsbevordering, bewaringskunde, restourasiekunde en die verwante takke van die geskiedenis.

Die erepenning is voorheen al toegeken aan die Eerste Minister, Sy Edele B J Vorster, die Caltex Olie-Maatskappy Beperk, dr W H J Punt, sy Edele B J van der Walt, Administrateur van SWA en dr Jan Ploeger, staatshistorikus en eerste redakteur van die Stigting se lyfblad.

Mnr Punt het gesê dat die Stigting in die toekoms gereeld penninge aan verdienstelike persone gaan toeken.

Medewerker Ton Koot word vereer

Het Nasionaal Comité Monumentenjaar 1975 heeft besloten de heer Ton Koot te onderscheiden wegens zijn verdiensten voor het behoud van het Nederlandse monument.

Hetgeen de heer Koot in die loop van lange jaren voor de Nederlandse monumenten heeft gedaan valt niet in enkele zinnen samen te vatten, noch met een enkele oorkonde te waarderen. Nu er in het Monumentenjaar sprake is van onderscheidingen op het gebied van de vaderlandse monumentenzorg mogen wij evenwel dankbaar zijn, dat hierdoor de gelegenheid zich voordoet om uiting te geven aan de erkentelijkheid, die er in grote kringen van ons volk bestaat voor wat "Ton Koot" heeft verricht. Wat hij als sekretaris van de Bond Heemschut, als redakteur van "Het Orgaan", als schrijver van talloze publikaties en als spreker op vele vergaderingen heeft gepresteerd ten bate van het monument valt naar omvang en inhoud niet te schatten. Als weinig anderen bezit hij de gave om een "kritisch geluid" te laten horen, als er iets mis gaat, bijvoorbeeld omdat de overheid de belangen van het monument verwaarloost.

De wijze, waarop zijn optreden effekt gesorteerd heeft en sorteert is alleen al daarom niet te meten, omdat hij op bijzondere wijze erin slaagt brede lagen van de bevolking te bereiken.

Ook buiten Nederland is de naam van deze onvermoeibare strijder voor de monumenten een begrip geworden.

Het Nasionaal Comité Monumentenjaar 1975



Natal Whaling museum

CAROLYN HOWIE

A whaling museum, housed in a whale catcher moored in Durban harbour, is the dream of Mr Willem Punt, director of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

He is presently negotiating with museum authorities at city, provincial and national level to open what would be the only whaling museum in the southern hemisphere.

Mr Punt believes it could also be a very popular tourist attraction.

Whaling operations from Durban, which had been going on for more than 60 years, closed down last year when Union Whaling ceased operations.

Now the whaling station is up for sale and the Navy is taking over Salisbury Island exclusively. For months Mr Punt has been watching anxiously to see what will happen to the six catchers still moored at Salisbury Island and to objects at the station which will tell future generations about the history of whaling in Natal.

"I am anxious to preserve such things as harpoons, grenades, harpoon shafts and cannon, radio marker masts, detonators,

flensing knives, crockery, rope and even the end products themselves," Mr Punt said.

There were still six catchers left – the rest of the fleet had been sold or used by the Navy for target practice because they were more expensive to break up than the cost of the scrap metal they would realise.

"There were 24, but now I would like to see the Peter Molenaar or the Colin Frye preserved as a floating museum. It would cost about R12 000 a year to maintain but it could be made into an excellent tourist attraction.

"I feel that with a normal museum grant and the money from tourists it would not only be self-supporting but might be a money spinner like Nelson's Discovery at Greenwich in England," he said. He said he would be approaching the Durban City Council to see if they could store some exhibits and Railway and Port authorities to see if a site could be found for the 50 m, 800 ton whaler to be moored in the harbour.

The City Council would be first to be approached to run the museum, but it

could be a provincial or even a national museum.

Whaling operations throughout the world are closing down fast.

"They have stopped here, in Argentina, Canada and America. Spain, Denmark, Norway and Australia are phasing it out. Only Russia and Japan are still hunting extensively," Mr Punt said.

Dr C de Jong, a member of the Simon van der Stel Foundation's Pretoria regional committee, who had been to Durban on holiday, told him 18 months ago that whaling was to stop from the port. The Foundation – the SA National Trust, had been watching the situation ever since.

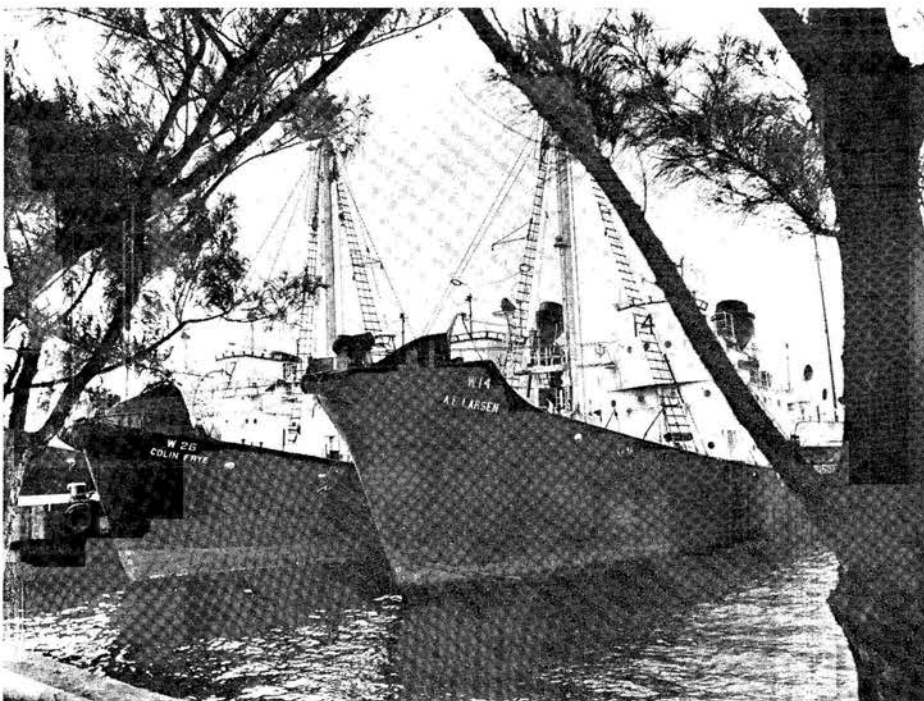
Naval authorities agreed to look after the relics for a month or so while the Trust negotiated for a permanent home for them.

Durban's Town Clerk, Mr Gordon Haygarth, said he would look into ways of storing or exhibiting some of the relics in the Local History Museum.

It would have to tie in with something as he did not feel it would get sufficient tourist support on its own.

"It has been likened to the Discovery

Two of the six catchers lying idle at Durban's Salisbury Island. The Simon van der Stel Foundation would like to preserve one as a floating museum about whaling.



at Greenwich but there you have the trip down the Thames and the Maritime Museum as added attractions.

Maintenance in the water was expensive, as all yacht owners could testify. He had doubts whether a catcher could be preserved in this manner and maybe a replica would be more suitable.

Mr Punt said he would like to see the end products preserved – such as bottles of oil, bonemeal, canned and dried meat, soaps and waxes, as well as the packing materials used.

Detonators, shell casings, harpoons, grenade-detonator release-hooks, and all the other equipment used to catch the whales should be kept.

One man who is convinced that such a museum should be set up and would attract the public is Mr Peter Froude who left Union Whaling last month after 17 years as a whaler.

“This has always fascinated people and we had to put up all sorts of barricades to keep sightseers at bay when the factory was in operation.”

Although the younger generation lent largely towards conservation today, older generations felt a romantic thrill about the hunting of whales.

“Even biologists would get carried away by the excitement when we went on expeditions to the Antarctic,” he recalled. His last trip took four months, when he was factory manager.

There were 1 000 men, 10 catchers a factory ship, a tank boat, two freezer vessels, a processing plant and two expedition

boats. They caught about 500 whales.

When I went to see Mr Froude at the whaling station, I thought I had stumbled on a ghost town. I walked for 10 minutes without seeing a soul except the gate guard.

Bags half-filled with meal stood as if the packers had just left, dustbins stood unemptied and furnaces cold. The only sound was the sea crashing on the beach and the odd cry of a seagull.

This was a far cry from the 1950s when the industry was at its zenith with production reaching 3 000 whales a year. Last year, when they had to operate to a strict quota, 1 600 were caught.

Last October the decision regarding whaling in 1976 was postponed. The factory and the catchers are now up for sale.

Although theoretically the industry could start up again, public opinion is unlikely to allow it and earlier this year South Africa waived its rights to any future quota.

The whaling museum would have to tell of the man who started the industry – the ancestors of most Durban people of Norwegian descent came to Durban as whalers – and the men who braved the ice-packed seas of the Antarctic to carry it on.

“There was a very strict hierarchy with artisans, flensers, wire men, hook men, blubber men and lemmers all having their clearly defined trades and a laid-down share of the bonus,” Mr Froude said.

He hoped a man with a love of whaling

would be chosen to tell the tale. Mr Punt hopes he can find the men with the foresight to save the tools so future generations will be able to hear and see that tale told.

Whaling in Durban started at the old slipway in 1908 and by 1912 there were 13 whaling companies in Natal.

Whales – particularly sperm whales – have always been plentiful along the coast with other species using it as a migratory route.

But it has always been an economic gamble. By 1920 only Premier Whaling and Union Whaling were left. In 1927 Union Whaling took over its rival and kept the company operating until 1953. It was finally wound up in 1973.

In 1925 the first mobile factory, Uni-whaleco went to the Antarctic for bigger whales and this meant year-round operating for the company.

Operating almost without competition, Union’s Whaling’s fortunes fluctuated with the stresses of war, ship losses, falling catches, rocketing market prices and higher operating costs.

The Uniwhaleco was sunk in 1942. As compensation they received the 43 000-ton Empire Victory which was renamed Abraham Larsen.

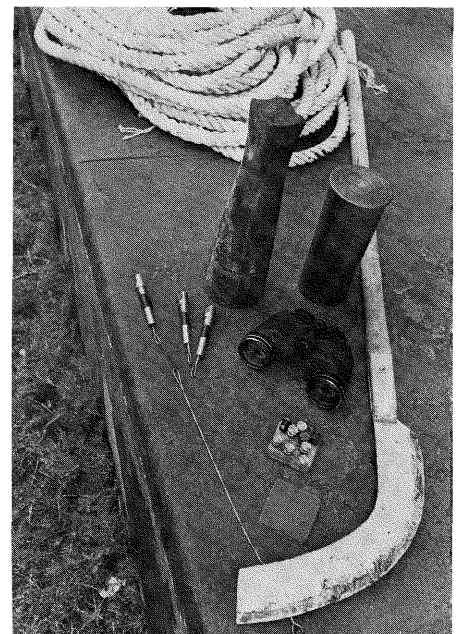
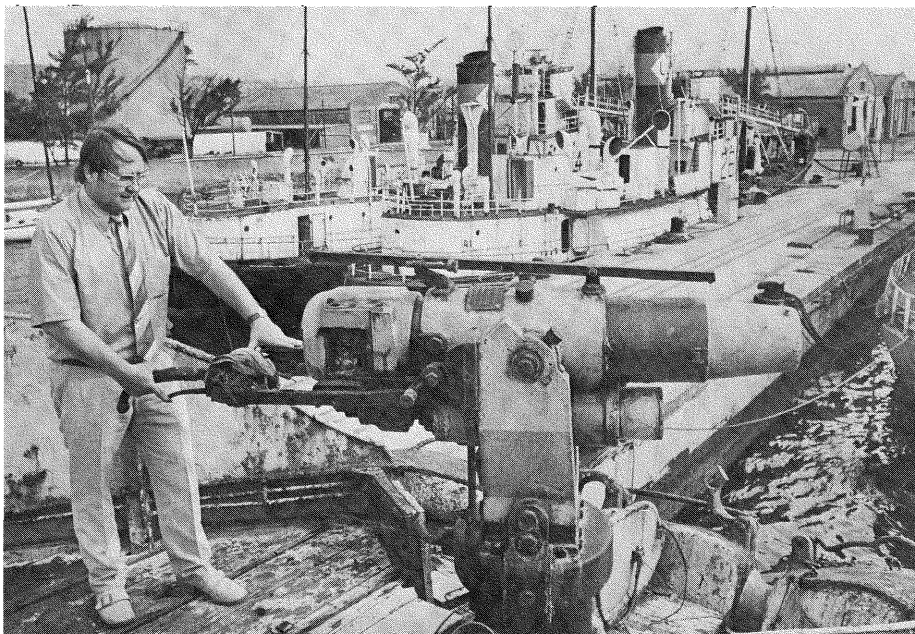
This was operated until 1957 when it was sold to the Japanese along with 10 of the large whalers.

The Natal Mercury, October 11, 1976

Photo’s *Etienne Rothbart*

Mr Willem Punt, director of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, takes up a stance behind this Norwegian harpoon-cannon, built in 1958 and still mounted on the poop deck of a catcher. The Foundation, wants to restore one of Durban’s whalers and have it preserved as a floating whaling museum.

A few relics worth preserving: A flensing knife, a box of detonators, binoculars, time fuses, grenade, reloadable shell casing for the cannon and a coil of rope.



Conservation studies at the School of Architecture

The recent display of twenty one models presented by final year students at the Durban School of Architecture, has brought a great deal of favourable comment, and acknowledgement of the capabilities of students in what is considered in some quarters, to be the finest School of architecture in the country.

To give a background to the undertaking: It is not generally recognised that planning for the future must be concerned not only with new development, but also with the conservation of existing assets, including the retention and care of all that is best from the past. In many countries legislation has been passed ensuring such provisions in planning. Legal planning authorities in Britain, for example, have, since 1967, been required to designate 'Conservation Areas'. These are areas of 'special architectural or historic interest, the character of appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. More recently, in 1974, the Civic Amenities Act called for the formulation and publication of proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. This means local authorities can now be directed to enhance areas of special interest.

The Council of Europe designated 1975 European Architectural and Heritage Year, with the object of halting the steady loss of irreplaceable buildings and the erosion of character in historic towns.

The project, which was based broadly on the European concepts, required students to select an area with a special visual character and demarcate its extent on a map. The problem then was to study the area; to understand its development, all the forces operating on it and the environmental factors giving the area that special character. Once it had been established what was good and should be preserved, it became a matter of formulating a policy for the enhancement of the area. This was followed by concrete proposals for its continued existence. All in all, a complex undertaking.

The 'real life value' of the project includes the areas and the pressures on the areas - which are very real. However, to gain public interest in the conservation of urban areas and the improvement in their quality of living, it is necessary to gain the support of the local authority officials.

The officials concerned had expressed a great deal of interest, and had agreed to attend critiques and to give as much assistance as possible, thereby giving another dimension to the value of the project.

The course was run over thirteen weeks, during which time the students undertook six investigational studies. These comprised Historical Developments, Townscape and Urban Landscape, Eco-

logical studies of the areas chosen; Travel/Traffic studies, which involved research into restrictions and liaison with the Architects and Town Planners from the City Engineer's Department. Activity studies were undertaken to ascertain the needs and desires of the residents of the areas and, Corporation Proposals were considered in the light of pressures on re-development.

Based on this research, students were then required to formulate policies for their proposals, in abstract and then, in the final two weeks, to sketch these proposals and make the models.

Some of Durban's oldest and most historical areas were featured in the presentations, and included Durban Point, Esplanade, the older, lower Berea, Congella, Grey Street, Greyville, Morningside, Stamford Hill and Sarnia.

The presentations were all of an exceptionally high standard and the examiners were most impressed. Of particular merit were those of Miss Sally Adams, whose work was on the Stamford Hill area; the conservation proposals for the Umgeni River Mouth, by Mrs Pat Emmett and, Mr Jon Williams' presentation on Upper Morningside.

The project was led by Mr Wally Peters, Lecturer/Studio Master in the Durban School of Architecture. Mr Peters, who obtained the B.Arch degree at this University, was awarded the Masters degree in Environmental Conservation from Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, in 1974. His field of interest is in the History of Architecture, and the preservation of buildings.

In the early stages, the students received a great deal of encouragement and advice, and some very constructive criticism, from Dr Derek Lindstrum, Director of Conservation Studies at York University, England, who was a visitor to the University in March.

External Examiner for the project was Mr Tony Barac, well-known Architect/Planner from Cape Town. Other critics included Mr George Chadwick, Natal Director of the National Monuments Board; Mr Willem van Riet, Ecologist and Landscape Architect from Pretoria University; Mr Peter Hoal, Chief Architect, Durban Corporation, and members of the Town Planning Department of the Durban Corporation, Mr Bill Hurt and Mr Garth Williamson.

The high esteem in which the exhibition is held may be gauged by the fact that the Durban Corporation sent a team of eighteen observers for a private viewing on 9th June.

Nu Chronicle, University of Natal, Vol. 2 No. 2, June 1976

Let's let our hair down

A top architect recently challenged Durban's planners to use modern planning

principles and avoid development blunders.

Mr Danie Theron, public relations officer of the Natal Institute of Architects and a senior lecturer at the University of Natal School of Architecture, called for a Durban Department of Urban Innovation to dream up ways of making the city come alive in the fullest sense.

"We have a unique and magnificent natural setting, but it just hasn't been used to the full in the planning of Durban," he said in an interview with the *Sunday Tribune*.

"We need more flexible, sensitive planning. There's a meanness of spirit in the way we're designing things.

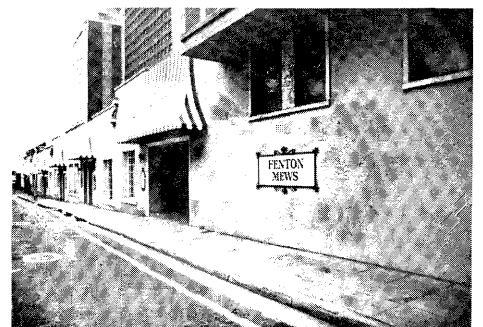
"The planning authorities must be more open. They should invite the people to participate at all stages of the planning process."

Among the serious planning blunders he criticised were:

- The high wall of buildings along the Golden Mile which had "taken the good seats at the sea" and seriously affected development behind them.
- The whole policy of allowing high buildings on the slopes of the Berea, Durban's natural grandstand.
- The use of the Esplanade for large-scale road and rail transport, seriously damaging what could have been a marvellous bayside recreation area and visual asset to the city.
- The destruction of a great number of good old buildings like the Marine Hotel, which were irreplaceable because of a lack of money and craftsmanship, and the destruction of historical parts of the city.
- Making it extremely difficult for anyone to have outside cafes or to set up

An example of recycling of old buildings. Nineteenth century warehouses in Durban converted into boutiques. The scheme is an outstanding economic success.

Photo: Frik Dreyer



stalls on pavements and in public places, thus depriving the city of the sort of lively amenity that added so much to a city such as Paris.

- The destruction of the old Indian market.
- Allowing the building of parking garages like Nicol Square in Pine Street, a "huge dead thing which just sits there and has a dampening effect on the whole area around it."

Mr Theron said planning legislation in South Africa was still based on a planning Act Britain had changed several times since the thirties.

"We're still working within a system of concepts and attitudes which have been done away with in other countries. It is all so antiquated.

"For instance there's the idea that the city environment is always a bad one, ugly and unhealthy, which means that in fact our planning is anti-urban.

"Then there's a lack of an overall planning philosophy.

"For instance, every planner in the country will tell you that the car is bad. But because of anti-urban bias development is usually very low-density, which means you can't provide proper public transport.

"And the planners discourage the decentralisation of the city facilities, which is a way to stop the critical congestion in city centres.

Awakening

"And on top of all that there are more than 20 public bodies like the railways, government departments and so on which don't have to comply with the plans of provinces and local authorities. There's no co-ordination."

Mr Theron returned recently from Europe, where there had been a tremendous reawakening of public interest in city centres under the enlightened guidance of local authorities and others.

"One has to make the centre of a city alive and full of people or it is a very dangerous place," he said.

"And in general in a case like Durban, which is a major tourist centre, we should opt for a much gayer and more exuberant character. It would not be difficult to do this and we could make Durban a fantastic place."

Atrocious

Important steps in this direction would include:

- The full acceptance of Durban as a subtropical place. There should be large-scale planting of trees in the heart of the city and no further destruction of the natural coastal bush. Developments at the Indian and Coloured beaches were atrocious.
- Traffic along the Esplanade should be reduced. The yacht harbour should be further developed and everything should be done to encourage the ber-

thing of international yachts which people loved to look at. There should be a promenade along the Bay, as there once had been.

- Pavement vendors and outdoor cafes should be encouraged, and rooftops should be landscaped with restaurant facilities.
- The beachfront should have many places where people can sit out and eat and drink during the day, and dance in the open by the sea at night. Landscaping should provide many more quiet, sheltered places where people could linger.
- Colour and texture should be used much more to brighten up buildings.

The Sunday Tribune, August 22, 1976

Elephant House, Durban

The restoration of Durban's oldest home, Elephant House, is going ahead slowly but carefully.

"This is going to be a fairly long restoration which will need patience, love and kindness", said Mr Brian Agar who bought the old house to preserve it from the demolishers.

Most of the important work he does at weekends although during the week he employs the odd artisan to carry out certain basic work.

His intention is to retain as much of the old woodwork as possible but when for instance a door has almost rotted away it is replaced with one which has been matched up with a copy made by a local building firm.

To retain the old atmosphere of rooms lit by old lamps, Mr Agar has concealed electric lights inside imitation old-fashioned oil lamps.

In this restoration project some information is being supplied by Miss Lillian Murchie who was born in the old house 92 years ago and is still well and hearty, living at Gillitts.

The Natal Mercury, June 26, 1976

NPA will be asked to save Macrorie House Museum

The board of Pietermaritzburg's Macrorie House Museum is to meet on August 19 with a view to reapplying to the NPA for membership of the Provincial Library and Museum Services in a bid to save it from closing its doors.

The critical state of the finances of the museums was disclosed by its secretary, Mr Cecil Francis, at the annual meeting

of the Simon van der Stel Foundation in Pietermaritzburg.

Macrorie House was purchased by the Foundation with the assistance of the Corporation and opened as a Victorian museum in January 1975. The museum, a typical example of a home in the early days of Pietermaritzburg, houses a unique collection of Byrne Settler relics and about R12 000 worth of Victoriana, with bequests from relatives of early settlers adding collections to its rooms and exhibits quite frequently.

The museum has survived through a grant-in-aid from the Province of R1 500. Mr Francis said that without any improvements and with the voluntary help of foundation and board members, the museum could be run on a budget of R2 200 a year, which meant that R700 had had to be found.

Cleaner

The grant was withdrawn this year, however, and Mr Francis maintains that there is only enough money left to pay the salaries of its caretaker and African cleaner and the rent for this month, after which it will have to close.

Mr Roger Whiteley, MEC in charge of Library and Museum Services, told the Witness that the Province could not be expected to take the responsibility for every small museum or monument in every town in Natal.

The Natal Witness, August 10, 1976

Supreme Court future in balance

With the future of Pietermaritzburg's historic Supreme Court building still apparently undecided, the City Council is likely to investigate the matter further.

This was recommended by the Works Committee at its meeting yesterday following reports from the Estates Manager, Mr S J Engelbrecht, and the City Engineer, Mr D V Harris.

These were called for after the Simon van der Stel Foundation had declared its interest in preserving the building.

Mr Engelbrecht recalled that the City Council had turned down a Government suggestion that it should accept the old Supreme Court in exchange for the new Supreme Court site on Churchill Square.

Refuge

Later sold to the Department of Justice for R800 000, this site will accommodate the new R6 000 000 Supreme Court building to be started next year.

Rating the building as being of considerable historical interest, Mr Engelbrecht told the committee that shortly after its completion it was temporarily earmarked

as a place of refuge after the Battle of Isandhlawana when it was feared that Pietermaritzburg would be attacked by Zulu impi.

Mr Harris reported that steps to repair and renovate the building and its surrounds had been curtailed due to a cut in Government spending.

He supported the reopening of negotiations with the Public Works Department regarding the preservation of the Supreme Court building and the adjoining garden.

The Natal Witness, August 5, 1976

Site a monument

A central Durban site on the corner of West and Church Streets is to be declared a national monument, but this will not stop the Council from accommodating Indian flower-sellers there.

A move to declare the vacant site between the City Baths and the Publicity Bureau a national monument was opposed last year by the City Council.

The Natal Mercury, September 11, 1976

First Presbyterian Church Pietermaritzburg

DR J A PRINGLE

The land on which the church was built, together with three adjoining plots, was a gift from the Natal Government in 1851. One of the conditions of the gift was that a clock should be installed in the church tower. The building was started in 1852, but was delayed owing to lack of funds and it was only completed 2 years later. The clock, however, was not installed at that time. It was known as the Presbyterian Church of Natal being the first and only church of that denomination.

The architecture of the tower is Gothic Revival and is typical of many non-conformist churches of that period. Although such towers are common in Britain this is one of the few of this type in South Africa.

In 1870 the congregation split and the second church was built in Longmarket Street; after this the name of the old church was changed to the First Presbyterian Church.

In 1875 the tower was raised and strengthened and the clock was installed. In 1883 the church was enlarged by the addition of the back portion which gave the building its T-shape. At the same time the original slate roof was replaced with a corrugated iron roof. Whenever the Legislative Council of the Colony of Natal was in session, the clock faces were illuminated at night.

During the crisis period of the Zulu war in 1879, the Church was converted into

a fortified place of refuge but the need to use it never arose. It was also enclosed within the wooden stockade which was built at that time.

The First Presbyterian Church was used by the congregation until 1942 when it was sold to the Government. Since that time it has been used to accommodate certain government departments. The following alterations were made-

- (1) The interior was divided into offices by brick walls and a false ceiling being installed. The original ceiling is still intact and is about 3 meters above the false ceiling.
- (2) The three church windows along each side were replaced by five sash windows.
- (3) The side walls were plastered.
- (4) The wooden floor was replaced by parquet in the offices and cement in the central passage way.
- (5) However, the shape size and main structure of the building are unchanged from the original.

In 1897 the Church Committee faced serious financial problems and the clock was sold to the Greytown Queen's Diamond Jubilee Committee. It was erected in the tower of the Greytown Town Hall, where it continued to function for about 70 years. About 1968 a part of its mechanism broke and it could not be renewed. The Town Council decided to replace the clock with a new one and the old clock was handed to the Greytown Museum for safekeeping. For several years the mechanism of the clock together with the four faces have lain in the main passage of the Museum.

The Greytown Town Council have agreed to hand back this clock on condition (1) that it will be re-erected in its original tower; (2) that the Regional Committee makes some contribution to assist the Greytown Museum. We estimate that the cost to transport, repair, erect and make a contribution to the Greytown Museum will amount to R750. The members of the Regional Committee have already contributed R50 in cash while one member has offered to transport it from Greytown.

We appeal to all members of this Branch to assist us in this project.

Please send cheques or postal orders to Simon van der Stel Clock Fund, PO Box 1194, Pietermaritzburg 3200.

The graves in Commercial Road Cemetery, Pietermaritzburg

DR J A PRINGLE

At the annual general meeting of the Midlands Region of the Simon van der Stel Foundation held on 26 April 1976, Mrs Tracey informed us about the dilapidated and neglected condition of many of the grave stones in the Commercial

Road Cemetery. The Regional Committee agreed that this project fell within the aims and objects of the Foundation. Mrs Tracey and I carried out an inspection of the cemetery and also examined one of the burial registers and wish to submit the following report and recommendations. As far as could be ascertained the ground for this cemetery was allocated for this purpose by one of the early governors of Natal. Each religious denomination was given a separate section and each was responsible for the care and maintenance of its own section.

Commercial Road divides the cemetery into the northern and southern portion. The former includes the graves of the church of England, Methodist and Catholic, while the latter includes the Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed and Church of England. This was the first proclaimed cemetery in Natal and many prominent people were buried there including Governor West.

Once the cemetery was filled, the churches felt that they could no longer maintain their sections and the City Council accepted this responsibility in 1948. A few burials continued in family plots, but the City Council closed the entire cemetery in December 1972 and no further burials have or will take place.

Each church kept its own burial register and these are lodged with the Department of Parks and City attractions. The earliest registers start about 1880 and information on burials prior to this date is not available. Some of this information might be procurable if the grave stones are checked against the relevant register. The burials are arranged chronologically in the registers, and most, but not all registers have an alphabetical index.

This cemetery contains many early and interesting graves and a fair number of enquiries from descendants or relations are received by the Parks Department. In order to make this information more readily available, it seems desirable to make a comprehensive alphabetical index of all existing registers. From this it will be possible to make a physical check of all information on all gravestones and add or correct relevant details.

A microfilm was prepared of all these cemetery registers and this microfilm is lodged in the central archives in Pretoria.

It is recommended-

- (1) that a photostat copy be made (a) of the Methodist register which has no index, (b) of the alphabetical lists of all other registers;
- (2) that a comprehensive card index be prepared of all entries and arranged alphabetically;
- (3) that the gravestones be checked against the index and any additions or corrections be made;
- (4) that the original registers be transferred from the Parks Department to the Natal Society Library.



Transvaal

Ou NZASM-spoorwegstasie te Heidelberg, Transvaal in ere herstel

J A L SMIT

Op 22 November 1975 is die ou NZASM-spoorwegstasie te Heidelberg, Transvaal, as die Heidelberg-Vervoermuseum in gebruik geneem. Sodoende is hierdie interessante ou stasie met sy pragtige klipgebou na 80 jaar weer in ere herstel as 'n sieraad vir een van ons oudste Transvaalse dorpe.

Met die voltooiing van die Zuid-Oosterlijn tussen Elsburg en die Natalse grens by Charlestown in 1895, was Transvaal verseker van sy derde spoorverbinding tussen Johannesburg en die see. Die Oosterlijn tussen Pretoria en Delagoabaai (Maputo) was in daardie stadium reeds byna voltooi en die verbinding met die Kaap oor die Vrystaat (die Zuiderlijn) is reeds in 1892 voltooi.

Die Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaanse Spoorweg Maatschappij (NZASM) het op 6 Februarie 1894 opdrag ontvang van die Uitvoerende Raad van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek om die Zuid-Oosterlijn te bou. Om werksaamhede te bespoedig, is die bouwerk gelyktydig aangepak. Die NZASM sou bou van Elsburg na Heidelberg en, volgens oor-

eenkoms, die Natal Government Railways van Charlestown na Heidelberg. Die samewerking tussen die twee partye was goed en ten spyte van verspolings, die laat aflewering van dwarsleërs uit Java en meningsverskil oor die ligging van Heidelberg-stasie, is die Zuid-Oosterlijn binne twee jaar voltooi. En daarmee was Suid-Afrika se spoornetwerk in die breë gelê.

Op 10 Oktober 1895 "kon de laatste rail nabij Heidelberg worden gelegd, hetgeen met enige plechtigheid geschiedde", waargeneem deur die Eerste Minister van Natal, sir John Robinson, en die Staatssekretaris van die ZAR, dr W J Leyds, in die teenwoordigheid van "der wederzijdsche spoorweg-outeoriteiten". Dit was 'n groot dag, daar op die oop vlak, met wapperende vlae aan 'n erehoog bo pluiskeile, sytawwerds en volstruisvere. ('n Foto van hierdie geskiedkundige gebeurtenis is nou in die Vervoermuseum te sien.)

Vanweë ontydige reën kon die hele lyn tot by Elsburg nie volgens plan op 15 November oopgestel word nie, maar die eerste passasierstrein het wel uit Heidelberg na Durban gestoom – dieselfde dag

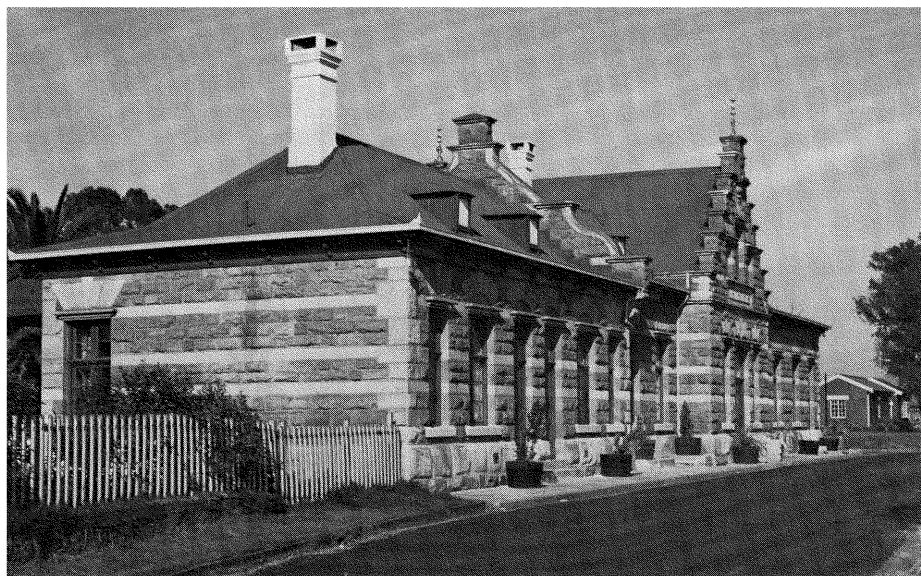
dat die laaste poskoets die dorp binnegerol het. 'n Maand later op 15 Desember "werd het verkeer over de geheele lijn oopgesteld voor reizigers, pakketten, bagage en aan bederf onderhevige goederen", terwyl "gewone goederen vervoer" van die begin van die nuwe jaar aanvaar is.

Heidelberg se stasie het tot stand gekom aan die vooraand van groot omwentelinge in ons landsgeskiedenis. Gedurende die Anglo-Boereoorlog het dit dan ook oorgegaan in die hande van die Imperial Military Railways. Dit was ook die tyd van nuwe ontwikkelings op die gebied van vervoer. Die ou stasie het die aankoms gesien van die eerste hoëwiel-fietse en in 1897 het die eerste motorrytuig in Suid-Afrika sy verskyning in Transvaal gemaak – 'n Benz Velo waarvoor president Kruger 'n goue gedenkpenning laat slaan het. By die wisseling van die eeu, kan 'n mens jou voorstel, het allerlei interessante rygoed hul opwagting by die stasie begin maak, soos Penny-Farthings en Pedal Fordjies. Ook het talle belangrike figure in ons geskiedenis hier as passasiers gekom en gegaan. So het Heidelberg gegroei en daarmee

Die hoofgebou van die ou Nzasm-spoorwegstasie te Heidelberg met sy sierlike trapgewel.

Die imposante gewel van die stasiegebou aan die perronkant.

With acknowledgement to The Pretoria News, August 25, 1976

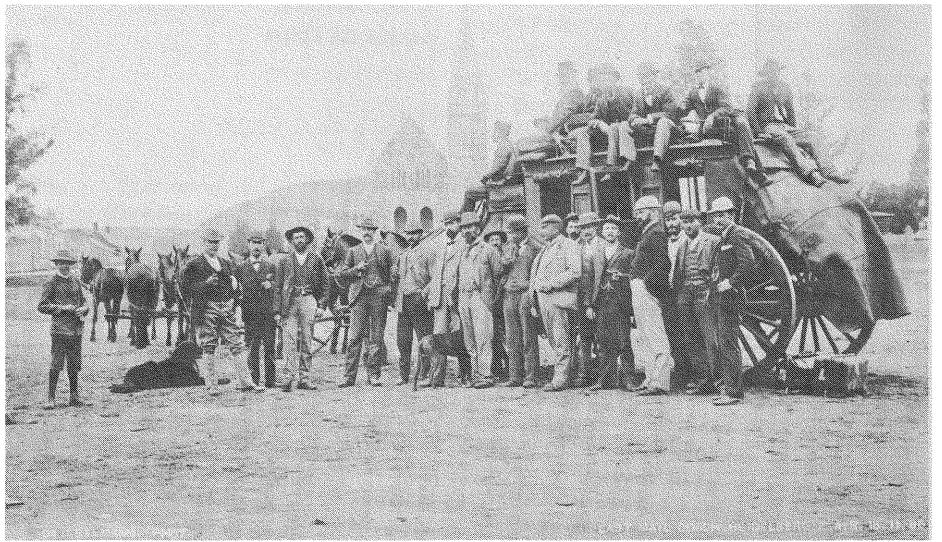


ook sy rol aan die middelpunt van inter-provinsiale verkeer. Toe die nuwe Heidelbergse stasie in 1961, met die verlegging van die spoorlyn, in gebruik geneem is, het die ou stasie in onbruik verval. Deur die ywer van die Stigting Simon van der Stel is restourasiewerk reeds in 1969 aan die hoofgebou gedoen met die doel om dit as kultuurhistoriese museum te gebruik. Hierdie planne is egter nie verwesenlik nie en tot aan die einde van 1973 het die gebou huisvesting gebied aan die plaaslike munisipale verkeersdepartement.

Toe Rembrandt-Tabakkorporasie na 'n geskikte terrein gesoek het om 'n vervoermuseum in te rig waar hulle interessante versameling outydse rytuie gehuisves kon word, het hulle van die ou stasie te hore gekom en dadelik met die Stadsraad van Heidelberg onderhandel wat die hoofgebou en perseel op 'n langtermynbasis aan hulle verhuur het vir die oprigting van 'n vervoermuseum. Rembrandt het dadelik aan die werk gespring. Die terrein is omhein en die ou spoorweg-goedereloods tesame met twee verdere sink-en-hout-loodse wat van die Oostelike Transvaalse Koöperasie Beperk aangekoop is, is heelhuids verskuif om op die museumterrein in te pas. Die loodse is oorgeverf, van nuwe betonvloere en beligting voorsien. Sodoende is voldoende uitstalruimte vir die museum verseker. Die stasiegebou self is aan die hand van die oorspronklike planne gerestoureer. Hierdie planne het bevestig dat heelwat veranderings aan die hoofgebou oor die jare aangebring is, hoofsaaklik deure wat deur vensters vervang is en andersom. Blykbaar was hierdie oorspronklike planne nie beskikbaar toe die Stigting Simon van der Stel in 1969 restourasiewerk gedoen het nie. Daarom het Rembrandt sover moontlik die deure en vensters teruggeplaas soos dit oorspronklik was. Navorsing kon nog nie aan die lig bring wie die argitek van die gebou was nie. Alhoewel dit vermoed word dat dit moontlik Sytze Wierda kon wees, kon tot nog toe geen bewys daarvoor gevind word nie. Dit moet dus aanvaar word dat die Seksieingenieur van die Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatschappij (NZASM) wat ook op 24 September 1894 die hoeksteen van die gebou gelê het, die argitek was aangesien sy handtekening op al die oorspronklike planne voorkom.

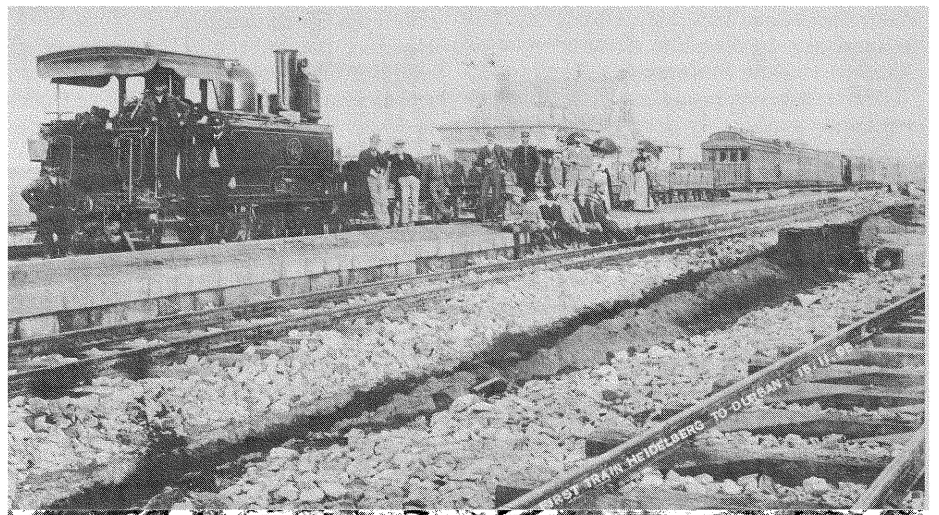
Die woonstel van die stasiemeester, 'n integrale deel van die hoofgebou, is ingerig as wooneenheid vir die kurator van die museum. Die oorspronklike *Algemene Wachtkamer*, *Bureau* en *Bagasiekamer* is as uitstalruimte ingerig, terwyl die oorspronklike *Dames Wachtkamer* nou diens doen as administratiewe kantoor vir die museum.

Met die restourasieprojek is ook heelwat gebruik gemaak van ou foto's waarop die stasiegebou voorkom. Daarvolgens kon



Die laaste poskoets te Heidelberg, 15 November 1895.

Die eerste trein na Durban op Heidelberg, 15 November 1895, met die "Generaal Smit" vooraan.



Die Mpephu-kommando op Heidelberg-stasie, 3 Oktober 1898.



vasgestel word dat die oorspronklike planne presies uitgevoer is met die oprigting van die hoofgebou. Ander interessante gegewens kon ook vasgestel word, soos byvoorbeeld hoe die naamborde gelyk het en waar dit geplaas was. Sover moontlik is dit weer volgens die oorspronklikes nagevolg. Op 'n ander ou foto verskyn een van die ou Victoriaanse parafienstraatlampe wat op die perron gestaan het. Die ontwerp daarvan is feitlik identies met die ou Londense straatlampe wat nou weer op die perron aangebring is.

Al hierdie ou foto's is gekopieer en vergroot en kan vandag in die museum gesien word. Hierdie foto's verbeeld interessante grepe uit ons geskiedenis. So is daar byvoorbeeld 'n foto van 'n hospitaaltrein met verpleegsters geneem tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog op Heidelbergstasie; die vertrek van die Mpephukommando van Heidelberg af op 3 Oktober 1898; die vertrek (of aankoms) van Mahatma Gandhi in 1910; die aankoms van die hertog en hertogin van Connaught in 1910; die aankoms van die eerste trein in Heidelberg op 15 November 1895 en 'n foto van die vertrek van die laaste poskoets van Heidelberg na Johannesburg op dieselfde datum.

As kern van die museum het Rembrandt 'n veelsydige versameling voertuie en verwante artikels byeengebring wat 'n interessante oorsig bied van die ontwikkeling van landvervoer. 'n Unieke versameling veteraanfietse en -motorfietse beeld die evolusie van die rywiël uit – van die vroegste Hobby-Horse van 1816, die *Vélocipèdes* of *Boneshakers* uit 1865, die deftige *High Ordinaries* of *Penny-Farthings*, tot by die vaartbellynde fietse van vandag. Die versameling veteraanmotors sluit skaars voorbeelde in soos 'n Oldsmobile-replika van 1901, 'n *Le Zebre* van 1905, 'n *Humberette* van 1913, die *Model T-Fordjie* en baie ander. Seldsame vervoermodelle sluit 'n Franse draagstoel uit die tydperk van Lodewyk XV in, 'n veldambulans en 'n ou Merryweather-brandweertuig uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog.

Die SA Spoorweë het ook 'n treffende bydrae gelewer deur 'n ou *Klas 16C* stoomlokomotief van 1919 tesame met vroegtydse passasiersrytuie en 'n eet-salon aan die museum toe te sê. Hierdie 'trein van gister' is weer staangemaak op 'n dubbele spoor wat op ou houtdarslêers gebou is tussen die passasiers- en goederperron en verhoog die atmosfeer van die romantiese dae toe Heidelberg aanskou het hoe viervoetige verkeer voor die aanslag van die tegnologie swig.

Die Heidelberg-Vervoermuseum is gestig as 'n diens aan die gemeenskap in ooreenstemming met Rembrandt se beleid van deelgenootskap. Dis ook 'n besondere voorbeeld van hoe 'n waardige historiese monument vir die nageslag behou kan word deur dit aan te wend vir 'n gepaste eietydse gebruik.

The choice – culture or destruction

DENIS GODFREY

On occasion it has been said my articles on Old Johannesburg – or rather, on the often senseless and mindless destruction of it for what is sometimes purely economic greed and expediency – are a bit hard on the property developers.

Anybody who saw a television actuality programme on the Afrikaans service recently should have a reply to this criticism more forceful than I can provide.

It came from the mouth of a rather innocent, baby-faced young man said to be representing a land development organisation.

His opposite number was an official of a municipality who looked for all the world like a benign undertaker.

Which, perhaps, was appropriate. The property "developer" discussed with great feeling and a sense of pained concern on behalf of the type of people he represents, the amount of valuable land taken up by cemeteries.

He and the presenter and the official chatted away happily in rands and cents to calculate that one or other old cemetery was worth such and such an amount as development land.

There was even the suggestion that it would be better to bury people in a standing position to leave more ground for their "development" plans.

Ye gods! It seems now the developers are wanting to move in on the dead, too, in their generally anti-human and contracultural drive for "progress".

How ghoulish can you get?

And what chance has culture in the form of gracious old homes and buildings, and trees and environments got against people who reason like this?

Are developers the new barbarians – the new Master Race?

And of course they are aided by groups of people in conveniently anonymous committees acting on behalf of city councils. Johannesburg's City Council, as everybody knows, recently made a somewhat historic decision – probably unique in a rich, civilised community anywhere in the world – to cut off entirely its already hopelessly inadequate allocation for the purchase of works of art for Johannesburg. Again, ye gods!

In exchange, they proudly offer a battered old market building in Newtown as a theatre. Such culture must be hard to find elsewhere. They must be joking.

Meanwhile, does anybody know the history and origin of an old church in West Street south of the Magistrate's Courts in Johannesburg?

The Star, 7 May 1976

Preserving inner city a problem

CHRIS SMITH

Some of the obstacles facing conservationists trying to preserve some of Johannesburg's older buildings were outlined by the chairman of the city's management committee, Mr J F Oberholzer, last night.

Speaking at the opening of an exhibition at the Rand Afrikaans University to focus attention on Johannesburg's significant and attractive architecture, Mr Oberholzer pointed to the economic factors which were to be considered when trying to preserve old buildings.

"With land values at between R100 and R150 a square foot you have to put forward a good reason for preserving buildings faced with redevelopment.

"If compensation was to be paid to preserve old buildings the millions of rands it would cost would make projects like the motorway system seen child's play," he said.

The Rand Daily Mail, October 5, 1976

Editor's note: We should like to suggest that Mr Oberholzer studies the British, Dutch and USA positions regarding conservation. The Netherlands already have protected townscapes, i.e. conservation areas, i.e. protected historic city centres. Conservation areas, or zoning for preservation, and techniques such as transfer of development rights are highly developed overseas. Cultural assets are more important than those economic ones of individual owners and developers.

Parktown Association on conservation

We made a number of recommendations on what we wanted preserved and protected, but the Council failed to comment on this. Since then the report prepared for the Council by the Rand Afrikaans University has been presented with detailed recommendations on the buildings and areas to be preserved.

No plan for Parktown is acceptable without the insertion of controls with this end in view. Certainly there is no Act of Parliament or a Provincial Ordinance which can be used. However, the Council should lead the way in asking for the necessary legislation and a good start

can be made by listing the buildings and areas requiring protection. The Council does control demolitions and structural alterations, most important aspects of conservation.

We would like to see a listing system on the lines of that used in Britain and most Continental countries. This would grade the buildings into (i) those to be restored and maintained intact; (ii) those where the facade must be retained; (iii) those which are valued as part of a setting and perhaps only the street facade needs to be preserved.

The first grade is obviously the smallest group, but also the most difficult to handle. These would be of the standard of a national monument, and interiors are important. Restoration and maintenance pose a problem, a financial burden that in Britain is taken care of by the National Trust and in a number of European countries by grants or remission of rates.

The second two groups are more in the position of requiring guidance in structural alterations, and controls need not be an imposition on the owners.

Conservation of areas – legislation is being prepared to cover this, but until it eventuates the Council should make its standpoint clear, as to the type of development it will permit.

Rapportryers skenk stoele aan Stigting Groot fees op oom Paul se plaas

By 'n Krugerdagviering op Boekenhoutfontein, plaas van president Paul Kruger, het mnr Willem Punt, direkteur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel 'n stel eetkamerstoele van eikehout ontvang. Die ses stoele is 'n geskenk van die Federasie van Rapportryerskorpse. Mnr Adriaan du Preez van Silverton, Pretoria, het die stoele gemaak volgens die styl van twee stoele wat vroeër vanjaar opgespoor is. Die twee stoele is vermoedelik deur die President ten tyde van sy verblyf op Boekenhoutfontein gebruik is, is aan die Federasie van Rapportryerskorpse geskenk. Daar word vermoed dat die twee stoele self ook replikas van die oorspronklikes was.

Prof Marius Swart, hoogleraar in Geskiedenis aan die Universiteit van Port Elizabeth, het as geleentheidspreker opgetree. Die viering, wat deur sowat vyfhonderd mense bygewoon is, was behalwe vir die inwyding in 1973 een van die grootste saamtrekke in die geskiedenis van die plaas. Verskeie groepe het by die fees opgetree. Skoolkore het gesing en kadette van een van die Hoërsk-

ole op die dorp het aan 'n vlaghysingseremonie deelgeneem.

WJP.

agttien maande duur om die skema goedgekeur te kry.

Die Burger, 17 Julie 1976

Sandton Civic Foundation wins its spurs

If justification were ever needed for the establishment of the Sandton Civic Foundation such justification was more than amply provided by the important role played by the Foundation in the Escom powerline controversy.

On its own initiative, and in conjunction with the Town Council of Sandton, the Foundation stimulated and mobilised public opinion and action in opposing the intrusion of the Escom powerline along the Braamfontein Spruit in Sandton. Whether or not its efforts be wholly or partially successful, the Sandton Civic Foundation proved its worth and won its spurs as a champion of the rights and the viewpoint of the citizen in opposition to institutional might.

From the outset of the controversy with Escom over the proposed construction of this massive powerline, the Civic Foundation went into action.

It mobilised the support of Ratepayers' Associations throughout Sandton; instituted a highly successful protest meeting attended by over 700 Sandton residents; sparked off a protest petition of thousands of signatures; worked in close co-operation with the Sandton Town Council in all matters related to the issue; inspired Press, Radio and Television publicity against the despoliation of the environment and effectively harnessed personal contacts in the public and private sectors.

Of major importance, not only for Sandton but indeed for the preservation of the South African environment as a whole, is the fact that at last spirited and united opposition by the people concerned – the ordinary citizen, the householder, the environmentalist – has triumphed in calling halt to the steamroller power of the giant.

As the Johannesburg *Star* emphasised, inter-alia, in a leader editorial recently: "A compromise is never a victory but Sandton's fight against having those giant towers along its river park was extremely important. It revealed an intolerable situation where engineers with narrow interests are empowered to alter radically a town's plan, sully its finest scenery and devalue its homes without so much as a by your leave. But more than anything it marked a watershed in the public's attitude to high-handed and bad planning. The people of Sandton, their Civic Foundation and their Council will have done the whole nation a favour if, as a result of their battle, South Africa's planning procedures are altered."

Sandton Community, August 1976

Unieke skema op plaas beoog

Die eienaar van 'n plaas buite Johannesburg het twee jaar gelede 'n advertensie in 'n koerant geplaas om 'n huurder vir 'n huisie op sy grond te soek. Die advertensie het tweehonderd aansoeke gelok en mnr Paul Deans, die eienaar van die plaas, het besef dat daar 'n groot vraag na huisvesting in 'n landelike omgewing onder stedelinge bestaan.

Mnr Deans het sederdien twee jaar lank navorsing gedoen en nou beoog hy 'n unieke huisvestingsprojek op sy plaas, Hertford Estate, langs die pad tussen Krugersdorp en Pretoria en sowat 29 kilometer buite Johannesburg. Dit sal die eerste keer wees dat so iets in Suid-Afrika aangepak word, het mnr. Deans aan ons Johannesburgse korrespondent gesê.

Die projek, Hertford, sal inderwaarheid 'n kleinerige dorpie op die plaas wees. Die negentig huise is deur mnr. Revel Fox en Willem van Riet van Kaapstad ontwerp.

Hertford sal heeltemal selfonderhoudend wees. Boorgate op die plaas sal water verskaf en 'n eie rioolstelsel sal ontwikkel word. Die water wat herwin word, sal weer vir besproeiingsdoeleindes op die plaas gebruik word.

Altesame 7,75 hektaar van die plaas is vir die ontwikkeling afgestaan. Boerderybedrywighede sal ongestoord op die res van die plaas voortgaan en binne bereik van die inwoners wees.

Die projek maak ook vir 'n sentrale dorpsplein voorsiening, waar daar werkkamers en 'n kunssaaltjie sal wees. Mans en vrouens sal die werkkamers vir weef- en houtwerk kan gebruik. Die gebied om die geboue sal met bome en struikie verfraai word en inwoners sal lang wandelinge op die plaas kan onderneem. Daar sal in die bestaande damme gehengel kan word en perde sal aangehou kan word.

Die huise sal ingevolge die Wet op Deeltitels verkoop word, maar die eienaars sal toegang tot alle dele van die plaas hê. Hulle sal selfs aan boerderywerksaamhede kan deelneem. Die groepies huise is só uitgelê dat daar een-, twee-, drie- en vierslaapkamerwonings in 'n groep sal wees.

Mnr. Deans het reeds met die Minister van Beplanning onderhandel om goedkeuring vir sy skema te kry. Die probleem is egter dat die Dorpsgebiedewet nie vir sulke ontwikkelinge voorsiening maak nie. Die wet moet nou verander of aangepas word. Dit sal dus nog sowat

Erasmus-huis waarheen?

PETRA PIETERSE

In die naam van vooruitgang gaan Pretoria waarskynlik nóg 'n stukkie sigbare geskiedenis verloor – naas die verlies van Kerkplein se Wesfasade.

Die toekoms van die sprokiesagtige kasteel op Erasmusrand net buite die stad – oud-Pretoria se bekendste „spookhuis” – is in die weegskaal.

Altesame 90 ha van die grond wat vier geslagte lank al die trots is van die Erasmus-familie, is pas deur die Provinsiale Administrasie onteien en die jongste eienaar, mnr Emus Erasmus, met sy vrou Remona het huurlinge geword op die lap aarde waarvoor sy voorsate geswoeg, geveg, gelêef het.

'n Akademiese hospitaal moet buite Pretoria kom, het die Administrasie besluit, en hy moet kom juis waar die grootpad loop na Johannesburg, na Delmas en Verwoerdburg. Juis waar die Erasmusse amper 'n eeu lank al woon, waar die familiebegraafplaas lê, en waar die water sagter is as aan die ganse Rand.

Vir die eerste keer sedert 1892 het die Erasmusse nou geen seggenskap oor die tipies landelike woonhuis waarom soveel verhale en staaltjies gewef en waaraan soveel name toegedig word nie.

Pretoria ken die woning as die Spookhuis sedert die dae van 'n vroeë Afrikaanse rolprent met dieselfde titel. Dit was die Erasmus-kasteel, Al Debbo en Frederik

Burgers wat die prent so 'n treffer onder die Afrikaners gemaak het. Die huis se bynaam het bly steek, tot vandag toe.

Oorleweringe lui dat die plaas Garsfontein in die besit van die Erasmusse gekom het toe Cornelia Erasmus in 1852 met Jacobus Rademeyer getroud is. Dit was egter eers in 1892 dat mnr. J.J.P. Erasmus die eerste eienaar van die grond geword het.

Hy het die kasteel in 1903 laat bou deur die Italiaan Monbello. Die laat-Viktoriaanse styl is dié van 'n Nederlandse argitek, ene Van der Ben, maar met soveel swaar afwerkinge en interessante stylafwykinge dat die huis veel meer Kontinentaal lyk as Brits.

Die kontrakprys vir die kasteel was £6 800 – met £400 vir die „ekstras”.

Vandag lyk die woning met sy minstens sewentien vertrekke merkwaardig nes die oorspronklike, vertel mnr Emus Erasmus. Sowat sewe jaar gelede het hy die huis laat opknip, maar met 'n sorg wat niks aan die oorspronklike bekoring laat inboet het nie. Hy het die plafonne laat vervang en gerestoureer op die patroon van die eerstes, daar het nuwe tapyte en gordyne gekom en elektrisiteit pleks van die outydse gaslampe.

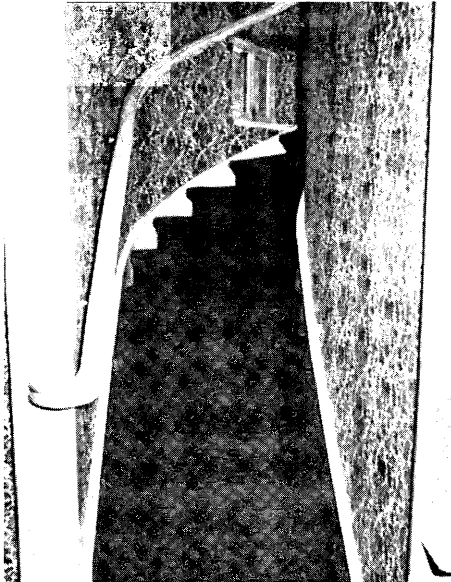
Die oorspronklike ou voordeur van Birmesekiaat – 'n standaard-deurhout van die vroeë twintigste eeu – pryk ook nog en is haas onvervangbaar.

Ook die eerste opstalle waarin die

Erasmus-huis, Pretoria. Die toekoms van die sprokiesagtige kasteel op Erasmusrand net buite Pretoria is in die weegskaal.

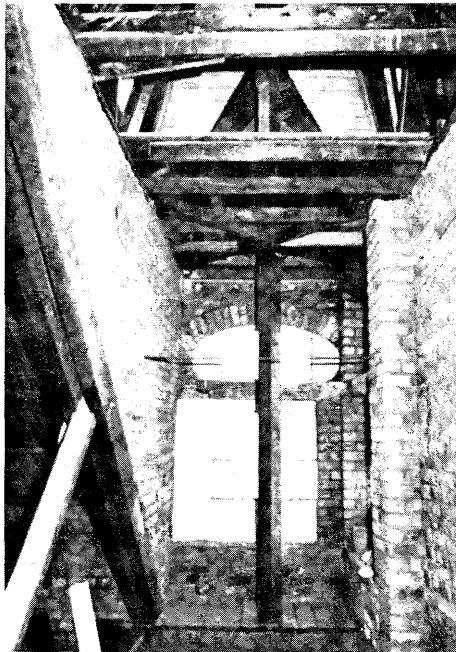
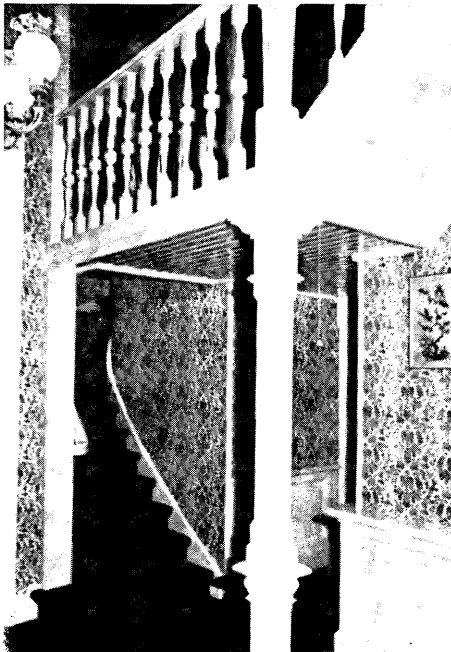
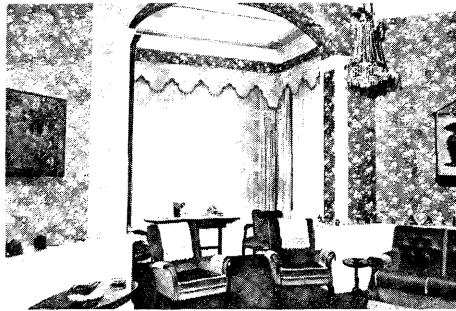
Fotos : Frik Dreyer





Erasmusse gewoon het voor die oprigting van die kasteel, staan nog 'n entjie van die huis.

Gestorwe familielede is aan die voet van Erasmusrand begrawe, 'n tradisie wat sou bly voortleef het, was dit nie vir die nuwe hospitaal wat móét nie.



Op 24 Junie vanjaar, 'n dag ná die grond onteien was, is grootoupa Jochem Erasmus se oudste dogter – sy was 91 – dood. Nou lê sy in 'n ander begraafplaas: „Dit sou te lank duur om skriftelik by die Administrasie aansoek te doen om haar op ons familiegrond te begrawe,” sê die Erasmusse.

Groot dele van die oorspronklike plaas is vir oud-Pretoria in voorstede opgedeel . . . Elarduspark, Erasmusrand, Menlo-park. Baie straatname in Erasmusrand heet na lede van die familie, waaronder Emusstraat, Remonastraat en Albertusstraat.

Mnr Erasmus en sy vrou dink nou aan weggaan. Hy het by die Provinsiale Administrasie aansoek gedoen om die eendom te huur – teen 'n yslike maandelikse bedrag – solank dit moontlik is. „Maar die saak is 'n teer kwessie en ons voel ons moet liever gaan.”

Dit is moontlik dat die bouwerk aan die nuwe hospitaal eers in 1980 kan begin.

Die Erasmusse het hul grond verloor, maar daar is reeds aanduidinge dat kampvegters vir die bewaring van historiese geboue hulle teen die slooping van die Erasmus-kasteel sal wil verset. As die bouplanne vir die hospitaal noukeurig opgestel word, kan die kasteel dalk behoue bly.

Maar wie gaan dán na hom omsien? Sou 'n huurder wat nie gebore en getoë is in die tradisie van die kasteel nie, nog sorg dra dat sy voorkoms so onberispelik bly?

Mnr Erasmus meen nie so nie en, glo hy, as die woning eers verwaarloos word, word dit straks bloot 'n voorwerp vir die stootskrapers.

„Ek weet 'n hospitaal is in landsbelang, maar dit was darem ons bloedgrond.”

Bylae tot *Die Beeld*, 7 Augustus 1976

Magaliesberg mine cannot be stopped – Lawyer

When the Magaliesberg Range is proclaimed a nature reserve, the law will probably be powerless to stop Consol Glass continuing its huge opencast mine.

According to a legal expert even if Consol Glass mine is illegal (and it might be seeing that the company has not waited for a mining lease before going ahead with production), the new Environmental Planning Act is probably helpless.

“By getting in ahead of the anticipated proclamation of the Magaliesberg, the glass company has got around the Act.”

The Act published only last July, states that when an area is proclaimed a nature reserve, the land may only be used for nature conservation "or for any purpose for which it was being used at the time when the land is reserved for conservation."

The expert felt that if the company manages to get a lease approved (by the Mining Lease Board and then the Minister) before the Government announces the Magaliesberg's new status, then the public is "certainly helpless." He advised that the only solution seemed to be an interdict. Meanwhile, the South African Council for Conservation and Anti-pollution (Saccap), is battling to get funds to be able to fight Consol in court.

Saccap's Johannesburg chairman, Mrs Wendy Bodman, told a CARE campaign "I have spoken to eight people in high positions, both on the commercial and the official side, regarding the mine. "Some state there are no alternative sources of silica, while others are adamant that there are.

"All expressed regret that silica has to be mined in this particular spot."

The Kommandonek Mine is in the most popular area of the mountains.

Said Mrs Bodman: "All those involved have given an assurance that adequate care will be taken not to damage the environment more than can be helped, and that restoration will be done as the operation proceeds."

—*The Pretoria News*, January 30, 1976

Act quickly to save Magaliesberg

It was imperative that the Magaliesberg should be declared a conservation area before irreparable damage was done to the range, Mr Paul Fatti, a member of the Southern Transvaal section of the South African Mountain Club, said in Pretoria recently.

If the mountain range was given official status, plans could be implemented for the conservation of the area.

Mr Fatti said it was urgently necessary that the Magaliesberg should be proclaimed as a special area. He warned that considerable damage would be done unless the authorities came to a quick decision.

He said certain types of activities should be stopped. The area had a high visitor density and damage was already being done.

The silica mine at Kommandonek at Hartbeespoortdam was the worst example of the destruction of the beauty of the mountain.

Something is scandalously wrong with wildlife preservation in South Africa writes our Johannesburg correspondent. South Africa recently signed an international agreement in Washington to protect her share of species of wildlife which were listed as "endangered." Among these was the cheetah, an animal whose fate is largely in South Africa's hands because the only stable population left is in our region.

Instead: The Transvaal still insists there is no need to adjust its laws which allow farmers to shoot cheetah on the slightest pretext.

Farmers claim they are protecting their stock. If cheetahs kill stock farmers are not compensated. Another incentive for farmers to shoot cheetah is that skins fetch good prices.

Those eight Lowveld skins were worth at least R4 000.

—*The Pretoria News*, February 26, 1976

Planner, spare this heritage!

Once more, the planners are proposing to drive a major road through Irene village. Once more, homes, amenities, precious and irreplaceable assets may be squandered at the stroke of a draughtsman's pencil.

The latest proposal is part of the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging road grid plan. The same plan has already built the Eastern bypass just north of the village and is proposing another major highway immediately parallel to it. Now, a new macadam swathe is being planned to slice through the heart of the village.

Three major highways are thus planned straight through what has become renowned as one of the most historic and beautiful spots in the country.

The implementation of the plan would be nothing less than a disaster.

It would mean more than not just the rape of a beauty spot, for it would also:

- Raze R2-million worth of brand-new homes at the north end of the village;
- Raze historic farm buildings;
- Cut-off of a new section of the village at the south end;
- Raze a shopping centre;
- Ruin a golf course.
- Negate the local council's plan for turning the area with its winding, picturesque Hennops River into a "green lung" for recreation.

It is a terrible price to pay for progress (is it progress?) – a terrible price to pay in terms of hard cash and an even more terrible price in terms of destroying a heritage.

What conceivable justification could

there be for allowing the expenditure of millions upon millions of rands to turn a charming village into a disaster area? Must the tyranny of the bulldozer prevail? It cannot be beyond the limit of human ingenuity to find another way.

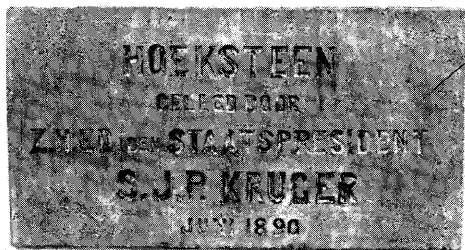
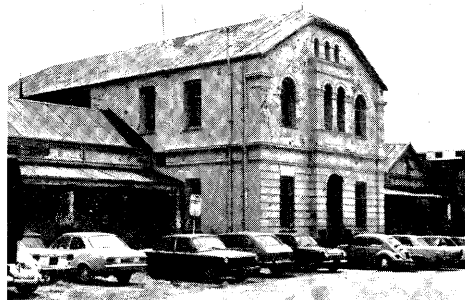
The Pretoria News, February 3, 1976

Pretoria Gesloop Charlie Malan-tehuis

Nadat daar deur private inisiatief reeds voor 1889 'n plan vir 'n Volkshospitaal in Pretoria ontwerp en tenders reeds gevra was, maar die oprigting van die gebou weens die hoë tenderbedrag nie plaasgevind het nie, is 'n nuwe plan in 1889 deur die „Gouvernements Ingenieur en Architect" ontwerp en die hospitaalgebou in 1890 voltooi. Die gebou het bestaan uit 'n kombinasie van die korridor- en pawiljoensistiem en kon sodoende, sonder enige skade of ontsetting aan die gebou, mettertyd groter gemaak word, al na gelang behoefte aan vergroting van die gebou sou ontstaan. Die voltooiing en ingebruikneming van die Volkshospitaal in Potgieterstraat,

Charlie Malan-tehuis

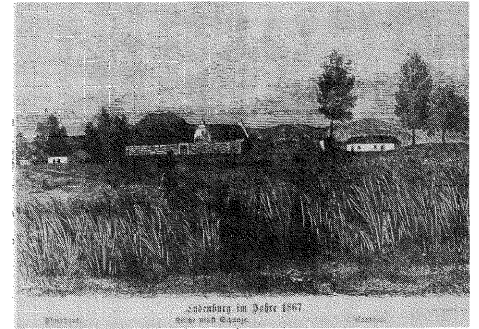
Foto's: Frik Dreyer



digby die Artillerieterrein, in Januarie 1891 het in 'n groot en dringende behoefte voorsien. Die plegtige inwyding onder leiding van vise-president N J Smit het destyds onder groot openbare belangstelling plaasgevind. Na die ingebruikneming van die Algemene of Volks-

hospitaal van Pretoria, tans die H F Verwoerdhospitaal, vroeg in die dertigerjare is die eertydse Volkshospitaal vir ander doeleindes gebruik, waarvan sy jarelange gebruik as die Charlie Malan-Spoorweghuis 'n plek in die Pretoriase samelewing verower het. WJP.

Tekening van Lydenburg in 1867 deur ds F Lion Cachet. In die middel is die Voortrekkerkerk met skansmuur. Regs is die Landdroeskantoor. Links is die pastorie.



Die restourasie van die Voortrekkerkerk te Lydenburg

Johan de Ridder
(Argitek)

Die geskiedkundige Voortrekkerkerk wat geleë is op erf nr 79 op die hoek van Kerk- en Kantoorstraat is gedurende 1851-1852 opgerig. Dit was twee jaar nadat die Verenigde Bond op 20 September 1849 te Krugerspost besluit het om die dorp Lydenburg te stig; “. . . in de overzyde van Sterkspruit”. Die dorp het sy ontstaan te danke gehad aan die hewige koorsepidemie van die somer van 1848/1849. 'n Epidemie wat feitlik geen huisgesin onaangetas gelaat het en groot sterftes tot gevolg gehad het. Dit het daartoe gelei dat die trekkers besluit het om Ohrigstad te verlaat en te verhuis na die hoër en gesonder gebied, waar Lydenburg tans geleë is. Die naam sou herinner aan die lydenstydperk te Ohrigstad.

Boufonds vir 'n kerkgebou

Op 1 Desember 1849 is daar reeds 'n kollektelys opgestel vir fondsinsameling vir 'n kerkgebou. Nege en vyftig persone het op die oproep gereageer en 525 riksdalders, 8 houtbalke en een dosyn veertig-voetplanke vir die nuwe gebou belowe.¹

Oprigtind:

Die bouwerk is uitgevoer deur A Livingstone en andere. In 1852 beskryf ds J H Neethling die gebou soos volg toe hy die dorp saam met ds A Murray besoek het: “Van eenigen afstand werd ons de nieuwe kerk aangewezen. De muren waren bijkans balkhoogte en thans voor deze gelegenheid met rieten gedekt. In de nabijheid staat de school die ons eenigen dagen tot woning zou dienen . . .”² Vie jaar later gedurende Junie 1856 besoek ds Neethling weer die gemeente en meld “De kerk is voltooid en de beste in het Overvaalsche”.³

Die mooi penskets wat in 1867 gemaak is (volgens wyle ds J D Cilliers, leraar van die gemeente vanaf 1861 tot 1868, is dit die werk van ds F Lion Cachet wat in 1867 konsulent van die gemeente was), toon die kerk in daardie jaar. Dit is geteken vanaf die plek waar die huidige

kerkgebou staan. Regs is die landdroeskantoor waarna Kantoorstraat blykbaar vernoem is, links die eertydse pastorie en heel links waarskynlik die skoolgeboutjie wat onlangs ook gerestoureer is en tot geskiedkundige gedenkwaardigheid verklaar is. Op hierdie interessante tekening kan die oorspronklike Kaaps-Hollandse gewels, die grasdak, uitsonderlike klip skansmuur, klok en klokstaander duidelik gesien word.

'n Ou landmeterskaart gedateer 4 Desember 1874, opgestel deur landmeter Wm A B Anderson⁴, toon die kerkgebou op erf nr 79 maar nie die skansmuur nie. Volgens hierdie plan staan die kerk baie na aan die Kerkstraat- en Kantoorstraatgrense soos tans die geval is. Dit is dus duidelik dat die muur, wat blykbaar vir verdedigingsdoeleindes gebou is, reeds voor 1874 afgebreek was.

Volgens ou kerkraadsnotules het die “Skoolkomitee” in 1879 besluit om die mooi gewels af te breek en die grasdak met 'n sinkdak te vervang.⁵ Alhoewel daar geen melding van gemaak word nie is dit my vermoede dat die reghoekige vensters en deure, soos duidelik getoon word op die pentekening wat op 30 September 1876 in *The Graphic* verskyn het, ook tydens hierdie veranderings vervang is met die “Gotiese” vensters en deure soos dit nog was in 1973 net voordat daar met restourasie begin is. Die vervanging van die gewels en gras-

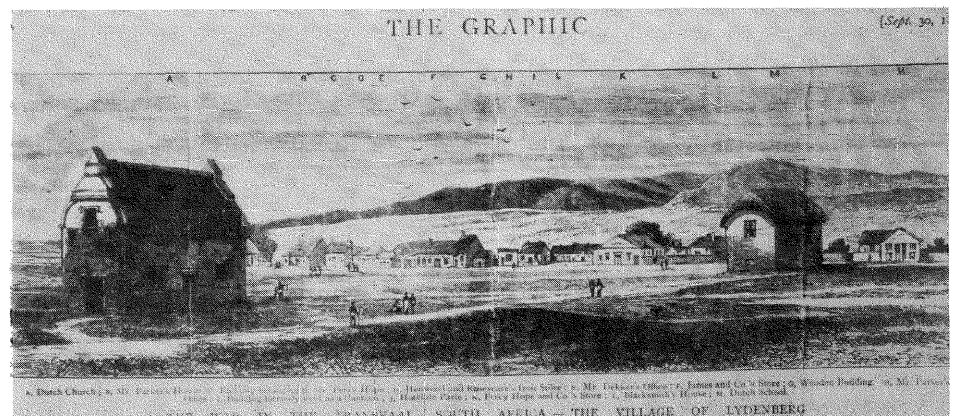
dak met die onooglike sinkdak sou dit nodig gemaak het om die vensters te wysig om nog enigsins aan die gebou 'n kerklike voorkoms te gee het.

Die kerkie het nog diens gedoen tot die inwyding van die nuwe kerkgebou langs aan op 14 April 1894 – “om 10 uur die oggend is eers van die ou kerkgebou afskeid geneem en daarvandaan het die prosesie ,bij vijven' na die nuwe kerk vlak by gegaan”.⁶

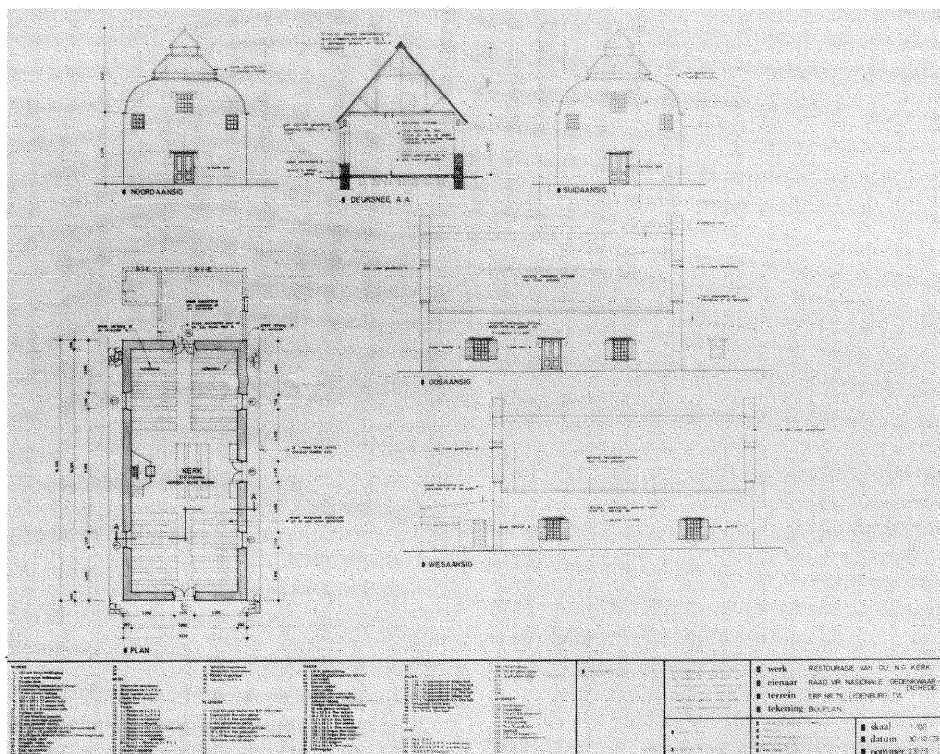
“Nadat die nuwe kerk in gebruik geneem is, is besluit om die ou kerkgebou aan die skoolkommissie oor te gee vir gebruik as skool in verband met die Ned Herv of Geref Kerk. Die ou preekstoel, banke en Nagmaalservies wat daarin gebruik is, is aan Belfast geskenk wat in 1899 gedeeltelik van die gemeente Lydenburg afgestig is”.⁷

In die tydperk van 1899 tot 1965 toe wyle ds Cilliers die eerste stappe gedoen het om die gebou gerestoureer te kry, het die kerkie blykbaar ook nog diens gedoen as 'n saal en kantore. In die tydperk ± 1912-1916 is twee vertrekke agter aan die kerkie deur 'n mnr Floors Visser gebou. Die groter kamer was 'n kleedkamer en die kleinere 'n kamer vir gaslinders. Aangrensend aan die kleedkamer is 'n verhoog in die kerk ingebou.

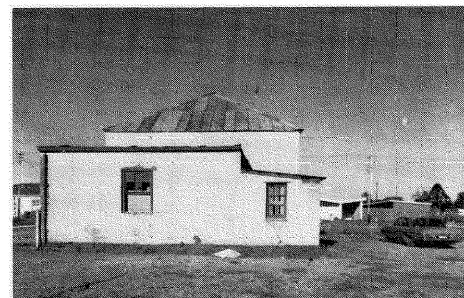
Tekening van Lydenburg gepubliseer in *The Graphic*, 30 September 1876. Links is die Voortrekkerkerk. Tweede van regs is die skooltjie.



Restourasieplan



Kerkgebou voor restourasie, gesien, vanaf die noordwestkant



Kerkgebou na restourasie, gesien vanaf die noordekant



Die werk van wyle ds J D Cilliers

Wyle ds Cilliers het gedurende sy ampstermyn as predikant van die gemeente hom baie beywer vir die behoud en restourasie van die skooltjie en die kerk. Hy het daarin geslaag om die skooltjie te laat restoureer en was besig om die aanvoorwerk te doen vir die restourasie van die kerk toe hy oorlede is. Gedurende 1965 is daar reeds vir hom tekenings opgestel vir die restourasie van die gewels.

Proklamasie

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het op sy vergadering in April 1973 besluit om aan te beveel om die kerk tot Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid te laat verklaar en daar is besluit om 'n bedrag van R10 000,00 te bewillig vir die restourasie daarvan.

Die gebou voor restourasie

Die gebou soos dit in 1973 voor restourasie daar uitgesien het, het bestaan uit drie vertrekke, tw die kerk self, die gewese kleedkamer en kamer vir gassinders. Die kerk was 18,200 m lank \times 7,890 m breed \times 4,760 m hoog met 665 mm dik mure. Die kleedkamer was 5,260 m \times 6,120 m \times 3,170 hoog en die gaskamer 2,314 m \times 2,392 m groot.

Die kerk het vier Gotiesvormige houtvensters gehad en twee dubbele deure met Gotiesvormige boligte.

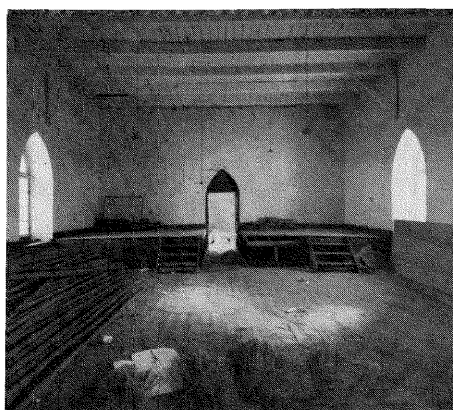
Groot dele van die houtwerk was in 'n erg verweerde toestand terwyl dit duidelik was dat sekere dele uit die twintigerjare van hierdie eeu gedateer het.

Die mure was gebou uit leiklip wat gebed was in modder tot 'n hoogte van

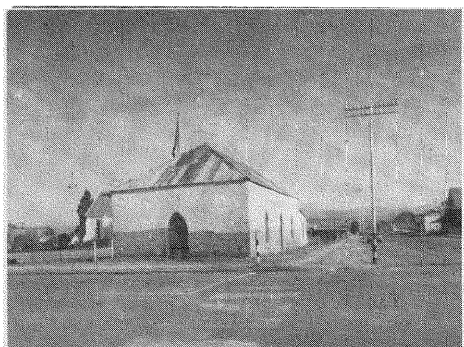
1,800 mm en bokant uit roustene. Die vloer was van 150 mm wye dennehoutplanke op balke van 115 mm \times 76 mm gespasieer op 570 mm hartafstande.

Die plafon was opgebou uit 16 geelhoutbalke van 125 mm \times 220 mm wat oordek was met 150 mm wye plafonplanke. Beide planke en balke was geverf. Oor die kerk was 'n sinkstaandak sonder geute terwyl die kamers agter oordek was met 'n skuins sinkdak. Die mure aan die buitekant was met 'n grintspatpleister afgewerk en gekalk terwyl dit aan die binnekant gewoon glad gepleister was. Aan die kleedkamerkant van die kerk was 'n opgeboude houtverhoog met twee stelle trappies.

Binneruim van kerkgebou voor restourasie

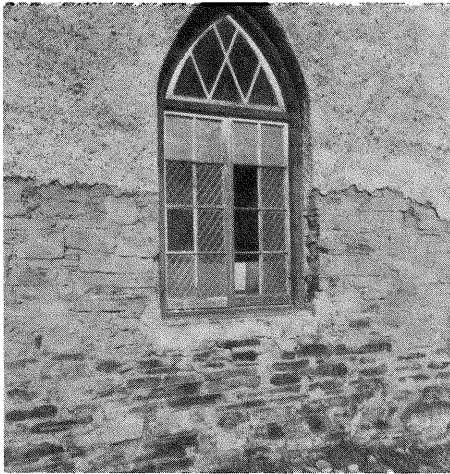


Kerkgebou voor restourasie, gesien van die hoek van Kantoor- en Kerkstraat. In die agtergrond kan die toring van die nuwe kerkgebou gesien word

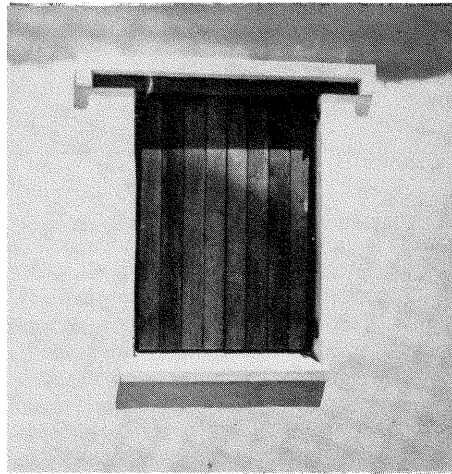


Kerkgebou na restourasie, gesien van die hoek van Kantoor- en Kerkstraat





'n Venster voor restourasie: Die fondamentmuur van leiklip is duidelik sigbaar



'n Venster na restourasie, met die luike toe

Ondersoek en besluite oor restourasie

a) Tekenings

Twee tekenings was vir ons die belangrikste leidrade van hoe die gebou oorspronklik gelyk het.

- (i) Die skets wat in 1867 deur ds Lion Cachet gedoen is.
- (ii) 'n Baie mooi pentekening van Lydenburg wat op 30 September 1876 in *The Graphic* verskyn het en waarop die kerk en skool in duidelike besonderhede geteken is.

b) Gesprekke met ou inwoners

Ten einde meer te wete te kom het ek baie interessante gesprekke gevoer met twee van die oudste persone wat kennis gedra het van die gebou, nl wyle mnr S P Malan wat 65 jaar lank op die plaas Boschfontein by Afgrond woonagtig was, en wat kort na ons gesprek in 1973 op 95-jarige ouderdom oorlede is en met mnr Henning Jacobus Beetge wat op 21 Julie 1894 in die Lydenburg-distrik gebore is en tot 1927 op die dorp gewoon het. Mnr Beetge was in daardie jare 'n boukontraakteur en het self ook verbeterings aan die kerk aangebring. Hy is ook sedert ons gesprek oorlede.

(i) Getuïenis van wyle mnr S P Malan

Uit die gesprek met wyle oom Fanie Malan, wie se verstand toe nog verbasend helder was, het die volgende aan die lig gekom:

- a) Dat die oorspronklike grasdak van die gebou vervang is met die huidige sinkdak net voor die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog.
- b) Dat die kerkgebou 'n grondvloer gehad het wat elke week met mis gesmeer was.
- c) Dat die kerkgebou 'n rietplafon gehad het.
- d) Dat die binnemure gekalk was, maar dat die buitemure nie gepleister of gekalk was nie.
- e) Dat daar geen tapyte in die kerk was nie.
- f) Dat die huidige Gotiese boogvensters altyd so was.

- g) Nadat ek aan mnr Malan die tekening waarop die omringende skansmuur duidelik sigbaar is, gewys het en hom uitdruklik daarna gevra het, was dit duidelik dat hy nie so 'n muur gesien het nie en dat dit voor sy tyd gesloop moes gewees het.
- h) Oor die posisie van die kansel was mnr Malan glad nie seker nie.

(ii) Getuïenis van mnr Beetge

Uit die twee gesprekke met mnr Beetge het ek die volgende vasgestel: Dit moet in ag geneem word dat mnr Beetge nog heeltemal helder van verstand en geheue was en dat hy vanweë die feit dat hy 'n bouer was, 'n baie goeie begrip gehad het van wat ek hom gevra het.

a) Mnr Beetge het persoonlik gedurende die vroeë twintigerjare aan die gebou gewerk en onder andere die volgende gedoen:

- 1 Die buitemure gepleister, met grintspat afgewerk en gekalk.
- 2 Die onderste dele van alle houtvensters wat toe reeds verrot was, vervang met nuwe oopmaakdele. Mnr Beetge het my meegedeel dat die onderste dele van die vensters oorspronklik vaste panele was en dat net die boligte aan die onderkant geskarnier was en na binne oopgemaak het.

b) Na die oprigting van die nuwe kerkgebou in 1894 is die ou kerk as 'n saal gebruik. Vir dié doel is 'n verhoog aan die een kant ingebou en 'n kleedkamer daarlangs. Die klein vertrek langs die kleedkamer was gebruik vir die gassilinders, toe gas na die kerk aangelê is, ongeveer 1913. Een van die oorspronklike gaslampe wat in die nuwe kerkgebou gebruik was, is tans nog in die opstal van die plaas Beetgeskraal by Lydenburg. Volgens mnr Beetge was olie-muurlampe in die ou kerkgebou gebruik.

c) Oor die uitleg van die banke en die plasing van die preekstoel was mnr Beetge dit met my eens dat dit waarskynlik was soos aangetoon op ons tekenings.

Hy herinner hom dat sy vader hom vertel het dat die banke en preekstoel omstreeks 1899 aan die NG Gemeente te Belfast geskenk was. Hierdie feit word bevestig in die boeke *Ontstaan en Vooruitgang van die Ned Herv of Geref Gemeente Lydenburg 1850-1950* deur F G M du Toit, bladsy 45.

Na aanleiding van hierdie mededeling het ek op Belfast gaan ondersoek instel en 'n ou kansel en banke in die feeshuis naby die dorp opgespoor. Hierdie items dateer beslis uit die tydperk voor 1900, maar is deur die Geref Kerk aan die feeskomitee geskenk. Dit is nie onmoontlik dat dit wel oorspronklik uit Lydenburg kom nie, maar ek kon geen bewyse daarvoor vind nie.

In die museum op Lydenburg is egter 'n klein kansel wat uit die ou NG Kerk op Lydenburg afkomstig sou wees. Hierdie kansel is egter so klein en laag dat ek persoonlik wonder of dit wel die geval kan wees.

Die preekstoel en banke in die feeshuis te Belfast, of replikas daarvan, sou na my mening baie geskik wees vir die gerestoreerde kerkgebou.

d) Mnr Beetge het my meegedeel dat die klip van die oorspronklike skansmuur, volgens sy kennis gebruik was in die fundamente van die nuwe kerkgebou en die grensmuur van die ou pastorie. Die skansmuur was egter gesloop voordat hy sy verstand gehad het.

In 'n poging om oorblyfsels van die muur te vind het ek slote op die terrein laat grawe, maar dit het niks opgelewer nie.

c) Ondersoek ter plaatsse

Benewens die slote wat ons laat grawe het om die posisie van die skansmuur vas te stel, het ons die pleister aan die binnekant en buitekant van die kerk, asook die plankvloer laat verwyder. Alhoewel dit nie moontlik was om met sekerheid te kon bepaal dat die Gotiese vensters 'n latere byvoeging was nie, het ons wel by die sydeure die posisie en oorblyfsels van 'n oorspronklike houtlateibalk gevind, wat besliste bewys is dat daar oorspronklik 'n reghoekige deur was. Onder die houtplankvloerkonstruksie was daar ook duidelike aanduidings van 'n oorspronklike grondvloer.

d) Besluite

Uit die voorafgaande ondersoek het ons tot die volgende besluite gekom:

- (i) Dat die kleedkamer en pakkamer weer gesloop moet word.
- (ii) Dat die bestaande vensters en deure latere byvoegings was en verwyder en vervang moes word met nuwe vensters en deure in ooreenstemming met die tekening van 1876.
- (iii) Dat die gewels weer opgebou moet word volgens 'n ontwerp om ooreen te stem met die tekening van 1876.
- (iv) Dat die sinkdak wat in 1879 opgesit is weer verwyder moet word en vervang word met 'n grasdak.

- (v) Dat die plankvloer vervang moet word met 'n grondvloer.
- (vi) Dat die deur tussen die kerk en die kleedkamer vervang moes word met dieselfde dubbele deur soos in die teenoorgestelde gewelmuur.
- (vii) Dat die verf van die swaar plafonbalke verwyder moet word en 'n nuwe rietplafon daarvoor aangebring moet word.

Uitvoering van die restourasiewerk

Die restourasie is uitgevoer in opdrag van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede. Die bouwerk is op bekwaame wyse deur 'n plaaslike bouer, mnr C T Roeloffze gedoen, terwyl die huidige predikant van die gemeente, ds W J D van Wyk met groot geesdrif en belangstelling hom baie aktief bygestaan het. Vir die houtwerk, die deure, vensters en luuke wat uit inheemse houtsoorte vervaardig is, was mnr W C Steyn van Pretoria verantwoordelik.

Tans is die kerk, uitgesonderd die kansel en banke, herstel tot sy oorspronklike voorkoms en kan 'n mens goed begryp dat ds Neethling in daardie verre verlede van 1856 met trots kon sê: "De kerk is voltooid en de beste in het Overvaalsche".

Nogmaals het die restourasie van 'n onaanstienlike en grotendeels vergete en verwaarloosde geboutjie 'n aanskouingsles vir 'n gemeenskap geword. Die inwoners van die geskiedkundige dorp se belangstelling is gaande gemaak en ons is oortuig dat dit baie met nuwe oë na die verlede laat kyk het.

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- ²aw. Bladsy 10.
- ³aw. Bladsy 21.
- ⁴aw. Bladsy 12.
- ⁵Ds J D Cilliers.
- ⁶Ontstaan en Vooruitgang van die Ned Herv of Geref Gemeente Lydenburg, 1850-1950. Bladsy 45.
- ⁷aw.

Rustenburg neem ou kerk weer in gebruik

Die NG gemeente Rustenburg het verlede jaar hul kerkgebou wat teen 'n koste van R150 000 gerestoureer is, in gebruik geneem.

Kommandant-generaal Piet Joubert het die hoeksteen van die gebou in 1898 gelê en in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog is die kerkgebou as 'n militêre hospitaal gebruik.

—Die Vaderland, 21 Julie 1975

Kerkplein

Kerkplein en die ekonomie

Bewaring is vir mense. Geboue word nie om eie onthalwe bewaar nie, maar vir mense. Geboue vorm deel van 'n leefmilieu. Dit is 'n menslike toestand. Bewaring het dus uiteraard verskeie kante – historiese, argitektoniese, estetiese, psigologiese, sosiologiese en ekonomiese. In dié geval Wesfasade Kerkplein kom al die fasette na vore.

Tans beleef ons 'n periode van ekonomies-finansiële problematiek. Van die Staat en van die burger word verwag om te bespaar, om nie met geld kwistig te werk te gaan nie. Dus om ook nie met geboue kwistig te werk te gaan nie.

Die geboue van die Wesfasade van Kerkplein sluit in: die ou Raadsaal, die Capital-teater, die ou Nederlandse Bank, die Law Chambers, die Cafe Riche of Reserve Investment-gebou, die Poskantoor, die ou Nasionale bank, die ou ZAR Staatsmunt (eerste in Suidelike Halfrond), die Bank of Africa of Kirkness-gebou of ook bekend as die ou Ou Mutual-gebou en die Paleis van Justisie. Met uitsondering van die Raadsaal en Paleis van Justisie is al die geboue op die slopingsprogram van die TPA en die Poskantoor.

Dit is bekend dat die planne alles behalwe populêre aanvaarding geniet. In die ekonomiese tekens van die huidige tyd dien daarop gelet te word dat die kommersiële waarde van die bedoelde geboue aan die Wesfasade etlike miljoene bedra.

Om die geboue te sloop sal ongeveer R $\frac{1}{2}$ miljoen kos. Gesien uit die restaurateur se standpunt is al die geboue in uitstekende toestand vir aangepaste restourasie. Sodanig so dat eerder van reparasie as restourasie gepraat kan word. Dink maar net aan Tulbagh, wat daar nie vermag is met geboue wat feitlik ruïnes was nie. In Europa is hergebruik van geboue al lank 'n onbetwiste praktyk.

Aangepaste restourasie beteken herstel van historiese voorkoms met interieurs aangepas vir moderne gebruik. In die geval van die Wesfasade kan dit vir slegs R $\frac{1}{2}$ miljoen gedoen word.

Om dieselfde vloerruimte met nuwe bou te skep sal ongeveer R5 miljoen kos, plus natuurlik die slopingskoste van R $\frac{1}{2}$ miljoen. Om die geboue te sloop en elders te gaan heroprig sal minstens R5 miljoen kos.

Die beoogde nuwe skema van moderne hoogbou aan die Wesfasade se koste is nie bekend nie, maar daar kan met veiligheid in terme van R100 miljoen plus gedink word. En soos wat telkemale die geval was, sal die koste bykans ver-

dubbel teen die tyd dat die projek afgehandel is.

In die afgelope 25 jaar is daar in Suid-Afrika duisende bruikbare geboue gesloop. Die Stigting Simon van der Stel raam die koste hiervan op ongeveer R2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miljard. Daardie bedrag sluit nie in nie die waarde van die kosbare of materiale en bou-onderdele wat so verlore gegaan het.

Kan die belastingbetalers en burgers dié koste, kultureel en ekonomies, bekostig?

Monumental absurdity

Church Square's western facade still stands, and as long as it stands there is hope of saving it. The public, it seems, just will not take "no" for an answer. The issue was revived again this week both in our own survey and on television. What the public does want removed is the outdated National Monuments Act of 1969, which vests too much power in the hands of one man – the Minister of National Education – giving him the final say in preservation policies. And the official attitude to Church Square clearly shows that property of cultural-historical value is not necessarily safe in State hands, the hands that control the fate of the Union Buildings, Libertas, Groote Schuur, the Houses of Parliament, Defence Headquarters and Over-Vaal.

It is the Act itself which should be torn down and rebuilt. It does not need additions, extensions or embellishments. A new structure is needed much more sorely than replacements for the western facade.

At a time when most countries with a history are telling the world of yet more measures being taken to preserve national monuments and to conserve wild flora and fauna, how incongruous that South Africans should find that some of the little cultural heritage they still possess may be jettisoned. Those who battled through the years to save Church Square from the bulldozers must work to remove the possibility of such threats in the future.

There is encouragement in the fact that representatives of cultural bodies and other organisations have spoken out in support of calls for reforms. The existing right of one man to overrule the recommendations of experts and repeal notices proclaiming properties national monuments is clearly ridiculous. This power should, in the final count, rest in the

hands of the people and their representatives, because it is the people's own cultural heritage which is at stake.

But the people must do their bit. High on the list of priorities should be an education campaign to ensure public support for preservation programmes. If all are strongly enough of one mind, public pressure must prevail. No longer can the powers that be rely on any general apathy to smooth a dubious path which, in the case of Church Square at least, leads downhill all the way.

The Pretoria News, April 24, 1976

A city's soul

Saving the historic western facade of Church Square is not just a case of saving some old buildings. It is a question of saving a city's soul, a nation's heritage.

It is still not too late to reverse the seemingly-irreversible. The Old Pretoria Society's decision to re-activate the preservation campaign must now be taken up vigorously by the citizens of Pretoria – indeed, by all South Africans.

It is necessary to persuade the new Minister of Education Dr Koornhof, to consider again the wisdom of building – at vast cost – another set of huge office blocks to loom like a monster dead hand over the city centre at a time when existing office-space is available elsewhere in the city. It is time also to consider again the proposal to dismantle the facade and re-erect it in another place – for it would be a costly enterprise that is irrelevant to the need for revitalising a city centre that has become sordid and soulless.

The Pretoria News, April 26, 1976

Save Square drive gains new ground

The new campaign to save Church Square is already gaining momentum, with the Citizens' Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square joining in the battle.

The committee last night unanimously decided to support the Old Pretoria Society in its new drive to save the Square's western facade, according to a spokesman for the committee, Mr Piet Muller.

This is a reversal of the committee's previous stand in favour of the scientific demolition of the historic buildings, and re-erection elsewhere.

The Old Pretoria Society is to approach Pretoria's mayor, Mr H.P. Botha, in a move expected to result in a mass public meeting in the City Hall. Their action is based on a provision in the Local Government Ordinance.

Last year the Citizens' Committee's energetic efforts to preserve the western facade culminated in the July "Save-the-Square" rally on Church Square. At the rally approximately 7 000 people signed a petition supporting the committee's preservation stand.

Following the Prime Minister's announcement that the buildings would be demolished anyway, the committee decided to support their re-erection on another site. However, at a well-attended meeting this decision was reversed, and enthusiastic support for the new campaign was expressed.

Meanwhile, a Munitoria spokesman said the council had decided in 1971 to regard petitions of this nature as valid if they contained the signatures of at least 100 registered municipal voters. The mayor could then consult with other people or bodies if he preferred to do so, before announcing a decision.

The Pretoria News, April 27, 1976

Mayor backs move to save Church Square

The Mayor, Mr H.P. Botha personally supported the preservation of Church Square's historical buildings.

Ex-mayor, Mr Klasie Coetsee said he would also support moves in the council aimed at retaining the western facade.

Mr Botha said he wanted the old buildings preserved and was not convinced by the motivation of people who wanted them broken down.

He was commenting on the Old Pretoria Society's renewed campaign to save the square, with the backing of the Citizens' Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square. The society is to petition Mr Botha to call a meeting to discuss the matter.

Mr Botha said he would make a decision on such a meeting after receiving the petition. He would probably consult his management committee, and, if necessary, the full council.

Counciller Harold Heron gave the society the assurance at its weekend meeting that there was strong support in the council to save the square.

But not everybody supports the move. Prominent members such as ex-mayor C.A. Young and deputy chairman of the management committee, Mr Joos Becker, oppose it.

The Pretoria News, April 28, 1976

Burgerkomitee stel standpunt

Die Burgerkomitee vir die Restourasie en Bewaring van Kerkplein het op sy jongste vergadering sy standpunt ten opsigte van die komende munisipale verkiesing oorweeg.

Die vergadering het eenparig besluit dat:

- Die Burgerkomitee hom teen party-politieke bemoeienis met munisipale verkiesings uitspreek.
- Die Burgerkomitee beskou bewaring en omgewingsversorging as 'n sentrale strydvraag vir die komende verkiesing waartydens die bewaring van die Wesfasade van Kerkplein pertinent na vore kan kom. Kerkplein raak in die eerste instansie die inwoners van Pretoria en daarom moet dit 'n burgerlike aksie bly waaraan almal sonder vrees van viktimisasie kan deelneem.
- Die Burgerkomitee versoek alle liggame wat voornemens is om aan die munisipale verkiesing deel te neem, om toe te sien dat die kandidate wat hulle stel hul sal verbind om in die stadsraad vir die behoud van Pretoria se historiese erfenis te veg. Die Burgerkomitee het met waardering kennis geneem dat in Wyk 19 die Belastingbetalersvereniging van sy kandidaat so 'n onderneming verlang het.
- Die Burgerkomitee steun by voorbaat die kandidatuur van daardie Stadsraadslede wat in die afgelope stadsraadstermyn hulle enduit vir bewaring, veral van Kerkplein, beywer het.
- Die Burgerkomitee versoek voorts daardie instansies wat aan die verkiesingstryd gaan deel neem, om toe te sien dat kiesers in die wyke waarin hulle optree, behoorlik ingelig word om die geskiedenis van die Wesfasade van Kerkplein en die slopingbesluit.

Van Niekerk raps Kerkpleinredders

Kleinlike kritici kamoefleer hul onkunde oor die geskiedenis van Kerkplein se herbeplanning deur die Provinsiale Administrasie – wat daaroor geen sê het nie – pleks van die Regering, by wie die beslissing berus, aan te val.

So het die Administrateur, mnr Sybrand van Niekerk in sy afsluitingstoetspraak by die verdagting van die Provinsiale Raad gesê.

Hy, die Uitvoerende Komitee en die Administrasie word verkwalik omdat hulle die beplande sloping van geboue aan die Plein se westekant aktief sou steun en goedgepraat. Die kritiek kom

egter van onkundige en oningeligte mense, en hy sal verheug wees indien hulle nou, na herhaaldelike uitvoerige verduidelikings, hul agitatie vir die behoud van die Wesfasade wil staak.

Volk

Dis vir hom onbegryplik dat daar mense is wat beweer besluite oor die Plein se toekoms is op outokratiese wyse geneem. „Die volk, die breë massa, is nie ten gunste van die behoud van die geboue nie hoewel 'n sekere klein groepie mense dit só wil hê,” het mnr Van Niekerk gesê. „Hulle doen dit omdat hulle in hul siel oortuig is dat die Plein onheilig sal word.”

Geboue

Dié mense versprei selfs gerugte dat die ou Raadsaal en die Paleis van Justisie ook in die slag sal bly. Die Administrasie het juis die hele blok wat deur Kerk-, Bosman-, Pretorius- en Parlementstraat begrens word, in 1949 gekoop, sodat hy sy nuwe hoofkantoor daar kon oprig en sodat die geskiedkundige Raadsaal behou kon word.

Destyds is ook aangekondig dat al die bestaande geboue in die blok gesloop sou word. Van die geboue langs Kerk-, Bosman- en Pretoriusstraat wat, toe in derdaad gesloop is, was in 'n baie beter toestand as die drie wat tans nog staan, maar niemand het daárteen beswaar aangeteken nie.

Gemoeid

Ook het niemand tot dusver by die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede vir die behoud van die Wesfasade gepleit nie, het hy gesê.

In elk geval is die Administrasie nie gemoeid met die geboue noord van Kerkstraat nie, aangesien dit Staatseiendom is waarvoor hy geen seggenskap het nie.

Die Administrasie het by die Regering aansoek gedoen om 'n toringblok langs die TPA-hoofkwartier op te rig, en 'n model daarvan word tans deur die Administrasie se argitekte gebou vir voorlegging aan die Regering.

Poskantoor

Die Poskantoor benodig die blok benoemde Kerkstraat vir nuwe geboue, wat beteken dat die Raadsaal en die Paleis van Justisie ál geskiedkundige geboue is wat uiteindelik behoue sal bly.

Mnr Van Niekerk het dit beklemtoon dat die nuwe geboue in die plek van die bestaandes só ontwerp sal word dat hulle met die kultuur-historiese en argitektoniese aspekte van die plein sal harmonieer.

„Dis kwaadwillig om te sê die Uitvoerende Komitee is nie bewaringsbewus nie,” het hy vervolgd.

Kerkplein

Die Uitvoerende Komitee se aandeel aan

die bewaring van Pelgrimsrus, Boekenhoutfontein en talle ander plekke, selfs buite Transvaal soos die Tulbagh-restourasie-projek, spreek van die teendeed.

Wat die herbeplanning van Kerkplein betref, het hy gesê: „Daar is geen nuwe argumente nie.”

Hoofstad, 11 Junie 1976

Kerkplein: planne vanjaar voltooi

Argitekte is al besig met die ontwerp van die Provinsiale gebou wat aan die westekant van Kerkplein gaan verrys op die plek waar 'n paar ou geboue nou staan.

Dit is deur die administrateur mnr Sybrand van Niekerk, in 'n onderhoud met *Die Transvaler* bekend gemaak.

Hy sê dit is moontlik dat die ontwerp voor die einde van, die jaar gereed sal wees om aan die Kerkpleinkomitee voorgelê te word. Daar moet besluit word of in die ontwerp uitvoering gegee word aan die beplanning wat die komitee en die Regering vir nuwe geboue om Kerkplein in gedagte het.

Die ontwerp sal die voorkoms, die hoogte, die kantoorruimte, wat voorsien en die persentasie van die beskikbare terrein wat deur die gebou in beslag geneem word, aantoon.

Geen voorsiening vir uitgawes in verband met die nuwe gebou word in vanjaar se begroting gemaak nie.

Die Transvaler, 11 Junie 1976

Argitekte op agterpote oor Plein

Die versugting van die Administrateur van Transvaal, mnr Sybrand van Niekerk, dat die Kerkpleinkwessie nou met rus gelaat word, was vergeefs. Die Instituut van Suid-Afrikaanse Argitekte het hom gister kwaai aangeval oor die beoogde slooping van sewe geskiedkundige geboue op Kerkplein.

Die Instituut het gereageer op mnr Van Niekerk se toespraak oor hierdie saak in die Transvaalse Provinsiale Raad. Hy het ook 'n brief van 'n argitek voorgelees wat gesê het dat hy skaam voel om te dink dat Kerkplein as Pretoria se historiese erfenis voorgelê word.

„Hierdie brief verteenwoordig nie in die geringste mate die gevoel van argitekte dwarsdeur die land nie,” het die voorsit-

ter van die instituut, mnr M.D. Lennard, gister gesê. „Inteendeel, die instituut het hom by verskeie geleenthede ten sterkste vir die behoud van die geboue uitgespreek.”

Behalwe vir die geskiedkundige waarde, wat vanaf 1854 strek, verteenwoordig Kerkplein ook die werk van die voorste argitekte gedurende die Transvaalse Republiek, naamlik Wierda, De Zwaan en Soff, tesame met die beeldhouer Van Wouw, sê mnr Lennard.

„Dit bied argitektoniese voorbeelde van style wat reeds skaars geword het in die wêreld, des te meer in Afrika. Die geboue vorm saam met die Raadsaal en Paleis van Justisie 'n eenheid wat nie versteur mag word nie, en bied 'n menslike skaal aan Kerkplein.

„Ek voel oortuig dat daar nêrens in Afrika en nog minder in Suid-Afrika 'n soortgelyke eenheid van sewe individuele geskiedkundige en estetiese geboue in 'n ry langs mekaar bestaan nie.”

Die instituut wys ook in 'n verklaring op die 29 429 handtekeninge wat verlede jaar tydens 'n saamtrek op Kerkplein ingesamel is. „'n Stemmatal soos hierdie, verteenwoordigend van alle bevolkingsgroepe, kan eenvoudig nie geïgnoreer word nie. Dit sal waarskynlik, met die groter bewuswording, veel meer wees.”

„Ek is oortuig dat, as hierdie geboue op Kerkplein gesloop word, dit die bewaringsgedagte in Suid-Afrika 'n geweldige knou sal gee en ek is bevrees dat die owerhede in beheer altyd daarvoor verantwoordelik gehou sal word,” het mnr Lennard gesê.

Die Beeld, 12 Junie 1976

Kerke tree saam op om Plein te red

Kerke in Pretoria gaan onder een vaandel toetree tot die stryd om die Wes-fasade van Kerkplein van slooping te red.

'n Reuseveldtog waaraan alle kerkverbande in die stad en moontlik ook oor die hele Transvaal deel sal hê, word nou beplan.

'n Vergadering waarna verteenwoordigers van alle Afrikaanse en Engelse kerke, ongeag die verband uitgenooi sal word, is vir 1 Julie in die stad gereël. Met die vergadering sal die veldtog sy finale beslag kry. Dit sal die grootste gesamentlike poging deur alle kerke in Suid-Afrika tot nog toe wees om 'n kultuur-historiese erfenis van ondergang te red.

Verteenwoordigers van die drie susterskerke en ander kerke het in Pretoria samesprekings gevoer en riglyne vir die gesamentlike poging is voorlopig neergelê.

Tot dusver het talle organisasies, kultuurgebonde of andersins, hulle stem teen die sloping van die Wes-fasade laat hoor, maar die kerke het nog altyd op die agtergrond gebly.

Ds J J de Jager van die Gereformeerde gemeente Pretoria-Oos is voorlopig as inligtingsbeampte aangestel om tot 1 Julie met die pers in verband met die veldtog te skakel. Daarna sal 'n aksie-komitee moontlik benoem word.

Ds De Jager het aan *Hoofstad* gesê die inwoners van Pretoria is nog nie die geleentheid gestel om hul werklike gevoel oor die sloping uit te spreek nie. Die kerk gaan die taak nou op hóm neem en die poging word aangepak deur elke kerk – afgesien van sy taal of verband. Elke kerkraad in Pretoria sal gevra word om sy mening in dié verband te lig, maar die veldtog sal ordelik verloop.

„Lidmate van alle kerke in Pretoria is Pretorianers, daarom is die veldtog almal s'n. Elke kerk sal in die besonder in die saak geken word,” het ds De Jager gesê. Gisteraand se vergadering is deur bekende kerkleiers, Afrikaans- en Engels-sprekend bygewoon, maar omdat die vergadering nie alomverteenwoordigend was nie, is op 1 Julie besluit sodat elke kerkverband in die stad 'n verteenwoordiger na die vergadering kan stuur.

Na verneem word, word navrae van kerke buite Pretoria en van verafgeleë plekke reeds ontvang, en die aanduiding is daar dat hierdie poging groot steun gaan kry.

Hoofstad, 25 Junie 1976

New Square Post Office an asset expert

Pretoria's Town Planner, Mr B W B Ball, says the new post office on Church Square will be an "architectural asset" to the city.

At a city council meeting an application for the building of the new post office on the western side of the Square will be considered.

The council's management committee has already approved the application but has proposed a few minor alterations to the plans.

In his report to the management committee, Mr Ball compliments the architects on the design of the building. He says the design was of outstanding quality and it would be an architectural asset to any city.

Debate

The application, however, is expected to

spark off a debate at the council meeting which starts at 3.30 pm at Munitoria and which is open to the public.

Meanwhile, the mayor of Pretoria, Mr Hendrik Botha, has still to decide on the date for a public meeting which the Society for Old Pretoria has asked him to convene.

The society has submitted a petition calling for a meeting to hear the public's views on the demolition of the western facade of the Square.

Mr Botha said he was still considering the petition and expects to reach a decision after the council meeting when the application for the new post office is considered.

The Pretoria News, July 29, 1976

Standbeeld vir die slopers

Ek koop 'n steentjie seep by 'n supermark. Op die boonste rak kos dit 35c en op die onderste rak kos dieselfde seep 30c. Ek bel die Pryscontroleur se kantoor. Hy lag en sê, ek behoort dankbaar en bly te wees dat ek nog iets goedkoop kan koop.

Op Kerkplein in Pretoria gaan daar geboue gesloop word wat histories gesproke onbetaalbaar en onvervangbaar is – prakties gesproke miljoene rande werd is. In die plek daarvan gaan moderne geboue teen nog meer miljoene rande opgerig word en om party hartseer mense te troos, word dit oorweeg om die gesloopte geboue teen verdere miljoene rande op 'n ander plek op te rig.

Intussen word daar teen 'n koste van duisende rande – ewe vrolik – advertensies oor die radio gesing waarin hulle my – arme individu – aanmoedig om my sente te spaar en sodoende vir volk en vaderland inflasie te help bestry. Van owerheidsweë word ek – die „arme” man gemaan om my rieme dun te sny en nie aan te dring op verhogings nie.

Graag sou ek wil weet hoe op aarde my vriende en ek die inflasiereus gaan beveg as 'n koekie seep van een rak tot die volgende 5c in prys kan styg en dit goedgekeur word dat miljoene der miljoene rande bestee word om geboue af te breek en ander op te rig?

Wie is gek? Die res – of ek?

Ons oorweeg dit om 'n fonds te stig waarmee ons Paul Kruger se standbeeld na Kaapstad kan vervoer en in die Parlementstuin staanmaak. 'n Standbeeld vir die Slopers kan dan op die gewese Kerkplein opgerig word.

Brief in *Rapport*, 11 Julie 1976

Praat oor Kerkplein gevaarlik

JEANNE GOOSEN

Ek kry die indruk dat dit gevaarlik begin word het om oor Kerkplein te praat. Ek kry ook die ongemaklike gevoel dat daar iewers op die agtergrond iemand is wat sê: „As jy weet wat goed is vir jou, bly stil. Dis 'n bevel!”

Skielik is al die mense wat voorheen uitgesproke menings oor Kerkplein had, stil en word hulle ongemaklik as jy die kwessie aanroer. En as daar nog oor Kerkplein gepraat word, is dit in die geheim en op 'n fluistertoon.

Waarom?

Wat sit regtig agter Kerkplein?

Waarom is 'n televisiespan wat 'n program oor Kerkplein wou aanbied, se planne nek-omgedraai nadat hulle vier dae lank al met die verfilming besig was? Sou só 'n program nie juis die slopers die geleentheid gebied het om hulle saak gemotiveer uiteen te sit nie? Is daar nie al gedurig in die pers en veral in hierdie rubriek gevra dat redes vir die voortsetting van die sloplingsplanne gegee hoort te word nie? Is die owerhede nie ten minste só 'n uiteensetting van redes aan 'n ontevrede bevolking verskuldig nie? Sou 'n televisieprogram oor Kerkplein nie miskien net die ding wees om die hele Kerkpleinkwessie oop te gooi nie? Of is daar miskien te veel wat aan die lig kan kom wat vir sommiges dalk in 'n ongemaklike situasie kan plaas? En watter soort televisie het ons dan in hierdie land as dit nie hierdie soort kwessie, soos die Kerkplein-aangeleentheid, mag oopgooi nie? Het televisie dan 'n funksie as hy nie omstrede sake mag aanpak nie?

Wat het van die interkerklike aksie teen die sloping van Kerkplein geword? Straat-af verneem ek dat die Kerk vermaan is om hom uit die Kerkpleinkwessie te laat. Waarom? As ek dit reg het, wil die Kerk nie juis vir die behoud van Kerkplein baklei nie, maar hy maak beswaar teen die manier waarop die owerhede die hele Kerkpleinkwessie gehanteer het.

Ek het Straat-af ook verneem dat dit nie net Afrikaanse kerke is wat beswaar aanteken nie, maar ook gemeentes van Engelse kerke – onder andere Presbeteriaanse en Methodiste gemeentes.

Betoog

En dan die studente-aksie teen die voorgenome sloping. Sal die studente wel die geleentheid kry om teen die sloping te betoog, of sal daarvoor ook 'n stokkie gesteek word? Dit is so dat 'n massavergadering van studente oor die Kerkpleinaangeleentheid sowat 18 maande gelede op die kampus verbied is. Waarom? Watter soort universiteit het ons dan en watter soort studente word daar gekweek

as hulle nie hulle stemme teen só 'n soort kapitalistiese misdaad mag verhef nie? Kerkplein geniet die aandag van die hele land se burgers en dinge het al só ver ontwikkel dat 'n georganiseerde groep uit die Kaap „hulp beloof” het as daar die dag gesloop gaan word.

Staan 'n mens dalk hier voor 'n nuwe rewolusie – een wat nie ernstig deur die owerhede beskou word nie omdat dit volgens hulle blykbaar oor vaaghede soos geboue gaan?

Het die sloop van geboue in sommige lande nie in die verlede op rewolusies uitgeloop nie? Gaan dit vir die slopers bloot net om geboue wat hulle wil sloop, of is daar dalk iets anders wat hulle met só 'n daad ten alle koste wil en moet vernietig?

Hoe langer die owerhede swyg en weier om redes aan te voer vir hulle vasberadenheid om sekere tradisies te vernietig, hoe meer vrae sal daar gevra word. Ons, die publiek van Pretoria, sien geen noodigheid in die slooping van die Wesfasade nie. Ons het die owerhede male sonder tal gevra om motivering vir die slooping. Die owerhede swyg. Waarom?

“Straat Af” *Hoofstad*, 23 Augustus 1976

Studente-,onrus' by Tuks oor Kerkplein

Dr Verwoerd het in 1965 gesê hy is trots op sy jeug en in 1976 kan hy opreg trots wees op hulle. Die jeug van toe het hulle plig geken en die jeug van vandag ken hul plig.

So het die studente van Tuks op 'n massavergadering by die Universiteit gepraat. 'n Dringende mosie waarin die studente hul aktiewe steun toesê aan die behoud en restaurasie van die Wesfasade van Kerkplein is ingedien.

Mnr Carel Trichardt, dosent aan die universiteit, staan aan die hoof van die herneude poging om die behoud van Kerkplein.

Hy en die studente voel al het duisende stemme vir die behoud van Kerkplein op dowe ore geval, die jeug geregtig is daarop om dit wat tot hulle uit die verlede spreek ten alle koste te probeer behou.

Ekonomie

Kerkplein is 'n toeristebesienswaardigheid wat elke besoeker aan die land vir niks misloop nie. Die huidige ekonomiese toestand laat nie uitbreidings van bykans R200 miljoen toe nie – nie as daar teen 'n baie laer koste veel meer vermag kan word nie.

Geskiedenis is in elke stukkie van daardie westelike kant van Kerkplein gevleg. Dit voer ons terug tot 1897 toe die Nederlandse Bank opgerig is, is gesê.

'n Ondersteuner van die mosie, mnr. Nic van Rensburg, het gesê: „Ons leef in 'n onseker tyd. As ons dit wat agter ons lê afbreek waarheen beweeg ons dan en wat lê dan vir ons voor?

'n Ander student het gesê dat die mosie nie 'n betoog is nie, maar 'n plig wat op elke Afrikanerstudent se hart lê.

Mnr Petrus Roos, argitektuurstudent en sekondant van die mosie, het aangevoer dat geen ander gebou soveel karakter aan Kerkplein sal of kan verleen nie.

Beethoven

Mnr Trichardt het sy betoog afgesluit deur te sê dat daar baie mense is wat net oor Coca-Cola en prentjieverhale kan skryf en praat, maar daar is ook groot geeste soos Beethoven, Van Gogh en 'n Kruger om aan te dink.

'n Komitee sal saamgestel word om oor verdere optrede te besluit. Iets daadwerkliks sal aangepak word.

Een van die studente het gesê die Tukkies het hierdie mosie met 'n oorweldigende meerderheid aanvaar en daarmee te kenne gegee dat die strydbyl om die behoud van Kerkplein nog lank nie neergelê is nie.

Kerkplein het Pretoria op die kaart geplaas, het van ons volk 'n nasie gemaak. Daarom sal die jeug van Suid-Afrika die erwe van sy vaders vir ons kinders laat erwe bly, het een van die studente gesê.

Die Beeld, 11 Augustus 1976

Administrateur oor Kerkplein

Die uitvoerende komitee van Tuks se studenteraad het op sy versoek, 'n besoek aan die Administrateur van Transvaal, mnr Sybrand van Niekerk, gebring.

Na afloop van sy gesprek met die VSR-lede het *Die Perdeby* 'n onderhoud met mnr Van Niekerk gevoer. Daar is gesels oor die hele kwessie van die slooping, al dan nie, van die westelike fasade van Kerkplein en ook die beoogde protesoptog van Tukkiestudente, n.a.v. 'n besluit op 'n onlangse massavergadering.

Mnr Van Niekerk het genoem dat wat hom betref die finale besluit oor die aanleentheid reeds geneem is en dat die saak afgehandel is.

Alhoewel hierdie 'n nuwe geslag studente is, wat nie hul mening kon laat hoor met die oorspronklike besluit oor die plein nie, kan geen nuwe argumente as dié wat reeds voorheen genoem is, geopper word nie.

Met die oprigting van die huidige Provinsiale Administrasiegebou is die eerste fase in die herontwikkeling van Kerkplein reeds begin. Die slooping van die

wesfasade is die finale fase van die ontwikkelingsprogram wat nou tot uitvoer gebring gaan word.

Nadat daar besluit is om met hierdie fase voort te gaan, het verhoë die Minister van Openbare Werke en die Eerste Minister bereik waarin pleidooie gelewer is vir die bewaring van Kerkplein.

Alle voorstelle is op kabinetsvlak bespreek en die Eerste Minister het persoonlik verantwoordelikheid aanvaar vir die besluit dat die westelike fasade van Kerkplein gesloop gaan word, aldus mnr Van Niekerk.

Hy het ook gesê dat die bestaande westelike fasade tot stand gekom het op grond van individuele beplanning en dat daar nie geleentheid was vir 'n beplande fasade nie. Die geboue wat nou ontwerp is, maak voorsiening vir 'n beplande fasade wat verteenwoordigend is van die huidige Suid-Afrikaanse argitektoniese ontwikkeling met inagneming van bestaande geboue op die plein.

Die Administrateur het daarop gewys dat die Eerste Minister persoonlik verantwoordelikheid aanvaar vir die slooping en Tukkies moet in die lig hiervan eers besin eer voortgegaan word met die beplande protesoptog.

Die standpunt van diegene wat ten gunste van so 'n protesoptog is en alles in die stryd wil werp vir die bewaring van Kerkplein soos dit tans is, is as volg.

Daar word gevoel dat so 'n protesoptog iets meer as 'n petitie kan vermag – dit toon aktiewe deelname en betrokkenheid by 'n saak wat nie net met 'n aantal handtekeninge alleen tuisgebring kan word nie.

Die optrede tydens Lentedag sal dan bewys dat die studente bereid is om op aktiewe wyse hulle steun vir hulle erfenis uit te bring.

Wat die wesfasade betref:

Die geboue op die Plein dateer uit drie tydperke en geen moderne gebouekompleks kan verteenwoordigend of vervangend wees van dit wat nou vernietig gaan word nie.

Die geboue wat in gedrang is, dateer uit drie verskillende tydperke. Die ou Republiek, die tyd voor Uniewording en die tyd met Uniewording. Die geboue verteenwoordig dus drie verskillende kultuurhistoriese grepe uit die geskiedenis. Meer as tweehonderdduisend mense het met die tyd al hul steun aan die behoud van die Wesfasade verleen.

Persone soos Mimi Coertze, mev Betsie Verwoerd het ook hul steun aan die saak gegee. Verskeie Europese immigrante het hul al uitgespreek teen die slooping.

'n Voorbeeld van Nuremberg in Duitsland is genoem – tydens die oorlogsjare is hierdie stadsgedeelte verwoes maar restaurasie het volgens die oorspronklike planne plaasgevind.

Die vraag word nou gevra waarom Suid-Afrika nie ook so iets kan doen om die behoud van 'n erfenis te bewerkstellig nie.

Die huidige ekonomiese toestande word ook deur die voorstanders vir die bewaring van die plein as 'n oorweging gestel. Die oprigting van 'n moderne gebou-kompleks sal miljoene rande beloop, terwyl slegs 'n gedeelte van hierdie bedrag vir voldoende restaurasie en instandhouding benodig sou word.

Die Perdeby, 27 Augustus 1976

Kerkplein betoging – Ja of Nee?

Die besluit van die massavergadering om 'n protesoptog teen die sloping van die Wesfasade van Kerkplein te hou is steeds besig om wyer uit te kring.

Dat die beplanning van die optog nie ongemerk by die owerhede verbygegaan het nie, is duidelik uit die feit dat die Administrateur die Uitvoerende Komitee van die Studenteraad oor die saak gespreek het.

Op die oomblik hang die hele beplanning vir die optog nog in die weegskaal. Die maatreëls teen oproerige byeenkomste wat na die Soweto-gebeure ingestel is, is verleng tot die einde van die jaar. Die optog sal alleen kan plaasvind met die toestemming van die Minister van Justisie.

Dit is egter so dat daar op hierdie stadium ernstig besin moet word oor die hele optoggedagte. Daar is baie sterk argumente wat ingebring kan word teen die hou van so 'n optog.

Volgens die Administrateur is die besluit oor die Wesfasade 'n besluit wat op kabinetvlak geneem is. Die optrede van die studente sal geen verskil maak nie, aangesien daar geen nuwe inligting is waaroor daar nie besin is met die oorspronklike besluit nie. Mnr Van Niekerk het verder ook daarop gewys wat die Eerste Minister persoonlik verantwoordelikheid vir die besluit aanvaar het.

'n Verdere faktor is die feit dat Tukkies hulle in die verlede dikwels sterk uitgespreek het teen die hou van betogings veral deur Engelstalige kampusse. Dié keer toe ons as 'n teenwig vir die Witsbetogings opgeruk het na die Uniegebou toe, het ons ook onder sterk kritiek gekom van ander Afrikaanse kampusse.

Die argument kan dan verder gevoer word, deur te sê dat die Tukkies alleen hulle eie goeie naam in regeringskringe en by die publiek sal skade aandoen deur 'n optog te hou, veral aangesien die optrede van Wits en Ikeys tydens die Soweto-gebeure nog vars in die geheue is.

Dit is dan die vernaamste argumente teen die hou van 'n optog. Daar is egter ook

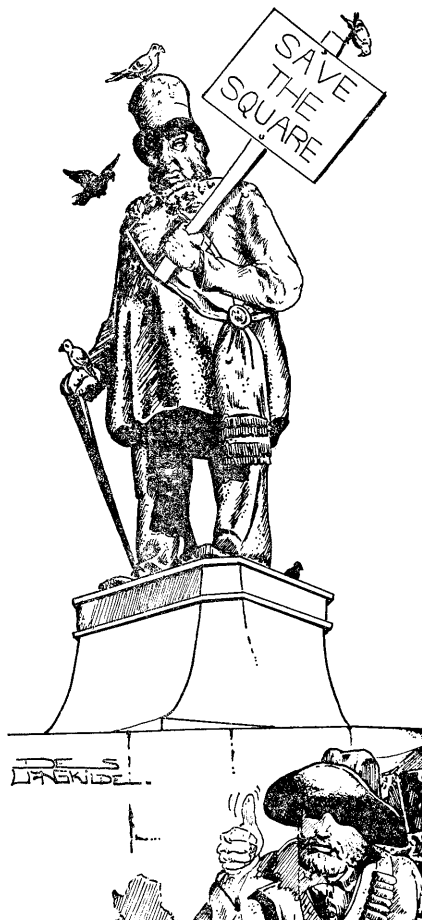
baie sterk argumente vir so 'n optog. As die bewaring van ons erfenis vir die Tukkies werklik erns is, dan sal so 'n optog hulle erns veel beter illustreer as wat 'n blote petisie dit kan doen. 'n Optog sal dan vir ons 'n ernstige saak wees waarvoor ons bereid is om op te offer en moeite te doen. 'n Petisie sal maar net een van vele ander petisies wees. Verder het die Tukkies met 'n oorweldigende meerderheid op 'n massavergadering dié metode van optrede gekies. Die besluit kan alleen op 'n ander massavergadering ter syde gestel word.

Al sou die optog geen werklike invloed meer kon uitoefen op die sloping van die westelike fasade nie, sal dit vir die toekoms dien as bewys dat ons as jongmense ook bekommerd is oor die bewaring van ons erfenis.

Die optog moet egter in geen omstandighede die karakter van 'n betoging teen die outoriteite aanneem nie. Streng kontrole sal oor die deelnemers gehou moet word.

Na oorweging van al die faktore, wil dit lyk asof die optog tog moet plaasvind, as die minister sy toestemming gee. Op daardie manier kan ons as Tukkies wys

Die tweede massa het hom weer vir bewaring van die Wesfasade uitgespreek. Daar is teen die optog besluit weens die heersende verbod op buitelig openbare optogte. Red.



dat dit wat rondom ons gebeur ons werklik raak.

Die Perdeby, 27 Augustus 1976

Post Office demolition date 'soon'

The plans for the new Church Square Post Office have been completed and handed over to the Church Square Committee.

A member of the committee confirmed today that a meeting would be held "as soon as possible" to decide the date of demolition of the old Post Office and who should be given the task.

The demolition plans have been pushed ahead fast because the Post Office desperately needs larger premises.

Mr Sybrand van Niekerk, the Administrator, pointed out earlier this year that the Provincial Administration buildings were adequate but the Post Office plans were "urgent".

Mr Van Niekerk said the provincial administration would fall in with the Post Office plans in order to have "only one dust cloud in the centre of Pretoria."

Meanwhile, city conservationists are desperately trying to stop demolition.

Officials at the Cultural Historical and Open Air Museum, who are looking into the possibilities of re-building the facade at the museum, are hampered by lack of money.

The Pretoria News, September 2, 1976

Swellendam pleit vir plein

Uit Swellendam kom 'n roerende pleidooi dat die Wesfasade van die Kerkplein in Pretoria behou moet word. 'n Pleitskrif met die handtekeninge van meer as tweehonderd wit en bruin Swellendammers is aan die Staatspresident gestuur.

„Die Kerkplein is vir ons nie net van historiese en estetiese waarde nie,” lui die pleitskrif. „Dit is die Nasionale Plein, die hart van die hoofstad van Suid-Afrika.”

Band

'n Aksiekomitee vir die Kerkplein is op Swellendam gestig. Dié het op 1 Oktober die pleitskrif opgestel. Minder as twee weke later is dit met handtekeninge en al na die Staatspresident gestuur.

Die Overberg, en in die besonder Swellendam, het 'n historiese band met die noordelike provinsies, meld die pleitskrif.

Die voorouers van president Steyn sowel as president Kruger kom uit dié kontrei, en ook die voorouers van baie ander mense in die noorde.

Onder die ondertekenaars van die pleitskrif – daar is baie Engelse name – is dr Anna Rothmann, dogter van die skryfster MER, wat verlede jaar kort ná haar honderdste verjaardag oorlede is. Kleindogter M E Rothmann het dit ook onderteken.

Die lid van die Verteenwoordigende Kleurlingraad vir Swellendam, mnr R A May, is nog 'n ondertekenaar. Burgemeester J D Beyers en onderburgemeester K Olivier en 'n hele paar raadslede het geteken.

Mnr Adriaan Mocke, hoof van die Olyfkrans-Kollege, en etlike van sy personeellede se naamtekening verskyn op die dokument, asook dié van mnr C O Adams, restoureerder van historiese geboue.

Kurator

Die eerste naamtekening op die pleitskrif is dié van die kurator van die Drostyd-Museum, mnr P Cochrane. 'n Aparte lys met handtekeninge van besoekers aan hierdie museum is aangeheg. Onder hulle is twee uit Arnhem, Nederland.

„Baie jong Swellendammers het in die jare tagtig en negentig van die vorige eeu in die republieke 'n heenkome gaan soek,” lui die pleitskrif.

„Soos MER dit in die Oorlogsdagboek van 'n Transvaalse Burger beskryf, het hulle daar veel meer as 'n verdienste gevind: groot geword onder die Engelse kultuur, het hulle met 'n onbeskryflike verligting daar die eie taal, die eie vlag en volkslied, die vryheid gevind.

„En dit alles staan beliggaam in die Wesfasade van die Kerkplein.”

Die pleitskrif meld verder dat die historiese en estetiese besware teen die afbreek van die Wesfasade verdoemend is. „Maar ook met die ekonomiese toestande en die algemene politieke onrus moet daar beslis rekening gehou word. Waar daar van Regeringskant ernstig beroepe uitgaan aan die landsburgers om te help besnoei, is dit dan in landsbelang om met hierdie projek voort te gaan?”

Nie verdeel

„In hierdie donker uur met sy ekonomiese en politieke druk mag ons nie mense verder verdeel en gevoelens vertroebel nie.

„Ons pleitskrif, wat geteken is deur bruin en wit Swellendammers, is maar net 'n klein deel van die duisende stemme van oor die hele land wat pleit by u om benadiging: BEHOU vir ons die WES-FASADE VAN DIE KERKPLEIN.”

Rapport, 17 Oktober 1976

Best plan of all ?

The proliferation of plans for Church Square is quite staggering.

There are plans to demolish its historic west facade; plans to relocate the facade; plans to move Oom Paul's statue. Some would have it become a pedestrian mall, others are determined to remake the square into a sort of rabbit warren, to riddle its bowels with underground passages, tunnels and assorted cavities in which cars would park and buses crawl like gigantic slugs from a Jules Verne fantasy.

Church Square, could well be likened to a bartered bride in a disjointed opera in which the conductor has lost control of the musicians while the orchestra itself is at variance with the singers.

Given the unswerving resolve of the powers that be to bring about change, the least one could expect is some co-ordinated attempt to evaluate the various plans and decide which one to implement.

But there is another factor to be considered. In today's economic climate, with mounting balance-of-payments deficits, shortages of capital and the soaring cost of living, it would seem to us irresponsible in the extreme to press on with such schemes.

Another potent factor is determined public resistance. In addition to such bodies as the Old Pretoria Society and

the students of the University of Pretoria, the citizens of Swellendam in the Cape have now added their objections.

The portents are there: It is time to rethink the scheme. There could be no better justification in the light of our economic condition. Let the scheme be postponed for, say, three years; and in the meanwhile let it be reviewed. Wiser counsel might prevail in the interim. And money might be saved as well as tempers.

That may be the best plan of all.

The Pretoria News, October 23, 1976

Regstelling

Restorica 2, bladsy 55.

Die middelste twee foto's is die NG Kerk, Malmesbury en die skool, Malmesbury en nie soos verklaar geboue in King Williams' Town nie. Dit spyt ons. Graag wil ons die lesers wat ons aandag daarop gevestig het, hartlik bedank.

Ken u die mense?

Indien wel, verneem ons graag van u. Blykbaar is dit 'n foto geneem omstreeks 1905-1910 langs die Grote Kerk, Bosmanstraat, Pretoria. Moontlik die Kerkraad van daardie tyd. Uitkenbaar is:

sittende 2e van links, mev ds Bosman, ds H Bosman, genl Louis Botha, F S Malan, onbekend en Erasmus; staande vierde van links, Steyn.





Oranje-Vrystaat - Orange Free State

Restourasie begin

Die restourasie van die ou Raadsaal in St Georgestraat in Bloemfontein het onlangs begin. Die ou dekgras is van die dak verwyder. Die Raadsaal is in 1849 deur maj Henry Douglas Warden opgerig om as die eerste skool en kerk noord van die Oranjerivier te dien. Die gebou is in 1936 tot nasionale monument verklaar. Twee vleuels is later aangebou om die eerste nasionale museum in die stad te huisves. Dit was ook die vergader-saal van die eertydse Wetgewende Vergadering van die Vrystaatse Republiek. 'n Historiese museum gaan in die gebou gehuisves word. Die opening vind op 20 Julie 1977 plaas, wat saam met die honderdjarige bestaansjaar van die Nasionale Museum val.

Ou gees straal

Met 'n nuwe mantel aan, maar daaronder nog dieselfde gebou waarin die gees van byna 70 jaar se studenteherinneringe van lief en leed by oud-Vishuismanne op-

roep, staan die Abraham Fischer-tehuis, oudste koshuis van die Vrystaatse Universiteit, weer nuut en trots terwyl die laaste afrondingswerk aan die buitekant van die gerestoureerde gebou gedoen word.

Die koshuis is in 1909 in gebruik geneem en het bekendes soos adv C R Swart, dr Nic Diederichs, G A Watermeyer en prof B Kok gehuisves. Tyd en die elemente het egter hul tol geëis en daar is besluit om die gebou te restoureer.

Die werk kos reeds sowat R600 000. Die bekende sandsteenklipwerk aan die buitekant van die gebou word deur meer duurzame blougraniet vervang. Nuwe dak- en vloerteëls is ingesit, die ou vensterrame en deurkosyne is met nuwes vervang, nuwe bedrading is ingesit, plafonne op die boonste verdieping is vervang. Die gebou is nuut uitgepleister en geverf.

Net uiterlik

Al die veranderinge is net uiterlik – die gees wat van die gebou uitstraal, kan nie verander word nie. „Vishuis ondergaan veranderinge, die inwoners verander, maar in wese het al die dinge dieselfde gebly,” word in *Die Vis*, die koshuis se koerantjie, geskryf.

Om die karakter te behou is baie van die dinge wat oud-Vishuismanne met nostalgie laat terugdink net opgeknop en nie vervang nie. Daarom is die basiese struktuur van die gebou nie verander nie. Die ou buitedeure met hul interessante hout-sneewerk is afgeskuur en vernis, die

houtpanele aan die binnekant van die gebou is opgeknop en, die deur waarteen die veerpyltjebord al soveel jare hang, is ook afgeskuur en vernis.

Die bekende Putgat, 'n opening tussen die grond- en eerste verdieping bokant die portaal met houtrelings daarom waar menige student al met 'n „tekkie-oond” vir sy oortredinge moes betaal, het ook sy oorspronklike relings behou. Baie niksvermoedende besoekers, professore en predikante ingesluit, het hier onder 'n beker water deurgeloopt.

Sandsteen

'n Hartseersakie vir die Vishuismanne is die sandsteen wat van die buitekant van die gebou verwyder is. Name en handtekeninge is sedert die gebou se ontstaan op die klipwerk uitgekrap. Ook die name van adv Swart en prof Kok het hier gepryk. Die huiskomitee wou dit nie verlore laat raak nie en wil later vanjaar 'n monument van dié stene voor die koshuis bou.

Die restourasie het ook knoeiere van die bouers aan die lig gebring. Op die boonste verdieping is kamers waarvan die mure letterlik gesidder het as die deure toegeklap word. Toe die pleister van die mure afgekap is, is ontdek dat die houtvloer die enigste fondament was. Die mure is nou deur stewige houtafskortings vervang.

Die Volksblad, 24 Junie 1976

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Ons het 'n wyn gemaak - Carlton



... en hier op die historiese Uitkyk Wynlandgoed weet ons dat Uitkyk Carlton W.O.S. een van die edelste Kaapse rooiwne is wat nog ooit gemaak is.

Kyk deur die helder dieptes van die ryk donkerrooi na die volrype rondheid van die aristokratiese Cabernet Sauvignon-druif.

Ervaar die talmende boeket wat so kenmerkend is van hierdie skaamdraende wingerdstok.

Proe in sy robuuste volheid die vrugbare leem-rooigrond van Uitkyk en die rypheid van die droë somerson.

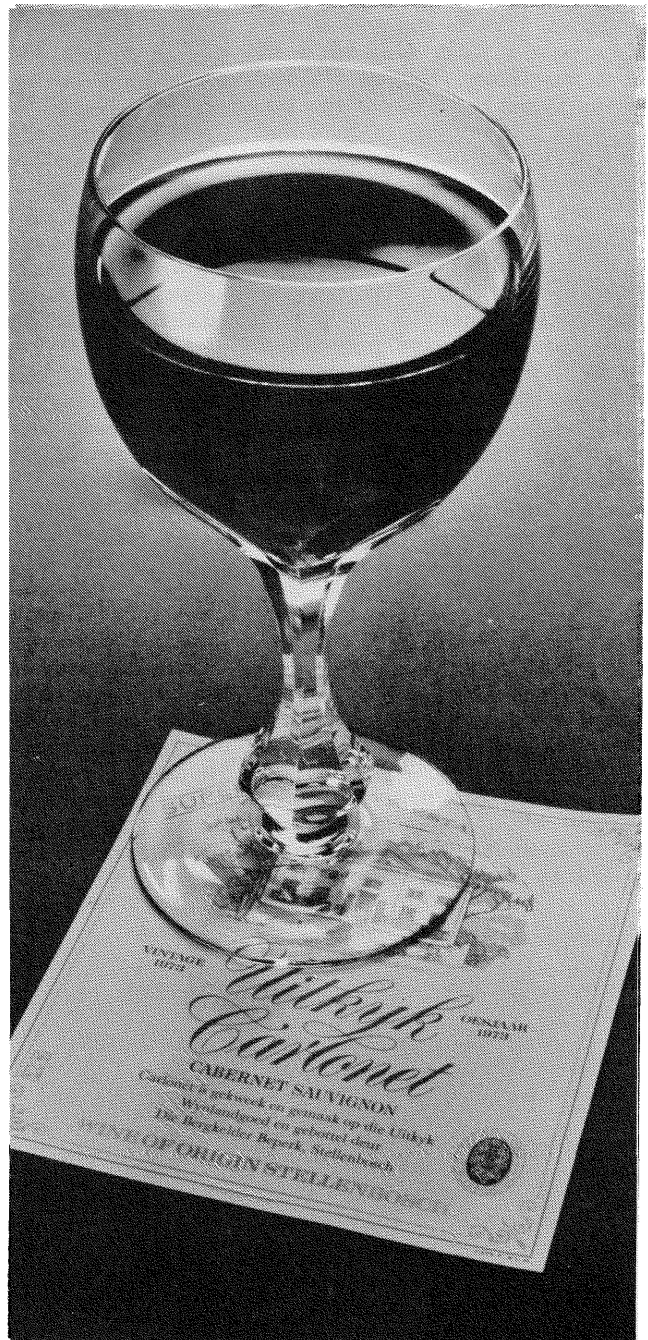
Drink dit nou met kennersgenot, of lê dit in u kelder neer in die wete dat u dit jaar na jaar met steeds groter waardering sal geniet.

*Uitkyk
Carltonet*

'n Volrondige, droë rooiwyn.

1973 *Uitkyk Carlton Cabernet Sauvignon* is deur die Wyn- en Spiritusraad geklassifiseer as 'n Wyn van Oorsprong - Superieur - die hoogste moontlike klassifikasie wat slegs aan 'n wyn van uitsonderlike gehalte toegeken mag word.

Ook afkomstig van die Uitkyk Landgoed:
1973 *Uitkyk Shiraz W.O.S.* - *Uitkyk Carlsheim* -
Uitkyk Riesling - *Uitkyk Late Harvest*.



Gebore en getoë op die Landgoed. Gebottel en bemark deur Die Bergkelder.





Kaap - Cape

Old town halls never die

Like old soldiers, it seems, old buildings don't die, they just fade away. But unlike old soldiers buildings can be restored to their former glory. Just such an example is Kimberley's City Hall. Since the completion of new municipal offices in the city, the old hall had been unused and uncared for, its shell crumbling and cracking. This is the story of the saving of this historic structure by the use of complex drilling and pinning techniques. A campaign was mounted to save the building and, when restored, to have it declared a national monument. But structural damage was severe and the materials dry and powdery. Using a dry diamond drilling technique and a method of pinning common in mining, the structural damage has been halted and the remainder of the renovation programme can be completed.

Kimberley began in 1871 with the discovery of the first diamond on Colesburg Kopjie which eventually became the Big Hole. A tented town mushroomed around the deposits, at one time housing almost two hundred thousand people. Unlike many 'rushes', the Kimberley diamond mines didn't run out and today the town is still alive with a population of about 125 000 people.

When a large number of people gather together a certain amount of organisation naturally occurs. In Kimberley's case, it began with the formation of Diggers' Committees which grew into the Town Council. Naturally the Town Council must have a building in which to hold meetings and house the staff. So it was in Kimberley but the first town hall did not last very long. A fire in 1898 destroyed most of the building and the twenty years of records in it.

However, it did not take long for a decision to be made to build a new Town Hall and designs were called for, a prize of £100 being offered for the design selected. The design chosen was by a Mr F Carlstairs Rodgers, a Kimberley architect. On Wednesday 16th November 1898 His Worship the Mayor, Mr Moses Cornwall JP, laid the foundation stone and the building was completed only ten months later.

Until about five years ago the building was in daily use, becoming a City Hall when Kimberley achieved that status in 1913. As the city grew the functions of

the municipality became more complex, requiring more and more staff, until a new complex of buildings was necessary. Since then the building has been unused and virtually unattended.

It was eventually decided that the building should be renovated and given to the nation as a national monument. The renovation is now well under way but whether the Monuments Council will accept the building depends on many meetings yet.

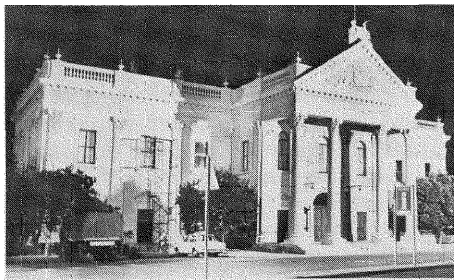
The major problem was the outside structure. Built of locally made bricks and mortar, the building had suffered over the years from the extremes of temperature found in Kimberley and the general weathering of the materials. The

facade above the Corinthian columned entrance, was threatening to fall into the main street and the back left hand corner into the market.

It looked an easy job at first sight. Just drill some holes in the facade and put in tie rods to hold in the front and strap the corner to prevent the crack spreading. This would have worked for most buildings. Here it would have aggravated the situation. The bricks are old and crumbling, and in places the mortar can be pulled out by a finger. Conventional techniques for drilling therefore could not be used. The vibration from a percussive drill would probably have caused the building to fall down and the water from a diamond drill would have washed

Restored Kimberley City Hall at night.

Photo: Diamond Fields Advertiser



Kimberley City Hall after restoration.



This photograph of the Kimberley Town Hall was taken just after completion in 1898.



Photo: Diamond Fields Advertiser

the mortar from between the bricks with the same result.

Kimberley is still an active mining town and miners are constantly using their ingenuity to devise ways of holding up roofs and walls of tunnels and some very sophisticated techniques have been developed. Engineers of De Beers Consolidated Mines were therefore consulted and they suggested that if holes could be drilled length ways through the walls to beyond the crack, steel rods could be inserted and grouted into position with a fast setting resin such as is used in the mines to brace tunnel roofs. But how to drill the holes – that was the question.

Obviously it had to be with diamond drills to minimise the vibration, give accurate holes over lengths up to 4,5 m and clean holes to minimise the amount of work to make good after drilling. The De Beers mines have a very close relationship with the Diamond Research Laboratory in Johannesburg where intensive research has been carried out into most kind of drilling. The contract was made and the problem presented. But even the engineers at the DRL had not tried this kind of drilling, especially over distances of 4,5 m and accurate to within 4 deg. However they had a few ideas and all they could do was try them.

A team comprising one miner and two engineers from the DRL was formed. The mine would supply compressed air to operate the drill, give high pressure air to be used to cool the drill and remove the debris formed in drilling, so that water need not be used. The DRL would supply the diamond drill, bits and rods. Scaffolding was erected and the job begun.

The facade was the first to be tackled since the holes were short and directly through the wall. Tie rods were then to be fitted and the facade braced back to main beams. At first a surface set drill bit was used on the assumption that the particles would be coarse and the larger size of diamonds would give more clearance to remove the dust. But this bit was subjected to constant core jamming which prevented progress of the bit and caused a considerable amount of overheating. The heat generated was sufficient to cause the diamonds to start to carbonise and the metal matrix to blue.

A thin wall bit impregnated with 18/20 US mesh De Beers EMB-S natural diamond, was fitted and cutting rates improved considerably and the overheating problem was alleviated. In all, eight holes were drilled through the 0,5 m thick wall, each taking about half an hour including the time taken to move the machinery. The drill used for these was a low powered, air-driven, mine drill.

Useful

This part of the exercise was extremely useful in that it was possible to determine the power that would be required to drill

the long holes at the back of the building and the best type of bit to use. The low powered mining drill supplies by the mine could not be used and the DRL engineers therefore brought from the laboratory a 10 hp pneumatic drill which turned the bit at 200 rev¹min. It was also decided that the air to the bit could be increased if a core breaker were fitted. This would not only prevent jamming but reduce the need to pull the rods.

Fast

From here on, the drilling was very fast, accurate and almost vibration free. Twenty-three holes were drilled to beyond the crack, these varying in length from 3,2 m to 4,5 m at an average speed of an hour per hole including the time taken to resite the drill. Eight 2 m long holes were then drilled in the back wall at 90 deg to the long holes to provide extra support. This particular rig was secured to the scaffolding and the drill rods were inserted through the machine since drawing of the rods was not necessary. But the drilling was not without problems. Loose bricks in the middle of the wall sometimes dropped into a cavity, blocking the drilled hole, necessitating redrilling until the brick was completely broken away. At other times the building looked as if it was on fire, the high pressure air finding its way out of the cracks and carrying dust with it.

Rods

When the holes were completed a crew from the mines took over to insert and secure the rods. The holes were blown out to remove the last of the debris and the rods inserted. The polyester resin was mixed and pumping began. This operation had to be done very quickly since the resin hardens to a gelled condition in only forty minutes.

Only time will tell if the operation has been a success but hopefully the combination of diamond drilling, steel rods and fast setting resin will prevent any further damage being suffered by this historic building.

—*Construction in Southern Africa*, March 1976

Markplein Kimberley

Die stadsraad van Kimberley het besluit dat die hele markplein tot 'n nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar mag word. Die westekant van die markplein is reeds in 1966 tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar.

—*Die Burger*, 17 Maart 1976

Graaff-Reinet's architectural heritage belongs to the world

Graaff-Reinet's heritage of architecture belongs to the world as part of the history of Western architecture.

This was the message at the heart of a fascinating slide lecture given by Mrs Norah Pitman on two occasions in Graaff-Reinet.

Introducing slides of some of the world's most famous buildings, Mrs Pitman showed how ancient architecture had built a tradition which had been maintained and spread world-wide until the 19th century.

Architects throughout the ages had used the 'vocabulary' of architecture to pass on their concepts to future generations. Styles had changed from Classic to Gothic to Renaissance and Baroque.

They had adapted to suit different climatic conditions, building materials or social developments as colonisation took western ideas further afield. But basically the columns, gables, parapets and cornices we see around us today originated in the great monuments of western architecture.

In what Mrs Pitman called a bird's eye view or summary, she showed Graaff-Reineters some of these architectural devices in their original forms and then, with the aid of some slides of Graaff-Reinet buildings, pointed out their existence here.

The Parthenon of Athens, for example, the famous 5th century BC Greek temple, has a great pediment which was the forerunner of the gable.

In the Baroque period the classical pediment was curved and voluted into gables which we know so well as part of the Cape Dutch style.

If we study the architecture of the Renaissance, we realise that the platdak house in 19th century Graaff-Reinet was a descendant of the Renaissance in Europe (the 15th and 16th century period, which revived classical Greek and Roman architectural styles.)

Simple

Renaissance architecture was characterised by the simple mathematical ratios between various elements.

This tradition can be found again in many of the Graaff-Reinet 'platdak' houses where all dimensions were related to one another in arithmetical proportions, especially in the facade of a building.

The placing of the windows was usually symmetrical on either side of the central front door leaving a wall space which was related to the size of the door, and taking into account the space occupied by the shutters when they were opened. The circular fanlight too was designed to be a part of the pattern of arithmetical

proportions. The complete effect is one of harmonious restfulness to the eye.

Strength

'Die Groot Londen' in Parsonage Street, has a feature a great crowing cornice and corner stones (quoins), with specially recessed margins to give an impression of strength.

A picture of the famous Palazzo Farnese, Rome designed by Antonio da Sangallo, together with Michael Angelo, shows a very similar construction, though of course on a far larger scale.

The code of rules established by Renaissance architects could easily be taught to others, using a kind of architectural grammar which lasted well into the 19th century.

The complete breakaway from these ancient rules had taken place only with the discovery of new materials and engineering techniques in the 20th century.

Graaff-Reinetters, who were fortunate enough to hear Mrs Pitman's talk, will certainly look with new eyes at the familiar buildings of our town and with a far greater understanding and appreciation of the heritage that is ours to preserve.

The Uniondale Medium, June 12, 1976

Study of legal protection for architectonic buildings

Addressing a public meeting in the Supper Room of the Town Hall last night, Mrs Peggy Pienaar, chairlady of the Graaff-Reinet Heritage Society, said that Prof D Holm, of the Department of Architecture at the University of Pretoria, was making a study on how to offer legal protection to architectonic homes in South Africa.

Prof Holm had suggested to the Society that a foundation be started to sponsor the preservation of these architectonic buildings.

About 20 interested people attended the meeting, at which films depicting restoration projects in South Africa and America were shown.

Mrs Pienaar addressed the meeting on what had been done by the Graaff-Reinet Historic Society to preserve Graaff-Reinet's quaint architectonic homes from destruction.

"Much water has flowed under the bridge since our inception in March and Norah Pitman's talk in May," she said.

"We felt it was time to bring you up to date about the work of the Heritage Society."

Persuade

"We do feel that the public is not unaware of us. And we also have the car

of the Municipality – and that is very important. As you know, our policy is to persuade people. It is not always easy, and sometimes we are too late.

"One of the first things we did was to join the Simon van der Stel Foundation, for we felt we could be guided by them, and this has indeed proved most valuable. We have also made contact with the National Monuments Council, who were delighted to hear of us and offered to act if we ever needed them.

"Mr Colin Matthew has taken colour slides of all the old houses in Graaff-Reinet, and this collection has been invaluable to us. We felt very early on that it would be necessary to list the houses worth preserving and so for several evenings we went through these slides and made a list.

Study

"In June a group of architecture students from Pretoria University were in Graaff-Reinet to do a survey. Mrs I Maasdorp contacted them and gave them our list.

"She subsequently had a letter from them saying that our list corresponded almost exactly with theirs – they had added a few more.

"Prof Holm feels that we should work together to establish a Foundation to sponsor preservation.

"One has to bear in mind the expense of sash windows and shutters as opposed to steel windows. If we want people to be sympathetic to our cause we must be sympathetic to their pockets.

"Another point in Prof Holm's letter which is encouraging is that they are at present engaged in a study on how to offer legal protection to these buildings through municipal regulation. This would indeed be a breakthrough.

"There are two matters which we feel strongly about. The one is open furrows. We have written to the Municipality, who feel that it is often impractical to leave them open. We feel that they have been open for a hundred and fifty years, and surely we could retain them. They are a special feature of Graaff-Reinet.

"The other is the matter of trees. Church Street is sadly lacking in these. We did approach the Municipality, but the best they could offer was concrete tubs. They stressed that trees would obstruct furrows and pipes. So we wrote to the Forestry Department.

"Our letter has been passed on to the appropriate department, but the officer who first replied to us pointed out that Cape Town, Pretoria and Johannesburg have overcome this problem.

"He suggested making a feature of Camdeboo stinkhout, which is deciduous, does not grow too big and is indigenous to our area.

"Trees were chopped down next to the Methodist Church before we could say Jack Robinson. Surely parking bays can be built around the trees?"

Church

"Lastly we are trying to have the old Congregational Church in Parsonage Street retained. I don't think Graaff-Reinetters realise what a gem they have. In this building is the original classroom that Mr William Robertson used to teach the children of the burgers and the heathen.

"This young boy of 16 come out from Scotland under contract for four years in 1823. Such was his enthusiasm that when he left there were 168 scholars.

"The 22 inch walls are still intact. Surely it is not necessary to break down this old building, which must be the oldest schoolroom in the hinterland?"

During subsequent discussion it was suggested that a place be found where building material from old houses – windows, decorative woodwork etc. – can be deposited for re-sale to people who are restoring old houses, and the meeting decided to act on this suggestion.

The Graaff-Reinet Advertiser,
September 16, 1976

Editor's note: Prof Holm seems to be unaware of the existence of the Simon van der Stel Foundation which has been sponsoring, promoting and actually carrying out the preservation of historically, architecturally and aesthetically important buildings and sites since 1959. The Foundation exercises its national trust function nation wide.

Haarlem behoort toeristeaantrekkingskrag te wees

Dit is werklik jammer dat toeriste deur die Langkloof, die interessante Kleurlingdorp, Haarlem, verbyry, want in hierdie selfde dorp, is daar een van seker die mees interessante kerke in die land, die Lutherse kerk.

Hierdie kerk is in 1860 ingehuldig en sedertdien het dit gegroei onder die leiding van manne soos di. Howe, Heese, Backmann en vele andere. Haarlem kan met reg die Mekka van die Lutherane in Suid-Afrika genoem word, want hierdie kerk met sy 'ryk' historiese agtergrond, is een van die oudste Lutherse kerke in ons land.

Die Lutherse skool is in 1856 begin met Theophilus Groenewald as die eerste onderwyser.

Die ontstaan van Haarlem as dorp, is nie heeltemal so goed bekend nie. Wat wel bekend is, is dat die Trekkers deur die Langkloof gekom het.

In 1854 is 'n Duitse sendeling, Prietsch, wat oorspronklik van Duitsland gekom

het, vanaf Amalienstein in die distrik Ladismith, na hierdie destyds byna onbewoonde dorpie gestuur.

Intussen het 'n sekere Herre Schmidt in Duitsland 'n som geld bemaak aan 'n sendingvereniging in Duitsland, die rente waarvan gebruik moes word om sendingwerk in die Lutherse kerke in Suid-Afrika te bevorder.

Ter ere van Prietsch, wat oorspronklik van Anhalt in Duitsland gekom het, en Schmidt, was die eerste naam aan hierdie dorpie gegee, Anhalt-Schmidt.

Op 8 Maart 1855 het 'n sekere Jean Charles Taute 1 000 morg grond beskikbaar gestel vir die oprigting van 'n kerk in die Bo-Langkloof.

Daar word later in opgawes melding gemaak daarvan dat 'n Kommissie die grond op 15 April 1856 aan Taute terugtransporteer het. Laasgenoemde het toe die dorp 'Haarlem' hierna uitgelê en 'n aantal erwe verkoop. In 1894 het die Berlynse Sendinggenootskap die erwe waarop die kerk gebou is, van Taute teruggekoop.

Baie interessant is dit om te weet dat Oubaas A F Markotter wat so 'n groot rol in ons SA rugby gespeel het en as Oubaas Mark bekend was, hier te Haarlem opgegroeï het.

Die huis waar sy ouers destyds gewoon het, word tans deur die huidige prinsipaal, mnr Cairncross, bewoon.

Die Lutherse kerk te Haarlem is werklik interessant van binne. Die doopbak en beker het vanaf Duitsland gekom. Dit is in Stuttgart gemaak en dra die datumstempel 1885.

Op die doopbak is daar geskrywe: „Lassen die Kindlein zu mir kommen und wehbet ihnen nicht Denn solcher ist das Reich Gottes”.

Vier geelkoperkandelare hang vanaf die dak – elkeen met sowat 20 kleiner kandelare vir die kerse. Hierdie kandelare sal enige handelaar in antieke ware na sy asem laat snak. Dit is onmoontlik om die prag hiervan in woorde te beskryf.

Die geelhout- en stinkhoutpreekstoel is eweneens pragtig en interessant. In die ou kerkhof agter die kerk, is 'n interessante grafsteen in die vorm van 'n ysterkruis. Die grafskrif lui soos volg:

Hier rusten in God hunnen Heiland Carl Gustaf Markötter, geboren den 18 Feb 1880 Overleden den 12 Aug 1880 en Alexander Richard Markötter geboren den 20 Juny 1884; overleden den Julie 1884.

Toe daar met mnr Mattheus Groenewald (76), 'n inwoner wat te Haarlem gebore is en grootgeword het, gevra is of hy iets van Oubaas Mark kan onthou, het hy gesê dat hy hul wel onthou maar eintlik niks kan vertel nie, omdat hy toe nog maar 'n baie jong seun was toe hulle daar gewoon het.

Hy onthou egter Oubaas Mark se broers en susters se name nog almal: Alex, Karl, Johannes, Fritz, Heinrich, Lizzie en Gussie.

In die huis van Mattheus Groenewald is 'n pragtige, blou hang-glaslamp wat hy by Eerw E Bachmann in 1938 present gekry het, met laasgenoemde se vertrek na Duitsland.

Hy noem dat Oubaas Mark, selfs na hy van Haarlem weggetrek het, dikwels teruggekom en Haarlem besoek het.

—*Uniondale Medium*, 11 Oktober 1975

Restourasie van Peperbus voltooi

Fraserburg se Peperbus is enig van sy soort in die land en is op 29 Oktober 1971 deur die SA Monumentekommissie tot Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid verklaar.

Restourasiewerk aan die gebou is nou voltooi en die munisipaliteit verdien alle lof vir die pragtige wyse waarop hierdie geskiedkundige gebou weer in ere herstel is.

Dokumentêre uitstallings van ou kaarte, dokumente en geskifte sal vanaf Julie uitgestal word in die Peperbus deur die museumkomitee o.l.v. mev J Biesenbach, en belangstellendes kan Vrydae van 12h00 tot 15h00 hierdie uitstallings besigtig.

Die Peperbus, 'n seskantige steengebou, ongeveer 8½ meter hoog op 'n verbrede

klipfondament staan op die eertydse markplein van Fraserburg. Die seskantige mure gaan geleidelik oor in 'n koepel waarop 'n seskantige toring staan met 'n boogvormige bopunt waarop 'n pylvormige windwyser gemonteer is.

Die plan van die Peperbus is opgestel deur ds Bamberger en die gebou is in 1861 deur 'n Kleurlingman, Adam Jacobs, gebou.

Die oorspronklike doel van die Peperbus was om te dien as 'n markhuis. Die hou van markte is later beëindig, maar die Peperbus het van geslag tot geslag 'n ander diens aan die gemeenskap gelewer. So het die Peperbus gedien as privaatkantoor van die magistraat, het die eerste boekery gehuisves, was die kantoor van die stadsklerk, was 'n tyd lank die kerkkantoor, was ook die skoolraadskantoor en is by geleentheid as stemlokaal gebruik.

In 1948 was daar sprake dat die Peperbus gesloop sal word in die lig van die hoë koste om dit te herstel. Hierdie moontlikheid is gelukkig ter syde gestel, en die stadsraad het besluit om elektriese beligting aan te bring wat ook snags die geskiedkundige ou gebou verlig.

Nog 'n pragtige ou geskiedkundige gebou op Fraserburg is die ou pastorie wat gerestoureer gaan word en dan die dorp se lank gekoesterde ideaal, 'n eie museum, sal huisves. Die ou pastorie grens aan die ou markplein waarop die Peperbus staan.

Die Courier, 25 Junie 1976

Izeli Water Mill

D R NELSON

The Kaffrarian Museum was recently offered an old water driven corn grinding mill situated on a farm in the Izeli district some 10 kilometres north of King William's Town. The property on which the mill is situated was first registered in 1865 and a servitude over the adjoining land, in respect of the water furrow which feeds the mill, was registered in 1879. Since its first registration the farm has been owned by German Settlers and their descendants. The mill is therefore of some historical interest.

The mill is of the overshot type with the water wheel approximately 5,5 metres in diameter. The wood work of the water wheel is in poor condition but otherwise the machinery appears to be complete and in reasonable condition despite the fact that according to the owner it has not operated since about 1953. Apart from the normal mill stones for grinding,

apparatus was also provided for sieving the milled corn. The mill is housed in a building constructed largely of rough dressed stone. Attached to the mill building is a corrugated iron shed which must have housed some type of engine, possibly steam. A pulley wheel to take a flat belt has been fixed to the shaft of the gearing system and it is suggested that the mill was originally driven by water and that the engine was installed at a later date.

The farm has recently been purchased by the Government as part of the consolidation of the Ciskei and in view of the change in ownership, arrangements were made in September 1975 to dismantle the machinery and bring it to town for safe keeping pending a decision as to whether the mill could be renovated and re-erected.

Several suggestions have been put for-

ward as to what should be done with the machinery but the consensus of opinion is that it should be re-erected where it can be seen by the public, particularly passing motorists, and that water should be available (preferably without pumping) for driving the mill.

Fortunately these two requirements can be met by erecting the mill in the Botanic Gardens where it will be seen from the National Road to Grahamstown and where water can be made available by re-establishing about 500 metres of a long abandoned furrow used to feed a wool wash at the turn of the century. It will be necessary to erect some form of structure to house the mill. The ideal would be to demolish the old mill house and re-erect it on the new site but this must be ruled out from financial considerations. The alternative is to construct a pit, in which the wheel would turn, and one wall returned far enough at both ends to support the floor. A roof would be required and some form of fence surround. Eventually the walling could be extended to form a mill house. Preferably the work should be in stone and it is possible that enough rough dressed stone can be obtained in town from demolished buildings for a relatively small cost for collection and transport.

There seems little doubt that the re-erection and restoration of this old mill on a site in the Botanic Gardens is a feasible proposition, would preserve an item of historical interest and could become a tourist attraction.

Estimated cost to carry out this project amounts to nearly R6 000.



Burnt out shell of Trappes Valley Mill.

Stephen Gradwell built the Trappes Valley Mill near Bathurst about 1831; he built one, too, in Grahamstown. The mill ground wheat, barley and maize and did so until about sixty years ago or later, although it then ground mainly mealies. It could not compete with the roller mills of Grahamstown because its machinery, especially the boilers, etc, were old. The authorities finally demanded a complete replacement of the boilers, but this cost could not be met.

The mill has had several owners:

- 1831 Stephen Gradwell
- 1844 Thomas Foxcroft
- 1852 William and Joseph Wright
- 1857 and for very many years - John Richardson presently Jack Ansley.

This historic structure, however, is now only a memory (see photo). On 13.3.1970 it was completely burned out and I witnessed its smoking demise. Practically nothing was saved and the iron of the machinery was sold. The cause was said to have been carelessness by searchers for honey. The water-mill on Woodlands suffered the same fate some years earlier. Enlightened recognition might have saved this most interesting relic had it come earlier.

examples of whole areas of historical buildings which were suitable for restoration.

Mr Punt was invited by the University of Port Elizabeth School of Architecture and the Eastern Province Committee of the Institute of South African Architects, to give a lecture on conservation in the UPE, Bird Street Auditorium.

Mr Punt said that after touring the old areas of Port Elizabeth yesterday morning he had been particularly impressed with the terraced houses in Richmond Hill and South End. "I am pleased to see many owners have indulged in a bit of renovation. Although some of it is a little 'kitschy', it is better than demolition."

Several city councillors attended the lecture. Mr Punt said he hoped the old cast-iron lamp-posts he had noticed in several streets would be preserved, and expressed his disappointment that so many old buildings had been demolished in the South End area.

Restoration is usually cheaper than demolition. In a survey since 1950 it was found that R2 500 million worth of buildings have been demolished in South Africa, of which 80 to 90 per cent were restorable," he said.

Mr Punt said the Simon van der Stel Foundation was a registered, non-profit company, formed by his father in 1959 to promote conservation throughout South Africa.

"Conservation of historical buildings also has political benefits. In the present political climate the only thing that proves the Whites have been active in this country for more than 320 years are our old buildings, for example the Cape Town Castle," Mr Punt said.

Mr Punt said the Foundation was concerned that no universities in South Africa offered courses in restoration architecture, and it was hoped to introduce yearly seminars on this subject soon at different universities.

The Foundation is also planning a programme to promote public awareness of the need for preservation and to eliminate tensions between the public and government authorities in conservation projects.

Eastern Province Herald, October 7, 1976

BOTSABELO-FONDS

Voorheen met dank erken	R2 520,00
E A Ermert, Johannesburg	40,00
Totaal	R2 560,00

Trappes valley Mill

A S BASSON

This is an example of a historic building that might have been preserved for posterity. There was all the atmosphere of old times. The rails of the original windmill had disappeared because the mill had been converted to steam in the 1880's by Thomas Richardson. But there was much in the way of yellowwood floors and a delightful twisty yellowwood stairway whence the grain poured to the mill stones. The machinery was intact and one could even move the grinding stones. In a corner was a gigantic bellows. With half-closed eyes one could see the mill in floury working. During the native war the mill was a military post.

Foundation director praises PE Buildings

The director of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, Mr Willem Punt, said last night that Port Elizabeth boasted many

Bowker has been remembered

L L PRESTON

Curatrix, Queenstown and Frontier Museum

In the entrance hall of the Queenstown and Frontier Museum stands an imposing head and shoulders figure of Thomas Holden Bowker. The bust was cast by his grandson, Mr Ivan Mitford-Barberton, who is a renowned South African sculptor and historian.

The name Bowker has many connotations with Queenstown's early history – not only Queenstown in fact, but also with the history of the Eastern Cape generally.

Miles Bowker and his wife Anna Maria Mitford farmed in England with their eight sons and one daughter – Thomas Holden was their fourth son. They decided to emigrate to one of the British colonies and their final choice fell on South Africa.

To quote from Ivan Mitford-Barberton's book *Comdt Holden Bowker* ". . . the projected defensive settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, for which his family of eight sons and one daughter were, he thought, particularly suited, turned the scale against the wild democracies of the States and the terrors of the Canadian winters in favour of the more genial climate and the mild but firm Government of a Crown Colony" – I hope their pioneering and adventurous spirit was not daunted by the rigours they must have encountered here.

They sailed with the tide on the ship *Weymouth* and arrived at the fairest Cape on April 26, 1820. It was there in the harbour of Cape Town that Mrs Bowker gave birth to her 10th child, a daughter.

Their first grant of land on the banks of the Riet River Miles Bowker called Olive Burn but later as they acquired more land their ancestral home and farm of Tharfield was born.

The Bowker family's first experience of frontier clashes was against the marauding Fetcani in 1828. Four of the brothers were called up to defend the frontier and this first skirmish was successful for the burghers. The Sixth Frontier War in 1834 was the next offensive and as all the Bowker sons were called up to defend their new homeland their parents and two sisters sheltered in Grahamstown.

The "War of the Axe" saw the Bowker boys once again on active service and this was to be the pattern of their lives for years to come.

Whittlesea, too, owes a great deal to the foresight and determination of Comdt Holden Bowker – together with Capt Tylden, RE, he organised the defence of the area against Chief Mapassa.

As always the defence of the eastern frontier was a matter of much concern to the authorities and Sir George Cathcart

was advised to establish an outpost for defence purposes on the "Komani or Bush River." This was to be Queens-town.

In 1852 the Surveyor-General received instructions to lay out erven in that region and a Provisional Land Committee, consisting of Rev H Calderwood, the assistant Surveyor-General M R Robinson, J J Zeiler, W Shepstone and H Bowker. These five men are remembered in the names of the streets radiating out from the Hexagon and the ring road encircling the area.

It was Bowker who proposed to call the settlement Queen's Town and to grant farm lands to prospective buyers. According to Ivan Mitford-Barberton the Hexagon was the brainchild of Holden Bowker, but an early Rep Editor names M R Robinson as the instigator.

I use this word deliberately as the surveyor, or some man concerned with the layout of the Hexagon, landed up with a theoretically incorrect figure – it is not a perfect hexagon and this has been and still is a headache and a source of difficulty to Queenstown's land surveying fraternity.

There are many most interesting anecdotes about the Bowker family and I shall write about them again but suffice at this stage to say that Queenstown has remembered her founder and early pioneer – Bowker's Kop, Bowker's Park, Bowker Street and the bust of Comdt T H Bowker in the Museum bear testimony to this.

The Daily Representative, September, 9 1976

700 Houses now National Monuments

There were about 700 houses in South Africa proclaimed national monuments, about 400 of them in the past six years, Mr Eric Vertue, a member of the National Monuments Council, said at UCT's Summer School.

In reply to questions from a large audience, Mr Vertue said the annual budget of the council was only R30 000. Mr Vertue, who is attached to several other historical organisations, presented a lecture in the series: *Should it Stay? – preserving South Africa's Heritage*.

He said one of the problems encountered by the council was that owners of houses which it wanted to recommended for problematkon were often reluctant.

"I assure you that proclamation does not give the public the right to enter a home. It is still the owner's private property," he said.

"Further, there would be no objection to the installation of modern conveniences. It is not the intention that a home should look exactly as it did when built."

Mr Vertue said it could be argued that there was no point in bothering with preservation, considering we could surely do far better in this modern age.

"But the past is the foundation on which future generations build," he said. "South Africa is comparatively young, but she is proud of what history has taken place and keen to retain that which is good from the past."

—*The Cape Argus*, January 31, 1976

Conradie opens Stellenbosch restored mill furrow

Mr F D Conradie MEC, National Vice-chairman of the Simon van der Stel Foundation speaking at the inauguration of the restored water furrow or meul-sloot in Stellenbosch, said: "the way of the preservationist is not smooth. On the contrary, most of the time it is a very steep uphill road with many pot-holes and stumbling-blocks. This is due to a variety of factors and circumstances. "In the first place, it is still a relatively new road and therefore on the whole an untrodden way.

"In addition to factors which impede or inhibit preservation, such as inadequate finance; gaps in statutory powers; traditional ideas in connection with established rights; too little mutual un-

derstanding between preservationists on the one hand and developers and planning authorities on the other hand, that is, too little mutual recognition by the one of the other's needs, duties and legitimate claims, and the resultant problems in the relations between these groups; an indifference towards or a lack of sympathy for preservation which is still found amongst some owners and authorities, etc etc – in addition to such restrictive or inhibiting factors, there is also a general phenomenon that should be mentioned in this connection.

"This is the fact that we have now reached a stage where *awareness* of preservation and *enthusiasm* for preservation among a large and active section of the general

public have already outstripped our *ability* to preserve, and our willingness to pay the price for it.

"For optimum preservation results it is desirable that there should be harmony and balance between these two forces. If not, the real danger of disappointment, reproaches and frustration will arise."

"Monuments Year"

"Where at present the launching of a 'preservation year' or 'monuments year' in 1977 is being considered and planned, it is advisable that in planning such a campaign this lack of balance should be taken into account.

"This means that, during such a campaign, it will be necessary to guard against further accentuating and aggravating the already existing imbalance.

"The emphasis in the campaign will, in other words, have to fall, and it will have to be concentrated, not so much or only on further inculcating in the public an awareness of preservation and an enthusiasm for preservation as such – although this must also be included – but especially on trying to eliminate the restrictive and inhibiting factors which still exist.

"More attention will therefore have to be paid to our *ability* to preserve, than to love of that which is worthy of preservation, than to our awareness of and to our enthusiasm for preservation.

"Because, as it is, the awareness and the enthusiasm have already outstripped our ability and our willingness. If that imbalance were to be further aggravated, the danger of disappointment, reproaches and frustration would only be increased to the same extent.

"It would, as it were, be awareness and enthusiasm in a vacuum. That vacuum must be filled – filled with the ability to preserve; the enthusiasm must be canalized and guided towards practical implementation. This will require that that which still hinders, which still restricts or inhibits, should be removed, and that the positive ability to preserve should be effectively encouraged in every possible manner.

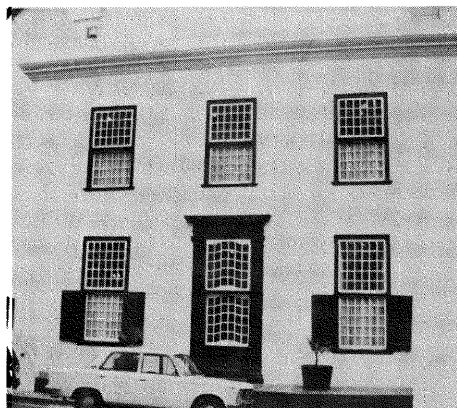
"One very important component of the ability for preservation is adequate financing – sufficient funds must be made available by the public as well as the private sector, so that preservation projects which can be regarded as essential from a cultural-historical point of view can be implemented properly and in good time.

"This will call for reconsideration of our financial priorities – with greater recognition of and greater preference given to the just claims of preservation.

"It stands to reason that the authorities, the State, cannot be expected to do *everything*. But it is certainly justifiable to hope that there will be an increasing willingness by the State to do more. It is especially important that the authorities

should take the lead and set the right example. There is no doubt whatever that the private sector, the general public, will respond positively. The climate is definitely favourable for this. To-day there is fertile soil in which to sow that good seed."

Restoration of 14 Keerom Street completed



The restoration of No 14 Keerom Street, a two-storied, flat-roofed house built in 1751, well proportioned with a sash-fanlight stoep and fine stable-type entrance door is complete. The house is typical of the two-storied houses, once found in Bree, Long and Wale streets in 18th Century Cape Town.

No 14 Keerom Street is being furnished with the appropriate items of its century.

It was restored for Historic Homes Ltd by Mr Dirk Visser.

To bring interior decoration into accord with the architecture the "Dado" – an ornamental border round the lower part of the wall of the main reception-room – has been restored in its original colours. The perfect reproduction of the dado was by Mrs D Duckham. Sufficient of the original of the dado remained on the wall enabling her to achieve a colourful almost three-dimensional interest.

No 14 Keerom street was envisaged as a unit by the architect. No details were too insignificant for his attention: staircase, lighting fittings, door furniture and other accessories are in accord with the architecture. Mr Visser has given the house a convincing Cape character as well as considerable charm.

There exists a record of a German artist who painted interior murals in 1771. He is referred to by Ronald Lewcock in his book "Early 19th Century Architecture in South Africa."

Mrs Duckham's own home, Zorgvliet, has a dado similar to that of 14 Keerom Street, done by Jan Adam Hartman, the German artist referred to by Lewcock, who worked with a son of the same name.

At Boschendal there is a fine dado. Interior murals also appear in Koopmans de Wet House and at Libertas, Adam Tass' house. Helkderberg Road, Stellenbosch. These Mrs Duckham says . . . "are all similar dados with architectural mouldings and decorative motif above, which also runs round doors, windows and friezes at ceiling level."

Nederlandse invloed op 17de en 18de eeuse Kaapse silwer

Professor D Bax

In sy twee boeke oor Kaapse silwer beweer David Heller dat daar in die 17de eeu geen egte silwersmede aan die Kaap was nie, alleen mense "possessing a knowledge of assaying minerals". Die oudste voorbeeld wat hy ken van 'n opdrag aan 'n Kaapse silwersmid om 'n silwervoorwerp te maak, dateer uit 1719 (ten onregte noem hy die jaartal 1709). En die oudste bewaarde Kaapse silwer is, volgens hom, 'n suikerbakkie, gemaak deur Christiaan Ackerman in die tydperk 1720–1750. Sy boeke gaan byna uitsluitend oor Kaapse silwer uit die periode 1752–1870.

In my boek oor die oudste Kaapse silwer (1669–1751) het ek onder meer aange-

toon dat daar al in die 17de eeu verskeie egte silwersmede aan die Kaap werksaam was, dat die oudste voorbeeld wat ek ken van 'n opdrag aan 'n Kaapse silwersmid reeds uit 1669 dateer, en dat van die Heilige Avondmaalservies wat Daniel Egt toe in dié jaar vir die kerkraad van Kaapstad gemaak het, die twee silwerbekers nog oor is.

Heller het hom daarvoor verwonder dat die beste van die 18de-eeuse Kaapse silwer van 'n edele eenvoud getuig. Hy vind dit nie 'n kenmerk van Duitse en Nederlandse silwer nie en vra hom af hoe dit moontlik was dat Kaapse silwersmede dié stylsuiverheid verkry het.

As Heller hom goed op die hoogte kon gestel het van 18de-eeuse Nederlandse silwer, sou hy die antwoord maklik kon

gegee het: in baie gevalle is daar sprake van Nederlandse invloed. Oor dié invloed wil ek hier iets skryf.

Om 'n duidelike indruk te kry van hoe die Nederlandse 17de- en 18de-eeuse silwer lyk, kan 'n mens allereers die baie afbeeldings daarvan in die vierdelige werk van Frederiks oor "Dutch silver" bekyk, en ook illustrasies in ander boeke en in katalogusse van versamelings, tentoonstellings, e.d. Lank nie al die nog bestaande Hollandse 17de- en 18de-eeuse silwer is egter in publikasies afgebeeld nie. 'n Mens moet dus ook allerlei museums, privaatversamelings en kunshandels besoek.

Reeds die twee Nagmaalsbekers wat die uit Swede afkomstige Daniel Egt in 1669 gemaak het, is vervaardig volgens Nederlandse voorbeelde. Die huwelikspenning wat in 1685 in Kaapstad gegraveer is, is in wese Nederlands. Die suikerbakkies (hulle is gebruik vir stukkie suiker en is nie "lekhernybakkies" nie) van Christiaan Ackerman en Matthys Lotter vind hulle voorbeelde in Holland. In my boek het ek oor hierdie en ander voorwerpe uit die vroeë periode van die Kaapse silwer uitvoerig geskryf, met foto's daarby.

Maar ook in die tweede helfte van die 18de eeu kan die Hollandse invloed bespeur word. Ek sal my beperk tot die bespreking van 'n paar voorwerpe gemaak deur die bekendste en bekwaamste van dié Kaapse silwersmede wat Duitse immigrante was, nl van Daniel Heinrich Schmidt.

Schmidt het hom in 1768 in Kaapstad gevestig. Hy het uit Strelitz gekom en is in 1811 aan die Kaap oorlede.

Baie bekend van hom is twee, wat Heller noem, "hot-water jugs". Hulle is egter koffiekannetjies en kan vergelyk word met Nederlandse koffiekannetjies, o.a. uit Delft (1750), Utrecht (1754) en Den Haag (1766), en ook met 'n koffiekannetjie in Kaapstad gemaak deur die Hollander Frans Hillegers, wat in 1767 in die Kaap kom woon het en hier in 1814 op ruim 69-jarige leeftyd oorlede is.

Ek beeld hierby af een van die twee kannetjies van Schmidt (afb 1 Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese en Opelugmuseum, Pretoria) en 'n kannetjie gemaak in 1766 in Den Haag deur E Joosten, jr (afb 2, Privaatversameling, Nederland). By albei is deksel en pootjies vegetatief-ornamenteel, by albei is die handvat van ebbenhout met 'n sierlike opswaai aan die bo-end. Albei is slank peervormig.

'n Bekende werk van Schmidt is ook 'n teepot (afb 3, Groote Schuur). Dié kan ons vergelyk met Hollandse teepotte soos die een wat in Nymegen gemaak is deur Willem Schif in die derde kwart van die 18de eeu (afb 4, Ryksmuseum, Amsterdam). By albei is deksel en pootjies vegetatief-ornamenteel en is die tuit versier met plantaardige ornamentiek. Albei het 'n handvat van ebbenhout met 'n

opswaai aan die bo-end. Albei is naas-teby bolvormig.

So kan 'n mens aangaan. Schmidt se geskenkbord, wat Sophia Boesses, weduwee van Pieter, baron Van Reede van Oudtshoorn, in 1780 aan haar agter-niggie Sophia Petronella Bergh gegee het (Africana-museum, Johannesburg), kan vergelyk word met 'n skinkbord ("presenteerblad" in Hollands) wat in 1753 deur Dirk van Goorberg in Delft gemaak is (Frederiks 2, nr 412). 'n Ander geskenk-bord van Schmidt (vroeër - ook nou nog? - die eiendom van mev M E F Denoon), wat deur 'n onbekende aan Sophia Boesses gegee is, lyk soos 'n geskenk-bord wat J Langbeke in 1795 in Middelburg gemaak het (Frederiks 3, nr 35).

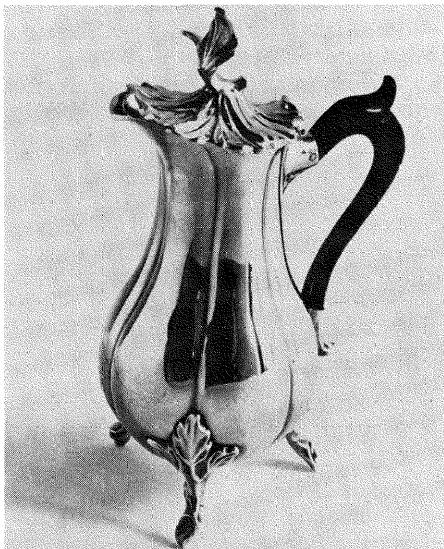
Schmidt se twee kandelaars (Kultuurhistoriese Museum, Kaapstad) toon verwantskap met Hollandse silwerkandelaars, bv een deur J Spannenburg vervaardig in Harlingen in 1754 (Frederiks 3, nr 248) en 'n ander deur C de Voet in Middelburg in 1760 (Frederiks 3, nr 27). Dat Nederlandse invloed moontlik was, is verstaanbaar. Uit 17de- en 18de-eeuse inventarisse blyk dit dat daar in baie Kaapse huise silwervoorwerpe aanwesig was, in heelwat huise selfs opvallend

groot hoeveelhede. Wat die laaste betref wys ek slegs op die inventarisse van Debpra de Koning, weduwee van die equipagemeester Jacobus Möller (sy is oorlede in 1748), die onderkoopman Nicolaas von Dessin (oorlede 1761), Anna Fothergill, weduwee van die sekunde Sergius Swellengrebel (sy is oorlede in 1764), die sekunde Otto Lüder Hemmy (oorlede 1777) en die burger Arend de Waal (inventaris van 1796), maar daar is tientalle meer.

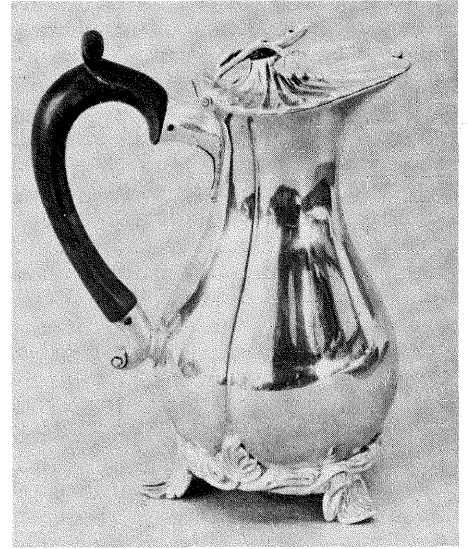
Baie van dié silwervoorwerpe het uit Holland gekom. Besonderhede daaroor kan in my boek gevind word.

'n Mens kry die indruk dat die Nederlandse silwer vir Kapenaars mooier was as die Kaapse. Ek gee 'n paar voorbeelde. Die gedagtenisbord wat Goewerneur Jan de la Fontaine ter herinnering aan sy vrou, na haar dood op 72 Junie 1730, bestel het, is in 1731 in Rotterdam vervaardig. Dit is nou in die Kultuurhistoriese Museum in Kaapstad. Die Lutherse kerk het in 1765 'n Nagmaalskelk en -doos uit Amsterdam aangeskaf en in 1773 twee skinkborde uit Den Haag. Die kerkraad het later een van die skinkborde laat namaak deur Schmidt (1786), asook die beker, deur Gerhardus Lotter (1816). Toe die ryk wyn- en veeboer

E Joosten, jr
Koffiekannetjie 1766



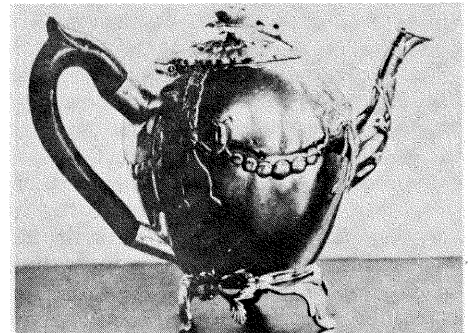
Daniel Heinrich Schmidt
Koffiekannetjie



Willem Schif
Teepot, 1750-1775



Daniel Heinrich Schmidt
Teepot



Martin Melck geld beskikbaar gestel het vir 'n doopbak met ring, 'n kerkseël, en, vir gebruik met Nagmaal, drie borde en twee bekere met hulle pierings, het die kerkraad van Stellenbosch die bestelling in Amsterdam geplaas, waar die stukke in 1765 vervaardig is. Al die bogenoemde kerkzilwer is nog steeds in die besit van onderskeidelik die Lutherse Kerk in Kaapstad en die Moederkerk van Stellenbosch. In 1731, 1765 en 1773 was daar goeie zilwersmede aan die Kaap (in 1731 Christiaan Ackerman, in 1765 Johan Hasse en Tobias Rogiers en in 1773 Schmidt en Hillegers), maar die opdragte is nie aan hulle gegee nie. Die kaptein van die burgermilisie Johannes Heufke bestel in 1732 by die zilwersmid Stellingwerf in Enkhuizen 'n teepot en 'n teebus en in 1735 'n groot teeketel met konfoor en 'n koffiekannetjie. Stellingwerf stuur vir hom modeltekeninge waaruit hy 'n keuse kan maak. Twee daarvan het ek teruggevind. Opvallend is dat Heufke, wat uit Duitsland afkomstig was, hom in 1732 en 1735 nie tot sy oudlandgenoot Christiaan Ackerman wend nie, maar die voorkeur gee aan Nederlandse zilwer.

Van die duisende zilwervoorwerpe wat in 18de-eeuse Kaapse inventarisse genoem word, sal 'n baie groot deel Hollandse import gewees het.

Een van die merkwaardigste argiefvondste wat ek gedoen het, het ek volledig in my boek gepubliseer. Dit is die inventaris van die zilwersmidwinkel van Christiaan Ackerman, opgestel op las van sy weduwee in 1751. Dié inventaris gee ons 'n beeld van die inhoud van 'n Kaapse zilwersmidwinkel uit die tweede kwart van die 18de eeu. Al die werktuie word afsonderlik genoem en verder is daar 'n opgawe van ruim 1 000 groot en klein voorwerpe van zilwer en byna 130 van goud.

Uit 'n proses wat in 1750 en 1751 tussen Matthys Lotter en Christiaan Ackerman se seun (self ook 'n Kaapse zilwersmid) gevoer is, weet ons dat Ackerman senior goue voorwerpe uit Holland ingevoer het vir sy winkel. Ons mag derhalwe aanneem dat 'n deel van die inhoud van Ackerman se winkel uit Holland gekom het. Dis trouens moeilik om aan te neem dat die honderde voorwerpe almal deur Christiaan self vervaardig sou gewees het.

Agtiende-eeuse Kaapse zilwersmede het dus met Nederlandse zilwer in aanraking gekom nie alleen by Kaapse burgers en instellings wat Hollandse zilwer besit het nie, maar ook in hulle eie winkels. Die volgende is 'n duidelike geval van onmiddellike beïnvloeding van 'n stuk Kaapse zilwer deur 'n Nederlandse voorbeeld, terwyl albei voorwerpe nog in Suid-Afrika aanwesig is.

In 1730 koop die kerkraad van Kaapstad by die winkelier Hendrik Heyns (nie 'n zilwersmid nie) "een zilveren tafelschel" (tafelklokkie) wat in Amsterdam gemaak

is. Dit is nog steeds in die Grootte Kerk. In 1748 laat die kerkraad van die Paarl deur 'n Kaapse zilwersmid, wie se naam my onbekend is, 'n tafelklokkie maak wat ook nog bestaan. Dit is kennelik geïnspireer op die klokkie uit Amsterdam. Met die voorafgaande wil ek beslis nie die indruk wek dat nét Hollandse invloed op die 18de-eeuse Kaapse zilwer ingewerk het nie. Die golvende rande van Matthys Lotter se Nagmaalsbroodbord en twee nagmaalsbeker-pierings uit 1737 is algemeen Wes-Europees (die rande met punt en boog van sy twee kollekteborde, ook uit 1737, is minder gewoon: ek ken slegs voorbeelde uit Skotland en Holland). Verlowingsbekers ("double-barrel cups" soos gemaak deur by Oltmann Ahlers (aan die Kaap gebore in 1780) is heeltemal on-Nederlands. Daarenteen is reeds omstreeks 1620 so 'n "Dobbelbecher" in Neurenberg, Duitsland, gemaak, dateer 'n voorbeeld (Kopenhagen) uit 1735, en 'n

Engelse (Sheffield plate) uit omstreeks 1800. So is daar meer.

En verder moet natuurlik rekening gehou word met die inventiewe gees van die 18de-eeuse Kaapse zilwersmid self: 'n koffiekannetjie van Schmidt hoef natuurlik nie 'n presiese weergawe van 'n Nederlandse voorbeeld te wees nie.

'n Vraag is: waar het die duisende zilwervoorwerpe wat in die 18de eeu aan die Kaap gemaak is en wat daar (meestal uit Holland) ingevoer is, gebly? Min daarvan is nog in Suid-Afrika. Baie van dié zilwerwerk is na die dood van die eienaar na Nederland en elders gestuur (uitgebreide gegewens daaroor in my boek). Baie het verdwyn in die smeltkroes. Baie is in die 19de eeu opgekoop en het Europa toe gegaan.

Dit is m.i. die taak van Suid-Afrikaanse museums waarin 18de-eeuse Kaapse zilwer getoon word, om ook voorbeelde te versamel van Wes-Europese zilwer wat die Kaapse beïnvloed het.

Old Reserve Bank Building - Cape Town

M A P Diemont, jr

In September last year Cape Town's South African Reserve Bank building – one of the city's least known yet most fascinating landmarks – changed hands. It was bought by the Board of Executors, the oldest trust company in South Africa, and although the deed of sale was signed in 1968, transfer was delayed until 1975 when the Reserve Bank's new foreshore premises were ready.

Situated in the old, conservative heart of Cape Town – between Adderley, Wale and St George's Streets – this magnificent old building styled on the lines of Florence's Pitti Palace, has the distinction of occupying the highest municipally rated land in the country.

But it is the building itself and its quaint history, probably never before publicised, that deserve attention. It forms yet another fascinating facet of the mother city, and it is thanks to the beautifully handwritten notes compiled by one of its architects that we know as much about it as we do. In fact the writer, Mr Reg de Smidt ARIBA, who passed his notes on to the Board of Executors, concluded by expressing the hope "that this description will be of interest, since I am

under the impression that I am the only man alive who could supply it".

The building is not particularly old; in fact its design was only conceived in the latter half of 1928 when an architectural competition "open to all registered architects in the Union of South Africa" was held for a building in Cape Town to house the Reserve Bank of South Africa. The competition was won by the eminent architect, James Morris, FRIBA, a Scot, who had been practising architecture in Cape Town for many years. Others involved in the construction were Mr Reg de Smidt, (chief architectural assistant), sculptor Ivan Mitford Barberton, and contractors, Adams and Nason. Mr Martin Adams, incidentally, was later to become a mayor of Cape Town.

The Florentine Palaces, upon which the Reserve Bank building was modelled, are built of stone, the bottom facade heavily rusticated and rugged in appearance. The bottom storey was usually fortified, and formed the granary and food store of the building, the upper floors being residential. In basing a bank design upon that of the Pitti Palace, the intention was to symbolise the financial strength and stability of the Reserve Bank of South Africa. Thus Paarl granite was chosen as the material for the St George's Street and Wale Street facades,

and the lower storeys are heavily rusticated as is the prototype building in Florence.

Capetonians might be puzzled when they see the Paarl granite facade of the Reserve Bank illuminated by a pencil-slim spotlight radiating from the bronze lamp at the corner of Wale and St George's Streets. It casts its "symbol of steadfastness" because the Board of Executors have decided to carry out one of the wishes of James Morris.

Another of the architect's wishes which have been honoured for the first time last year was the flying of flags. Until recently the two stainless steel flagstaves, housed in sockets on the St George's Street facade above the cornice, have served as nothing other than catchment posts for rainwater or targets for pigeons. In 1929 they were meant to fly the two flags of Union "between the hours of sunrise and sunset", but this was never done and we are of course no longer a Union. However, the Board have decided to put those flagstaves at last to their proper use, and during the hours of daylight they carry the South African flag.

Initially, odds against the building drowning were few as sub-soil water seeped - and still seeps - steadily into a sump from which it is drained day and night by an electric pump operated by an automatic float switch.

In the basement, hewn from solid rock, the floor is double constructed of waterproofed, reinforced concrete. The two strongrooms have reinforced concrete walls almost a metre thick, the cement made to specification by the Cape Portland Cement Company and protected by two doors which cost £500 each at the time of construction.

Surrounding the strongrooms is a 3,25m wide corridor the patrolling area for two watchmen whose task it was to punch a bell push every half hour, alerting the central police station that all was well. If the bell was not sounded on time two policemen were supposed to rush down to the bank (presumably they had duplicate keys) to investigate.

For every month of 1929, James Morris bludgeoned the Astronomer Royal (Cape) into measuring the position of the shadows on the skylight. The angle of the sun would create variations of light intensity in the central banking area, and Morris wanted direct sunlight in the Banking Hall.

Above the skylight, there is a central open lightwell which provides light for the upper storey corridors, the walls of which are supported on a concrete beam and cornice, which in turn are supported by four single monolithic marble, fluted Doric columns.

Originally the marble for the columns was to be quarried in Sweden and modelled in Belgium. The quote for the Swedish green marble was £325 a

column and for the Swedish Cippolino, R345 a column. Morris chose the more expensive Cippolino - a mottled green and cream.

While construction continued, the walls of the lightwell were supported by massive old yellowwood beams - a fire hazard. When the columns arrived, the wiley Scot, Morris, was convinced the cheaper marble had been substituted at the higher price.

A court case proved him right but also aroused the ire of the taxpayers and, inevitably, a journal of the time, the *South African Review*, asked: "What does the government mean by spending nearly £1 500 of the taxpayer's money on four columns?" The columns were scrapped and cheaper, though nonetheless attractive cream and brown Portuguese Skyros marble was quarried in Portugal.

James Morris's sculptor, Ivan Mitford Barberton, was also rapped by Morris - over his knowledge of feline anatomy. Bronze medallions of a lion 'passant', the badge of the Reserve Bank, displayed at each corner of the elaborate bronze grilles on the front facade had to be made. Barberton took his clay models of the lions to Morris for approval, but was criticised for omitting the poor creatures private parts. Barberton assured him - as he had experience of hunting lions in Kenya - that members of the cat family always concealed their genitals behind the back leg.

The three way hip tiles at the corner of Addarley, St George's and Wale Streets would not have been a feature of the building had not Morris had a taste for perfection - and the expensive. He had them modelled, cast and burnt at great cost and took care to order spares in case of aircraft crashes or breakages by workmen cleaning the gutters. Today the spares are still stored in the loft in the corner of the building - hopefully beyond the reach of crashing aircraft.

Morris was not going to have a vulgar external lift spoiling the lines of his classical Pitti Palace tile roof so he put the lift room in the basement, doubling the normal length of the lift cables.

Despite Morris's whims, or perhaps because of them, the Reserve Bank building is still considered to be his finest contribution to architecture and is greatly appreciated by those of his contemporaries still alive.

What of its future? The Board of Executors, a company owned by approximately 450 shareholders and established by an Act of Parliament in 1839, decided to make the purchase because the building adjoins their own historic premises. They saw in it a valuable investment and quarters to cater for future expansion. Tennants for the immediate future have not yet been established. Who knows? Perhaps it will be the Trust Bank, with the thin pencil of light symbolising modernity.

Promise on historic City house

Spokesmen for Santam Bank, which has bought the Metlife Building in Strand Street for R310 000, gave an assurance yesterday that their head-office expansion plans would in no way harm the historic Koopmans de Wet House, alongside the Metlife site.

Conservationists have expressed concern that Koopmans de Wet House would be overwhelmed by any high-rise structure on the Metlife site. Some are also worried about possible adverse effects on the old vines in a courtyard behind the historic residence.

The Metlife Building, which is to be demolished, was erected in 1922 and is said to have no historic value, although its facade harmonizes with that of Koopmans de Wet House.

Cape members of the National Monuments Council have decided to ask the Santam management for more details of the bank's expansion plans. Santam announced last week that it intended extending the podium of its present head-office tower on to the Metlife site.

On top of this podium there is to be a new office structure, five or six floors high and extending from the main building towards Strand Street. But an inspection of the preliminary plans at the Santam office showed that this new structure is to be set back from Strand Street so that Koopmans de Wet House will not be dominated by it.

Santam spokesmen also said that the extension opposite the Koopmans de Wet courtyard will be kept low so as to allow more light to reach the pergola-supported vines. The existing lane between the old house and the Metlife site will remain.

"We can give an assurance that in our planning we have adopted an entirely sympathetic approach towards the Koopmans de Wet House," one of the spokesmen said.

"This is, after all, one of our historic treasures and we feel that what we have in mind will complement rather than detract from the old building."

Santam hopes that work will begin this year on its expansion project.

The Cape Times, June 4, 1976

TUPPERWARE-DONASIELYS

Die firma Tupperware het sy hoofkantoor gevestig in Nova Constantia wat hulle pragtig gerestoureer het. Nova Constantia word uiteraard druk besoek. Die opbrengs van 'n donasiekissie word periodiek aan die Stigting oorgedra. Daarvoor ons besondere waardering.

Reeds erken	R120,12
November 1975	R21,00
Totaal	R141,12

Victoriaanse huise kry nuwe lewe

Vyf Victoriaanse huise in die Kompanjieskool gaan eersdaags deel word van 'n baie moderne handelskool. Hierdie unieke projek in die Kaap is een van die jongste voorbeelde van ou geboue wat op 'n treffende wyse met verbeelding en tegniese vaardigheid nuwe lede in 'n moderne omgewing ingeblaas word.

Toe dit nodig geword het dat die Hoër Handelskool Tuine, wat tans in die vyf huise gesetel is, uitgebrei moes word, het die Provinsiale Administrasie en die argitek wat met die bouery belas is, saam begin kopkrap. Hoewel die huise nie van opsienbare geskiedkundige of argitektoniese belang is nie, is hulle noodsaaklik vir die bewaring van die besondere atmosfeer in daardie deel van die Kompanjieskool.

Om dié doel te bereik, is besluit om die fronte van die huise te behou. Die agterkante van die huise sal gesloop word, sodat die bestaande gebou uiteindelik agt klaskamers, die skoolhoof se kantoor, personeelkamers en kamers met mediese geriewe sal hê.

Die skool grens aan Kaapstad se Groot Sinagoge en front aan Paddockkiaan. Aan die agterkant is St Johnstraat en aan die ander sy is die Hoërskool Kaapstad.

Die nuwe vleuel sal elf klaskamers, vyf tikkamers, 'n biblioteek, 'n kamer vir praktiese werk en 'n saal vir vyfhonderd leerlinge bevat. Mnr Louis Karol, die argitek wat vir die projek verantwoordelik is, het gesê die verbinding tussen die ou en die nuwe gebou sal 'n indrukwekkende wandelhal wees. Die ruimte tussen die ou en die nuwe vleuel sal geplavei word en 'n dak met glaspanele sal die twee geboue verbind. Natuurlike lig sal dus binnestroom. Die gebied sal ook as 'n informele bymekaarkomplek kan dien. Plante sal daar geplant word. Op hierdie wyse word 'n té regstreekse verbinding tussen die oue en die nuwe vermy.

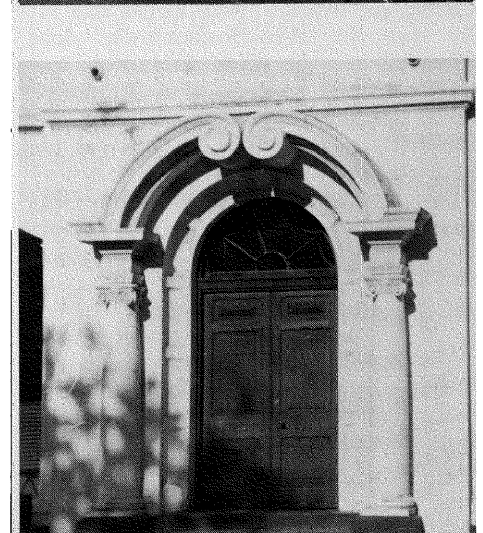
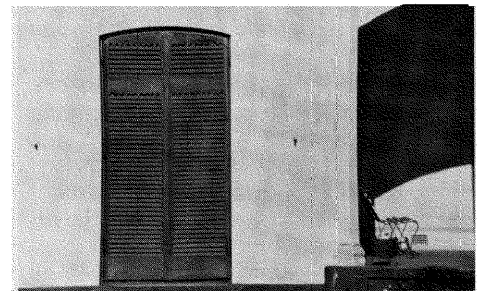
Die speelterrein wat aan St Johnstraat front, sal 'n swembad kry en liggaams-oefening sal ook daar gedoen kan word. Die groot saal sal 'n aparte ingang hê.

Weens die probleem om die ou gebou harmonieus met die nuwe te laat saamsmelt, is daar in 'n mate van die standaardplanne afgewyk. Om te voorkom dat die nuwe gebou nie die oue oorheers nie, is die nuwe vleuel se profiel so laag moontlik gehou. Dit is net twee verdiepings hoog en grasperke wat skuins na die vensterbanke van die grondverdieping oploop, skep veral die illusie dat die nuwe gebou laag is.

Insgelyks is die vensters ver teruggesit, sodat dit groot skaduwee moet skep om ooreen te stem met die skaduweestroke wat deur die diep stoepe van die ou gebou gevorm word.

Vyf Victoriaanse huise in die Kompanjieskool, Kaapstad wat deel word van 'n baie moderne handelskool. Dit is 'n goeie voorbeeld van ou geboue wat vir nuttige doeleindes aangewend word.

Foto's: M W Marsh



Eikebome

'n Baie klein deel van die nuwe gebou grens aan Paddockkiaan en die Kompanjieskool, sodat die aansig van die huise, die twee sinagoges en die Kunstgalerie nie bederf word nie. Die eikebome rondom die skool sal sover moontlik bewaar word.

„Dit is nie altyd wenslik om net een gebou te bewaar nie,” het mnr Karol gesê. „Dit moet teen die agtergrond van bestaande geboue en die atmosfeer van die omgewing gesien word. Die bewaring van die vyf huise is noodsaaklik om die atmosfeer van die omgewing te behou en dit was dan ook die vernaamste oorgeweging.”

Die Provinsiale Administrasie het allerweë lof ontvang vir sy versindheid in dié projek.

—Die Burger, 28 Feb 1976



Die Stigting in SWA doen verslag

Die afgelope jaar is gekenmerk deur 'n besondere lewendige belangstelling in die werksaamhede van die Stigting Simon van der Stel. So is 'n besoek van lede vroeg in die jaar aan Okahandja met groot welslae bekroon en hieruit is 'n lewendige belangstelling van mense aldaar om van Okahandja se ou geboue te restoreer gebore.

Op 'n onlangse vergadering wat op inisiatief van die Stigting plaasgevind het, is daar dan ook besluit dat daar 'n gesamentlike poging deur die Dorpsraad van Okahandja en die Stigting aangewend sal word om die Fort van sloping te probeer red. Dit moet gesien word as 'n stap in die regte rigting om nog 'n fort in Suidwes-Afrika vir die nageslag te behou. Die antieke en historiese waarde van hierdie forte moet nie deur plaaslike bestuurslede onderskat word nie, en 'n ou gebou van vandag kan dalk vir 'n dorp oor 'n 30 of 50 jaar 'n groot bate as toeristaantreklikheid wees, en die paar distrikte wat dan nog met 'n fort kan spog, gaan seker wees van die aandag van die toeriste.

Daar is egter nie net op Okahandja gevorder nie, maar ook op Swakopmund waar verskeie geboue waarvoor die Stigting drie jaar gelede nog gepleit het, se restourasie klaar is, of voltooiing nader.

Die afgelope jaar het die Stigting vyf vergaderings in Windhoek gehou. Hier is aan 'n verskeidenheid van aangeleenthede aandag gegee, waaronder die Neu Heusis-huis, die pad om die Christus-Kirche, die ou huise wat in die slag sal bly met die Wes-Oosdeuroete deur Windhoek en die neem van foto's van mooi ou huise en geboue in Windhoek om 'n album saam te stel.

Ons het ons ook besig gehou met die werwing van nuwe lede en ek kan nou sê dat daar 56 nuwe lede die afgelope jaar aangesluit het.

Die Stigting het hom ook besig gehou met die beplanning van 'n toer na Lüderitz en omgewing. Hierdie toer het dan ook plaasgevind. Ek wil graag die volgende persone bedank wat gehelp het: Sy Edele en mevrou Van der Walt vir al die reëlings en gasvryheid; mnr en mev Keding as toerleiers; mnr en mev Breytenbach vir die bestuur van die bus en aan-die-slaap-maak van die kinders; mnr Sydow vir die leiding en inligting; almal

wat by verskeie plekke namens die Stigting die woord gevoer het in bedankingsredes. Ook 'n woord van dank aan almal wat saamgegaan het (selfs om die bus te stoot).

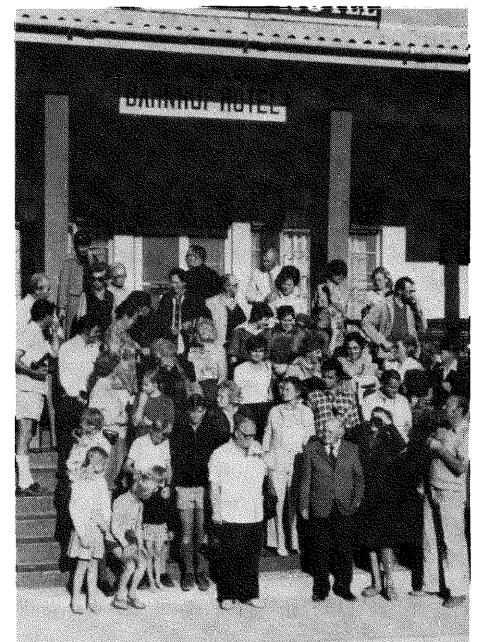
Opvoedings- en besigtigstoere van hierdie aard kan in die toekoms onderneem word – nie net teen 'n wins nie maar ook met die doel om die gemeenskap waar u gaan, bewaringsbewus te maak. Daar kan ook gedink word om skole by die soort program te betrek.

Ten slotte wil ek baie dankie sê vir die geleentheid om die afgelope jaar die voorreg te kon hê om as voorsitter van die Stigting op te tree. Ek was baie dae baie bewus van my onvermoë om my werk as voorsitter na wense te doen en daarom is ek groot dank verskuldig aan al my bestuurslede vir al die hulp wat ek gekry het. Laat my egter toe om Sy Edele uit te sonder vir die inspirasie wat van hom uitgegaan het en ook mev Pottas vir haar pligsgetroue en deeglike werk as sekretaresse. Ook 'n woord van dank aan mnr Pottas wat goed na ons geldsake gekyk het. En dan ons ondervoorsitter wat altyd reg was om hand by te sit en te help en self ook leiding te neem waar dit nodig was.

Uitstappie na die Suide

Met hierdie Paasuitstappie het die Stigting Simon van der Stel sy feitlik tradisionele verkenningstogte na die verlede van ons land voortgesit. Hierdie keer was die einddoel Lüderitzbucht. Miskien ook vanweë die baie billike reisegeld (R20 vir lede en R30 vir nie-lede vir losies met etes) het vele nie-lede, veral besoekers van oorsee, hulle aangemeld. Ons voorsitter, mnr Venter, het die hele organisasie op hom geneem en om sesuur Vrydagoggend staan die Orban-skoolbus met mnr Breytenbach aan die stuur voor die hoofposkantoor. Daar al die lede en ander saamryers stiptelik opgedaag het, kon die rit sonder tydverlies begin.

By Kalkrand het ons die teerpad verlaat en koers gekry na Maltahohe. Mnr Venter wat vir Sy Edele die Administrateur en sy gade as chauffeur en vir die reisgeselskap as filmmaker en verkenner opgetree het, kon die burgemeester van Maltahohe en sy vrou van ons aankoms verwittig, sodat die heerlike ontbyt wat die vriendelike dames ons na ons lang reis in die skoolsaal voorgesit het, gereed was en baie deur ons geniet is. Die bur-



Lede van die Stigting Simon van der Stel asook ander belangstellendes het 'n toer na die Suide onderneem met Lüderitzbucht as einddoel. Hier vertoef hul voor die Bahnhofs Hotel.

gemeester, tegelyk ook dominee van die plaaslike NG Kerk, het ons met trots die nuwe kerkegebou van natuurlike klip en met binnepaneelwerk van dolfhout gaan wys. Die paneelwerk wat op aanbeveling van die WNNR aangebring is, het die akoestiek aansienlik verbeter.

Ongelukkig kon ons nie die kasteel by Duwisib besigtig nie weens die onbegeenbare pad, maar ons het ons nogtans verlustig in die geil grasstand en die pragtige groen bome na die swaar reëns van die afgelope tyd. By Helmeringhausen het ons die Swartrant aan ons linkerkant verlaat en oor Tiras en die Neisibvlakte na Aus koers gekry. By 'n mooi klompie bome is die middagete wat ons saamgebring het, eers rustig verorber. Terwyl die bus daarna gladweg oor die Neisibvlakte ry, het mnr Sydow die gebeure tussen die Neukluftgevegte en die uitbreek van die Hottentotopstand geskilder, 'n tydperk waarin Kaptein von Burgsdorff met sy hoofkwartier op Gibeon, waar ook Hendrik Witbooi as banneling gewoon het, sy stempel op die gebeure afgedruk het. Die moord op Witbooi was dan ook die vlammeteken vir die uitbreek van die Hottentotoorlog van 1904.

By die ingang na Aus kon ons nog 'n blik werp op die krygsgevangene uit die Eerste Wêreldoorlog waar die Schutztruppe na die oorgawe by Khorab gevange gehou is, vandag amper 'n soort Pompeij. In hierdie dorpie kon ons by 'n pragtig getooidde koffietafel, so reg in die gees van Paastyd, gaan aansit. Die burgemeester, mnr Drucker, en sy vriendelike gade is dan ook paslik daarvoor bedank.

Op pad na Lüderitzbucht het die donker ons oorval, maar die pad was oral, ook die ompele, besonder goed. Om halfnege het mnr Breytenbach ons behoue aan die sorg van mev Looser in die Duitse Skooldokhuis afgelewer. Vir die spysiening was Kapps Hotel verantwoordelik en reeds die volgende oggend kon ons in die groot saal van die dokhuis ontbyt geniet.

Onbeskryflik mooi was die uitsig oor die dorp en hawe in stralende sonskyn. Uitgerus en verfris het ons na Kolmanskop en Elisabethbaai vertrek, wat ons vriendelikerwys deur die CDM toegelaat is. Dit is tog gaaf om Sy Edele die Administrateur as beskermheer te hê! By Kolmanskop het die sjarmante mev Marianne Coleman as gids opgetree. 'n Paar van ons geselskap kom uit hierdie diamantgebied en het nou 'n enigsins weemoedige weersiens met hulle ou tuiste belewe. Op pad na Elisabethbaai wat ons dwarsoor die groot skiereiland gevoer het, het 'n paar private motors hulle by ons aangesluit. 'n Veiligheidsbeampste van die CDM, mnr Du Toit, het ons hier geleide gedoen en deur die steeds digter wordende mis het spookagtige geboue opgedoem. Merkwaardig is die laai- en hawegeriewe van Elisabethbaai, wat dus 'n

besoek van die seekant af heeltemal moontlik maak.

Na 'n heerlike maaltyd in Kapps Hotel kon ons die namiddag volgens vrye keuse deurbring. Verskeie van ons het 'n besoek aan die hoogs interessante museum wat aan mnr Friedrich Eberlanz se inisiatief te danke is, gebring. Die hoogs bekwame mev Dyck, die huidige kura-trise, het ons dan ook die geleentheid gegee om haar "skatte" – soms werklik unike eksemplare – te besigtig.

Die vleisbraaiery wat deur die plaaslike kommando gereël is, het ons groep ook in staat gestel om met die plaaslike inwoners kennis te maak.

Sondagvoormiddag kon ons na willekeur benut en die namiddag het mnr Breytenbach ons die besienswaardighede van die omgewing gaan wys. Die rit het van die Sturmvoegelbucht, Halifax en die Diazpunt langs na die fjord en ten slotte na die groot baai gegaan waar mnr Sigi Mannons 'n plek met gipsrose getoon het. Ons het in die verraderlike pangrond voor die groot baai vasgeval, maar met die hulp van alle aanwesiges onder wie 'n groep mans uit Lüderitzbucht het ons die bus weer op vaste grond gekry.

Paasmaandag het mnr Venter se skril fluitjie ons vroeg uit die vere geboender en om kwart voor ses was almal in die bus. Na 'n heerlike woestynrit bereik ons weer Aus waar die burgemeester, mnr Drucker, en sy eggenote ons met 'n stewige en heerlike ontbyt ingewag het. In Keetmanshoop was daar ongelukkig nie meer tyd vir 'n besoek aan die Nautedam nie. In die Canyon-hotel het die onderburgemeester, mnr Johannesson, en die stads-klerk as verteenwoordigers van die Stadsraad, ons ingewag. Die heerlike koue buffetete wat in hierdie weelderige hotel voorgesit was sowel

as die drinkgoedjies was 'n ware lafenis. Die onderburgemeester, 'n gebore Keetmanshoper, het aangebied om ons op 'n rondrit deur die hoofdorp van die Suide te begelei ten einde ons die besienswaardighede van sy tuisdorp te wys, 'n dorp wat sy vaal voorkoms a.g.v. die beskikbare Nautewater totaal afgeskud het.

Na die lang ietwat eentonige rit met die lang teerpad het ons teen sonder by die pragtig geleë restaurant in Hardap aangekom waar ons verversings geniet het. Hier het Sy Edele die Administrateur, ons leier en beskermheer, van ons afskeid geneem, met wedersydse wense vir 'n goeie tuiskoms.

Kort na tienuur die aand het mnr Breytenbach ons veilig voor die Hoofposkantoor afgelaai na 'n rit wat vir ons almal loutere genot was.

Rynse Sendingkerk, Keetmanshoop

Suidwes-Afrika se Monumentekomitee het so pas die historiese Rynse sendingkerk op Keetmanshoop tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar. Die kerk is in 1892 deur die bekende Rynse sendingeling, eerw Thomas Fenschel opgerig, en word beskou as die oudste kerk op Keetmanshoop. Die oorspronklike preekstoel en galery is vandag nog in die kerkgebou. Verlof is aan Keetmanshoop se stadsraad verleen om die gebou as museum te gebruik. Besoekers aan die dorp sal dan na oudhede binne in 'n oudheid kan gaan kyk.

Die Burger, 26 Augustus 1976

Nuwe bestuur van die Streekkomitee Suidwes-Afrika by geleentheid van die jaarvergadering aan huis van die Administrateur.

Voor v l n r: J H Venter (voorsitter), sy edele mnr B J van der Walt (administrateur en beskermheer), J J Pottas (tesourier), mev M A Pottas (sekretaresse), W Sydow (ondervoorsitter). Agter v l n r: G Keding, C O Ganerke, mev S May, J W de Jager.

Foto: *Reiter's Salon, Windhoek*



Ford 1928

Have unrestored 1928 Model A Ford will sell/ exchange for old firearms, antique furniture (chair, small desk, small table).

*P A Ryan
PO Box 16
Windhoek 9100*



Overseas - Buiteland

The Heritage of Rhodesia

TONY TANSER
Honorary Director

Rhodesia, as countries go, is youthful. The Pioneer Column, which led to its settlement by Europeans, only entered it in September 1890. Any buildings cannot be older than this, but even those with relative longevity are unlikely to achieve antiquity because their chances of survival have been, up to the present, so minimal.

Many of Rhodesia's buildings, the first Government House, the Queen Victoria Memorial Library, the Masonic Hotel, the original Meikle's Hotel, numerous Victorian and Edwardian homes, all part of the country's history have disappeared. In order to give buildings of historical and architectural value some protection and hopefully restore them, or save them from demolition, The Heritage of Rhodesia has been established. The constitution of the Society has been based on that of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

The oldest historical building in Rhodesia, still standing in the Kopje area, is the Market Hall. The foundation stone was laid in 1893. The Hall has given good service to the community as a market with offices for the Sanitary Board and the early Town Council, a post office and a bar. When its use as a market disappeared it became the first roller skating-rink and later the first bioscope. Unfortunately the Hall has been stripped of its architectural features. The clock, which first chimed on Christmas Eve 1894, has gone. The hole it occupied now stares down, like a cyclops, on the buses usurping the former trading activities of the Market Square. The building could

be restored to its original state, but regretfully this historic Hall is awaiting demolition for the Salisbury City Council has decided it shall go, a victim to modernisation trends. Nevertheless, it is the intention of The Heritage to try to get this decision reversed.

During the early years of the century the main business centre of Salisbury moved from the Kopje to Manica Road, in order to be nearer the railway. In the period 1908 to 1912 merchants erected shops, placing over them rooms, with balconies, where they might live. Store Brothers of Johannesburg, erecting their second shop in Salisbury, added decorative cast-iron work to the front of their building to provide a first-class example of Edwardian architecture. Next to it is the Adams' Building. A little distance away, separated from Store Brothers by a modern inverted box structure, is the Arnold Building with more cast-iron tracery on its balustrades. Nat Arnold was an auctioneer who used his shop as a store for articles he was going to sell, advertising them in his shop windows. His wife, a German, hung out the Imperial German flag from the balcony after the outbreak of the First World War until martial law was declared. There were other Edwardian buildings in Manica



The Market Hall, Victoria Street, Salisbury.



India House, Victoria Street, Salisbury.

Arnold Building (left), Store Brothers (centre) and Adams Building (right), Manica Road, Salisbury.

Photo: Mike Grant-Parke

Cecil House, Central Avenue, Salisbury.



Road. These have gone, but it is hoped that those still remaining may be saved from demolition.

India House in Victoria Street is considered to be one of the finest examples of Victorian design still remaining. It shows a particularly successful expression of people's desire to give a beautiful exterior to their buildings.

Cecil House in Central Avenue was built by the De Beers Mining Company for their Agent at the beginning of the century. It became the offices of the Resident Commissioner appointed by the British Imperial Government as a watch-dog to prevent a second venture of the Jameson Raid type, and later the administrative offices of the British South African Police.

Fortunately this building with its combination of Victorian and Dutch styles has been saved from destruction. The Mining Industry Pension Fund have bought it. The Salisbury City Council has

agreed to its use as office accommodation providing it is declared a National Monument. The Pension Fund is prepared to restore it to its original character and the Resident Commissioner's hitching-post is to be returned. The Heritage of Rhodesia congratulates the Pension Fund on its interest and in its decision to preserve this building.

It is hoped that the owners of other historical and architectural buildings in Rhodesia will co-operate with The Heritage of Rhodesia to save their buildings for posterity. Buildings which cannot be saved in the position where they are situated may possibly be moved to a 'Street of Memories'.

The Executive Committee of The Heritage is aware of the difficult task it has undertaken, but the support it has already been given makes it feel that the effort to preserve these three-dimensional examples of Rhodesia's history is well worth while.

first reason for recommending that planning permission be required for demolishing *any* building the 'public concern that the planning system should permit town centre and residential development that is strikingly out of scale or sympathy with the area affected'. Recent legislation such as the Railways Act, the Control of Pollution Act, the Town and Country Amenities Act, all described in the September Newsletter, and all resulting from pressure from the movement make the point most forcefully.

The movement then is having its successes. What will be its direction in the future? The question is more easily answered if the movement is divided into two halves: those concerned with causes and those with effects. More people, we are agreed, are becoming conscious of assaults to their local environment, but many will leave assaults over the horizon to somebody else. At the same time there is a growing understanding that we all share the same environment – that the horizon disappears as one approaches it and that a local assault deflected is just deflected somewhere else. For example, the Council for the Protection of Rural England has recently pointed out that there are probably insufficient remote coastal sites without amenity value for all the nuclear power stations projected for the next two decades – which, leaving aside radiation hazards, means we must either forgo amenity or more electricity. Effects on local amenity must inevitably lead to concern about causes. The two halves of the movement are linked.

It is to environmentalists who point these things out on a global scale that we now owe both the cliché 'spaceship earth' and the reference in the Green Paper on Waste to the 'truism that the world's resources must be finite'. To grasp this idea is one step; but the evolution of our society and its organizations to give it expression requires an effort which has hardly begun. To predict this evolution and prepare for any of its less palatable aspects – like limiting the amount we move ourselves, and goods, around – is surely one direction for the environmental movement. This role may sound too much for the local amenity society and possibly the advice given by the Secretary General of United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to be held in Vancouver in 1976 is the best that *can* be given: 'Individual citizens of the world can do very little about the biosphere, or the population of distant lands, but they can take a direct and active part in the shaping of their own neighbourhoods, towns and cities'. By doing so they are becoming concerned with effects and so swelling a movement which is also concerned with causes. The conservation movement begins at home.

Civic Trust Newsletter, November 1974

Great Britain

Movement but in what direction?

It is common to talk of an amenity movement – or a conservation movement – or an environmental movement. A movement there certainly is, but the very lack of an agreed name shows the uncertainty surrounding it. Any attempted definition of the movement has to encompass such a range of interests that it is best abandoned. (Anyone who doubts the difficulties should take the first step of trying to catalogue the interests; if he or she finds it daunting please spare a thought for the editor of the Civic Trust's Environmental Directory). If at a national level the number of bodies concerned with the environment is large, at a local level it is legion.

The movement is growing; that much is clear, but its momentum is not always perceived by those who are part of it. Each with a local concern may not appreciate the extent of similar concern elsewhere – it is still possible in some areas to feel lonely and misunderstood. Each with a specialised interest – clean air, noise, footpaths, buildings or whatever – may not see how it ties in with other quite different interests to form a part of the movement. But if those in it do not all feel part of a movement, others see it as such.

There have been books about the environment for some time. Now there are

books about environmentalists. They are even a subject for university research, and the campaigner can draw satisfaction, if rather ruefully, as he snatches time from some full time occupation to defend his locality or press his pet cause, that someone somewhere with a Government grant may be monitoring his progress. How much of the resulting literature will be actually read by members of local amenity societies or specialists in an environmental field is an open question. The value of such literature lies elsewhere. It draws the attention of a wider public to what is going on, so that even the Secretary of State for the Environment has mentioned in a recent speech 'an explosion in the growth of local amenity societies as more and more people showed themselves ready to stand up and fight for the protection of their environment'. For those in the movement this recognition is encouraging, and the recognition is beginning to be expressed in more than speeches.

The Government's Green Paper 'War on Waste' (see page 46/11) pays tribute to the role of environmental organisations in focussing attention on the need for recycling, and the special report by Mr George Dobry QC, on 'Control of Demolition' (see page 46/10) gives as the

Listed buildings

What are listed buildings? How are they chosen?

With almost a quarter million buildings in Britain already listed new listings are being made at the rate of 30 000 a year. Instituted by Act of Parliament in 1944, the lists have been compiled by Investigators (at present under the Secretary of State for the Environment) who have surveyed the whole country once. A resurvey is in progress but is not expected to be complete for at least a further 15 years. The relevant statute is now the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 under which the Secretary of State has a duty to compile lists of buildings of 'special architectural or historic interest'. The standards for listing were summarised in a recent DoE Circular (*September Newsletter* 45/3). All buildings built before 1700 which survive in anything like their original condition are included. After 1700, the later the building the more selection is exercised; most Georgian buildings are listed, but for 1840 to 1914 only buildings of definite character and quality are listed while after 1914 only exceptional buildings are included. Buildings erected after 1939 are not eligible. Particular attention is paid to:

- (a) Special value within certain types, either for architectural or planning reasons or as illustrating social and economic history.
- (b) Technological innovation or virtuosity.
- (c) Association with well-known characters or events.
- (d) Group value, especially as examples of town planning.

The buildings are classified according to their relative importance. Buildings of outstanding interest are Grade I and buildings of special interest Grade II of which particularly important buildings are graded II. Buildings of some importance but insufficient to qualify for the statutory list used to be placed on a supplementary list as Grade III. As the lists are revised many of these are being upgraded to the statutory lists. Buildings thought to be of local interest only are included in a separate and non-statutory list for the guidance of local authorities. The law requires that local authorities keep copies of the appropriate lists available for public inspection and many authorities will supply copies to amenity societies.

Listing is the basis of several statutory controls and powers. In particular, consent must be obtained for any demolition, alteration or extension that would affect the character of a listed building. Preservation, however, is not guaranteed by listing; the availability of powers and controls is one thing and the will to use them, is another.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS-LISTED BUILDINGS

England and Wales

	1970	1971	1972	1973
Number of buildings on statutory list	127 672	137 087	163 155	183 445

Listed building consent for demolition

Applications	587	557	1 001	927
Consent granted for total demolition	205	203	226	*445
Consent granted for partial demolition	104	43	141	277
Consent refused	186	193	225	718

Figures supplied by the DoE

Scotland

Number of buildings on statutory list	3 800	14 759	20 332	20 355
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Listed building consent for demolition

Applications	3	23	34	27
Consent granted for total demolition	3	16	27	24
Consent granted for partial demolition	—	7	7	3
Consent refused	—	1	—	1

Figures supplied by the Scottish Development Department. This is the first in a regular series of environmental facts and figures.

*This figure is exceptionally high because one application – the demolition of the Railway Cottage Estate, New Bradwell, Buckinghamshire – involved 163 buildings. The number of refusals and consents in Britain in, any year is not the same as the number of applications made as decisions may be issued on applications made in the preceding year.

Civic Trust News, January 1975

Law and the environment

Is America's environment better protected by law than Britain's?

Why there is more litigation in defence of the environment in the United States than in this country was one of the main questions discussed at the recent conference organised by the Committee for Environmental Conservation (CoEnCo) and the Solicitors' Ecology Group (*see Newsletter* 45/8).

One of the speakers explained how in the USA in the absence of the comprehensive planning legislation which exists in Britain environmental organisations have found litigation to be their strongest weapon. Indeed some of the most successful campaigning groups have confined their activity to bringing lawsuits. Those on the receiving end of the litigation freely concede that the new legal activity has forced them to take greater heed of environmental considerations, and frequently to abandon undesirable programmes.

The 'workhorse' of American environmental law in recent years has been the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act. This Act declares a Federal policy of environmental protection and requires all agencies of the US Government 'to include in every recommendation or report on proposals for legislation and other major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment a detailed statement by the responsible official on: the environmental impact of the proposed action, the unavoidable environmental effects, the alternatives considered, the relationship between short and long-term considerations, and the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources involved.'

Around this central legal duty a large body of case-law has developed. Through this litigation a new alertness to environmental consequences has developed and the most common ground for complaint has been failure to give adequate prior consideration to environmental impact.

Another important body of law is developing in the USA under the 1966 Freedom of Information Act which requires the Government to provide a proper flow of information to the public. An example of the differences between Britain and the USA was given by one contributor who described how full information about noise levels of the Concorde aircraft was not forthcoming from official sources or the manufacturers in Britain but was being forced into the open in the USA.

One question asked was whether the approach of US environmental groups

could be adopted here. Although the legal systems of Britain and the USA have a shared heritage there are now many differences. In many respects the law provides greater protection in this country than in the USA. Much British legislation – for example planning law – is enforced by public authorities and official inspectorates; indeed the tendency in Britain is for more duties to be laid on such authorities. One of the roles for British environmental groups could be to take court action to secure better performance by the authorities.

The British system could well have advantages for dealing with the smaller proposals which have an impact on the environment, but many larger proposals cannot be subjected to the same scrutiny as in the USA. Should anything comparable to the US National Environmental Policy Act be introduced here? Another approach suggested was to consider improvements in EEC laws developing under the Treaty of Rome to which we are now subject (see *Newsletter* 41/1).

As well as contributions by lawyers many laymen gave examples of their experiences when attempting to use legal procedures. From this it emerged, as had previously been shown by a survey conducted by the Solicitors' Ecology Group, that there was an unfulfilled need for legal services for the environmental movement.

What form of organisation could help to provide a better service was outlined by the final speaker. The various difficulties, both financial and stemming from the rules which govern the conduct of lawyers, suggested the setting up of a foundation to be responsible for fund-raising to which would be linked a Law Centre employing lawyers who would give legal advice and assistance on environmental issues. By selecting appropriate cases the Centre could help to make new environmental law.

The Conference resolved that CoEnCo and the Solicitors' Ecology Group should together pursue the proposals for a Law Centre.

Civic Trust News, January 1975

op de uitbreiding van het type wagens! Om in de slijtage tegemoet te komen moest voor deze vorm van rijden een belasting betaald worden het z.g. rijtuigen-geld, ten bedrage van vijf en twintig gulden 's jaars.

Voor wie dat niet wenste te betalen blevende vorige Keuren van kracht. Ook hier geld weer een uitzondering van betaling, namelijk voor artsen boven de eerbiedwaardige leeftijd van vijf en veertig jaar, mits in een keets die slechts door één paard werd voortgetrokken.

Zo ogenschijnlijk valt er voor onze huidige stadsbestuurders uit deze oude Keuren weinig te leren. Plagen van deze tijd, zoals luchtvervuiling en het parkeren kende men nog niet, hoewel . . . toen hadden zij overlast van paardevijgen. Als er iets uit te leren valt dan is het, dat de toenmalige overheid te ontwikkeling van het partikuliere vervoer in de stad scherp in het oog hield en haar maatregelen navenant nam. Nu krijgt men wel eens de indruk, dat te dikwijls om zo te zeggen het paard achter de wagen wordt gespannen.

Nederland

Gebruik der Koetsen in Amsterdam

TON KOOT

De binnenstad autovrij was een leuze, die het 17de-eeuwse Amsterdam nog niet kende, wel een keur op "het gebruik der kooetsen", waarvan een Amsterdams poorter dorst te verklaren, dat hij de koetsen een "groot cieraat voor de stad" vond. De Heren van den Gerechte dechten daar beslist anders over het toenevende gebruik der koetsen verontrustte de stadsregering, zij achtte „de straaten en steegen dezer stad mits haer engte, onbequaem om bereden te worden met karossen en kalessen". Bovendien waren er al enige ongelukken geschied. De noodzaak tot een beperkt gebruik wilde de regering wel erkennen, daarom stelde zij op 7 April 1663 bij Keur vast, dat wie van buiten kwam of naar buiten ging langs die kortste weg en met vermijding van smalle straten naar zijn huis of logement mocht rijden. Overtreding kostte maar even honderd gulden, in 1663. Blijkbaar warkte deze Keur niet, althans zes jaar later word een nieuwe uitgevaardigd, ditmaal met de bepaling, dat de boete van honderd gulden niet alleen door de gebruiker betaald diende te worden, maar eveneens door de eigenaar van het rijtuig. Dat heeft kort geholpen, maar evenzeer leidde dat tot ontduiking van de Keur door de rijtuigen van vorm te veranderen, deze slechte van lage of maar van twee wielen te voorzien of met één paard te bespannen.

Dat kon duren tot 1679, toen Mijne

Heren van den Gerechte ook deze nieuwe uitvindingen onder de Keur brachten. Zonder het gewenste succes, want zij moesten erkennen dat de Keur toch overtreden werd en bovendien "Irreparabele ongemakken" verschafften. Het bleek dus niet zo eenvoudig te zijn, maar leidde niettemin in 1681 tot een streng verbod. Niemand, wie ook mocht binnen de stad "met karossen, kalessen, wagens, karren, cheses, of eenig ander rijtuig, met vier of twee wielen, of ook met eenige sleden" draven. Voor zover zij onder de uitzonderingen behoorden moesten zij altijd stapvoets rijden. De boete hiervoor was slechts vijf en twintig gulden! Uitzonderingen op deze Keur waren de dokterskoetsjes en postwagens, mits deze de uiterste voorzichtigheid betrachtten zouden.

Een goede halve eeuw later, in 1736, wilde de stadsregering wel een meer soepele houding aannemen. Zij besloot de teugels wat lossere te laten, maar wilde daarbij de slijtage van de straten en de daaruit voortvloeiende reparaties scherp in het oog houden, immers die leidden "tot groot bezwaar van stadsfinanciën". De Heren vonden het gepast om de "commoditeyt van de ingezetenen in redelijkheid tegemoet te komen", althans van hen "houdende karossen, kalessen, berlijnen, swemmers of andere overdekte toe-rijtuigen, hebbende een bok voorop tot zitting van een knecht". Men lette

France Architects Protest

French architects, who take most of the credit for Paris being one of the most beautiful cities in the world, are up in arms against government plans to end their monopoly.

They have joined the already large ranks of street demonstrators in protest against measures which they say will lower the standards of architecture in France.

The reforms, proposed by a government which has been largely credited with saving the face of Paris by stopping the construction of new tower blocks, will end the system whereby all buildings are architect-designed.

Until now buildings, from small country cottages to the largest office blocks, had to be designed by a qualified architect in order to receive planning permission. But new regulations, introduced by the Secretary of State for Culture, Mr Michel Guy, will require builders of private houses only to submit their plans to local authorities for approval without engaging an architect.

The proposals brought immediate protests from the head of the architects' professional association, Mr Alain Gillot, that a system of "architectural policing" was being introduced which showed the Government had more faith in regulations than in men.

The controversy reached its height when 3 500 architects demonstrated outside Mr Guy's offices demanding his resignation. They said his proposals would bring

about the decline both of their profession and of French architecture. The architects' argument is unlikely to gain much sympathy from the general public.

Although France produced Le Corbusier, one of the finest 20th century architects, the general standard of its new buildings leaves much to be desired. New suburbs are largely characterised by large blocks of flats with scarcely any variety from city to city.

In the late 1960s the French hired British town planners to bring development ideas to the Paris region at a time when architects were under attack for changes to the face of London.

Within a few weeks of reaching the Elysee Palace last year President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing had a reputation for saving the character of old Paris.

He vetoed a plan to build an urban

motorway on the picturesque Left Bank of the Seine and ordered a park instead of a projected concrete commercial centre on the site of the old Les Halles market. Mr Guy has proposed that designs for new constructions will have to be submitted to architectural councils in the country's departments which will include local government officials as well as architects.

Building could no longer be just the preserve of qualified architects, he said. Engineers, technicians, lawyers, sociologists and economists now had to have a say.

But Mr Gillot retorted that every Frenchman had the right to live in a building designed from the start by an artistic and properly-qualified professional, not "concentration camps of progress."

The Pretoria News, January 5, 1976

exclude motor-vehicles from such areas; 4 *invites* the Council of European Municipalities at its forthcoming congress to urge municipal authorities, when preparing their town planning schemes, to give consideration—

- (a) to the exclusion of motor-vehicles wherever feasible from squares and streets of historic and architectural importance and to the creation of pedestrian precincts,
- (b) to the provision of alternative car-park facilities,
- (c) to the routing of public transport so as to serve the pedestrian precincts when these are at some distance from a car park.

Unightly advertising

Europa Nostra,

1 *considers*

- (a) that unsightly advertising gravely damages the urban and rural scene,
- (b) that many countries either do not possess adequate legal powers of control or do not exercise them effectively;

2 *recommends*

- (a) that a study should be made of the existing laws and regulations of European countries for the control of advertising in urban and rural areas and their effectiveness,
- (b) that, in the light of this information, model regulations should be framed for the guidance of Government and other authorities,
- (c) that every opportunity should be taken to draw the attention of all authorities concerned to the importance of this problem.

Youth

Europa Nostra,

1 having regard to the importance of encouraging among young people increased interest and pride in Europe's cultural and natural heritage and of securing their positive support for the measures required for its protection; 2 *resolves* to devise methods of associating youth with its work.

Assistance to private owners

Europa Nostra,

1 *recognizing* that the European heritage embraces many privately owned houses of historic and architectural interest both large and small; and that, under present conditions, the maintenance of such property often places an impossible burden upon the owners;

- 2 *urges* the Council of Europe to recommend member Governments to give adequate financial assistance to the conservation of such houses, particularly those open to the public, by means of—
- (a) contribution from public funds,
 - (b) tax deductions to meet the costs of maintenance and restoration,
 - (c) loans at specially low rates of interest.

Tourism and conservation

The view taken by the 1970 congress of Europa Nostra at Malta.

A

Europa Nostra,

1 *noting* the growing consciousness of spiritual values of the cultural heritage among the people of all countries;

2 *taking* therefore into account the fundamental principle that conservation of its own heritage is incumbent upon every country irrespective of the financial returns which may be contributed by tourism;

3 *noting* at the same time that the proceeds of tourism now play an increasingly important part in the economy of all European countries and in some cases represent a substantial proportion of the total national income;

4 *considering* that all countries have therefore a direct economic as well as cultural interest in protecting the architectural and natural heritage which attracts tourism;

5 *recommends* that the Council of Europe should invite all member Governments to furnish annually information regarding expenditure on conservation by Government and other public authorities, and should analyse such information and

present it as far as possible on a comparable basis.

B

Europe Nostra,

1 *noting* that tourist organizations, both public and private, and amenity organizations have a common interest in the protection of the architectural and natural heritage and in the proper development of these attractions for touristic purposes;

2 *resolves* to take steps to initiate practical arrangements to establish effective contact between these organizations on international, national and local levels for the purpose of exchanging views and information and furthering co-operation.

Car Parking

Europa Nostra,

1 at its 7th annual general meeting in Malta, while recognizing the useful role that the motor car plays in the development of tourism;

2 *deplores* the disfigurement of squares and streets of historic and architectural importance by the indiscriminate parking of motor-vehicles;

3 *notes* with satisfaction the successful measures already taken by municipal authorities in a number of countries to

Rebuilding of the working Exhibit Shelter, Glasshouse Point, Jamestown, Virginia

JOHN B LUKENS

The first successful English colony in North America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. Within a year of their arrival, in spite of extreme hardships, the colonists had started manufacturing glass objects for export to the home country and thus began the first industry. The glass manufacturing effort was abandoned after a few years but an unexpected resource of the New World, tobacco, became popular in the Old World and enabled the colony to survive and eventually prosper. Jamestown served for nearly a century as the principal town and seat of government of Virginia but declined after the capitol was moved to Williamsburg in 1799 and Jamestown reverted to farmland and wilderness.

Ruins of the main furnace which survive from the original 1608 Glasshouse.

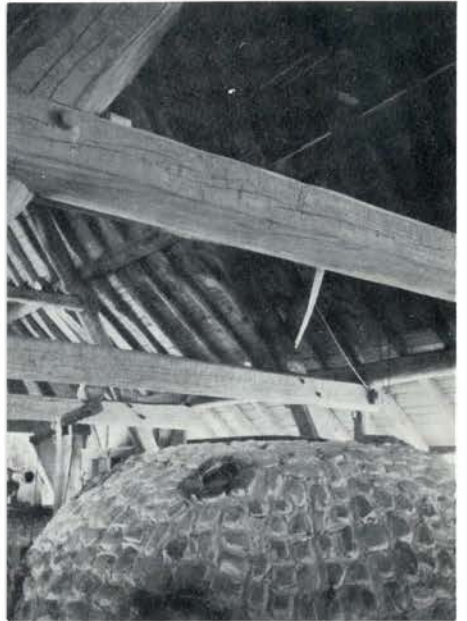


In the 1950's, ruins of the stone furnaces of the 1606 "Glasshouse" were discovered by accident and painstakingly investigated by archeologists of the National Park Service. These ruins are preserved as a feature of the Jamestown unit of Colonial National Historical Park. About 40 yards away from the ruins in 1957 the National Park Service erected a structure which was designed to show Park visitors what the original Glasshouse might have been like. New stone furnaces were constructed inside the shelter in the same relative positions as those of the nearby furnace ruins and the exhibit shelter was equipped authentically and manned by glassblowers in 17th century costume to demonstrate the glassblowing operation. This exhibit continued in operation until October, 1974, when the thatched

The 1957 Working Exhibit Shelter which was destroyed by fire in October, 1974.



Interior of the shelter showing the underside of the roof sprayed with black stain to represent the soot stains which would have existed above wood-fired furnaces. The main furnace (foreground) is now electric.



Applying "Bark Tile Shakes" to the roof.



The completed exhibit shelter with the winter enclosure panels removed.

Foto: Die Burger



The support building which conceals electrical equipment to operate the main furnace.



roof of the shelter caught fire and the entire structure was destroyed.

I was given the task of designing a replacement structure and getting it built in time to receive US Bicentennial year visitors in the spring of 1976. I was directed to make the shelter slightly longer so that the visitors would be better accommodated and to find a plausible more fire resistant substitute for the thatched roof. The accompanying photographs show the reconstruction which was completed in May of this year. The roof covering is a clay tile moulded to resemble bark "shakes" (shingles).

Reproductions of 17th Century bottles and candlestick, typical of the glass objects which are produced in the Working Exhibit Shelter for sale to Park visitors.



The nearly completed exhibit shelter showing removable winter enclosure panels in place around the sides and ends of the shelter. (In the foreground, Mr Gerald Vandermark, Supervisor of the Glasshouse, in 17th Century costume having his picture taken by a professional photographer.)



Interior of the shelter from the sales counter showing finished glass pitchers in the foreground, glassblowers at work behind, and Park visitors surrounding the railings to view the demonstration.



Note

John B Lukens has served as Regional Architect for three years, following a break in service, and from 1962-1969 prior to the break.

In October, 1974, fire destroyed the Colonial Glasshouse, a conjectural restoration of the original structure built by colonists in the early 1600's on Jamestown Island. Virginia handcrafted glass items were produced here by Eastern National Park and Monument employees using the same procedures the colonists followed 350 years ago. The glasshouse was a prime attraction in Colonial National Historical Park, one of the foremost Bicentennial areas. Because of this imminent celebration, it was decided that the design of the reconstruction of the glasshouse could be most economically and expeditiously accomplished by the Regional staff with assistance by the Park and with construction supervised jointly by Park and Region.

Mr Lukens was placed in charge of this project. The job involved lengthy and sometimes tedious discussions with pros-

pective contractors and suppliers, park staff and concessioner employees to assure the best possible product. Through it all, Jack maintained his composure and good humor. The contract drawings he produced were excellent, as several professionals have noted. Following award of the contract, Jack's personal supervision involving many trips to the park, and meetings, letters and phone calls with all concerned kept the construction phase of the project both at top standard and on time. The project had final acceptance on April 15, 1976 and all who have seen it agree it is a great credit to the service.

Through the entire design and construction phase, Mr Lukens maintained his regular workload assisting other parks. If it had not been for Jack's extraordinary efforts, this project could not have been accomplished in time for the Bicentennial.

Based on the foregoing, it was recommended that Mr Lukens be given a Special Achievement award for his outstanding work on the glasshouse project.

USA

Dr. Mercer - a rival to Frank Lloyd Wright

JOHN WAKEFIELD

Department of Architecture, Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh

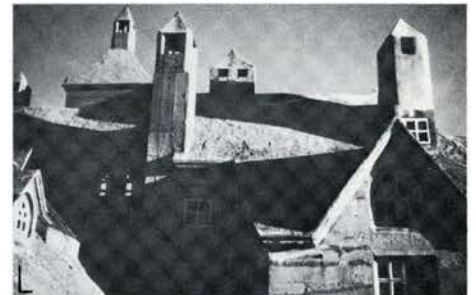
In 1959 Frank Lloyd Wright built the Guggenheim Museum in New York. The concept was simple - a large central space surrounded by a circular ramp.

In 1914 Dr Henry Chapman Mercer (an anthropologist and curator at University of Pennsylvania) built the Mercer Museum in Doylestown near Philadelphia. The concept was imaginative yet simple - a large central space surrounded by an ascending circulation system and at the corners there are small cul-de-sac viewing areas in addition to the large central space.

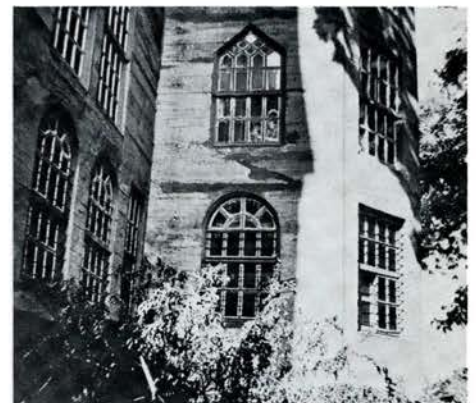
The late Louis Kahn stated that "it is a staggeringly imaginative building". It also won the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal for 1921.

Henry Ford summed up the feeling of many members of the public in his statement. "This is the only museum I've been sufficiently interested in to visit." The Mercer Museum was built without an architect. Dr Mercer performed the role deriving inspiration from the 17th century English mansions and the etchings of Piranesi. His help consisted of "a foreman, a dozen or so day labourers, a gasoline powered concrete mixer, and

The Mercer Museum, Doylestown, is entirely built of concrete - this includes walls, floors and the roof.

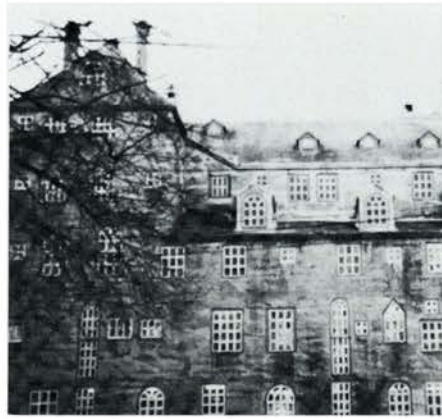


Mercer Museum in Doylestown, near Philadelphia.



an old horse called Lucy who pulled the hoist that lifted the cement to the scaffolding”.

The organisation of the building is a large rectangular central space, five storeys in height and crowned with towers, peaks and dovecots. Around this central space is a circulation system of shallow steps. At times this circulation system is adjacent to the large central space forming a strong relationship to it and provides a good vantage point, while in other cases it is next to the external windows which provide views of the rolling hills around Doylestown. Small cul-de-sac passageways lead to four major turreted areas which contain 71 glass enclosed rooms. These rooms depict the theme “tools of the nation makers” and show virtually every craft along with the implements and furnishings used at the time. As one enters the cul-de-sac turrets one is completely surrounded by the displays. The glazing on the displays is without horizontal supports and the glass simply overlaps. The building is entirely built of concrete



The windows in the Mercer Museum look like conventional timber sash windows, but are actually made of delicately worked concrete.

and this includes walls, floors and the roof. When one first looks at the windows they look like conventional timber sash windows found in many older American homes, but they too are made of delicately worked concrete. The roof

looks like a vernacular thatched roof of a Wiltshire cottage but it too, is constructed entirely of concrete.

The large central space contains too many objects and has something of a cluttered look about it. The objects include a stagecoach, whaleboat, birch bark canoes, Conestoga wagon etc.

Above the large central space there is another exhibition area in the roof. One pottery exhibition area in the north turret displays a masterful use of level changes to show Dr Mercer’s Moravian pottery to perfection.

The museum came about as a result of a vast collection of 30 thousand artifacts that Dr Mercer collected. The building was finally completed in about two years and presented to the Bucks County Historical Society on the 17th of June 1916.

Dr Mercer died on 9th March 1930 aged 74. Whether his conviction that there “can be no great art without religious faith” is correct or not, he remains one of the truly great unknown USA architects of our time.



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THE DOVETONS OF ST HELENA. Edward Carter.

Many books have been written about St Helena: perhaps too many treat the Island as if there were only one incident in her history – the exile of Napoleon.

In this book the author has sought while writing a family history of the Dovetons and Beales who served "The Company of Merchant Trading to the East Indies" in St Helena for some 200 years, to weave in some of the day to day life in St Helena and at the same time to keep the family story light and entertaining.

Occupation of St Helena by the East India Company was in terms of a charter granted by King Charles II on the 3rd April 1661 and the history takes up the story of the island from 1672 until after 1834 when administration passed to the Colonial Office. Understandably, the story includes tabloids of military achievement in the Indian Army up to 1870 and it moves to South Africa in the pioneering days of the Witwatersrand. It includes intimate references to Napoleon and touches on the life of Rider Haggard.

The excellent printing of the book, its presentation and illustrations from the private collection of the compiler combine to add something of St Helena, Napoleana and Africana value to this interesting publication.

The compiler pays tribute to those who helped him in the production and particularly to Wilfrid Tatham, Honorary Archivist at St Helena, and Eric Rosenthal.



SOUTH AFRICAN ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION. André Rabie. Published by the Institute of Foreign and Compara- tive Law. UNISA 1976.

Prof Rabie has rendered a valuable service to nature and natural environment conservationists with the publication of this pioneering work on legislation affecting the environment. The reader is left in no doubt, and is in the process well informed, as to the need for legal safeguards and a change in the philosophical approach, to land use. Topics covered are: soil conservation, wildlife conservation, air pollution control, noise control, water pollution control, pesticide control, ionizing radiation control, solid waste management and land use planning.

While these topics do not fall into the immediate sphere of historic preservation, the thesis of the book, conservation of the environment, does have an important bearing on the field of the historic/aesthetic conservationist. It is after all but a short step from the conservation of natural resources to the conservation of cultural resources.

The bare assertion that environmental pollution and the depletion of natural resources are issues of urgent concern in South Africa, is now hardly open to contention. No further effort will therefore be made to substantiate the fact that we are experiencing serious environmental problems.

It has been convincingly shown that the environmental crisis is due to some fault in the human activities on earth and is not the result of some natural change independent of man. Man must, accordingly, devise rules to combat his own shortsightedness, ignorance and greed as manifested in his attitude towards the environment. The law, one of the tools at his disposal, in traditional fashion, has been lagging behind technological and industrial development. However, since law is the basis for action, man is increasingly expecting it to provide a solution to the environmental crisis.

It is often stated that the concept of environmental conservation must not be mistaken to mean that the ultimate aim is the protection of the environment for its own sake. The old adage *cum igitur hominum causa ius constitutum*

sit implies that law is created to serve man. Environmental protection can, accordingly, only be justified if it is necessary for the protection of human interests. Environmental law, consequently, is aimed at pollution control and the conservation of natural resources in order to ensure that the environment remains habitable for man so that it can fulfil both his physical and spiritual needs. The word "spiritual" is important here. Is it too much to look forward to a book of similar depth on legislation affecting historic, architectural and aesthetic conservation? Such a publication is very long overdue.

WJP

KIMBERLEY. Philip Bawcombe. Village Publishing (Pty) Ltd.

This beautifully presented book is the second in a series on places in South Africa and follows the publication of Philip Bawcombe's JOHANNESBURG, which established itself as an important work of Africana. KIMBERLEY presents in Bawcombe's inimitable fashion the detail – past and present – and the flavour of the Diamond City, which has contributed so greatly to the history and prosperity of South Africa. It not only portrays the buildings that reveal so much of the history of the place, but reconstructs scenes, often from archival material, that breathe the very life of old Kimberley. Like its sister volume, KIMBERLEY will undoubtedly become an important collector's piece.

Foreword by H F Oppenheimer. Historical introduction by Brian Roberts. Text by Ted Scannell.

Special edition – numbered and signed by the artist, bound in full leather R125,00.

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And remember, the pension contributions are tax deductible for both employer and employee.

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- 'n Kontantskenking vir boekaankope
- 'n Boekskenking
- 'n Skenking van Africana-fotos en boeke.

Byvoorraat baie dankie!

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- A donation of Africana-photos and books.

Thank you!

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Briewe - Letters

Malmesbury

We thoroughly enjoyed the latest issue of *Restorica* (No 2) which comes to us through the writer's personal membership.

We were surprised however, to recognize on page 55 under the heading "King William's Town in Beeld" the Swartland High School, Malmesbury. The photograph referred to is immediately below the photograph of the stone church.

We carefully compared the photograph with the drawings in our records and there is no doubt that it is the Malmesbury School, built in 1911 and with the more recent additions just showing at either end.

The records consist of the original Black and Fagg tracings on blue linen plus colour washed elevations and these can be viewed in our Office should anyone be interested.

M J Ravenscroft
Architect
Ravenscroft and Anderton
3 Caledonian Road
Mowbray 7700

Thank you for pointing out the error. It slipped through too late to be corrected.
- Editor.

Ida's Valley

In her otherwise interesting and well-told story on Ida's Valley Mrs Fiona Erskine made a remark about Governor Simon van der Stel that is unwarranted and throws a shadow on the memory of the great man who gave his name to our Foundation.

Correctly stating that "whether or not she (Ida-P) was Governor Simon's mistress is pure speculation" Mrs Erskine went on:

... "but it is known that his wife never came to South Africa and that in spite of being a Godfearing man he did indeed have mistresses in the plural".

It is true that Johanna Six never followed her husband to Africa and left it to her sister Cornelia to look after the six Van der Stel children at the Cape of Good Hope, but it is untrue that Simon had "mistresses in the plural".

If Mrs Erskine had taken the trouble of reading the authoritative book - *Simon van der Stel en sy kinders* - written by Dr Anna Böeseken after a long and thorough research, she would never even have referred to Simon van der Stel in the rôle of a Don Juan. As a matter of fact the Governor's private life at the Cape was so impeccable that even the notorious gossip Johanna Victor - the walking yellow-newspaper of the Caabse Vlek in those days - could concoct no other slander about Simon than the rumour that Jacobus de Wet - who had jilted Johanna's daughter Josina - was "'n speelkind" (play child) of Simon van der Stel and "a painter's wife" in Amsterdam. That this innate slanderer in petticoats spreading her malicious tales in a small community of less than a

thousand settlers, where everybody knew everything about everybody, could not even hint at a single amorous affair of the Governor after his arrival at the Cape, is the most convincing proof of the untruth of Mrs Erskine's statement.

I decline to refer to my own study of the life of Simon van der Stel as I published it in my biographical novel - *Man of Constantia* - for additional evidence. My book is partly fiction after all and for that reason lacks the authority of Dr Böeseken's non-fiction work. Yet I can state that my own research did not reveal any hint or suggestion, let alone fact either that Simon van der Stel indulged in sexual promiscuity.

Since the Governor was only forty when he came to the Cape and a healthy and passionate man, this sexual abstinence was one of the most intriguing aspects of his complex personality. My explanation - as I put it in my novel - was and still is that Simon had passed through a spiritual training probably carried out by the Rosicrucian Brotherhood who played a significant part in the development of Western consciousness in the 17th century, and counted many scientists and artists (f.i. Robert Boyle, Van Helmond, Huygens, Hooft, Rembrandt) among its members. This training enabled Van der Stel to sublimate his sexual urges. But, this is only the guess of a novelist, and one is free to accept or reject it.

The main thing is that by writing as she did Mrs Erskine insulted the memory of one of the finest Governors the Cape ever had.

I can only assume that the source for her remark was the German naturalist-author Peter Kolbe whose personal hatred of the two Van der Stel Governors was so intense that he wrote the most pernicious untruths about them. Kolbe was in fact the only writer who ever accused Simon of whoring, and, his publications being widely read, this image of a philandering Simon van der Stel was hard to kill. However, I had expected that after the research and publications of the late Dr Leibbrandt and particularly more recently after the outstanding book of Dr Anna Böeseken, the evil spirit of the German slanderer so long hovering over our history, would have been banished for ever.

Hyman W J Picard
1204, Silverstream, Disa Park
Highlands Estate, Cape Town

Jopie Fourie

I was somewhat taken aback, shocked is the better expression to read, twice, in the article dealing with the Pretoria Central Prison, that Captain Jopie Fourie is referred to as a TRAITOR.

Semantically you may be correct but it is an expression nationally-minded patriotic Afrikaners would never dream of using in connection with one of the people's heroes.

This was one of General Smuts's shameful

acts and for you to put this into print for posterity to accept is, as mentioned above, to my mind 'shocking'.

The late Mr Van Wouw made a realistic plaque of this disgraceful event and if you care to see it, do approach Mr Werth of the Pretoria Art Museum who will no doubt show it to you.

Thank you for your note referring to the article in *Restorica* 1, page 71, on the Pretoria Central Prison.

The reference to Jopie Fourie as a traitor was made by *The Argus* correspondent, appearing in *The Pretoria News* of 17th January, 1975 and *The Star* of the same date. Neither Dr Punt nor the Foundation actually used the word "traitor" in referring to Captain Jopie Fourie. - Editor.

re 'Besoeek aan erfgoed' (Diemersdal, Durbanville) *Restorica* 2, p 58

Would you please correct an erroneous statement appearing in the above account of the visit to this farm.

Abigaël Vroom, the widow of Hendrik Sneewind did not marry "n kolonel Diemer", but in 1703 she became the wife of Jacobus van der Heyden who played so important a part in the overthrow of Willem Adriaan van der Stel. (See Adam Tas, VRS II-I p 50; Resolutions of the Council of Policy vol 3 p 290 n 31 etc.)

The farm certainly derives its name from a Diemer but he was Abraham Diemer, son of Elbert and was baptised at the Cape on 29.9.1669 (DBC Records). He became the owner of the farm through his marriage to Anna Elisabeth Sneewind, daughter of Hendrik's first wife. Abraham built a house and developed the farm, which up till the time he assumed control had been merely a cattle post. At his death his estate inventory reveals (in 1713) a T-shaped dwelling, large barn, wine-cellar and separate slave quarters with a separate slave kitchen.

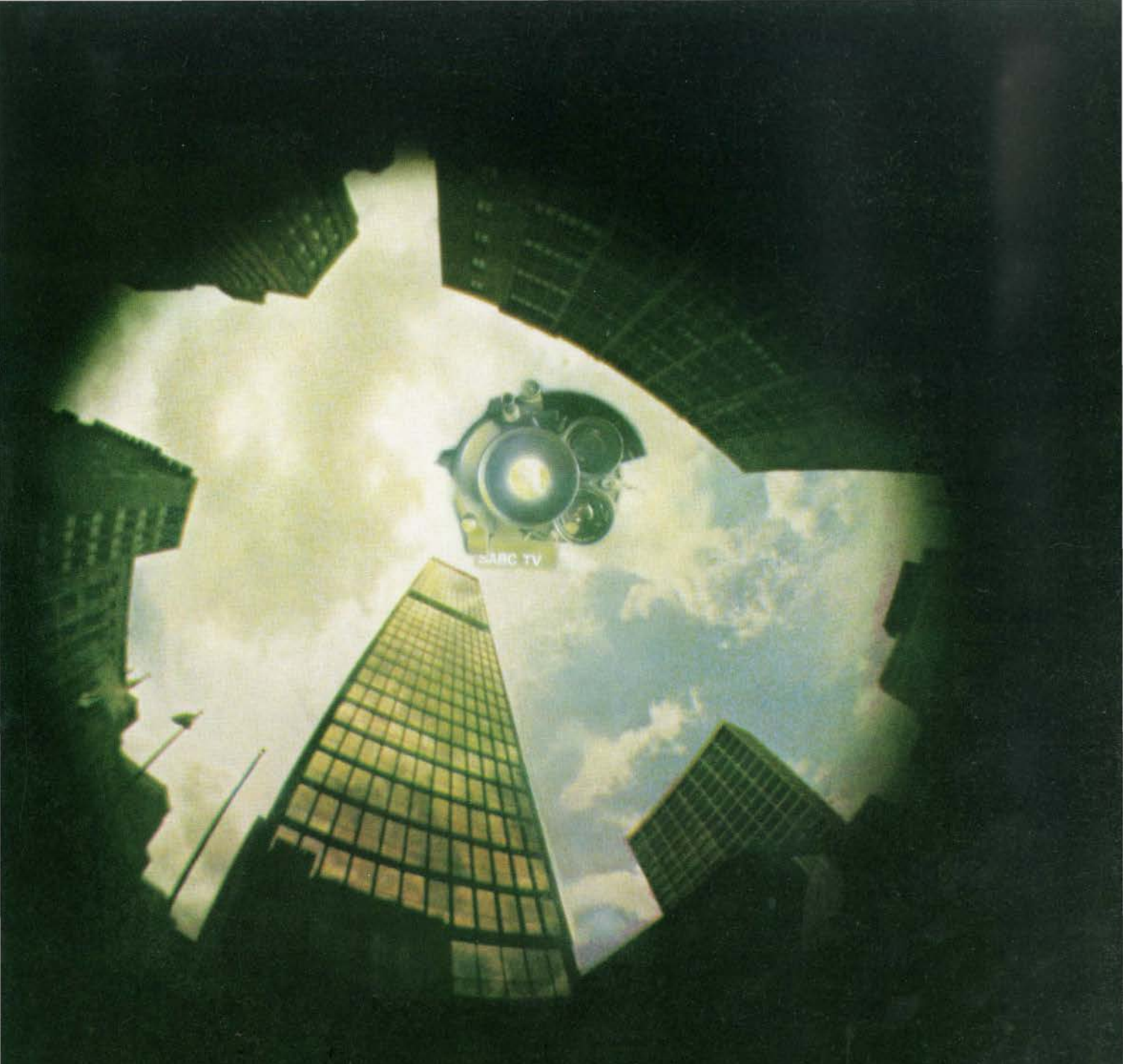
Mrs J H Cairns
32 Thornhill Road
Rondebosch 7700

Agricultural Museum

My attention has been drawn to a statement (quoted from the Pretoria News) in *Restorica* 2 that the proposed Agricultural Museum at Worcester was thought to be South Africa's first of that type. In fact, the Bathurst Agricultural Implements Museum was formed at a meeting held at Bathurst 14 April 1971, and still going strong. Mr Geoff Palmer is the Chairman of the Museum.

I have written a letter to Worcester acquainting them with the position.

"A S Basson"
Chairman
Lower Albany Historical Society
Port Alfred.



*I dipped into the Future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the World, and all the wonder that would be...*
Alfred Lord Tennyson.

SABC Television



*Elke Sigaret
'n Meesterstuk*