



restorica 1



STIGTING SIMON VAN DER STEL FOUNDATION
Bulletin Vol. 16 - No. 32 - Desember / December 1975 - R1.50



Gordon Verhoef & Krause

Die beroemde Kat-balkon in die Kasteel in Kaapstad is onlangs deur Gordon Verhoef en Krause opgeknop. Hierdie elegante bouwerk uit die vroeë dae van die Kaap is een van die belangrikste besienswaardighede van die Kasteel.



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RESTORICA VOL. 1 No. 1 DESEMBER/DECEMBER 1975

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Heer Drukkers (Edms) Bpk

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Deurbraak vir bewaring ?

Die bewaringsopset in Suid-Afrika is, in vergelyking met lande soos Nederland, Frankryk en Brittanje, besonder moeilik. Bewaringsinstansies in daardie en ander lande, het natuurlik ook 'n stryd om te voer en probleme om te oorbrug, maar dit het ons ook en nog meer, in dat bewaring nog nie die diepe en breë inslag by ons publiek en owerhede gevind het nie as wat wel in Wes-Europa die geval is. Wetgewing met betrekking tot bewaring is op plaaslike, provinsiale en sentrale vlakke by ons rudimentêr en ongekoördineerd. Owerheidsfinansiering vir bewaring en restourasie is in Suid-Afrika onvergelykbaar met die geval in Wes-Europa en die VSA. Die Stigting, die nasionale heemskutorganisasie, kry uit bydraes van plaaslike provinsiale en sentrale owerhede saam nog geen R35 000 per jaar nie. Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, die statusêre bewaringsliggaam, kry saam met sy ad-hoc restourasietoelaes nog geen R200 000 per jaar nie.

Om nou maar net Nederland as voorbeeld te neem, daar word jaarliks 600 geboue gerestoureer teen 'n koste van ongeveer R80 miljoen waarvan die verskillende owerhede nagenoeg 50% bydra. Dat dit daar moontlik is het verskeie oorsake waarvan die belangrikste die positiewe oriëntasie tot bewaring aan die kant van die amptenare en politici op al drie owerheidsvlakke is, wat dit moontlik maak vir private inisiatief om bewaringswerk op so 'n groot skaal te onderneem, en die feit dat bewaringswaardighede maklik te identifiseer is. Dit is dus gewoonlik maklik om vas te stel welke restourasieprojekte vir restourasiesubsidies kwalifiseer omdat daar deeglike rekords van bewaringswaardighede bestaan en nagehou word.

In Suid-Afrika staan die saak anders. Benewens die nog onvolwasse stand van ingesteldheid tot bewaring by die owerhede en die publiek, is daar nog geen nasionale lys van bewaringswaardighede nie. Tot dusver was dit private inisiatief wat in Suid-Afrika in bewaring die leiding geneem het, en hierin het die Stigting die voortou geneem tot waar hy vandag met dankbaarheid toenemend kollega-liggame tot die bewaringsterrein kan verwelkom. Die RNG het hom in die

verlede by sy hoofsaak gehou, te wete, bewaring in die vorm van beskerming deur proklamasie, tot gedenkwaardigheid of monument dan. Onlangs het die RNG ook die restourasietrein betree wat natuurlik verwelkom word. Maar dit het, omdat die RNG en die private liggame uit dieselfde bron vir staatshulptoelaes moet put, meegebring dat private eienaars van geproklameerde geboue weinig aan restourasiesubsidies via die aangewese kanaal, die RNG, kan bekom. Dit het 'n remmende uitwerking op restourasiewerk deur privatenie-komersiële eienaars. Die oplossing lê in 'n dramatiese toename in die beskikbaarstelling van fondse vir bewaring deur die owerhede wat op sy beurt weer private investering in bewaring skerp sal stimuleer. En interessant genoeg, is so 'n toedrag van sake nie inflasionisties so gevaarlik as wat die vernietiging van nog bruikbare geboue en hul vervanging deur nuwebou is nie.

Die tweede aspek van die gebreke in ons Suid-Afrikaanse bewaringsopset is dan die gebrek aan 'n maklike manier om bewaringswaardighede te identifiseer vir bewaring, restourasie en versorging. 'n Lys van bewaringswaardighede sal dit vir beplanners van allerlei aard op alle vlakke moontlik maak om vooraf te weet hoe en waar ontwikkelingsplanne voorsiening vir bewaring moet maak. Sodoende sal latere kontroversie oor en weerstand teen die beoogde ontwikkeling tot 'n minimum beperk kan word, indien nie heeltemal uitgeskakel kan word nie. So 'n nasionale lys van bewaringswaardighede sal dit ook vir owerhede aansienlik makliker maak om sinvol te kan oordeel oor die toekenning van subsidies.

Die opstel van so 'n nasionale lys is egter geen geringe taak nie. Om dit van bo af te wil doen is uiters moeilik. Die RNG, wat logies gesien so 'n taak sou moes onderneem, beskik eenvoudig nie oor die leerskare van amptenare wat daarvoor nodig sou wees nie. En al was die manekrag en fondse daarvoor beskikbaar, sou die amptenare uiteraard nie oor voldoende plaaslike kennis kan beskik om te kan verseker dat alles wat gelys behoort te word wel op die lys kom nie.

Die Stigting is van mening dat plaaslike kennis en plaaslike inisiatief ingespan moet en kan word om plaaslike lys van bewaringswaardighede op te stel wat dan later deskundig geëvalueer en gekonsolideer

kan word tot 'n nasionale lys met streeks-indeling en indeling volgens die soort van bewaringswaardigheid.

Dit is dan ook een van die redes waarom die Stigting positief gereageer het op die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria se voorstel van April 1973 dat die Stigting 'n nasionale konferensie belê van persone en instansies wat belang het by en aktief is in bewaringswerk. In sy voorbereidings vir so 'n konferensie het die Stigting kontak opgeneem met plaaslike historiese verenigings, bewaringsliggame, argitekte, historici en andere. Daar is ook 'n waarskynlike vorm vir 'n lys van bewaringswaardighede aan die hand gedoen. Die beoogde konferensie het in September 1974 plaasgevind. Hierdie Eerste Nasionale Konferensie van Historiese Verenigings en Bewaringsinstansies het verskeie aanbevelings gemaak waaronder die noodsaak van die eventuele daarstelling van 'n nasionale lys van bewaringswaardighede.

Dit is besonder verblydend dat daar noual praktiese reaksie hierop gekom het. Die Stadsraad van Durban het in medewerking met die Natalse Provinsiale Instituut van Argitekte onlangs die eerste plaaslike lys van bewaringswaardige geboue, in Durban, gepubliseer. Dit is 'n knap stuk werk en die outeurs verdien daarmee gekomplimenteer en bedank te word vir die leiding wat hulle geneem het.

In Kaapstad is daar ook nou begin met 'n soortgelyke projek en in Windhoek het die Stigting se streekkomitee aldaar ook al 'n hele ent gevorder met hulle optekening, beskrywing en fotografering van bewaringswaardige geboue. In Pretoria het die Studiegroep van Pretoriase Argitekte al tien jaar gelede begin met so 'n taak maar kon dit ongelukkig nog nie verder as 'n basiese konseplys bring nie.

Ons meen dat daar geen beter spesiale projek vir enige plaaslike historiese vereniging, museumkomitee, plaaslike owerheid, argitekte groep of streekkomitee van die Stigting is om te onderneem nie as juis die opteken en op rekord bring van plaaslike bewaringswaardighede nie. Dat so 'n projek nie sonder fondse verrig kan word nie is natuurlik waar. Op die uiteraard beperkte skaal van 'n plaaslike lys en met gebruikmaking van vrywillige opnemers, hoef dit egter nie onmoontlike bedrae te verg nie. Plaaslike owerhede kan gerus simpatieke oorweging skenk



aan versoeke vir hulptoelae van liggame of groepe wat so 'n belangrike diens aan hul gemeenskappe wil lewer.

Daar is in Suid-Afrika ongeveer 70 plaaslike historiese verenigings. Saam met die ander kollegiale groepe soos museums en andere, is daar ongeveer 200 instansies wat bykans die hele of 'n baie groot deel van Suid-Afrika dek. Indien elk nou 'n lysingsprojek sou onderneem, sal ons oor 'n jaar baie naby aan die ideaal van 'n nasionale register van bewaringswaardighede kan wees. Dan sal en hiervan is ons oortuig, owerheidsopptrede om die register 'n werklikheid te maak nie uit bly nie. En dit sal 'n besondere deurbraak vir bewaring in Suid-Afrika wees.

—W J P

South Africa's national trust

Does South Africa have need of a National Trust? Does it Exist? The answer to both questions is fortunately in the affirmative. The Simon van der Stel Foundation was established in 1959 as the first and still only national conservation body, for the expressed purpose of promoting conservation and acquiring and restoring properties to be kept in trust or preserved for the benefit of the nation and for posterity.

The Foundation's constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association, for it is a registered public company not for profit, describes its purposes as: the main business which the company shall be entitled to perform shall be to operate as a cultural body and national trust organisation, as an association of members, in the Republic of South Africa and in South West Africa, by promoting the preservation, by purchase and restoration or otherwise, of buildings or groups of buildings and or of areas with or without buildings and or of objects that have historic, cultural historical, anthropologic, architectural, aesthetic, artistic or natural merit.

The concept of a national trust organisation has been slow in developing in South Africa. Only recently has public awareness of the urgent need for conservation gained any semblance of wide spread or general recognition, as evidenced by the recent dramatic growth in

the Foundation's membership and the emergence of a number of conservation, historic and purely environmental, bodies and new local history, vernacular architecture societies and restoration companies.

Public awareness and demand for historic conservation has outpaced government recognition and action in this field. Local, regional and national authorities have not kept up with their publics in this regard. Legislation and financing for conservation at these levels of government is poor, lacking, uncoordinated or rudimentary in comparison to other countries. Fortunately there are signs which indicate that the authorities are no longer unaware of the change that has come about in the minds and attitudes of the citizens in regard to what is happening to their heritage. This new awareness could lead to developments at governmental levels which should be beneficial to conservation.

However the authorities still require indications of public sentiments and concern, require to be shown the depth and breadth of the national demand for conservation. This demand can be demonstrated, and is, in several ways. The recent events regarding the western facade of Church Square can have left little doubt in any objective observer's mind that many tens of thousands of South Africans from all walks of life and political persuasions want those buildings to be preserved. Public reaction to the planned freeway through the Knysna forests also demonstrated quite clearly that South Africans have become aware of the need for a conservationist approach to development.

A national trust such as the Foundation relies on public support and on government grants for funds. In terms of numbers the Foundation has good support, 6 500 members being quite a large membership in the South African context. Financially the Foundation has inadequate support, from both the private and public sectors, for it to be as effective as the national conservation need demands of it.

In spite of this and its relative youth, although it is the oldest and only national conservation association, the Simon van der Stel Foundation has succeeded in acquiring properties in the West Cape, East Cape, Natal and Transvaal. Of these Macrorie House in Pieter-

maritzburg, 22 Kerk Street in Tulbagh and Boekenhoutfontein near Rustenburg are open to the public. Bothsabelo near Middelburg, Transvaal is still being restored, although its Fort Merensky has been open to the public for the past 12 years. The Bradshaw Mill near Bathurst is open to the public but not yet completely restored. De Oude Bakkerij in Tulbagh, 2 Parsonage Street in Graaff-Reinet and Coornhoop in Cape Town are completed projects but privately let and so only open to visitors by special arrangement.

The British National Trust has 400 000 members, the Dutch Bond Heemschut has been operating for 65 years. Their sheer size and age make them strong and effective bodies apart from their other merits. In both countries public interest, the legal set-up and state financing for conservation are quite different from the position in South Africa. This has to change and it will, but it will take time and effort. Imagine what the Foundation could do with 20 000 members and a R1 million annual budget instead of only 6 500 members and a R100 000 budget. With that kind of support the Foundation could provide fully developed national trust amenities in all regions of the country.

The National Monuments Council, formerly the Historical Monuments Commission, is a government agency, as such it is a 'national' body, for the protection of national monuments by ministerial declaration. Recently the N M C has increased the scope of its conservation function by undertaking its own restoration projects. The N M C however still suffers from two serious problems, lack of adequate funds and the curious proviso that it may not declare government owned property to be a national monument! A peculiarly South African condition that visiting foreign conservationists can only shake their heads at in disbelief. Lack of funds means that the N M C has a huge backlog in plaques for already declared monuments, cannot police or protect declared monuments against decay and vandalism, cannot implement a much needed national crash programme of declarations and listing and cannot provide adequately for restoration and maintenance subsidies to owners of declared monuments. The N M C is now also providing restored properties as a national

amenity, but as a statutory body lacks the element of participation by the people which one expects to find in a true national trust body.

Conservation is for people and in a democratic country, by the people, which implies for the state, provision of funds and laws for conservation and for the citizens, provision of funds and effort or participation in conservation activities.

Members of the Simon van der Stel Foundation by their membership are jointly and severally participating in South Africa's national trust movement and contributing to change for the better in conservation and the preservation of their common national heritage.

W J P

Conservation grows

Dr S Meiring Naudé, national chairman of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, had an encouraging story to tell the annual general meeting at Paarl recently when he presented his yearly report on the activities of a body that, starting rather uncertainly in 1959, is today enjoying the support of dedicated conservationists in most parts of the Republic and South West Africa. In the first place membership of the Foundation has in the past year shot up by 32 per cent and now stands at 6 500 as against 4 800 the previous year.

The chairman understandably takes pleasure in the Foundation's having become the leader in the preservation of South Africa's national heritage in buildings, sites and objects of historic and aesthetic value. But he emphasizes the immense task that lies ahead and calls not only to fellow-conservationists to join the Foundation, but for more enlightened legislation for conservation and the care of monuments and for the funds to do so. It is essential, he says, that the Foundation increase its portfolio of fixed properties, especially as far as income-producing urban ones are concerned, and in this respect he appeals to both companies and individuals either to give appropriate properties or to provide funds for their purchase and restoration.

The state must play its part and does so through the National Monuments Council, he says, but in the end it is the citizen who must decide and direct the state in what should be done and how.

—Cape Times, August 8, 1975

Call for conservation

Conservationists will be encouraged by the forthright views expressed by the new Mayor of Cape Town, Mr John Tyers, in his inaugural address.

He believes that the city "is rapidly losing its architectural and historical character through destruction of its old buildings and their replacement by ones of modern architectural design." The divergent interests of development and conservation are not easily reconciled, but Mr Tyers is seeking to restore some sort of balance in a situation where, in recent years, the scales have dipped heavily in favour of the bulldozer. As he quite rightly pointed out, "we are trustees for future generations." He advanced the basic proposition, so often overlooked, that if children are to have any sense of history they must be able to see how their forebears lived. Mr Tyers will need no reminding of the urgency and practical difficulties surrounding the task he has set himself. The pace of change, not always for the better, has accelerated in the past few years and it will require considerable vigour and diplomacy to reverse a trend which embodies the philosophy of "off with the old, on with the new." There is, however, a welcome groundswell against the steady erosion of the city's heritage which should be of great assistance to Mr Tyers.

—The Cape Times, September 8, 1975

Erkenning vir Bewaring

Die Nasionale Raad van die Stigting Simon van der Stel het besluit om die Stigting se ere-penning in brons, silwer of goud toe te ken in verdienstelike gevalle van buitengewone bydraes tot die vordering van die Stigting en sy werksaamhede en doelstellings.

Enige persoon of liggaam, genomineer en geselekteer en volledig gemotiveer deur lede van die Stigting, kan in aanmerking kom vir die brons of silwer penning. Slegs lede van die Stigting kan vir die ere-penning 'n goud in heel besondere gevalle in aanmerking kom. Die goue penning is slegs nog drie keer toegeken, aan Sy Edele B J Vorster, aan Caltex SA Bpk en aan dr W H J Punt. Die penning in silwer en brons is nog nie van te vore toegeken nie. Slegs die Raad kan besluit oor toekennings wat periodiek by geleentheidsfunksies aan bekroondes oorhandig sal word.

Die bewaarders juig!

Die bewaarders juig! In die laaste maand of wat het 'n hele klompie vooraanstaande mense, o.a. twee met die grootste gesag in die saak, by herhaling te kenne gegaan het dat hulle die aftakeling van ons omgewings- en geboue-erfenis wil stuit. Die Administrateur het sy standpunt on-

omwonde gestel en lede van die Uitvoerende Komitee van die Provinsiale Raad het hom sterk gesteun. Nou het die nuwe Burgemeester van Kaapstad sy standpunt gestel – ewe sterk. Tussenin was daar die weldeurdagte rede van dr Anton Rupert, wat opnuut laat blyk het waar hy staan.

Die burgemeester van Kaapstad, mnr John Tyers, het vorentoe beweeg met sy leuse: "Bewaar Ons Erfenis." Dit is duidelik sy erns. En dit volg logies op die gedagte van sy voorganger dat die stad aan die mense teruggegee moet word.

Van die grootste verwoesting wat in die laaste jare in Kaapstad gesaai is, kan direk herlei word tot die afgod Motor. As die nuwe burgemeester probeer om die stadbouers se beheptheid met die motor teen te werk, sal hy 'n groot bydrae lewer tot die bewaring van ons erfenis.

Almal sal hom sterkte toewens.

—Die Burger, 6 September 1975

Die boukuns het 'n staatkundige funksie; publieke geboue is die versiering van 'n land, hulle bevestig die bestaan van 'n volk en trek mense en nywerhede na daardie land. Hulle skep liefde by die volk vir hul land en hieruit word groot dade in die volksgeskiedenis gebore.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN

Tande vir bewaring

Deel van toespraak van mnr F D Conradie, LUK, gelewer tydens bekendstelling van die kunsboek „Kerkstraat in't Land van Waveren" (resensie elders), 17 Julie 1975, in Kaapstad.

As 'n kunsskilder hom moet beklae, soos David Botha gedoen het:

“Die onderwerpe in die Boland raak nou skaars omdat geboue en ou muurtjies, wat so kenmerkend is van die dorpe, vinnig gesloop word”

dan moet ons dit stellig sien en aanvoel as 'n aanklag teen die gemeenskap wat vir so 'n toedrag van sake verantwoordelik is. 'n Aanklag teen almal wat daaraan meedoen – eienaars wat sloop sowel as owerhede wat dit toelaat.

Dit lui blykbaar daarop dat daar tog nog nie genoeg van 'n klimaat van bewaringsbewustheid, van respek vir wat bewaringswaardig is, geskep is nie.

Daarom temeer sal die positiewe geluide wat ons nuwe Administrateur reeds in dié verband laat hoor het, in breë kring verwelkom word.

Saam met die Burger sal alle bewaringsbewustes ook nou die verwagting koester (aan die adres van die Administrateur)

dat, waar daar 'n botsing sou wees tussen ontwikkeling en vooruitgang aan die een kant en bewaring aan die ander kant, daar waar enigsins moontlik ten gunste van bewaring gekies en beslis sal word. Daar word die laaste tyd dikwels gepraat van hierdie teenstelling, en moontlike botsing. Maar ek weet nie of dit altyd 'n suiwer siening van die saak is nie. Ons moet waak teen cliches. En dit is in sulke situasies dikwels onbillik teenoor 'n voornemende ontwikkelaar, teenoor 'n eienaar wat sy wettige regte beter en meer ekonomies wil benut, deur veranderings of uitbreidings aan bestaande geboue of deur herontwikkeling van sy perseel – onbillik teenoor hom om sulke planne sonder meer te brandmerk en veroordeel as 'n botsing met of onverskilligheid teenoor bewaring.

Dit sal na my oordeel suiwerder wees, en billiker teenoor die betrokkenes, om die vraagstuk te sien en benader as 'n kwessie van prioriteite – en dan meer bepaald prioriteite wat betref die bewilling van fondse van owerheidsweë.

Want bewaring is, en moet gesien word as 'n facet van beplanning – owerheidsbeplanning. Anders gestel: Bewaring kan alleen deur regte beplanning effektief verseker word. Maar dan moet dit natuurlik beplanning “met tande” wees – rand-en-sent tande.

Beplanning wat die moeite werd is, moet gerugsteun word deur geld. So nie, sal dit nie behoorlik geïmplementeer kan word nie. Dit is die geval selfs wat gewone ruimtelike ordening betref – om ordelike, planmatige nuwe ontwikkeling te verseker. Maar dit is des te meer essensieel wanneer dit kom by beplanning wat die andersins normale en wettige gebruik van eiendom aan bande lê – met die verklaarde of klaarblykbare oogmerk om aktiwiteite te voorkom of belet wat uit 'n bewaringsoogpunt skadelik of onwenslik geag word.

Oor die hele vraagstuk van die aantasting deur die owerheid van die individu se regte ten opsigte van vaste eiendom, het ons in die afgelope dekade 'n merkbare klimaatsverandering en klemverskuiwing kon waarneem. Teenoor die vorige houding van vanselfsprekende voorkeur van die staat se regte en belange bo dié van die individu, is die benadering vandag beslis een van billikheid, amper oordrewe billikheid, teenoor die individu.

Die een oorblywende leemte in ons houding en benadering vandag, en wat dikwels nog in die pad staan van bewaring – altans in situasies waar daar inderdaad 'n botsing ontstaan en gekies moet word tussen ontwikkeling en bewaring – is die kwessie van prioriteite wat betref die bewilling van fondse.

Dit kan met 'n paar konkrete voorbeelde geïllustreer word. Ingryping van Provinsiale owerheidsweë was nodig – gerugsteun deur die nodige geldbewilling – om die Schreuderhuis op Stellenbosch en

“Môreson” op Swellendam van gewisse sloping te red.

Min of meer dieselfde kan gesê word van die Rynse Hoek op Stellenbosch “Ravenswood” in die Tuine, die ou Slawe-kerkie en ander historiese geboue op Nieuwe Plantatie in die Paarl, Fort Selwyn by Grahamstad en “Rust en Vreugd” in die Buitekant, om net 'n paar te noem.

Volgens dieselfde beginsel sal die lot van verskeie ander ewe bewaringswaardige geboue, ens. in die nabye toekoms beslis word – sal die bewaring aldan nie daarvan bepaal word enkel en alleen deur owerheidsprioriteite wat betref die bewilling van fondse.

Selfs die huidige mees aktuele, en kritieke geval – dié van die westelike fasade van Kerkstraat, Pretoria – gaan beslis word deur die vraag hoeveel waarde, in terme van rand en sent, die owerhede heg aan die behoud van 'n reeks historiese geboue, oor die meriete waarvan, wat bewaringswaardigheid betref, daar stellig by niemand in 'n verantwoordelike posisie enige twyfel kan bestaan nie.

Dit is ook nie 'n regstreekse botsing met ontwikkeling of vooruitgang nie. Die kantoor- en ander akkommodasie waarvoor daardie historiese geboue plek moet maak, kan fisies en funksioneel maklik elders in die Hoofstad voorsien word. Maar dit sal vir die staat baie meer geld kos. En dit is die rede, indien nie die enigste nie dan ten minste die hoof-oorweging, waarom die voorgestelde staatsgeboue nie elders opgerig en daardie historiese waardevolle en onvervangbare geboue nie gered kan word nie. Die prys van bewaring word eenvoudig as te hoog beskou.

Nog 'n voorbeeld is die wingerdplase van die Paarl, wat aan die dorp sy unieke karakter gee. Daar is taamlik algemene konsensus oor die skoonheid van hierdie uitsonderlike verskynsel, en oor die wenslikheid dat soveel as moontlik daarvan behou moet word. Maar dit is duidelik – by my altans is dit 'n uitgemaakte saak – dat die ideaal nie sonder geld verwezenlik sal kan word nie. Sonder redelike vergoeding aan plaaseienaars wie se potensiële ontwikkelingsregte hulle permanent ontnem moet word, sal dit – daar hou ek my oortuig van – prakties net nie moontlik wees om vir die Paarl sy unieke wingerddorp-karakter te laat behou nie. Bowendien sal dit ook nie billik wees teenoor die betrokke eienaars en kan nie van hulle verwag word om daarby te berus nie.

Sonder vergoeding sal 'n permanente verbod teen onderverdeling net nie moontlik en uitvoerbaar blyk te wees nie, sal daar op die lange duur niks kom van dié mooi ideaal nie. As die beginsel wat ek hier bepleit, nie aanvaar sou word nie, dan vrees en voorspel ek dat ons strewe vir die behoud van die Paarl se unieke wingerddorp-karakter (om nie te praat van die beskerming van goeie

landbougrond nie) – dat dit in die toekoms al meer en meer sal wees wat dit alreeds begin word het, naamlik 'n futiliteit, frustrerende agterhoede-geveg teen ekonomiese en ander hedendaagse werklikhede.

Dit bring ons dan elke slag weer terug na dieselfde refrein – prioriteite ten opsigte van fondse-bewilling van owerheidsweë. Met ander woorde, sekere aspekte van bewaring sal 'n hoër prioriteit moet kry in terme van staatsbesteding, en behoort as't ware as staatsprojekte erken en behandel te word.

Wat betref die funksionele, die praktiese implementering van die staatsoptrede wat ek bepleit, is daar een aspek wat ek hier wil noem, en dit is die noodsaaklikheid van meer effektiewe owerheidskontrole oor die sloping van en selfs verandering aan geboue ens. wat enigsins vir behoud en bewaring mag kwalifiseer.

Aanspraak op die ingenieur

deur D. F. Malan*

Die *moderne* tye begin by René Descartes (1596-1650). Hy was die uitdinker van analitiese meetkunde, waarsonder ingenieurswese ondenkbaar is. Helder denke hang vir Descartes af van diagramme; dit wat voor oë gestel kan word. Die voorstelling kom in homself op. Ander maniere om sekerheid en nut te verkry bly 'n kritieke probleem – tot op die mens vandag.

In die wintervakansie van 1948 het ons gaan toer. Dit was na die nywerheidsgebiede van Transvaal. As ek reg ont hou, was dit die eerste verenigingstoer van die Stellenbosse ingenieurstudente. Ek was destyds in my vierde jaar, en bewus van my bedrewendheid met wiskundige bewerkings en tegniese sake wat daardeur gehanteer kon word. Die toer was 'n avontuur. Ons wou die wêreld gaan ontdek met die hoop om dit meer en meer te beheers.

Frustrasie en verval

GEDURENDE vorige vakansies het ons almal al praktiese werk gedoen. Daar het ek ervaar dat 'n nywerheid erg vervelig kan wees. 'n Mens staan voor 'n outomatiese draaibank van kwart voor sewe in die oggend tot halfses in die aand. Jy produseer voorwerpe – baie moet inpas in 'n skema wat vooraf op 'n tekenbord ontwerp is; byvoorbeeld rollertjies vir 'n skuifdeur in 'n treinkompartment. Die ontwerp bepaal daarbenewens méér as die dinge wat geïnstalleer moet word. Dit bepaal die stukkies wêreld van die mense wat hul daarbinne gaan bevind.

Aan die duskant bepaal die vervaardigingsproses weer die wêreld van die man wat voor die draaibank staan. Die doel was om vir almal 'n menswaardiger wêreld tot stand te bring. Sover dit 'n trein-kompartement betref, kan dit gaan. 'n Treinreis is tydelik. Maar nou het almal gevange geraak in die proses van ontwerp en produksie en konstruksie, op 'n manier wat dreig om sinloos te word. Die daaglikse aktiwiteit word nie meer – soos nog in die sestiende eeu – verstaan in die lig van 'n verligtingsproses wat vreugde gee in die hantering van gewone dinge, en blymoedige volharding wanneer gebeurtenisse nie na ons smaak verloop nie.

Wat skynbaar verligting gee, is die etensuur-onderbrekings wanneer medewerkers skerts en klets oor interessante hede wat nie direk met ingenieurswese saamhang nie. Sommige ingenieurstudente (voor 1948) het gebloos by die aanhoor daarvan.

Die probleem van sinloosheid ontstaan deurdat ons vir onself 'n wêreld ontwerp het. 'n Wêreld as voorstelling, 'n wêreld wat nie kan bevredig nie. Ons eie plek daarin het problematies geword. En om onself aan te dryf tot groter aktiwiteit, los nie die probleem op nie. Baie mense ken die gevoel van vervreemding en neerslagtigheid tussen die massiewe beton-, staal- en glasstrukture wat die omgewing van 'n moderne stad kenmerk. Baie van ons mymer *waarheen?* as ons *hiervandaan* gery het *daar* na toe op 'n opgeboude snelweg of in 'n straalvliegtuig, net om tot die besef te kom dat dit *daar* nie wesenlik anders is as *hier* nie.

Die ingenieur se menslikheid

Of gekunstelder tegnieke en produkte die moderne gemoedservaring gaan verhelp, moet ek betwyfel. Wat ek byvoorbeeld van televisie in Amerika gesien het, laat my nie alte hoë verwagtings daarvan vir Suid-Afrika koester nie. En of *luxury living* in hiper-super-ultra-moderne toringblokwoonstelle 'n waarborg is teen vereensaming en neerslagtigheid, moet u aan die verslaggewers van koerante vra wat selfmoord en dergelike voorvalle rapporteer.

Ontwikkeling het ongelukkig sinoniem geword met *geldmaak*. En die gedeeltelike onwetende, soms gedeeltelik teësinne konstrakteur van projekte wat tot menslike verval *moet* lei, is die ingenieur. Die proses het nie doelbewus selfsugtig begin nie. Dit het eenvoudig begin in mense se gedagtes met 'n wêreld as voorstelling. Die dwaling waarin dit verstriek geraak het word in ons eie tyd merkbaar aan protesverskynsels soos Hippies, Flower People, en so meer.

Laat my duidelik verklaar dat die aandrift van tegniek nie as sodanig boos en verkeerd is nie. Ons bevind ons op 'n aarde wat bewerk en bewaar moet word.

Doen ons dit nie, word die wêreld om ons heen woës. Alles wat menslik is, word dan mettertyd deur die oerwoud of erger groeisels soos oorbevolking oorweldig. Dit is, intendeel, menslik om daarop aangesê te wees om te heers oor alles wat ons as ongetemde natuur teëkom. En hierin vind ook die ingenieur sy taak – blykbaar op die aanskoulikste wyse van almal wat meewerk om dinge en kragte aan die mens diensbaar te maak. Die ingenieur is onmisbaar om vir ons 'n leefbare plek op aarde in te rig.

Die wese van wetenskaplikheid

Die ingenieurstudente se toer in 1948 was 'n opvoeding. Aan die een kant was Vanderbijlpark in aanbou. Die magtige stukke masjien-gereedskap wat vir monteurs en operateurs staan en wag het, het ons monde laat oophang. Aan die ander kant was die kragstasies en fabriek van Vereeniging reeds lank in werking – met bedrukkende neweprodukte. Soos Totius jare tevore van die Witwatersrand geskryf het: *Dis heuwels, heuwels, heuwels net sover 'n mens se oog kan speur; maar heuwels sonder struik of gras en droewigwaal, nes as gekleur.*

Origens het die *Vaaldrieboek* tot by Pretoria, kombinasies vertoon van wat opwindend en bedrukkend was. Agter die konstruksies sit natuurlik navorsing. Die WNNR, soos ons dit in 1948 aanskou het, was skaars te vergelyk met die ingewikkeldheid en afmetings wat dit nou, 'n kwarteeu later, aangeneem het. Maar wesenlik bly dit dieselfde. Deur wetenskaplike navorsing word dinge en kragte meer en meer onderwerp aan menslike beheer. Dinge en kragte word aangeval en in hegtenis geneem deur die mens se waarneming, berekenings, beplanning, kweking en bewerking – alles, natuurlik deur die wêreld te maak tot voorstelling.

En agter wetenskaplike navorsing staan die universiteite. 'n Universiteit is per slot van sake veronderstel om beter mense te vorm. Dink aan die vertaling van Stellenbosch se universiteitsleuse: *Die regte opvoeding versterk die inbors*, d.w.s. versterk die gesamentlike geestelike eienskappe. Ek het myself in die Transvaalse winter van 1948 afgevra: wat kom van *geestelike eienskappe* by my as ingenieurstudent tereg?

Teenwoordigheid van gees

Om van *gees* te praat is 'n twyfelagtige onderneming. By verskillende mense wek dit verskillende houdings. Gedurende die 1948 toer op Vereeniging het 'n paar van ons in 'n eenvoudige losieshuis eet- en slaapplek gekry. 'n Ander loseerder was lid van 'n sekte en het daar geen geheim van gemaak nie. Gou was hy en ek in 'n argument betrokke. Hy wou almal laat verstaan hoe *geestelik* hy is – in teenstelling met die lidmate van erkende kerke. Hy en sy geesverwante sou byvoorbeeld

nie daarvan droom om bioskoop toe te gaan nie. Dit laat my dink aan wat Langenhoven glo gesê het: *Hulle is só vroom dat hulle aan die aarde moet nashou om te keer dat hulle hemel toe val.*

Dit het geklink of die sektariër ook geneig was om *aardse* professies soos ingenieurswese as minderwaardig te beskou. Ek het hom probeer oortuig dat om deur die Gees (nou met 'n hoofletter) gelei te word, nie beteken wêreldontvlugting nie. Intendeel, die Gees spreek deur die Bybel. En Bybelstudie stel 'n mens juis in staat om uit te gaan en ten volle te *leef* in jou wêreld. Die sektariër het nie gehou van so 'n verklaring nie. Hy kyk my aan, sluk 'n slag, en sê driftig: Dit sal die *donderse* dag wees! Sy taal het verrai dat hy voorwaar aan die aarde moet vas hou.

In die jare daarna het ek geleer verstaan dat 'n mens se *geestelike eienskappe* nooit hoofsaak kan wees nie. Want om kenmerke van die mens te ontleed en daarop te konsentreer, beteken dat van die mens 'n voorstelling gemaak word soos van die voorwerpe wat wetenskaplikes oor die algemeen en ingenieurs in die besonder, onder beheer kry. Die metode het weliswaar nut. Dink aan *geesteswetenskappe* soos antropologie, psigologie en sosiologie. Maar dit het perke. Erken ons die perke nie, verwag ons alles van wetenskap en tegniek, verdwaal en verstriek ons in die troosteloosheid wat ek hierbo aangedui het.

Twee denkwyses

Hoofsaak is dat die mens méér is as dit wat voor oë gestel kan word hetsy by wyse van eksperimentele waarneming, hetsy by wyse van diagrammatiese ontwerp op teoretisering. Die menslikheid van die mens – laat ons nou verder gaan – bestaan daarin dat hy sy lewe *buite* homself kan soek, en kan vind, omdat hy gevind *word* deur die Onsiënlike, die Onvoorstelbare. Die waarheid daarvan kan nie ten volle bevat word selfs met behulp van Einstein se teorie van 'n *vierde dimensie* ensovoorts nie. Einstein se denke volg nog maar die tradisie van Descartes. Laasgenoemde is eintlik nie so *modern* nie. Descartes, met sy denkopset, is erfgenaam van die Grieke in die eeu voor Christus, al het hy dit blykbaar nie besef nie. Onder die klassieke Grieke was wiskundiges van naam.

Ons is opmerkzaam gemaak op die Onsiënlike. Uit wat gesê is, kan ons dit noem die Oorsprong van alles wat goed is. En terwyl dit nie *gesien* kan word nie, kan ons ten minste daarvan *hoor*. Ek het gepraat van 'n verligtingsproses. By die antieke Hebreërs, onderskei van die Grieke, verneem ons die getuienis. Die profeet Jesaja spreek tot almal wat frustrasie en verval beleef het: *Staan op, word verlig; want jou lig kom, en die heerlikheid van die HERE gaan oor op jou!* Die HERE is die Gees; en HY is meer.

Daarby is *lig* vir die Hebreër 'n beeld van heil en vreugde. *Word verlig* beteken dat die Goddelike magswoord aan 'n mens die krag verleen om te volbring dit wat die woord eis. Onder meer bedoel die profeet dat gesdrif geskenk word vir 'n taak wat gewoonweg so saai kan wees as om voor 'n outomatiese draaibank te staan, of om geboë jou jare deur te bring oor 'n tekenplank. Maar dis nie al nie. Die profeet verkondig die roemryke dade van dié Een wat ook gewone mense met gewone professies in Sy diens neem om die wêreld te verander.

Elkeen wat die roepstem verneem, elkeen wat daarvolgens handel, leef deur sy geloof. Dit wil sê hy ken en vertrou die onsiglike Een dermate deur sy geloof. Dit wil sê hy ken en vertrou die onsiglike Een dermate dat God nie vir hom 'n abstrakte begrip is nie, maar 'n lewende Persoon; paradoksaal Persone, van wie Hy hom nie direk 'n beeld mag voorstel nie, maar met Wie hy woordgemeenskap kan hê. Die Christen-gelowige noem God *Vader, Christus, Heilige Gees*. En die gelowige laat hom lei ook waar, en hoe, hy met sy talente en toerusting moet dien.

Alles is nodig

Talente en toerusting: daar is verskeidenheid van gawes, en gelukkig so. Wat die Grieke en Descartes ons nagelaat het, moet opgeneem word om sekere dinge mee reg te kry. Dus, wie *oë* het om te sien, laat hy dit gebruik! Werk met 'n wêreld as voorstelling. Moet net nie meen dat dit die enigste manier van ken en dink is nie. En moenie daardeur selfsugtig probeer heers nie.

Want fundamentele is dit wat die Hebreërs ons nagelaat het, dit wat nou ten volle deur die Christelike Kerk verkondig word. Dus, wie *ore* het om te hoor, laat hy dit hoor en doen! En eendag, wanneer die huidige lewe verby is, sal hy weereens verneem: *Mooi so, goeie en getroue dienskneg, oor weinig was jy getrou, oor veel sal Ek jou aanstel. Gaan in in die vreugde van jou Heer.*"

D F MALAN
BSc Ing, MA en MTh

—*Erkenning Sigma 1974 Stellenbosch*

Is hulle diktators ?

Wie maak die finale besluit i v m dorpsbeplanning? Die Stadsuitlêer? Die Stads- of Dorperaad? Die Provinsie miskien? Nie een van hulle nie.

Tegnies berus die stad se beplanning by een man: die Administrateur. Volgens wet het hy algehele gesag oor die dorps-

of stadsontwikkeling van die hele Transvaal!

Hierdie feit is aan die lig gebring tydens 'n kursus "Planning Places for Living" wat deur die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand se Somerskool aangebied is. James Clark, wat die kursus bygewoon het, vertel verder:

"Indien 'n spekulant 'n yslike wolkekrabber in u buurt wil oprig, dan is dit nie die stadsontwerper wat die belangrike persoon is nie – hy het die minste gesag van almal – maar die Administrateur. Al sou die belastingbetalers in hul honderde protes aantekens, selfs al sou die Dorperaad beswaar maak of 'n voorgestelde bebouing afkeur, kan die Administrateur almal te bowe gaan.

"Hy kan sy besluit in die geheim maak en niemand, nie eers die Stadsraad, hoef te weet waarom hy besluit het om die spekulant sy sin te gee nie. Volgens die Wet het hy nie nodig om redes hiervoor aan te voer nie."

"Daarenteen word hy ook nie verbied om redes te gee nie."

Het die Transvaalse Administrateurs al van hierdie mag gebruik gemaak? Dikwels.

"Al sou Administrateurs aangestel word vanweë hul deskundigheid op die gebied van stadsbeplanning, word die plaaslike owerhede nogtans erg hierdeur gekniehalter."

Mnr A Pike, regsadviseur i v m stadsbeplanning, het 'n paar van die moeilikhede waarmee die plaaslike owerhede te kampe het, aan die lig gebring. Die gehoor het hierdie feite skokkend gevind, alhoewel hierdie toestand al vir jare heers.

"As 'n gewone persoon byvoorbeeld sy grond wil verdeel of vir 'n ander doel gebruik, moet hy publieke kennisgewings van sy voorneme plaas en dit ook in twee koerante, in twee tale, adverteer. As die Provinsie egter 'n tamaaie hospitaal wat miljoene rande sal kos, op een van die mooiste koppies in Johannesburg wil bou – soos tans gedoen word – is dit nie nodig om van iemand toestemming te vra nie.

"Volgens Professor Ivan Schlapobersky kan die Provinsie bou wat hy wil, waar hy wil, sonder om enigsins van sy voorneme kennis te gee en derhalwe sonder om die belastingbetalers die geleentheid te bied om beswaar te maak."

"Professor Nick Patricios, deskundige op die gebied van stadsbeplanning, stel voor dat die hele beslissingsopset verander word sodat daar kan beplan word vir mense, pleks van vir landgebruik."

Is die ander Provinsies gelukkiger as die Transvaal in hierdie opsig?

Ons Administrateurs het almal feitlik dieselfde magte, hoewel Natal, met sy Stads- en Streekbeplanningskommissie, die beste daarvan afkom.

"Die Kommissie is 'n buffer tussen die publiek en die Administrateur. Die Administrateur bemoei hom nie direk met die publiek se netelige klagtes nie en as

mev. Smith byvoorbeeld beswaar maak teen die oprigting van haar buurman se gemakhuise na aan haar grens en wil weet waarom sulke dinge toegelaat word, word haar klagte aan die Kommissie gestuur."

Die Stads- en Streekbeplanningskommissie dien ook as klankbord en tussen-ganger. Onlangs het die Kommissie die plaaslike owerhede van die kusdorpe "dringend versoek" om te verhoed dat hoë geboue na aan die strande opgerig word. Dit het gebeur voor die publiek so sterk onthuts was oor die oprigting van 'n voorgestelde 17-verdieping gebou in Ramsgate.

Hoewel die Kommissie gemagtig is om by plaaslike skemas in te gryp en op wysigings aan te dring, is hy verplig om die plaaslike owerheid aan te hoor. Sodoende kan gesien word dat die reg laat geskied. As die plaaslike owerhede met dié beslissing ontevrede is, kan hulle by die Administrateur appèl aantekens, hoewel dit baie selde gedoen word.

As u nie met die beslissing van u plaaslike owerheid eens is nie, kan u by die Stadsbeplanningsappèlraad gaan aanklop. Dié Raad se uitsprake word gegee en gepubliseer, en u mag miskien ondersteun word deur die deskundiges van die Dorps- en Streekbeplanningskommissie wat die verhoor kan bywoon en 'n onpartydige mening uitspreek oor tegniese aspekte i v m beplanning.

Maar om regverdig te wees is dit misleidend om al die skuld op ons Administrateurs te pak. Die Administrateur het die toestemming van sy Uitvoerende Komitee nodig, die Uitvoerende Komitee tree vir die Provinsiale Raad op en die Provinsiale Raad word deur u gekies. As u dus ontevrede is met die besluite i v m stadsbeplanning wat in u kontrei geneem word, weet u waar om die aksie te voer.

—*African Wildlife, Volume 29, No 2*

Wesentlike elemente in Stadskoonheidsbeleid

Nederland is by uitstek 'n stedeland met Amsterdam voorop. Sy stede het in die 17e en 18e eeuse Nederland groot gemaak. Die magtige Staten van Holland (teenwoordig Noord- en Suid-Holland) is gekies deur die stede, deur stedelike besture gevorm deur die welvarende koopliede. Uit die geleedere van hierdie invloedryke en gedugte stadsbestuurders, het ook gekom die direkteure van die magtige wêreld-maatskappye, die Verenigde Oos-Indiese Kompanjie, die

Geoktrooïeerde Wes-Indiese Kompanjie en die Groenlandse Kompanjie. Tans ken die Nederlandse Grondwet net een groot stad, Amsterdam, wat ook nou 'n gemeente (munisipaliteit) is soos die ongeveer 900 kleiner stede en dorpe. Maar wat wel oorgebly het van die vroeëre bestel is 'n vorm van stedelike outonomie erken en gerespekteer deur beide provinsie en ryk (staat). Gemeentes of munisipaliteite het sekere regte om baas in eie huis te wees. Van belang vir bewaringskundiges is dat die gemeentebesture in Nederland se reg om bouvergunninge binne sy gebied te verleen deur die hoëre owerhede gerespekteer word. Hierdie bouvergunninge word slegs verleen by voldoening van sekere tegniese en estetiese vereistes. Die tegniese aspekte word deur stedelike amptenare oorweeg. Die estetiese word deur kommissies vir skoonheid en welstand bestaande uit amptenare en burgers oorweeg. Hoe nuwebou in 'n gemeente gaan plaasvind en wat die voorkoms daarvan gaan wees, word deur hierdie kommissies bepaal, bepalinge wat gelyk geld vir private, stedelike, provinsiale en staatsgeboue. Belangrik ook is die algemene bepalinge in Nederland dat hoogbou slegs kan geskied op 'n stuk grond wat vier keer groter is as die basismaat van die beoogde gebou. Appèl na hoëre instansies is natuurlik wel moontlik, soos by die regspleging, maar die demokratiese reg van die stadsburger om op sy eie werf te bepaal wat met sy eie omgewing gaan gebeur, word altyd geag. Die Nederlandse Parlement is natuurlik oppermagtig en het die mag om stedelike outonomie aan te tas deur wetgewing. Maar so 'n voorstel het nog nooit in die Parlement ter tafel gekom nie. Ek het Suid-Afrika al dikwels besoek, ek is lief vir die land en sy mense en sy geskiedenis en vir die skoonheid van sy natuur en stede. Daarom was ek so geskok toe ek vir die eerste keer die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasiegebou aan Pretoria se Kerkplein gesien het, daardie gebou wat met sy onpaslikheid en onmenslike skaalvergroting so 'n verpletterende indruk op Kerkplein maak. Gesien uit die oogpunte van stedeboukunde en stadskoonheid en ook van op die mens aangepaste maat en skaal, word hierdie nasionale Plein se bekoring bepaal deur Anton van Wouw se meesterstuk, die Kruger-beeldegroep, die Wierda-meesterstukke van die ou Raadsaal en die Paleis van Justisie en hul pragtige skakel, die geboue aan die Westelike front van die Plein. Hierdie baksteen en sandsteen geboue pas voortreflik bymekaar aan, vorm 'n fraaie geheel. Hulle sorg vir waardigheid, 'n goeie profiel, 'n juiste ritme van menslike skaal en van tekstuur en verteenwoordig boonop 'n stuk nasionale geskiedenis in die hart van Transvaal.

Na wat verneem word was daar vroeër in Pretoria 'n stedelike verordening wat

'n maksimale bouhoogte van ses verdiepings neergelê het. Tog het die TPA-gebou met sy sestiende verdiepings, aan Kerkplein nogal, verrys. Hoe is dit moontlik? Is die Stadsraad van Pretoria dan nie baas op eie werf nie? Blykbaar nie, dit wil my voorkom of die Provinsiale Administrasie meen dat hy as hoëre instansie, en die sentrale owerheid as nog hoëre instansie, nie gebonde is aan die magsgewing wat hyself gedelegeer het nie. Hy beskou homself dus as die hoëre instansie ook op munisipale terrein wat hom dan die reg gee om na eie wil op te tree en die wil van die stedelike owerheid en burgers te ignoreer. U sal begryp dat ek so 'n situasie moeilik kan verwerk. Gesien dat so 'n situasie blykbaar wel bestaan, hoe is 'n ewewigtige stedeboukundige beleid aan die kant van die plaaslike owerheid moontlik? Ek weet nie en kan maar net dink dat dit tot chaos in stadsbeplanning en onuithoudbaarheid in die bewaring van kulturele erfgoed moet lei.

Toe die TPA se hoogbouplanne eenmaal uitgevoer was, was die weg vry gemaak vir verdere ontwrigting van die stedeboukundige beeld van Pretoria. Wat die Provinsie en Staat hom toegeëien het, kon toe nie meer aan partikuliere persone en instellings geweier word nie. Die gevolg is die Poyntongebou, die SA Landbou-uniegebou, Munitoria, Civitas en so meer, tot skending van die stadsgepig, tot nadeel van die maat, ritme en profiele en silhoeët van die stad as menslike omgewing. Die hoogbou-kanker versprei. Met elke besoek merk ek dit. Pretoria se fraaie stadsilhoeët, sy atmosfeer en skoonheid word verbreek en geskend. Met weemoed moet ek vanaf die hoër geleë Muckleneuk die stad benede my gade slaan en sien hoe talle toringblokke die natuurlike rantjies-horison na die noorde verbreek. En dit duur voort. Hoogbou in die Fonteinedal? Kan seker wel. Met al die snelweë ingeforseer in hierdie mooiste stedelike natuurreservaat in die land, is enigiets seker moontlik. Ek voorsien met hierdie soort beleid nog veel stedeboukundige ellende vir Suid-Afrika.

Maar my grootste skok nog het gekom toe ek moes verneem dat die Departement Poswese en die Provinsie besluit het om die wesfasade van Kerkplein te sloop en dit met nuwe hoogbou te vervang. Onvoorstelbaar, hoe is dit moontlik? Van Pretoria tot in Kaapstad het ek nog nie een algemeen beskaafde en gekultiveerde Suid-Afrikaner raakgeloop wat die "voortgang" verwelkom nie. Verbete het die land se voorste bewaringskundiges en kultuurmanne geveg vir die behoud van die hele Kerkplein en sy fraaie wesfasade. Tevergeefs? Onbegryplik!

Ek merk dat die Poskantoor en TPA sê dat hulle die beoogde hoë geboue juis op dié terrein aan Kerkplein nodig het, ja móét hê. Hoe so? Ek kan as modern

denkende mens nie aanvaar dat die hoofgebou van die nasionale kommunikasiewese nêrens anders kan staan nie. As ons met die maan kan kommunikeer sou ons dan nie kon kommunikeer met 'n telekommunikasiegebou wat 'n paar honderd meters of selfs 'n kilometer of drie verder staan nie?

Laat ons nou maar nie fabeltjies vertel word nie, die saak is veel te ernstig daarvoor. My indruk is eerder dat die betrokke instansie hul geboue nie wil aanpas of elders oprig nie. Maar is dit in die algemene kulturele volksbelang. Ek glo nie, en buitendien kultuur gaan voor tegnologie soos my 40-jarige ervaring in bewaring en stedeboukunde beplanning my terdê geleer het.

Na my beskeie mening is die oplossing vir die stedeboukundige toekoms in Suid-Afrika geleë in die erkenning van stedelike outonomie gepaard met bewaringskundigheid van die uitvoerders van stadsbeplanning. Hierby moet ook gevoeg word groter effektiwiteit vir die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede. Hierdie Raad adviseer die minister verantwoordelik vir kultuursake insake die proklamering, of dan beskerming van 'n gebou of voorwerp van historiese, volkekundige of estetiese belang. Dit geskied in die algemene volksbelang en moet dus alle sulke gevalle insluit, óók staats-eiendom. Dit is nie die kwaliteit of soort van eienaar wat bepaal of 'n gebou monument-waardig is of nie, maar die gebou self, onafhanklik van wie die eienaar is. As die staat nie toelaat dat sy geboue geproklameer word nie, omdat hy dan die sogenaamde hoëre owerheid is, mag hy nie vir homself daardie voorreg toeëien wat hy nie aan sy burgers toestaan nie. Die beoordeling van 'n gebou se gedenkwaardigheid of bewaringswaardigheid geskied tog immers aan die hand van die oorwoë mening van deskundiges wat die hoogste owerheid self vir daardie doel aangestel het, teweete die lede van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede.

Die situasie betreffende die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in Suid-Afrika is werklik vreemd, in geen ander land kan sy monumenteraad net sekere private eiendom, proklameer en nie alle monumente op meriete behandel nie. Finansiële ook, is ek verbaas oor die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede se posisie, asook oor die posisie met betrekking tot restourasiesubsidies deur owerheidsinstansies. Dat slegs verklaarde nasionale gedenkwaardighede deur die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede met 'n subsidie gesteun mag word, veral waar daar só min sulke monumente in Suid-Afrika is en so veel vernietig word, is al vreemd genoeg. Die wete dat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede buitendien onvoldoende fondse kry vir selfs die nominale steun vir bewaring, is verstommend. Dat die weinige fondse wat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaar-

dighede wel kry deur hulle vir hul eie restaurasieprojekte gereserveer word is verstaanbaar, hoewel moeilik verdedigbaar. 'n Land se monumenteraad is 'n adviserende beskermende liggaam, nie 'n eiendomsbesittende restourerende liggaam nie. Dit is die taak van die betrokke eenaars – selfs die departemente van openbare werke, stadsrade, maatskappye, Stigting Simon van der Stel, en andere, kerke en private persone, met volwaardige steun van die owerhede. In Nederland verlede jaar is 600 geboue gerestoureer teen 'n koste van R80-miljoen waarvan die owerhede R40-miljoen aan restaurasiesubsidies bygedra het aan alle soorte eenaars.

Dit lyk my of dit haas tyd is dat bewaring in Suid-Afrika die erkenning moet kry wat dit toekom, dat tot suiwerder verhoudinge gekom word, dat voldoen word aan die kulturele eise van die moderne tyd. Vooruitgang moet ware vooruitgang wees nie vernietiging en verarming nie. Die kulturele vooruitgang van 'n beskaafde volk lê nie in die sloping van sy Kerkpleine en Sawanhuise nie. Bewaring is vooruitgang!

TON KOOT

(Uit *Nederlands verbaal deur WJP*)

Time to pause

The forethought which the Government, The Province and municipalities are giving to the future of the Southern Transvaal is commendable. The Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging Road Grid is certainly an attempt at an overall plan and indeed it is described as providing for the needs of the area for at least 50 years.

It is naturally far better to plan intelligently ahead than to have to deal later with vast problems caused by neglect and the passage of time.

But having said this, it must also be recognised that incalculable danger exists in planning on such a scale. For if the overall scheme is wrongly conceived or based on faulty premises, even greater evils could be perpetrated.

The R1 000-million PWV scheme, released last November, provides for a master freeway network and will have a vital bearing on all industrial, township and local government planning in the area; in other words, on the future life of everyone in the country's most populous region.

It is against this background that Mr John Joslin, a Johannesburg business executive who has concerned himself with environmental matters, has perhaps done the community a signal service with the paper he presented at a recent property conference. For in his view the scheme is nothing but a plan for disaster. In a wide-ranging and searching examination he offered one reason after the

other why the planned grid – and in his words, “the pattern of cancerous development it will dictate” – will duplicate the worst mistakes of America.

It is a road plan, not a regional plan, he said. It will accelerate disorganised growth and urban sprawl. It will lead to a totally car-dependent society which will inhibit mass transport, destroy the city centres and limit pedestrianism.

According to Mr Joslin, the grid acts particularly against the interests of the young, the poor and the old by constraining their mobility.

The plan completely ignores the natural ecology of the region and will also lead to increased pollution through its encouragement of the automobile – and simultaneously takes no account of the developing shortage and cost of oil.

And most basic of all, Mr Joslin said, there had not been any real public debate on the plan.

This is a devastating, and frightening, view of what could lie ahead. It certainly provides reason for officialdom to pause before leaping over the brink and to satisfy both themselves and the public that the grid scheme is well-founded.

Let's know exactly what we are letting ourselves in for before we put the future into a straitjacket.

—*Rand Daily Mail*, June 21, 1975

Medal of honour for conservation

Mr Ton Koot, former secretary and presently a council member of the Bond

Mnr en mev Ton Koot, Mei 1975.



Erepenning, Bond Heemschut, muntkant.

Erepenning, Bond Heemschut, kruiskant.



Heemschut, presented the Medal of Honour for Conservation to Dr Punt on the occasion of Dr Punt's 75th birthday celebration in Pretoria.

Mr Koot, Holland's “Mr Conservation”, said that this unique honour was due to

—Foto: Frik Dreyer

Dr Punt for his exceptional contribution to the preservation of the visible Dutch cultural heritage in South Africa, such as Cape Dutch architecture and artifacts relating to the Dutch East India Co period. In particular Mr Koot referred to Dr Punt's work in connection with the origins of early South African architectural styles, tracing of Dutch works of art relating to South Africa and his important contribution to the restoration of the Jan van Riebeeck House in Culemborg, Holland.

The medal is cast in bronze and was sculpted by the Amsterdam sculptor Geurt Brinkgreve. It is 11 cm in diameter and bears the head of Mr Koot in recognition of his central rôle in the development of the conservation concept and his influence on the scope of restoration in the Netherlands and Flanders.

On the obverse of the medal appears a snake being killed by its natural enemy, the hedgehog and the words "Noli Me Tangere," Latin for "Do Not Touch Me". The timid hedgehog's fearless attack on the poisonous snake symbolises the preservationists struggle against environmental defacement and the destruction of the national heritage.

The Bond Heemschut, the Netherlands equivalent of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, was established in 1911. Today there are 40 000 historic monuments in Holland and 250 protected townscapes. The Dutch authorities contributes R30-million annually in restoration subsidies to the R80-million spent on restoring 600 buildings per year in the Netherlands.

Een markante persoonlijkheid in de heemschutwereld

Hier volgt het verhaal van een opmerkelijke man, zo één, de je maar zelden in je leven ontmoet, maar die je dan verder altijd bij blijft. Willem Punt werd op 26 april 1900 te Elandsfontein (nu Germiston) geboren uit Nederlandse ouders.

Thans 75 jaar later is hij de "Grand Old Man" van de bewaringsgedachte, de monumentenzorg, in Zuid-Afrika. Gekend, geacht, geëerd, gevreesd, gedingen en algemeen geraadpleegd als historische vraagbaak voor burger en autoriteit. Hij genoot zijn opleiding aan de Oosteind Hogere School te Pretoria, studeerde aan het Pretoriase Onderwijs College en aan het Transvaalse Universiteits College. In 1923 werd hij hoofd van een tweemans-school en 37 jaar later sloot hij zijn onderwijs carrière af in het Pretoriase Danville, na een 25-jarig schoolhoofdschap.

Dr Punt heeft zich van jongs af aan aangetrokken gevoeld tot de geschiedenis van zijn land en daarover gepubliceerd. Reeds in 1928 maakte hij een grote studiereis door de Springbokvlakte, waarover hij in 1932 een magisterthèse schreef. Zijn doctorsthèse of dissertatie was gewijd aan de pionier Louis Trichardt. Diens laatste trek naar Delagoabaai volgde hij meter voor meter en registreerde hij. Zeker twintig jaar lang maakte hij studiereizen en expedities langs de lange, moeizame en tragische trek van deze voortrekkersleider. In 1952 promoveerde hij hierop te Stellenbosch.

Tweeden leven

Eigenlijk begon zijn tweede leven pp 8 april 1959, toen de Stichting Simon van der Stel, zijn geesteskind, in het Kasteel te Kaapstad in het leven werd geroepen. Dat hij stichter was van het Genootschap Oud-Pretoria, het Trichardt-genootschap, dat hij lid werd van de Monumentenraad, de Raad voor Heraldiek, bestuurslid van de Nederlandsche Stichting Jan van Riebeeckhuis en de Stichting Jan van Riebeeck, ik laat dat terzijde, erop rekenend, dat het u bekend is, hoe mannen van deze allure altijd tijd en aandacht vinden om vele andere werken en taken op hun schouders te nemen.

De Stichting Simon van der Stel is voor Zuid-Afrika de particuliere instelling, die zich de bewaring, conservatie en het herstel van onroerende en roerende monumenten van cultuur en geschiedenis ten doel stelt. Zij het dat voor die gedachte eerst de burgerij wakker geschud moest worden en rijp gemaakt. Men moest zich bewust worden van de waarde van eigen cultuur. Voor te velen nog had men die niet en moest men er voor naar Europa.

Dr Punt werd de eerste directeur van de Stichting. Al spoedig reisde hij naar Europa, voor eigen rekening. Waarom er nooit een van de vele subsidie-verstrekkende instellingen is geweest die hem in de gelegenheid zou stellen zich op dit gebied te oriënteren, zal wel een raadsel blijven. Al spoedig ontmoetten wij hem in Holland. Uiteraard, sinds de V O C in 1652 aan de Kaap een groentetuin en halfwegstatie stichtte, was dit de bron en voedster van culturele activiteiten. Sinds dat contact is een hechte samenwerking ontstaan met dr. Punt, de Stichting Simon van der Stel en parallel strijdende organisaties in Nederland en België, waaronder Heemschut. Het is zeker niet overdreven te stellen, dat de ervaring, zoals wij die met de Bond Heemschut en Monumentenzorg hebben verkregen verstrekkende invloed heeft uitgeoefend op de ontwikkeling van de Stichting Simon van der Stel en de bewaringsgedachte in Zuid-Afrika, zoals die belichaamd werd in dr W Punt. De

woeste vechter en taaie volhouder die dr Punt is, heeft zich veelvuldig ter plaatse gelaafd aan de ervaring in de harde strijd die Heemschut in die jaren voerde, om daarna als een opgeladen batterij ginds de machine met vernieuwde kracht te werk te stellen.

Vurig verdediger

Daarbij trad hij in eigen land krachtig naar voren om de invloed van de V O C op bouwwerken (Kaaps-Hollandse huizen), de Transvaalse bouw onder Nederlandse invloed (Kruger-Hollanders) zijn bijzondere aandacht te geven en overall op de bres te springen om oorspronkelijke waarden met grondig doordachte argumenten onder breder aandacht te brengen. Zo was een van zijn eerste grote daden in een daarvoor moeilijke tijd, de verwerving en restauratie van Coornhoop, de schuur bij Kaapstad, waar Jan van Riebeeck's eerste vrijburgers gronden hadden toegewezen gekregen en dit huis bouwden. Zo kwam hij op tegen hen, die trachtten Hollandse commandeurs en gouverneurs, zoals Jan van Riebeeck en Willem Adriaan van der Stel in een minder gunstig daglicht te stellen. Samen met hem hebben wij de aanzet gegeven tot wat een galerij moet worden van portretten van Hollandse commandeurs en gouverneurs aan de Kaap. Zo werd verder een dissertatie op haar plaats gezet, die ten doel had de Kaaps-Hollandse huizen onder de Grootduitse invloedsfeer te brengen. Andere buitenlandse invloeden, zoals die der Hugenoten, wier betekenis onevenredig werd opgeblazen, werden tot juister proporties teruggebracht ten aanzien van hun cultuurbeïnvloeding. Dr Punt kwam niet enkel naar Nederland om nieuwe kennis, geestdrift en strijdkracht op te doen, als wetenschapsman reisde hij ook naar de plekken waar de Nederlandse compagnieën hun invloed op de bouwkunst hadden laten gelden, in Afrika aan de Goudkust, Mozambique, Mauritius, in de West op Curacao, Aruba, Suriname, in Brazilië. Als hij terugkeert schrijft hij zijn befaamde artikel "n Vergete Wereldrijk", waarin hij vraagt: "Waarom word ons Kaaps-Hollandse boustijl nie meer gebruik nie? Sou dit dan 'n misdaad wees om die mooi, tradisionele landelike boustijl van weleer, weer in Suid-Afrika te doen herleef? Mag alleen geboue wat navolging van Italiaanse, Spaanse, Griekse en Amerikaanse boustyle is hier te lande verrys; boustyle wat, waar hulle by ons in Suid-Afrika gebruik word, vreemd en uitheems lyk? Die Kaapse gewelgeboue is deel van ons volk se kultuurerfenis, en dit is sedert 'n paar eeue 'n wesenlike bestanddeel van ons beskawing."

Toen de Bond Heemschut in 1966 zijn cursus Heemschut en Monumentenzorg gedurende een maand lang hield, bracht dr Punt acht landgenoten mee om van

deze cursus te profiteren. Hij heeft niet nagelaten jonge landgenoten naar Nederland te zenden om op het terrein van de "bewaring" met eigen ogen te komen zien, wat hier in Nederland en in België te bereiken is. Krachtig heeft hij zich beijverd om het "Museum De Fonteyn", Jan van Riebeeck's geboortehuis in Culemborg te helpen restaureren.

Volledig heemschutter

Allerwege drong hij aan op verbeterde restauratie-methoden naar Holland's voorbeeld. Toen wij onder het Nederlands-Zuidafrikaans Cultureel Accoord naar Zuid-Afrika werden gezonden, bevorderde dr Punt, dat door geheel het land voor culturele gezelschappen en op universiteiten voordrachten en discussies konden worden gehouden over de bescherming, werkwijzen en de resultaten van de acties van Heemschut en Monumentenzorg. Voordrachten die in achter-eenvolgende jaren konden worden voortgezet. Hij was de stuwende kracht, waardoor Paul Kruger's "Plaas" Boekenhoutfontein in Noord-Transvaal kon worden verworven, gerestaureerd en ingericht. Ook op het gebied der taal was hij bij voortduring waakzaam als Nederlandse woorden van hun plaats dreigden verdrongen te worden onder vreemde invloed. Hij is een volledige heemschutter, die ook in Zuid-Afrika heemschut tot een begrip heeft weten te maken, dit mede door het tijdschrift, "Bulletin", dat hij samen met dr Jan Ploeger redigeerde.

In april jl. bereikte dr. Punt de 75-jarige leeftijd. Hij heeft na 15 jaar zijn taak als directeur van de Stichting neergelegd, maar deze onvermoeibare strijder, doorzetter en stuwkracht zal niet stil kunnen zitten. Als adviseur zal hij actief blijven, in het bijzonder voor de contacten met het zo uitgestrekte platteland, waar nog zoveel behouden is, wat in de grote steden al verloren ging.

Nederland heeft geen British Council, zoals Engeland, geen Institut Francais, zoals Frankrijk, geen Goethe Institut, zoals Duitsland, die alle zeer actief zijn óók in Zuid-Afrika. Zolang er mannen zijn zoals dr Punt, die de Nederlandse cultuur met kracht en overtuiging uitdraagt, is buitengaats nog niet alles verloren.

—TON KOOT

Op 75 nog 'n ywerige kulturele kampvegter

Praat van historiese erfenisse en dadelik kom die naam Willem Punt by jou op. Dink aan Boekenhoutfontein, die pragtige ou opstal van President Kruger, en dis weer so! Tussen al die duisende koe-rantberigte wat oor die een of ander be-

waringspoging van 'n gebou of terrein handel, staan sy naam en poging prominent.

Willem Henry Jacobus Punt is op 26 April 1900 in Germiston gebore. As enigste seun het daar al vroeg in sy lewe 'n liefde ontstaan vir die geskiedenis en aardrykskunde. 'n Mens kan amper sê dié liefde was daar met geboorte want selde kom 'n mens iemand teë vir wie sy landsgeskiedenis soveel saak maak.

As kind onthou hy nog goed hoe interessant sy onderwyser die geskiedenis oorvertel het. Daar was daardie dae maar min boeke en om soveel moontlik in te neem moes die ore gespits word.

Daar was byvoorbeeld nie boeke oor die Groot Trek nie maar oor Jan van Riebeeck is heelwat gepubliseer – daarom dan ook sy groot liefde vir die Volksplanter!

Pretoria lê baie na aan die hart van hierdie kulturele kampvegter. Dis in hierdie stad dat hy werklik uiting begin gee het aan die bewaringsgedagte. Met reeds 75 somers agter die rug, straal daar die begeerte om nóg meer vir sy volk te doen. Hy praat opgewonde van sy kinderdae en waar die kind van vandag staan. Die jeug is vir hom pragtig en daar skort niks met die huidige opkomende geslag nie, sê hy.

Maar, waarsku dr Punt, die Staat se eerste plig is om saam met opvoeding, sorg te dra dat daar iets sigbaars en tasbaar vir die jeug moet wees, wat as anker sal dien vir die toekoms. Dit sal deel moet vorm van Volksgeskiedenis.

"Maar hoe kan die kind 'n liefde vir iets ontwikkel wat daar nie is nie? Hier bedoel ek nie die geestelike nie maar dit wat volkseie is soos ons kulturele erfenisse wat gister nog vaste fundamente gehad het.

"Ek bepleit nog steeds die behoud van en die uitbouing van geskiedenis en aardrykskunde op skool. Hierdie twee vakke loop hand-aan-hand," sê dr Punt. En nou dat hy inderwaarheid by die afdraand van lewenskragte gekom het, probeer dr Punt nog steeds veld wen. Hy gesels ywerig wat daar nog gedoen moet word.

Daar is só baie. Maar, dit bly by hom 'n uitgemaakte saak: "Ons moet die jong mense die geleentheid gee om die sleutel van die verlede vir die toekoms te behou, sover dit kultuurerfenisse betref."

Dr Punt het die graad BA en later MA aan die Universiteit van Pretoria behaal en sy doktorsale proefskrif in die geskiedenis met sukses aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch voorgelê.

Sy seun, Willem, het nou die leisels by sy bekwame vader oorgeneem en te oordeel aan die toegewydheid wat hierdie jong Punt aan die dag lê, is dit geensins te betwyfel nie dat die Stigting vir nog baie jare vorentoe sterk in die bewaringsveld van ons erfenisse gaan staan . . .

WILLEM-JAN PRINSLOO

—Hoofstad, 29 April 1975

Why preserve ?

The preservation of the best of our architectural past, and creating a national awareness in the Republic of the need for the preservation of our heritage, its history and social background, is the work of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

But why must we preserve our buildings? Why should the Simon van der Stel Foundation adopt its positive policy for the encouragement and mobilisation of voluntary effort in the towns and cities of the Republic – and all towards the preservation of buildings?

Is there any need for buildings to be preserved?

In the past buildings were seldom in danger unless their functions ceased to exist. Today with our modern techniques of building construction, the preservation of the older and smaller buildings becomes a problem. We are able to demolish very efficiently with mechanical tools and inventions at our disposal.

It is much easier for the developer to effectively clear the chosen site for development of all existing structures and to start with a clean slate. The task of the planner is also made easier. He need not take into consideration any existing buildings, which would be a constraint on his operations.

Until the 20th century, buildings remained in use as long as they were sound. These buildings were only adapted as needs changed. Wholesale demolition was practised in periods of great prosperity. The new building would usually then be a replacement of an architecturally inferior older building.

One must question, whether there is merit in preserving historic buildings?

To be able to answer this question it is necessary to take into consideration the need of a people to have as far as possible a visual contact with their history. The building then presents its own historic valuation; both the appearance and design of the building go concurrently with its history and earlier social background.

With the change in lifestyle, it can be argued, it is valuable and necessary for us to see the circumstances under which our ancestors lived. Towards this end, the preservation of their earlier environment is essential and should be encouraged, instead of the steady erosion and loss of buildings and monuments in the Republic.

Which buildings must be preserved?

If we have to make a decision as to whether a building merits preservation, the decision could be based on various grounds.

For example:

(A) **The building is a particularly fine example of its kind.** (Boschendal in the Rhodes Fruit Farms Estate, Groot Drakenstein.)

(B) Though not an exceptionally good example, it is a rare or perhaps the only example of its kind. (No 71 Wale Street, Cape Town. A modest, flat-roofed house in the Malay Quarter . . . one of only two surviving examples of a type of parapet with a wavy, moulded outline.)

(C) It forms a part of a group of buildings which as a whole would suffer through the demolition of one. (Kerkstraat, Tulbagh.)

(D) The building has exceptional architectural merit. (Groot Constantia, in the Constantia Valley, Cape.)

(E) The building is the first of its kind – a prototype. (Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel's original home 'Vergelegen' at Somerset West.)

(F) The building has important historical associations with either people or events. ('Treaty House'. The house in which the Treaty of 1806 was signed near Bromwell Road, Woodstock, Cape.)

The emphasis should be placed on the preservation of buildings in these categories, rather than on the precipitate restoration of such buildings.

In the 19th century, we must remember it was largely due to the existence of corrugated iron that so many of our 18th century thatched houses were preserved without financial assistance. To a great extent their preservation was also due to careful maintenance by responsible owners, especially in the Republic during the times of depression.

In our campaign we are interested in **Preservation – Restoration** comes after, if necessary.

The consideration being given to shifting buildings is interesting. It is possible in certain cases to move buildings to new sites. But **our Cape Dutch buildings** do not lend themselves to this treatment.

The reason is mainly because of the type of construction practised when these houses were built.

In addition it should be emphasised that the removal of buildings to new sites should only be resorted to when no other means of preservation is feasible. Naturally buildings may be treated as 'artifice', to be displayed in museums!! Examples where buildings have been 'placed' are in Bokryk in Belgium an Open Air Museum, and in our Open Air Museum, Pretoria.

The problem here, in spite of the many advantages, is one of the setting of the buildings. This is a problem extremely difficult to resolve.

In this field, as in others concerning our heritage of buildings the campaign should be carried through steadily, rather than rapidly. The Simon van der Stel Foundation can play an important part.

D VAN VELDEN VISSER

*Member of Cape Town Regional Committee,
SudsF.*

Wie is wie in die raad vir nasionale gedenkwaardighede

Kaap

1. Regter M R de Kock (Voorsitter)
Regterskamers, No 20
Hooggeregshof
Kaapstad 8001
2. Mr E Vertue
P O Box 2157
Cape Town 8000
3. Prof F Smuts
Van der Stelstraat 17
Stellenbosch 7600
4. Prof D J Kotzé
Verreweide 2
Stellenbosch 7600
5. Dr P L Scholtz
Boshoffstraat 31
Linton Grange
Port Elizabeth 6001
6. Dr J V L Rennie
7 Oatlands Road
Grahamstown 6140

O V S

1. Prof J J Oberholster (Onder-voorsitter van die RNG)
Dept Geskiedenis
Universiteit van die OVS
Bloemfontein 9301
2. Mnr J C Loock
Dept Geologie
Posbus 339
Bloemfontein 9300
3. Mnr C B Nolte
Posbus 628
Kimberley 8300

Natal

- Mr G A Chadwick
"Balbroch",
4 Nicolai Crescent
Glenmore
Durban 4001
2. Mnr J L W de Clercq
Dept Volkekunde
Universiteit van Zoeloeland
p/s Kwa Dlangezwa, oor
Empangeni 3886

Transvaal

1. Dr J H Esterhuysen
Privaatsak X236
Uniegebou
Pretoria 0001
2. Dr C K Brain
P O Box 413
Pretoria 0001

3. Prof J S du Plessis
Dept Geskiedenis,
Universiteit vir CHO
Potchefstroom 2520

4. Prof J F Eloff
16de Straat 27
Menlopark
Pretoria 0002

S W A

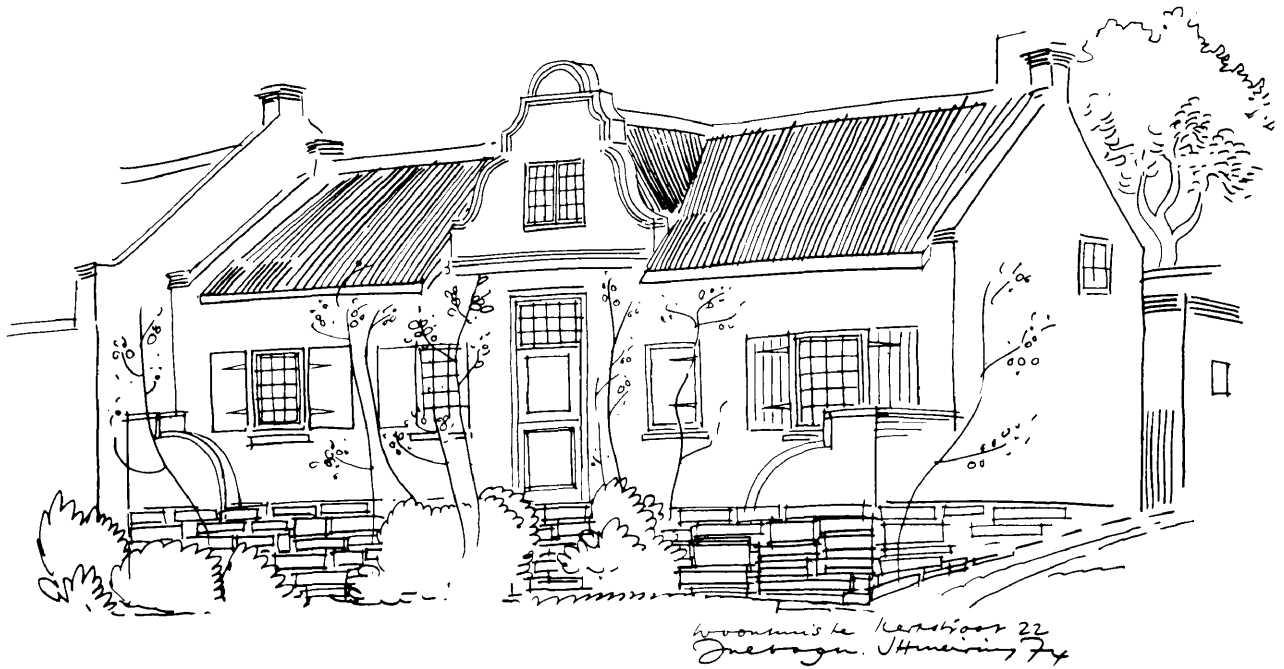
1. Mnr S J Schoeman
Privaatsak 13250
Windhoek, S W A
9100
2. Mnr C G Coetzee
Die Staatsmuseum
Posbus 1203
Windhoek, S W A 9100
3. Mnr E W Neef
Posbus 512
Windhoek, S W A 9100
4. Mnr J B H von Prittwitz und Gaffron
Posbus 1728
Windhoek, S W A 9100

Sekretariaat

Ou Mutualgebou 927
Darlingstraat
Kaapstad 8001
Posbus 4637
Kaapstad 8000
Tel: 021-435747
Sekretaris: Mnr George Hofmeyr

In memoriam

Mev F A van der Merwe, Kaapstad
Dr P A Smuts, Kaapstad
Prof E van Heyningen, Pietermaritzburg
Oud Sen S von Bach, Windhoek
Mnr A C Wessels, Grootbrakrivier
Mnr A W Albrecht, Constantia
Mnr T A Murray, Kaapstad
Mnr C A De Bruijn, Zevenaar, Holland
Mr T A Murray, Cape Town
Mr W Rossler, Pretoria
Mnr H J H Claassens, Halfway House
Ds D R van der Meulen, Bellville



What's the past worth to you?

A graceful Dutch gable, built by original Dutch settlers; the farm Paul Kruger grew up in; a small town the Voortrekkers founded; these are the physical proofs of our unique civilization that was born and grew to maturity in Southern Africa.

But they are in danger. With each passing year a few more disappear.

We need to protect and conserve every one we can.

To show our children the ways of our fathers.
To show strangers to our land the way we grew up.
To show the world the way we live.

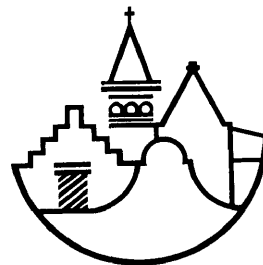
The Simon van der Stel Foundation, South Africa's **National Trust Organisation** is committed to all these aims.

We need your help

With a little of your money, with a little of your time we can make the past a foundation stone for the future. Your involvement would only be as much as you want it to be; you could help save a house, a street, a townscape.

Membership of the Simon van der Stel Foundation is R7 p.a.; R15 p.a. for corporate bodies; R75 for life membership; R200 for donor members and R200 p.a. for sponsor members; R2 000 or more for patron members.

Build for your country's future; preserve her past.



Simon van der Stel
Foundation

PO Box 1743
Pretoria 0001



In the wreck of the Haerlem

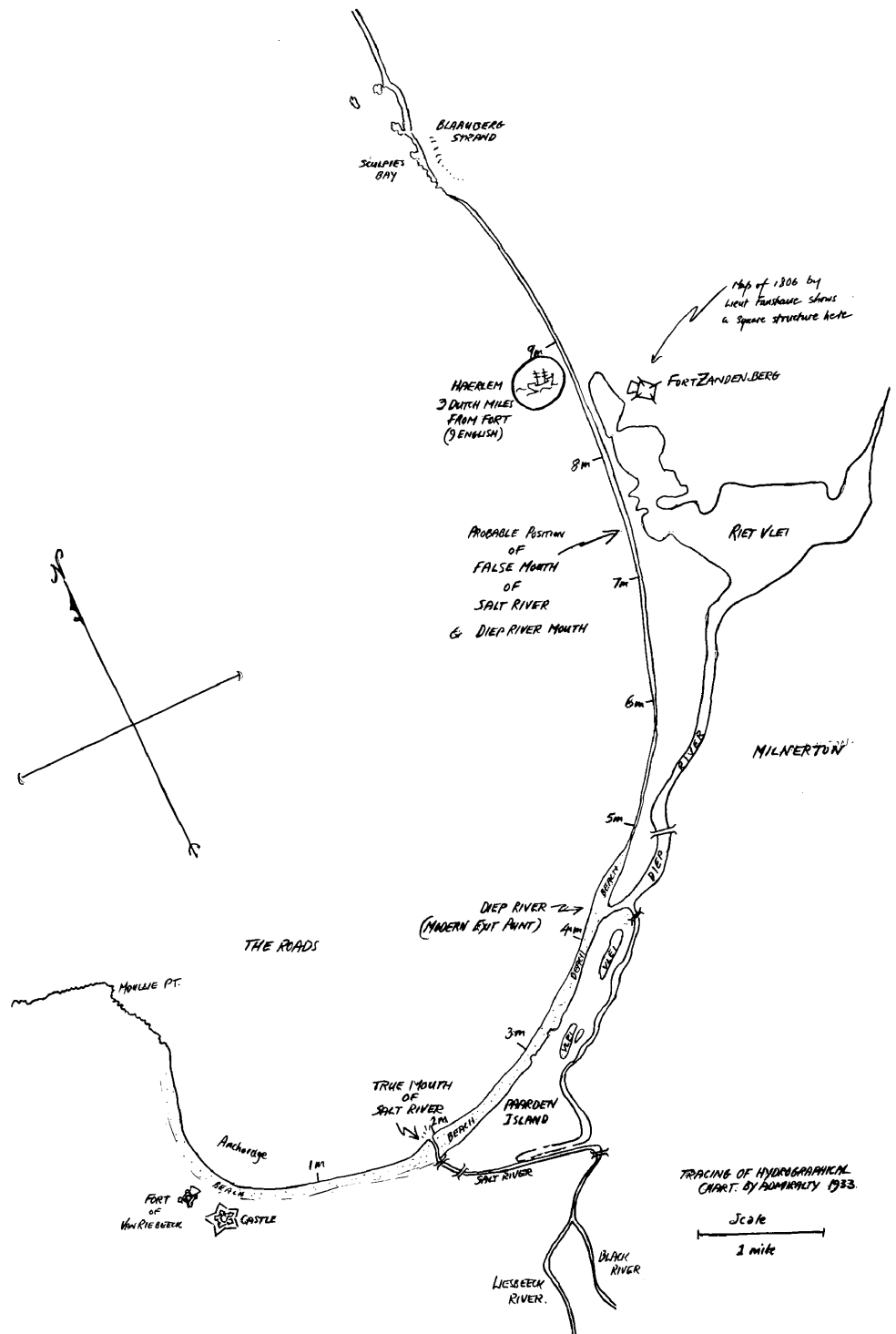
Tracing of hydrographical chart by Admiralty, 1933, shows wreck of HAERLEM approximately three Dutch miles from Fort Goede Hoop.

On the 25 March 1647 the Dutch ship Haerlem ran aground in the surf at Table Bay.

There is considerable vagueness about the exact position of this wreck and writers generally refer to it as being at or near the mouth of the Salt River. In attempting to assess its position let us look at the evidence of its position as stated by various sources. Here we must however bear in mind that the distances given are rough estimates and that a Dutch mile is actually about three English miles and may be as much as four on land.

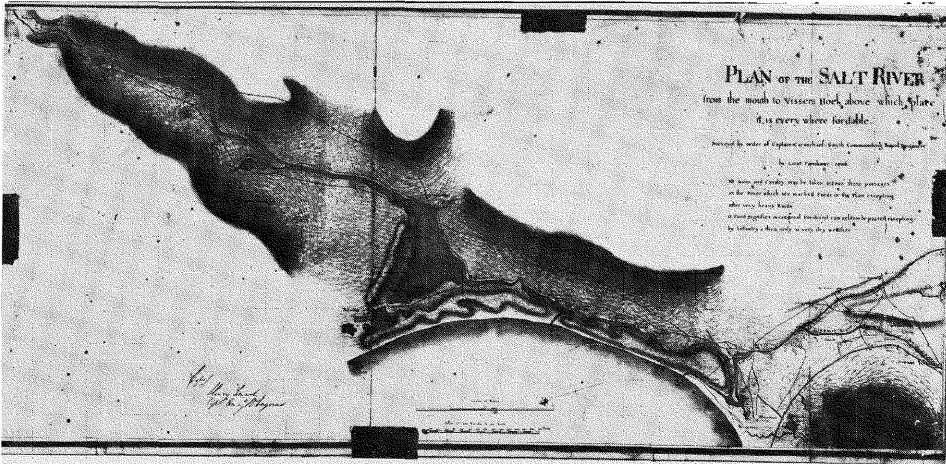
In the diary of Leendert Janssens for March 26 1647, he states the position as being 1½ miles (4½ Eng. miles) from the roads and records the ship as sitting fast on a sandy shore. We are further told that on March 31 they commenced to throw up a fort on a hill near the ship. Near to this fort they dug a deep fresh water well.

Later a report by Commissioners who visited the fort describes it as being square and built on a high steep sand dune with a gun at each corner. The breastworks which were 8 or 9 feet high were planted with briars and had sharpened canes sticking out horizontally. On the north-west side there was an outwork (Hoorwerk) and a battery of three guns. In a letter from Janssens, one of the survivors, he gives the size of the fort as 450 feet square. Hondius in his description in 1652 locates the wreck as in "Sardaigne Bay" 2½ miles (7½ Eng. miles) from the roads. Major R. Ravenhart in his book "Before Van Riebeeck" to which I am indebted for much of the information states that Sardaigne is a curious Survival of the old name for a bight (that is a small curved bay). Hondius produced a map which suggests a spot slightly south of Bloubergstrand. A letter from Van Riebeeck dated 25 May 1652 gives the distance as fully 3 miles (9 Eng. miles) from the fort. In April 1648 a letter from Janssens states that the fort which had been appropriately named Zandenburgh (Sand Castle) was some 2 miles (6 Eng. miles) from the Salt River. (Presumably the True Mouth).





Kaap



Plan of the Salt River, by Lieut. Fanshawe, 1806.

That the fort was fairly close to the sea is certain from the fact that a store was erected on the shore to hold pepper salvaged from the wreck and that this was covered by the guns of the fort above.

Relating the foregoing vague clues to a map (The Admiralty Survey Map of 1933 was used) it appears that the position of the fort would have been slightly north of the present Riet Vlei and just before the present parking area. High

dunes still exist today at this point and many pieces of porcelain have been found in this vicinity. The record states that 140 barrels of porcelain were landed here, some of which were damaged. I have also examined oak timber cut from buried beams on the beach at this point. The previous items are in the possession of Richard Boberg who has done considerable scratching in the area.

Regarding the Salt River it appears that originally the Liesbeeck and the Black

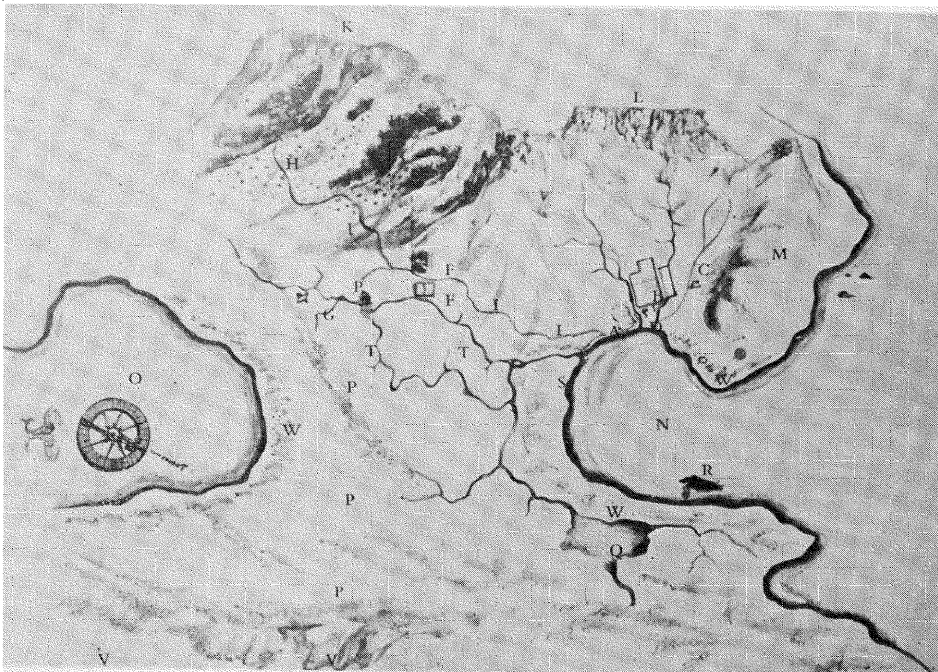
Rivers met at a point where they still do, just to the north of the Royal Observatory. From here the river became the Salt River and flowed into the sea at the true mouth where it still does. This is just beyond the Northern Dock entrance and about 1/2 mile before the Power Station.

The early maps show that the Salt River also flowed into a vlei which surrounded Paarden Island to link up with Riet Vlei. The Diep River flowed down via Vissers Hok and issued to the sea and linked with the Salt River at Riet Vlei, where originally the Salt Pans were located. This was the position known as the "False Mouth" of the Salt River and marked on later maps as "Eerstmond". It would appear that during periods of heavy rains a further point of issue to the sea would open up between Riet Vlei and the "True Mouth". This latter position is where today, with the silting up of the Riet Vlei, the Diep River now exists. Paarden Island still has its isolating vlei on the east side and only a thin strip of land separates this vlei from the sea at the point where the Diep River now issues.

In exploring the area I located a site just on the north side of the present Diep River mouth where a depression in the ground formed a small water-filled lake measuring approximately 400 feet in circumference. I was tempted to think that here was a trace of the original fort but this point is only about 5 miles from the position of the original fort and it is at sea level whereas the fort is described as being on a high dune.

The map illustrated is drawn from the Admiralty Hydrographical Chart of 1913. This map has been compared with a Cape Archives Map drawn up by Lieut. Fanshawe in 1806 and the rivers show surprisingly little positional change. I have shown the location of Fort Zandenburgh to be at the 9 mile (3 Dutch miles) point from the Fort of Van Riebeeck. This is exactly the spot where the 1806 map shows what appears to be a square cattle kraal and/or farmhouse and the wording "Riet Valley" so it would seem reasonable to conjecture that a later settler seized the opportunity of using the same position possibly because some trace of Fort Zandenburgh still existed at that time.

Early map of Table Bay and rivers. R marks the wreck.



MERVYN EMMS



Presentation to Mr. Justice MA Diemont

Following his election to the national council of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, Mr Justice M A Diemont has relinquished the chairmanship of the Cape Town Regional Committee of the Foundation, a position he occupied for 16 years.

Judge Diemont was presented with a copy of A Gordon Brown's book "Pictorial Africana", by Mr Douglas Andrews, vice-chairman of the Cape Town Regional Committee.

The publication, is a survey of old SA paintings, drawings and prints to the end of the 19th century, with a biographical dictionary of one thousand artists.

In making the presentation to Judge Diemont, Mr Andrews said the gift carried with it the appreciation of the committee, and was a token of the committee's regard for the leadership shown the committee by Judge Diemont during his long term of office as chairman of the Cape Town Regional Committee of the Foundation.

Van der Stel Foundation

Mr Eric Vertue, vice chairman of the South African Permanent Building Society, was elected chairman of the Cape Town branch of the Simon van der Stel Foundation at a monthly meeting of the foundation.

He takes over from Mr Justice M A Diemont who has been elected to the council of the foundation.

—Cape Argus, April 15, 1975

The English chair at the Cape

On March 19, an exhibition entitled "The English Chair at the Cape", held at the SA National Gallery, Gardens, was opened by Mrs Tini Vorster, wife of the Prime Minister.

The selection of chairs on display was arranged in the gallery's room devoted to the Sir Abe Bailey collection of paintings of British sporting pictures. The antique chairs were drawn from private homes of members and friends of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, as the Foundation's contribution to the Cape Town Festival.

In her interesting opening address Mrs Vorster paid tribute to the quality of the selection of 38 antique chairs from the Elizabethan era (1558-1603) to the Victoria (1837-1901). For more than half a century Groote Schuur, Mrs Vorster's home in Cape Town, has been the official residence of South Africa's Prime Ministers. Her interest in conservation and her personal attention and dedication to the cataloguing of the historic and antique treasures in Groote Schuur made her so fitting a personality to open this exhibition - a function attended by over 200 guests.

The exhibition of chairs is the first of furniture staged in the gallery. It is hoped that other exhibitions may take place in the impressive rooms, a superb environment for antiques.

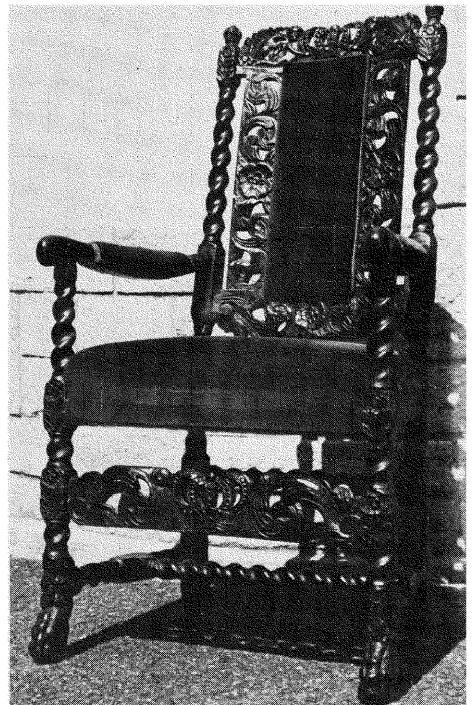
William and Mary high-backed walnut chair from design by Daniel Marot, a French architect who followed William III to England.



Late Elizabethan oak panel back chair, with top-rials and ear-pieces inlaid with typical floral arabesque decoration. Circa 1590.

The display of chairs is to a large extent self-explanatory. This rich and varied heritage of English chairs is intended not only for those who cling to the reminders of an English heritage, but they are a pictorial analysis of our history as seen in English furniture.

Charles II richly carved walnut-baked armchair with spiral twist supports and crown finials.

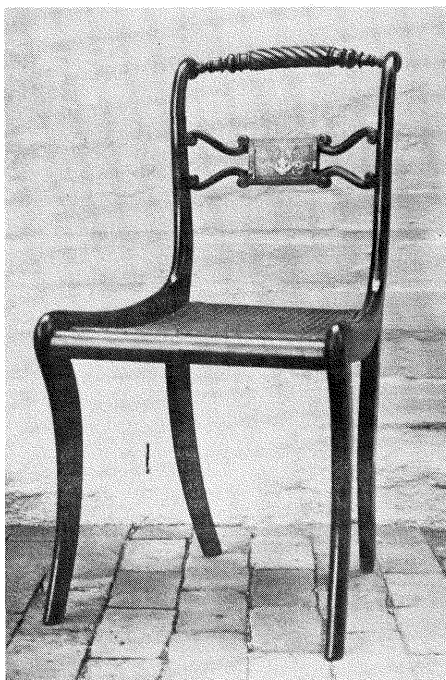




Early Georgian mahogany writing chair upholstered in old needlework, made in London by an unidentified master-carver who might from similarity of ornament, have been William Bradshaw (1736-50).

The exhibition draws attention to the very subtle points that distinguish individual chairs and relate them to their historic period. Each chair is also a principal advocate of its time, linked with the social development in history.

Regency Trafalgar chair with cable moulding and centre panel with brass inlay. (Circa 1815).



The Elizabethan heavy oak chairs (1558-1603) are from the collection of Major and Mrs P. Erskine of Ida's Valley at Stellenbosch. They were formerly from Salisbury Hall, the seat of the Duke of St Albans, and very interesting items for the students of furniture.

The chair from St Saviour's Church is a fine Jacobean carved oak chair, and the handsome Charles II pair of chairs relate to the period (1660-1685), when Charles, the husband of Catherine of Braganza, returned to England after an exile spent in Holland and France.

The arrival in England in 1689 of the "foreign" influence of William and Mary was reflected in furniture of the period. The walnut chair depicting the characteristics of this time (1689-1702) is from a design by Daniel Marot. Queen Mary and her ladies-in-waiting made the tapestry for a similar set of chairs now in Hampton Court Palace. The chair on exhibition is from the collection of Mr and Mrs Alfred Gordon-Brown.

The elegant uncluttered exhibition's selection of Georgian chairs (1720-1830 to include the Regency period) date from a time in England's history when fashion was dictated by the nobility. These chairs are a fascinating interpretation of history through furniture, and include Chippendale, Hepplewhite, Adam and Sheraton chairs. The chairs are identified by name with the famous cabinetmakers of these times.

A splendid Chippendale chair, one of a set of four dining-room chairs was lent by Mrs Joyce Newton-Thompson and the pair of Adam period drawing-room chairs by Sir Mordaunt and Lady Milner. A beautiful Sheraton chair in dark mahogany was lent by Mr and Mrs Sancroft-Baker.

The occupation of the Cape by the British at the end of the 18th century led to the introduction of English furniture. Imported chairs influenced the inventiveness of local craftsmen as earlier pattern books had done.

The Governors, senior civil servants, settlers and well-to-do merchants all brought English furniture to the Cape. As the century advanced the English influence became very apparent. By the end of the 19th century antique and reproductions of English furniture were accepted additions in the houses of the Peninsula and its expanding frontiers.

The selection of chairs draws fresh attention to the skills of the master craftsmen of earlier centuries. It pays tribute to the English heritage enjoyed in the Republic, which could lead to a revision of taste in English furniture and furnishings. The significance and interest is that so much of this original furniture survives from the period between two Queens - Elizabeth I and Victoria.

GWEN M MILLS

The English chair exhibition

You sit on it, you can stand on it, you can ward off lions with it at a circus or you can burn it; now the Simon van der Stel Foundation has discovered that you can also exhibit it.

The subject: the humble chair, although in this case it is a collection of rare posterior pieces preserved for posterity, meaning us.

The English Chair at the Cape was another festival exhibition, unique in its conception and presentation and was seen at the SA National Gallery from March 20 to April 14.

The 18th century is generally heralded in England as the golden age of English furniture and with the occupation of the Cape by the British at the end of the century came their furniture.

Imported chairs influenced the inventiveness of the local craftsmen who tackled stinkwood, for instance, in much the same manner as their English counterparts.

The English influence became more apparent as the century advanced. The creative achievements of England's furniture craftsmen were brought here by the governors, senior civil servants, settlers, well-to-do merchants and later by pioneers who went in search of gold and diamonds.

The arrival in England in 1689 of the 'foreign' influence of William and Mary was reflected in the furniture of the period. The important and individual style of Queen Anne in 1702, very reminiscent of the late 17th century Netherlands period, played its part in the history of furniture - all part of the historic background of English furniture. The romantic appeal of later well-known makers of furniture in the long Georgian and Regency periods - Chippendale, Hepplewhite and Sheraton followed by the Victorians - was felt at the Cape.

Antique and reproduction items of chairs from English homes were at the end of the 19th century accepted additions in the houses of the Cape and its expanding frontiers.

Gwen Mills, public relations officer for the Simon van der Stel Foundation which creates a national awareness of the need for the preservation of the country's cultural heritage, said the chairs 'display the subtle points that distinguish individual pieces from different periods of furniture and occupy a very rightful place in the history of furniture found at the Cape.'

—*The Argus*, March 18, 1975

A success story

The Ruth Prowse Art Centre is a success story - and it is a success which is largely



Miss Ruth Prowse, charcoal drawing by Rupert Shepard.

—(By kind permission of the South African National Gallery)

due to the assistance of the Cape Town Regional Committee of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

Miss Ruth Prowse was not only a distinguished artist, she was also a lover of old Cape Town. She joined the Cape Town Committee of the Foundation in 1959 and served on the committee until a year before her death. During that time she discussed with the committee and in particular with Mr Dirk Visser and Judge Diemont, what should happen to Roodebloem House, the historic house in which she lived in Woodstock. It was her wish that an art school should be established there and the committee undertook to give its assistance to the project. Unhappily the house was partly destroyed by fire in 1965, but it was restored during Miss Prowse's lifetime and when she died in 1967 it was fit for occupation again.

Miss Prowse bequeathed the house to four trustees, two of whom were Mr Visser and Judge Diemont. The testatrix provided in her will, the trustees should take over her property and acquire the adjoining house (The Retreat) to form one unit or cultural centre and to preserve the whole complex.

After a long struggle and many setbacks, the trustees managed to establish an art centre in 1970 in that part that had belonged to Miss Prowse.

Mr Eric Laubser, a well-known Cape artist was appointed as the first art director of the centre. By 1974 the enrolment had passed 400 and it became urgently necessary to acquire the remaining buildings. In this the trustees were successful. A non-profit company was established and the remaining buildings were purchased for R50 000.

On Saturday morning 7 June 1975 the new section of the Art Centre was formally opened by Mr Len Abrahamse.

This Art Centre is likely to grow to an expected enrolment of 750 students. It is a feather in the cap of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, and proof that if needed, old buildings can be put to good use.

M A DIEMONT

Roeland Street Prison

Die Voorsitter
Kaapstadse Streekbestuur
Stigting Simon van der Stel
Grootte Kerkgebou 709
Adderleystraat
Kaapstad 8001
28 April 1975

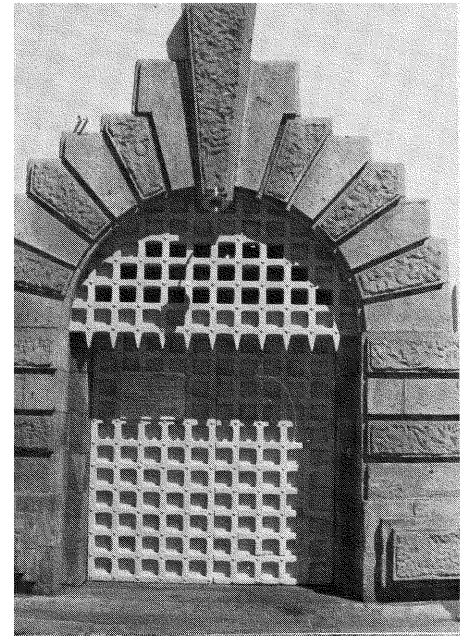
Meneer,
KAAPSTAD: ROELANDSTRAAT-
GEVANGENIS:

In opvolging van my skrywe nr K6/7/4 van 21 Maart 1975 moet ek u meedeel dat dit vanuit 'n argitektoniese oogpunt gesien nie moontlik sal wees om die vooraansig van die Roelandstraatgevangenis by die ontwerp van die nuwe argiefgebou in te pas nie. Laasgenoemde gebou sal 'n moderne voorkoms hê en gevolglik sal dié van die tronkgebou, wat uit 'n vroeër tyd dateer, daarmee bots.

Die beplanning van die argiefgebou is nog in 'n vroeë stadium en daar sal gepoog word om, waar moontlik, ander belangrike gedeeltes soos die klipmure aan die agterkant te behou en by die ontwerp in te lyf.

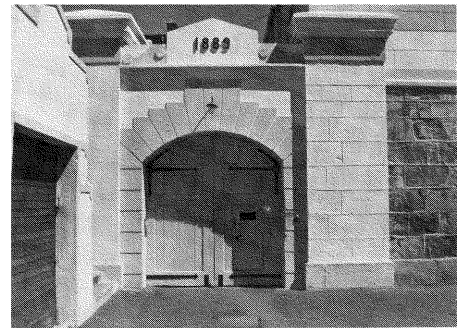
Daar kan net gemeld word dat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in sy skrywe van 20 Februarie 1974 geen besware geopper het teen die sloping van die ou tronkgebou nie.

Die uwe,
A HOWARD
Sekretaris van Openbare Werke



Close-up of main entrance.

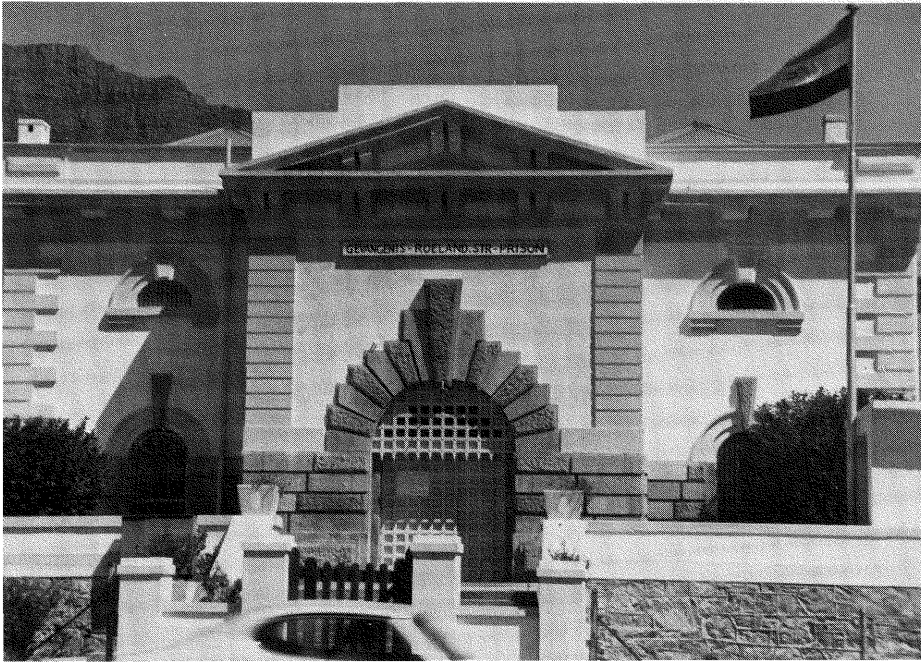
South-entrance of Roeland Street Prison. Note the stone wall on the right. Roeland Street Prison is a mixture of Cape Dutch and military fort architectural styles.



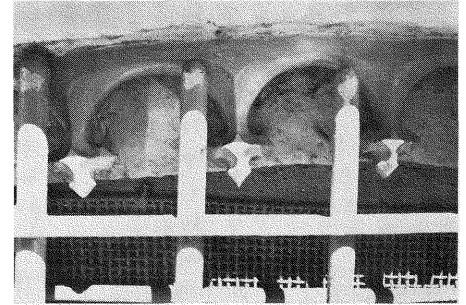
The photographs of Pretoria Prison and Roeland Street Prison were taken with the kind permission of the Commissioner of Prisons.

Roeland Street Prison, Cape Town—front view.

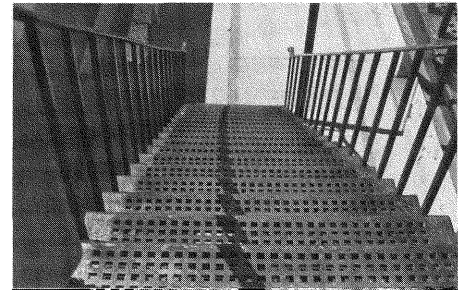




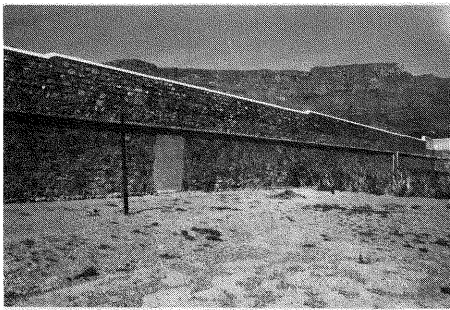
Main entrance, Roeland Street Prison.



Detail of the old cell windows.



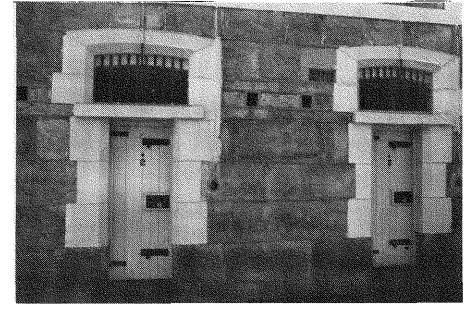
Nineteenth Century cast iron staircase in one of the older blocks.



Prisoners' exercise area, surrounded by a solid stone wall. Some time during the history of the prison this wall was raised to almost double its height.

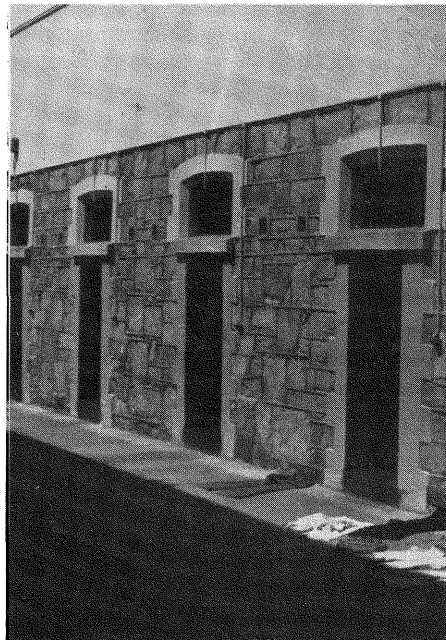
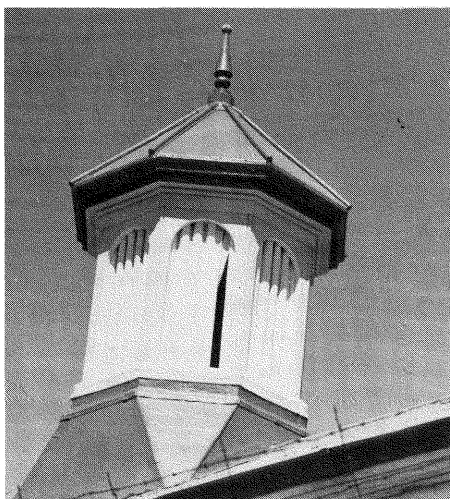


Barred cell window in the older part of Roeland Street Prison.



Two cells in the older part.

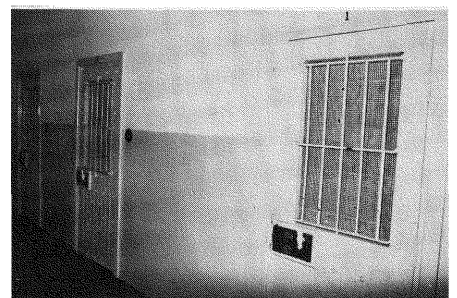
Quaint Victorian tower watches over what is now the general workroom of female prisoners, on the northern side of the prison.



Typical row of cells in the older part of the prison.

Death Row, now used as cells as capital punishment has been abolished in Roeland Street Prison.

—Photos of Roeland Street Prison: *M Marsh*



Roeland Street Prison

The building as it stands today is in the style of renaissance fortifications which was considered appropriate for buildings of this type during the 19th century. The main entrance is a fine monumental design, comparable with renaissance city gates in Europe. It is finely executed in well-laid stonework and plaster. Even though the tower originally intended was not built, the facade as it stands is grand and imposing, and deserves to be preserved, together with the fine stone walls surrounding the complex.

—DIRK VISSER

—Cape Town Regional Committee

Archives on Prison site

The Secretary for Public Works, Mr A Howard, said recently that Roeland Street Prison, one of Cape Town's oldest buildings, is to become the site for new Government Archives once it is demolished.

It was decided some time ago that the prison, commonly known as Cape Town's oldest buildings, is closed down once the new prison at Pollsmoor was completed.

Mr Howard emphasized that no final decision had been made to build a new archives building on the Roeland Street plot. "All I can say now is that it has been reserved for this purpose."

The Roeland Street Prison is for awaiting-trial prisoners only. Plans for the building were begun in 1849 and building was started at the end of that year.

During 1850 it was decided that it would be better to build a prison nearer the harbour, so that whole project was abandoned.

Building started again in 1859.

With additions being made from time to time, the building was completed in 1889.

The prison did not always house awaiting-trial prisoners only. There were death cells in the prison. The first person was executed there in 1923, the last on August 13, 1932.

—Cape Times, February 26, 1975

Roeland Street jail -from good taste to bad times

Roeland Street Prison – once labelled Cape Town's own Black Hole – was originally meant to be an example of good taste to the inhabitants of this city. Now, this 111-year-old landmark is to be closed down and replaced with a

modern institution at Pollsmoor. It is time to reflect that when Colonial Engineer George Pilkington set about building the prison in 1855 his grandiose plans were almost scuppered by two factors which still plague city engineers today – a shortage of cash and labour. Tenders for the jail came to £20 000. But the House of Assembly would only vote £15 000.

Grey's Letter

A letter to Governor George Grey in Pilkington's spidery copperplate then informed that he was able to complete the prison for that sum, but only if most of the ornamental work was deleted and the prison rose little higher than the portcullis.

He also intended dispensing with granite foundations except for 16 cells which would be used for the most vicious offenders.

There would be no furniture in the church or in the cells, no boilers or stoves in the kitchen.

Missing, too, would be one wing of the projected prison and any stone or ornamental work.

But back came a letter from the Colonial Secretary. In effect it said: 'Hold it!'

No bunks and cold food for prisoners were all right with the Governor, the letter inferred, but the secretary noted that Sir George 'is unwilling to dispense (with the ornamental work) as he deems it inexpedient to deprive the exterior of the building of all architectural beauty believing, as he does, that the display of correctness and taste of design in the public buildings of a town have an influence, by no means to be neglected, on the taste of the inhabitants and encourages improvements in the erections of private edifices.' Phew.

The secretary added that the Governor would ask Parliament for another £550 so the ornamental work could be done and warned that the building was not to go beyond a point at which the ornamental work could be added.

Shortage then

Meantime, Pilkington was doing his best to cut down on labour costs. But it was tough. There was a shortage of skilled craftsmen in the colony and ordinary labourers could earn up to three shillings a day, whereas the engineer's budget for the job could only afford one shilling.

While his 120-man labour force sweated away at the job, the Governor in 1856 asked Parliament if he could have the extra £550 for the ornamental work.

This researcher could find no record that the House of Assembly actually voted the funds, but a clerically proud letter from Pilkington in 1858 informed the Governor that he had managed to stick to most of the original design, plus build the steps and the ornamental work for less than £15 000.

How? According to Pilkington it was done by 'careful application of labour.' The prison was duly completed and in 1859 it was inspected by the Governor.

Palace

In December, 1884, a reporter of *The Cape Argus* was allowed to tour the prison and remarked that the former prison was 'of the kennel order,' while Roeland Street Prison was 'quite a palace.'

He noted that the kitchen was equipped to make 'soup of superlative excellence,' or 'rice water of *homoeopathic* weakness.' (Homeopathy – a system of treating a disease with small doses of medicine.)

His opinion was not shared in 1936 by a released prisoner who told *The Argus* the prison was rat-infested. They scampered over the huddled bodies at night and prisoners used to catch and suffocate them. Their diet consisted of porridge, bread, soup and a little sugar.

In 1950, Mr W G Hoal, former Director of Prisons, remarked: 'Drop the atom bomb on it – that is the best thing that could happen to Roeland Street Prison.'

Epidemic

One of the prison's most difficult times was during the influenza epidemic of 1918. The disease naturally attacked both prisoners and warders and within a few days it became a hospital. That was the only occasion when large quantities of brandy were served within the inhospitable grey walls.

About 10 per cent of the prisoners died. An African under sentence of death recovered just in time for his execution.

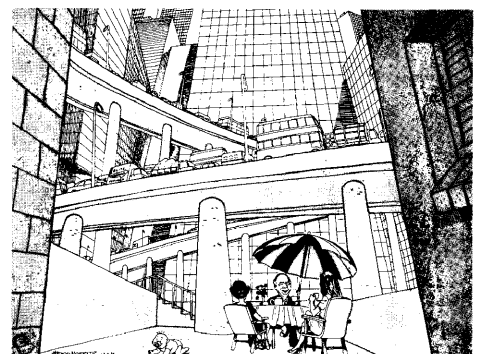
Crowds gathered outside the prison on execution days to watch the flagpole. A black flag always fluttered minutes after the execution.

For the moment nobody knows what to do with the old building. One suggestion is that it should house the archives.

—Cape Argus, March 13, 1971

Die mens en die stad

Kaapstad se stedeboekkundige beheersers het, so verneem ek, nou by sy aftrede 'n plan voorgestel om die stad weer leefbaar te maak. Blykbaar meen selfs dié



voormalige stadsingenieur dat Kaapstad onleefbaar gemaak is! Ek ken hom nie persoonlik nie, maar moet as besoeker aan sy stad tog vaskyk teen wat hoofsaaklik tydens sy bewind daargestel is. Alles eisende snelweë het stad en land deurklief, niks ontsiende slopings het onmenslike hoogbou in uitermaat tot gevolg gehad. En nou wil hy die binne-stad aantrekliker maak met verbrede sypaadjies, struike in die strate, boetiek-stalletjies en rusbanke. Snelweë om die verkeer die stad in te voer en straat-winkels om dit daar uit te hou. Ek begryp nie. En hy blykbaar ook nie dat straat-verbreding en hoogbou die binne-stad al sodanig verrinneweer het dat struike en rusbanke dit nie meer sal kan verhelp nie.

Kaapstad is verniel deur 'n winsbejag en tegnologie-verblinde vakbysiensheid. Wat misdaan is aan die land se oudste en eenmaal mooiste stad is nie meer te beredder nie, anders as deur hoogbou-verwydering en restourasie en herbouing op menslike skaal. Is dit nog moontlik? Ek glo nie. Kaapstad is sodanig deur sogenaamde vooruitgang gevandaliseer dat die besoeker daarvan skrik en die inwoner verward wonder wat het dan van sy fraaie stad geword.

Vooruitgang in menslike omgewingsontwikkeling is dit slegs eers as nuwe bou geskied met eerbied vir die historiese erfgoed en die menslike skaal van die uitkringende historiese kern. Wie bevelvoer oor die sloophamers van die materialisme dra een van die grootste verantwoordelikhede denkbaar teenoor die burgerij.

TON KOOT

(Verbaal WJP. Illustrasie, Mouton in Die Burger)

Those who care must organize

"By far the most effective thing that can be done about Cape Town now is to organise the people who care about the City's future into a broad, well-informed, articulate and converted force, with clearly defined strategies and unshakeable confidence in the values they support . . ."

If one listens to the opinions of a broad cross-section of Capetonians, one must face the fact that our city has deteriorated from a very beautiful 19th-century town to the substantially destroyed "non-place" it is today.

I have looked through the sketches and photographs of people like D'Oyley, Bowler, Derow, Langschmidt, Elliott and the many other unknown artists who recorded the beauties and delights of mid-19th century Cape Town. The contrast with the present is striking and in a way tragic, because there are clear indications that we are now entering a period

in which that old city, if preserved, could have been integrated very successfully into the planning of Cape Town's future.

Historic core

Many historic towns that have survived the onslaught of 20th-century traffic and development have recognized that the historic core is an invaluable asset, and preserved it as a traffic-free precinct, in which the pleasant mixture of living, working and entertainment can flourish side by side in a rich and lively mosaic.

Cape Town was afforded a unique opportunity to achieve this objective, when the Foreshore was reclaimed as a by-product of the new harbour. It is a logical place for the larger scale of operations necessitated by the motorcar and the passenger lift, and in spite of the criticisms levelled at it this is what it does rather well. The opportunities that this extra space provided to leave the old city intact have largely been lost now and the very uneven and piecemeal development that has taken place is clearly visible in the present cityscape.

It would be an interesting exercise to try to find out why most 20th-century cities, for Cape Town is certainly no exception, have turned into such appalling places for people, and the responsibility would have to be spread very widely over society as a whole. Far more useful, however, would be to try to salvage what is still surviving and to conserve the remnants with skill and care.

By far the most effective thing that can be done about Cape Town now is to organize the people who care about the City's future into a broad, well-informed, articulate and concerted force, with clearly defined strategies and unshakable confidence in the values they support. It is not always apparent to the layman, but there is a great deal of Cape Town left that is valuable and worthy of conservation. Much of it is threatened, and will shortly disappear unless a strong and valid case can be made for conservation.

The forces of renewal are extremely powerful, and carry the weight of authority and the support of large capital investment. It requires a very determined body of public opinion to hold back the bulldozers, as many zealous conservationists have learnt to their bitter disappointment.

In the older parts of our city there remain old buildings masked by destructive "modernizations", that could be unveiled to reveal great beauty. There are delightful enclaves that remain and could become valuable and viable parts of city fabric, if they could be preserved. It is important to realize that very few old buildings or areas are **not** threatened at this moment, and in some cases it may already be too late to save them.

One of the most disturbing prospects is

the road widening programme for Shortmarket and Hout Streets, the very pleasant and narrow streets that run parallel to Wale Street. If this plan is implemented some of the last remaining areas of a beautiful city will be lost.

There are very few places in Southern Africa where there are any buildings or parts of cities that are worth conserving. In the next 25 years or so it is expected that man will build more new structures than he has in the whole of his history. Seen in this light, the preserving of old Cape Town becomes a matter of great importance. The case for conservation has been made – it only requires to be implemented.

To blame the planners, engineers and architects for the sorry state of cities is to touch only on the surface of the problem. The inhabitants of the city, through their democratically-elected representatives, determine the nature and form of its development, and it is only when a sufficiently large and influential number favour conservation in the context of creative planning, that the character of cities will change.

Destructive car

By now we all know that the introduction of the motor-car into the inner centres of old cities has been the main destructive force. Elsewhere, this has been seen to fail and alternative solutions have been found. Perhaps it will take an energy crisis to convince Cape Town that it should call a halt to the present trends and find other ways to conserve the best of our heritage and to reinstate the city as a pleasant, civilized place for people. There are lots of good examples to learn from – it only requires the concerted determination of all those who care, to make themselves heard, and to bring pressure to bear in whatever way they can. The objective should be to make 1975 a year to conserve Cape Town.

REVEL FOX

—Cape Times, March 12, 1975

Ontwikkeling en bewaring, belowe Munnik

'n Middelweg tussen bewaring en ontwikkeling sal gevind moet word, het die Kaaplansde Administrateur, dr L A P A Munnik, in die Kaapse stadhuis gesê by 'n noenmaal wat die stadsraad ter ere van hom gehou het.

In sy termyn sal hy ontwikkeling en bewaring moet versoen. Ontwikkeling kan nie net loshande die loop neem nie, hoewel 'n mens nie altyd net bewaring moet voorhou nie. Daar is belangrike ontwik-

keling wat moet voortgaan, het hy gesê. Hy is bly oor die goeie samewerking tussen alle partye wat by die opgrawings op die Goue Akker in Kaapstad betrokke is. Suid-Afrika het 'n kort geskiedenis en kan nie toelaat dat belangrike historiese vondste verlore gaan nie.

In antwoord op die burgemeester van Kaapstad, mnr David Bloomberg, het dr Munnik gesê veranderinge moet plaasvind ten goede. Verandering kan nie net ter wille van verandering bepleit word nie.

Kaapstad stel 'n voorbeeld aan die res van die land deurdat sy inwoners vreedsaam en konstruktief saamleef, het dr Munnik gesê.

Evolusie

Mnr Bloomberg het gesê Kaapland het 'n leier nodig wat lewenskragtig is in sy benadering van mense, probleme en geleenthede – 'n man wat die belang van almal bo die partypolitieke tradisie sal plaas. Dr Munnik is só 'n mens.

Dr Munnik het sy amp aanvaar in 'n tyd van evolusie in Suid-Afrika. Die laaste paar maande het tekens van groot veranderinge in Kaapland en veral Kaapstad getoon. Die Moederstad se tradisies en beginsel van verdraagsaamheid het hom 'n simbool van die nuwe tydgees gemaak.

Mnr Bloomberg het gesê hy is oortuig dat Kaapstad en Kaapland 'n leidende rol kan speel om 'n maatskappy te skep waarin almal deel kan hê en waarin ou griewe en vooroordele vergeet kan word. In so 'n samelewing kan almal konstruktief en vreedsaam saamwerk.

—*Die Burger*, 10 Julie 1975

Move to enforce redecoration

The Cape Town City Council is considering taking powers to force property owners to paint and renovate buildings which are neglected and which become eyesores.

In terms of the proposed legislation the City Engineer may order the renovation, cleaning or painting of buildings which are showing signs of becoming unhealthy or unsightly.

If the owner does not comply with the order the City Engineer may step in himself and "alter, repair, clean, renovate or repaint" the neglected building at the expense of the owner.

The new powers, which will be part of the building regulations, were recommended by the City Council's Town Planning Committee. They were considered yesterday by the council's Executive Committee.

Comments

Mr I Ospovat, chairman of Exco, said the proposed regulations were referred to the City Engineer for his comments. He said that the committee was concerned that in some instances the forced renovation of properties could result in hardship.

To accommodate the additional powers the building regulations governing dangerous and objectionable buildings have been redrafted.

In terms of the new regulations there will be three categories of unwanted buildings or structures:

- Those which are totally prohibited;
- Those which have become dangerous, ruinous or dilapidated and which require repair, reconstruction or demolition; and
- Those which have become unsightly, objectionable, unhealthy and require renovation.

Another factor that will be taken into account when neglected properties are considered is their depreciating affect on other buildings in the area.

—*Cape Times*, August 20, 1975

Malay Quarter

The Malay Quarter, known by some as "Bo-Kaap" and built largely by and for the artisans of Cape Town between 1790 and 1825, was subsequently occupied by people of the Moslem faith. These included political exiles from Java and Ceylon, who moved into the area around 1820. Liberated slaves moved into the

area after 1834 and with them Malay people who had been living in the town. Over the years the area has come to be identified as the heart of the cultural life of the Malay people. Major influences on their life in the Cape have been their religion, the culture of their forebears, visits to Mecca and the Dutch and English colonists.

The Quarter extends over 34 ha (85 acres) bounded by Buitengracht, Rose Street, Carisbrook Street, Strand Street and the slopes of Signal Hill. The housing is made up of long continuous rows of small, mostly single-storeyed, flat roofed houses; staggered to step down the slopes. All the houses face on to the street, with access to the front door immediately off the pavement via the narrow stoeps which have low brick walls and stoep-seats at each end. The straight parapets are decorated with mouldings. The houses have stone foundations, and walls of sun-dried bricks laid in mud mortar protected by lime plaster, and limewashed in various colours. Yellowwood beams and boarding hold the roof, made up of bricks laid in clay and covered with lime plaster, and kept watertight with whale-oil, molasses and more recently covered with tar or bitumen. For reasons of economy the roofs of the restoration houses are of corrugated aluminium.

Two basic styles predominate the Malay Quarter – Cape Dutch and Cape Georgian – the character of the styles being very similar. The unifying elements are the windows, fanlights and doors and parapets. The design and proportions of these were Cape Dutch, and later, with the British occupations, came the Georgian style and Adam proportions.

Gerestoureerde huise in Chiappinistraat, in die Maleierbuurt. Die Kaapse stadsraad het al 44 huise in die buurt gerestoureer. In 1966 is 'n deel van die buurt tot Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid verklaar en in 1971 is met restourasiewerk aan 52 huise begin.

—Foto: *Die Burger*





Chiappinistraat, tydens restourasie.

—Foto: Lesley Townsend

The Cape Dutch style continued to be used in the Georgian era and these two styles became assimilated into their distinctive form (see photographs). The mosques seem, both physically and metaphysically, to integrate all the elements of the area. The corner shops, a Regency (late Georgian) innovation, generate activity. The scale of the street is of the pedestrian; it is a social space, where people gather and talk and children play, reminiscent of old cities in Europe. A part of the Malay Quarter, that is the streets Wale, Church, Shortmarket and Longmarket and Helliger Lane, between Rose and Chiapinni Streets, was declared a National Monument in 1966 and in 1971 the City Council began the first phase of restoration. Care is being taken that the existing beauty and unity be preserved

Hethjeslaan, Maleierbuurt, Kaapstad, gedurende restourasie.

—Foto: Lesley Townsend



as an example of traditional, Cape, domestic architecture. It is intended that the cobbled streets will be restored and lamps will replace electricity poles and cables. Restoration is proceeding apace with 48 of the 52 dwellings completed. It is planned that further dwellings are to be declared National Monuments and restored.

LESLEY T TOWNSEND

Slamse Buurt: raad wil praat

Die Minister van Gemeenskapsbou, mnr A H du Plessis, sal moontlik binnekort 'n afvaardiging van die Kaapse stadsraad te woord staan oor die verkoop aan private eienaars van die gerestoureerde huise in die Slamse Buurt.

Die twee stadsraadslede wat deur die bestuurskomitee van die raad afgevaardig is om 'n onderhoud met die Minister aan te vra, is die voorsitter van die huisvestingskomitee, mnr Ted Mauerberger en mnr A Hudson.

Luidens 'n persverklaring wat die Minister van Gemeenskapsbou in 1965 uitgegeek het, mag die stadsraad die gerestoureerde huise in die Slamse Buurt nie verkoop nie, aangesien die grond gekoop is met die geld wat deur die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou beskikbaar gestel is.

Mag verkoop

Sedertdien het die stadsraad die restourasie van die gebied self aangepak, en 52

huise in die eerste stadium van ontwikkeling is byna voltooi. Daar word beoog om 64 in die tweede stadium van die ontwikkeling te restoureer. Dié tweede is nog nie begin nie.

Die Slamse Buurt is in 1969 tot Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid verklaar. Die geld vir die restourasieprojek is verkry van die Nasionale Behuisingskommissie, wat R290 000 aan die stadsraad beskikbaar gestel het, en die Gemeenskapsontwikkelingsfonds, wat R260 000 aan die stadsraad geleen het.

Ingevolge die Wet op Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede mag die stadsraad die huise aan private eienaars verkoop solank die geboue in stand gehou word en volgens voorskrifte van die Raad van Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid.

Die stadsraad meen dat slegs die grond in die Slamse Buurt aan die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou behoort en dat die raad geregtig is om die huise, wat aan hom behoort, te verkoop.

—Die Burger, 22 Januarie 1975

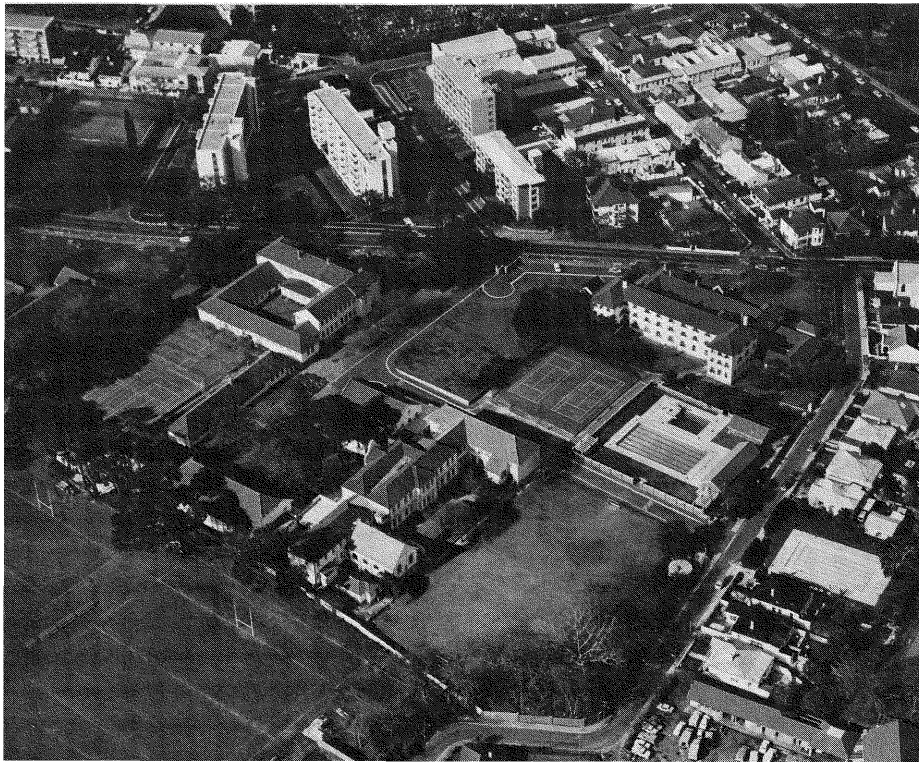
Proud Cape Town School

Wynberg Girls' High School, Aliwal Road, Wynberg, Cape, celebrated its 90th birthday last year and has through the Principal, Miss Joan M Urie become a Life Member of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

A previous headmistress Miss E B Hawkins, obtained permission of the Duke of Wellington for the school to use the Wellington crest — a read lion rampant surmounting a ducal coronet. The Duke later sent the school a gift of seeds of a cedar tree planted by the Iron Duke on the grave of the charger "Copenhagen" which he rode at the battle of Waterloo.

The 200th anniversary in 1969 marked the birth of the first Duke of Wellington, victor at Waterloo. This occasion was celebrated at the school by the presentation of banners to the school houses: Apsley, Copenhagen, Waterloo and Wellesley by the then Duke of Wellington, brother of the one who had granted leave to use the crest, who paid a private visit to South Africa and a visit to Wynberg Girls' High School.

The Duke of Wellington's name is known the world over, on account of the many victories won by him in India and in Europe. Countless streets and avenues, besides towns and cities in various countries bear his name. His memory was kept very much alive during the governorship at the Cape of Sir Harry Smith who held a Waterloo Banquet every year, in honour of the Duke of Wellington.



Wynberg Girls High School (foreground) celebrated its 90th birthday in 1974, and has become a Life Member of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

—Photo: Charles Field

An interesting article in the school's magazine, entitled "The visit of his Grace the Duke of Wellington, 28th February, 1809" was written by Miss E B Hawkins. She mentions Colonel Wesley's visit to the Cape. He found lodgings in those early days with Mrs Van der Berg at 54 Longmarket Street. This building was later occupied by Saul Solomon's private printing works. It has since disappeared.

Colonel Wesley spent five or six months at the Cape before orders came for the regiment to continue to India, where he arrived in February, 1797. The military camp was established at Wynberg in 1806, after the Cape had been taken by the British. The Cape had been returned to the Netherlands by the Peace of Amiens in 1802, but when war broke out in 1803 it was again taken by the British to prevent its seizure by the French.

Wynberg military camp still occupied – but by the South African forces, has within its boundaries a large rock. Carved on the rock are the names and badges of many regiments, once stationed at the Cape.

The cottage reputed to have been occupied by the Duke of Wellington was known in Wynberg as Wellington's cottage. It has since been demolished. The Duke's stay at the Cape, is however, marked in Wynberg by Wellington Road, Wellington Avenue and Waterloo Green. Wynberg Girls' High School, standing in an environment very closely associated

with the early history of the Cape, and within a short distance of the historic Constantia valley, is proud to wear the badge of so distinguished and famous a soldier as the Duke of Wellington.

GWEN M MILLS

This old Cape Town warehouse, situated in Bree Street, was erected in the first half of the last century. It is now used as a garage, but still retains enough of its old world character to justify restoration.



Old Cape warehouses

Though sadly altered from what they originally looked like when they were erected in the first half of last century, these two Cape Town warehouses still retain enough of their old-world character to justify their restoration.

The one in Bree Street is now used as a garage. Access to this building can also be obtained from the street at the back, but only to the middle and top floors.

The building at 11, Rose Street, has recently been renovated by Mr Leslie Dektor, a Cape Town photographer, who has turned the inside of the building into two studios and two offices. He found the building derelict and condemned and destined to be pulled down because of road developments in that area, but obtained permission from the City Council to make it habitable for commercial purposes for the time being. Built about 150 years ago, 11, Rose Street, is said to have been a coach house, a church and in later years an engineering shop.

The original gantry or hoist is to be seen in both buildings, the method by which goods were pulled up to the first and second floors in buildings which had no stairways or lifts, though outside steps appear to have been added to the Rose Street building, with access from the first floor of the abutting building.

GEORGE ASCHMAN

Another old Cape Town warehouse, situated in Rose Street, has recently been renovated and is being used as offices and studios. Note the original gantry which was used to hoist goods to the first and second floors.

—Photo's: G Aschman



Doodskaduwee oor mooiste tuin

Die historiese Kompanjietuin – daardie klein stukkie kosbare “oerwoud” in die hart van die Kaapstad – word bedreig deur die groot oerwoud van beton om hom heen. Die hoë geboue gooi lang skaduwees oor die tuin waar feitlik net sonliewende plante en bome groei.

Daar staan reeds ’n stuk of vier, vyf reuse van glas en beton. Aan die westekant ’n woonstelgebou, die nuwe gebou waar al die advokate hul kantore het, die nuwe berghoë gebou van die Provinsiale Administrasie. Aan die oostekant die byna net so hoë Hendrik Verwoerdgebou.

Die Kaapstadse stadsraad het bereken dat die hele tuin binne betreklike kort tyd dag en nag in die skaduwee sal wees as nog meer hoë geboue toegelaat word. Dit sal die meeste van die bome en plante in die tuin knou en mettertyd laat doodgaan.

Maar Kapenaars het gelukkig bewus geraak van hierdie bedreiging vir die hart van hul stad. Die saak is reeds deur die Stigting Simon van der Stel by die Kaapstadse stadsraad aangeroer.

Ons verneem op goeie gesag dat ’n diepgaande studie tans gemaak word van die beste manier om van Koningin Victoriastraat ’n behoorlike bewaringstraat te maak. Daar is ook baie mense wat graag die straat se ou naam – Tuynstraat – in ere herstel sal wil sien.

Hoewel daar reeds ’n paar koue, lang skaduwees onherroeplik val oor die lappie grond waar Jan van Riebeeck sy beroemde tuin aangelê het, wil daar nou gekeer word dat nog meer skaduwees bykom.

Volgens kenners is die waarde van die Kompanjietuin onmeetbaar. Daar groei van die kosbaarste plante ter wêreld. Die beste miskien nog dat die tuin aan Kaapstad seker die mooiste groen hart van alle stede in die land gee.

Op Nuweland se beroemde rugbyveld word nou ook gekyk of die skaduwees van die hoë paviljoene dalk die rede is dat die gras kol-kol so swak is. Menings hieroor is uiteenlopend.

—Rapport, 14 September 1975

Aanslag op Kaapstad se erfgoed, Bome en huise in die pad

Oud-Senator Paul Sauer se bitter opmerkinge oor die „gevoellose” manier waarop die Stellenbosse Afdelingsraad op groot skaal en voor die voet bome afkap vir die bou van paaie, het ’n ant-

woord uitgelok van die hoofingenieur van dié raad wat die hele mentaliteit van die padingenieurs en hul filosofie in ’n neutedop saamvat.

Toe aan hom gevra is of na die ontstellende en volledige verwoesting van die Klappmutspad – wat een van die mooiste in die Boland was – daar miskien tog nog wel nuwe bome geplant sal word langs die nuwe pad, het hy opgemerk: “Wat help dit ’n mens kap ’n boom af en plant ’n ander in die plek daarvan, wat weer in die pad sal wees?” Inderdaad, vir hierdie mense is ’n boom net ’n ding wat altyd letterlik en figuurlik in die pad sal wees. Waarom bome plant as jy ’n pad so reguit as ’n potlood kan maak, aan alle kante oop, en sonder die minste verskil of dit in die Boland, Transvaal of desnoods in Kalifornië is?

Ideaal

Dis mos die ideaal? Ook al het ons verlede jaar aan ons „groen erfenis” gewy, met amptelike funksies, boeke en posseëls. Wat help dit ’n mens inderdaad! Kap af die boom, maak reguit die pad! Laat die amptelike regterhand nie weet wat die linkerhand doen nie.

Ongelukkig vir die regmakers het daar blykbaar geen huise langs dié pad gestaan nie. Die vernieling van ’n paar eeue se stadskoonheid net om ’n straat ’n paar meter breër te maak sodat hy van ’n Astraat na ’n Bstraat geklassifiseer kan word – met of sonder parkeerplekke aan een of albei kante – is ’n genoeg wat slegs die ‘stadsontwikkelaar’ ken, ’n man wat nog meer as die plattelandse padingenieurs besete is van wat die Franse so kenmerkend noem: ‘destruotomanie’. Ook hulle vorder darem baie goed en daar was tot nou toe nog niks wat hul ‘ontwikkelinge’ werklik kon stuit nie.

Ons het blykbaar al klaar berus in die volkome nodelose verbredingsplan van die strate tussen Adderleystraat en Breëstraat, soos Houtstraat en ander. Die hele idee speel hom in ’n Kafkaïaanse sfeer af, want terwyl daar aan die een kant pragtige ou huise verwoes en bome ontwortel word vir ’n ringpad en parkeertoringe om die binnepad, sodat die motoris die stadsentrum nie meer hoef binne te ry nie; word aan die ander kant – ’n volkome teenstelling – die tussenstrate verbreed vir ’n te verwagte toenemende stadsverkeer!

Moet die motors dan nie in die parkeergarages bly nie? Of wat?

En terwyl al hierdie verwoesting voortgaan en nog veel meer in die geheim beplan word waarvan ons nog niks weet nie (as ons dit te hore kom is dit al ’n voldonge feit wat “te veel geld sou kos om te verander”) durf die gewese stadsingenieur te sê: ons moet nou werklik die stad weer aan die Kapenaars terug gee!

Watter stad? ’n Woestyn van beton en staal, bouputte, ondergrondse winkel-

sentrums, wolkekrabbers wat die sonlig uit hele strate weghou? ’n Stad van ringpaaie, Los Angeles-agtige padkruisings, lugbrûe en viadukte, sodat ’n mens eersdaags die dakke van die ou geboue beter sal kan bewonder as van die straat af na hulle op te kyk? Wat moet die voetganger dan nog maak in die stad “wat aan hom teruggegee” is? Sal hy maar nie vinnig pad gee na die naaste parkeertoring en via die ringpad en die snelweg die wyk neem na die voorstede nie? Daar kan hy mos so ’n bietjie die illusie van buitelewe kry.

Parkeertoring

Hierdie kreet van “gee die stad terug” word nog holler as ’n mens lees dat daardie einste parkeertoring die rede is van die oorbrugge van Strandstraat, wat die mooiste (en dalk die enigste) stadsbeeldvan-formaat wat ons nog het, dié van die Lutherse Kerk-kompleks, grondig gaan bederf. Om die stad aan die Kapenaars terug te gee moet dit blykbaar eers heeltemal verwoes word.

Dis natuurlik ook toevallig dat dié parkeertoring dan net gebou moet word op ’n plek waar vandag (en moontlik nie meer môre nie) ’n paar van die oudste huise van Kaapstad staan. Dis nl. die historiese vierkant wat begrens word deur die Buitengracht, Kort-, Mark-, Hout- en Breëstraat.

Hartverwarmend

Van hierdie huise het Gabriel Fagan, ’n erkende deskundige op die gebied van historiese argitektuur en restaurasie, aangehoor dat hulle nog uit die 18de eeu dateer. Dit betref dus nie geboue uit die Victoriaanse- of selfs die ‘Regency’-tyd nie, maar uit die dae van die ou Hollandse Oos-Indiese Kompanje.

Pleks van onself op die skouer te klop van geluk dat ons nog daardie geboue besit, en alles in werking stel om hulle te restoreer en ’n ereplek te gee as monumente van die bakermat van ons beskawing, word aan eienaars eenvoudig ’n onteieningsbevel deur die pos toegestuurd, asof dit hier om ’n hoekie van ’n voorstedelike voortuintjie gaan wat nou dig is om ’n straathoek af te rond. Dis mos ’n parkeertoring wat ons gaan kry; wat beteken dan nog bewyse van ons geboortereg as Moederstad?

Dis daarom besonder hartverwarmend dat een eenaar, nl mej Cicely Blumberg, wat die huis Buitengracht 67/69 besit, haar bereid verklaar het om die stadsraad “op elke duim van die pad” te beveg om die 18de eeuse huis wat sy besit van vernietiging te red.

Prof W E G Louw het eens gesê dat eers as ons almal om die hoofposkantoor saam sal staan om ons laaste erfenis te verdeel, die mense wakker sal word en sal huil oor wat hulle verloor het. Ons kan gerus naas Mej Blumberg gaan staan as die stootskrapers aangedreun kom. Ook al sal dit ewe wanhopig wees.

Unieke huise

Die gewese stadsingenieur het by sy aftrede 'n lysie opgestel van historiese geboue wat volgens hom bewaar moet bly; maar met die vóórwete van die parkeertorings, is dié historiese vierkant nie hierby ingesluit nie.

Dit ondanks die feit dat mnr Revel Fox, erevoorsitter van die Kaapse Provinsiale Instituut van Argitekte, saam met mev Joan Kantey al verlede jaar 'n gloedvolle pleidooi vir die behoud van hierdie geboue gelewer het.

Wat help dit 'n mens . . . as die destructo-manie hul 'gevoellose' vonnis al gevel het? Kan 'n mens dan parkeertorings nie orals oprig, van die Kaap tot Beit-brug, honderde, duisende, langs ring- en snelpaaie sonder tal, lineaalreg en volkome boomloos nie?

Maar is hierdie huise daarenteë nie uniek nie? As hulle môre deur 'n stootskraper omgestoot sou word, sou dit nouliks 'n kwartier duur, maar geen mag ter wêreld sou hulle weer kan oprig nie.

Natuurlik, ek weet, ons het nie heeltemal geslaap nie. Ons het protesvergaderings gehou in die Stadsaal; ons het 'n aksie "Red die Kaap" begin; ons het by hoëre outoriteite as die stadsraad aangeklop om hulp. Maar dit blyk dat ons maar net 'n asperientabletjie gekry het om ons kalm te maak en aan die slaap te sus. Intussen het die plannemakers ongestoord voortgegaan: weg met bome, weg met ou huise, weg met hotelpoorte! Bou 'n nuwe stad en gee hom dan sinies "terug" aan die voetganger wat hom nie meer sal wil hê nie.

Geen karakter

Onlangs is by die Universiteit van Kaapstad aan 'n besoekende stadsuitlêer uit die buiteland gevra of hy dink die nuutbou tas die karakter van Kaapstad aan? Hy het verbaas opgekyk. "Watter karakter?" wou hy weet, "die stad het mos geen karakter meer". As hy reg sou wees, wat help dit dan 'n mens veg nog? Maar is hy? En as hy nie gelyk het nie, wat doen ons dan op hierdie laat uur?

C PAMA

—*Die Burger*, 25 April 1975

Mens wen dalk nog stryd om plein

Alles dui daarop dat die geboue aan die seekant van Riebeeckplein nie heeltemal vir die mens verlore sal gaan nie. Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het reeds die masjinerie in werking gestel om die eerste eiendom in dié straatblok tot Nasionale Monument te verklaar. 'n Tweede private eiendom in hierdie blok sal allig kort voor lank geproklameer word.

Die Raad sal ook met Kaapstad se stadsraad, wat die meeste van die eiendomme in hierdie blok (tussen die Buitengracht, Breë-, Hout- en Kortmarkstraat) besit, oor voorlopige proklamasie van sy geboue onderhandel.

As daar Nasionale Monumente in hierdie blok is, sal die beoogde parkeergarage nie in sy voorgestelde vorm opgerig kan word nie.

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het op sy vergadering in Kaapstad laat-blyk dat hy graag die bestaande geboue wil bewaar. Van die geboue dateer uit die agttiende eeu, dus uit die dae van die VOC. Hoewel daar aan sommige van hierdie geboue baie veranderinge aangebring is, is hulle restoureerbaar soos mnr Gawie Fagan 'n paar jaar gelede met deeglike ondersoek bewys het.

Versoek

Prof Frans Smuts het hom op die vergadering sterk uitgelaat oor hierdie saak en daarop gewys dat dit 'n outentieke stukkie van ou Kaapstad is, 'n groep geboue waarvan die style by mekaar aan-gepas is.

Hy het gesê dat waar daar gepoog gaan word om Kaapstad aan sy inwoners terug te gee, dit prysenswaardig sal wees as hierdie gebied gerestoureer en so bewaar kan word.

Sedert hierdie vergadering het mej Cicely Blumberg die Raad versoek om haar eiendom in die Buitengracht, no. 67/69, wat 'n geelhoutvloer en -plafonbalke het en mure van klei en klip – 'n aanduiding van sy ouderdom – tot Nasionale Monument te verklaar. In hierdie verband word reeds opgetree en dit sal na verwagting oor sowat drie maande as sodanig geproklameer kan word.

'n Tweede eienaar het ook reeds tentatief versoek dat sy eiendom in hierdie blok geproklameer word. Voordat hy 'n finale versoek rig, wil hy hom net vergewis van wat so 'n proklamasie alles behels.

Monster

Riebeeckplein, waarop die pragtige St Stephen-kerk, die eerste teater in Suid-Afrika, staan, is reeds deur 'n groot parkeergarage in Breëstraat bederf, en die skaal is ook aan die oorkant versteur. Maar aan die seekant kan 'n deel van die ou Kaap pragtig gerestoureer word. En dit is om hierdie gebouekompleks waarom die stryd gaan.

Volgens die beoogde pad- en parkeerplan vir daardie deel van die stad, moet nog 'n reusagtige parkeergarage op die hele straatblok gebou word. 'n Dosyn groot geboue sal vir hierdie monster gesloop moet word.

Maar nou lyk dit vir my of daar 'n stok in die wiel gestee is. Uitstekend! Hopelik is daar kort voor lank nog 'n paar stokke.

—*Die Burger*, 10 Mei 1975

City plaques link with the past

Included in the Cape Town Regional Committee of the Simon van der Stel Foundation's expanding programme and with a new emphasis on historic preservation, is the distinctive blue Simon van der Stel Foundation plaque. This plaque is being placed by the Foundation on buildings in the city which have interesting associations historically, or with famous people.

The first blue plaque in Wale Street on the wall of the Board of Executors building, marks the site where the hospital established by Simon van der Stel, the patron of the Foundation stood. This plaque is the forerunner of many more blue Simon van der Stel plaques.

There are in Greater London 316 blue plaques marking buildings which have interesting associations with famous people or are themselves of interest. The Foundation intends placing, after the obvious historic research and with discrimination, many of these plaques in the city.

To foster public interest the Chairman of the Cape Town Regional Committee, Mr Eric Vertue, invites suggestions and the support of the civic-minded community, to submit names of famous people and the addresses of buildings of interest which should be honoured by a plaque, for the consideration of his committee.

Addresses may be sent to the Cape Town Regional Committee, Simon van der Stel Foundation, Room 709, Groote Kerk-gebou, Adderley Street, Cape Town.

—GWEN MILLS

Kaap wil sy ou geboue lys

Kaapstad gaan 'n lys opstel van sy geboue wat in die middestad bewaar moet word. Die stadsraad het verlede week besluit dat die nuwe Kaapstadse Omgewingsadviesraad in oorleg met die stadsingenieur hierdie geboue moet uitwys.

In 'n verslag aan die nutsdiens- en werkekomitee, wat aan die raad voorgelê is, sê die burgemeester van Kaapstad, mnr David Bloomberg, die voorsitter van die Kaapse Instituut van Argitekte, mnr Revel Fox, het aangebied dat sy instituut met so 'n lys help.

Die skakelkomitee van die Durbanse stadsraad en die Natalse Provinsiale Instituut van Argitekte het onlangs so 'n brosjure saamgestel. Daar is 'n groot behoefte aan so 'n publikasie vir Kaap-

stad en dit kan van onskatbare waarde wees vir die departement van die stads-ingenieur se plan Kaapstad – Stad vir die Mense.

Mnr Bloomberg sê die opstel van die lys behoort 'n goeie begintoek te wees vir die Omgewingsadviesraad, waarin die Kaapse Instituut van Argitekte verteenwoordig is.

—*Die Burger*, 4 Augustus 1975

Historic finds in company vaults

Two deeds of sale signed by the former Governor of the Cape, Simon van der Stel, in 1690 and 1691 have been discovered in the vaults of the Syfrets Trust Company.

The deeds are among a number of old documents that have been unearthed by the company's librarian, Mr John Kavanagh. They form part of a display of historical business documents Mr Kavanagh is mounting in the banking hall of the company's St George's Street offices. Starting with the scribbled working notes E R Syfret, who jotted down a list of prominent people who were later to become the first shareholders in Syfrets Trust, the exhibition traces the company's development since E J M Syfret established himself as an accountant in the city in 1851.

A number of much older documents have been discovered in the archives of the South African Association for the Administration and Settlement of Estates which merged with Syfrets in 1968. These include a deed of sale signed by Ryk Tulbagh in 1765 and surveyors' reports dating to the beginning of last century.

Mr Kavanagh said that the mass of business records in the Syfrets vaults was still being sifted in the hope of new finds. One particular prize he is after is the charter granted to the South African Association when it was founded in 1834.

'The South African Association was the first of its kind in the world and was the forerunner of modern trust companies. The charter, if we could find it, would be a truly historic document,' he said.

—*Cape Argus*, February 13, 1975

Van Riebeeck's dam

It is encouraging to note how widespread is the view that the remains of Van Riebeeck's Dam uncovered on the Golden Acre site should be preserved where they lie. In the Provincial Council last week the MEC for local government, Mr Conradie, disclosed that an exercise

on these lines was favoured by the Cabinet, the Administrator of the Cape and his Executive Committee. This is recognition on a formidable scale of the importance of findings which provide unique links with the earliest settlement in South Africa. Any attempt to remove the remains for exhibition in a museum would be a deplorable essay in vandalism and, happily, that danger now seems past. While the latest development is a victory for those who in so many fields have fought, often unsuccessfully, for the cause of preservation, the interests of the Golden Acre site developers cannot be overlooked. Excavation delays have already cost them money and there may be further expense involved in accommodating the remains in the new building. To saddle the developers with additional bills would be manifestly unfair and there is a clear-cut case for a Government subsidy. If it is provided it will be a happy example of how the demands of progress and preservation can be satisfied.

—*Cape Times*, August 20, 1975

Dam: Support for MEC

Mr Frans Conradie, MEC for local government, is strongly supported by Cape conservationists in his view that whatever the cost might be, the Van Riebeeck Dam remains found in central Cape Town should be preserved as and where they stand.

Sanlam, the owners and developers of the Golden Acre site on which the remains were found, already face additional "delay" costs that could, on an unofficial estimate, be as high as R1 million.

But, the conservationists contend, whatever the extra cost might eventually be, this should be borne by the country as a whole – through central, provincial and local governments – because of the historic importance of this earliest relic of settlement in South Africa.

This view is reflected in a strong recommendation to the Government by the South African Museum, which also feels that there should be no question of preserving only a part of the uncovered remains in situ. The museum authorities insist that a discovery as important as this should be carefully preserved for all time – complete, as it stands.

The Golden Acre is Cape Town's most valuable piece of real-estate. It cost Sanlam R6,5 million in December 1973, after tenders had been called by Cape Town City Council.

Conservationists point to the fact that it has been known for many years that the Drinkwaterbak would be found in this

area. Yet there was no full-scale attempt to find it after the old railway station was demolished in 1968 and when the Golden Acre stood bare and dust-blown for more than six years.

—*Cape Times*, March 3, 1975

Groeneveld

Jan van Riebeeck gaf in 1657 de eerste vrij- en erfbrieven uit. Een groep van vijf personen – aldus Godée Molsbergen in "Jan van Riebeeck en zijn tijd" – verwierf een stuk land "aen d'overzijde van de Verse Riviere by ons den name gegeven van den Amstel. De plaats kreeg de naam "Groenevelt".

Het is merkwaardig om te zien, hoe deze naam Groeneveld via de Kaapse families naar Nederland komt, waar de buitenplaats van deze naam nog steeds bestaat in de gemeente Baarn.

De dochter van Jan van Riebeeck, Antonia, was getrouwd met ds Melchior Leydecker, van wie zij een dochter Antonia Leydecker had, die huwde met Cornelis Hasselaer, die in Nederlands-Indië carrière had gemaakt en laatstelijk Directeur-Generaal van Nederlands-Indië was.

Antonia Hasselaer – kleindochter van Jan van Riebeeck dus – stierf helaas al in 1715. Cornelis Hasselaer hertrouwt dan in vierde huwelijk met de dochter van de Gouverneur aan de Kaap de Goede Hoop, Maurits Pasques de Chavonnes, Anna Margaretha. Ook deze vrouw sterft vroeg, in 1731. Dan komt Cornelis Hasselaer als weduwnaar met zijn kinderen naar Holland, waar hij in 1735 op een openbare veiling te Amsterdam voor f 30 000 de heerlijkheid van de beide Eemnessen koopt, thans gelegen in Baarn. Dan noemt hij het landgoed, dat hij op deze plek bouwt: *Groeneveld*. (Joh. E. Elias, De Vroedschap van A.) Of dit in direkt verband staat met zijn tweede vrouw Antonia Leydecker (kleindochter van Jan van Riebeeck) en van zijn vierde vrouw Anna Margaretha Pasques de Chavonnes (dochter van de Gouverneur van de Kaap Pasques de Chavonnes), is zonder meer niet vast te stellen, maar feit is dat het onze aandacht verdient. Het is zelfs verleidelijk om in de naamgeving enig verband te zien tussen de Kaap en Baarn. Het landgoed staat er nog steeds in de Baarne bossen, wachtend op restauratie. Er wordt nogal eens in de fraaie grote vertrekken een ontvangst georganiseerd. Op de schoorstenen van het statige huis draaien nog windvanen, waarin de dubbele adelaar te herkennen is, het wapen van Cornelis Hasselaer, de bouwheer van Groeneveld.

—TON KOOT

Miniature "Dutch House" collection box

Visitors to 'Nova Constantia', Constantia, Cape the historic house, now the home of 'TUPPERWARE', make voluntary contributions to the Simon van der Stel Foundation in a specially constructed miniature "Dutch house" collection box. When there is a full house, the amount is forwarded to the Cape Town office.

In return for their contributions visitors receive a copy of a booklet telling the story of Nova Constantia, its history, restoration and furnishings.

The Foundation received—

In November 1973 R48,12

In February 1974 R31,00

In June 1975 R41,00

—G M M

New committee for Worcester

At the annual general meeting of the Worcester branch of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, held May 29, the following committee was elected for 1975/76:

Mr Theo Pauw, chairman, Mr Nico Botha, vice-chairman, Mrs Helen Walters, secretary.

Additional members are: Mesdames H Naude, S Southey, J du Toit and A Malan, and Messrs F S Naude, W H Coetzee, R Grebe, P J Conradie and Father J J Jansen.

"So much to do" —Mr. Eric Vertue

The guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting of the Worcester branch of the Simon van der Stel Foundation was Mr Eric Vertue of Cape Town, Chairman of Cape Town Regional Committee. Mr Vertue is a member of the National Monuments Council, a keen photographer and a lover of literature. He is author of the book "The Days That are Gone." In his address Mr Vertue said that there was so much to do and so little time left. Not many people were interested in the things of yesterday. As Dr. Mary Cook wrote in her book: "We are never owners of a property, but trustees for those to come".

Mr Vertue said that the law should not be imposed and that persuasion was necessary for preservation and conservation. It was very important that we should keep pace with progress. "Do not stop progress, but let us plan progress".

"We are passing through a period of preservation-feeling and we must make use of it," said Mr Vertue.

He continued by saying that Worcester was the most photogenic town in the whole country. There is no other place like Worcester. "You have so much in Worcester. The most imposing church, dignified museum, gabled houses, thatched roofs, the Drostdy".

—Worcester Standard Advertiser, June 6, 1975

"Buffelskraal," Hex River Valley, district Worcester

It has been proved by experience that organised excursions to places of historic and cultural interest stimulate not only the visitors, but very often also the owners.

The Vernacular Architecture Society of South Africa on an Autumn excursion to the Hex River valley in May 1975, visited "Buffelskraal", reputed to be the oldest farm in the valley.

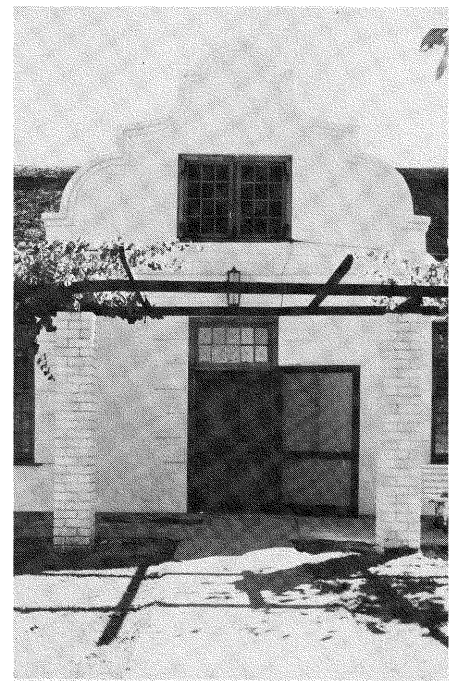
The interest shown by the members of the Vernacular Society encouraged the owner, Mr Pienaar Rabie, who has now decided to renovate the old house and sought the advice of the Simon van der Stel Foundation at Worcester. The renovations are to be supervised by Mr John Rennie of Revel Fox and Partners.

Pieter Hugo, son of a Huguenot, was granted this farm in 1750 in the free hold. Six years later "Buffelskraal" passed to his second son, Jacob Hugo. In 1757 Jacob married Catherina Hoppe. At his demise in 1770 his widow married Wouter de Vos of "Kromme Rhee" and "Joostenburg", Klappmuts. (Cook and Fransen.)

"Buffelskraal" situated near the northern exit to the Hex River valley, at the foot of the mountains that form the second step to the Karoo, was probably the last contact early travellers into the interior had with civilisation. It was thus not surprising that Hendrik Swellengrebel and the artist, Johannes Schumacher stayed there in 1776. Two years later Governor van Plettenberg and his party outspanned on the farm. Dr Henry Lichtenstein in 1803 and William Burchell in 1811 recorded the hospitality they had enjoyed at the farm of Wouter de Vos.

A drawing done by Schumacher, which is in the possession of the Cape Town Library, clearly shows two of the four main farms which had already existed in the Hex River valley by 1760. These were the buildings of "De Doorns", owned today by Mrs Sheila Southey and "Buffelskraal" the present home of Mr and Mrs Pienaar Rabie.

—H M WALTERS



Buffelskraal, Hex River Valley, home of Mr and Mrs Pienaar Rabie.

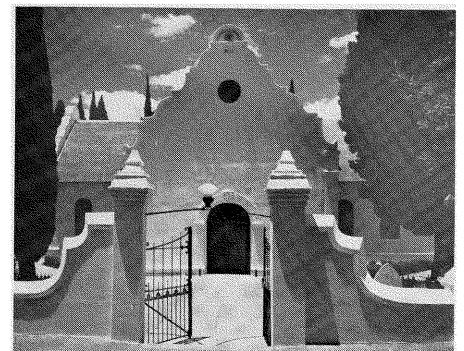
Paarl's old building on TV

Paarl buildings of historical and architectural merit will feature on South African television when the first shows are screened.

A television team from the SABC was in Paarl filming historical buildings for a television documentary series entitled Our Architectural Heritage.

Buildings filmed included the Oude Pastorie Museum, built in 1787, the Strooidak Church (1805) and the homestead on the farm 'La Bori et Picardi,' built by the Taillefert brothers, who were the early French Huguenot settlers in the Paarl Valley in 1700.

Other buildings were the homesteads on the farms 'Vredenhof Diamant' and 'Landskroon.'



'n Kultuurskat vir ons nageslag: die gerestoureerde Strooidakkerk, Paarl.

(Foto: Chris Burgers)

Examples

These buildings have special places in the architectural history of South Africa. The Oude Pastorie Museum, La Bori et Picardi and Strooidak Church are regarded as among the finest examples of their kind in South Africa.

Vredenhof, homestead of the third generation of the Kirsten family, was built in 1780, as were the Diamant and Landskroon homesteads, all good examples of early Cape Dutch architecture in the Paarl Valley.

The television team consisted of four cameramen supervised by Miss Merwede van der Merwe. The team has already travelled through South Africa for eight months.

Growth

Miss Van der Merwe estimated they had shot about 50 000 feet of colour film. The documentary will deal with architectural development from the days of Van Riebeeck, embracing the influence of the early Dutch and French Huguenot settlers and the growth of architecture up to the present time, with a glance into the future.

Knysna

The Knysna Municipality has decided to set aside a piece of land near the bowling green for the building of a museum.

Work towards a museum started two years ago when it was decided to try to save an old wood and iron house built during the gold rush at Millwood nearly a hundred years ago.

It was realised that the house which now stands near the Town Hall, would have to be moved. While negotiations were being made for a suitable site, the house was used as a small museum.

The new site is fairly level, bushy and has a number of indigenous trees, including a great milkwood at least two hundred years old.

The girl guide hut stands on the site, but will be moved to one side.

The marshy southern half of the site would have to be filled in, but once this was done the site would be ideal for an open air cultural history museum, said Mr A. Telford, spokesman for the Millwood House Committee.

The museum would consist of several sheds, each devoted to an aspect of Knysna's past.

Wagons and wagon parts were being collected so as to reconstruct a wagon workshop and boat-building, saw-milling, furniture-making and mining equipment would be shown, he said.

Millwood House itself would be a replica of daily living a century ago and a boat-building shed and watermill were planned.

Mr Telford said Friends of the Museum Society would soon be formed to begin the 'enormous' task of accumulating funds.

The municipality would help financially when the museum received provincial recognition. Provincial funds would also be available.

But, Mr Telford said, much help and interest would be needed from the Knysna public in establishing what could become the most interesting museum in the Southern Cape.

—*The Argus*, December 3, 1974

Jaarvergadering

Die Nasionale Jaarvergadering van die Stigting Simon van der Stel is op 16 Augustus 1975 in die Paarlse Stadsaal gehou.

Die oggend voor die vergadering is die gedenkplaat van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede voor "Het Gesicht" onthul. Dié gebou is in 1813 opgerig en is die vierde oudste gebou in die Republiek. Besoek is afgelê aan die Strooidakkerk en begraafplaas met ou familiegrafte, en gerestoureerde huise in die onmiddellike omgewing van De Jonghslaan, Kerkplein.

Afgevaardigdes het ook die Oude Pastorie Museum en die Taalmuseum besigtig.

Stigting Simon van der stel - Nasionale Jaarvergadering paarl 16 Augustus '75

Beskrywingspunte ingedien deur die Bo-Bergrivierse Streekkomitee.

1. Hulde aan die Afrikaanse Taalmonumentkomitee (Onbestrede mosie)

Hierdie vergadering boekstaaf sy waardering en bewondering vir die werk van die Afrikaanse Taalmonumentkomitee met die behoud, restourasie en aanwending van Huis Gideon Malherbe, Pastorielaan, Paarl, as 'n kosbare kleinood uit die 19de eeu; en met die daarstelling van 'n sierlike simbool van ons kulturele en staatkundige opbloei in die vorm van die Afrikaanse Taalmonument op Paarlberg.

2. Bewaringsaksie in Dal Josaphat

Gelet op die kultuur-historiese betekenis van Dal Josaphat en die argitektoniese waarde van verskeie konstruksies in die gebied, doen hierdie vergadering 'n beroep op alle lede van die Stigting, goedgesinde private instansies, die geografies belanghebbende plaaslike bestuure en die provinsiale en sentrale owerhede om saam te span in 'n kragtige bewaringsaksie aldaar; en versoek die Raad om onverwyld in oorleg met die Bo-Bergrivierse Streekkomitee die nodige inisiatief in hierdie verband te neem.

Beide is met akklamasie aanvaar.

Stellenbosch se geboue

Die tak van die Stigting Simon van der Stel op Stellenbosch het besluit om verhoog tot die stadsraad te rig dat die hele strataansig aan Victoriastraat tussen Ryneveld- en Andringastraat uit 'n stedeboekkundige en argitektoniese oogpunt behou word.

Die besluit is geneem na aanleiding van die berig in *Die Burger* van Maandag, 2 Junie dat die Raad voornemens is om Crozierhuis en Bergville en aangrensende geboue vir die uitbreiding van die sentrale parkeerterrein te sloop. Hierdie eiendom is reeds byna almal in munisipale besit.

Die stadsraad het nog geen finale besluit in hierdie verband geneem nie.

Die NG Kerk Stellenbosch-Sentraal is nie in die gedrang nie.

—*Die Burger*, 9 Junie 1975

Raad Proklameer in Idasvallei vir bewaring

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede wil 'n gebied van ongeveer 1 500 ha in Idasvallei naby Stellenbosch tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid proklameer. Een-en-twintig eienaars van plase en kleinhoues in die omgewing het 'n versoekskrif aan die raad gestuur waarin hulle om proklamering van hul eiendom vra. Die gebied sluit ou historiese plase soos Rustenburg en Schoongezicht in.

Prof D J Kotzé van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, lid van die raad, het die stap as 'n groot vooruitgang vir die idee van groepsbewaring beskryf. Die hele gebied kan as kultuurgebied bewaar word sodat die landelike skoonheid ongeskonde bly.

Veranderinge

Die eienaars sal hul boerdery voortsit, maar veranderinge aan bestaande geboue en die oprigting van nuwe geboue sal aan die goedkeuring van die raad onderworpe wees.

Die raad het ook besluit dat dele van die plaas Groot Constantia wat nie ingevolge die proklamasie van 1936 tot nasionale gedenkwaardighede verklaar is nie, by die proklamasie ingesluit behoort te word. Daar is besluit om die betrokke instansies te nader met die doel om geboue op die werk soos die "nuwe" wynkelder, die huidige teekamer, die motorhuis, die senior opsigter se huis en die assistentopsigter se huis, die wingerde, die ou begraafplaas en die werkers se huisies ook in te sluit.

Briewe

Die plaas Hoop op Constantia, wat net



Een van die statige wonings in Idasvallei.



Agterkamer van die pragtige ou Kaaps-Hollandse woning in Idasvallei.

Voorkamer van die Idasvallei-woning.
(Foto's: M W Marsb)



soos die werf en geboue van Groot Constantia deel uitmaak van die Suid-Afrikaanse Kultuur-Historiese Museum, is in sy geheel vir proklamering aanbeveel.

Die raad het daarby bekend gemaak dat 'n aantal oorspronklike briewe van Thomas Pringle wat uitgevoer sou word, deur die Departement van Nasionale

Opvoeding vir sowat R4 200 aangekoop is. Die Minister van Nasionale Opvoeding, sen J P van der Spuy, het persoonlik tussenbeide getree om te verhinder dat hierdie belangrike historiese dokumente die land uitgaan.

Medalje

Verskeie ander gedenkwaardighede, om die fort Post Retief by Fort Beaufort, die pastorie op Montagu, die strandmeer by Langebaan tot by die hoogwatermerk en die perdemeul op Leipoldville is tot nasionale gedenkwaardighede geproklameer.

Daar is besluit om 'n goue medalje toe te ken aan mnr. Eric Vertue, lid van die raad, vanweë sy bydrae tot die kulturele lewe in Suid-Afrika. Mnr Vertue het regter Marius Diemont 'n paar weke gelede as voorsitter van die Kaapstadse komitee van die Stigting Simon van der Stel opgevolg.

“Het Molen Water” die bekende meulsloot van Stellenbosch

Langs Van Riebeeckstraat, een van Stellenbosch se bedrywige verkeersweë, vind daar tans 'n uiters waardevolle stukkie restaurasiewerk plaas – betreklik klein in omvang, maar hoogs verblydend vir diegene vir wie die erfenis van die verlede na aan die hart lê.

Dit is die restaurasie van die jongste toevoeging tot die lang lys van Stellenbosch

se nasionale monumente: die Meulsloot, “Het Molen Water”. Die Stadsraad het reeds groot koste aangegaan om te verseker dat daar 'n konstante vloei van water sal wees. En nou word gepoog om die Meulsloot in sy oorspronklike staat te herstel.

Jan Hendrik Palm, eerste privaat eienaar van die meul op die Braak, het die Meulsloot met rivierklippe uitgestraat. Dieselfde klippe, van verskillende grootte, word nou in sement vasgelê om 'n einde te maak aan die toestand dat rotte vir die oewerbewoners 'n oorlas is. Wanneer die gedreun van verbysnellingende motors bedaar, sal die geluid van kabbelende water weer in die stilte van die nag gehoor word. Die noordelike oewer van die gerestoureerde Meulsloot sal weer bedek wees met 'n kleed van “dog roses”, aronskelke, varings en ander veldgewasse.

Vader Tyd het 'n toneel van verwaarloosing en verval geskep, maar 'n nuwe era in die geskiedenis van die Meulsloot het aangebreek. Voortaan sal die Stellenbosse weer met reg trots kan wees op hierdie nalatenskap, en besoekers sal uitroep: “Kom kyk, het julle al so 'n pragtige stroom bergwater deur 'n besige dorp sien loop?”

Om die wesenlike karakter van die Meulsloot te verstaan, en die rol wat dit in die Stellenbosse gemeenskap gespeel het te bepaal, was 'n deeglike studie van die grondbriewe en transportaktes van die eerste vryburgers en hul opvolgers nodig. Hierdie veeleisende taak is reeds deur mnr Johannes van der Bijl met sy kenmerkende deeglikheid onderneem en voltoer. Die vrug op sy arbeid word tans veilig deur die Stellenbosch-museum bewaar en tot beskikking van navorsers gestel.

Die Hertzog-kaart van 1817 is ook besonder nuttig. Daarop verskyn nie net die standplase van die vier meule van Stellenbosch nie, maar word ook die loop van Het Molen Water, met sy belangrike vertakking op die noordwestelike hoek van die huidige Plein- en Andringastraat, duidelik aangetoon. Mnr Johannes van der Bijl gee twee bewysplekke waar die naam “Het Molen Water” oorspronklik gebruik is.

Dit blyk eerstens uit 'n ou dokument dat die kerk op 25 Julie 1736 'n diaconie huis aan die weduwee van die Faure-stamvader geskenk het en dat die woning geleë was aan “Het Molen Water”. Antoine Alegaudre Faure was 'n gesiene man: voorsanger en onderwyser. Die diaconie huis was geleë aan die oostekant van die Barracadakafee, oorkant die aansluiting van die huidige Van Riebeeck- en Drost-dystraat. Die moontlikheid dat hierdie stuk grond in 'n parkeerterrein omskep word en dat die Meulsloot daarby in die gedrang mag kom, is 'n saak wat liefhebbers van Stellenbosch uiters ongelukkig sal maak.

Mnr Van der Bijl se tweede verwysing

geld die erf waarop Joerning se apteek vandag staan. Die Landdros en Heemrade het in die jaar 1797 die groot driehoekf aan J D Herholdt, seun van Albrecht Herholdt, die meulenaar, toegeken. Hierdie erf was geleë “zuid aan de gragt”. Soos later sal blyk, het die meulenaar op gebr. De Wet se hoek gewoon en nie by die meul langs die Braak nie. Hy was die eerste intrekker in die huidige Birdstraat.

Word daar verder in die verlede van hierdie oudste dorp in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika gedelf, dan kom ’n mens op allerlei interessantheide af. Die grondslag van Stellenbosch se waterskemas kan byvoorbeeld teruggevoer word na die jaar 1686 toe kommandeur Simon van der Stel en sy gevolg die bouwerke van die Drostdy en kerkie besigtig en tegelykertyd die watervore geïnspekteer het.

Daar was ’n tyd toe drie koringmeule die burgers se koring gemaal en van die water van die Meulsloot gebruik gemaak het. Die oudste meul is in 1687 op ’n plaas, later bekend as “De Oude Molen”, opgerig. Die Africana-museum in Johannesburg besit ’n waterverskildery van G Davis waarop die plaaswoning, die skuur en die water van die Meulsloot gesien kan word. Wanneer hierdie gewelwoning opgerig is, kan nie met sekerheid vasgestel word nie. Die tweede meul, geleë aan die oostelike punt van De Wagen Weg naer de Kaap, tans Dorpsstraat, het van ’n binne-arm van die rivier gebruik gemaak en skakel dus nie in by die geskiedenis van die Meulsloot nie.

Die derde meul het ’n belangrike rol in die lewe van die burgers gespeel. Aangesien die ander twee meule nie meer aan hul behoeftes voldoen het nie, het die Landdros en Heemrade by goewerneur Hendrik Swellengrebel aansoek gedoen om ’n waterkoringmeul op te rig. ’n Groot stuk grond geleë ten suide van die Braak is aan die Landdros en Heemrade toegeken en verlot is verleen om ’n dwang molen op te rig.

Die ligging van die nuwe meul was besonder geskik. Daar is gebruik gemaak van ’n sloep wat ontstaan het tydens oorstromings van die Eersterivier. Die meulstroom het deur die huidige Dorpssteeg en al langs die walletjie van die sloep geloop, sodat daar voldoende val was om die skepwiël te laat draai. Die feit dat die meul ’n dwang molen was, het meegebring dat Albrecht Herholdt, die meulenaar, bepaalde verpligtinge moes nakom. Hy was onder andere ook verantwoordelik vir die instandhouding van Het Molen Water.

In 1803 tref ’n ramp Stellenbosch: die Colonies Molen met sy rietdak tesame met ’n groot deel van die dorp word deur ’n brand in puin gelê.

Die Landdros en Heemrade wou blykbaar nie langer met die verantwoordelikheid vir die meul belas wees nie en verkoop die eiendom aan die hoogste bie-



Opknappingswerk aan Stellenbosch se Meulsloot.

—Foto: *Johan Stander*

der. In 1804 gaan die meul in privaat besit oor en word Jan Willem Palm die eienaar. Hy was die man wat die ou Meulsloot met rivierklippe uitgestraat het. Ses meulenaars het hom opgevolg.

Mettertyd is die waterkrag deur elektriese krag vervang. Na anderhalfeeu is die meul, wat die dorp so getrou gedien het, gesloop en vervang deur ’n groot moderne winkel, waardeur Meulplein ’n groot deel van sy outydse karakter verloor het.

Ten spyte van al hierdie omwentelinge hou die Meulsloot nog sy koers verby die ou Rynse pastorie, wat tans Stellenbosch se skoolraad huisves. Daarna vloei die sloot onder Markstraat deur tot in Alexanderstraat. Daar sluit dit vandag nog by die noordwestelike tak van die Meulsloot aan. Die lang reis deur die dorp is voltooi en die Meulsloot verdwyn onder die spoorweg. ’n Endjie verder bereik dit die oorblyfsels van die vierde meul.

Hierdie meul, aan die voet van Papegaaiberg, is waarskynlik aan die begin van die 19e eeu opgerig en word soms verkeerdelik as “De oude Molen” bestempel. Dan kom die oomblik dat die sloot sy water in die Plankenbrugrivier stort wat op sy beurt by die Eersterivier aansluit.

Dat die argitek van die Ou Hoofgebou van die Universiteit en van die Moederkerk, Carl Otto Hager, die loop van die Meulsloot beplan het, verhoog nog verder sy faam.

Hierdie vertelling oor die Stellenbosse Meulsloot sal nie volledig wees as daar nie ook melding gemaak word van die skilderagtige hoekie agter dr Anton Rupert se woning waar die sloot vroeër sy water uit die Eersterivier gehaal het nie.

In die dam bokant die keerwal het die oewerplantegroei en hoë bome weerkaats. ’n Stroom water het langs ’n sentimental met twee groot sluise gevloei. Daarna het dit deur ’n ystersluis in ’n meetdammetjie geloop wat die toevoer na die Meulsloot gereguleer het.

Toestande het tans verander. Daar word gewag op die pomp wat hoër op langs die loop van die rivier geïnstalleer sal word. Die water sal die ystersluis en meetdammetjie deur middel van ’n pypleiding bereik. Die waterfiskaal ry met ’n motorfiets om toesig oor die sluise te hou en ontvang ook klagtes van oewerbewoners wat nie hul regmatige deel van die leiwater ontvang nie.

Baie water moes onder die Meulsloot se bruggies deurloop voordat dit tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar is. Was dit nie vir die waaksame optrede van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede nie, sou die voortbestaan van die Meulsloot moontlik onseker gewees het.

Die oordekking van die gedeelte van die sloot wat deur die historiese Dorpssteeg loop, het die misnoeë van die publiek uitgelok. Liggame soos die Stigting Simon van der Stel, die Stellenbosse Burgerlike Vereniging en die Stellenbosse Heemkring het versoek dat die sloot onverwyld oopgemaak word.

Ook die Engelse pers het die gevoel van die algemene publiek weergegee. Daar is onder andere geskryf: “Mystery surrounds the sudden closure of a nationally known feature of Stellenbosch, the channelled part of the mill stream in De Wet’s Lane or “Dorpssteeg”.

Jare lank moes die ingesetenes tevrede wees met beloftes van die Stadsraad dat die sloot oopgemaak sou word. Onlangs

is by wyse van proefneming 'n stukkie van die sloot oopgemaak en uitgestraat, maar alles het weer tot stilstand gekom, omdat gewag word op die voltooiing van 'n groot sakegebou op 'n aangrensende perseel.

Intussen het daar 'n woeling in die geleedere van die inwoners gekom. In 1972 het 'n groepie geesdriftiges – verteenwoordigers van organisasies en groepe asook indiwidue – bymeekaargekom en besluit om die belangrikheid van die Meulsloot onder die aandag van die publiek te bring. Die sloot wys immers in belangrike mate op die historiese karakter van die dorp, daarom is dit gepas dat hierdie belangrikste kultuurbate van Stellenbosch op 'n blywende wyse gedenk word. Na veel beraadslagings het die plan gestalte gekry om 'n eenvoudige gedenkteken op te rig wat drie brons-paneel bevat waarop die byna driehonderdjarige geskiedenis van “Het Molen Water” uitgebeeld word. Die beeldhouer, mnr Bill Davis, is genader om die paneel in brons uit te voer en prof. Du Preez Scholtz het ingewillig om as raadgever op te tree. Deeglike navorsing van die geskiedenis het hierdie werk voorafgegaan.

Vandag word die voltooide paneel in die kluis van die Stellenbosch-Museum bewaar tot tyd en wyl die Munisipaliteit, die Provinsiale Administrasie en die Universiteit tot 'n finale beslissing gekom het oor die indeling van die Bloemhof-terrein.

Inwoners van die dorp, boere in die distrik, studente en skoliere het mildelik bygedra tot die koste van die drie brons-paneel, wat elk R1 400 kos. Die gedenkteken sal bestaan uit 'n effens geboë wit muur waarteen die drie paneel aangebring sal word. Die standplaas sal hopelik langs die Meulsloot skuins oorkant die anneks van die Museum aan die onderend van Van Riebeeckstraat wees. Die omgewing sal 'n landelike stempel dra, want die miniatuurparkie sal 'n agtergrond van bome en struik bied.

Ook buite Stellenbosch heers daar belangstelling vir die Meulsloot. In sy groot werk, getitel “Water”, bestempel F A Venter die Meulsloot as “'n straatjie water deur die geskiedenis”.

Sen. Paul Sauer skryf op sy beurt soos volg oor die Meulsloot: “Dwarsdeur Stellenbosch van bo in Mostertsdrift tot onderkant die treinspoor, loop die geskiedkundige meulsloot, die hartaar wat die lewe gebring het aan Van der Stel se Colonie en waarom Stellenbosch gegroei en gebloei het. Dit het eers die vryburgers se lande benat, op die geil besproeiingsgrond het later die dorp gekom en die dorp het sy groot bydrae tot ons land en sy geskiedenis gemaak. Die sloot loop nog – hy sal vir geslagte nog loop. Sonder hom sou Stellenbosch 'n ander en mindere plek wees.”

ANNIE HOFMEYR

Schröder House – the oldest documented dwelling in SA

History

Sebastian Schröder was a German from Schleddehausen in Lower Saxony who joined the VOC as a soldier and arrived at the Cape before 1707, the exact date not being known.

On the 3rd August, 1707 the Stellenbosch College of Landdrost and Heemraden employed him for a year on a loan basis from the Company to act as secretary for their public mill.

It is not known where Schröder lived during this period nor how long he worked as the secretary for the mill before being appointed court bailiff. It is, however, known that he had become a free-burgher by October, 1709, when he was granted two house-erven by Governor Van Assenburg, on the corner of Van Ryneveld and Church Streets. No mention of buildings is made on the grant but we have reason to think that at that time Sebastian Schröder had already built a very small dwelling, probably with only one room, parallel to Church Street and that he might have been living there whilst working as secretary for the mill. In January 1710, the traveller E van Staden sketched the little town, and on this same house-erf we now see a building standing parallel to Van Ryneveld Street. Schröder had then been appointed court bailiff and it is our surmise that he extended his humble dwelling by adding three rooms at right angles to the west wall to form a T-shaped house. This must have been during 1709 either before or directly after the official grant of his erven.

As court bailiff, it can be presumed that he would have had reasonable access to wood, of which the Company at that time had a plentiful supply at Hottentots Holland, so that these rooms although built of clay, could have had substantial ceiling-beams and a well-constructed roof – all of indigenous wood.

On the 13th of January, Schröder, for some unknown reason, decided to sell his house to Johan Barentz Sieker for the sum of 1 100 guilders, but this transaction was never executed. Maybe Schröder changed his mind as a result of his marriage to Sara Wijnsandt two months later on the 9th of March, because the couple lived in this house for the rest of the year.

On the 17th December, 1710, about ten o'clock in the morning, the landdrost sent a slave to his kitchen for a coal to light his pipe. But a sudden gust of wind blew sparks into the roof, setting it alight, so that very soon the Drostdy with

its stable was burning. A strong southeaster quickly spread the flames to the houses in the vicinity as well as the church to the south-west of Schröder's house. It seems unlikely that Schröder's house, which was in the way of the flames, should have escaped damage. During the restoration the clay walls in the back section of the T revealed no signs of previous fire damage – but in the mud brick walls of the three front rooms there were two areas of clayed-up wall which very obviously were relics of an earlier structure. It seemed likely that the front part of Schröder's house had burnt down and that he rebuilt these three rooms on the old foundations of stone and mud, but keeping those parts of the old clayed-up walls that had remained standing, and patching where necessary, with the mud bricks.

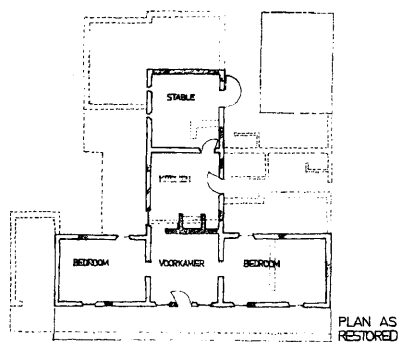
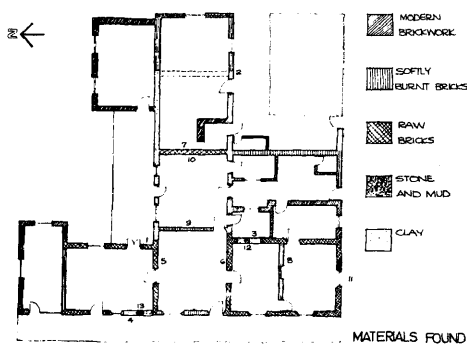
During 1711 Schröder and his wife moved to Cape Town, probably while the house was being rebuilt, but where he lived in Cape Town or what work he did there, is not known.

Early in 1712 he asked permission from the Council of Policy to sell his property on public auction and to return to Europe. His Stellenbosch house was thus sold to Abraham Everts on the 9th February, 1712 for 700 guilders, and on the 29th March, he sailed with his wife back to Europe.

From that time Schröder's house changed hands many times; in 1756 it belonged to the sexton Coenraad Fick who later owned all the property between Plein Street, Church Street, Van Ryneveld Street and Drostdy Street. In 1776 this large property was bought by Christiaan Krynauw, the sick-comforter and after his death his widow Maria Elisabeth Groenewald subdivided, selling the northern portion to landdrost Bletterman. Here the magistrate's court was built which is still in use today.

Other owners were Johannes Gysbertus Faure 1840, O M Bergh 1848, and Tielman de Waal in 1901. In 1904 the eastern side of the property was deducted and sold to the Roman Catholic church, leaving the original Schröder house and erf very much smaller. In 1940 Andries Petrus Lubbe bought Schröder's house whilst the Municipality of Stellenbosch bought the portion that had belonged to the Roman Catholic church.

In May, 1970, Lubbe applied to the Stellenbosch Town Council for permission to demolish his house, and this was granted. However, many indignant voices were raised in defence of this, the oldest documented house in the country, and through the intervention of the Provincial Administration, demolition was prevented and the house eventually bought by the Stellenbosch Museum, who are responsible for its restoration. The house will be used as an extension to the Grosvenor House Museum.



SCHRÖDER HOUSE, STELLENBOSCH, G. FAGAN, 1974

Restoration

The restoration of this simple little house has caused more headaches than many larger and more imposing projects: little is known about country houses of this period, the Van Stade drawing of 1710 on which Schröder's house is depicted is neither accurate nor clear and the house has undergone so many changes that it would require a clairvoyant to decipher the chronology of the construction. Despite hours of detective work on site, our final plan was based on informed guesswork and may prove inaccurate should further knowledge of this period become available.

The Walls

A study of the different wall materials indicated that the back wing of this T-shaped house was originally built of 300-400 mm thick layers of yellow clay, while the front rooms were constructed of unburnt mud bricks and mud mortar. Where these two materials meet (no 1) on plan, in the left corner of the T, the plastered outer surface of the clay wall forms a clear cleavage line, with the mud-brick wall built up hard against it, obviously at a later date.

A similar cleavage-line between clay and later brick walls at the eastern end of the T-wing (no 2) indicated where this original end-wall of the house had been, and although there was no sign of the old wall itself the foundation, consisting of large stones, was unearthed when the wall was reconstructed in this position. It was now clear to us that the first house on Schröder's property had been a single-roomed cottage, and that three

rooms had been added later at right angles, to form a T-shaped house. Did Schröder build this simple dwelling to live in while he was secretary for the mill? Then this part of his house would date back to 1707.

The stone foundations of the front part of the house are carried to a height of approximately 500 mm above the floor level, are continuous and show no disturbance, but there are two areas in the mud-brick walls at (3) and (4) where portions of earlier clay walls exist and, as the mud-brick are built overlaying the clay, one must assume that some disaster befell these earlier clay walls and that they were rebuilt with mud-bricks on the old foundations. Could the fire of 1710 have been responsible? We think this very likely. We noted that this clay was darker in colour, more friable and contained much more vegetable matter than the yellow compacted clay of the back wing – thus strengthening our assumption that the two sections were built at different stages.

Of the inside walls, those at (5), (6) and (7) were built of the same early yellowish flat bricks as the outside walls, but those at (8) and (9) were built of soft burnt red brick and buttered against plastered walls – so they were obviously not part of the early house plan and consequently demolished.

The Hearth

Where T-shaped houses are described by early travellers and also in our own experience, the kitchen is invariably placed in the back wing of the T against the end wall. The traces of earlier flues and soot against the wall at (10) did not indicate an original fireplace, for these marks crossed an old bricked-up door opening. Van Stade's sketch shows no front or side gables nor a chimney stack. So we had no clear evidence of where the original hearth had been.

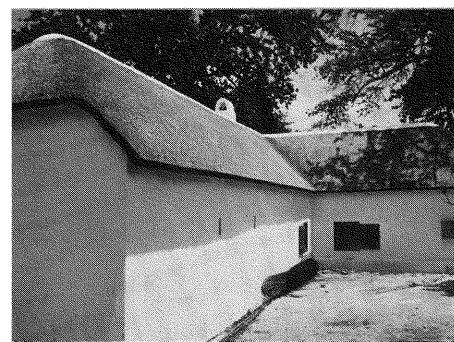
Arguing that the first house probably had an inside fireplace, and ruling out the wall at (10), we decided that it could well have been against the western wall where it could have been retained when Schröder extended his house. Consequently this wall was rebuilt, in line with the cleavage line at (1), with a small hearth and baking-oven constructed on the pattern common to existing similar hearths.

The inside plan was now complete: voorkamer, bedrooms to the right and left, a kitchen at the back with a door leading through to a stable in the tail of the T. As Schröder was required to serve summonses, arrange judicial sales, gather information for civil cases and apprehend prisoners, it is highly probable that he would have had a horse readily available, and thus a stable.

One aspect of the plan which worried us, was the large size of the room on the right. Would a primitive house like this

have had such a large bedroom? Today a bedroom houses one, two or three people at the most, but early travellers like Burchell, Pringle, Thomas and Hudson describe how in those times all the females of the household would sleep in one room, with all the males in another. Moreover, if the house consisted of one large room only, the females would sleep at one end behind a screen of mats whereas the males (and visitors) would sleep between the dining table and hearth, stretched out on blankets or mats on the floor! It has often puzzled us that these early houses had so few rooms – although often quite large – to house such large families. (Think of Jean de Villiers at the original Bosch-en-Dal with 22 children, or Gysbertus Keet at Tulbagh with eleven sons in a simple T-shaped cottage.) Privacy is a modern conception as also our preference for many small rooms, rather than a single large one. It could also be that Schröder used this room as a lock-up area for prisoners awaiting trial, in which case the windows should have bars.

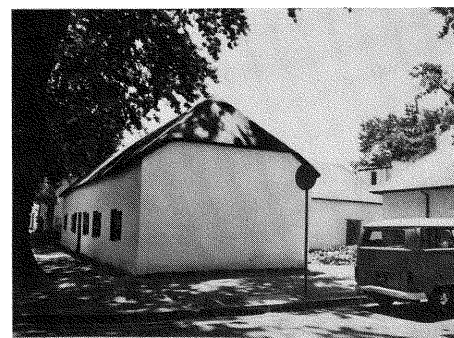
Another aspect of the plan which needed clarification, was evidence of a bricked up door in the south wall of the right room at (11). Here the brickwork had been irregularly cut back at the reveals, and the fact that the pintles for the hinges of the double door were built in with cement, indicated that this opening was made at a very late stage in the history of the house, when the right room



Schröder House, Stellenbosch, seen from the rear.

(Photos: W. Marsh)

Schröder House, Stellenbosch, the oldest documented dwelling in South Africa – restored.



probably served as waggon house, smithy or some such workshop.

The Windows and Doors

We were fortunate to find two bricked-up window openings in the remaining clay walls of the front section of the house at (12) and (13), ie in the oldest part of the front section. These openings both measured 1,150 x 0,950 m and at (12) the impression of an old wooden frame, (100 x 125 mm) was found in line with the outer surface of the wall, so that window frames and shutters were made to fit these openings. The positions of the other windows were not clearly indicated in the brickwork and were therefore mostly placed in existing openings.

Very little was left of the original wall round the front door, so that the positions of this door and of the windows to the voorkamer were guessed at.

As is still usual in simple houses, it was felt that this house would also not have had internal doors, except between the stable and kitchen.

One reveal of the kitchen back-door in the clay wall was discovered at (14) and the stable-door, designed in accordance with similar doors still, to be found in old out-buildings, was positioned here.

Travellers like Mentzel, Burchell and Pringle all mention the lack of glass in the windows of country dwellings, so one must assume that Schröder would not have used glass, but at best, linen on frames as described by Burchell.

Floors

In 1811 Burchell noted that even those farmers who dwelt in the vicinity of forests preferred earthen floors in their houses, and this obviously would be the case as flooring planks and nails were hand finished and therefore scarce – probably much more so in 1710, when Schröder built his house.

Ceilings

For similar reasons boarded ceilings would have been hard to come by, and if the bailiff wanted a smart ceiling he would have had to resort to reed ceilings. We know that Spanish reed (*Arundo Donax*) was first imported and planted in the Company's gardens in 1660 and that according to Thunberg it was plentiful in the Colony in 1774, so we can safely assume that by 1710 it would have been used in Stellenbosch.

Timber

The supply of timber had steadily dwindled towards the end of the 17th century so that by 1700 some of the French Huguenots did not have enough timber to construct houses for themselves and requested the Council of Policy to supply them with 3 000 deal planks, as well as doors and "sparre" for building purposes. In that year, however, Willem Adriaan van der Stel had travelled to the Waveren Valley and here a plentiful supply of wood, suitable for building

purposes, was discovered. This timber was used in the surrounding areas during the early part of the 18th century. Forests at Hottentots Holland were also being exploited by this time, so that Schröder, as an employee of the Stellenbosch College of Heemraden, would have had no difficulty in obtaining suitable timber for his house. A report made by the Company's carpenters in 1663 tells us which of the indigenous woods were regarded as suitable for building purposes; essenhout, Cape ash (*Ekebergia capensis*), boekenhout, Cape beach (*Rapanea melanophloeos*), pearwood (*Apodytes dimidiata*), assegai-wood (*Curtisia dentata*), and yellowwood (*Podocarpus* species), which was regarded as most suitable and was three times the price of the other.

In later buildings in the country, poplar was extensively used for roof-construction, but as poplar seed was imported by Van der Stel only in 1700, Schröder obviously would have used indigenous timber. The Department of Forestry very generously agreed to our suggestion and felled the necessary trees in their forests, for the construction of this roof. As the timber had to be dried and treated, the restoration was delayed for almost a year as a result.

Traditional construction methods were followed in putting up the roof and the next task was to ascertain what thatching would have been in use in 1710 – obviously that which grew in the neighbourhood. Dr J Rorke from the Kirstenbosch Herbarium was most helpful at this stage and although we at first thought that grass would have to be especially cut at Macassar in the dunes, we were overjoyed to hear that the ordinary thatching grass, which is still used today (*Thamnocortis spicigerus*) would be quite correct, as it was indigenous to this area. The same applied to Palmiet (*Prionium Palmita*) which is still popularly used as a "spreilaag" or underlay. Finally the door handles and latches had to be designed from existing prototypes, and hand forged. The barrel bolts on the windows have been copied from a very early Tulbagh house (Klipfontein) but unfortunately they should not have been welded together! The wooden door latch some of you may remember from a previous Vernac outing to Elandsvlei.

—GAWIE AND GWEN FAGAN

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Old Harbour Museum, Hermanus

One of my earliest memories of Hermanus is of the old harbour with its boats pulled up the sloping apron of rock and cement, the racks of "bokkems" drying in the sea-breeze, and the shacks with fishing gear outside which the Coloured folks would be busily gutting and cleaning fish. There was an added air of excitement and expectancy when the fishing boats came in with gulls mewling and wheeling overhead or diving and fighting for scraps thrown from the boats into the sea. The scene has been painted in its various moods by J H Pierneef, Francois Krige, Walter Westbrook, Cyril Stone, George Enslin, William Green and other artists. Every year scores of visitors and holidaymakers have recorded the same scene on film.

My parents spent a holiday at Hermanus shortly after they arrived in South



Old harbour at Hermanus, peaceful and picturesque.

Africa by ship from England and a century after the 1820 settlers. It was many years before they again visited Hermanus Pietersfontein, as it was named originally, for in the years that followed Gordon's Bay became the family's favourite holiday resort. In those days there was no harbour at Gordon's Bay and the fishing boats anchored in the little cove near the village or were puffed up on to the beach.

It was as a student of forestry that I first visited Hermanus to see the wonderful work that the Department of Forestry has done and is continuing to do in arresting the spread of sand dunes along this coastline, especially near the lagoon. A quarter of a century later I was to visit both scenes again – the old harbour and the reclaimed dune area. Both have undergone change.

Boats no longer call at the old harbour, except perhaps the ghosts of those vessels that years before braved the seas to bring back a silvery, scaly harvest. Today as your eyes rove the watery horizon you will see dozens of trawlers netting this marine harvest, to the chagrin of veteran rock anglers who attribute the decline in their sport to these commercial activities.

But the past has not been forgotten, at least not entirely. On the 10th July, 1970, the old harbour was proclaimed an historical monument by Mr J P van der Spuy, Minister of National Education. The person chiefly responsible for bringing this about was Dr Ion Williams, a local resident. As an outdoor museum it now harbours a dozen old wooden boats and other relics of historic interest, as described in the accompanying notes. It requires a Lawrence Green, however, to

bring the scene back to verbal life again in that inimitable way he had. My earnest hope is that the museum will inspire a student of history, someone who loves messing about in boats and a timber technologist to do a bit of research and tell us more about these boats – the timbers that went into them, the people who built them, and the men who manned them; their lives, their loves, their families. The old-timers, men who go down to the sea in ships at all seasons of the year, men no longer with us. Only a few of the ships remain, a mute testimony in wood of a way of living that a carpenter, who lived and worked among fishermen by the shores of Galilee, came to share and appreciate.

There is now a new harbour at Hermanus, where some of the activities witnessed at the old harbour are still to be seen and will be repeated as long as the sea is fished by men in boats. Today's boats are bigger, for the new harbour is a haven for deep-sea trawlers, and the catch is sucked from the holds through large, flexible pipes, not brought ashore in "bossies" to be sold for a ticky, a sixpence or a bob as in the past.

These prices and the bargaining that accompanies each sale went out with the sound of the fish-horn, a sound that echoed through Cape streets as the fish-carts made their rounds.

This leads me to suggest that the old harbour museum be provided with sound effects, for it might help to recall the past for visitors if they could hear the recorded mewling of sea-gulls, the creak of oars and ropes, the chatter of Coloured fisher-folk, the haunting notes of a fish-horn and other relevant sounds.

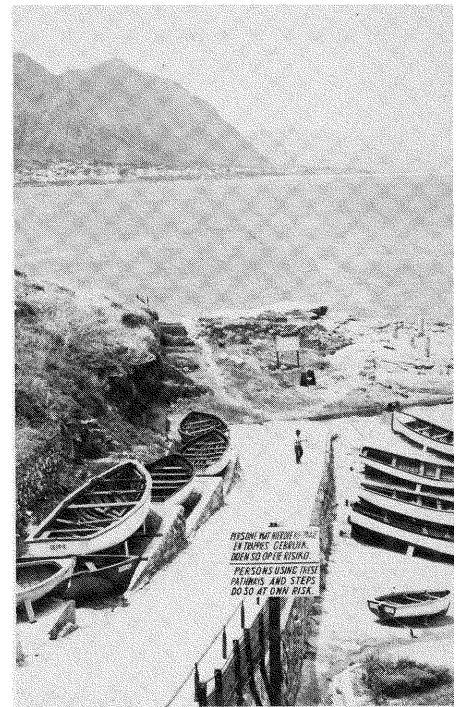
C H BANKS



—Foto's: Frik Dreyer
Mr G G Clarke (left), curator of the Hermanus Old Harbour Museum, with a pair of otter boards once used by the MARY KATE. The Boards, which serve to keep the mouth of the net open when trawling, were invented by a Scandinavian named Haender, in 1860.

View of the north side, Old Harbour Museum, Hermanus.

—Photo's: I Williams



Morgenster Somerset, West Cape

The Home of Mrs Shirley
Bairnsfather-Cloete

The homestead on Morgenster and its complex of outbuildings are among the finest in the Cape. The house is H-shaped with six perfect gables; the front gable is dated 1786 and shows the holbol style at its most beautiful with convex edge mouldings continued on to the gable small holbol motive. On the back gable



Charming Cape-Dutch homestead "Morgenster", Somerset West.

—Photo: By courtesy of Mrs S Cloete

the convex curve has become wavy: a foretaste of the general waviness that a few years later was to make the holbol gable lose its sharply defined concavo-convex character.

The end-gables are beautifully proportioned holbol examples, with two scrolls at the top and a scallop like the front gable. A room has been added to one of the back wings, with a stepped end-gable, probably quite soon after the rest of the house.

The nucleus of this farm consisted of the third of the four parts into which Vergelegen was divided after the recall of Willem Adriaan van der Stel; this part was bought by Jacques Malan. Malan's daughter Catharina married Willem Morkel of 'Onderwacht', and their son, Philip Hendrik Morkel, in 1825 got a regrant of Morgenster. The name was first recorded in 1739, and must have been given by Jacques Malan.

The farm has a most unusual werf, completely enclosed but with the homestead placed asymmetrically in one corner. Three of the outbuildings form a kind of avenue in front of the house, two of them with stepped end-gables and one with a pedimented, square centre gable. Another outbuilding, beside the house but obliquely placed, has a front gable dated 1779.

DR MAY COOK and
HANS FRANSEN

—(Taken from "The Old Houses of the Cape",
by Dr Mary Cook and Hans Franssen
A A Balkema, Cape Town)

Bid to preserve historic Cape village

Recently the picturesque little village of McGregor, about 100 km east of Cape Town and 21 km south of Robertson, hit the headlines quite unexpectedly. The National Monuments Council made an offer to declare the whole village a national monument.

At least 200 houses in the village are of such outstanding historic interest that the council is prepared to restore them all.

But many of the residents of McGregor don't like the idea of their town becoming a museum piece and a focal point for tourists. Most appear to share the view of their Mayor, Mr James Kriel, that McGregor's 19th century charm can best be preserved if the town remains a backwater.

The village owes its name to an extraordinarily pious old Scotsman of the McGregor clan, who for over 40 years guided the destinies of the Dutch Reformed Church community in the Robertson district. It was to honour the memory of this much loved man that McGregor received its name.

The majority of McGregor's houses were

built after the manner typical of the mid-1800's, with straight end gables, stable doors and thatched roofs topping small lofts. Here and there are a few of the houses which must have been erected by the more affluent in the community, the flat topped "town houses." There is even an occasional flat-topped double storey.

Although of obviously recent construction the architectural style adopted for the city hall complex is reasonably in keeping with most of the town.

Surrounding each of these delightful little cottages is the inevitable quince or pomegranate hedge. Most gardens boast carefully tended vegetable beds and a tiny orchard of peaches, figs, pears and plums. In spring the fruit blossom adds splashes of colour to the old world charm.

McGregor lies snugly tucked away among the low hills flanking the northern base of the Sonder Einde Mountains. Most of the inhabitants – White and Coloured in about equal proportion – work on the farms or small holdings in the district.

Although the soil is reasonably good it compares unfavourably with the fertile and prosperous Breede River Valley nearby.

Until about 50 years ago many McGregor gardens and small holdings had bamboo groves and the products of this cultivation provided a much needed income supplement.

The long fully matured poles were used for ladder uprights, while the younger stems were sold for whipsticks or fishing rods. Fishermen rated McGregor rods highly.

Today all this has changed. The stream which stimulated bamboo growth, and also kept the town's open furrows bubbling all the year round, now runs only spasmodically, while the market for bamboo sticks is almost non-existent.

What is McGregor's future? The National Monuments Council's principal worry is the fact that some houses are deteriorating rapidly. Others are being repaired or altered in a manner quite out of keeping with their original character. A Johannesburg developer has reportedly bought a number of houses in the town. His plan to demolish them would be a disaster.

The National Monuments Council believes that if their plan is accepted McGregor could become one of the most picturesque villages in the world.

Mayor James Kriel believes that the best way to preserve the unique character of the town is to leave it as it is. Will McGregor continue to live in peace – and obscurity?

—Pretoria News, June 12, 1975

Gately house, East London

Seen within the context of the history of the Cape Colony's eastern frontier, East London, founded in 1848, has a relatively short history. Beginning as a military settlement on the west bank of the Buffalo River, it remained under military government until 1860.

The arrival in 1858 of the German settlers and the granting of land to some of them on the east bank of the Buffalo gave rise to the village of Panmure, named after the then British Secretary of State for War. In 1877, the English writer, Anthony Trollope visited East London and described it thus: "At present East London is not a nice place. It is without a pavement, almost without a street . . . Opposite to the town of East London on the east bank of the Buffalo River, and connected with it by ferries, is the township of Panmure. At Panmure there has gathered itself together an unpromising assembly of stores and houses".

It was to the young town that John Gately, an Irish immigrant who had enlisted in the 60th Regiment of the Royal Rifles in 1847 and seen service in the Frontier Wars between 1851 and 1853, came in 1860. He settled on the west bank but in 1876 purchased a one-acre lot in Panmure on the east bank; his new property had originally been granted in 1862 to one, Charles Vix, Surgeon to the British German Legion. In 1878 Gately had a house built on the lot, which is situated on a wooded knoll overlooking the river and its harbour. From this home he was to develop and exercise an increasing influence over the civic, political, cultural and commercial affairs of the little town, particularly after it became a municipality in 1880. He became the first Chairman of the Civil Commissioners to hold office, second Mayor, Justice of the Peace, member of the hospital, harbour, licensing and land boards; member of the divisional council and director of a building society. He was also a president of the East London Choral Society and a trustee of the public library.

Gately's local influence brought him into contact with leading public figures of the day, not only men in the same town but also those in colonial politics and other prominent personalities. Thus it came about that he entertained in his own home such personalities as Sir John Molteno, first prime minister of the Cape Colony, the Governor Sir Bartle Frere, Sir Gordon Sprigg, another Cape prime minister, and Lord Roberts, commander-in-chief of the British forces during the Anglo-Boer War. As the Gately Papers, now in the East London Museum, show, he wielded his in-



Gately House, East London – facade and west side.

fluence and patronage in the interests of the city, so that he came to be known as 'the father of East London', until his death in 1902.

This is the background to his home which, with its original contents is today, under the control of the East London Museum, a Town House Museum and a National Monument (declared in 1973). That it should have gained this status is a tribute to the persistent efforts of the Trustees of the East London Museum and the members of the Border Historical Society, for when negotiations with the authorities began in 1961, Gately House was due to be demolished to create a municipal parking lot.

John Gately had a family of twelve children. The last survivor lived in the house for her whole life. In 1958 when in declining health and at an advanced age, this daughter, Margaret Gately (who died in 1966), sold the house to the East London Municipality. She was keen that it be preserved as a monument to her father and, in order to facilitate this, presented to the East London Museum the entire contents of the house, on condition that the building itself was preserved to house them.

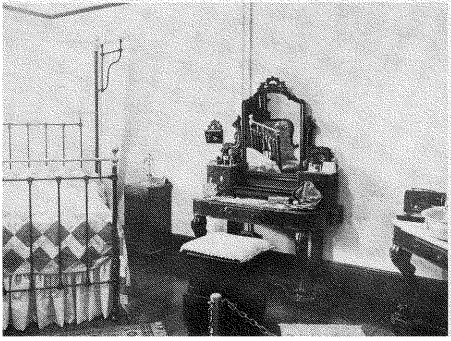
This led to a battle, not so much against the local authorities (who in the end sold the property to the museum's Trustees for a nominal sum) but against the Provincial ones who were unwilling to allow the museum to take on an additional potential financial burden. After negotiations lasting almost two years, the Administrator's permission was obtained, on condition that the necessary repair

and restoration work be carried out at no cost to the Administration.

Fortunately no structural restoration was necessary, but the amount required for reroofing, plastering, painting, wall-papering and incidental costs still required a considerable outlay. This was accomplished by the combined efforts of the museum and Historical Society personnel and the official opening was performed on 1st April, 1967, by the then Provincial Secretary of the Cape, Mr A J B de Klerk.

We pass on now to consider some of the structural details of the house, its contents, other buildings on the property and general features of the building as a museum. Construction throughout is of brick, under a pitched roof of corrugated iron. At some undetermined date the original parapets at the end gables were removed and the roof extended over the full width of the pitch. An early photograph of the house reveals a verandah on the facade only. Later the verandah was extended along both sides. All windows, with the exception of a casement in the original kitchen, are of the double, sliding, sash type. Some of the rooms still retain floors of narrow yellowwood boards (as no records have been found of alterations carried out during the Gatelys' occupation, there is no indication whether all floors were originally of this wood), while ceilings are uniformly boarded. Five of the six rooms open to the public have fireplaces; in four of these the fireplaces are in a corner position.

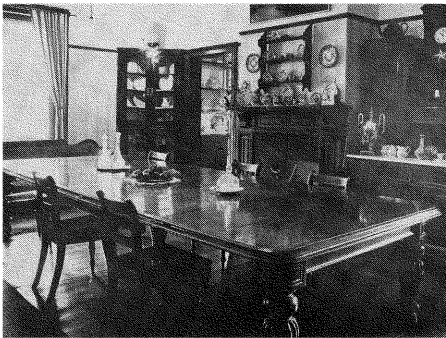
Opening off a central passage are a parlour on the left and a study on the right. Further along, two bedrooms open



Main bedroom of Gately House.
(Photo: SATOUR)



Gately House . . . parlour.
(Photo: SATOUR)



The dining room of Gately House, showing the three meter long mahogany table. (Photo: SATOUR)



The charming old fashioned study of Gately House. The large portrait above the desk is that of John Gately.

off left and right of the passage, which ends in the large dining room; this in turn gives access to a small pantry. All these rooms are furnished with the original contents, all of the Victorian period. They are the characteristic large, solid pieces mainly in mahogany, walnut and rosewood.

In this business as a Forwarding and General Agent, John Gately was in a position to import his furniture easily from abroad. The only pieces certainly of South African origin make up the set of stinkwood dining chairs which are placed around the vast and impressive mahogany table which seats sixteen people at a meal. A feature which lends authenticity to all the rooms is the inclusion of most of the Gatelys' ornaments, pictures, china, glassware and personal mementoes of their travels abroad and of the eminent guests they entertained. Beyond the dining room are several rooms which had been somewhat changed by Miss Margaret Gately and which are now part of the quarters occupied by the curator. These include the original kitchen (still with recess for a stove), a small sitting room and an enclosed verandah, as well as Miss Gately's own kitchen which is part of a small wing added in 1929, when a bathroom was also built.

Apart from the main house there are two other buildings on the property. Imme-

diately next to the 1929 wing is a small, two-roomed wood-and-iron building erected in 1901 to accommodate refugees fleeing from the scene of the war in the Transvaal. At the end of the grapevine pergola leading from the back door of the house is a two-roomed brick building under a corrugated iron roof. One room contains John Gately's built-in desk with bookshelves above it and is also shown to visitors. The original use of the other room is not known.

The original one-acre lot purchased in 1876 no longer exists as a unit. After the sale of the property to the East London municipality, the old orchard was used for a parking lot but the existing grounds of the house are still spacious enough to provide a fine setting among the well-established indigenous and fruit trees. These all date from the Gately period. The remains of an outside bake oven stand in close proximity to the house. There are plans to reconstruct this.

Since assuming responsibility for Gately House, the Trustees of the East London Museum have observed certain criteria in order to preserve the old house as nearly as possible in its original condition. Above all is the requirement that it be kept as unpretentious as it was in the Gately era. They have been careful to add or remove none of the original contents. The arrangement of furniture, ornaments and other objects has as far as

possible been retained as the last occupant had them. Daily cleaning and the renewal several times a week of the flowers which decorate every room, are a regular procedure. The comments of visitors seem to confirm the success of these measures, for they are often heard to remark that they have the illusion that the owners have temporarily left but are soon to return.

—E H BIGALKE

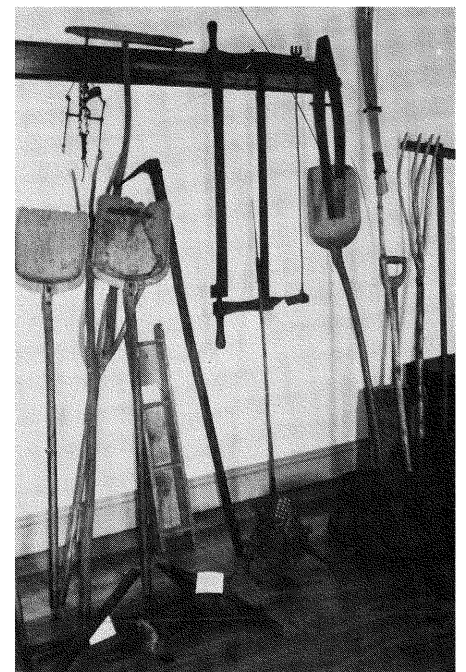
Oudste huis op Groot Brakrivier gerestoureer

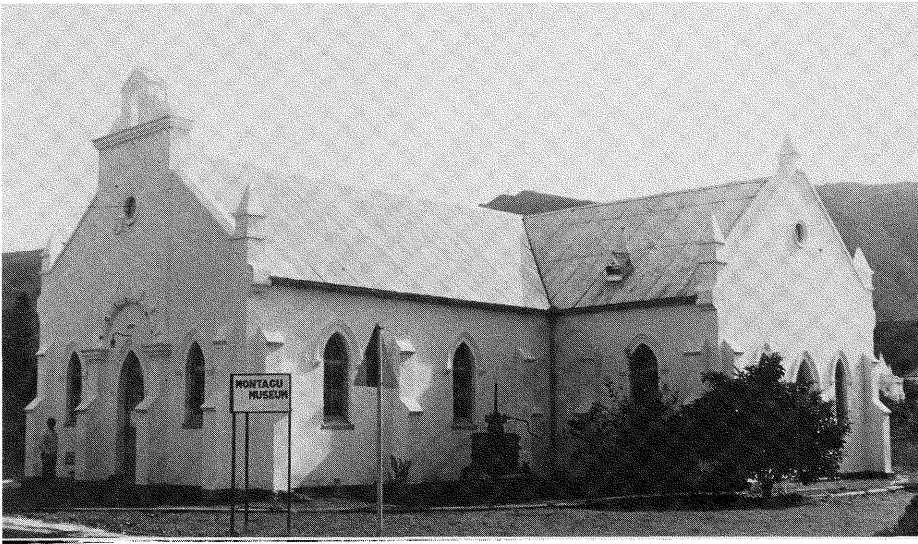
Die restourasie van die oudste huis op Groot-Brakrivier is voltooi, en die gebou sal voortaan as museum dien. Daar word op die oomblik naastiglik gesoek na stukke om daar te vertoon, en skenkings sal verwelkom word. Die plan word nog oorweeg om aantreklike ou huisies in Langstraat in te rig vir 'n hele reeks uitstallings. As dié plan deurgevoer word, sal die dorp werklik oor 'n unieke toeriste-attraksie beskik. Die museum se eerste kurator is mev Edith Dugmore.

—Die Burger, 20 Junie 1975

Mooi museum in Montagu

Die mense van Montagu in die Boland het die pragtige ou NG Sendingkerk op dié dorp in 'n netjiese museum omge-





skop. Maar wat belangrik is, is dat in dié dorpsmuseum ook 'n prysenswaardige plek aan vroeëtydse landbougereedskap afgestaan is.

Die Montagu-Museum is onlangs deur dr Douglas Hey, Direkteur van Natuur-bewaring in Kaapland, geopen. Die museum is gehuisves in die ou sendingkerk, wat in 1907 opgerig en nou tot Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid verklaar is.

'n Verskeidenheid van pragtige oudhede word ten toon gestel. 'n Kosbare en unieke versameling van Kaap-Hollandse meubels en ander Africana is deur mnr Paul Roux van Ashton op bruikleen aan die museum beskikbaar gestel. Van mnr Koos Kok is 'n mooi versameling van erdekruike, 'n Franse orrel en ander antieke stukke verkry.

'n Belangrike faset van dié museum, is egter dat goeie plek afgestaan is vir 'n interessante verskeidenheid van outydse boeregebruiksartikels, waarvan baie uit eie omgewing byeengebring is. Daarmee het die museumbeplanners 'n voorbeeld gestel wat by toekomstige dorpsmuseums wye navolging behoort te vind.

Landbouweekblad het juis vroeër vanjaar 'n artikel geplaas oor plaasmuseums in die Skandinawiese lande. Die skrywer, Jan Badenhorst, het in dié artikel gevra of dit nie tyd geword het dat Suid-Afrikaners meer moet omgee vir die bewaring van hul boere-erfgoed nie. Wat dit betref, het Montagu nou van sy kant 'n prysenswaardige bydrae gelewer.

Landbouweekblad, 8 Augustus 1975

Somerset Museum officially opened

Mr I Hoogenhout, an executive member of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, officially opened the Somerset East museum which is housed in a former parsonage, now a national monument, on April 28, 1975.

—E.P. Herald, April 29, 1975

Stigting se Vergadering

Die Cradock Stigting se volgende vergadering is gehou op 5 September om 2 nm in die sykamer van die stadsaal. Hierdie vergaderings van die Stigting sal in die toekoms altyd op die eerste Vrydag van die maand om 2 nm gehou word en enige belangstellendes is welkom om dit by te woon.

Sodra die Cradock Munisipaliteit die kantore van die Gesondheidsdepartement kan sentraliseer en die gebou waar hulle nou is ontruim, sal die Stigting met mening kan oorgaan van restourasie van die ou pastorie in Hoogstraat. Dié pastorie sal dan as museum toegerus word.

—Die Nuwe Afrikaner, 22 Augustus 1975

Plans for museum Shelved

Plans to establish a museum at Seymour have been shelved and the exhibits intended for the proposed museum, collected by Mrs Marie Theron, the Seymour mayoress, will be distributed to other museums in the area.

The historic Elandspos was intended to be converted into a museum.

It was used as a residence for Seymour magistrates, but four of the original rooms, the stables and gunpowder rooms are still intact.

—EP Herald, August 25, 1975

Streekvereniging vir baai

Dit is goeie nuus wat my bereik het dat die Stigting van Simon van der Stel

daaraan dink om hier in die Baai 'n streekvereniging van die liggaam in die lewe te roep. Hier is so baie wat beskerm en vir die nageslag bewaar moet word.

Daarom was dit interessant om die jongste uitgawe van die Departement van Beplanning en omgewing se maandblad nie alleen die mooi kleurfoto's van Paul Kruger se plaas Boekenhoutfontein nie, maar ook die eerste Spoorwegstasiegebou van my ou dorp Heidelberg, Transvaal, te sien.

Met reg skryf prof dr F Smuts van Stellenbosch in die blad dat die enigste wapen teen sinnelose sloop van ons erfenis 'n goedingelike burgery is. Dit moet 'n moderne en verligte houding teenoor monumentesorg dwarsdeur die land opbou.

Dit is daarom noodsaaklik dat in elke stad of op elke dorp 'n tak van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, wat hom hiervoor beywer, moet wees. Dit kan gekoördineerde aksie bring teenoor enige plan om sommer net altyd te wil afbreek en te sloop.

—Oosterlig, 26 Augustus 1975

Preserving the past

Various aspects of the preservation of old buildings and historical structures is being investigated by the CSIR's NBRI. According to the CSIR's Annual Report for 1974, the Institute found, for instance, that plaster failures in an historic building in Graaff-Reinet were being caused by rising damp and recommendations were made to prevent further damage.

The Institute is also busy studying the causes of the deterioration of rock paintings and engravings with the objective of developing methods of preserving them.

Construction in S.A., July 4, 1975

Stigting byeen op Uitenhage

Die nasionale raad van die Stigting Simon van der Stel het Vrydag vir die eerste keer sedert die stigting van die heemskutorganisasie in 1959 op Uitenhage vir hul halfjaarlikse vergadering byeengekom. Dit is in ooreenstemming met die nasionale karakter van die Stigting om elke keer op 'n ander dorp bymekaar te kom en nie noodwendig altyd in 'n groot stad of dorp nie.

Mnr Willem J Punt, direkteur van die stigting het gesê dat die publiek in alle

dele van die land oor die afgelope jare 'n toenemende belangstelling in die bewaring en restourasie van Suid-Afrika se nasionale erfenis aan geboue en kultuur-historiese plekke getoon het.

Die stigting self beskik tans oor 6 200 lede waarvan 1 200 die afgelope vier maande aangesluit het. Tot September verlede jaar het die stigting reeds oor agt eiendomme met 17 huise en nagenoeg 80 hektaar grond ter waarde van sowat R500 000 beskik.

'n Belangrike onderwerp van bespreking wat tydens die vergadering skerp onder die soeklig gekom het, was die noodsaaklikheid vir die stigting van 'n streek-komitee in Oos-Kaapland met sy basis moontlik in Port Elizabeth of Oos-Londen.

Die burgemeester van Uitenhage, mnr A D Schoeman, het die raadslede van die stigting Saterdagoggend op 'n inspeksietoer na Uitenhage se historiese plekke vergesel. Nadat die ou halfweghuis by Sandfontein – in 1821 gebou – met nog die oorspronklike dakteëls op en vroeër bekend as Waveside Inn, besigtig is, het die raad hul morele steun aan die behoefte om Sandfontein te restoureer, toegesê.

Wolmeule

Bradshaw se wolmeule by Bathurst is ook later die middag besoek. Dié meule is deur die stigting gekoop en gerestoureer om as monument te dien vir die Britse Setlaars se ondernemingsgees en bydrae tot die wolbedryf in Oos-Kaapland.

Pastoriestraat 2 op Graaff-Reinet behoort ook aan die stigting en is 'n voorbeeld van die destydse binnelandse Kaap-Hollandse boustyl. Dit dateer uit 1850.

Die nasionale raad van die Stigting Simon van der Stel bestaan uit 14 lede met dr S Meiring Naudé as voorsitter. Dr W H J Punt, vader van mnr Willem Punt, was 15 jaar lank direkteur van die stigting totdat sy seun verlede jaar by hom oorgeneem het. Dr Punt dien nou in 'n adviserende hoedanigheid op die raad.

—Die Oosterlig, 17 April 1975

Cuyler manor reveals secrets

Restoration in progress at Cuyler Manor, near Uitenhage. Three stoeps were uncovered and carefully demolished before the original steps were discovered. During the process of demolition, which is being done under the expert vigilance of the Municipal Civil Engineer, Mr Aubrey Hare, the old building is slowly



Cuyler Manor, June 1975, during removal of verandahs.

Cuyler Manor – first glimpse of the original front steps.

giving up its secrets. The bakoond had obviously been reconstructed twice, the arch in each of the earlier constructions having been too wide. The reconstruction of the manor has reached the stage where the gable is to be replaced and the roof slates removed for thatching.

—P COATES



In die rustige, landelike omgewing van Bathurst, Oos-Kaap, staan die gerestoureerde wolmeul van Samuel Bradshaw.

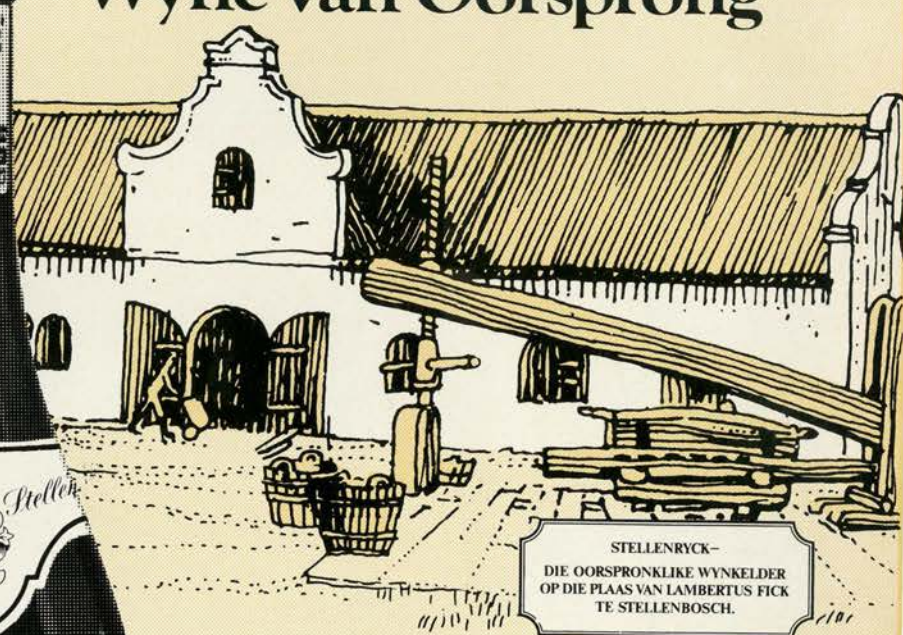
—Foto: Rex Reynolds



Ontdek die ryke erfenis
van Stellenbosch in

Stellenryck

Wyne van Oorsprong



Stellenbosch - ryk in tradisie

Wyne in die Stellenryck-reeks kom uit die roemryke Stellenbosch-gebied, waar voortreflike wynmakerskuns reeds eeue lank gedy. In die ryk en vrugbare aarde van Stellenbosch vind die wingerde 'n ware tuiste en 'n milde klimaat. En in die koel rustigheid van Die Bergkelder word die wingerd met eindelose geduld veredel en vertroetel tot die volle vreugde van voortreflike wyn, Stellenryck.



- Stellenryck Pinotage 'n Medium-ligte rooiwijn met 'n warm hartlikheid.
- Stellenryck Rosé 'n Semi-soet roséwijn met 'n treffende boeket.
- Stellenryck Clairette Blanche 'n Delikaat-ligte, droë witwijn.
- Stellenryck Steen 'n Semi-soet witwijn met 'n vrugtige boeket.
- Stellenryck Riesling 'n Droë delikaat-geurige witwijn.



Waar die adel van die druif tot suiwer kuns gedy.

Stellenryck - Wyne van Oorsprong, Stellenbosch

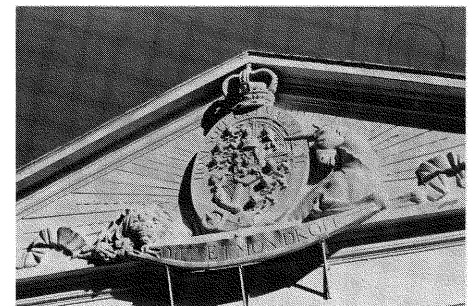
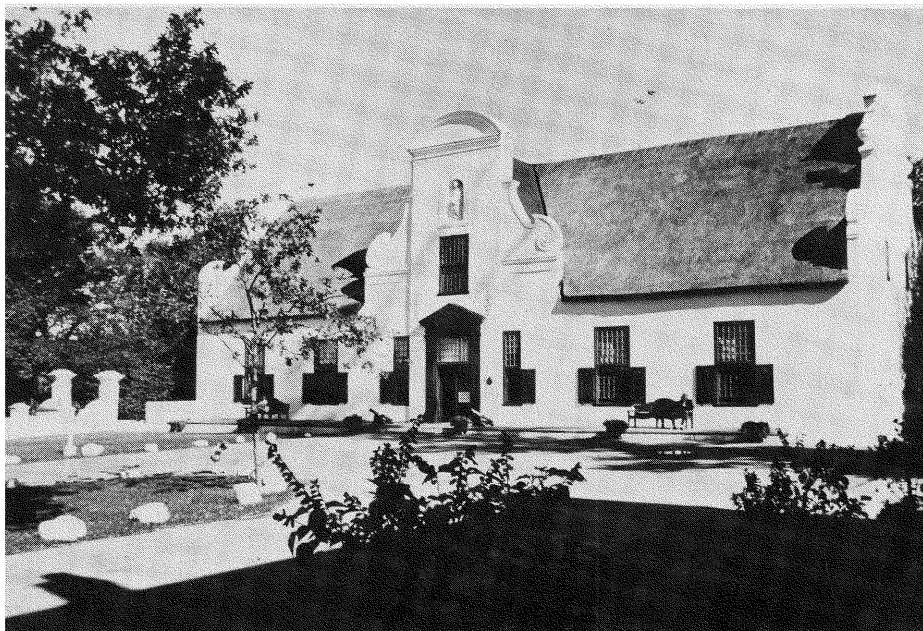
Die Stellenryck Wynmuseum - Stellenbosch is oop vir die publiek.

Op weksdae van 9.00 vm tot 12.45 nm en 2.00 nm tot 5.00 nm. Saterdag van 10.00 vm tot 1.00 nm en 2.00 nm tot 5.00 nm.



Meerlust, near Stellenbosch, third quarter of Eighteenth Century.

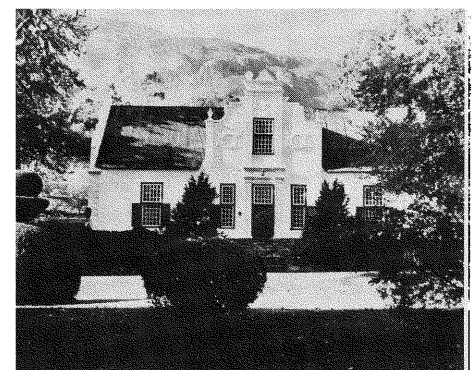
Nectar, near Stellenbosch, early Nineteenth Century.



Neo-classical stucco work on Old Supreme Court, Cape Town. Very late Eighteenth Century.

Groot Constantia, very late Eighteenth Century.

Libertas, Stellenbosch, second half of Eighteenth Century



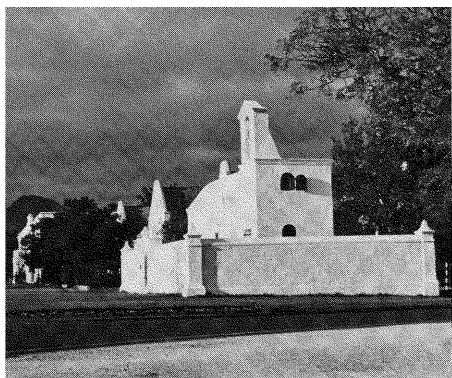


Drostdy, Swellendam, mid-Eighteenth Century.



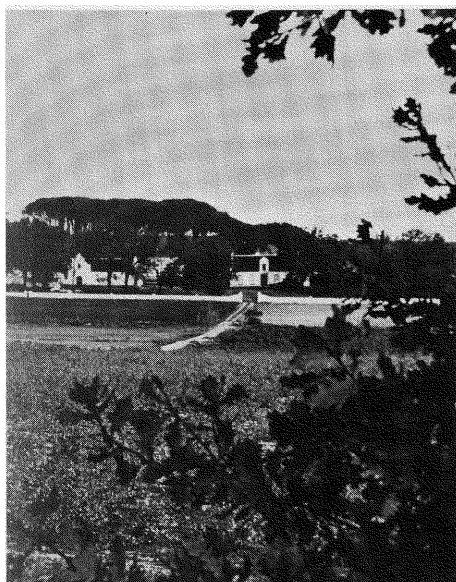
Stellenbosch Museum, late Eighteenth Century.

This material was found in our files. We publish it without acknowledgement. Will the author and/or photographer please advise so that he can be acknowledged in the next issue.



Gun Powder Magazine, Stellenbosch, third quarter of Eighteenth Century.

Verdruk-mij-niet, near Stellenbosch.



Eenzaamheid, near Stellenbosch, late Eighteenth Century.





Foundation stone for the Pietermaritzburg Art Gallery, laid in 1939 by Field-Marshal J C Smuts, then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice of the Union of South Africa. The building was never completed and this valuable historical stone is homeless.

In 1937 or early 1938, the City Council of Pietermaritzburg launched a competition for the design of a Centenary Memorial Art Gallery, which, so far as can be ascertained, was won by a Durban architect, one Mr Geoffrey le Sueur.

In a subsequent publication (a Souvenir Hand-Book commemorating the Centenary of Pietermaritzburg, 1838-1938), the following appeared as an item on the programme of the proposed Centenary celebrations (Page 35):

“Monday, 24th October, 1938.

Laying of Foundation Stone of Centenary Memorial Art Gallery.

An order has been placed for the foundation stone of the Centenary Memorial Art Gallery, which stone it is intended shall be laid at the earliest opportunity at the site of the proposed building on the Market Square”.

The foundation stone was actually laid by Field Marshal J C Smuts, then Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, after the start of World War II, on virtually the same site where the new Library has now been built.

World War II intervened and the Art Gallery was never completed.

This foundation stone, believed to lie in the basement of the City Hall, could, if still in sufficiently well-preserved condition, be placed in a suitable position on the originally-selected site, for instance, in the entrance to the new Library, with some indication of its historical significance, together with a sketch plan of the then-proposed Centenary Memorial Art Gallery.

Besides commemorating Pietermaritzburg’s centenary and the visit of an eminent South African and world statesman, it would also be of considerable interest to the public of Pietermaritzburg.

The presence of this foundation stone in a selected position in the new Library should not assort oddly with the appearance and purpose of the Library, and is not without precedent since, in the foyer of the Johannesburg Public Library, for instance, plaques and objects of a similar nature, which have either been incorporated in the building itself or form permanent exhibits there, provide a focal point of interest in the City.

A S B HUMPHREYS

No civic moss for rolling stone

The Capital’s “rolling” foundation stone seems no nearer finding a permanent home than it was when first laid for a building that was never built.

The heavy granite stone – it measures 1 829 by 1 219 by 0 381 metres – was originally laid in June 1939 by the then Deputy Prime Minister, General J C Smuts.

It was to inaugurate the building of an art gallery on the new Natal Society Library site as a fitting commemoration of the Capital’s centenary.

Shelved

But World War II intervened and the project was permanently shelved. Last year a suggestion that it be incorporated in the new library building came to nothing.

Also dropped was an earlier suggestion that it be placed in the Tatham Art Gallery.

Then the Simon van der Stel Foundation became interested and approached the City Council with the request that the stone be erected on Churchill Square.

It would then commemorate not only the City’s centenary but also a visit by an eminent South African. This suggestion was supported by the Finance and Policy Committee.

Asked to report on the possible siting of the stone on the square, the City Engineer, Mr D V Harris, put forward a plan for placing the stone in the granite walling between the City Councillors’ parking area and the metered public parking area.

Explanatory

He estimated the cost of erecting the stone at R150 with the cost of an explanatory plaque in bronze doubling this figure.

Now, however, the Finance and Policy Committee has recommended that the matter be shelved for 12 months until the lay-out of Churchill Square has advanced.

Meanwhile, the much-discussed foundation stone lies in a corner of the municipal stores in Havelock Road.

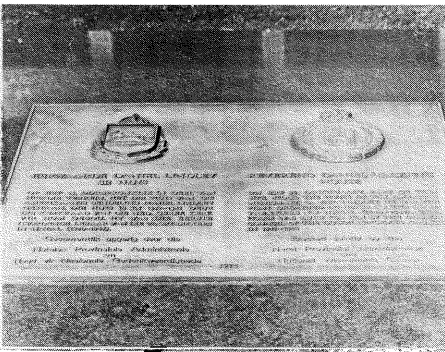
—Natal Witness, June 11, 1975

The Lost Pastorie of Pietermaritzburg

The old pastorie of the American missionary, Daniel Lindley, the lower story of which dated from 1842-43, was in a sad state of neglect. In the opinion of its owners, the City Council of Pietermaritzburg, the place was beyond repair, and, before the year 1959 passed into history, it was demolished. Most people realise that enterprise must not be checked, and that change must go on. It is easy to make pleas for the retention of an old building look like obstructive sentimentality. Nonetheless, it is well that we should be on our guard against stealthy change that is apt to escape notice.

Daniel Lindley, born in Pennsylvania, the son of a frontiersman, sailed from Boston to start, with others, a mission to the Zulu people. Settling in Natal he consented to serve as first ordained minister of the Church of the Vow, the Volksraad agreeing to pay him a salary of £100 and provide a pastorie. The salary was soon in arrears, but a site was found on erf 33, Loop Street, granted to the Church in 1841. Built of shale-stone slabs with loft below the thatch, it was completed, largely through the exertions of Ernst Pistorius, towards the close of 1843. By comparing the building with the original plans of 1842, C F

The Lindley pastorie has vanished – in its place only a plaque. (Photo: Natal Witness)



Shuter confirmed that it was indeed Lindley's pastorie. A second storey was added in 1855-56. Acquired by Joseph Baynes, it became in 1892 the property of the Salvation Army, which used it as a boys' home. It was sold to the City Council in 1949.

Lindley returned to his Zulu mission in 1846, and a vacancy followed in the ministry. Lindley died in 1880.

A plaque with the following inscription was erected on the site where the pastorie stood:

Reverend Daniel Lindley's House

On Erf 33, originally part of this site, stood the house of the American Missionary, Daniel Lindley. He was the

first ordained minister to the Voortrekkers in Natal (1840-1847). This house was built for him by the Church Council of the Dutch Reformed Church in 1842-1843.

Erected jointly by the Natal Provincial Administration and National Monuments Council.

Plea on old buildings

A call has been made for the creation of a body under the auspices of the City Council to work for the preservation of old buildings in Pietermaritzburg.

The call was made yesterday by the chairman of the Macrorie House trustees, Mr Simon Roberts, who is also a member of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

Speaking at a university lunch-time lecture, he said a building usually gave one a window of the past and the view through the window was better than the puzzling picture of the present.

Wilder level

"Admiration of the old by no means excludes admiration of the modern, but we cannot readily shake off our need for reassurance," he said.

"At a wider level we cling to our historical and cultural origins. Closer to home, we cherish family traditions. For comfort and reassurance, we tend to look toward familiar things."

Twentieth-century man tended to abdicate taste in favour of the expert committee, planner or state.

Fundamental

There was a fundamental failure in South Africa's educational system to cultivate feelings of civic concern, yet it was not too late to learn, Mr Roberts said.

"Without formal help in acquiring a personal view about buildings, the alternative is to open one's eyes and look.

"And the more you look, the more you will see.

"The more you see, the more you will understand and the better are your chances of acquiring a personal view.

"And having acquired a personal view will you not have achieved one of the aims of a civilised man?"

The preservation of buildings was a personal matter and "the amateur ought to breathe in the atmosphere of buildings."

Mr Roberts said: "I suppose we all feel a flush of pride when visitors say what a charming city we live in.

"What have we to lose? A great deal," he said.

Natal Witness, August 7, 1975

Move to list important spots

The listing of important places and buildings in Pietermaritzburg and determining how they can be conserved is likely to be the first task carried out by the proposed Pietermaritzburg Conservation Committee.

Recently the Works Committee recommended that the City Council support the idea of establishing such a committee and that four Council representatives be appointed.

Other suggested members are three architects, a town planner, a structural engineer and representatives of the Natal Archives, the Natal Museum and the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

A preliminary meeting has already been held with the Institute of SA Architects regarding the formation of a conservation committee.

The Institute then indicated that it would only be too pleased to assist in listing the important places and buildings in Pietermaritzburg.

It would also assist in finding suitable ways in which such examples could be conserved within the life of the city.

A similar list has been drawn up of important places and buildings in Durban.

—Natal Witness, May 22, 1975

Gold in ancient piles

Preserving historical buildings is cheaper – and more profitable in terms of hard cash – than demolishing them to build new ones, Mr I M Hoogenhout told a symposium in Durban during September. A director of Historical Homes of South Africa Ltd, Mr Hoogenhout said his company had shown a net profit of R133 251 in its first nine years.

He was speaking at a symposium organised to coincide with the opening of an exhibition on the conservation of buildings organised by the Natal Institute of Architects.

Mr Hoogenhout said preserving historical buildings in Durban was irrefutable proof, against a backdrop of 138 coups and attempted coups in Africa since 1960, that Western democratic civilisation had survived in South Africa for 300 years.

Besides which preserving historic buildings made business sense – as his company had proved.

As examples of profitability, he instanced two Old Cape Dutch homes in Stellenbosch which had been converted into prestige offices renting at R400 a month instead of R250 as private homes.

In Graaff-Reinet ten slave cottages which

the town council wanted to demolish to provide a parking lot had been turned into a profitable residential mall.

Another speaker, Mr Revel Fox, introduced as a 'modern' architect from Cape Town, warned that South Africa had "ripped out its entire Cape Dutch heritage, and is busy tearing down the entire British development."

—*Natal Mercury*, 3 September 1975

Progress or preservation

Should the former Queen's Tavern in Durban be demolished yet another blow will have been struck for progress at the expense of the past.

Sometimes one cannot help wondering whether the progress mongers will be satisfied only when all urban memories beyond two or three decades have been erased.

It appears that in modern society the possibilities of growing old among the comfortable landmarks of one's youth are increasingly remote. There appears to be no respect for old fashioned architectural shapes – only a greedy exploitation of property potential. As an outsider – an ordinary citizen – one wonders at the complexity of civic regulations and commercial aspirations which render powerless the attempts by preservation societies to restore and protect old buildings.

Building in South African towns – and certainly Durban – seems more geared to demolition than restoration and when all the quaint little old houses and buildings and churches have vanished from the scene we'll look at their photographs in museums and wonder why we tossed away – so lightly – a priceless heritage.

"Why are we doing it?," I asked a developer, and he pointed out that a lot of urban planning training stemmed from the Bauhaus philosophies. These were anti-historic. The Bauhaus represented a complete break away from the traditions of the past. The movement in the 1920's affected art, furniture, buildings. Designers were trained to forget the past, to turn their visions to the skyscraper giants of the future.

"These philosophies fitted in very well with the practical problems of urbanisation – with the population explosion, industrial expansion. Giant buildings were more than a vanity: they became a necessity. And, of course, the academics who fled from Europe to England and America during the World War 2 became the new educators. The Corbusier/Bauhaus anti-historic style became international."

But did designers not see the aesthetic importance and value of old buildings?

"Of course. But it's a difficult battle when you're fighting practicality," he said.

Urban land was valued not for its actual properties but for its building potential. If buildings became uneconomic the alert developer would demolish it and replace it with something which yielded more profit.

However, there were experiments in some countries to transfer the building potential to another site in order to preserve a valued old building and possibly this might be the answer here in Durban, too.

When New York's picturesque Grand Central Station was threatened, for example, the owner was allowed to transfer the potential density to an adjacent lot. This lot was developed instead and the station retained its character.

"The ironic aspect is that people are turning to a nostalgia kick today," an architect said. "Fashions in houses seem to be in mock Tudor, mock Spanish, mock Colonial – take La Lucia for example. But these are mockeries, as their names imply. I go out there whenever I'm depressed and need a good laugh."

Atmosphere

"This isn't the answer. What is needed is a real drive to restore and revitalise the use potential of old buildings. Of course it's a mistake to assume that buildings are valuable just because they're old. Some of them are worthless. But the beautiful example of historical trends should be preserved."

Of course, it's not only the actual buildings which are lost to the demolitioners hammer – but their atmosphere.

I remember the Marine Hotel, for example, and the chamber concerts that were held there. People sat on gilded chairs under the chandeliers in the ballroom to listen to Bach and Mozart, and afterwards wandered out onto the palm-fringed, red concreted courtyard to sip their coffee.

When the demolition squad moved in at the end of 1972 this small way of life vanished permanently from the Durban scene. And vanish, as we know, is a long, long time.

MARILYNNE HOLLOWAY

—*Sunday Tribune*, June 29, 1975

Durban plea goes out to Vorster: save our tavern

The Prime Minister is to be asked to intervene in the attempt by the Depart-

ment of Community Development to demolish Durban's oldest pub: the Queen's Tavern.

Mr Peter Noel-Barham, leaseholder of the British-Middle East-Indian Sporting and Dining Club, said this week he was sending a petition to Mr Vorster with the names of 1 235 people opposed to the department's expropriation of the tavern.

"I believe the issue is important enough to involve the Prime Minister.

"There seems to be a conspiracy to pull down interesting old buildings and replace them with anonymous concrete-and-glass affairs. The Queen's Tavern is part of old Durban and I think it's monstrous to destroy it in the name of so-called progress.

Clearance

The department has included the Queen's Tavern in its slum clearance scheme – Block AK – in Greyville where "urban renewal" is planned.

But property developer Mr Peter Hanson believes the building could be preserved within any development scheme: "I am a regular customer so I have an axe to grind. However I also like old buildings and I resent the tendency in this country to destroy the old to make way for the new."

Mr Noel-Barham is hoping to get Durban's mayor, Mr Dixie Adams, to lend his name to the protest group.

—*Sunday Tribune*, August 10, 1975

University man to fight for doomed church

A senior lecturer in architecture at Natal University, Mr Brian Kearney, has said he would fight "tooth and nail" to stop the demolition of a listed Catholic church in Durban.

St Joseph's Church in Stamford Hill Road is due to be pulled down because of re-zoning in the area and a road widening scheme. Parts of the building, constructed at the turn of the century, were taken from the first Roman Catholic church in Durban which originally stood on the Emmanuel Cathedral site near West Street.

Mr Kearney told *The Daily News* that he was against the demolition of St Joseph's. He wants to see the road proposals modified or the building be given a change of use.

"The front entrance is of primary importance. It is an excellent example of

mock Gothic architecture which was added to the church.”

“I believe that the Catholic Church may have jumped the gun with plans for a new building on a different site and a demolition order on the old one.”

“If there was any way to stop the demolition I would fight tooth and nail to help”, added Mr Kearney.

St Joseph’s is given an A class rate in the first listing of important buildings in Durban drawn up by a liaison committee of the city council and the Natal Institute of Architects last year. Attention is drawn to the very fine entrance facade.

Mr John Frost, chairman of the liaison committee for the preservation of historic amenities in Durban, said this exemplified highlighted the problem of finding ways and means to preserve buildings.

The priest at St Joseph’s, Father Michael Hennessy, admitted that the demolition was a tragedy.

—*The Daily News*, April 4, 1975

“Toe the line” call by Loots

South Africa was not going to squander the wonderful assets which the country had in its coastal areas, nor was anybody else going to be allowed to do it, Mr J J Loots, Minister of Planning and the Environment, said in Durban.

“Where things are not right, we must rectify them, and all concerned – my department, all Government departments, the provinces, local authorities and private enterprise exploiting the sea or the shore – must toe the line,” he said at a conference on coastal conservation. “If and when we sufficiently conserve and protect, surely we cannot then allow oil released into the sea – whether by accident or design – to destroy our coastal marine life.

“In the years ahead increasing use of the sea, already a bountiful source of food, may extend to gas, oil and other mineral finds.

“I say to you we must use but not misuse. We must think and plan also for posterity, and by that I mean the youngsters of today and their children,” he concluded.

Professor J R Grindley told the conference that of the entire coastline of South Africa, the area most urgently in need of conservation is Tongaland in Northern Natal.

“This is the only really sub-tropical part of the South African coastline and includes the nesting areas of turtles, corals and coral fishes as well as a vast diversity of animal and plant life which does not occur anywhere else on our coastline,” he said.

His theme was that completely protected marine reserves should be established around the coast in the same way that nature reserves and natural parks exist on land.

He said the public would have access to these reserves, with walking, swimming, skin diving and other seaside activities generally unrestricted.

But angling, spearfishing, bait gathering and other forms of destruction would have to be prevented.

—*Natal Mercury*, April 4, 1975

Americans could be allies in the fight to preserve the beautiful sand dunes of Mapelane

One of the country’s leading conservationists has called on South Africans to look to their “environmentalist allies” in the United States for support in the fight to preserve Zululand’s unique Mapelane dune forests.

The towering coastal dunes, just south of St Lucia Estuary, are threatened by titanium mining development following the granting of prospecting rights to a consortium which includes an American company.

Mr T C Robertson, retired chairman of the Veld Trust, writes in an article for the Trust’s magazine that the President of the United States had committed himself to a World Heritage Trust for protection of areas of special natural, historical or cultural interest.

“South African nature lovers should ascertain whether it could not be used in the fight against the destruction of beautiful Mapelane.

“They must look for help from their allies, the environmentalists of the United States of America.”

Mr Robertson points out that in America, in spite of the energy crisis, environmentalists are fighting plans for underground nuclear explosions or open cast mining of the oil shales because this would destroy the beauty of the Sierra Nevadas.

“And the South African coastal dunes are as much a feature of our natural heritage as the Sierras are of America’s.

“Is America, short of raw materials, about to become a kind of colonising mole, digging up the rest of the world to satisfy the demands of its vast industry?”

Common

He points out that titanium, one of the world’s seven really common metals, is seldom found in the same heavy concentration as at the Mapelane dunes.

“That is why the miners, like vultures that first pick out the eyes, are heading for them. The Americans have been brought into the venture because of their know-how of the purification process.

“It seems that in this temple of Moloch, the open-cast mines against the dunes in which the Nature’s children of the forest will be sacrificed, the miner-priests have three idols and a god – the minerals ilmenite, rutile and zircon – the minerals titanium.”

Mr Robertson sketches the background to mineral prospecting on the Zululand coast from 1971 when prospectors were first spotted “almost stealthily” at work along the dune north of Richard’s Bay.

The Wildlife Society realised the minerals might be of economic importance but asked that the small area between African Reserve No 4, St Lucia Park and the mouth of the Umfolozi River be left untouched.

“But from the prospecting results the geologists did not agree, for they had found big concentrations of ore in that area.

“In November, 1972, the Minister of Planning, Mr J J Loots, gave the society a verdict that was like a death sentence on Mapelane.

Rorke’s drift to be rebuilt

The National Monuments Commission decided at its meeting in Cape Town yesterday to start a fund for the restoration of Rorke’s Drift in Natal.

Rorke’s Drift, scene of one of the most gallant chapters in South African history, is already a proclaimed national monument.

The restoration plans, approved in principle by the council, include the building of a mealie bag wall, a wall of biscuit boxes, the partial restoration of the commissariat store, a mealie bag redoubt and stone kraals.

Two wagons, similar to those used during the Zulu war, have already been bought for the site.

The mealie bags will be filled with concrete in the hope that when the sacking rots the clear impression of the bags will remain. Experiments are to be performed by the Moths to see if the method works. Plastic or fibre glass has been suggested as the material for the simulated biscuit box wall.

The original hospital, now in use as a dwelling, could be repaired and the monuments council decided to help with the restoration if they received an application for a grant.

A formal opening of the restored scene of the battle will be planned for the next year, or the year after.

—*Natal Mercury*, March 3, 1975

Outweigh

"In the opinion of the Government," he wrote, "the financial advantages to the country of exploiting minerals in the Mapelane area might outweigh those of undisturbed nature conservation."

"He backed it up with the ruling of the Department of Mines which was 'not prepared to agree to the reservation of the Mapelane area or any part thereof as a nature reserve or as a botanical garden.' 'The seekers after wealth were adamant.'"

But the Minister of Mines, Dr Piet Koornhof visited the area as late as May and gave the assurance that mining would not be given the go-ahead until a full study of the potential damage had been made.

World wonder

Mr Robertson describes the Mapelane forested dunes – part of the St Lucia Lake, river and ocean system which was recommended in 1968 as a national park – as "a world wonder."

"Out on the veld and in the bush, the plough, the axe and fire have been tearing up the treasured acres."

"And now the bulldozers of the road-maker and the miner are beginning to roar louder and louder as they shove and pile up the natural beauties."

—*Sunday Tribune*, April 6, 1975

R40 million ore rights threaten coastline

The Government has granted mineral prospecting concessions, worth an estimated R40-million a year in exports if they are exploited, along 100 km of Zululand coastline north of St Lucia – a coast also wanted for nature conservation.

Ecologists have warned that any tampering with this fragile wildlife paradise would ruin it forever. South Africa would lose its only truly sub-tropical coastal system and the forest dunes which at present hold back the sea could disappear, allowing the sea to flood thousands of hectares inland.

Balanced against this is the area's immense richness in ilmenite, rutile and zircon, the ores from which titanium is extracted. Titanium is used for strengthening the fuselages of supersonic aircraft and for rockets and guided missiles, but is by no means a rare metal.

The areas affected are the entire stretch north of Sordwana Bay to the Mozambique border, soon to be administered by KwaZulu; a 20 km stretch taking in

Cape Vidal and touching on Lake St Lucia; and a smaller strip of a few kilometres near St Lucia estuary.

South of the estuary, General Mining and United States Steel International are prospecting in the Mapelane dune area – in the face of furious protests from local people – and they have a concession stretching about 30 km down the coast. About 15 km north of Richards Bay, the Industrial Development Corporation and a Canadian firm have a titanium plant which is expected to go into production in six months' time.

Conservation and regional development bodies in Zululand have responded angrily to the Mapelane development – apparently not knowing of the concessions granted north of the estuary – and the Minister of Mines, Dr Piet Koornhof, has promised not to give the go-ahead for mining until a thorough study has been made.

The Secretary for Mines, Mr W P Viljoen, told the *Sunday Tribune* that the Minister would meet the concessionholders as well as the conservationists.

Refused

The Department has refused to disclose the names of the concessionholders, though it is known that another American company is already prospecting at Cape Vidal.

The concessions were granted in secret. A *Sunday Tribune* investigation revealed that:

The Government has had a scientific team researching the coast north of St Lucia for more than six months.

Titanium mining is primarily an economic, not a strategic consideration. The metal is one of the world's most common.

Mining north of St Lucia would interfere with a nature reserve planned by the KwaZulu Government as well as a marine reserve in the Tongaland turtle breeding grounds.

The titanium ore at Mapelane is concentrated in a deposit seven km long and two km wide.

Dr Allen Heydorn, director of the Durban Oceanographic Research Institute, said mining on the Zululand coast would be "a catastrophe."

"I have seen vast areas of Western Australia which have been devastated by ilmenite mining."

Mr Tim Condon, chairman of the South African Council for Conservation and Anti-Pollution said he was staggered to hear of the concessions and promised the Government a no-holds-barred fight.

GRAHAM LINSOTT

Natal Mercury, April 4, 1975

Mapelane forest will be safe, says IDC boss

Dune sands north of Richards Bay definitely will be mined – but the unique Mapelane Forest is safe for years to come, conservationists heard in Durban.

This assurance came from the general manager of the Industrial Development Corporation, Mr M T de Waal, who told the Habitat Council Marine Symposium that a consortium would mine at least 24 km from Mapelane which would be unaffected by the operation.

His lengthy speech won applause, but as he sat down Mr De Waal was challenged from the floor by Mr T C Robertson, a distinguished conservationist, living in retirement at Scottburgh.

Was it not true, he wanted to know, that a second consortium, "led by US Steel", was already prospecting in Mapelane itself?

Mr De Waal replied that prospecting would not automatically be followed by mining.

"If we establish the first operation, it will be many years, if ever, before it is economically worthwhile to mine further north."

Throughout the session, conservationists expressed concern about the future of this forest which acts as a barrier to protect vegetation further inland from wind and spray.

The untouched Mapelane Forest contains the highest forested dunes in the world but it is also part of a rich belt of heavy minerals that stretch from Richards Bay northwards to St Lucia.

Mr De Waal told delegates that the sand dunes hold the largest proven resources of rutile, ilmenite and zircon in the world. Over the next 20 years they could bring South Africa R2 000-million.

Between Richards Bay and St Lucia there are an estimated 37 million tons of ilmenite – more than 10 times the world usage of this mineral. There are 3 million tons of rutile and 6,4 million tons of zircon. Four-fifths of South Africa's known deposits of these minerals lie in this stretch of coastline.

But Mr De Waal assured conservationists that Mapelane would remain untouched. "The area to be mined by a consortium of Union Corporation Limited, Quebec Iron and Titanium and the IDC stretches over a distance of 20 km north of Richards Bay."

"The northern boundary of the site is well away, at least 24 km from the Mapelane Forest which obviously will not be touched or affected by this operation."

He told the delegates that pollution

caused during similar mining operations at Umgababa – which discoloured the sea – would not be repeated at Richards Bay. The consortium would use a new technique perfected in Australia which used dredgers.

A series of dams will be built in the dunes, 30 m above sea level. Two dredgers will pump sand from the front of the dam to a concentration plant – also floating in the dam – where the heavy minerals will be extracted.

No discharge

The remaining sand – more than 90 per cent – will be pumped to the rear of the dam. In this way, the dam will be eaten on one side and filled on the other.

There will be no discharge in the sea or adjoining water courses. After an area has been refilled, natural scrub will be re-established.

Mr De Waal said that this “borrowing” of the sand would bring South Africa millions of rands in foreign exchange.

Mr Robertson’s disclosures that a second consortium is already prospecting at Mapelane, however, have heightened conservationists’ fears for this 9 km stretch of forest, despite Mr De Waal’s assurances of its safety.

—*The Daily News*

Beauty spot, visitors merely spotted the beauties

The message coming through clearly from this week’s Council for the Habitat conference in Durban was that conservation and recreation are two separate things – the men in the street can no longer expect nature to be provided on tap for his entertainment.

Ruin

And a secondary message was that if man insists on treating nature as a plaything, he will soon ruin whatever it was that attracted him in the first place.

Mr Ben Farrell, a landscape architect from Pretoria, put it most bluntly.

People, he said, were attracted to people rather than nature.

Planning authorities should therefore provide social recreation rather than lure people into genuine wilderness areas which they did not appreciate.

In Rustenburg, 97 per cent of visitors to a noted beauty spot never went further than “the bikini girls” at a pool provided by the municipality.

Research in the Kruger National Park proved most visitors wanted swimming

pools and restaurants in what was supposed to be a wilderness area.

He described Durban as a “lightning conductor” which, by attracting the masses wanting only recreation, had saved most of the Natal coast from ecological destruction.

Astonishing

Planners should provide recreational facilities on stable sites, unlikely to be spoiled, and within easy reach of population concentrations.

He found it astonishing that so many resorts were allowed near the beaches, which were very fragile.

Professor J R Grindley, of Port Elizabeth Museum, said that fully protected marine reserves – with no angling or spearfishing whatever allowed – were vital if the coasts were to survive.

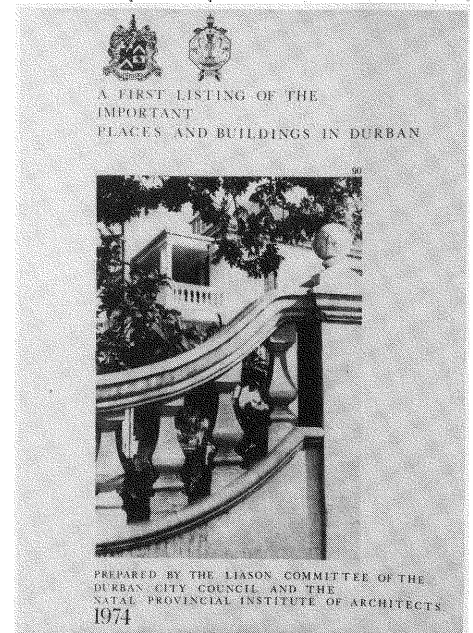
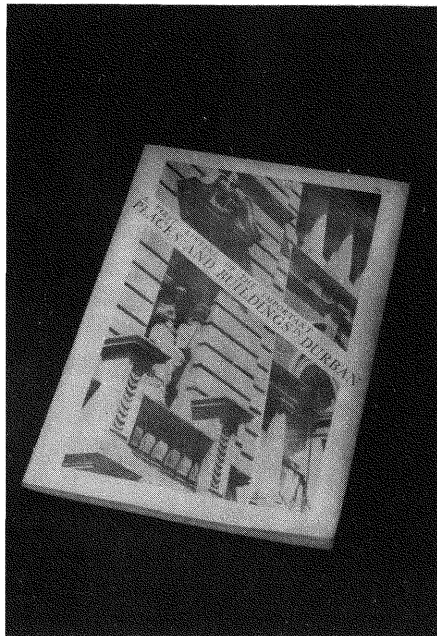
Estuaries were important and on the open coastline, Natal’s Tongaland Coast should be declared a reserve as it was the nesting place of turtles and the only true sub-tropical part of the South African coast.

—*Sunday Tribune*, April 6, 1975

A Natal Pioneer

This listing of preservation worthy buildings and places in Durban, is South Africa’s first and is warmly welcomed by the Foundation.

WJP



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70 OLD FORT	86
OWNER:	Commission for Preservation of Natural and Historical Monuments of the Republic
POSTAL ADDRESS:	Old Fort Road
SITE DESCRIPTION:	Rem of Camp of 01
RATE NO.:	1984052
TOWN PLANNING ZONING:	Open Space
ORIGINAL USAGE:	Military Fort
DATE OF ERECTION:	Originally built in 1850's. Reconstructed.
REASONS FOR LISTING:	Important historically. Original Barrecks and Chapel conserved into newer materials. Reconstructed fortifications. Park-like surroundings.
CONDITION:	Good
HISTORICAL NOTES:	Incorrectly assumed to be the site of the "Siege of Durban" and "Battle of Congella" Fort, (1843). Actually located some distance to the west.



Senator B S von Bach.

Bruno von Bach sterf

Mnr Bruno S von Bach, voormalige waarnemende Administrateur en Senator van Suidwes, asook 'n oud-lid van die Uitvoerende Komitee, het gistermiddag omstreeks 15h30 in die Staatshospitaal in Windhoek gesterf nadat hy Vrydagoggend deur 'n hartaanval platgetrek is. Die 71-jarige mnr Von Bach het Vrydagoggend vroeg ongesteld geraak. 'n Ambulanswa is ontbied om hom van sy huis in Ossmann-straat na die Staatshospitaal te bring. Hy het sy bewussyn met sy toelating tot die hospitaal verloor en dit nooit weer tot met sy dood herwin nie. Twee geneeshere het sedert Vrydagoggend tot met sy dood vergeefs geveg om die lewe van die vermaerde Suidwest-politikus.

Mnr Von Bach was die vader van drie kinders. Een van sy seuns, Ernst, boer in

die omgewing van Kamanjab, terwyl mnr Carl von Bach lid van die Suid-Afrikaanse personeel in Brussel is. Mnr Carl von Bach is onmiddellik van sy vader se siekte in kennis gestel en het gisteroggend uit die buiteland in Windhoek aangekom.

Mnr Von Bach se dogter, mev S Becker, is van Windhoek. Die kinders en mev Hella von Bach was gisteraand almal in Windhoek.

Mnr Von Bach sal Woensdagmiddag om vyfuur uit die kapel in die Windhoekse kerkhof begrawe word.

Nadat hy verlede jaar uit die aktiewe politiek getree het, het mnr Von Bach sy lewendige belangstelling in die politiek behou en hom veral daarop toegespits om verkeerde en verdraaide beriggewing oor Suid-Afrikaanse toestande in Duitse koerante te beantwoord.

Hy was ook voorsitter van die Stigting Simon van der Stel in Suidwes.

Loopbaan

Bruno Hans Wilhelm Alfred Adolf Sartorius von Bach is op 4 Januarie 1904 op Detmold, Duitsland, gebore en het sy skoolopleiding in Hannover ontvang, waarna hy 'n driejarige diploma-kursus aan die Koloniale Landboukollege in Witzenhausen gevolg het.

Mnr Von Bach het in Maart 1925 na Suidwes gekom en tot 1929 op Voigtsgrund gewerk. Hy het in 1928 sy eerste plaas gekoop en sedertdien selfstandig geboer. Hy was van 1950 tot 1955 lid van die Landraad en van 1955 tot 1970 lid van die Wetgewende Vergadering – vir die kiesafdeling Otjikondo, later Erongo.

Mnr Von Bach was van 1961 tot 1970 lid van die Uitvoerende Komitee en was onder meer belas met die afdelings Landbou, Gesondheid en Waterwese. Die moeilike bek-en-klou- en daaropvolgende droogtejare het veral hoë eise aan hom gestel.

Mnr Von Bach het hom in 1970 nie weer verkiesbaar gestel vir die Wetgewende Vergadering nie. Hy is dieselfde jaar egter as Senator vir Suidwes benoem en het die hoë pos bekleed tot met die ontbinding van die Senaat ná verlede jaar se algemene verkiesing. Sedertdien het hy en sy eggenote (mej. Hella Schlettwein, met wie hy in 1929 getroud is), hoofsaaklik in Windhoek gewoon.

—Die Suidwester, 12 Mei 1975

Nuwe voorsitter

Op 'n vergadering gehou 16 Junie 1975 is die volgende persone op die bestuur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel vir SWA geskies: voorsitter: mnr J H Venter, ondervoorsitter: mnr W Sydow, sekretaresse: mev M A Pottas, tesourier: mnr J J Pottas, addisionele lede: mnr P Strack, mnr G Keding, mnr H J Schoeman, mev S May, en mev C Malan.

Stigting Simon van der Stel soek ou fotos van Windhoek

Die bestuur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel beoog om soveel nuwe lede as moontlik te werf en maak staat op die samewerking van instansies en individue van Suidwes-Afrika om aan te sluit.

Hulle is tans besig met 'n foto-projek van ou geboue in Windhoek wat dateer van voor 1930. Enige interessante gegewens van die publiek sal baie verwelkom word.

Verder beoog hulle 'n skyfiebank wat aan skole beskikbaar gestel kan word. 'n Baie vriendelike versoek word tot lesers gerig om enige foto's van Suidwes, waarvan hulle duplikate het of nie meer wil hê nie, aan die Stigting te skenk. Dit sal baie nuttig aangewend word. Bydraes kan gestuur word aan: Die Sekretaresse, Stigting Simon van der Stel, Posbus Windhoek 9100.

Die stigting is ook besig met onderhandelings en 'n opname van die ou Liebich herehuis op die plaas Neu-Heuses met die oog op restourasie.

Die Administrateur, mnr B J van der Walt het dwarsdeur die jaar in sy hoedanigheid as raadslid van die Stigting aktief deelgeneem aan die werksaamhede en bedrywighede.

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel het by sy laaste vergadering hulde gebring aan Senator S von Bach wat voorsitter van die Stigting was.

—Namib Times, 1 Julie 1975

Konferensie nuus

Die Suidwes-Afrikaanse Streekkomitee van die Stigting Simon van der Stel het gedurende die Paasnaweek vanjaar 'n konferensie in Swakopmund gehou.

Die bewaring van die karakteristieke historiese geboue van Swakopmund was die tema van die besprekings.

Die volgende sprekers het referate gelewer: mnr G van de Waal van die Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit, mnr Johan de Ridder, restourasie-argitek, dr W H J Punt, adviseur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, mnr Werner Neef, voorsitter van die SWA-Komitee van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, en mnr Willem Punt, direkteur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel.

As deel van die interessante program is bustoere vir belangstellendes op Saterdagmiddag 29 Maart gereël, en karakteristieke geboue van Swakopmund is besoek.

Onder die vyftigtal mense wat die konferensie bygewoon het, was daar sy edele B J van der Walt, administrateur van Suidwes-Afrika en Nasionale Raadslid van die Stigting, mnr S von Bach, oud-senator en SWA-streekkomiteevoorsitter van die Stigting, mnr A Brock, lid van die plaaslike Kamer van Koophandel, mnr H M G Deetlefs (wat as voorsitter van die konferensie opgetree het), burgemeester van Swakopmund, mnr J Schrader, voorsitter van die plaaslike kunsvereniging, mnr Brian V Cooke en Peter Strack, argitek, Edda Schroeder, binneshuisversierder, mnr Karl Zimmer, boukontraakteur, mnr L Werthman, amptenaar verbonde aan natuurbewaring, mev Herta Holz, Windhoekse eiendomsagent, mnr van Niekerk, Stadsklerk van Swakopmund, mnr Hendrik Venter, ondervoorsitter van die Stigting se SWA streekkomitee en ander lede van die streekkomitee.

In 'n boodskap aan die konferensie het mnr B J van der Walt gesê dat die mense van Suidwes nog altyd trots was op Swakopmund se karakteristieke en historiese atmosfeer. Groot omwentelings in en om die dorp is egter vinnig besig om hierdie karakter te verander en hy hoop dat die mense wat trots is op wat hulle voorgeslagte in die land tot stand gebring het, soveel as moontlik sal wil bewaar van daardie karakter.

Beskermende stads- en dorpsgesigte en die plaaslike owerheid, boumodes in Swakopmund – Mnr G van de Waal, RAU

Mnr Van de Waal het in sy referaat twee feite beklemtoon: dat in Swakopmund 'n kosbare historiese leefmilieu bestaan wat sonder twyfel bewaar moet word, en dat genoegsame wetgewing hiertoe ontbreek.

Hy het gesê die geboue in Swakopmund kan in twee groepe verdeel word: owerheidskantoorgeboue, kerke en hotelle; en die kleiner privaat woonhuise. Hy het 'n sistematiese uiteensetting van elk se boumodes gegee en dit toegelig met ander voorbeelde van sulke geboue. Mnr Van de Waal het die hoop uitgespreek dat Swakopmund die voortou sal neem as die dorp wat sy historiese kern wil en sal bewaar, en as model sal dien vir projekte wat elders aangepak behoort te word.

Praktiese restourasiekunde, met verwysing na toepassing in Burgersdorp, Lydenburg en Boekenhoutfontein – Mnr Johan de Ridder, argitek

Mnr De Ridder het in sy referaat onder andere gesê dat hy tot die oortuiging gekom het dat daar veel meer waardering vir ou geboue by argitek sou wees as groter klem op die waarde en skoonheid van ons inheemse boustyle en die bewaring daarvan in hulle vormingsjare deur dosente en in die kursus self geplaas word.

Vir die argitek bied restourasie geen ruimte vir skeppende ontwerp nie, maar verg van hom 'n groot mate van instudering, selfbeheersing en selfdisipline. Die argitek se probleme met restourasie en die studie en navorsing wat 'n projek voorafgaan is deur mnr De Ridder geskets, en Lydenburg, Burgersdorp en Boekenhoutfontein is as voorbeelde gebruik.

Die ekonomiese waarde van gerestoreerde geboue – Dr W H J Punt

Dr W H J Punt, veteraan-vegter vir die behouing en bewaring van Suid-Afrika se historiese erfenis, het 'n pleidooi aan die burgers van Swakopmund gerig om te besin voor hulle begin sloop en hoogbou toepas. Sy standpunt, en dié van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, is dat ou geboue goud werd is, het hy gesê. Hierdie stelling het hy onderskryf met 'n uiteensetting van die ekonomiese aspekte van restourasie en bewaring, en voorts gesê dat daar in die afgelope 15 jaar R2 500-miljoen se bruikbare geboue in ons land gesloop is. Vir restourasie, bewaring en proklamering is nie eens R1-miljoen deur die owerhede bewillig nie.

Die taak van die Raad van Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede en wat dit reeds in Suidwes-Afrika vermag het – mnr W Neef, LWV

Mnr W Neef, voorsitter van die Suidwes-Afrika Komitee van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, het gesê dat die aktiwiteit van die RNG moet rus op die fundamente van "inligting, oortuiging en samewerking", en dat die Streekkomitee net in die uiterste gevalle waar dit gaan oor heel waardevolle, heel besondere oudhede, die hulp van Ministers sal inroep vir proklamasie.

Bewaring en die Stigting Simon van der Stel – Mnr W J Punt

In sy referaat het mnr Punt, pres Paul Kruger se woorde "neem uit die verlede dit wat goed is en bou daarop die toekoms" gebruik om te illustreer hoe nodig bewaring vir 'n volk is.

"Die mens het nodig om te identifiseer met wat hy om hom het, wat hy geskep het – vir sy geestesgesondheid en selfs vir sy fisiese gesondheid, het hy verwysingspunte nodig. Daarom is bewaring vir mense. Die mens wil bewustelik weet van waar het hy gekom, waar staan hy en waar kan hy verwag om heen te gaan," het mnr Punt gesê.

Hy het gesê dat nie net geboue bewaar moet word nie – ook gebruiksvorwerpe, boeke, dokumente, foto's, kunswerke, meubels, ens, moet behoue bly. Die plaaslike gemeenskap moet in die eerste plek vir die bewaring van sy streeksgeskiedenis sorg. Saam moet die burgers ook hulle nasionale erfenis versorg en toesien dat hulle owerhede daaraan meedoen.

Mnr Punt het dit beklemtoon dat die Stigting Simon van der Stel 'n volksbeweging is. Die burger kan hom daarmee identifiseer, hom daarin uitleef en sy stem daardeur laat hoor. Hy het 'n beep op alle belangstellendes gedoen om aan te sluit en die reusetaak van bewaring te help steun.

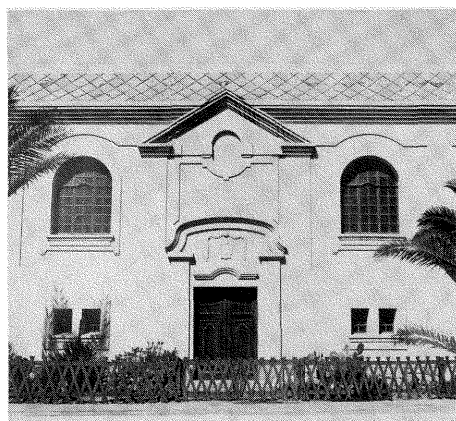
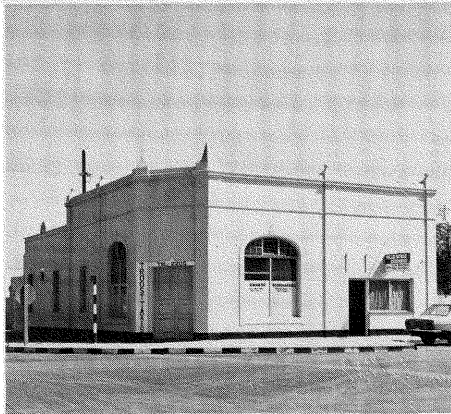
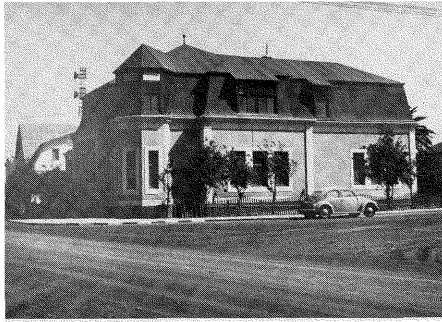
Die volgende besluite is op die konferensie geneem:

1. dat die Stadsraad van Swakopmund stappe doen om meer doelgerig te bepaal watter geboue bewaar moet word en selfs in die Dorpsbeplanning-skema daarvoor voorsiening maak – ook die publiek moet meer bewaringsbewus gemaak word;
2. dat stappe gedoen word om wetgewing daar te stel en plaaslike owerhede te magtig om te verseker dat nuwe geboue in die bepaalde omgewing ook reg sal laat geskied aan die bestaande geboue, argitektonies gesproke;
3. dat die Stadsraad onder andere met groot maatskappye en ander liggame oorleg pleeg ten einde sekere bestaande geboue oor te neem, te laat restoureer en vir een of ander bruikbare doel aan te wend;
4. dat by die SWA Administrasie aanbeveel word dat ondersoek ingestel word daarna om die vakansiegangers 'n addisionele bedrag te laat betaal om die koste van die skepping van 'n infra-struktuur te delg, insluitende restourasie van ou geboue as 'n toeriste aantreklikheid; en
5. dat die Administrasie en die Regering versoek word om ondersoek in te stel na die moontlikheid van 'n subsidie-stelsel ten einde restourasie van ou geboue aan te help.

—E L

Swakopmund

LYS VAN GEPROKLAAMEERDE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE IN SUIDWES-AFRIKA



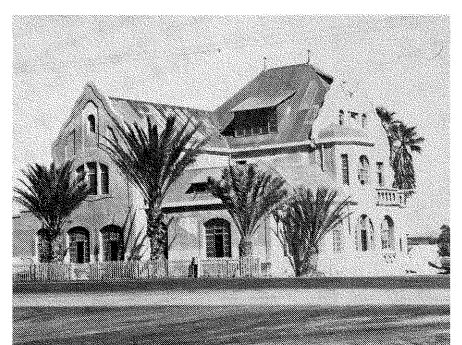
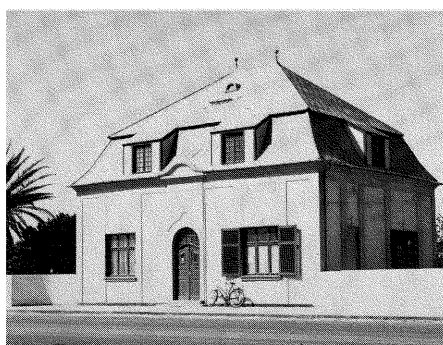
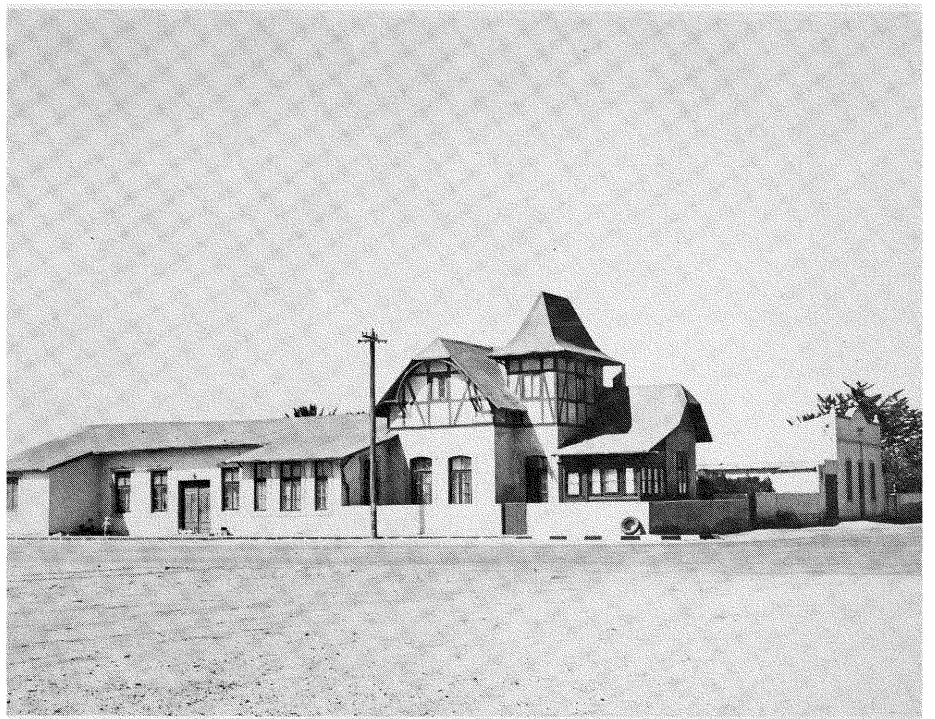
No.	Gebou/terrein/voorwerp	Ligging	Datum geproklameer
1	Graf Jonker Afrikaner	Okahandja	16/1/50
2	Fort Namutoni	Etosha	15/2/50
3	Meteoriete	Zoo-Garten (Verwoerdtuin)	15/2/50
4	Versteende Woud	Kaokoveld	18/2/50
5	Kruittoring	Otjimbingwe	3/10/50
6	Phillipsgröt	Ameib (Usakos)	1/2/51
7	Paula-gröt	Omandumba (Omaruru)	1/3/51
8	Watervalle Eros	Eros berge (Windhoek)	1/3/51
9	Eros Fort	Eros berge (Windhoek)	1/3/51
10	Huis Dorslandtrekkers	Kaokoveld	1/3/51
11	Brandberggebied	Damaraland	15/6/51
12	Huis Josef Frederiks	Bethanië	15/6/51
13	Kremetartboom	Keibib (Grootfontein)	2/7/51
14	Dinosaurius spore	Otjihanamaperero (Otjiwarongo)	1/8/51
15	Schmelenhuis	Erf 21 Bethanië	1/2/52
16	Rotstekeninge Twyfelfontein	Twyfelfontein	15/8/52
17	Spoorweglokomotief	Walvisbaai	15/4/53
18	Boesmanparadys	Damaraland (Spitskoppe)	1/7/54
19	Hoba meteoriet	Grootfontein	15/3/55
20	Kokerboomwoud	Gariganus (Keetmanshoop)	1/6/55
21	Vingerklip (Mukorob)	Burgerville (Asab)	1/6/55
22	Gebedehopies	Auas berge (Windhoek)	1/9/55
23	Verbrande Berg	Twyfelfontein	15/9/56
24	Waterberg Plato	Waterberg (Otjiwarongo)	15/6/56
25	Von Francois Fort	Khomas Hochland	1/3/57
26	Alte Feste	Erf 135, Windhoek	9/1/57
27	Windpompoting	Outjo	1/8/57
28	Heitsi Eibebs (Gebedehopies)	Konkiep (Bethanien)	1/3/61
29	Visrivier-canyon	Visrivier-vallei	1/8/62
30	Windmotor Otjimbingwe	Otjimbingwe	15/8/63
31	Musieklippe	Rooipunt (Bethanië)	15/8/63
32	Franketoring	Erf 150, Omaruru	15/8/64
33	Adelaars monument	Keetmanshoop	1/5/67
34	Rotsgravures, Otjituruo	Otjiturea-wes (Kalkveld)	1/5/67
35	Rotsgravures, Kamanjab	Kamanjab	1/5/67
36	Rotsgravures, Ltemba	Omaruru	1/5/67
37	Gaubgröt	Ganachaans (Otavi)	1/5/67
38	Graf John Ludwig	Klein Windhoek	1/5/67
39	Grensbakens, Walvisbaai	Kuiseb (Walvisbaai)	1/5/67
40	Forte te Naiams	Seeheim	1/5/67
41	Rotstekeninge, Oase	Greylingshof (Maltahöhe)	1/11/68
42	Kub monument	Voigts-grund (Kalkrand)	1/11/68
43	Kaap Kruis	Namib (Swakopmund)	1/11/68
44	Ruiter standbeeld	Erf 135, Windhoek	2/1/69
45	Oorlogsgedenkteken	Verwoerdtuin (Windhoek)	2/1/69
46	Marine Denkmäl	Swakopmund	2/1/69
47	Gedenkteken, Lüderitz	Lüderitz	15/3/69
48	Kerkhof, Mooifontein	Helmeringshausen	15/3/69
49	Kerkhof, Nomtsas	Lüderitz	15/3/69
50	Rondawel Quellort	Aroab	15/3/69
51	Naulila monument	Outjo, Erf 375	4/6/71
52	Pre-historiese olifant	Verwoerdtuin (Windhoek)	15/8/63
53	Woermannhuis	Swakopmund	10/12/71
54	Slagveldterrein, Omaruru	Omaruru	21/4/72
55	Moordkoppie	Okahandja	28/7/72
56	Rynse Sendingkerk	Okahandja	28/7/72
57	Otjikotomeer	Tsumeb	15/9/72
58	Stasiegebou, Swakopmund	Swakopmund	27/10/72
59	Rynse Sendingkerk	Walvisbaai	24/11/72
60	Diaspunt, Lüderitz	Lüderitz	12/1/73
61	Gevangenis, Swakopmund	Swakopmund	24/8/73
62	Khorab Gedenkteken	Otavi	28/9/73
63	Kaserne, Swakopmund	Swakopmund	2/11/73
64	Graf Axel Eriksson	Urupupa (Grootfontein)	22/3/74
65	Veldhospitaal Gobabis	Gobabis	20/12/74
66	Christus Kirche	Windhoek	22/11/74
67	Fort Grootfontein	Grootfontein	21/3/75
68	"Martin Luther" (stoempadlokomotief)	Swakopmund	21/3/75

Die volgende geboue in SWA is ook reeds vir proklamering aanbeveel en sal na verwagting eersdaags tot monumente verklaar word:

- (1) Sendingkerk Otjimbingwe.
- (2) Radio-ankerblokke Swakopmund.
- (3) Omeg haus Swakopmund.
- (4) Stasiegebou Lüderitz.
- (5) Poskantoor Lüderitz.
- (6) Landdroswoning Lüderitz.



SWAKOPMUND





SWAKOPMUND





Pretoriase streekkomitee herkies

Lede van die Stigting in Transvaal het op 14 Julie 1975 in die Constantiaklub in Pretoria byeengekom om algemene vergadering te hou, 'n nuwe streekkomitee te verkies en gesellig saam te verkeer.

Die nuwe streekkomitee is:

Voorsitter: Prof dr H L de Waal; Ondervoorsitter: Prf dr F C L Bosman; Sekretaris-penningmeester: Vakant; Lede: Dr C de Jong, Genl H B Klopper, Mnr H P Dekker, Mnr H J de Graaff.

Boekenhoutfontein

South Africa as a state dates from 6 April 1652 when Com Jan van Riebeeck of the DEI Co landed at the Cape of Good Hope's Table Bay to establish a colony and victualing station.

The colony grew and by 1800 most of what is today South Africa's Cape Province was settled. Early in the 19th century the British took possession of it.

By 1836 a remarkable event had started. Emigrant farmers, known as Boers, started to trek to the north into the interior of South Africa. This Great Trek, in many ways similar to the Westward treks in the USA, culminated in the establishment of Boer republics, notably the Transvaal or the old South African Republic. These Boers, the Afrikaners of today, were doughty resourceful people.

One of their most remarkable leaders was State President S J P Kruger, born in 1825. An able man of great natural wisdom, he lead his people well and guided the infant republic to a viable modern state by the time the South African War of 1899-1902 against the British broke out. Kruger was showered with foreign honours from Russia to Holland, France and Portugal. He died in Switzerland in 1904.

To appreciate what Kruger meant to his people one can compare him to Abraham Lincoln. There were many similarities between these two characters.

In about 1860 Kruger bought a farm 80 miles due west of Pretoria, the capital city of SA. This farm Boekenhoutfontein,

literally translated Beech Wood Spring, was originally some 12 000 acres in extent, today the remaining 80 acres is owned by SA's national trust organisation, the Simon van der Stel Foundation. We have restored the farm and its buildings. These are the original owner's pioneer mudbrick and thatch house of 1841, Kruger's own first pioneer house of 1863 and the farm's centre piece, the house Kruger built in 1875 and a charming home he built in 1892 for his elder son. The farm's old school house is also being restored. Restoration work also includes the old water furrow, the pond, the cow corral, the pigsty, the open air baking oven and even two of the original orange trees.

The Foundation is also doing some nature conservation work by restoring the indigenous flora, notably the wild beech trees which have long since been destroyed for building timber and for furniture. The farm has become a popular tourist attraction. The main dwelling is furnished in contemporary style of about 1885.

This restoration project is unique in that on one site one now has accurately restored examples of the entire 19th century architectural styles of the Transvaal. The project has cost nearly R200 000 raised by donations from business houses and the public.

Boekenhoutfontein is indeed a fitting monument to a great man and is part of the Simon v.d. Stel Foundation's nation wide programme of restorations covering South Africa's cultural historical background and its architectural history over three centuries.

—W J PUNT

Boekenhoutfontein revived

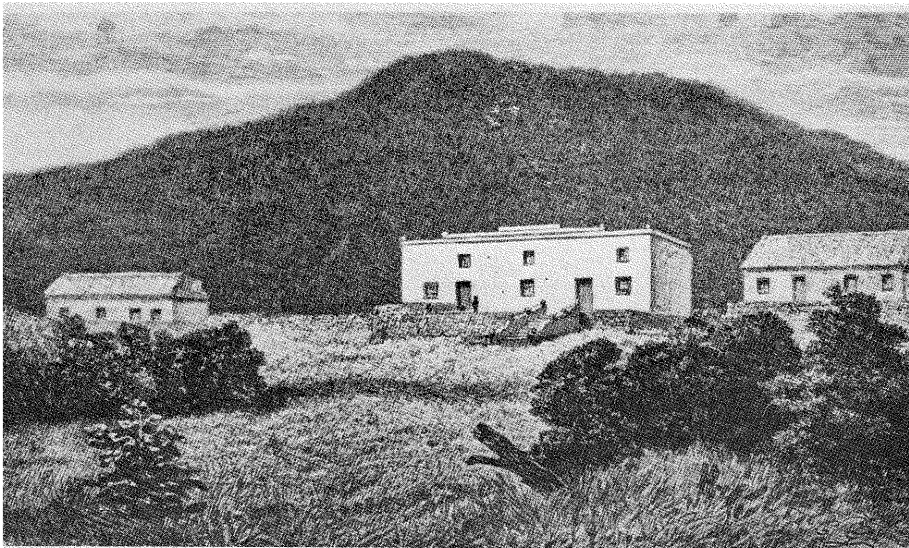
We can now proudly say that Boekenhoutfontein has revived. The rising morning sun again shines upon the stately Colesberg styled Cape-Dutch homestead of President Paul Kruger as it did in bygone days. Through the perseverance of a few ardent men, the former double storeyed farmstead proudly overlooks the Transvaal Bushveld from the slopes of "Khuduthate".

Although the original Boekenhoutfontein no. 336 of 5 000 hectares can never really be a unit again, the Foundation now owns a valuable and historical 32 hectares. Along with the main homestead we are now also in possession of the hartebeest house built by the first owner, R.T. Bronkhorst, as well as President Kruger's first house, and the old Pretoria style house which was built for his son Pieter Kruger. All these houses as well as the old barn, which was also a school house, have been proclaimed historic monuments.

Boekenhoutfontein, situated 18 km north-west of Rustenburg, was President Kruger's second farm in the former Hexriver district. It is presumed that he had moved from his first farm, Waterkloof, to Boekenhoutfontein between 1863 and 1871. The probable reason for this move was that Boekenhoutfontein was free of malaria. As on Waterkloof, he not only farmed with cattle but also cultivated wheat, corn and tobacco, while he also planted various citrus trees.

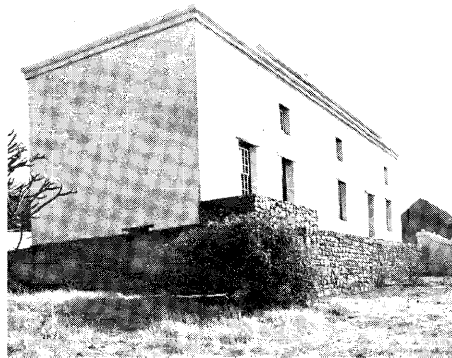
For those who do not know how to get to the farm, the following directions: Leave Rustenburg in a westerly direction on the Swarttruggens road for 6 km, then turn right on the Boshoeck road and continue for a further 10 km. At this stage keep a look out for the road sign indicating the turn-off to the left. From here it is another 2 km to the homestead. Coming up the driveway towards the farm yard with its four restored houses the visitor will pass the cattle kraal on the left. The stone walls of this kraal have been restacked and the gates and catch poles re-erected. On your right you will pass the irrigation pond which now only needs a new layer of alkaline soil to make it water-retaining again. On the southern bank of this dam stands the old barn and schoolhouse which will be restored in the near future. The attentive visitor will immediately notice the exceptional corrugated iron sheets on the roof of this building. In all probability these were the sheets that President Kruger flattened with a wagon wheel to make them fit on the main house.

Over the back stoep of the main dwelling, the vines are partially supported by locally cut indigenous poles while the rest is still held up by treated bluegum supports. These will soon be replaced by local tree stumps as soon as appro-

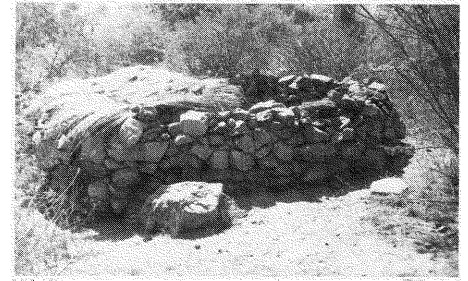


A sketch of President Paul Kruger's home on his farm Boekenhoutfontein made by the German traveller A Deden around 1880. To the East (on the left in the picture) is the first house built in approximately 1863. It has now been converted into a cafeteria. To the West (on the right in the picture) is the house of the Voortrekker Bronkhorst, first owner of the farm. This small house was built in around 1841. The Bronkhorst house and the Kruger house (middle) have been completely restored and declared national monuments. The house of the curator cannot be seen on the photo. It is situated to the East of the first house and was built for President Kruger's son Pieter in 1892.

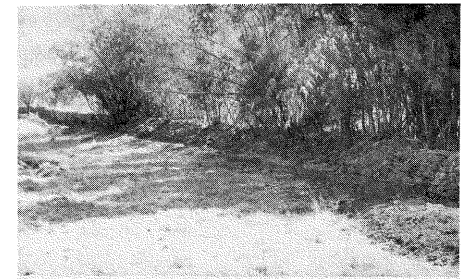
The main house, Boekenhoutfontein, with the hartbees house in the background. (Photo: Frik Dreyer)



Frikkie en Pieter Kruger, grandsons of Paul Kruger, at the handing over ceremony of the farm Boekenhoutfontein to the Simon van der Stel Foundation, 1971.

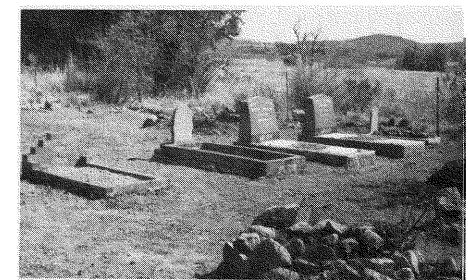


The re-stacked pig sty which now harbours a snub nose sow. This sty was used as a freshening enclosure by the Kruger family. (Photo: P Redelinghuys)



Part of the dam wall which runs into the land wall to the left. The bamboo bush, planted by Paul Kruger behind the wall, can also be seen.

(Photo: P Redelinghuys)



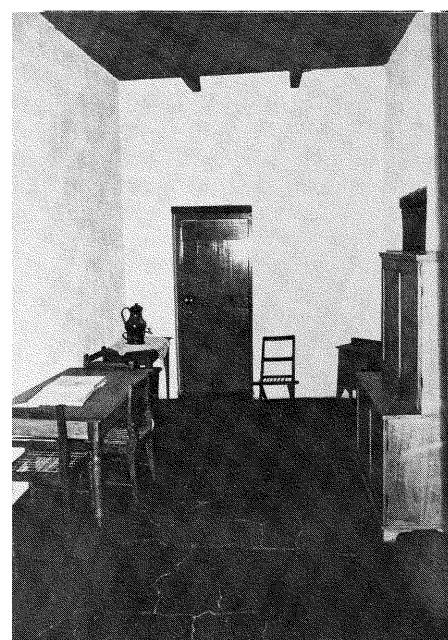
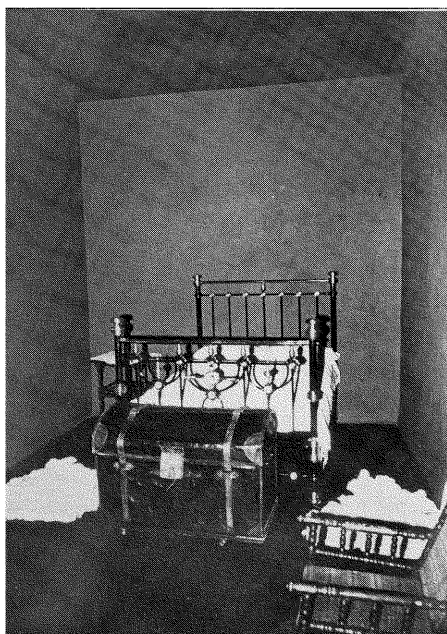
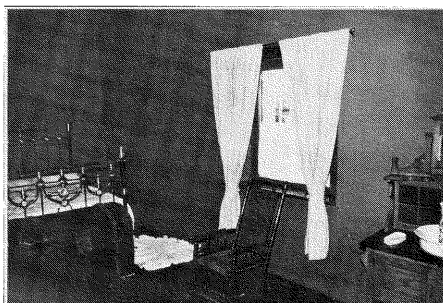
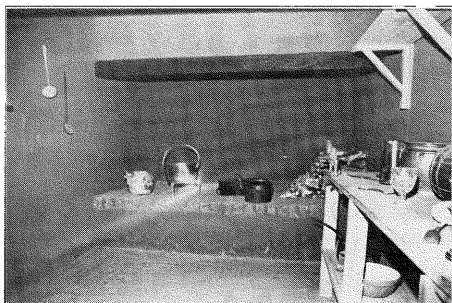
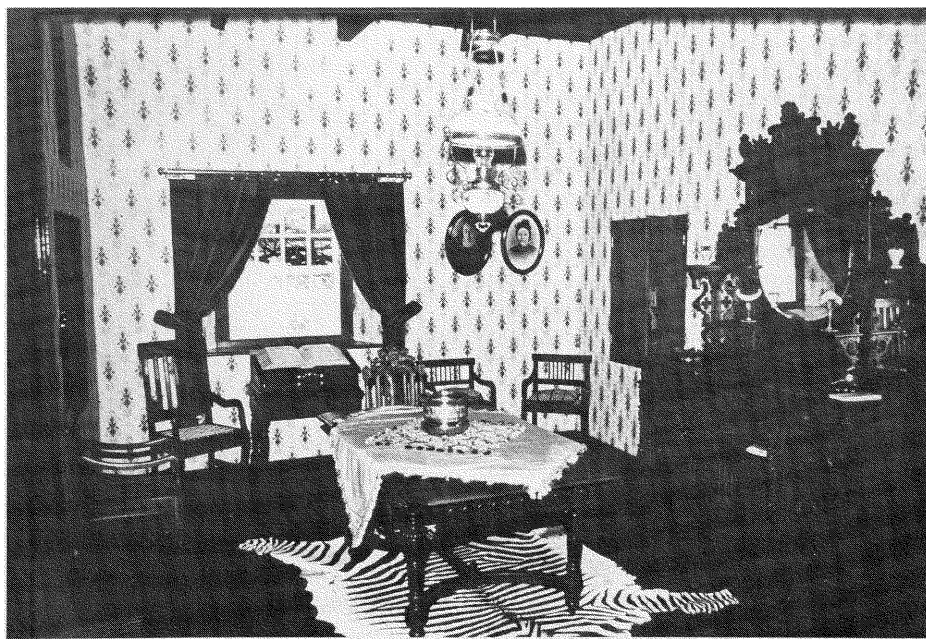
The graves of Pieter Kruger and his wife in the little family cemetery. In the foreground and behind the mentioned graves are unknown graves only indicated by heaps of stones.

(Photo: P Redelinghuys)

A memorial erected on the spot where Kruger went to pray.



**Besoek nou
President
Kruger se plaas**



priate ones can be found in the vicinity. The two original vines still bear bountifully and the curator has declared a private war on birds for the coming season. Close by is a likely spot for a herb garden, which was a necessity in those days. Wandering up the footpath leading to Kruger's place of prayer and meditation, the visitor passes the original pigsty which was used to freshen out pigs before slaughtering. It now harbours a stub-nose sow bought at Zeerust along with ten piglets. This family of pigs is a definite asset to the farm!

Forty yards further the visitor will reach President Kruger's open air place of worship. This is well-fenced in and a memorial stone marks the exact place. In the past the rocks on which he knelt were frequently upset by treasure hunters in their search of the so-called "Kruger-millions". The rocks have now been restacked in their original positions. On entering the main house the visitor becomes aware of a variety of odours which give the house an aroma distinctly its own. The aromas of thorn-apple on the floor, mixed with the distinctive smell of tambuti and dung-smearred floors, excite the senses to deeper investigation. On baking days the lucky visitor will also be able to pick out the old-time aroma of freshly baked must-buns cooling off in the kitchen. Maybe a charitable farmer could provide us with the wonderful aroma of some biltong and dried peaches!

As far as furniture is concerned, the visitor will find that most of the more essential pre-1900 pieces have been acquired. He will, however, also notice the lack of a representative number of household utensils which are necessary to provide a more authentic and homely atmosphere. Perhaps with the help of our members as well as the general public, we shall in due course be able to rectify this shortcoming on our Kruger Museum. At the end of this article, I have listed some of the things we still need.

From the front stoep the visitors can see across the Bushveld plain to the Pilanes mountain on the horizon. He will notice the reconstructed stone wall separating the farmyard from the orchard and farmlands. This wall extends from the pond, passing in front of the four restored buildings, to the west gate of the farm behind a cluster of marula trees. On the near side of this wall the water-furrow is now only waiting for the sluices of the storage-dam in the spruit on the adjacent farm to be repaired, to let water flow through to the irrigation pond again.

The visitor may also pay a visit to the one and only living pip-orange tree planted by Pres. Kruger in about 1875. He will find a newly cleared footpath leading him there. The old tree is in quite remarkably good condition after many years of neglect and veld fires.

After this bearing season, the dead wood will be cut out and the necessary spraying done. The rest of the citrus orchard is in poor condition and the future of these trees has still to be decided on.

The old ruins and foundations of the old mud brick house where Piet Grobler was born and the probable location of the old water-mill on the water furrow have been cleared. The Grobler ruin is to be consolidated and we hope to establish the type of mill used with a view to eventual reconstruction.

The family cemetery which is situated on the eastern side of the farm, has been cleared. Amongst various other graves still to be identified, the visitor will find the graves of Pieter Kruger, the elder son, who lived in what is now the caretaker's house, and his wife.

The first building Paul Kruger erected on Boekenhoutfontein has also been restored and now serves as a tearoom where the visitor can order tea, rooibos tea, coffee, melktert, koeksisters and farm rusks baked in the open-air oven. Opposite the coffee-house the visitor will notice the uncovered foundations of the President's wagonhouse. This old building consisted of a rock-wall six foot high and a plastered brick-wall on top of this for a further six foot. All this was covered by a reed roof. This old building which housed a workshop and stables will be re-erected as soon as funds are available.

PGR.

List of items needed for Boekenhoutfontein main house

All items to date from the Great Trek to about 1890.

Washstands, washbowls, ewers etc.

Bedside chests and chamber pots.

Hat-racks and hat-stands of wood.

Feather mattresses and bedsteads.

Carpets and animal skins.

Dutch Bibles.

Bible texts.

Bedding (bedspreads and blankets).

Calenders (1840-1890).

Old mirrors in black frames.

Leather armchairs.

Weapons, bandoliers, ammunition and powder-horns.

Gun-rack.

Whips and horsewhips.

Tobacco-jars and pouches.

Pipes.

Stationery from the period.

Candles and candlesticks.

Picture-frames (black, oval and round).

Newspapers and magazines (1840-1890).

Books.

Top-hats and broadrim-hats.

Clothing (men, women and children).

Walking-sticks.

Umbrellas.

Kitchen utensils (fire pokers and scrapers etc.).

Earthenware and porcelain crockery.

Dishcloths, handcloths and towels.

Farming implements.

Working clothes and shoes.

Copies of old paintings.

Clocks (wall and grandfather types).

Sewing machine and basket as well as cloth.

Cradle and other nursery equipment.

In addition to the furniture and utensils still needed for the main Kruger house, we also need more furniture and utensils dating from the Great Trek and soon after, for the Hartebeest house which Bronkhorst built in 1841. When Paul Kruger was State President of the ZAR he lived mainly in Pretoria. When staying on the farm his Staatsartillerie guardsmen used to be billeted in the Bronkhorst house.

We plan to make Boekenhoutfontein a place where visitors can relax and savour the atmosphere of an early Transvaal farm.

For this we shall need:

Transport ox-wagons, spiders, landaus, bridles, harnesses and saddles, agricultural implements, workshop and blacksmith tools, everyday utensils and tools. All these articles should date from the Great Trek to about 1900.

We would also appreciate any information as to whether the Transvaal farmers had any ducks, peacocks and muscovy-ducks on their farms round about 1860-1870.

Philip G. Redelinghuys, Curator, Boekenhoutfontein.



EERSTE BLANKES IN TRANSVAAL – 1725.

Twee-honderd-en-veftig jaar gelede, op 12 Julie 1725, is die eerste blankes wat wat Transvaal binnegedring het, Frans de Kuyper en sy dertig manskappe, onverwags deur kaptein Dawano se volk aangeval. Die ekspedisie was verplig om oor die Lebomborant na die V O C fort "Lydzzaamheid" in Lourenco Marques terug te keer. Hierdie herdenkingsplaat is deur die Nasionale Parkeraad aangebring tussen Onder-Sabie en Krokodilbrug, die omgewing waar die ekspedisie oorval is.

De Cuiper expedition commemorated

On 12th July, 1725 the first whites entered the region now known as the Kruger National Park. A ceremony commemorating this event was held on Saturday 12th July, on the terrain at Gomondwane between Lower Sabie and Crocodile Bridge where De Cuiper and his men camped 250 years ago. The speaker on this occasion was Dr W Punt, adviser to the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

In his speech Dr Punt said that very few people were aware of the fact that Lourenco Marques was once a colony of the Cape. In 1721 the Dutch East India Company ordered the occupation of Delagoa Bay mainly with a view towards establishing a route to the rich goldfields of Monomotapa. They therefore wanted to reach Northern Rhodesia from Delagoa Bay via the Lowveld. A reconnaissance expedition, consisting of 31 men, was then sent out under command of Captain Frans de Cuiper. Their orders were to cross the Lebombo mountains, making for the land of Monomotapa through northern Transvaal. On 7th June the expedition left Lourenco Marques, crossing the Matolla River. The route up to the present-day Moamba

was familiar territory, but from there the expedition had to establish their own route.

They reached Komatipoort and Johannes Monna was the first European to enter the present-day Transvaal. They crossed the river and pitched camp in order to make contact with the Black chief Coupane whose kraal was situated in the entrance to the poort. He refused to provide them with guides and the men had to proceed on their own. They crossed the Crocodile River two miles downstream of the present-day bridge.

At Gomondwane they pitched camp for three days. De Cuiper befriended an old Black who was able to tell him something about the road ahead. This information was recorded in De Cuiper's journal so that we have a clear picture of the Lowveld of 1725. On the afternoon of 12th July the camp was suddenly attacked by Blacks.

Fortunately for De Cuiper the body of his expedition consisted of military men and they were able to repel their attackers. The men were ordered to retreat in a body in order to conserve the ammunition as they were running short. At sundown they reached the Lebombo mountains and continued through the night, reaching the Komati River in the morning. Another attack was repelled and the expedition was able to reach Fort Rio de Lagoa without further mishap.

In view of the experiences of De Cuiper and his men the authorities decided that the route through the Lowveld was much too dangerous and unhealthy. Because of this decision the Lowveld remained inviolate to such a degree that President Paul Kruger could, in 1889, urge the establishment of a game and nature reserve – our Kruger National Park of today.

—Custos, Augustus 1975

A bit of old Barberton

James Stopforth

He came from Pilgrim's Rest to Barberton in 1886. On the way his wagon turned over in a drift and his daughter Alice called out "I'm drowning in gin". The gin bottle had broken and the wagon had to be taken to bits to free her.

He managed to get an industrial stand on the Market Square, only because the man who had acquired it had not paid his dues.

He was also given a stand in Bowness Street for his home. He loved horses so first of all he built a wood and iron stable for them and the family lived in tents.

When Mrs Nelson was about to give birth to her son, Philip, the tent fell down in the wind so she was moved into the stable and here her son was born.

The house was built of wood and iron in 1886 and then rebuilt in the same style in 1892. It is still in good condition.

Some time ago when repairing the planks on the verandah, bombs were noticed on the walls of the cellar. Police were notified and they sent for the disposal squad in Middelburg. One Boer War bomb was alive. They had lived in a wood and iron house all those years with a live bomb in the cellar! The other two were harmless.

On Sundays the family rode out to the Caledonian Hotel or to the Queens River hotel.

Mr Stopforth's first store was burnt down so he bought the Royal Albert Hall where Cockney Liz had reigned supreme. He took away the front steps and opened his grocery store on the Market Square. Before this the Royal Albert Hall had been used as a school and when payday came the boys smelt the buns cooking next door at Stopforth's bakery. They asked for a penny bun and while the attendant was busy they helped themselves to the biscuits on the counter.

Mr Stopforth was a kindly quiet man and I feel sure he left the buns for the boys. He helped so many people unobtrusively. Poverty stricken people received loaves of bread. He also scattered oranges on the Market Square for the boys to scramble for.

Barberton's best known loafer remittance man was Jimmy Jack. He slept in any doorway. Mr Stopforth supplied him with a bun and coffee each morning. One day he complained – the coffee was cold and the bun not up to standard and if this did not improve he would take his custom elsewhere. It was discovered later that he was in the habit of washing his socks in the reservoir in Rimer's Creek – the town's drinking water.

One day while Percy Fitzpatrick was sitting on the counter in Mr Stopforth's grocery store, he noticed his boots were in ribbons. Percy had just lost all his cattle. Mr Stopforth bought him a new pair of boots.

On one occasion Stopforth's donkey was stolen and this is the letter he received.

Barberton
20th March 1887

Dear Mr Stopforth,

I owe you a humble apology for the disgraceful conduct of yesterday and my earnest thanks for the generous way in which you have excused and overlooked it.

I trust you will believe that there are grounds originally for my claiming the donkey, which was the first cause of disagreement between us. The animal was



The bakery of James Stopforth, in Barberton's by-gone days.

Ox-wagon traffic in front of James Stopforth's store on Barberton's Market Square.



sold to me on the farm "Weltevreden" where I am working by a Yankee whom I had known previously. I can furnish his receipt of the money I paid. I am now satisfied that he had previously stolen the donkey from you. Nothing can excuse my conduct at the end of the dispute when I fired my revolver in your direction as you rode away, but I only ask you to remember that I was under the influence of liquor, and only that morning had been in-

duced, whilst drunk, to buy the revolver by Mr Erasmus of the Concession Canteen on Moodies. I feel justified in suggesting that Mr Erasmus was greatly to blame in allowing a drunken man to get possession of a loaded weapon. You have already expressed your intention of allowing this painful matter to drop, and on behalf of my wife and children, I thank you most earnestly for your consideration to them. I cannot bear to think if what might have hap-

pened to them as well as to your own family had my mad act been attended with disastrous results. I hand over the revolver to you. I remain, Dear Mr Stopforth
Yours very obediently
signed E Houghton.

Another character of the time was old Bobbejaan who brought milk to Barberton from the Lomati daily. He used to receive food as well as payment by the Stopforths. He lived to about 103 and collapsed on their back verandah. Somehow he got back to his kraal but was not seen again. His milk was good and he never missed a day.
—ESME LOWNDS

Ou Boerehuis

In die Suikerbosrand Natuureservaat wat tans deur die Afdeling Natuurbewaring ontwikkel word, staan 'n pragtige ou boerehuis wat uit die vyftiger jare van die vorige eeu dateer. Hoewel die dakkonstruksie van 'n grasdak met gewels na 'n sinkdak verander, is die res van die huis nog feitlik ongeskonde. Sels die geelhoutbalke van die plafon is nog in 'n uitstekende toestand. Langs die huis is die leidammetjie en die ou vrugteboord met sy peer-, granaat- en ander vrugtebome met 'n klipmuur omhein. Tans word ondersoek gedoen na die restourasie van hierdie hele kompleks as voorbeeld van 'n vroeë Transvaalse boereplaas.

Overvaal Musea Nuus

Twée kanonen van het V.O.C.-schip Middelburg

Dichtbij de Hartebeespoortdam ten westen van Pretoria is enige jare geleden een groot akwarium met vele vissen en

Foto van twee kannonnen van een 18e eeuws schip in Saldanhaabaai gesonken – waarskynlik van het VOC-schip "Middelburg". (Foto: C de Jong)



een grote vijver met zeeleeuwen, welke kunsten vertonen, geopend. De zoon van de eigenaar heeft als dienstplichtige aan de Saldanhabaai bij Kaapstad kans gezien om twee oude scheepskanonnen te bergen en in eigendom te verwerven.

Die kanonnen moeten afkomstig zijn van het wrak van het schip 'Middelburg' van de Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie. Dit schip is bij een aanval door een Britse vloot op de Saldanhabaai in juli 1781 in brand gestoken door de bemanning en in ondiep water gezonken. Van tijd tot tijd zijn zaken uit het wrak geborgen.

Naast de twee kanonnen voor het akwari-um is ook een groot scheepsanker geplaatst. De zwaar verwerde kanonlopen, elk ongeveer 1,5 meter lang, zijn een mooie aanwinst voor het akwari-um, diep in het binnenland gelegen. Zij brengen een vleugje van de zeewind aan de kust en een herinnering aan een verleden, toen Transvaal nog een wildernis was, over.

—C DE JONGH



Mnr Jozia Joubert by die klipheining wat sy oupa in 1872 gebou het, en wat die geslagte daarna steeds in stand hou. Hierdie heining is meer as 3 200 meter lank.

So lyk die klipheining. Dit strek tot oorkant die koppie, maak 'n draai en kamp meer as 80 ha in. Dit is 'n kuns om hierdie heiningklip te pak dat die klippe nie los raak nie. Dat hierdie heining stewig is, ly geen twyfel nie. Nie 'n bees, skaap of perd sien kans om daaroor te spring nie, want afgesien van die hoogte, is dit ook lekker wyd.

Foto's: *Landbouweekblad*

Langste klipheining in die land

Waar in die wêreld kry 'n mens vandag nog klipheinings van 'n paar kilometer lank? In die dae van die Voortrekkers, toe draad nog skaars was, is sulke heinings gepak, maar die oorblyfsels daarvan kry 'n mens vandag net hier en daar en dan meesal in die vorm van 'n ou klipmurasie.

Kom, gaan saam met ons na die plaas Bergvliet in die distrik Amersfoort op die Oostelike Hoëveld. Hier hou die Jouberts die klipheinings wat hul voorgeslag in 1872 voltooi het, steeds in stand.

Oral op die plaas is daar ronde en vierkantige klipmuurkrale en drukgange van ronde en plat ysterklip gebou. Maar die treffendste is die breë klipmuurheining van meer as 3 000 meter wat 'n kamp van 80 ha inkamp.

Hierdie heining is oral tussen 'n meter en 1,5 m hoog; die meeste plekke 'n raps minder as 'n meter wyd, behalwe in die turfdele waar dit heelwat wyer is, om groter stewigheid te verleen. 'n Bees, pers of skaap sal nog sy kop tussen 'n paar doringdrade deursteek en 'n pad oopbeur, maar vir hierdie soliede klipmuur sien hulle nie kans nie.

Mnr Jozia Joubert vertel dat die klipheining nie deur sy voorgeslag begin is nie. Toe sy oupa, kommandant „Rooi” Jozia Joubert in 1872 vir Bergvliet gekoop het, was die heining halfpad. Die kommandant het voortgebou. Elke klip op die plaas is uitgebreek en met sleë aangery.



Erosiespore

Hierdie sleë het sulke diep spore teen die rantjies gemaak dat dit, ondanks al die herwinningswerke deur die jare heen, vandag nog geneig is om oop te spoel en erosiespore te laat.

Sy oorlede vader het uit agting vir die handewerk van die voorgeslag die klipheinings, -mure en -krale al die jare 'n stand gehou. En só doen hy.

Maar dit gaan al hoe moeiliker, vertel mnr. Joubert. Die probleem is dat 'n mens vandag nie meer Bantoes kry wat die kuns verstaan om 'n klipmuur met los klippe stewig te pak nie, want in hierdie heining is die klippe nie net opgestapel nie; dis behoorlik gepak om te hou. Jy moet 'n klip uit sy posisie uitlig as jy dit uit wil hê, en daar is nêrens klei of bindsel tussen die klippe nie.

Die tweede probleem is dat die heining

'n alte geskikte broeiplek vir meerkatte, muishonde, rotte en ander knaagdiere is. Kleintyd was dit vir hom pret om saam met die klonkies op die plaas die knaagdiertjies te agtervolg, deur die klippe een vir een af te pak totdat hulle op die broeies afkom. Dan moes die grootvolk maar weer kom oorpak.

Ongelukkig het die pikaniens op die plaas hierdie stoutigheid by hul voorgeslagmakers geërf, en nou sit mnr. Joubert telkens met die ontwrigte heining en los klippe. Soek hy die sondebokke, is hulle net weg.

Nogtans, sê mnr Joubert, is hy daarop trots dat hy die heinings en klipkrale nie alleen in 'n goeie toestand kon hou nie, maar hulle steeds gebruik. Hy hoop sy kinders sal kans sien om die tradisie voort te sit.

—*Landbouweekblad*, 7 Maart 1975

Die Z.A.S.M. hyskraan op Witbank

In die tuin voor Witbank se stasie staan daar 'n historiese spoorweghyskraan met 'n besondere stukkie geskiedenis. Dit is naamlik een van vier soortgelyke hyskrane wat gedurende 1895-1902 deur die Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatschappij (die NZASM) vanaf Nederland ingevoer is vir gebruik op die spoorweë van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek.

Die kraan is in 1897 deur die Haarlemse Machinefabriek te Haarlem, Nederland, vervaardig, en die volgende inskripsie is daarop aangebring: **Haarl. Machinefabriek, voorheen Gebroeders Figeë. No: 501, 1897.**

Navrae in Nederland het aan die lig gebring dat hierdie firma vandag nog bestaan en steeds een van die grootste lewenswantsiers van hyskrane en hefwerktoe in Nederland is. Tans is hulle egter bekend onder die naam Machinefabriek Figeë, en is geleë te Hendrik Figeeweg No. 1, Haarlem. Dit dui ook seker aan dat die firma oorspronklik deur 'n sekere Hendrik Figeë gestig is.

Soos die inskripsie op die kraan aandui, was die oorspronklike naam van die firma Gebroeders Figeë, welke naam omstreeks 1895 tot Haarlemse Machinefabriek verander is. Sedert enkele jare gelede is hulle egter bekend as Machinefabriek Figeë.

Die firma deel mee dat hulle gedurende die jare 1895 tot 1902 'n bestelling vir vier hyskrane van die NZASM ontvang het. Die hyskrane, nommers 499 tot 502, is spesiaal volgens NZASM-spesifikasies vervaardig en na die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek verskep. „De kranen zijn inderdaad speciaal vervaardigd volgens ontvangen bestek. Het ontwerp was tweeledig. Zowel voor lossen en laden van goederen als voor ongevallen”, berig die vervaardigers. Nommer 499, 500 en 501 het 'n hefvermoë van 5 ton gehad, terwyl nommer 502, tien ton kon lig. Die krane was handgedrewe en 4 persone was nodig om die twee slingers, een aan elke kant, te draai en sodoende die hefkrag aan te wend.

Slegs genoemde vier krane is deur hierdie firma aan die NZASM gelewer. Verdere tegniese gegewens ontbreek aangesien 'n gedeelte van die firma se argief gedurende die Tweede Wêreldoorlog verlore gegaan het.

Wat het van die krane geword? Nommer 501, vervaardig in 1897, staan tans voor Witbankstasie as 'n geskiedkundige stuk. Nommer 499, vervaardig in 1896, het jare by die Breytense lokomotiefdepot gestaan, maar dit is laat in 1974 na Koedoespoort se spoorwegwerkinkels verwyder waar dit in Februarie 1975 op-

gebreek en vernietig is. Daarmee het 'n waardevolle stukke ZASM-Afrika tot sy einde gekom. Soos dit dikwels met sulke sake gaan, het die museumkomitee van Waterval Boven kort daarna aansoek gedoen om genoemde kraan as 'n deel van hulle beoogde ZASM-museum op Waterval Boven op te rig, maar toe was dit te laat, die smeltpot het hulle voorgespring.

Miskien is daar van ons lesers wat meer inligting oor krane nommers 500 en 502 kan verskaf.

Die wedervaring van kraan 501 (die Witbankkraan) sedert die end van die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog is relatief onbekend. In 1972 is dit in 'n verwaarloosde en gehewende toestand in Middelburg (Transvaal) se stasieterrin opgemerk, van die spore af en in onbruik. Die stasiemeester het meegedeel dat dit die afgelope 30 jaar op Middelburg gestaan het waar dit tot ± 1950 nog gebruik was om goedere te laai. Ou inwoners van die omgewing kan die kraan ook goed onthou.

Die destydse distriksingenieur van Witbank, (die skrywer van hierdie artikel - Red.) het die geskiedkundige waarde van die ou kraan besef en by die Spoorweë toestemming gevra om dit as 'n historiese stuk voor Witbankstasie te monteer. Toestemming hiertoe is gedurende September 1972 van die lokomotiefsuperintendent, Pretoria, ontvang, en kort daarna het die lokomotiefvoorman van Witbank, mnr. Haaroff, gereël om die kraan weer op die spore te sit en na Witbank te vervoer. In 1972 het die kraan dan ook sy laaste rit per spoor afgelê toe dit deur 'n lokomotief van Middelburg na Witbank se lokomotiefdepot gesleep is. Daar het mnr. Haaroff se manne onmiddellik aan die werk gespring om die kraan skoon te maak en te restoreer. Die roes en verweerde verflae van 80 jaar is afgeskraap, herstelwerk aan beskadigde onderdele is gedoen, en na 'n nuwe verflaag het die kraan so goed soos nuut gelyk. Met 'n bietjie ghries en olie sou dit sekerlik weer doeltreffend kon funksioneer. Of daar vrywilligers sou wees om die twee slingers te draai, is natuurlik 'n ander saak!

Daar is gevind dat sommige van die kraan se onderdele nie meer die oorspronklikes was nie. So is die een askas SAR 1912 gemerk, die ander twee CSAR 1910 (Central South African Railways), terwyl die vierde een naamloos is. Een vakuumpyp is gemerk CSAR 1903, en die klem wat die kraan in posisie hou gedurende vervoer, is gemerk NGR (Natal Government Railways).

Die rolmerke "Gutehoffnungshutte" op die kraanarm en kraanbalke dui aan dat dié onderdele deur die Kruppstaalfabriek van Essen, Duitsland, vervaardig is. Dis natuurlik oorspronklike onderdele. Op die kraan is ook 'n bronsplaat deur die SAS aangebring wat soos volg lees: "Kraan No. 140, Maks. vrag 10 000 lb.

Maks. straal 14'5". Datum van ondersoek: 20/1/34, 29/8/34, 7/9/48."

Nadat die distriksingenieur van Witbank se manne die nodige platform voor die stasie gebou het, is die kraan gedurende Sept. 1973 deur die lokovoorman en distriksopsiener se manne van die lokodepot vervoer en op die platform geplaas, alles onder blyke van groot publieke belangstelling. Die spoorstawe waarop die kraan geplaas is, het die rolmerke BOCHUM 1892, en is spesiaal uitgesoek weens hulle geskiedkundige verbintenis met die Oosterlyn - tradisionele naam vir die Pretoria - Lourenco Marques-spoorlyn. Bochum is 'n dorpie naby Essen, Duitsland, en die spoorstawe vir die Oosterlyn is almal by die staalfabriek van Bochum uitgerol.

Wat nou nog nodig is om die voorkoms van die kraan finaal af te rond, is 'n bronsplaket wat die geskiedkundige besonderhede van die kraan aantoon. Daar word vertrou dat die Spoorweë binnekort so 'n plaket sal aanbring.

Sedert die kraan se oprigting voor die stasie het dit al hoë besoekers ontvang. Gedurende November 1974 het die hoofbestuurder van die Spoorweë, mnr. J G H Loubser, 'n besoek aan Witbank gebring en by dié geleentheid ook by die ou kraan aangedoen. Hy was vergesel van mnr. H A Loots, asst.-hoofbestuurder (bedryf), en dr. G T Ferreira, afdelingsbestuurder, Pretoria.

Intussen het die kraan ook 'n maat bygekry in die vorm van 'n klas 11-lokomotief wat gedurende September 1974 as 'n historiese stuk voor die stasie opgerig is. Die lokomotief is in 1925 vervaardig en het dus nie die trotse verlede wat die kraan het nie.

Tussen die palmbome voor Witbank se stasie geniet die stoere ou hyskraan nou 'n welverdiende rus. Sover bekend, is dit nou die enigste van die vier krane wat oorgebly het. Dit kon net sowel die lot van die Breytenkraan gedeel het en op die afvalhoop beland het.

Nou is dit te hope dat die kraan besoekers aan Witbank altyd sal herinner aan die dae van die NZASM en die Oosterlyn; 'n besondere tydperk in die geskiedenis van die Transvaal.

Dank is verskuldig aan die Direktrise van die Nederlandse Spoorwegmuseum te Utrecht, wat meegehelp het om van die inligting te bekom.

—L A WILDENBOER

—SASSAR, Augustus 1975

Historiese gebou kan dorp R1/4 m. kos

Opknep óf restoreer - R25 000 óf R250 000?

Dié twee woorde - op die oog af feitlik met dieselfde betekenis, maar wat tog 'n

verskil van R200 000 maak – moet oor die lot van 'n historiese gebou in Krugersdorp beslis.

Sowat 'n jaar gelede het die staatsamptenare van die dorp na 'n pragtige nuwe gebou laer af in Kommissarisstraat getrek. Sedertdien het die ou landdroshof leeg gestaan.

Die hoeksteen van die gebou is in 1890 deur pres. Paul Kruger gelê. Sedertdien het die gebou deel van ons land se geskiëdenis geword.

In 1896 is die Jameson-irvallers daar aangehou nadat hulle naby Randfontein aangekeer was. Volgens oorlewering het die Engelse soldate glo lustig „After the Ball is over” gesing onderwyl hulle een nag in die hofsaal geslaap het voordat hulle die volgende dag na Pretoria gebring is.

Nou het die stemme stil geword in die hofsale waar menige menslike dramas hulle oor byna 85 jaar afgespeel het.

Die ou gebou is tans in 'n taamlik vervalle toestand en is in die hartjie van Krugersdorp geleë.

Daarom het die stadsraad reeds etlike jare gelede onderhandelinge met die Departement Landboukrediet en Grondbesit aangeknoop.

Die gedagte is om die gebou tot 'n nasionale monument verklaar te kry. Terselfdertyd het die stadsraad op die gedagte gekom om dit as 'n museum te gebruik – iets waarvoor daar lank reeds 'n behoefte in die dorp bestaan.

Die staat was vir dié idee te vinde. Een van die voorwaardes wat gestel is, was “dat die gebou opgeknop en/of gerestoureer moet word tot bevrediging van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede.”

Kort daarna het 'n brief van die Raad gevolg waarin as spesifieke voorwaarde gestel is dat die gebou op die koste van die stadsraad gerestoureer moet word.

'n Onderzoek het aan die lig gebring dat dit tussen R20 000 en R25 000 sal kos om die gebou op te knop.

Restourasie was 'n ander storie. Dit sal na raming sowat 'n kwartmiljoen rand kos om die gebou te restoureer!

Hiervoor was die stadsraad gewis nie te vinde nie en die onderhandelinge het op die dooie punt beland.

“As die ou gebou gerestoureer moet word soos dit oorspronklik daar uitgesien het, sal dit nie aan die doel waarvoor ons dit wil gebruik, naamlik 'n museum beantwoord nie. Vir R250 000 kan ons 'n baie doelmatiger museumgebou oprig;” sê die waarnemende stadsklerk, mnr J J L Nieuwoudt.

Maar die Krugersdorpers is baie sentimenteel oor hul historiese geboue soos die onlangse besluit oor die ou stadsaal net oorkant die straat bewys het.

Ná 'n jarelange twis is daar besluit om die stadsaal, die oudste in Transvaal, in stryd met die aanbeveling van kenners te behou en nie te sloop om plek te maak vir 'n nuwe burgersentrum nie.

Gevolgtrek het die stadsraad nie sommer tou opgegooi nie en met sy pogings voort gegaan.

Aangesien 'n kommissie van ondersoek insake museums tans 'n omvattende ondersoek oor historiese geboue doen, is daar besluit om 'n afwagterende houding aan te neem.

Die kommissie se verslag word voor einde vanjaar verwag. Dan sal daar groter duidelikheid wees oor onder meer watter geboue die staat, die provinsie of plaaslike bestuure se verantwoordelikheid is.

Intussen word daar nie stilgesit nie. Só het die LV vir Krugersdorp, dr J J Vilonel, byvoorbeeld die aangeleentheid self onder hande geneem. Hy wend tans pogings aan om die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede tot ander insigte te bring.

—Die Vaderland, 29 Mei 1975

City Hall should be preserved

Dennis Godfrey writes on old Johannesburg.

Somebody tells me – I'm certainly no expert on such things – that there are signs that acids in Johannesburg smog, generated mainly by motor vehicle exhaust fumes, are beginning to cause damage to Johannesburg's venerable City Hall.

Overseas there has been definite evidence of the effects of such smog acids on buildings, both ancient and relatively

new, as Johannesburg's City Hall is, for it was only taken into use in 1915.

There has, of course, been great discussion in the past few years about the desirability of demolishing the old City Hall.

Remarkably enough, the idea of demolishing it was supported by Dr Doreen Greig, president in chief of the Institute of South African Architects, who said: “Do away with it. We could then have a really fine garden stretching from the front of the library to the old post office in Rissik Street.”

I say: Fiddlesticks. There are two practical arguments – even before one considers the demolition mania that makes Johannesburg look like a bombed city most of the time – in favour of keeping the City Hall. One is that in spite of the new civic centre the old building is needed as a central rates hall and for everything from concerts to flower shows.

Mania

The other is that it is a part of older Johannesburg and should not be another victim of the “knock-down” mania which is obliterating all that is precious in the way of old buildings, from the Golden City's past.

While the Johannesburg City Hall was not completed and put into use until 1915, the foundation stone was laid in November 1910 by the Duke of Connaught, son of Queen Victoria and uncle of King George V.

The Duke and Duchess arrived in Cape Town in the Balmoral Castle to open the first session of the brand-new Union Parliament. And they arrived in Johannesburg on November 28 that year and

Ou stadshuis, Johannesburg . . . waardige monument vir die nageslag.

—Foto: Coen Oosthuysen



and on the next day the Duke laid the foundation stone of the Town Hall, as it was known in those days. Incidentally, he also laid the foundation stone of the Rand Regiment's Memorial in Hermann Eckstein Park and inaugurated, in temporary premises, Johannesburg's art collection, the moving spirit behind the establishment of which was Lady Florrie Phillips. It was only later that the Art Gallery in Joubert Park was built to house the collection. The Duke, laying the City Hall foundation stone, remarked that only 24 years previously Johannesburg had been bare veld, and now (in 1910) had 25 000 inhabitants.

Invitation

An impressive invitation was designed by Denis Santry and was sent to distinguished guests to attend the ceremony on November 29, 1910 and the Duke replied to an address given by the then Mayor of Johannesburg, colourful Mr Harry Graumann.

There was another celebration when the City Hall was occupied in 1915, and on many subsequent occasions the building has been the central pivot of celebrations or special occasions, and always it has been specially lit and hung with bunting and flags.

Johannesburg received city status in 1928, and the City Hall was the centre of official ceremonies and celebrations. By this time the municipal area covered 128 sq km and the population was 400 000.

Proclamation

John Connell wrote: "The Musical Shout" for the occasion, and it was sung by a choir on the City Hall steps from where the Administrator of the Transvaal read the Proclamation at about midday on September 5, 1928 and then presented it to the Mayor, Mr W H Port. Johannesburg then proceeded to celebrate for six days without stop.

The Johannesburg City Hall steps have been the rallying point of many political meetings and demonstrations, and also wartime gatherings.

General Smuts, among other notabilities, addressed gatherings in front of the City Hall.

Thank goodness the City Council has been wise enough to veto any demolition plans.

—*The Star*, February 8, 1975

Heilige herrie oor RAU-rugbyveld

'n Heilige herrie is in Johannesburg los omdat studente van die Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit rugby speel op 'n

lappie grond wat moontlik deel van 'n historiese monument is.

Vier jaar nadat die Universiteit 'n kontrak geteken het om 7 ha van die stadsraad te huur, raak dit vandeeweek bekend dat dié grond deel is van die historiese Melville-Koppies. Dié grond is in 1933 deur die eienaar, mnr. Frans Geldenhuys, aan die stadsraad geskenk en is in 1968 tot nasionale monument verklaar.

Dit is 'n smal strook grond tussen Westdene se bekende Padda-dam en Melville se hoofstraat aan die noordekant van RAU se sport terrein wat in die gedrang is.

Mnr Ritzema de la Bat, die vise-reaktor (bedryf) van RAU, sê dat hulle nooit geweet het dat hulle eintlik 'n "heilige grondjie" aan die soom van Johannesburg se middestad gehuur het nie.

"Ons was al dikwels onder skoot oor misverstande. Mense het ons byvoorbeeld beskuldig dat ons sou gedreig het om die twee damme toe te gooi vir sportterreine. Maar niemand het ooit geweet dat ons 'n nasionale monument betree het nie – die stadsraad het ons niks daarvan gesê nie."

En indien van die rugbyvelde waar RAU se manne deesdae speel op die monumentgrond is, is dit ook nie RAU se skuld nie. Die rugbyvelde is 'n paar jaar gelede al ontwikkel en gebruik deur die rugbyklub Diggers.

Maar nou die stadsraad se argument: hulle het die grond onvoorwaardelik aan RAU verhuur en die wet sê die huurder moet sorg dat hy niks onwettigs op die stukkie aarde pleeg nie. Só sê mnr Eddie Magid, voorsitter van die stadsbeplanningskomitee ná die nuus dat die grond deel is van die nasionale monument.

"Dit is 'n ou plat stukkie aarde wat in die gedrang is, maar nogtans is dit deel van die grond wat wyle mnr Geldenhuys aan die stadsraad geskenk het. Ek gaan nou sorg dat ons, die universiteit en die mense van die omgewing bymekaar kom en die hele saak bespreek. Niemand mag te na gekom word nie," sê hy. Mnr Magid sê die stuk grond is ongetwyfeld deel van die nasionale monument.

—*Rapport*, 4 Mei 1975

Beeldhouer van Wouw se huis

Min mense ken die mooi grasdakhuis waar Anton van Wouw van 1938 tot met sy dood in 1945 gewoon het. Die huis met sy mooi tuin is nommer 299 Clarkstraat, Brooklyn, Pretoria, en is nou 'n spesiale Van Wouw-museum, besonder fraai gerestoureer.

In hierdie huis word herinnerings aan die beeldhouer bewaar. Hier kan besoekers

van sy kleiner werke bewonder. Foto's, boeke, briewe, modelle en die instrumente waarmee hy gewerk het kan in die sfeer waarin hy die laaste sewe jaar van sy lewe gearbei het, besigtig word.

In 1973 het dr Anton Rupert aan die Universiteit van Pretoria fondse beskikbaar gestel om die huis wat in 1946 die eiendom van prof S F Oosthuizen geword het, te koop. Na restaurasie is dit in 1974 aan die Universiteit oorgegedra.

'n Gedeelte van die Van Wouw-werke wat die Universiteit oor die afgelope veertig jaar verkry het, is na die huis oorgebring. Die vertrouwe word gekoester dat die huis 'n eie besondere plek in die kulturele lewe van Pretoria sal inneem. Ook vir besoekers uit ander dele bied die museum 'n mooi geleentheid om hulle terug te trek van die alledaagse gejaagdheid en stil van die kunswerke in gips wat die groot kunstenaar geskep het, te geniet.

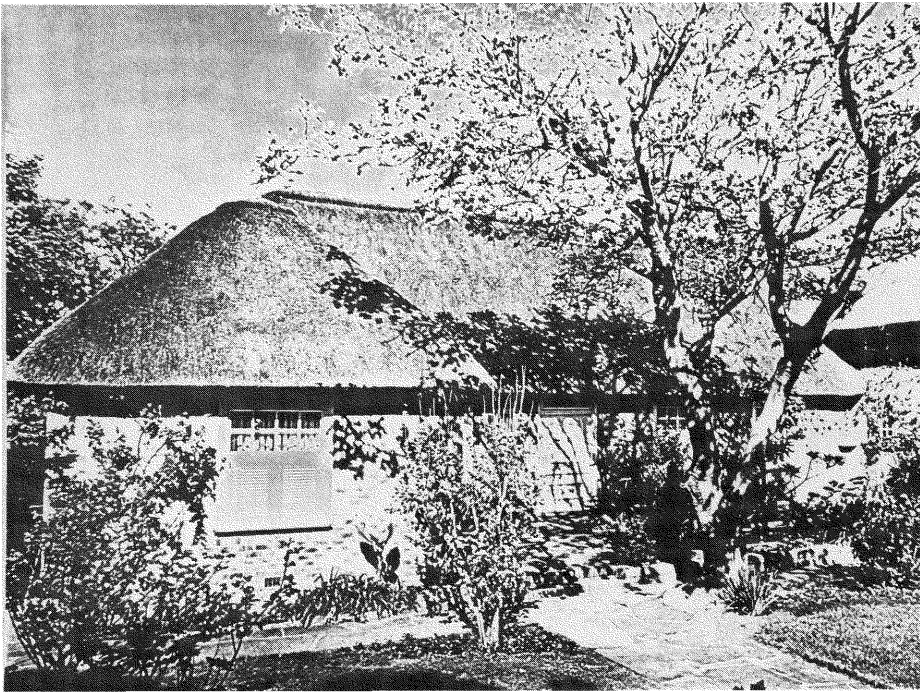
Die meeste Suid-Afrikaners ken natuurlik die groot werke van Van Wouw. Duisende het in die loop van die laaste halfeeu die beeld van stoere Paul Kruger soos Van Wouw hom geskep het, bewonder. Dit het aanvanklik voor die spoorwegstasie in Pretoria gestaan, maar is ongeveer twintig jaar gelede na Kerkplein verskuif. Daar pryk dit nou, bewaak deur vier Boerekrygers. Talle besoekers lees die skrif op die voetstuk: "Met vertrouwen leggen wij onze zaak open voor de gehele wereld. Hetzij wij overwinnen, hetzij wij sterven, de vrijheid zal in Afrika rijzen als de zon uit de morgenwolken."

Die beeld is in opdrag van mnr Sammy Marks vervaardig en in 1899 van Lourenco Marques na Transvaal gebring.

Anton van Wouw is ook die skepper van die indrukwekkende Vrouemonument wat die smart van die Boerevrou in die Engelse konsentrasiekampe vertolk. Dit is in 1912 in Bloemfontein onthul. Nog 'n beeld van 'n Boervrou en kind, deur hom geskep, staan by die Voortrekkermonument in Pretoria.

Van sy kleiner werke is in gipsmodelle in die Van Wouw-huis te sien, soos die borsbeelde van Jan F E Celliers, sy swaer, waaruit die gevoelige persoonlikheid van hierdie digter spreek, die Bantoe-daggaroker, die Basoetoe-getuie, en ook die borsbeelde van dr Andrew Murray, prof A Morrees en oom Koos de la Rey. Laasgenoemde kunswerk is deur mnr Murray Schoonraad, dosent in die kunsgeskiedenis aan die Universiteit van Pretoria, ontdek in Libertas, die woning van die Eerste Minister. Dit is tydens 'n klein plegtigheid deur mnr G S Pool, adjunk-sekretaris van Openbare Werke, aan die Van Wouw-museum oorhandig.

Antonie van Wouw is in 1862 in Driebergen naby Utrecht, Nederland, gebore en aan die Rotterdamse Akademie, waar ook Hendrik Pierneef en Anton Hendriks gestudeer het, opgelei. Hy het in 1889 na Suid-Afrika gekom. Sewe jaar



Van Wouw-huis, Pretoria, nou oop vir besoekers

Foto: Universiteit van Pretoria

later het hy met 'n suster van Jan F E Celliers getrou. Sy is vroeg oorlede. Twee dogters is uit die huwelik gebore. In 1925 het hy mej L Mulder, skoonsuster van president Reitz, getrou. In 1930 het hy die ridderkruis in die orde van Oranje-Nassau ontvang. In 1936 is 'n ere-doktoraat deur die Universiteit van Pretoria aan hom toegeken en 'n jaar later het die Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie hom met die erepenning vir beeldhoukuns vereer.

Met die restourasie van die Van Wouw-huis het dr Anton Rupert 'n groot geskenk aan die Suid-Afrikaanse gemeenskap gegee en opnuut 'n verheugende bewys gelewer van sy liefde vir die kuns van sy vaderland.

—PIET KORTHUYS
Den Haag, 1975

Bad vir 'n edelman

Legendes het gewoonlik hul oorsprong in die waarheid. Dit is om hierdie rede dat die bewaarders van ons kultuurhistoriese erfenis in Pretoria, by name dr Willem Punt-hulle van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, gerus die geskiedenis van die ou huis in Reitzstraat, nommer 527, kan naspeur. Want as die verhale wat oor hierdie huis en sy aangrensende „buitegou” enigsins op die waarheid gebasseer is, wag 'n aangename verrassing op hulle.

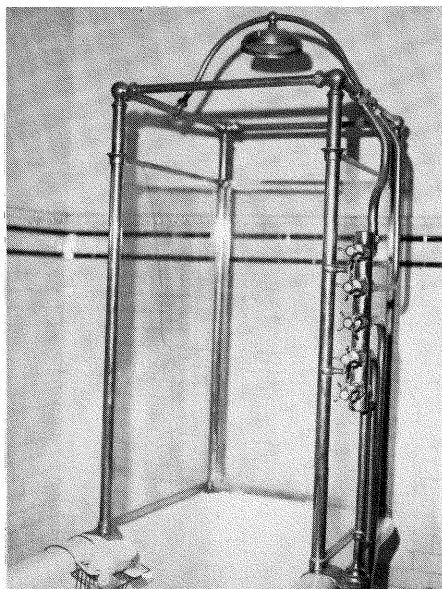
Ek het die huis „ontdek” deurdat ek op soek was na Art Studios Pretoria, 'n kunssentrum wat vier jong studente verlede jaar gestig het. Hierdie kunssentrum

is in hierdie huis, alom bekend as die Reitzhuis, gevestig.

Nadat ek met Carl en Lynn Jeppe gesels het oor die sentrum, het hulle my van die „fantastiese badkamer” van die huis vertel. En sowaar, dié ou badkamer is iets besonder om gade te slaan: afgesien van die pragtige groot vensters met hul gekleurde glasruite daarin, staan daar 'n enorme bad-stortbad in die middel van die vloer. Groot gechroomde pype met verskeie krane en knoppies vorm 'n indrukwekkende handreling bo-oor die bad.

Lynn Jeppe het met groot opgewonden-

Die spoggerige bad in Reitzhuis. Gebou vir 'n edelman?



heid verduidelik wat die doel van elke kraan of knop is, en glo my, dit is imponerend. As jy dié een oopdraai, word jou hele liggaam liggies deur water natgesproei; daárdie een veroorsaak 'n gekonsentreerde straal water wat reg op jou kop val en daárdie een 'n ligte sproei. Ensovoorts.

„Die bad is volgens vertelling spesiaal vir die prins van Wallis gebou toe hy in die jare dertig in Suid-Afrika was en in hierdie huis oornag het,” vertel mev. Jeppe.

Die huis self het glo in 'n stadium aan ene Reitz behoort, wat 'n sekretaris-generaal, of iets van dié aard, in die Kruger-tydperk was. In die „buitegebou”, wat nou in 'n ekstra woonkwartier omskep is, is koetse gehuisves; dit is gebou in 'n eg Kaapse styl, wat van voor af nie baie opsigtelik is nie, weens die verbouings deur die jare, maar van agter af blyk dit baie duidelik.

Met hierdie inligting het ek dr. Punt geskakel. Sy reaksie was kort en saaklik: „Waarvoor sou die prins van Wallis in daardie huis tuisgegaan het?” Of die huis van enige historiese belang is, weet hy nie, maar hy verwys my darem na ene mnr. Vorster by Munitoria.

Mnr Vorster het baie moeite gedoen om vas te stel of 'n Reitz in enige stadium die eienaar van die huis was. Tot dusver is die antwoord negatief. Maar hy wys nogtans daarop dat die huis donkiejare gelede reeds aan maatskappye behoort het; miskien was Reitz 'n aandeelhouer. Volgens dokumente is die geskiedenis van die huis kortliks as volg: dit het eers op 'n plaas gestaan, wat later aan ene Mears verkoop is (die Mears na wie Mearstraat vernoem is). Die Pretoria Estate and Market Co. het die huis in 1895 van Mears gekoop. Dit was die eerste maatskappy waaraan die huis behoort het.

Mnr T H Davis, skoolhoof van die Sunnyside Primary School, het vertel dat hy jare lank reeds bekend is met die geskiedenis van die huis; die feit dat die prins van Wallis wél daar oornag het en dat die huis tóg aan Reitz behoort het. Die buitegebou was volgens hom beslis 'n stoorplek vir koetse.

Hoe dit sy, die huis is steeds in 'n pragtige toestand. Art Studios Pretoria trek een van die dae uit die huis, want dit is aan Capital College verkoop. Tiksters sal voortaan daar opgelei word. Dat verbouings aan die huis gaan plaasvind, is nie altemit nie.

Sulke huise word al hoe skaarser in Pretoria, veral in Sunnyside en Arcadia waar woonstelle teen 'n enorme tempo opgerig word. Dr Punt-hulle moet miskien maar nog 'n slag nadink oor die Reitzhuis, siende dat hy blykbaar nie eens by die Stigting Simon van der Stel bekend is nie: dalk is dit 'n groot fonds vir hulle.

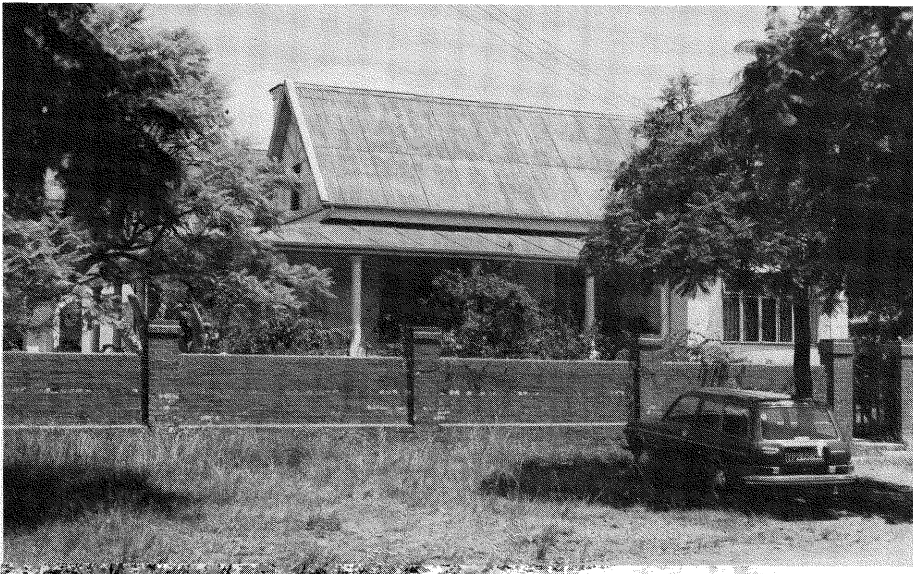
—PAUL ALBERTS
—Beeld, 8 Februarie 1975

Sunnyside se Reitzhuis

Reitzhuis, Sunnyside – ietwat verwaarloos, tans woonplek van studente. Die huis is waarskynlik gebou deur Johnny Reitz, neef van president F W Reitz van die OVS. 'n Latere eienaar, H Katzenellenbogen, winkelier in Pretoria, het omstreeks 1913 in die huis gewoon. Die huis bestaan uit 'n potpourri van boustyle, tipies van huise van die nouveau riche van die Edwardiaanse era in Pretoria. Dit is hoofsaaklik Edwardiaans met Elizabethaanse vagwerk en Kaaps-Hollandse buitegeboue. (Red.)



Die Kaaps-Hollands-geinspireerde buitegeboue van Reitzhuis, nou omskep in woonplek vir studente.



Agter-aansig van die buitegeboue, met die tipiese Kaaps-Hollandse soldertrap.

'n Ander aansig van Reitzhuis.



City to save prison?

The decision to tear down the old Pretoria prison in Potgieter Street and replace it with new buildings has aroused anger among preservationists in the city. Dr Willem Punt, who retired recently from his post at the head of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, said recently: "It is a terrible mistake to destroy this interesting old facade.

"Modernise the interior by all means, that is essential, but a clever architect could adapt and preserve the street frontage of the building with its imposing portico while replacing the building behind."

Dr Punt said the Foundation had suggested this a number of years ago and been told that the department already had plans to pull the whole building down.

Dull

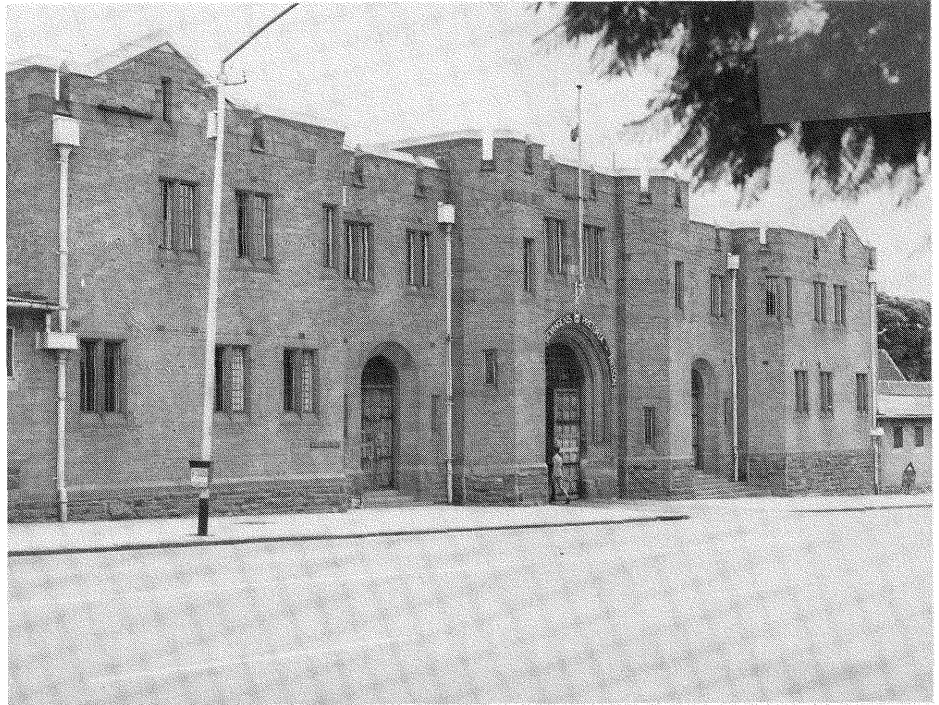
Nothing was done for some time and when work went ahead the Society was not consulted again.

"We shan't see buildings like that again," said Dr Punt. "Looking at the new building that has already gone up beside the old one I cannot be very hopeful that anything worthwhile is going to emerge - it's terribly dull."

The facade of the old Opera House in Pretorius Street was being preserved while fresh development went on behind it which showed that this sort of thing could be done.

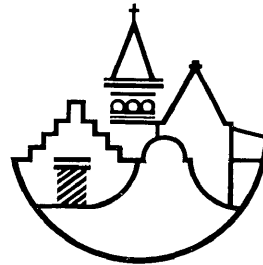
Dr Punt pointed out that the old jail had a place in South Africa's history - Jopie Fourie had been executed as a traitor.

—*Pretoria News*, January 17, 1975



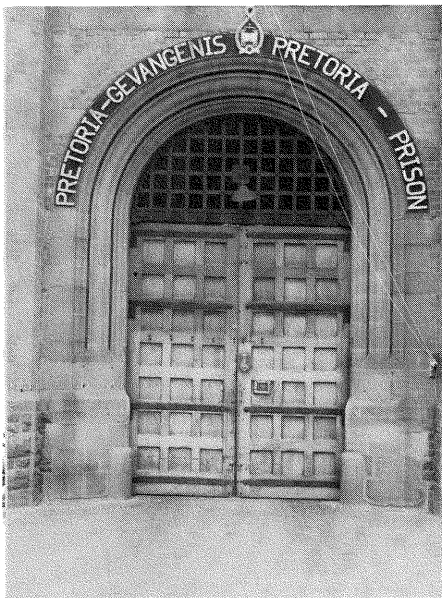
The old Pretoria Prison in Potgieter Street, Pretoria.

Bewaar
ons
erfenis



Preserve
our
heritage

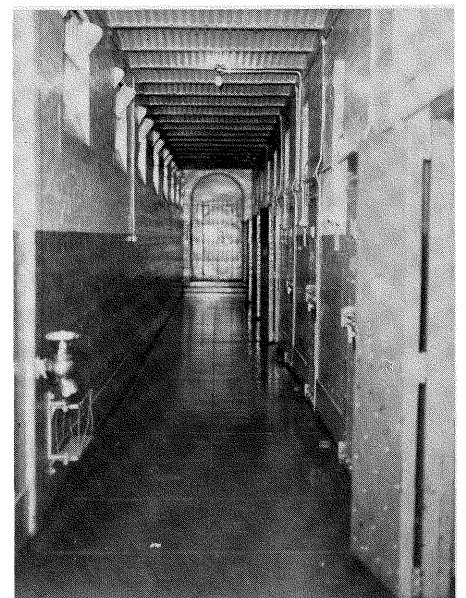
Main entrance, Pretoria Prison, Potgieter Street.



Main entrance as seen from the courtyard.



Typical row of cells.





Cast-iron fireplace in one of the offices.

Mr W Punt, director of the Simon van der Stel Foundation, and a prison official, Lt Col P H Pretorius, point to the bricks which replaced the bullet-shattered bricks left in the wall after the execution of Jopie Fourie.

—Photos of Pretoria Prison: *Frik Dreyer*



Aesthetic Facade

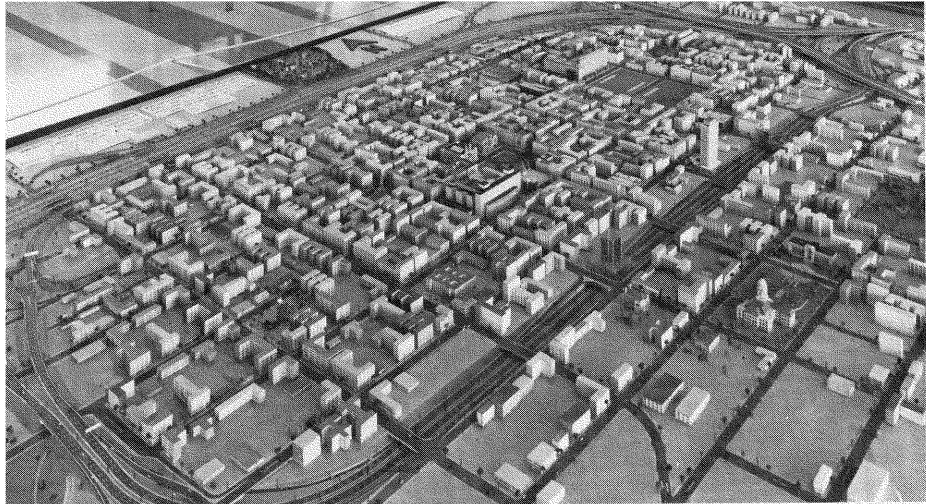
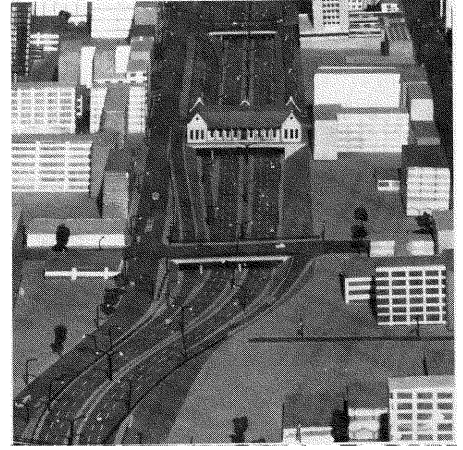
Dr Punt pointed out that the old jail, built between 1902 and 1910, had a place in South Africa's History – Jopie Fourie was executed as a traitor there and General Smuts consigned the 1922 strikers on the Rand to its cells. But it should be preserved on architectural grounds, not merely because some notorious criminals had been incarcerated there, he said.

—*The Star*, January 17, 1975

Pretoria Futura ?

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE PRETORIA CANYON.

The Staatsmodel School on its concrete bridge will force unobservant motorists to observe and to drink in its beauty, and to become enriched by its cultural and historical value. Will the motorist's psyche be anointed by its gracious new environment ?

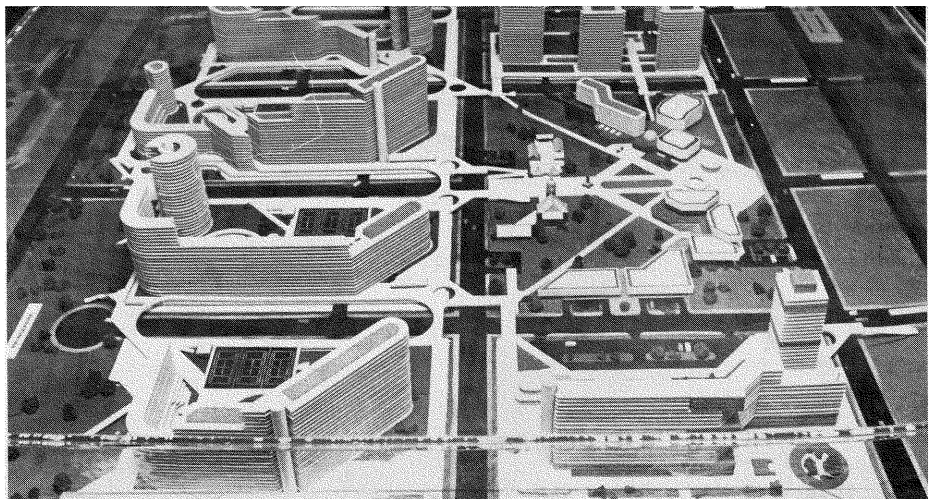


This is not a model train enthusiast's lay-out. It is a model of the centre of Pretoria as our urban planners would have it. Note (top right hand corner) how Pretoria's gentle Apies River has been magically transformed from a rivulet of clear water to a roaring stream of concrete, asphalt and automobiles. Who said the Apies could not be mighty ?

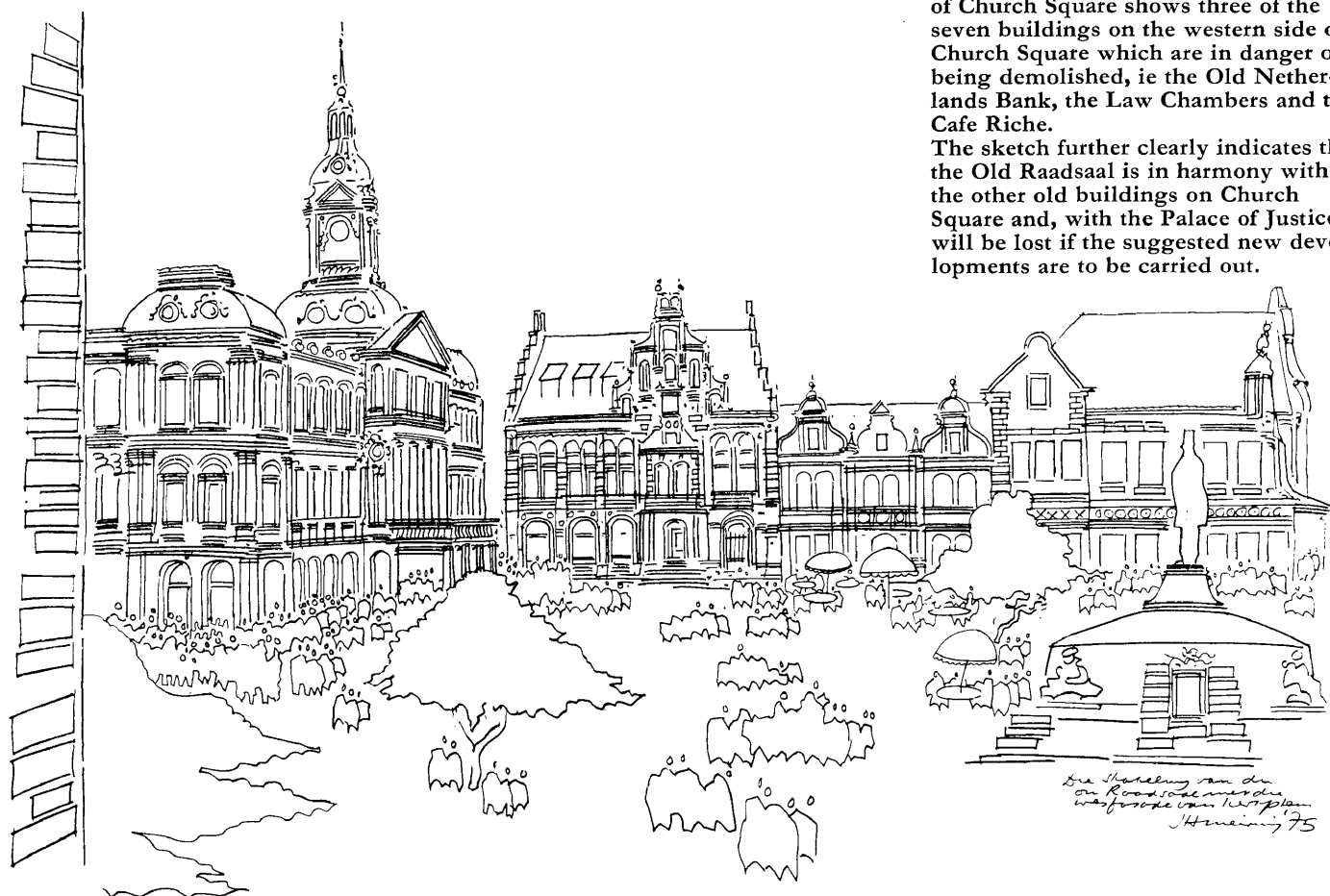
—Photos: *City Council of Pretoria*

Krugerplein, en Goedehoop-woonstelkompleks, breinkind van die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou. Hierdie maanlandskap sal in Pretoria verrys tussen Schoeman-, Bosman- en Bloedstraat, met Steenhovenspruit en Prinsespark aan die westekant. In die middel kan die Krugerhuis en Gereformeerde Kerk gesien word, met die Krugerstandbeeld net links daarvan. Na raming sal die projek by voltooiing R10 miljoen kos. Grond is alreeds onteien en een van die woonstelkomplekse word tans gebou.

—Foto: *Oggendblad*



Pretoria's Church Square - South Africa's Heritage



This sketch of the south-western corner of Church Square shows three of the seven buildings on the western side of Church Square which are in danger of being demolished, ie the Old Netherlands Bank, the Law Chambers and the Cafe Riche.

The sketch further clearly indicates that the Old Raadsaal is in harmony with the other old buildings on Church Square and, with the Palace of Justice, will be lost if the suggested new developments are to be carried out.

Reproduction of the Citizen's Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square pamphlet advertising the 26th July 1975 public meeting on the Square.

The Three Important Elements

- The Square
- East Facade - Reserve Bank to the Standard Bank
- West Facade - Old Raadsaal to the Palace of Justice

Highlights of Church Square's History

1854 On the advice of dominee Dirk van der Hoff, Cmdt gen M W Pretorius agrees to a church manor for the fifth Transvaal parish being laid out on Elandspoort.

- Englishmen, Louis and Lionel Devereux draw the layout plan for Church Square.
- Three morgen of land chosen by Cmdt-gen Pretorius, his secretary Jan Visagie and church elder Jacobus (Koos Tiernek) Erasmus. Demarcation done by the Devereux Brothers, William Skinner and Jan Visagie.
- William Skinner and the Devereux Brothers design the church and start laying the foundations.

1856 Devereux, Devereux & Skinner complete the church. Pretoria's first architects/builders complete Pretoria's first church.

1857 The church is inaugurated by ds Van der Hoff.

1865 Ds A J Begemann, Pretoria's first permanent predikant, instructs DD & S to add a wing and vestry. Pretoria shopkeeper/poet Albert Broderick, writes "with your DDS initials standing on your gable there".

1877 Sir Theophilus Shepstone is sworn in in the church, by Judge Kotze and ds H S Bosman.

1882 Struck by lightning, the thatched church burns down.

1883 S J P Kruger sworn in as State President on Church Square.

1885 A new steepled church, the first in the Transvaal, is built by Marinus Franken to the design of Tom Claridge.

1888 S J P Kruger sworn in for his second term as President.

1893 S J P Kruger's third inauguration.

1898 S J P Kruger's fourth inauguration.

1899 Church Square and its church are sold to the ZAR government for £50 000 on the proviso that the church be used for an educational purpose such as a museum.

1900 British forces occupy Pretoria. The Union Jack is hoisted.

1904 Colonial government demolishes the church.

1905 Church Square transferred to the City Council of Pretoria. The plinth intended for the Kruger statue is demolished.

1910 As a result of a suggestion by architect W J de Zwaan and *De Volkstem* editor, F V Engelenburg, Poole and Barber design a layout for the Square. M G van R Mostert's tender of £36 000 is accepted. Basically unchanged, this is still the layout 65 years later.

1954 The Kruger statue ends its wanderings on a new plinth in the middle of Church Square. At last Church Square is complete but with the highrise backdrop which mars it today.

1961 The Republic of South Africa's first State President, Mr C R Swart, sworn in on Church Square.

1965 Plans are announced to demolish the West Facade to make room for international style high-rise buildings. The citizens object strongly.

1971 The government announces that the two 50-storey tower bloc section plans are to be dropped and the Netherlands Bank and National Bank retained.

Public reaction still insists on the retention of the entire West Facade.

1974 Government announcement that all the West Facade western line of buildings are to be demolished in January 1978. Strong reaction from the public and cultural organisations.

1975 This public resistance to the destruction of so an important part of South Africa's heritage, leads to the formation of the Citizen's Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square.

The South African Heritage on the Western Side of Church Square

The Old Raadsaal. Sovereign Boer Parliament – by architect Sytze Wierda and builder John Kirkness. Corner stone laid by Paul Kruger 1888. *ZAR.*

The Capital Theatre – Last remaining of its kind in South Africa. Grandiose, rich in atmosphere, bringer of bright life to the Square. Opened by Gen. Hertzog 1931. *Union of SA.*

Old Netherlands Bank Building – jewel of the West Facade. Beautiful, in excellent condition. Architect W J de Zwaan. 1896. *ZAR.*

Old Law Chambers – Second oldest building on the Square. Sound building, harmonious in style. Corner stone laid by Cmdt-gen P J Joubert 1893. *ZAR.*

Cafe Riche (Reserve Investments building) – Sound building for shops and open-air cafe. Famous sandstone owl. Corner wall relief "Commerce" by Van Wouw. Architect Frans Soff, who later again co-operates with Van Wouw on the Women's Memorial in Bloemfontein. *Transvaal Colony, 1904.*

Post Office – imposing building suitable for a post office or even a hotel. Architect William Hawke. Corner stone laid by Lord Selbourne, first Governor-General of the *Union of SA, 1910.*

Old National Bank Building – sound, attractive, gabled building. Architect Frank Enley. Corner stone laid by Paul Kruger 1892. *ZAR.*

Old State Mint (behind National Bank). First mint in the Southern Hemisphere. The wrought iron gate is a declared national monument. *ZAR.*

The sandstone building in front of the Mint, adjacent to the National Bank, was added in 1906.

Bank of Africa Building – Charming, northern corner piece for the West Facade. Could very well serve as a visitors' bureau. Also served as the town office of the famous Pretoria builder, J J Kirkness. *Transvaal Colony, 1906.* Architects T A & R Sladdin.

Palace of Justice – another of Sytze Wierda's master pieces. Beautiful end piece for the West side of Church Square. *ZAR 1896.*

What Church Square means

Pretoria's Church Square reflects the Republic of South Africa. Church Square

represents the precipitate of South Africa's development from its pioneering days, Voortrekkers, British pioneers and other immigrants built South Africa. Church Square still presents visual evidence of four great eras, the free and independent Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek, the British Transvaal Colony, the unification of the provinces into a free South Africa in 1910 and the establishment of the Republic of South Africa in 1961.

Church Square is a symbol of goodwill and co-operation in South Africa. Together Boer and Britisher, Hollander and Foreigner created the spirit and the tangible evidence of a national heritage still to be seen on and around the Square.

The legacy of the West Facade is the tangible proof of our ancestor's energy, co-operation and civilizing influence. This heritage is evidence of your and your children's children's claim to a peaceful existence in South Africa.

(Issued by the Citizens Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square, PO Box 558, Pretoria 0001, RSA)

Citizens' committee for the preservation and restoration of Church Square

Pretoria's Church Square is in danger. Church Square, the heart of the city and of South Africa, the scene of many a historic event, is threatened by the demolisher's bulldozers.

Church Square belongs to the people of South Africa. The citizens as the true co-owners of the Square, have had the opportunity of expressing their opinion on its future on Saturday 26 July 1975 from 10.00 a.m. on the Square itself. This was a civic duty and right.

We, the undersigned citizens of Pretoria, are perturbed at the previously announced plans regarding the future of Church Square. These plans will result in the disappearance of the historic buildings on the west side and the desecration of the Square's historic and aesthetic character.

A nation's history is not only recorded in books and monuments, but especially in the manner in which a people impose the stamp of their spirit upon an environment. Nowhere in South Africa is this stamp of our pioneer origins more clearly to be seen and experienced than on Church Square.

Church Square tells the story of people who, in putting down roots, also provided for creations of beauty and intrinsic value in their physical environment. Church Square is a national square. It is the centre of the capital of South Africa. The buildings on its perimeters, the Western Facade in particular, represent three outstanding phases in our history – the ZAR, the Transvaal Colony and the free and united provinces after 1910. Historically and aesthetically Church Square is important to everybody – Afrikaans and English speaker alike. Also the immigrants, the New South Africans, realise the value of preserving the national heritage. Church Square particularly symbolises mutual co-operation. Church Square should once again become a vibrant human environment. Government offices do not contribute to that ideal – but a restored Western Facade with café's, art gallery, museum, post office or hotel and tourist bureau would.

We may not allow the rich heritage represented on Church Square to be destroyed for short-sighted materialistic considerations.

We realise that the Prime Minister can save Church Square from the demolishers. We also realise that the citizens of Pretoria have procrastinated for too long in expressing their feelings on Church Square to the authorities.

Citizens Committee

Oorsig

Pretoria se Kerkplein is vanjaar 122 jaar oud. Behalwe vir die plein self, is die oudste nog bestaande onderdeel daarvan, die ou Law Chambers-gebou van 1893. Op Saterdag 26 Julie het 10 000 mense in die kort bestek van vier ure oor die plein beweeg om uiting te gee aan hulle gevoel vir die plein, 6 500 van hulle het 'n pleitskrif vir die bewaring en restourasie van die geboue aan die Wesfasade en die plein in sy geheel onderteken. Nog ruim 3 000 mense het per telegram, brief en boodskap hul ook vir bewaring uitgespreek. Hierby is nie ingereken 'n brief namens 6 300 ATKV (SAS en H) lede en die telegram namens 13 000 Transvaalse onderwysers wat van die hoofbestuur van die TO gekom het nie. Stemme vir bewaring het gekom van oud en jonk, vanuit Pretoria, Kaapstad, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Tulbagh, Worcester, Swellendam, Port Elizabeth, Windhoek, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Potchefstroom, Pietersburg, Volksrust, Groblersdal, Verwoerdburg, Johannesburg, Lichtenburg, Roodepoort en elders.



Hierdie mense het wisselende menings oor die historiese en argitektoniese waardes van die geboue aan die Wesfasade, maar hulle is eensgesind dat hulle dit wil behou. Hierin lê na ons mening, die "nuwe" rede wat dan nodig sou wees om die owerheid sy slopingsbesluit te laat heroorweeg. Die volk beskou daardie geboue as 'n stuk volkerfenis wat behoue moet bly ongeag wie meen dat dit histories en argitektonies van hoogstaande of van laagstaande gehalte is. Duisende Suid-Afrikaners wil hulle Kerkplein nie verder deur moderne karakterlose hoogbou geskend hê nie. Die vergadering op die plein was geen protesoptog of betoging nie. Die mikrofoon is aangebied aan wie ook al sy sê wou sê, ook diegene wat ten gunste van sloping is maar geneen van hulle het van

Lede en ondersteuners van die Burgerkomitee. Van links na regs: mnr Willem Punt, mnr Albrecht Holm, argitek, Dotman Pretorius, kunsfotograaf, mnr Adriaan Mocke, Swellendamse onderwyser en mnr Piet Muller, uitgewer.

die aanbod gebruik gemaak nie. Dit was 'n gemoedelike, ordelike vergadering wat onomwonde gepleit het vir bewaring. Die Burgerkomitee vir die Bewaring en Restourasie van Kerkplein meen eerlik dat daardie vergadering 'n onmiskenbare uitdrukking van volkswil is wat vryelik op demokratiese wyse in die openbaar tot uiting gekom het.

Kerkplein, Pretoria, Saterdag 26 Julie 1975 . . . ou Staatspresident Paul Kruger kyk hoe die skare aangroei.



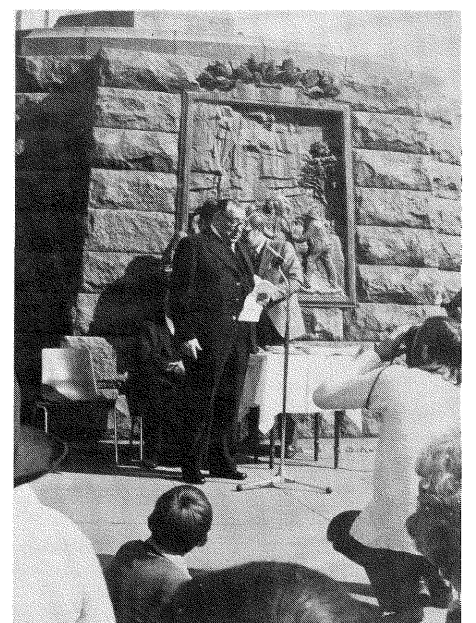
Deel van die 10 000 mense wat kom luister en kom saampraat het.



Sal oom ook skiet as hulle aan my erfenis vat?

(Foto's: Frans Fouche)

Sy Edele Hans Abraham, voormalige Kommissaris-Generaal van die Transkei aan die woord: "Bewaar ons erfenis!"



Die stryd om die behoud van die geboue aan die Plein se Wesfasade, duur noual bykans tien jaar. Tot hede toe weet niemand, buiten die betrokke amptenare, presies wat daar in die plek gaan kom van die bestaande geboue nie. Einde 1973 was daar egter wel 'n geleentheid geskep. Die Kerkpleinkomitee van die Departement Openbare Werke het die publiek uitgenooi om na 'n "model" te kom kyk en kommentaar te lewer. Wat die kommentaar was is nie bekend gemaak nie maar, met een uitsondering, is ons nie bewus van iemand wat ten gunste van die skema was nie. Die "model" was buitendien slegs 'n Montini-blokkiesvoorstelling, nie 'n akkurate argitekmodel nie. Mens kon nie aan die "model" aflei hoe die nuwe Wesfasade daar sou uitsien nie.

Die Eerste Minister het in 1969 'n rondskrywe aan alle staatsdepartemente gerig waarin hy gevra het dat die historiese waarde van geboue eers oorweeg moet word voordat slopings beplan word. Ons is nie bewus dat dit in die geval van Kerkplein gedoen is nie. Die staat se eie deskundige liggaam, die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, se advies is nie ingewin nie. Verlede jaar het die RNG se volle raad uit sy eie eenparig verklaar dat hy van mening is dat al die Wesfasade-geboue wel van groot historiese belang is en bewaar behoort te word. Dit was egter slegs 'n mening van die RNG, want hy het geen seggenskap oor Kerkplein nie en kan, vreemd genoeg, nie staatseiendom tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar nie.

Die liggame wat lank reeds die behoud en restaurasie van Kerkplein en die Wesfasade bepleit, met die Stigting Simon van der Stel aan die spits, se menings is oorbekend. Hulle kon nie daarin slaag om die owerhede van hulle ontwikkelingsplanne te laat afsien nie.

Uit dié omstandighede en die gevoel vir bewaring wat wyd en diep ook by 'n menigte ander mense loop, is die gedagte aan 'n Burgerkomitee vir die Bewaring en Restaurasie van Kerkplein gebore. Dertig persone, Afrikaners en Engelsprekendes en immigrante, ondersteuners van die regering en ondersteuners van die ander partye, sakemanne, argitekke, dokters, prokureurs, akademici, wisselend in ouderdom tussen 25 en 75 jaar, het byeengekom en eenparig besluit dat die behoefte bestaan by die publiek om uitdrukking te gee aan hulle wens en hoop en wil dat die Wesfasade behou word, gerestoureer word, funksioneel benut word en dat Kerkplein weer 'n leefbare, genietbare omgewing in die sentrum van Pretoria, die hart van Suid-Afrika, moet word.

Die Burgerkomitee is nie 'n groepie anti-regerings-agitators nie maar mense van kwaliteit en aansien wat op 'n ernstige wyse 'n pleidooi lewer oor 'n ernstige saak.

—W J P

De historiese bekoorlijkheid van Pretoria's stadskern gaat verdwynen

Van stonden af heerst beroering en teleurstelling omtrent het gevaar waarin de "historische" gebouwen aan de westkant van het Kerkplein verkeren. De materialistische geest van het moderne leven geeft er niet veel om de erfenis van verschillende generaties gewoonweg te vervangen door gebouwen die in een nieuwe stijl zijn gedacht.

Nergens dan te Pretoria kwam her besef van deze onverantwoorde schending zo scherp op tijd. Komitee's en kranten sprongen in de bres om het behoud van deze unieke Zuidafrikaanse stadskern af te dwingen. Vergeefs echter: De bulldozers staan paraat . . .

Onteigeningen hebben altijd en eender waar tot een felle strijd aanleiding gegeven wanneer het ging om het behoud van een doorgegeven kultuurhistorisch bezit. Ook te Pretoria waardeert men de architecturale waarde en betekenis van the Kerkplein als een onvervangbaar levend historische getuigenis.

In deze door afbraak bedreigde gebouwen weerkaatst het karakter van de maatschappij, de geest en gesteldheid der samenleving waarvoor ze ontstonden. Alhoewel zij behoren tot de periode waarin oude bouwstijlen werden herontdekt, dragen zij toch de stempel van hun tijd. De hele 19de eeuw werd beheerst door de eerbied voor de kunstgeschiedenis. De bouwers hebben geput uit een rijke kultuurhistorische bron en niet gezocht naar een nieuwe stijl. Dus niet als gevolg van wat men de machteloosheid der 19de-eeuwse architecten pleegt te noemen.

Stijlvormen evolueren. De schoonheid van de vorm is echter konventioneel. Wat men vandaag schoon noemt zal morgen misschien worden verworpen.

Op het gebied van de Europese en Zuidafrikaanse monumentale architectuur uit de 19de eeuw zijn heel wat parallellen te trekken. De verschillende toegepaste stijlelementen van het uiterlijk vormvertoon stoten mekaar niet af. Zelfs zijn ze gemakkelijk verzoenbaar.

In dit verband is het een ware behoefte, de aandacht te trekken op de onverklaarbare verwijdering van wat er van de oude stede nog overblijft. Nieuwe pogingen kunnen wel tijdelijke wijzigingen of modekunst ten gevolge hebben, maar brengen geen wezenlijke vooruitgang van kunst.

Tal van prominente persoonlijkheden hebben het betreurenswaardig regerings-

besluit met open vizier aangeklaagd: "Nêrens in Suid-Afrika is die spore van ons pioniersverlede so diep ingekerf as juis op Kerkplein nie". ("Transvaler", 11-7-1975).

De miskenning van deze tijdsdokumenten die met de levensgemeenschap van het volk verworteld zijn, omsluit de gevoelens van diepe ontgoocheling door drongen van iets dat men heimwee naar een historisch verleden dat wordt weggeewist zou kunnen noemen.

Belangstellenden in oude kultuurmonumenten: Piet Muller, Willem Punt, H Rex, M Smit e.a. hebben niet geaarzeld uitdrukking te geven aan hun geërgerdheid. Het valt niet te ontkennen, dat een typische architectuur uit het stadsbeeld - "the heart of Pretoria, the heart of the Republic" - gedoemd is te verdwynen. Daar staan de bulldozers paraat.

—C V TREFOIS
Melle, België

—Vrienden van Zuid-Afrika, Juli-Aug 1975

Argitekthe pleit om behoud van Plein

Die veldtog om die Kerkplein se voorkoms soos dit nou is te behou, groei steeds. Die jongste organisasie wat nou die strydbyl opgeneem het, is die Transvaalse Argitekthe-instituut wat 'n brief aan die Eerste Minister en Minister van Gemeenskapsbou in dié verband geskryf het.

Etlke kultuurliggame en ander instansies het tien jaar lank geveg om die behoud van die geskiedkundige geboue in die middel van die stad. Verlede jaar het die Eerste Minister egter bekend gemaak dat die geboue gesloop gaan word en dat provinsiale geboue daar opgerig gaan word.

Ses van die ou geboue om die Plein se doodvonnis is toe gevel. Dit sluit die huidige Hoofposkantoor en die ou Nederlandse Bank se geboue in. Dit is beplan dat die slopingswerk aan die begin van 1978 gedoen sal word.

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel was tot dusver die hooforganisasie wat vir die behoud van die Kerkplein gesorg het. Met die argitekthe se organisasie wat nou ook aan die kant van die Stigting staan, is die getal name wat veg aansienlik groter.

Die argitekthe het op hul instituut se jaarvergadering 'n besluit aanvaar dat hulle nie die Regering in die voorneme om die ou geboue te laat sloop, kan steun nie. Die 1 109 argitekthe in Transvaal, wat aan die instituut behoort, het ook besluit dat die Eerste Minister en Minister van Ge-

meenskapsbou in kennis gestel moet word.

Die argitek het reeds antwoord van die kantore van die betrokke ministers gekry, waarin gesê word dat die saak aandag geniet.

Die Transvaalse Argitek-instituut het ook besluit om die nasionale liggaam se samewerking in dié verband te vra en so doende 'n groter organisasie te kry om vir die behoud van die land se argitektoniese erflatings te veg en te stry.

Die geboue om die Kerkplein wat nou gedoem is om plek te maak vir moderne kantoorblokke, is verteenwoordigend van drie belangrike tydperke in die land se geskiedenis. Die meeste van die geboue is vóór die einde van die vorige eeu gebou. Ander is nêr ná die Vryheidsoorlog opgerig en die Poskantoor is kort ná die Uniewording gebou.

Elkeen van die geboue het 'n eie styl van die tydperk en volgens 'n argitek in Pretoria is dit omtrent 'n onvervangbare stukkie geskiedenis wat gesloop gaan word.

'n Ander gebou wat nou leeg staan en op sy slooping wag is die ou Capitolteater. Al die binneversiering van die gebou, wat nog amptelik deur die destydse Eerste Minister, genl. J B M Hertzog, geopen is, is al op 'n veiling verkoop.

Die ander geboue dien almal nog 'n goeie doel en huisves 'n kunsgalery, kantore en ander sake-ondernemings.

—Hoofstad, 11 Maart 1975

Vroue stryd om Kerkplein geloof

Die onderhoud tussen die Eerste Minister, mnr Vorster, en die afvaardiging van die Federale Vroueraad (Volksbelang) oor die toekoms van sommige historiese geboue om Kerkplein, sal moontlik in die Uniegebou plaasvind.

Die afvaardiging sal gelei word deur mev Betsie Verwoerd wat 'n baie groot kampvegter is vir die bewaring en behoud van historiese geboue en in die besonder teen die karakterskending van Kerkplein gekant is.

Die afvaardiging is die verteenwoordigendste tot dusver van vroue-organisasies om in die bres vir die bewaring van historiese erfenisse te tree.

Verskeie ander vroue-organisasies wat nie by die Federale Vroueraad (Volksbelang) ingeskakel is nie, het reeds hul steun toegesê. Die afvaardiging vergader moontlik aanstaande maand in Pretoria om die riglyne neer te lê waarlangs die Eerste Minister genader sal word.

Die adviseur vir die Stigting Simon van der Stel, dr Willem Punt, het gesê dat

hierdie onafhanklike poging deur die vroue van Suid-Afrika verwelkom word. „Dit is prysenswaardig dat die vroue-organisasie van die Republiek ook toetree tot die stryd om behoud van ons Suid-Afrikaanse erfenis. Dit was die vroue-organisasies van dié land wat in die verlede ook die pas moes aangee en in die opsig dink ek veral aan die beskerming en bewaring van Boeregrafte. „Dit was ook die vroue en moeders van Suid-Afrika wat die neergeslane volks-genote na die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog op die been help bring het.

„Maar wat hierdie poging so groot maak, is die feit dat sowel die Afrikaans- as Engelssprekende deel van die bevolking in hierdie afvaardiging na die Eerste Minister verteenwoordig sal word,” het dr Punt gesê.

Dit is ooglopend dat hierdie poging deur die vroue baie goed beplan is. Dit is nie net tot albei die twee amptelike taalgroepe beperk nie, maar die verwagting is dat andertaliges in Suid-Afrika ook 'n beroep op die Eerste Minister gaan doen om die besluit – om die geboue te sloop – te herroep.

Dr Punt het dit duidelik gestel dat hoewel die Stigting niks met die poging te make het nie, hierdie as 'n ewige vingerwysing moet kom en dat die nadraai van 'n besluit tot in die uithoeke van ons toekomstige geslagte weerklank sal vind.

Die Afrikaanse lewenswyse, wat ook die beskawing insluit, is aan die vrou net so bekend as aan die man en daarin staan sy as vrou en moeder net so vier.

Dr Punt sê die teenwoordigheid van die talle vroue-organisasies en hul bedrywig-hede het nog altyd die werklike belangstelling in die kulturele erfenis tevore laat kom.

„Dit was derhalwe te-wagte dat die Suid-Afrikaanse vrou en moeder in die een of ander stadium tot die stryd sou toetree,” het hy gesê.

Die afvaardiging sal eers in Pretoria vergader waartydens 'n datum en tyd bepaal sal word om die Eerste Minister te spreek voordat hy gevra sal word om hulle te woord te staan.

'n Woordvoerder van die Federale Vroueraad (Volksbelang) het gesê dat hierdie aangeleentheid nie net tot Pretoria beperk is nie. Dis vir die hele land van belang en derhalwe 'n poging van nasionale belang.

—Hoofstad, 21 April 1975

(By ons le perse gaan het die onderhoud nog nie plaasgevind nie—Red).

Square could yet be saved

The Simon van der Stel Foundation feels that there is good reason now to be more optimistic about the preservation of Church Square's historic character.

Mr Willem Punt, director of the foundation, said today that the decision by the Federal Women's Council to discuss the square's future with the Prime Minister was indicative of the strong feeling which was building up throughout the country against the demolition of the square's historic western facade.

It was believed that the number of people represented by committees and organisations which have deplored the plans to destroy the buildings had now reached the 150 000 mark, he said.

—Pretoria News, April 22, 1975

The Mayor takes the field

The Mayor of Pretoria, Mr Coetsee, today came out strongly in support of the mounting campaign to save Church Square's historic west facade from demolition, to keep the Government's bulldozers at bay and preserve this unique architectural entity, a precious heritage from the past, for the Pretorians of today and for future generations.

Nor is the Mayor alone. A *Pretoria News* canvass of opinion among city councillors has revealed that a number of councillors share his views. There are, admittedly, some who favour demolition and others who have made no comment, but there is clearly sufficient support for the preservation campaign among councillors to warrant a major debate on the issue at the council's meeting next week.

By then the *Pretoria News* will have published the result of its public opinion poll on the question – a poll which has enjoyed an unprecedented response from readers – and the citizens' mass meeting on Church Square to plead for its preservation will have taken place. The council will be presented with a magnificent opportunity to take the lead in a fight for the city's rights.

It should not be deterred from taking its proper place in the vanguard of the preservationists either by the argument that it is not a municipal matter or by the contention that the facade is not worth preserving. True, the Government owns the buildings and does not need municipal approval for its plans, but the council, the elected body representative of the people, has every right to make its voice heard in condemnation of the proposed destruction. And the Administrator's refusal to admit the worth of the facade cuts no ice at all – the highest authority, the National Monuments Commission, is against him on that score.

The Mayor has pointed the way. The whole city should rally to stand by him.

—Pretoria News, July 21, 1975



SIR, THERE'S SOMEBODY TO SEE YOU. HE SAYS IT'S ABOUT THE DEMOLISHING JOB ON CHURCH SQUARE.

Walter Pichler, *Pretoria News*, 25/7/75

Rescue Square -expert

Mr Philip Terblanche, well-known Cape artist and restorer of historical buildings, today called for a re-appraisal on the Church Square issue.

He said it was incredible that Pretorians should even consider demolishing the historic buildings forming part of the western facade of Church Square.

"It is one of the finest public squares in the Southern Hemisphere, and should be retained in its present form – at whatever cost.

"I am sure the people of Cape Town would never have allowed a scheme such as the one now threatening the very existence of Church Square. They would have been up in arms and would not have given in to the Government or anyone on an issue like this."

Mr Terblanche, who lives in a famous old Dutch homestead on the farm Rheebokskraal, near McGregor, is in Pretoria for an exhibition of his paintings. He was out today gathering "last-minute" material on Church Square to take back to the Cape.

He has restored several old Cape buildings and has been responsible for at least three McGregor buildings being declared national monuments.

One of the historic buildings he has restored is the "Ou Paddagang" – an old pub at Tulbagh. It is a house dating from Dutch times, and was recently bought by the KVV company.

Mr Terblanche said there was a refreshing new outlook on restoration work in the Cape Peninsula and the Boland.

—*Pretoria News*, June 24, 1975

Monumente: 'n wet is nodig

'n Paar stoomrollers verskyn op die Kerkplein in Pretoria. Staalkabels word om 'n toring vasgemaak en daar word woes getrek. Maar die toring is te sterk en die kabels breek. Opnuut word geprobeer. Aanhouer wen mos. Nog 'n paar plukke, dan breek 'n stuk van die toring af en val in 'n orrel. Teverede gaan die slopers huis toe. Die skending van die Kerkplein het begin.

Dié toneeltjie het hom op 'n dag in Desember 1904 afgespeel. Die gebou was 'n NG-kerkgebou wat naderhand staats-eiendom was.

Die stoflike oorskot van pres Paul Kruger (op 26 Junie in Switserland oorlede) sou 'n paar dae in die kerk in staat-sie lê en die begrafnisdiens sou daar plaasvind. Maar die Britse kroonkoloniebestuur het skielik "vasgestel" die kerkgebou is so bouvallig dat hy nie eens die orrelspel kon oorlewe nie. Daarom moes hy gesloop word.

Die Transvalers, wat met hul eie oë kon sien hoe stewig die gebou was, het die verbrekery vertolk as 'n poging om die begrafnisreëlings te belemmer.

Só, met heelwat kleinlikheid van die kroonkoloniebestuur, was die begin van die einde van dié unieke stuk wêreld uit die dae van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek.

Die Kerkplein het daarna nog baie geskiedenis beleef, soos die proklamasie van die Unie op 31 Mei 1910 en die inhuldiging van die eerste Staatspresident van die nuwe Republiek van Suid-Afrika op 31 Mei 1961.

Maar nou nader die einde van die einde. Die wesfasade, vir party mense glo so 'n doring in die oog, gaan gesloop word. En dan is nog 'n kultuurerfenis daarmee heen. Net so onherroepelik as die baie pragtige en historiese waardevolle geboue wat al afgebreek is: die ou Staatsgimnasium in Pretoria – waar die ZAR eerste universiteit sou begin: 'n klip-skool uit die Vrystaatse Republiek wat onlangs op Reitz afgebreek is met groot gesukkel (want hy was nog so stewig!) om plek te maak vir terrasse; die pastorie aan die bo-ent van Dorpsstraat, Stellenbosch . . .

Vir 'n volledige lys van wat lewende monumente van die verlede kon gewees het sou hierdie rubriek te kort wees.

Net so 'n lang lys sou nodig wees vir plekke wat in gevaar verkeer: die Rissikstraatse poskantoor in Johannesburg en talle geboue op die kleiner dorpe.

Wat al hoe noodsaakliker word, is 'n beoorloofde monumentesorgwet.

Ons huidige bewaringswetgewing is gewoonweg net te vol leemtes vir doeltreffende bewaring: die staat laat bv nie toe dat sy geboue deur die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede tot monument verklaar word nie; daar is geen verpligting vir eienaars van gedenkwaardighede om dié te restoureer of in stand te hou (desnoods met 'n staatsubsidie) nie; 'n stadsraad wat bv die historiese kern van sy dorp wil bewaar, staan magteloos as sê maar 'n paar amptenare van die provinsiale administrasie sou besluit daar is 'n paaiedepot nodig, en 'n historiese gebou moet dus wyk.

Ek weet 'n mens moet nie alles met wette wil regmaak nie, maar in dié geval is 'n wet nodig. Hoewel die publiek gelukkig al hoe meer bewaringsbewus raak, het dié bewustheid nog nie voldoende deurgewerk na hoër instansies nie.

Verder het bewaringsbewustes natuurlik 'n opvoedingstaak.

Met watter argumente?

Jy kan natuurlik altyd na die skoonheid van 'n gebou verwys, maar wat sê jy as iemand spot: „Ag, skoonheid, skoonheid – die enigste ou Skoonheid wat ek van weet, is die mislukte onderwyser in Hennie Aucamp se een verhaal.” Jy kan iemand nie oorhaal hy behóórt 'n gebou of gedig of wat ook al mooi te vind nie. Tog skoonheid is 'n oorwëging.

Dan is daar natuurlik die geld, veral aangesien so baie breekwerk in die naam van vooruitgang gedoen word. In die laaste

tien jaar is gebou ter waarde van R2 500 miljoen gesloop, volgens 'n berekening van die Stigting Simon van der Stel. Stadsrade verloor ook geld aan belastings en dorpe verloor die inkomste wat hulle uit toerisme kon kry.

Minder materialisties is die oorweging dat die afbreek van bouwerk van bv. 'n ouer geslag Afrikaners 'n vernietiging is van 'n deel van die ding waaroor mense so graag praat, nl. Afrikaneridentiteit.

'n Volk se identiteit is niks mistieks nie. Dit kry gestalte in konkrete dinge soos taal, gewoontes en boustyl.

Kerkstraat in Tulbagh, so mooi gestouereer ná die aardbewing, is vandag 'n monument vir o.a. die beskermhede van die restaurasiewerk, nl. die Eerste Minister en die vier administrateurs.

'n Mens hoop dat 'n gerestoureerde wesfasade eendag aan die Kerkplein as monument kan staan vir 'n owerheid wat grootmoedig genoeg was om sy besluite te heroorweeg. Die publiek sal dankbaar wees as die verbrekingswerk wat deur die Britse kroonkoloniebestuur begin is, nie onder 'n Republikeinse regering voltooi word nie.

—*Rapport*, 20 Julie 1975

Kerkplein

Selde tevore nog was daar onder Pretorianers só 'n gevoel van eensgesindheid en samehorigheid oor één saak – naamlik die behoud van Kerkplein in sy geheel.

Onlangs is die laaste pogings aangewend om dié historiese erfenis te red. Duisende mense was op Kerkplein om hul stemme van protes aan te teken in 'n boek wat deur 'n afvaardiging na die Eerste Minister, mnr. Vorster, geneem sal word.

Mnr. Vorster is die man by wie dié finale beslissing lê. Dis hy wat sal moet besluit of 'n stuk geskiedenis uitgewis moet word, al dan nie.

Van die land se voorste kultuurleiers het reeds die slopingsbesluit as 'n „misdaad teenoor die nageslag” bestempel en 'n groot deel van die bevolking staan bankvas agter dié leiers. Na hulle sal daar ook geluister moet word.

Hoofstad wil vandag 'n beroep doen op die Regering dat daar versigtiger te werk gegaan moet word wanneer dit kom by die vernietiging van kulturele erfenis.

Die stemme van protes wat tans gehoor word, is tot 'n groot mate 'n verblydende teken want dit getuig van 'n volk wat nog 'n gevoel het vir sy geskiedenis.

Die amptelike datum van sloping is eers vroeg in 1978 en daar is dus nog tyd en hoop vir die vegters vir behoud. Ons wil ook graag ons lesers die geleentheid gee om deur middel van *Hoofstad* hul stem in briefvorm uit te bring – of u die slopingsbesluit steun en of u gekant is teen die sloping.

—*Hoofstad*, 22 Julie 1975

Kerkplein

Baie praktiese redes kan aangevoer word waarom die Wesfede van Kerkplein in Pretoria gesloop moet word. Maar hier, glo ons, is 'n geval waar die praktiese oorweginge liefs op die agtergrond geskuif moet word.

Die Wesfasade is mooi. Dit is een van die té min stukkes van die Transvaalse geskiedenis, van die Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis, wat nog in die midde van 'n groot stad lewe. Dit is 'n stuk van onself wat daar staan, en wat deur die moderne behoeftes bedreig word.

Is dit inderdaad noodsaaklik dat hierdie reekse historiese geboue nou platgeslaan moet word om plek te skep vir modernistiese stapels? Aan ruimte het ons tog waarlik geen gebrek in Suid-Afrika nie, veral nie in Pretoria nie.

Ons wil 'n dringende beroep doen op die owerhede om die besluit wat reeds geneem is, weer rustig te weeg – en te verander.

Vir die groot nuwe geboue kan elders plek gevind word om die Wesfasade te laat voortleef, sodat Pretoria in sy hart nog 'n herkenbare kern behou van sy eie individualiteit.

—*Die Beeld*, Julie 1975

Stem reg

Saterdag 26 Julie kan beskou word as een van die belangrikste dae in die geskiedenis van Pretoria, want dit het gegaan om die behoud van die geboorteplek van 'n stad.

Die stem van die burger kan moontlik beslis of daar voortgegaan mag word met die uitwissing van 'n roemryke stuk geskiedenis.

Pretoria is op Kerkplein gebore en vasgevang in sy omringende geboue is die gees van vryheid, stryd en landelikeheid: 'n erfporse wat elke Pretorianer se geboortereg is. Durf dit verruil word vir die steriliteit van aluminiumargitektuur?

Ons is voorstanders van vooruitgang en ontwikkeling, tereg ook, maar nie terwille van ons geskiedenis nie. Laat Kerkplein weer tot sy reg kom. Bring die lewe terug na 'n dooie kol en laat die erwe van ons vaders, erwe vir ons kinders bly . . .

Sedert 1908 word daar al baklei vir die behoud van Kerkplein. Baie is reeds verander, maar nog nooit is daar so 'n finale “nee” gegee vir Kerkplein se voortbestaan nie.

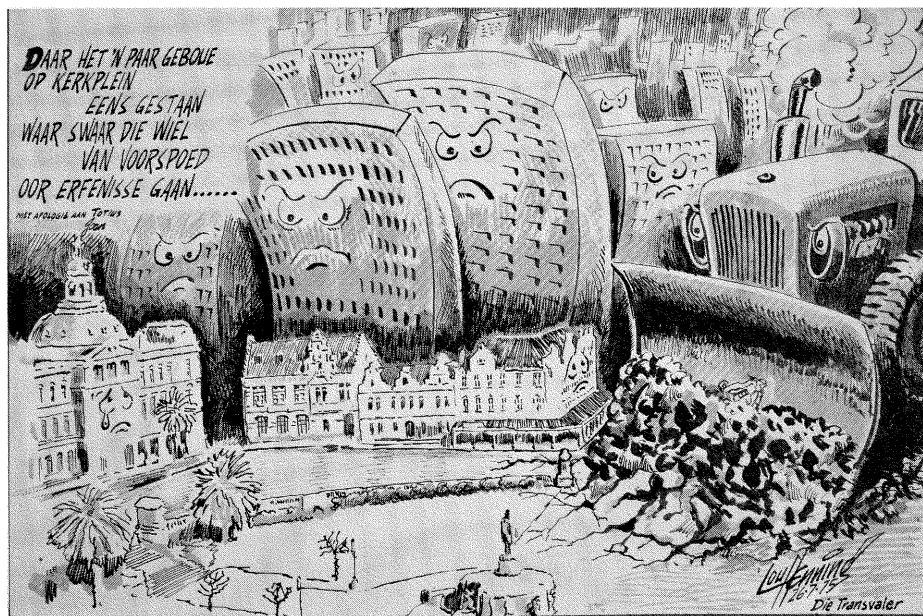
Die redes vir dié besluit is nie gemotiveerd genoeg vir Pretorianers om dit te aanvaar nie. Daarvan getuig die sterk stemme van protes wat tans gehoor word.

Daar is wel aangevoer dat die geboue, argitektonies nie verantwoord is nie, maar in hierdie saak gaan dit om die historiese waarde van die betrokke geboue.

Jewers, met die hantering van dié saak het iets verkeerd verloop en ons doen 'n beroep op die instansies wat betrokke is by die slopingsbesluit, om verantwoordelike en ootmoedigheid aan die dag te lê en om gemotiveerde redes aan te voer.

—*Hoofstad*, 25 Julie 1975

—Lou Henning, *Die Transvaler*, 26/7/75



Heroorweeg die nee

Die belangstelling vir die bewaring van die wesfasade van Kerkplein neem daaglik toe. Wat begin het as 'n klein burgerlike aksie is besig om in 'n sterk demokratiese opwelling te verander. Publisiteit in die pers het mense laat besef wat hulle gevaar loop om te verloor en die gevolg is toenemende belangstelling.

Dat twee sulke uitnemende mense soos mev. Betsie Verwoerd en MER ook hulle stemme tot die van die bewaarders gevoeg het, het besondere gewig aan die aksie verleen.

Op Saterdag 26 Julie het duisende mense in Pretoria getoon hoedat hulle oor die wesfassade voel.

Ons het reeds vroeër in die week 'n beroep op die Administrateur gedoen om sy besliste nee te heroorweeg.

Ons wil die beroep herhaal. Dit sou 'n grootmoedige daad wees en hom wye steun besorg.

Hoe lyk dit, mnr Van Niekerk?

—Oggendblad, 24 Julie 1975

„Paul, ek is hier om jou te help.”

—F Esterhuyse, Oggendblad, 25/7/75



Die laaste stryd

Op Kerkplein is daar vandag veel meer op die spel as die blote behoud of sloping van 'n klompie vorige eeuse geboue wat ondiensbaar geword het vanwee die eise wat 'n moderne en snel ontwikkelende samelewing aan doelmatigheid stel.

Die gevoel bestaan – en tereg ook – dat hierdie geboue van die weinig tasbare verbintenis met 'n roemryke volksverlede is, wat die twintigste eeuse gejaag na vooruitgang oorleef het.

Daarom beleef ons vandag op Kerkplein 'n demonstrasie van 'n volksentiment wat nie bereid is om sy verlede te verloën nie.

Dit is ongelukkig dat daar in die lang en uitgerekte stryd oor die toekoms van Kerkplein nuanses van verwyte en van 'n ondoeltreffende hantering van 'n delikate saak ontstaan het.

Wat dit betref, wil ons saamstem met die argument dat geen oortuigende rede tot dusver aangehoor is waarom daar gesloop moet word om plek te maak vir die beplande toringgeboue nie.

Dit is ongelukkig ook so dat daar onder tone van 'n hooghartige en ongenaakbare hantering was waar hierdie redes wel ter sprake gekom het.

In hierdie omstandighede glo ons dit is reg dat mense van hul demokratiese reg gebruik maak om by wyse van petisie die volksentiment aan die Regering te demonstreer.

Ons glo ook daar is goeie rede om te luister na die stemme van verantwoordelike kultuurleiers wat opgegaan het in hierdie laaste poging ter behoud van Kerkplein.

—Hoofstad, 26 Julie 1975

Erfgoed

Vroeër vanjaar het 'n aantal waardevolle skilderye van Adolph Jentsch in Suidwes verbrand. Duisende rande se skade, is toe tereg gesê. Maar hul waarde was groter as wat in geld bereken kon word. Kunswerke van dié aard – skilderye, beeldhouwerk en geboue – is uniek. As hulle tot niet raak, verdwyn iets van die aardbodem af wat nooit vervang kan word nie, ook al treur latere geslagte daaroor.

Die geboue van die wesfasade van die Kerkplein in Pretoria is so iets wat enig in hul soort is. Hulle is nie net mooi nie, maar, verteenwoordig 'n stukkie Europese erfenis wat skaars in Afrika is.

Baie mense bekommer hulle oor die toekoms van soortgelyke erfgoed in ander Afrika lande, soos die grafte van die Trigardtrekkers in Lourenco Marques. Moet sulke dinge maar in ons eie land velore gaan?

'n Groot deel van die publiek het die af-

gelope tyd, veral die laaste week, laat blyk dat hy die wesfasade behoue wil laat bly.

Die mense wat dit vra, soek nie konfrontasie met die owerheid nie.

Hulle vra net dat 'n vorige besluit heroorweeg word. Om dit te doen, sal geen teken van swakheid wees nie, maar 'n aanduiding van 'n ope gemoed en eerbied vir die wense van die bevolking.

—Rapport, 27 Julie 1975

Dink weer

Dit was 'n magtige stem van openbare protes wat Pretoria onlangs beleef het teen die beplande sloping van die westelike fasade van Kerkplein.

Ons glo dat daar nie net in terme van die aantal petisionarisse nie, maar ook in terme van stemme uitgebring deur verteenwoordigende kultuurorganisasies en verantwoordelike persoonlikhede, 'n goeie saak uitgemaak is waarom die behoud van Kerkplein heroorweging op die owerheidsvlak verdien.

Ons glo ook dat daar goeie rede is waarom hierdie gevoel van eensgesindheid oor 'n volksentiment nie geïgnoreer kan word nie. Hoogwaardige onversetlikheid was immers nog nooit kenmerk van ons owerheidsbenadering nie.

Terwyl die protesbyeenkoms in 'n gees van verantwoordelike besef gereël en ook grootliks in daardie gees plaasgevind het, is dit tog jammer dat daar die onmiskenbare ondertone van 'n politiekery by die situasie ingesluip het.

Dit is seker onvermydelik dat daar mense en instansies sal wees wat politieke munt uit die Kerkplein-geskil sal wil slaan. Wat ons betref, kan hierdie benadering die saak ter behoud van die plein niks goeds doen nie.

Hierdie openbare protes moet nie gesien word as 'n swaard wat nou bo die kop van ons Regering gehou word nie. Dit is geen afdreiging nie. Veel eerder moet dit beskou word as die geleentheid waarop die volk gewag het om op geordende wyse sy sentiment te betoon.

—Hoofstad, 28 Julie 1975

Eerbare uitweg

Die merkwaardige byeenkoms Saterdag, 26 Julie 1975 op Kerkplein laat min twyfel dat die owerheid die erbare weg sou volg indien hy sy besluit heroorweeg om die historiese wesfasade van die plein te sloop.

Kerkplein is nie sommer net nog 'n plein nie; daarvoor is dit té nou verweef met die Afrikaner se vryheidstryd en met Republiekwording.

Die bewaarders het reeds sinvolle planne aan die hand gedoen wat die bewaring van die sewe westelike geboue regverdig.

Daarteenoor is nog net vae planne geopper wat in elk geval die karakter van die plein onherkenbaar en onherroepelik sou verander.

Nou het 'n bykomende sterk faktor bygekome: die monsterring van die volkswil, soos dié Saterdag se oloop getuig.

Die herroeping van die besluit sou nie verneder nie, soos mev. Johanna Raath beklemtoon het, maar die owerheid se aansien verhoog.

—Die Beeld, 28 Julie 1975

Kerkplein: dink weer 'n slag

Die volkstem het onlangs in Pretoria opgeklink dat die wesfasade van die Kerkplein behoue moet bly. Mense soos mev Betsie Verwoerd, mnr Ben van der Walt, Administrateur van Suidwes, mnr Wennie du Plessis en baie ander voor- aanstaande Suid-Afrikaners het hul stemme gevoeg by duisende ander Suid-Afrikaners wat 'n paar historiese geboue nie gesloop wil sien nie.

In die lig van die omvang en intensiteit van die protes lyk dit na die aangewese weg dat mnr Sybrand van Niekerk die saak in heroorweging moet neem.

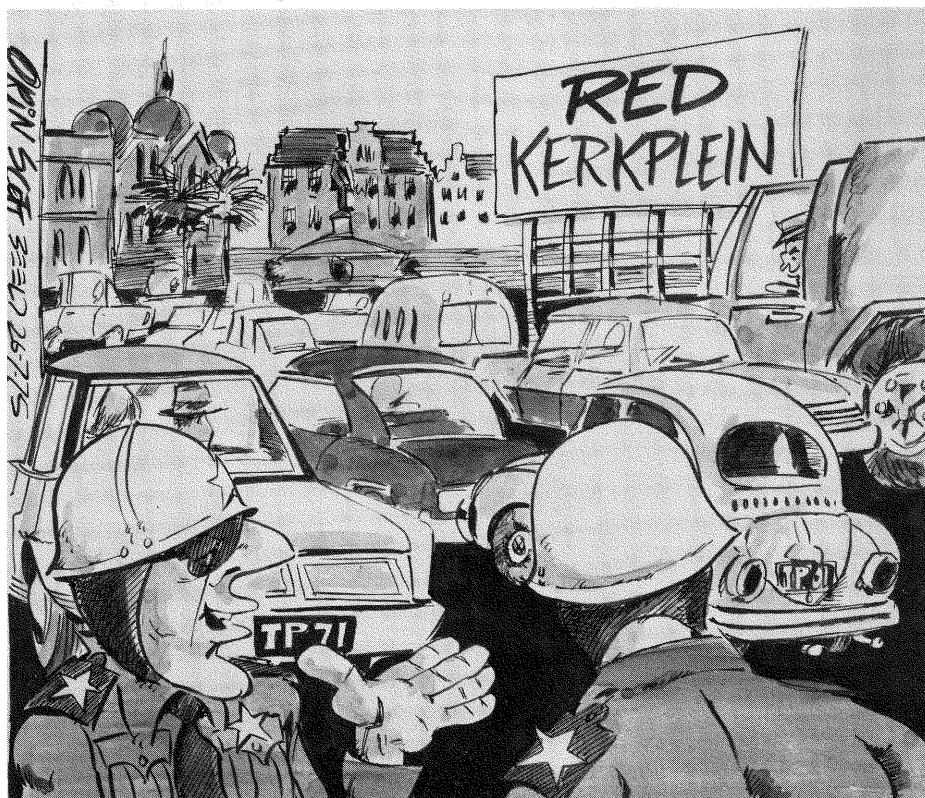
Die pleidooi-stroom van oor die hele land is eenvoudig te sterk vir enige ander besluit.

—Die Transvaler, 28 Julie 1975

Over to the PM

The mass meeting on 26th July, 1975 on Church Square should have finally resolved any doubts the Government might have had about the strength of public opposition to its plans to demolish the Square's west facade. Both in numbers and in its truly representative nature it was a rare and remarkable demonstration of civic solidarity on an issue that has deeply stirred the people. The mass meeting's plea for the preservation of the west facade is now to be presented to the Government. It is difficult to believe that the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, with his sense of history, his respect for tradition and his sensitivity to public opinion, will ignore it, or will even wish to do so. Only good can come from an announcement that the Government will now join the people in reviewing the whole situation.

—Pretoria News, July 28, 1975



„Dit lyk vir my alle paaië lei vandag na Kerkplein.”

—Orin Scott, Beeld, 26/7/75

Die volkstem

Die sterkste argument vir die behoud van Kerkplein se westelike fasade is die getal mense wat onlangs daar saamgetrek het.

Pretorianers is mense wat nie maklik opgewonde raak oor wat in hulle stad gebeur nie. Die feit dat hulle só positief op die veldtog om Kerkplein te red gereageer het, moet vir die owerheid 'n aanduiding wees dat hy hier met 'n saak te doen het waarvoor mense sterk voel.

Dit is so dat die steun doelbewus georganiseer is en dat die pers besonder baie aandag daaraan gegee het.

Die ervaring het egter geleer dat as daar geen werklike belangstelling is nie, dit nie kunsmatig aangewakker kan word nie.

—Oggendblad, 28 Julie 1975

Daar skort niks met Kerkplein

„Daar skort niks met Kerkplein nie. Die fout lê by die mense en nie by die

geboue nie. Ons moet ophou om die fout dáár te soek – die fout lê by ons.”

Die man wat só praat is mnr. Clerque Scholtz, hoof van die Pretoriase publisi-teitsafdeling wat jare gelede duisende mense na Kerkplein gelok het toe dit ook skielik „dood geraak” het.

„In 1962 het ons lewe na Kerkplein probeer terugbring. Ons het 'n groot kar- naval gereël. Die gebied binne Andries- straat, Pretoriusstraat, Vermeulenstraat en Bosmanstraat was vir alle verkeer gesluit. Biertuine, sitheokies, opelugrestou- rante en so meer is geopen en binne 'n dag of twee het sowat 200 000 mense die nuwe aksiepunt in Pretoria besoek.”

„Pretorianers hoef nie nuwe geboue vir atmosfeer te kry nie. Dis reeds daar en die ou geboue kan as dit nou reg benut word, omgeskep word in geboue wat waardevol kan wees.

„Kerkplein kan lewendig gemaak word en dit sal miskien raadsaam wees om die instansies wat dit wil doen, die geleent- heid te gee om hulle planne vir oorwe- ging aan die betrokke owerhede voor te lê. Dis tog die eiendom van die belasting- betalers en die volkswil tel tog seker die meeste,” sê hy.

—Hoofstad, 29 Julie 1975

Fasade oor erfenis

Wat om die standbeeld van Oom Paul begin het as 'n burgeraksie kry 'n nare politieke nasleep.

Dit was Saterdag, 26 Julie 1975 al duidelik dat die aantal prominente Hertzogiete wat op die Plein rondwaal buitengewoon hoog is.

En laat ons dit maar ronduit sê: Hulle deelname aan bykans enigiets het gewoonlik die gevolg dat die saak misluk. Die rede is eenvoudig dat hulle steeds as hoofmotief aanvalle op die NP het en nooit die saak waarom dit gaan nie.

So wil hulle die burgeraksie om Kerkplein – wat hierdie koerant gesteun het en steeds steun – gebruik om die Regering in die verleentheid te stel en nie om te help veg om die wesfasade nie.

Juis omdat die saak nou hierdeur 'n politieke kleur begin kry het, plaas dit die Premier in 'n baie moeilike situasie.

Die eerste besluit om die geboue af te breek was in elk geval nie syne nie. Hy het bloot dié situasie geërf.

Die politiekery rondom hierdie saak kry nou so 'n geurtjie dat die saak vir die behoud van die wesfasade dalk onherroeplik skade aangedoen is. Dit is net die HNP wat die skuld daarvoor moet kry – en op hulle brood sal ons ook dit smeer.

—Oggendblad, 31 Julie 1975

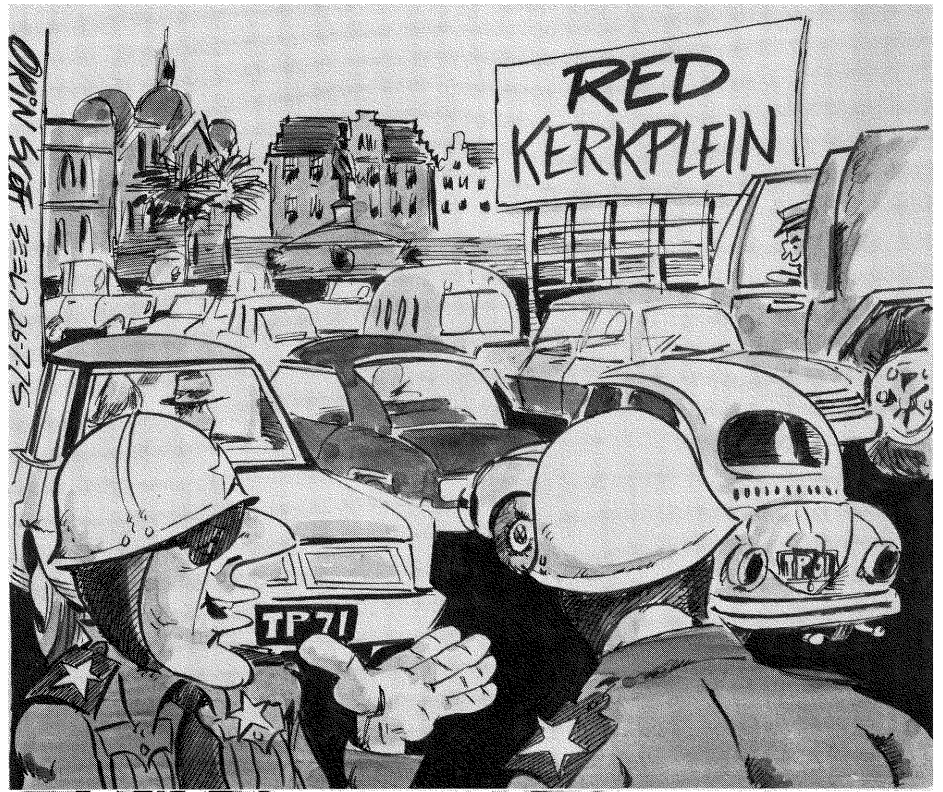
Square-back to square one

The Citizens' Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Church Square is, quite rightly, doing its best to keep party politics out of the fight to save the Square's historic west facade.

Quite obviously, the last thing it wants to do is give the Government a chance to say that unfair political pressures are being brought to bear in a matter that has nothing to do with party politics at all and which, in fact, cuts clean across party political barriers with demolitionists and preservationists being found in all camps.

But keeping a party politician out of any issue is easier said than done in South Africa and it was entirely predictable that the HNP, political conservationists to the core, would not neglect such an opportunity to improve their image as champions of public rights against Government high-handedness.

As luck would have it, there is a municipal by-election on the go in a ward embracing parts of Wonderboom and Gezina (where the HNP is by no means negligible) and Dr Pont, an HNP stalwart, is a candidate.



“Menere, die seder van Waterkloof het darem makliker geval as Kerkplein se ou geboue, nê!”

—Orin Scott, *Beeld*, 24/7/75

The Citizens' Committee says that his advocacy of preservation in a fight with a demolitionist opponent is no more than political opportunism. But all is fair in love, war – and politics. Or is it? Either way, Dr Pont is in the thick of the fray and who is to contradict him if he says he is a genuine preservationist?

The issue if, of course, completely and genuinely above party politics as the astonishing diversity of prominent people at last Saturday's mass meeting showed, with men and women of all persuasions united in a common cause. The Government should recognise that what it has to deal with is that rarest and most powerful of democratic forces – a genuine upsurge of deeply moved public opinion.

That is something that doesn't seem to have dawned on the Administrator, Mr Van Niekerk, whose sour reactions and the scorn he is showing for historical, architectural and environmental values and public opinion alike keep on getting him into hot water. He is right there in the heart of the battle, behaving, as some people see it, rather like the cross-grained wildebees that took a dislike to him a week or so ago.

He is, of course, not the major villain of the piece, though it's entirely his own fault that he is being regarded as such.

In fairness to him, and to get the record straight, the responsibility for the demolition of the west facade, if it does take place, will rest fairly and squarely on the Government as a whole, for it was a Government decision that the Prime Minister himself announced to cultural and historical societies a little more than a year ago.

—Pretoria News, August 1, 1975

Kerkplein

Met die deurlees van die uitgerekte onderhandelingsgeskiedenis oor die toekoms van die westelike fasade van Kerkplein, ontstaan die vraag of dit werklik nodig was dat die stryd tot sy huidige emosioneel belaaide peil met verwyte, dreigemente en petisies moes ontwikkel. Ons kry die indruk dat die herontwikkeling van hierdie deel van die plein reeds so lank as tien jaar gelede, wat die owerheid betref, 'n aanvaarde saak was.

Die vraag kan nou gestel word waarom daar so lank gesloer is met die uitvoering van hierdie planne en waarom daar deur die verloop van baie jare toegelaat is dat die huidige ongelukkige toedrag van sake ontwikkel.

In die eerste plek was daar klaarblyklik ekonomiese beweegredes en in die tweede plek is dit ongelukkig so dat verklaarings van so onlangs as twee jaar gelede (juis in die lig van die finansiële oorgewings) die hoop by die bewaarders kon laat ontstaan het dat die stryd om die behoud van die deel van Kerkplein gewonne is.

Terwyl daar vandag nog 'n poging aangewend word ter behoud van hierdie deel van Kerkplein (met die oorhandiging van die handtekening van petisionarisse aan die Eerste Minister) is dit miskien goed dat daar 'n slag nugter en saaklik na die situasie gekyk word.

Daar kan nie verwag word dat die Regering nou 'n ommeswaai moet maak bloot op grond van die gevoel wat oorgedra word deur hierdie handtekening nie. Dit sal 'n bespotting wees van die erkende demokratiese prosedures.

Al wat daar gevra kan word is dat daar opnuut gekyk moet word na die onderhandelingsgeskiedenis en dat daar nugter besin moet word of hierdie demokratiese prosedures deurgaans gevolg is in hierdie onderhandelinge.

—Hoofstad, 5 Augustus 1975

Church square

In view of the upsurge of public interest in the future of Church Square it may be desirable to reiterate the official policy of the Arts Association in this regard.

Whilst the Association decided some years ago to maintain a completely neutral position in the dispute, for the reasons explained below, it has placed no bar on the attempts of its members to have all or some of the buildings in the western facade retained for posterity. It is only the Association *as such* that must not become involved in the controversy. For a decade or more the Association has been the tenant-at-will of the Province, to which the Old Netherlands Building belongs, and it is obvious that any public step by the Association to thwart the declared intention of the Province to do away with the building would be construed by all parties to the dispute as motivated by self-interest. It would in fact therefore be a negative contribution doing more harm than good.

The Association has over a long period taken active steps to try and persuade the authorities to retain at the very least the two most important historical buildings involved – the Netherlands Bank and the

National Bank – but to no avail. We have resigned ourselves to the decision and we are in the process of developing new accommodation for a permanent arts centre with a more congenial atmosphere and with more convenient facilities than the present-day Church Square offers us. The task of the Association now is to work towards realising that ideal rather than to become controversial.

Plans for the future are due to be announced at the National Annual General Meeting of the Association on Friday, 29 August.

—CHAIRMAN

—Arts Calendar (NT), August 1975

(The *Alial* decided that the Arts Ass. was committed to the preservation of the entire west facade—Ed.)

They met to right a wrong

Of all the historic happenings witnessed for more than a century by the dressed-stone walls of the architecturally quaint old buildings around three sides of Church Square, there can have been none quite like the demonstration held at the foot of the Paul Kruger's statue.

The occasion had no official status. It was also organised with a minimum of circumstance but with a maximum of newspaper publicity in both Afrikaans and English, as is fit and proper if the Press is to fulfil its function to be the watchdog of the public and the mouthpiece of the people. It was thus a spontaneous coming together of thousands of ordinary citizens bent on making their collective and individual voices heard, to reason, to argue and finally to demand that the historical and cultural heritage represented by those mute witnesses to their indignation, shall be preserved for posterity.

What made the gathering different from any other ever held on Church Square was that it was unrepresentative of any organised political, cultural, historical, religious or language group among the population of Pretoria. Spokesmen and women from various organisations were there, but there were also unnamed ordinary folk who mounted the dais on which Paul Kruger stands, and said their pieces in Afrikaans and English, under the auspices of nothing more pretentious than the "Citizens Committee" headed by Mr Piet Muller.

One speaker, a Mr De Beer, who was seven years old when his mother took him to the square at the turn of the century and showed him "Oom Paul se kerkie" for which Church Square was



„Ons moet die middagson geniet voordat die nuwe geboue opgerig word.”

—F Esterhuysen, *Oggendblad*, 21/7/75

named, waxed indignant at the demolition of the church by the "English" who ruled the Transvaal from 1902 until 1906.

For good measure, his emotion-laden argument for the preservation of the historical buildings, took in totally irrelevant allusions to the South African War concentration camps, the execution of Jopie Fourie in 1914 and the fact that the Black people called Paul Kruger "Ramelodi" – The Man of Peace.

At the receiving end of all the oratory, from the sublime to the gorbliney, but conspicuous by their absence from the scene, were the Prime Minister, Mr Vorster, the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Sybrand van Niekerk (there were placards depicting a pipe-smoking Oom Paul in silhouette asking: "Sybrand, wat máák jy?", the Minister of Community Development, Mr A H du Plessis and his Public Works Committee's head, Mr G S Pool, the secretary.

A petition bearing thousands of signatures in addition to hundreds of telegrams from all parts of South Africa, will be delivered to Mr Vorster to ask him

to reconsider his approval of the Administrator's decision that the row of old buildings must be demolished to make way for a hitherto undefined but grandiose and very expensive complex of rectangular tower blocks to house thousands of provincial and postal civil servants from eight o'clock in the morning to four o'clock in the afternoon.

A telegram in support of the gathering from Mr Ben van der Walt, Administrator of South West Africa and former MP for Pretoria West, created a minor sensation and is sure to cause Mr Van Niekerk the most acute and, no doubt, well-deserved embarrassment.

The mood of the gathering can be likened to many another citizens' protest in other places down the years. I like to find an analogy to it in the epic poem from Macaulay's "Lays of Ancient Rome" entitled "Virginia". The heroic sentiments learnt by heart at school 45 years ago, stir me yet.

It was a song sung about 2 600 years ago in honour of the Tribunes of the Commons, about young Icilius who "sprang upon that column, by many a minstrel sung . . . and, beckoned to the people, and in bold voice and clear, poured thick and fast the burning words which tyrants quake to hear". That was exactly what an anonymous latter-day Icilius, big, burly and tartan-jacketed, did when he thundered into the microphone a dire warning that "we shall hold the authorities responsible for anything that happens if they come along to demolish those buildings".

His impassioned speech was redolent of: "Spare us the inexpressible wrong, the unutterable shame

"That turns the coward's heart to steel, the sluggard's blood to flame,

"Lest, when our latest hope is fled, ye taste of our despair,

"And learn by proof, in some wild hour, how much the wretched dare."

—HERTZOG BIERMANN

—E.P. Herald July 30, 1975

Die volkstem reg, en verkeerd

„In 'n republiek moet na die burgers geluister word," het pres. Paul Kruger in 1893 gesê. Dit was een van etlike uitsprake van hom met die strekking dat die stem van die volk „die koningstem" is. En op die Kerkplein in Pretoria het heelwat burgers op Saterdag, 26 Julie hul stem laat hoor.

Die steun vir die bewaring van die wesfasade van die plein is daar. Dit begin egter nou lyk of die vraag verskuif na iets anders: of daar geluister kan word sonder dat dit afbreuk doen aan die leierskap van die owerheid en demokratiese prosedures.

'n Mens sou naamlik kon aanvoer dat die Regering gewet het van die argumente van die teenstanders van die sloping van die wesfasade. Protes is nie genoeg om die saak te heroorweeg nie, kan gesê word.

Dis nie die eerste keer in ons geskiedenis dat daar protes teen 'n owerheidsbesluit is nie. 'n Mens kan gerus kyk hoe dit in die verlede met proteste teen genome besluite gegaan het.

Die anti-bandiete-beweging van 1849 in die Kaapkolonie – 'n voorbeeld van 'n baie geslaagde veldtog teen 'n owerheidsbesluit – moet 'n mens seker buite beskouing laat. Dit het onder 'n koloniale bewind gebeur.

In die Vrystaatse Republiek het die aanlê van spoorweë nie sonder protes verbygegaan nie. In 1888 en 1889 was daar op petisies meer handtekeninge teen spoorweë as daarvoor. Die Volksraad het egter tog besluit om spoorweë aan te lê.

In belang van die land is die wil van die meerderheid verontagsaam. Ten onregte was dit seker nie.

In Desember 1914 het die regering, veral die minister van verdediging, genl. Jan Smuts, hom nie gesteur aan pogings om die teregstelling van Jopie Fourie te keer nie. Pogings om versoekskrifte aan Smuts te gee, het misluk. Hy het toegelaat dat Fourie doodgeskiet word en daarmee het hy een van die grootste politieke foute in sy loopbaan begaan.

Die wil van die meerderheid is geïgnoreer – tot skade van die regering.

Ten slotte iets meer onlangs. Die Nico Malan-Skouburg in die Kaap was eers net oop vir blankes. Teen dié besluit was daar jarelange protes. Vroeër vanjaar is die vorige finale besluit van die Regering verander.

Die Regering was bereid om in belang van die land en sy bevolking 'n besluit te heroorweeg.

Dit wil uit die paar voorbeelde seker lyk of 'n mens 'n analogie vir byna enige optrede kan vind as jy jou op die geskiedenis beroep.

Die ontwikkelaars van die Kerkplein sal waarskynlik geneig wees om die Vrystaatse analogie aan te gryp: „Dit was nogal die modelstaat, en toe die meerderheid teen vooruitgang was, is die volkswil tereg verontagsaam."

'n Mens moet toegee dat 'n meerderheid verkeerd kan wees. Wat altyd ook be-

langrik is, is die mening van deskundiges.

Die deskundiges is in die geval Kerkplein o.a. die argitek. Sterk teenstand teen die sloplingsplan het juis van hulle af gekom. Onlangs het 149 telegramme van protes gestuur.

Bowendien is die teenstanders van die sloping nie teen vooruitgang, of dan *ekonomiese* vooruitgang nie. Hulle is nie daarteen dat nuwe geboue opgerig word nie, anders as die beswaarde Vrystaters wat teen die aanlê van spoorweë in die algemeen was.

Die bewaarders wil net hê dat die ekonomiese vooruitgang nie kulturele verarming tot gevolg het nie.

Buitendien, soos die argitek Hannes Meiring betoog, is dit moontlik dat die oue en nuwe saam kan bestaan. Agter die ou geboue is daar plek vir nuwe kantoorblokke.

Lede van die Stigting Simon van der Stel meen dat die owerheid dié plan nog nie indringend genoeg ondersoek het nie. Terwyl die meerderheid – van die volk en deskundiges – die wesfasade wil hê sonder dat hulle teen nuwe geboue gekant is, is daar genoeg grond daarvoor om die besluit te heroorweeg. As Switserse ontwikkelaars dit in hul kop sou kry om pres. Kruger se sterfhuis in Clarens te sloop, sal ons Suid-Afrikers in opstand kom en die owerheid sal seker 'n plan maak om sulke planne verhinder te kry.

Ons het piëteit teenoor pres. Kruger se sterfhuis. Waarom nie ook teenoor die geboue wat 'n lewende herinnering vorm aan pres. Kruger en een van die roemrykste tydperke in die Afrikaner-geskiedenis nie, nl. die tyd van die Boere-republieke?

—JAAP STEYN

—Rapport, 2 Augustus 1975



Bulldozers stop!

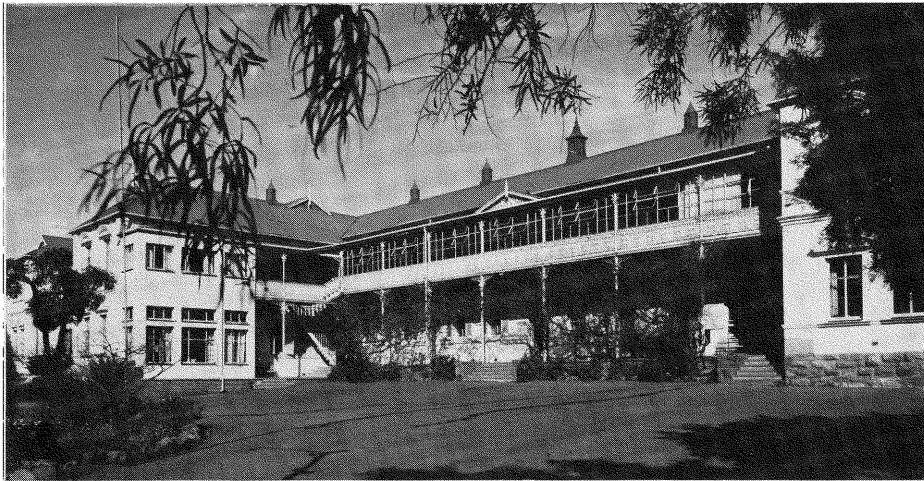
—Walter Pichler, Pretoria News, 25/7/75



ultra

kitchens

(PTY) LTD



Skoolkoshuis word nasionale gedenkwaardigheid

Die historiese Elizabeth le Roux-koshuis van die hoër Meisieskool Oranje in Bloemfontein is deur die Minister van Nasionale Opvoeding, sen. Johan van der Spuy, tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar.

Volgens 'n aankondiging in die staatskoerant is die gebou van historiese belang, omdat dit in die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog as hospitaal gebruik is.

Die hoeksteen van die koshuis is in 1899 gelê en in 1906 is dit deur die eerste kuratorium van Oranje onder voorsitterskap van pres M T Steyn aangekoop vir gebruik as skoolkoshuis.

Die historiese plaashuis Weltevreden in die distrik Stellenbosch met sy wynkelder en buitegebou teenoor die wynkelder, is tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar.

Volgens 'n aankondiging in die Staatskoerant het Weltevreden se h-vormige Kaaps-Hollandse woonhuis ses fynafgewerkte gewels. Die voorgeweldra die datum 1812. Die wynkelder is rondom 1804 gebou en dit vorm saam met die plaashuis en buitegebou 'n belangrike garitektoniese kompleks.

Die ou sendingkerk en pastorie in Graaff-Reinet is ook tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar. Die pastorie is voor 1848 opgerig en die sendingkerk is later deur die Londense sendinggenootskap gebou.

Elizabeth le Roux - huis

Die hoeksteen is gelê deur Pres M T Steyn op 14 Maart 1898 vir 'n koshuis vir die St Andrew's Kollege vir seuns.

'n Paar maande later breek die oorlog uit en word die voltooid gebou as 'n hospitaal vir die Boere gebruik.

Na die oorlog het die gebou leeg bly staan, St Andrew's het dit nooit betrek nie, en is dit toe gekoop deur die kuratore van die Meisieskool Oranje.

Vir die eerste paar jaar het dit as koshuis sowel as skool gedien. Op 11 April 1907 is die skool geopen met 35 leerlinge en 7 onderwyseresse. Pres Steyn se eie drie dogters was onder hierdie eerste leerlinge, nl Mev Emmie du Toit, Adv Gladys Steyn en Oud-Senator Tibbie Visser.

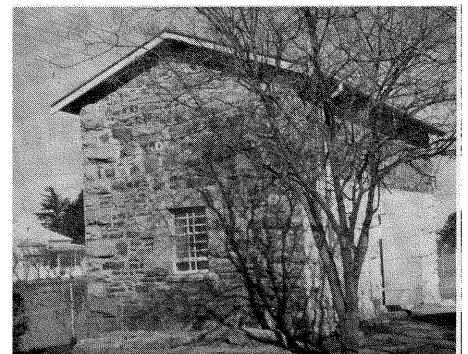
Die eerste skoolhoof was Mej Elizabeth le Roux, later moeder van die digteres Elizabeth Eybers. Die gebou is na haar vernoem.

Mettertyd is die gebou vergroot en gemoderniseer, maar nou sal dit weer na die

oorspronklike grootte teruggebring word en gerestoureer word. Opvallend is die pragtige ystertraliewerk, die houttrappe en die kenmerkende torinkies op die dak.

—(Mej) M L SPIES

Bultfontein

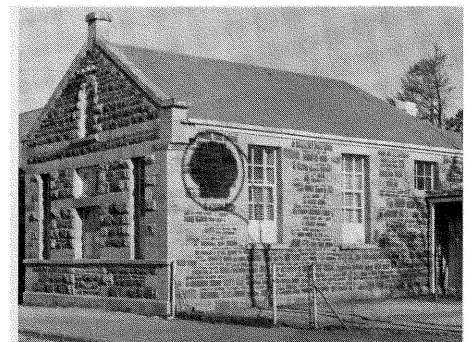


Polisie-selle

Geld vir die oprigting van hierdie interessante geboutjie is reeds in 1879 deur die Volksraad van die OVS Republiek gestem. Die sandsteengebou is in 1880 voltooi en staan vandag nog in die polisie-diens. Die SA Polisie meen om die gebou te behou en het die Stigting en die Stadsraad in die voege ingelig.

Poskantoor

Die ou landdroskantoor is in 1895 opgerig. Die is van blouklip en sandsteen gebou deur Jan Schutte. Tans word die poskantoor en telefoonsentrale daar gehuisves. Die Stadsraad van Bultfontein hoop om 'n museum daarin te vestig indien die Departement Pos- en Telekommunikasiewese daartoe instem. Hieroor word tans met behulp van die Stigting onderhandel.





Europe

A future for our past

The Council of Europe has declared 1975 the European Architectural Heritage Year. It is receiving publicity in the Netherlands through exhibitions and conferences devoted to historic monuments, against a background of a large number of major historic monuments, since we have not only a large number of picturesque town and village centres but also tens of thousands of separate historic monuments all over the country. Unfortunately by no means all of them are in the state in which we should like to see them. But we would be doing the nation an injustice if we regarded those monuments as so many isolated, silent historical features, since they do, in fact, play a part in the country's daily life. For among them are ordinary dwellings, farmhouses, warehouses, town gates and bridges, chapels and monasteries, town halls, towers, windmills, country-seats and castles, though admittedly it is more difficult to give ancient churches which are no longer used and which are very expensive to preserve and renovate appropriate functions in the pattern of modern living. But we would be very sorry to lose those monuments, which are such characteristic features of our towns, villages and countryside. They are landmarks on a skyline or in a street scene, they are 'old, familiar faces' to the local inhabitants. Consequently, the aim of the European Congress to be held in Amsterdam in October is to draw the attention of the national and local authorities in Europe to the importance of the preservation and effective use, in the widest sense of the term, of such monuments, its slogan being 'A future for Our Past'.

The rise of mechanised industries struck a heavy blow at our monuments, particularly in the 19th century. Of the 13 000 windmills originally used by industrial undertakings in the Netherlands only about 950 are left. Of the 2 300 castles and country-seats which this country formerly boasted only just over 100 are still in existence.

Ancient monuments have been protected in this country ever since the days of the Renaissance but the institutionalised protection of historic monuments is of more recent date.

Various provisional measures preceded the entry into force of the Monuments Act in 1961, which may be looked upon as the last word in this sphere; monuments are described and defined in a more scientific manner than before, and there is now a list of about 40 000 protected monuments, to which about 250 protected town and village scenes are to be added, ie entire centres and districts in historic communities. Over 50 per cent of them have already been described and officially designated as such. Private initiative has played a major part in this. Strictly speaking, government action was generally taken only after private individuals had taken the initiative and brought strong pressure to bear on the authorities.

The former have been setting up more and more groups composed of people who are alive to the value of our cultural heritage, with the object of arousing public interest in, and preserving and renovating, ancient monuments.

In 1918 a National Association was established to purchase, preserve and renovate monuments which were important from the point of view of cultural history. The Association was named after Hendrick de Keyser, a famous 17th-century Dutch architect, and is the proud owner of about 200 valuable monuments.

An association called 'The Dutch Windmill' was established in 1923. In this, the European Architectural Heritage Year, it can look back upon a period during which hundreds of windmills and watermills were renovated through its efforts in close collaboration with the Government. An advisory body for the preservation of historic fortifications was set up in 1932; it is consulted regularly by the Government and took its name from the famous Dutch 17th-century builder of fortifications Menno van Coehoorn. The Government itself set up an Administrative Board for Castles and Country-seats in 1945 to preserve and restore the nation's dwindling number of castles and country-seats.

The Monuments and Historic Buildings Council advises the Minister for Cultural Affairs on the country's heritage of ancient monuments; there is also the Department for the Preservation of Monuments and Historic Buildings, which assists the Minister in implementing the actual preservation work.

The restoration and renovation of ancient monuments would never have made such great strides if the Government had not set aside funds for grants for the renovation of ancient monuments and of protected town and village scenes in the National Budgets as well as enacting the Monuments Act.

European Architectural Heritage Year

Needles to say, the city of Amsterdam is attracting a great deal of attention. The centre of the city has no less than 7 000 protected monuments, there are miles of ordinary dwellings, patrician houses and warehouses lining its world-famous canals, there are many splendid spires, hundreds of bridges span its canals and tens of thousands of trees stand in serried ranks along its canals and streets so that the city would seem to be enveloped in greenery. All these features together constitute a composite picture of unique beauty. Amsterdam is not only the city where the Congress is being held but is also among the 40 'pilot projects' designated in Europe, sharing the honour with such cities as Bruges, Luxembourg, Verona, Salzburg and Edinburgh.

Another Dutch town to be so designated is Middelburg, exemplifying as it does the glorious resurrection of a town grievously devastated during the Second World War. It was rebuilt in such a way that its street plan acquired a new attractiveness whilst its historical rhythm was preserved, in the right proportions, on the right scale and, of course, in the right atmosphere.

The village of Orvelte (province of Drenthe, municipality of Westerbork) is the third Dutch 'pilot project'. The village, which was founded in the 13th century, has retained its original structure as can be seen from its first cadastral plan dating from that century. The removal of unsightly outgrowths and thorough reconstruction and renovation have given back to this village, composed of farmhouses, its harmonious appearance, enabling it again to lead a life of its own.

There are three Dutch municipalities chosen within the European context. Fortunately, in spite of numerous disfigurements, there are still dozens of Dutch municipalities, towns and villages alike, which can be regarded as typifying the wellnigh unparalleled variety cha-

racteristic of a country rich in splendid towns, villages and in scenic beauty.

TON KOOT

Kalender, Lochem Druk, Lochem, Nederland, 1975

European Architectural Heritage Year

At the final European Architectural Year Congress which is to be held at the RAI Congress Centre, Amsterdam from October 21-24, 1975, some of the outstanding speakers will be: H R H Prince Claus of the Netherlands, Professor I Samkalden, Burgomaster of Amsterdam and Mr George Kahn-Ackerman, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

During the four-day Congress several working sessions will be held. Themes for discussion are: Conservation of the architectural heritage in the context of urban and regional planning; responsibilities of local authorities and citizens' participation; social problems of integrated conservation; legislation and administration; financial means for conservation and restoration operations and technical and practical means for conservation and restoration operations.

Members of the Round Table discussing the theme "Future of the Architectural Heritage in the year 2000" will be televised.

Working tours in Amsterdam, illustrating the themes of the Congress, will be undertaken.

On the last day conclusions of the working sessions will be discussed and the "Declaration of Amsterdam" will be adopted.

HM the Queen of the Netherlands will attend the ceremonial closing of the session, after which a press conference and a film gala will be held.

—E L

Youth as Heritage Trustees

The United Kingdom Council for European Architectural Heritage Year, in drawing up and planning its programme, was anxious from the start to involve the young people of this country in as many suitable projects as possible. Clearly there could be no object in arousing enthusiasm for this country's architectural heritage unless that enthusiasm could be communicated to the rising generation as Trustees of the future.

Consequently a Youth Panel was set up to co-ordinate the participation of young

people and to encourage all youth groups throughout the country to play their part. Lord Althorp, Chairman of the National Association of Boys' Clubs, was invited to become Chairman of the Panel and to obtain the co-operation of other major National Youth Organisations.

It was immediately apparent that the main problem would be to arrange proper co-ordination at county level. The Panel felt that County Youth Officers were best placed to act as focal points for all youth activities, to co-ordinate proper lists of suitable projects, and to ensure that all local Youth Organisations and their branches were made aware of what was being done. The County Youth Officers could also encourage young people to put forward their own ideas for a worthwhile contribution.

The Chairmen of all county and equivalent councils were therefore approached to enlist their support and to arouse their interest. The Panel also wrote to all County Youth Officers to explain the kind of projects which they thought might be suitable for young people, to ask them to get in touch with all youth groups throughout their counties, and to draw up a suitable programme for their Heritage Year effort.

These approaches met with an immediate and enthusiastic response. At the same time the headquarters of the National Youth Organisations notified all their branches of what was intended.

The Panel also decided that the best form of encouragement would be to institute an Award Scheme, through which the efforts of young people could be suitably marked and rewarded. In this the Bottlers of Coca-Cola offered their support.

Detailed planning took place throughout the summer of 1974 and a brochure, setting out full details of the scheme, complete with instructions and entry forms, was designed for wide distribution in October. Promises of support from all over the country indicate that interest has been properly aroused. Accordingly, although entries were originally called for by 31 December 1974, an extension of time up to 31 March 1975 has been agreed in order to obtain the maximum number of entries.

The Panel will continue to maintain the closest contact with County Youth Officers, Youth Organisations and with all able to offer advice and suggest likely projects. The idea is not to make use of young people as a convenient pool of labour but to provide them with tasks which will arouse their interest, enlist the use of their special skills and make a really valuable contribution to the success of Heritage Year. Who better to preserve and improve our Heritage than those to whom it must be handed on to treasure and preserve?

USA

The beautiful Bradbury building

California has had some remarkable architects - Schindler, the Greene Brothers, Maybeck, Gill to name but a few: But one who has gone unnoticed for far too long is George Wyman.

Wyman, like Dr Henry Mercer (who designed the unique Mercer Museum in Doylestown,) was a non-architect. He was a draughtsman. The Bradbury Building, 304 Broadway, Los Angeles, has been called "a tour de force, a student's dream, and Los Angeles' most pleasant surprise."

What a surprise it is entering this building from a dull sandstone Italian Renaissance exterior that would command no more than a cursory glance. The transition from the exterior through the double swing doors, under the canopy, and up into the "vast hall of light" is a truly memorable architectural experience.

George Wyman was a lowly draughtsman in architect Hunt's office when mining tycoon and real estate developer Lewis Bradbury decided to build an office block in downtown Los Angeles. Bradbury approached Hunt to do the design for him but Hunt's work was unacceptable. When in the office Bradbury met Wyman and commissioned him.

Why Bradbury chose Wyman (draughtsman) over Hunt (architect) is unknown but perhaps Bradbury realised the potential of Wyman.

Bradbury, old and ill, wanted a building that he would always be remembered by and he got it.

At first, Wyman refused the commission feeling that it would be unethical. But one Saturday evening as Wyman and his wife sat at a planchette board (forerunner of the ouija board) equipped with a pencil to write out spirit messages - long dead Mark communicated with his brother. The message written upside down read, "Take Bradbury Building. It will make you famous."

The utopian novel "Looking Backward" by Ed. Bellamy was the source of inspiration for Wyman, e.g. "A vast hall of light, received not alone from the windows on all sides, but from the dome, the point of which was a hundred feet above. The walls were frescoed in mellow tints to soften without absorbing the light which flooded the interior."

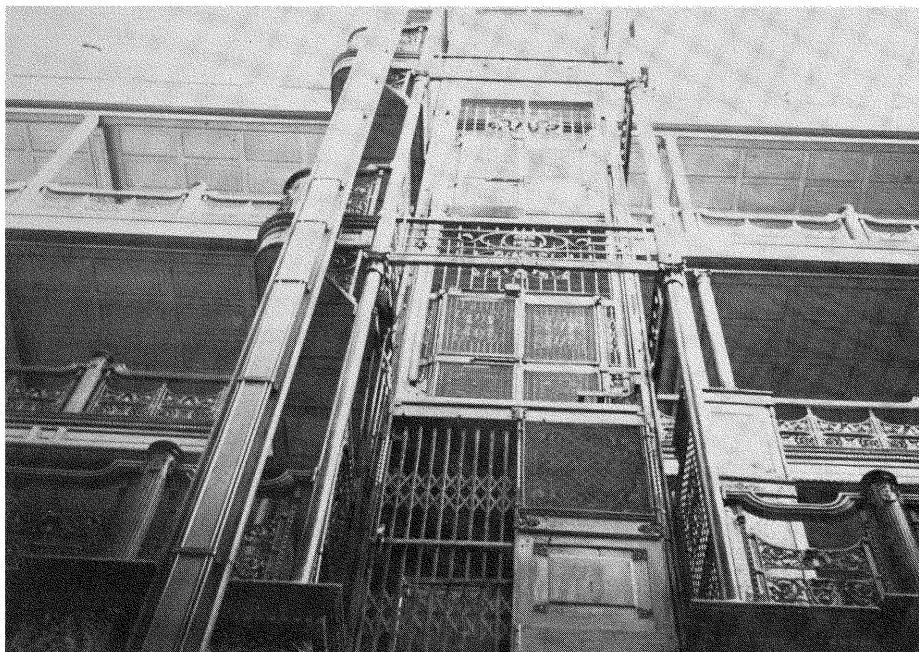
The organisation of the Bradbury Building (1893) is that of a large central space that extends five storeys in height. This central space is exquisite and is capped by a 50 ft by 120 ft skylight which provides natural light to the interior. Beneath the skylight are ventilation windows. The office balconies overlook the central space and are connected to the



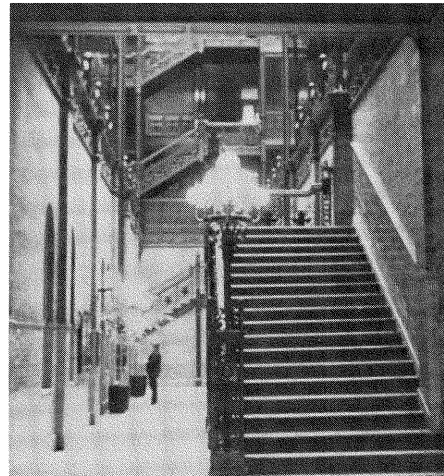
Exterior view of Bradley Building.

ground floor by open elevators that any architectural student would dream of. Attached to the elevator cages are balconies which give access to the mail chutes. At either end of the central space are two staircases which serve as an alternative means of access. The railings are of wrought iron and are reminiscent of hanging vegetation. It was an exorbitantly expensive building costing approximately half a million dollars which is no mean sum for that era. No expense was spared. The wrought ironwork was from France, marble for the staircases from Belgium

Open elevator, Bradley Building.



Entrance into Bradley Building.



and even the basement was wood panelled.

During construction a spring was uncovered with threatened construction. Owner Bradbury imported massive steel supports from Europe to bridge the spring. But the building has stood the test of time and has withstood many earthquakes.

The building has been used as a backdrop for numerous movies and it is easy to imagine Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in such a setting of opulence.

“Arts and Architecture” stated “It is for ever a young building, out of a youthful and vigorous imagination. But it has left nothing to chance. Stairways leap into space because of endless calculations. The skylight is a fairly tale of mathematics.”

R Banham in his book on Los Angeles states: “It is one of the most magnificent relics of 19th century commercial architecture.”

Bradbury died before it was finally completed. But he would have been ecstatic with the final result – one of the architectural masterpieces of all times.

—JOHN WAKEFIELD
Department of Architecture
Carnegie Mellon University

Iran

What made the Byzantines desperate for Persian silk

When the Chinese discovered silk in the third millennium BC it was so highly prized that the Emperor Huang Ti (2640 BC) imposed a penalty of death by torture for anyone who gave away the secret of its production. Since then silk has been man’s most treasured fabric and one that he has never been able to successfully imitate by artificial means. The sticky fibers emitted by the little worm bombyx mori have shaken empires. They have also inspired the construction of one of the world’s greatest trade routes – the silk Route – and had a profound influence on international relations.

The Chinese managed to keep silk to themselves for almost three thousand years. Then in 300 AD the Japanese sent a team of Koreans to steal the secret. They came back with four Chinese girls who taught the Japanese the art of sericulture, as silk production is called. In honour of the girls the Chinese built a great temple.

Another girl is credited with taking the secret to India by hiding silk worm eggs in her headdress before leaving China to marry an Indian prince.

From India silk production spread West to Persia and from Persia to Europe. Persia never became a major production centre but its role in the history of silk is a most important one. It was the Persians who organized the silk trade, opening up lines of communication from Rome to China and it was the Persians who, through their high level of textile craftsmanship, developed the art of silk weaving to its highest peak.

The famous Silk Route was started by the Parthian king Mithridates II in 12 BC. He sent two expeditions to China from that time until 115 BC to improve communications along the route. And in the succeeding centuries dusty camel caravans lumbered halfway across the known world braving harsh deserts and massive mountain blocks to bring the precious silk from China and India to the nobility of Greece, Rome and Byzantium. So great was the volume of trade that it almost bankrupted the government of Rome. Later when the Persians were at war with Byzantium and blocked the Silk Route the Byzantium rulers were desperate. The emperor Justinian sent two Christian monks to China to smuggle out eggs but by this time many of the top Byzantium silk weavers had moved to Persia to continue their art there. So it came about that the most precious of the silk altar cloths and other sacred vestments in the churches of Europe were woven in Persia.

The Persian weavers developed techniques of great variety and complexity. Starting out with weft patterned fabrics woven on the Persian damask loom they progressed to double and compound weaves and twills, eventually developing 11 different techniques for weaving silk fabrics as well as producing new types such as velvet, crepe, satin, shantung, tie silk, organdy, all of pure silk.

But it was in ornamentation that they really excelled. They painted on it, stencilled on it, quilted it and embossed it. Just about the only thing they didn't do was make lace with it.

The finest silk art of all appeared in the fine brocades interwoven with gold and silver. Into these brocades went all the richness of Persian design tradition such as the artistry of the carpet weaver, the mosaic craftsman and the calligrapher. Persian silk brocades found their way into churches, mosque and palaces around the world. Today they lie in museums, faded, frayed, yet still magnificently beautiful.

The earliest existing examples of Persian silk such as the famous Elephant silk in the Louvre, date back to Sassanian times. Animal designs were the favourite theme of these early silks. During the early Islamic period inscriptions became

popular and many fine wall hangings of the time bear gold inscriptions in Kufic proclaiming the supremacy of Allah. Later, in the Safavid era the curling arabesques, palmettes and other Shah Abbas motifs of the classical Persian carpet became favorite themes for the brocades and the use of gold thread more lavish. The Safavids also used silk for a wide variety of utilitarian items. Belts, handkerchiefs, saddlecloths, bags, garden canopies, flags, cushions, divan covers and even tents were made of silk. In the 16th Century a book of verse was produced entirely of silk with each line of text woven by hand.

Silk was often used as a form of exchange and many dues and taxes were paid in silk. Ninth Century records show that the Caliph Mamun received 1000 pieces of silk as payment for Gorgan.

Individual silk prices were fantastic. In 964 AD a certain Mu'izz the Fatimite paid \$50 000 for a Shushtar hanging of blue silk with all the countries of the known world, mountains, seas, rivers, cities, roads, worked in gold and silver. The grand days of silk have disappeared along with the opulence of the church, royalty and the aristocracy. Modern technology has created dozens of new fabrics which imitate the qualities of silk at much lower cost. Industrialization has also given man such a wide range of products to choose from that silk fineries have been pushed into the background. From being a major item of trade between East and West silk has become an incidental product while food and raw materials for industry dominate the commercial scene.

With increasing agricultural expertise farmers found new crops to plant and weavers discovered they could make more money in other lines or even in other trades.

In 1670 traveler Sir John Chardin estimated Iran's annual silk production at eight million pounds. In 1964 output was down to a mere 1.3 million. Most of this was going into carpets and handwoven silk brocades, known as "termeh" and mostly woven in Yazd, were being made by only a handful of weavers.

The last decade has seen a strong revival of interest in silk. Tiring of the many new synthetics people around the world are reverting to pure silk. No artificial imitation has been able to duplicate the smoothness, the fineness, the strength or the brilliance of colour of silk and demand for the natural product is climbing despite higher prices. At the same time there is a new appreciation of the value of the handcrafted item as opposed to the mass produced article. Artistry and originality are at a premium. Following these new trends Iran launched a new campaign to revive its old silk industry. A massive project is being carried out to plant hundreds of acres of mulberry trees in the Caspian province

of Gilan, in an effort to increase the country's silk production to ten million pounds within the next ten years.

Much of the silk will continue to go into fine Persian carpets where demand is spiralling. An increasing quantity, however, will go into fine silk brocades and batik printed silks.

A revival of the art of brocade weaving is being led by the Ministry of Culture and Arts which has set up a special workshop for the production of fine gold and silver brocade using classical Persian designs. The art of Batik printing on silk which has been practised for centuries in Azarbaijan has also been developed by the Government Handicraft Centre in their workshops as well as by a number of enterprising private handicraft enthusiasts. Persian silk is once more making its mark in the world. Footnote: In Europe the term 'sherbaff' became a popular name for Persian silk. The derivation of this is uncertain but it is possible that the sher is from "shir" meaning lion, most noble or king of animals; Baff means woven so silk became "The King of Cloths".

—*The Tebran Journal*, May 17, 1975

Great Britain

Buckinghamshire's revolving fund

Buckinghamshire County Council realized a few years ago that to refuse consent for the demolition of a listed building was not enough. A refusal of consent does not necessarily secure preservation. The owner might not be able to afford the necessary repairs or to envisage a use for the restored buildings. As a positive step, the Council in 1969 launched a £100 000 revolving fund for the purchase, restoration and sale of listed buildings.

This is still the largest fund of its kind in England although it is comparable to the National Trust's fund for Scotland's 'Little Houses' scheme, which is one of Britain's 'pilot projects' for European Architectural Heritage Year. The encouragement of such funds is indeed one of the major aims of the Year. So far 6 historic buildings have been purchased through Buckinghamshire's fund, all but one following refusal of listed building consent for demolition. All have been acquired by negotiation, though compulsory purchase could be used if necessary. The Council does not intend to accumulate property but to restore and sell so that the fund can be re-used for further projects. Already 4 properties have been restored and resold. One of these was leased to a prospective purchaser who was able, under the terms

of lease, to purchase the property when renovation had been completed satisfactorily. Two buildings are currently being restored under similar arrangements.

At the outset it was accepted that while some individual projects might show a profit, others might show a loss. In practice the scheme has shown that restoration can be profitable. Brewery House in Newport Pagnell, the first venture, was acquired for £7 770; after repairs costing £4 837 it was sold for £16 050.

6 High Street, Olney, a handsome three-storey house, was sold, after much competitive bidding, for £41 850 after the Council had spent under £18 000 on purchase and repairs. Even the most difficult project – Cromwell House, Princes Risborough which had been empty and neglected for 15 years and cost £23 376 to put right – involved a loss of only £2 584.

In a report* the County Council says the establishment of the scheme has been fully justified and there 'are perhaps grounds for tackling a more ambitious programme'. Six buildings which might well have been lost for ever are now enjoying a new lease of life. The scheme though has achieved more than this. A revised attitude to preservation has been brought about in the County as owners have seen that restoration can be practicable, even profitable. Demonstration is more effective than exhortation.

The work of 22 building trusts is described in the Civic Trust's report to the DoE, *Financing the Preservation of old Buildings*.

Detailed guidance to local authorities, amenity societies and others wishing to form a local trust is given in another Trust publication *Forming a Buildings Preservation Trust*. Both books are obtainable from the Civic Trust. Price 40p and 75p respectively post paid.

**The Buckinghamshire £100 000 Scheme 1969–1973*, obtainable from the County Planning Department, County Hall, Aylesbury, Bucks.

—Civic Trust Newsletter, London, January, 1975

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' 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 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 of 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.

—Civic Trust Newsletter, London, November, 1974

Nederland Fontein opent jaar van de monumenten

Vandaag is in ons land het monumentenjaar M-75 officieel begonnen met een nationale manifestatie in de Ridderzaal, waarbij prins Claus in zijn functie van erevoorzitter van het nationaal comité Monumentenjaar 1975 aanwezig was. Na afloop van deze bijeenkomst draaide voorzitter van de Eerste Kamer, prof dr Th L M Thurlings, á la Willem Bever met een waterpomptang de watertoevoer open van de prachtig gerestaureerde neogotische fontein met het beeldje van de "Rooms Koning" (graaf Willem II) van Cuypers op het autovrije Binnenhof.

Rondom de fontein heerste in hallen van steigerpalen een geweldige activiteit van allerlei vaklieden op het gebied van steenhouders, smeden, schilderen, houtsnijden, koper- en loodbewerken, uurwerk-reparaties, enz. In een speciaal ontworpen opblaashal wordt een doorlopende diaklankshow gegeven over monumenten en monumentenzorg onder het motto "Monumenten voor 1999", samengesteld door prof Wim Crowel. In de kelderzaal wordt de Haagse stadsvorm Den Haag monument vertoond.

En dat alles ter gelegenheid van het feit, dat het dit jaar een eeuw geleden is dat jhr mr Victor de Stuers, hartstochtelijk strijder voor het behoud van het cultureel erfgoed, zijn zin kreeg en de overheid zich daarvoor daadwerkelijk ging inzetten. Tijdens de bijeenkomst in de Ridderzaal droeg Jules Croiset voor uit zijn klaagschrift Holland op zijn smalst, in 1873 gepubliceerd in De Gids.

Tijdens de openingsplechtigheid ook kreeg prins Claus twee boeken van minister Van Doorn (CRM). Het ene was van dr mr F J Duparc over Een eeuw strijd voor Nederlands cultureel erfgoed en het tweede van ir J A C Tillema, Schetsen uit de geschiedenis van de monumentenzorg in Nederland.

Stadsvernieuwing

Staatssecretaris Schaefer (volkshuisvesting) gaf een exposé van de regelingen die hij heeft getroffen voor de monumentenzorg. "De monumentenzorg krijgt pas haar volle betekenis als zij een plaats gevonden heeft in het geheel van de stadsvernieuwing", zei hij. "Stadsvernieuwing is een sociale activiteit van de eerste orde, gericht op het in alle opzichten levend houden van de stad. Dat geeft ook monumentenzorg duidelijke sociale aspecten", aldus Schaefer. En die wil hij goed in het oog houden bij alle activiteiten, die hij onderneemt op het gebied van de stadsvernieuwing. De staatssecretaris deelde o.m. mee in overleg met zijn collega Van Dam de regeling voor de individuele huursubsidie te hebben aangepast in die zin dat voor bewoning

van een gerestaureerd monument subsidie kan worden verkregen ook al is de (nieuwe) maandhuur hoger dan f450. Dat is gedaan om de kring van mensen die aan het bewonen van monumenten toekomt, te verbreden.

Schaefer wil verder mogelijkheden scheppen om "pioniersprojecten" van de volkshuisvesting uit de jaren twintig op zo ruim mogelijke schaal te restaureren en aan de moderne eisen van bewoning aan te passen.

Voor het herstel van woonhuizen met waarde als monument zijn er nu speciale fondsen gereserveerd. Daarmede wil hij een krachtige bijdrage geven aan het bewoonbaar maken van oude stads- en dorpscentra. In dit verband merkte Schaefer nog op dat gemeentebesturen er niet voor moeten terugschrikken gaten in (historische) straatwanden op te vullen met eigentijdse gebouwen. Verantwoorde oplossingen zijn volgens hem zeker mogelijk.

Hij filosofeerde verder nog over een "roulerend fonds" waaruit subsidies gegeven kunnen worden voor restauraties door particulieren die later weer in het fonds zouden kunnen terugvloeien. De verder benodigde middelen zouden dan verkregen kunnen worden uit hypotheeken e.d. In Engeland zijn met dergelijke fondsen hier en daar goede ervaringen opgedaan.

Ten slotte stelde Schaefer voor 1980 te kiezen als Europees stadsvernieuingsjaar.

—NRC Handelsblad, 3 Julie 1974

(Ons kursivering-Red.)

Ere-lid

Nederland's bekendste strijder voor behoud van Nederlands schoonheid TON KOOT, werd benoemd tot Ere-lid van de Bond Heemschut, Ere-lid van de Landelijke Federatie "Het Behouden Huis" en hij ontving te Brussel de Visser-Neerlandia Prijs wegens zijn "vastberaden strijd tegen de aantasting van stads- en landschapsschoon."

—W J P

Dit kan gedaan word

'n Vluchtige besoek aan De Zaanse Schans, Zaandam, Nederland. Hierdie gebouwe was almal bedreig deur geweldige industrialisasie in die streek. Hulle is byeengebring met borging van die nywerhede. Dit vorm nou 'n tipiese Zaanse dorpie, en is lewend. Al die gebouwe en meulens word daaglik gebruik deur mense wat daar woon en werk.

—W P

(Poskaarte deur Maastricht en Verhoeven, Arnhem)

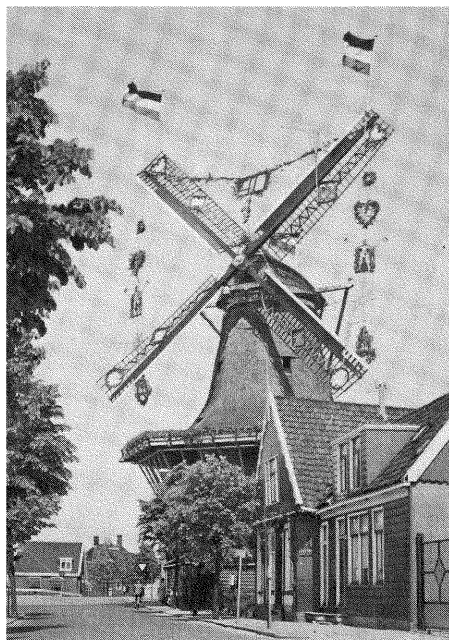


Zaandam, "De Zaanse Schans". Bakkerijmuseum "Wessanen".



Zaandam "Zaanse Schans" – Albert Heijns eerste kruidenierswinkeltje, anno 1887.

Zaandijk, Molen "De Dood" in feesttooi.



Zaandam, De Zaanse Schans – Verfmolen "De Kat".





Zaandam, De Zaanse Schans – molen
“De Huisman”.



Restaurant “De Walvis”, Zaanse Schans.

Europees monumenten jaar 1975

In geheel Nederland wordt met man en macht gewerkt om in dit *Monumentenjaar* vele restauraties gereed te krijgen. Zware stukken zijn o.m. de Oude kerk, het De Pinto-huis, de Portugese Synagoge, en het Amsterdams Historisch museum in het v.m. Burgerweeshuis te Amsterdam. Allerwege worden onder handen zijnde restauraties bespoedigd. In geheel

Nederland worden historische stads- en dorpswandelingen gehouden en tentoonstellingen georganiseerd gewijd aan de zorg voor de monumenten, culmineerend in een Int. tentoonstelling 26 sept.–25 okt. in het Rijksmuseum: “Een toekomst voor ons verleden”. De Raad van Europa organiseert van 21–24 okt. in het Congresgebouw te Amsterdam het Internationale Slotcongres van het Europees Monumentenjaar.

Het Monumentenjaar M-75 is nu al een groot succes in Europa wegens het grote aantal publicaties in kranten, tijdschriften en op radio en beeldradio, bovendien zijn er tientallen boeken verschenen die de bewaring van het nationale erfdeel ten doel hebben. Er is een Landelijke Federatie “Het Behouden Huis” opgericht, die alle partikuliere restaurerende verenigingen samenbrengt.

—T K

Amsterdam 700 years old

This year Amsterdam celebrates its 700th anniversary. Festivals and congresses of all kinds have been arranged in the city and these are attracting huge numbers of tourists from all over the globe.

New York is taking a special interest in these celebrations of the mother city. New York was originally named Nieuw Amsterdam by its Dutch founders, the Dutch West India company. The British annexed the Dutch colony of Nieuw Nederland and changed the name to New York.

As a gesture of friendship and to commemorate the historic ties with Amsterdam and the people of Holland, the City of New York has decided to officially date its founding at 1625, when the Dutch settled Manhattan Island.

This decision was taken by the City Council of New York on 22 June 1974 and here follows the text of the resolution.

June 20, 1974.

Res. No. 284

Resolution Calling Upon the Citizens of New York City to Commemorate the Historical and Cultural Ties Between Our City, Originally Nieuw Amsterdam and Amsterdam in The Netherlands, and to Participate in their 700th Anniversary. By the President (Mr O'Dwyer)–

Whereas, Under the Authority of the government of The Netherlands, the town of Nieuw Amsterdam, now New York City, was designated by the Dutch West India Company in 1625 as the seat of government for all lands held by The Netherlands in this continent; and

Whereas, Eighteen different languages were spoken on the island of Manhattan before 1648 by emigrants to the New World whose cultural, ethnic and historical backgrounds wove the fabric not only of New York but also of the entire nation; and

Whereas, As The Netherlands had long been a haven for refugees from religious and political persecution, so Nieuw Amsterdam continued that same tradition in the New World; and

Whereas, These colonists brought with those essential principles of democratic form of government followed in New York City to this day; and

Whereas, Through the early Dutch Trade, Nieuw Amsterdam became a well-known shipping center and developed into the most important port in the Western Hemisphere; and

Whereas, Free public education for both male and female children was introduced in the New World by Dutch colonists in 1628, and

Whereas, Freedom of speech was brought to this country as an inalienable right from Holland; and

Whereas, The Roman law of inheritance was brought by Dutch colonists to these shores, allowing division of property among heirs rather than inheritance by the eldest son; and

Whereas, Equal Rights for women were acknowledged first in the New World in Manhattan (Nieuw Netherland) whereby women were permitted to own property in their own right regardless of marital status, conducted business in their own name, and retained ownership of dowry; and

Whereas, The important field of social services was established by the settlers of Nieuw Netherland on Manhattan with hospitals, and organized charitable associations; and

Whereas, During the American Revolution, The Netherlands became allies, recognized our government and contributed over one-half of the arms, cannons, powder and clothing for the Continental Army; and

Whereas, The Dutch government with confidence and belief in the future of this nation, in 1782 loaned over 5 million guilders to the United States, which constituted the new nation's entire foreign debt; and

Whereas, The first government to recognize the American flag as a symbol of a new nation was The Netherlands; and

Whereas, New York City recognizes its ties with the early colonists and their heritage by the orange, white and blue flag of the City; and

Whereas, The flag, the seal and other official insignia of The City of New York erroneously bear the date of 1664 rather than 1625 as the date of our origin; and

Whereas, The seal of The City of New York includes the arms of the City of

Amsterdam, the windmills of Holland, the beaver and wampum denoting the original trade of The Netherlands in North America; now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Council of The City of New York does hereby call upon the citizens of the City to participate in the celebration of the 700th Anniversary of the City of Amsterdam, thus commemorating the historical and cultural ties between the old and the new world; and be it further,

Resolved, That the date henceforth inscribed in the flag and the seal and all other insignia of The City of New York shall bear the date of origin as 1625, and be it further,

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor of The City of New York, to the Board of Education of The City of New York, and to the Saint Nicolas Society and the Holland Society; and be it further

Resolved, That additional copies should also be sent to J D Ketwich Verschuur, Burgermaster of Breuklen, Dr E I Semkelden, Burgermaster, City of Amsterdam and TH I Westerhout, Burgermaster of Vlissingen.

Adopted

South Africa also has very close links with Amsterdam, which was the head office of the world famous Dutch East Indian Company, (VOC) the founders of South Africa. The directors, the Lords XVII, sent out Commander Jan van Riebeeck with five ships to establish a colony on the shores of Table Bay in 1652.

Also from Amsterdam came many of our ancestors and much of, the Dutch Reformed Churches, the Protestant reli-

gion, Roman Dutch Law, our Cape Dutch architecture and arts and crafts.

The former Dutch colony is now the Republic of South Africa, the wealthiest state in Africa. Like the New Amsterdam of the USA our Cape Town exerts great political and economic influence in its country. The USA is the strongest state in the Americas as South Africa is in Africa.

The Simon van der Stel Foundation congratulates the City of Amsterdam on attaining its 700th birthday. We wish the citizens of Amsterdam many more years of prosperity and progress as a world cultural and commercial centre. In South Africa we too are proud of our association with Amsterdam, a city of great achievements in the field of human endeavour.

—W H J P

Stads herstel voltooide honderd restauranties in de hoofdstad

De Amsterdamse Maatschappij voor Stadsherstel is de grootste restaurerende instelling in den lande. De maatschappij bezit thans 195 panden en bij het aankoopbeleid wordt zoveel mogelijk rekening gehouden met de wensen van de gemeente Amsterdam en met die van de Rijksdienst voor monumentenzorg. Het oogmerk blijft panden aan te kopen, die gedurende de periode tussen de verwerving en eventuele restauratie een bevredigend rendement opleveren.

Stadsherstel houdt bij het aankoopbe-

leid ook rekening met het feit, of zich in de omgeving panden bevinden, die al eigendom zijn van de maatschappij. Dat heeft de directie overigens niet belet om een gebouwtje aan de Buiksloterdijk 228 te kopen – een houten huis waarin voor de annexatie van Buiksloot het raadhuisje was gevestigd.

Het was eigendom van de gemeente Amsterdam maar even voor het passeren van de verkoopakte had de jeugd het al totaal geruïneerd. Op basis van nog bekende gegevens zal het onder leiding van architect Schipper uit Zaandam worden herbouwd. De voorzijde zal een uitzicht bieden over het Noord-hollands kanaal en het daarachter gelegen Florapark.

Volgens het jaarverslag van Stadsherstel was aan het einde van het boekjaar de boekwaarde van de 179 panden, die men eind 1973 bezat f 13 977 000. Men maakte een winst van f 508 512 waaruit een dividend van 5 pct aan aandeelhouders wordt uitgekeerd. De rest wordt aan het algemeen reservefonds toegevoegd.

Veel aanvragen

Hoe groot de belangstelling is voor de huizen van Stadsherstel blijkt wel uit het feit dat men op 31 december jl. 401 gegadigden had ingeschreven voor het huren van een woning. In 1973 kon men 54 woningen toewijzen (gerestaureerd, zowel als niet gerestaureerd). Hoewel het aantal aanvragen voor een woning in de binnenstad zeer groot bleef heeft men het aantal inschrijvingen tot circa 400 beperkt.

Bij het restaureren moet Stadsherstel grote bedragen voorschieten omdat de subsidies van rijk, provincie en gemeente slechts langzaam worden uitbetaald. Het jaarverslag maakt dan ook melding van een toenemend beroep op eigen middelen en (duur) bankkrediet. Gevolg: men moet minder aanvatten bij het restaureren. Die beperking zal ook inhouden dat de huurinkomsten dit jaar niet zo snel zullen stijgen als in de afgelopen jaren. Men denkt in 1974 anderhalf miljoen aan huur te zullen ontvangen, tegen 1,4 miljoen vorig jaar.

Maar wat stellig in het monumentenjaar 1975 als herboren zal worden zijn de desolate panden op de hoek van Paleisstraat en NZ. Voorburgwal tegenover het Kon. Paleis. Stadsherstel was al jaren doende om dit complex te kopen, maar die eigenaar stelde extravagante elsen. Door de schenking van de ABN, ter gelegenheid van de opening van de nieuwe bank aan de Vijzelstraat kon Stadsherstel tot koop overgaan. In het geheel heeft Stadsherstel, dat in 1957 zijn activiteiten begon, thans honderd restauranties voltooid. No. 101 ligt aan de Buiksloterdijk – het houten huis nr. 224 dicht bij het (gesloopte) raadhuisje.

—NRC Handelsblad, 26 Junie 1975

Holland is Kaaps – die Verloren van Themaat-familiewoning in Nederland, omstreeks 1905.

—Foto: Leo Tismeer, Ymuiden



Huge Dutch sea dam delayed

Wildlife protection groups have forced a long halt in the completion of the world's biggest system of sea dams – designed to prevent disastrous floods in south-west Holland.

Vociferous ecologists and environmentalist groups want to preserve oyster and mussel beds as well as breeding grounds for fish in the eastern Scheldt estuary, even although this means danger for more than 100 000 people from the treacherous North Sea.

The preservationists raised such an outcry that the Government was forced to abandon the original scheme and produce new plans likely to cost the country an additional R525-million.

The Government had planned to dam off all the arms of the sea ever since a spring tide, whipped up by a raging gale, overwhelmed the dykes in this delta region in 1953 and inundated huge areas lying below sea level.

At least 1 800 people lost their lives when the sea surged through the breaches, engulfing most of the bleak islands with their small farms and market towns.

All the other sea farms and inlets, except the eastern Schelt, have now been dammed, but the environmentalists have sprung into action to prevent the final closure which would turn the tidal reaches into a vast inland fresh water lake and destroy marine life.

The Government's experts on water control are now almost at a loss for an engineering solution which can safeguard both the people and the fish.

"We are scouring the world for scientific

help to enable us to build a barrier system that will let the sea water through, and can still be closed off in times of danger," said Mr Cornelius Fischer, a senior official of the Transport and Waterways Ministry, involved in the delta plan.

"The fearsome problem, above all, is how to build on fine sand for about 9 km across the eastern Scheldt, with its racing tidal currents."

The ambitious delta scheme, still the first of its kind in the world, was designed to shorten the coastline by pushing back the North Sea. It would allow complete control of Holland's water system and regulate the flow of the Rhine estuary.

The planned cost for the entire scheme was about R790-million until the environmentalists stepped in.

"If we can find a solution for the eastern Scheldt, it will probably mean sinking dozens of floating concrete sections each weighing about 150 000 tonnes or more across the mouth," Mr Fischer said.

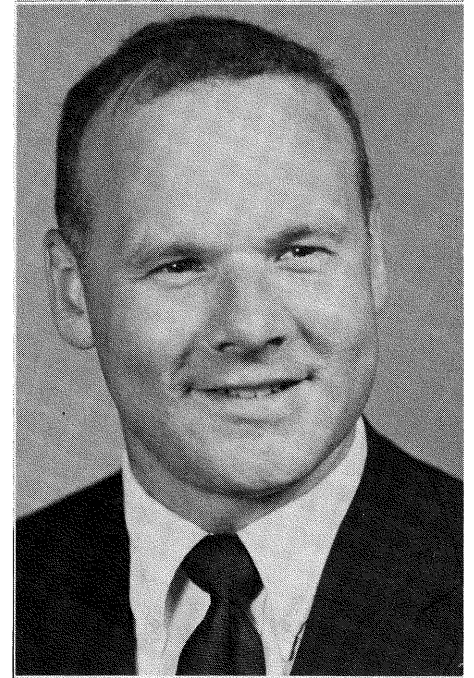
"Each of those blocks would be as heavy as a laden oil supertanker. This has never been done before and nobody knows how the sand below would react in the long run to the weight and the vibrations from current."

Holland, much of which lies below sea level is protected from the sea and rivers by 1 800 km of dunes and dykes. Without them, the country would either disappear into the water or become uninhabitable. The first massive protection and land reclamation scheme was completed in 1932 when a dam 32 km long closed the Zuyder Zee in northern Holland, allowing more than 225 000 ha of land to be reclaimed. The Zuyder Zee turned into a huge fresh water reservoir, named Lake IJssel.

—Pretoria News, March 6, 1975

USA

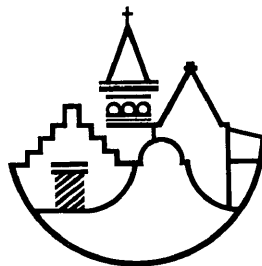
Personalia



George J Mann has been appointed Associate Professor of Architecture and Planning, and Director of the Health Services Planning & Design Programme at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture & Planning in New York City. He will also open a New York City office of RPD – Resource Planning & Development of which he is President.

STIGTING SIMON VAN DER STEL FOUNDATION

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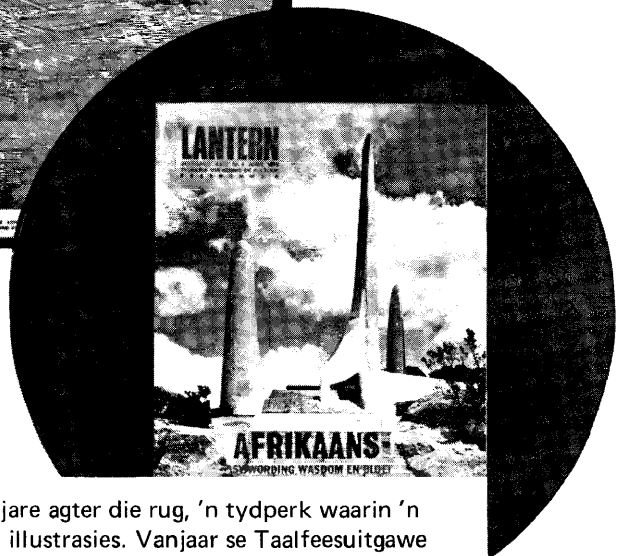
BEWAAR ONS ERFENIS
U KAN BYDRA TOT WARE VOORUIT-
GANG. SLUIT AAN BY 6 500 MEDE
SUID-AFRIKANERS. WORD 'N MEDE
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LANTERN



LANTERN – Tydskrif vir Kennis en Kultuur – het pas 25 vrugbare jare agter die rug, 'n tydperk waarin 'n stewige bydrae gelewer is met gesaghebbende artikels en interessante illustrasies. Vanjaar se Taalfeesuitgawe van LANTERN geniet groot belangstelling en is bestem om Africana te word.

LANTERN is 'n skatkamer van kennis wat in elke huis waarin daar kinders is, 'n onmisbare kleinood sal wees. Hier is die ideale bron vir 'n taak of projek wat met verbeelding en afronding uitgevoer kan word!

Van die ruim 100 nommers van LANTERN wat reeds verskyn het, is daar nog omtrent 'n duisend stelle van 50 elk beskikbaar. In dié stelle ontbreek sekere nommers natuurlik, maar so 'n stel van 50 bied nietemin 'n unieke bron van kennis wat vir u en u gesin ure van intellektuele genot sal verskaf. Wat 'n pragtige geskenk vir u seun of dogter wat op skool presteer! So 'n stel, plus 'n indeks, is teen slegs R15 beskikbaar. Die werklike waarde is ongeveer R50.

Teken in op LANTERN en ontvang 4 uitgawes per jaar teen slegs R3.50, d.w.s. minder as R1.00 per uitgawe. Beter waarde vir geld bestaan daar nie! Voltooi onderstaande intekenkoepon of geskenkkoepon. Onthou, dis die ideale Kersgeskenk.

INTEKENKOEPE – LANTERN

Die Redakteur, LANTERN, Posbus 1758, PRETORIA 0001.
 Ek wil graag op LANTERN inteken en sluit 'n posorder/
 poswissel/tjek ten bedrae van R3.50 in.

(LET WEL: Die meeste nommers van LANTERN wat reeds
 verskyn het, is beskikbaar. Pryse op aanvraag.)

My voorname en van:

.....

Adres:

.....

GESKENKKOEPE – LANTERN

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JAN VAN RIEBEECK EN SY GESIN.
Dr A J Böeseke, Tafelberg Uitgewers,
Kaapstad, 1974.

Jan van Riebeeck opnuut bekyk

Dr Anna J Böeseke het met volle inset van haar bekwaamheid as argivariëse navorser, voortrefflike werk gelewer in die vorm van haar hersiene biografie van Jan van Riebeeck. Sy het nuwe fasette toegevoeg tot die bekende feite oor die lewe van die volksplanter aan die Kaap.

Baanbrekerswerk op die gebied is gedoen deur dr Godê Molsbergen wat in 1912 al oor Jan van Riebeeck geskryf het en in 1937 sy "Jan van Riebeeck en zijn Tijd" te Amsterdam laat verskyn het. Die uitgawe is in 1968 in Suid-Afrika heruitgegee met verklarende aantekeninge deur dr Jan Ploeger. In die 37 jaar wat sedert Molsbergen se tweede boek verloop het, het dr Böeseke terdê gebruik gemaak van die geleentheid om sy werk aan te vul en nuwe lig te werp op die veelsydige en energieke Jan van Riebeeck. Tereg erken dr Böeseke ook die bydraes van mnr P J W Beltjes van Arnhem, 'n diepgaande navorser en kenner van alles betreffende Culemborg en die Van|Riebeecks.

Jan van Riebeeck in Oos-Indië

Met besondere agting vir dr Böeseke wil ek my egter tog sekere opmerkinge met betrekking tot hierdie jongste werk van haar veroorloof. Tereg spreek die skryfster haar twyfel uit oor die vermeende bedrog of dan sluikhandel of morshandel van Van Riebeeck toe hy in diens van die VOC, die syhandel op Tonkin (Noord-Viëtnam) bedryf het. Die sogenaamde misdaad van Van Riebeeck word, soos ek tot my teleurstelling by menige lesing oor hom al moes bemerk, steeds nog aanvaar en verkondig. Dit is seker maar die bekende verskynsel van die publiek se belustheid met skandaaltjies. In Van Riebeeck se tyd al het hy self nie aan verdenking kon ontkom nie en waarskynlik het die Here XVII en seker die magtige VOC-advokaat, 'n vraagteken agter sy naam geplaas. Dit was maar 'n newelagtige saak.

Dit is tog vreemd, want *nooit* is enige oneerlikheid aan die kant van Van Riebeeck teen hom bewys nie. Opvallend ook is die onverwagte en ongebruiklike gang insake die optrede teen hom. Hy is ontbied weens "verdiende straf", om na Batavia terug te keer deur die swakke en onbetroubare Goewerneur-generaal C van der Lijn, wat self weens morshandel al by die Here XVII onder verdenking gestaan het. Om homself te vrywaar van verdenking het Van der Lijn hard opgetree en strengte plakkate uitgereik. Een van sy eerste slagoffers was die jonge koopman te Tonkin, Jan van Riebeeck. Die groep jong amptenare te Tonkin het besondere winsgewende sake in die syhandel gedoen. Tydens Van Riebeeck se kragtige

aandeel aan die VOC se sake te Tonkin is daar 1 400 000 gulde wins gemaak. Die Here XVII het Van der Lijn laat weet, sonder vermelding van bron of staving van die bewering, dat daar op Tonkin vir 75 000 gulde aan private handel gedryf is. Deur snelle optrede in die aanwysing van enkele sondebokke, waaronder Van Riebeeck, is die aandag van Van der Lijn self en van sy handlangers afgelei. Die jong amptenaar het geen vriende in hoë kringe in Batavia gehad nie. (Antonio van Diemen is deur Van der Lijn opgevolg).

Met sy terugkoms te Batavia is Van Riebeeck na lang beraad met 132 gulde beboet. In dié verband is dit belangrik om in gedagte te hou wat die amptelike straf vir morshandel in die VOC was: 'n boete van drie maal die waarde van die verhandelde bedrag plus verbeuring van rang en voordele. Dit sou dus beteken dat Van Riebeeck gestraf is vir private handel ter waarde van net 44 gulde!

Afgesien van die onbenulligheid van die bedrag is dit ondenkbaar dat 'n man wat hom so ingespan het vir bevordering soos Van Riebeeck gedoen het, sy loopbaan vir so 'n bedraggie in gevaar sou stel. Daarby is dit ook van belang om te weet dat Van Riebeeck na Nederland teruggekeer het met behoud van rang en voordele en nie ontslaan is nie.

Hieruit wil mens aflei dat die Here XVII nie aansien wou verloor maar ook nie rede gehad het om teen Van Riebeeck op te tree nie. Die onregverdigheid van die optrede teen hom en die kwetsing van sy selfrespek, was vir Van Riebeeck 'n sware slag. Heftig en by herhaling het hy geprotesteer by die Here XVII vir versyde stelling van die veroordeeling te Batavia. Toe Van Riebeeck besef dat die Here XVII nie sou toegee nie, neem hy self sy ontslag uit die VOC.

In teenstelling hiermee is Goewerneur-generaal Van der Lijn ondertussen deur die Here XVII teruggedroep en ontslaan. Ook dien genoem te word dat koopman Elias Bondaan, wat vir vyf jaar teen 'n salaris van 60 gulde op Surat en Basra werksaam was, by sy dood in 1653 35 287 gulde in sy boedel gelaat het wat nie verklaar kon word nie. Goewerneur-generaal Jan van Hoorn (1704-1709) met 'n salaris van 14 400 gulde, het volgens Romeyn na Nederland teruggekeer met 'n kapitaal van 10-miljoen gulde sonder dat daar 'n haan na gekraai het. Hy het beweerd dat hy veel geërf het.

Prof C Boxer, groot hedendaagse kenner van die Nederlandse koloniale geskiedenis, wys daarop dat morshandel in die Britse Oos-Indiese Kompanjie so 'n omvang aangeneem het dat, soos hy dit gestel het, die Tien Gebooe suid van die ewenaar nie bestaan het nie.

Dit is duidelik dat morshandel wel plaasgevind het en dat Van Riebeeck die slagoffer van amptelike optrede daarteen geword het terwyl menige van die werklik skuldiges vry-

gespring het. Dit is redelik om aan te neem dat Van Riebeeck, wat tot op daardie stadium snelle opgang in VOC diens gemaak het, die slagoffer was van anonieme en onbewese aantygings, iets wat hy vir die res van sy lewe nie sou kon vergeet nie.

Hy moes toesien hoe ander amptenare met kontakte in hoë VOC kringe hom verbygaan en poste kry waarvoor hy uit sy kennis, ervaring en ywer reg op gehad het, soos die amp van Raad van Indië.

Betekenis van Jan van Riebeeck

Ek het bemerk dat daar in Suid-Afrika elemente is wat die betekenis van Van Riebeeck vir die land wil verkleineer. Juis daarom meen ek, is dit nodig dat die voorafgenoemde so dikwels verkeerd voorgestelde episode in Van Riebeeck se lewe, in die regte lig gestel word.

Dr Böeseke bring in haar boek goed tot sy reg, die onskatbare waarde en betekenis van Jan van Riebeeck as volksplanter en beleids-pionier van die nedersetting en halfwegstasie van die VOC aan die Kaap. Mens hoef maar net Van Riebeeck se dagboek te lees om te wete te kom dat hy en nie die Hugenote nie, die eerste wyn aan die Kaap gepars het. Hy het die moontlikhede van druiwe-teelt al vroeg ingesien en het druiwestokke in groot hoeveelhede en soorte ingevoer. In Augustus 1659 het hy 12 000 wynstokke laat plant.

Volgens die "Chronicle of Cape Commanders" kon in 1670 vermeld word, "grapes flourish here in such abundance" en "the ships are supplied with an abundance of grapes in season."

Mens hoor ook soms die argument dat die Engelse goewerneurs van hoër stand was as die Nederlandse. Britse goewerneurs was dan altyd edelliede, terwyl die Nederlanders vir Jan, Simon of Willem as bestuurders na hul kolonies gestuur het.

Wat egter verswyg word is dat die Britse vors aanstaande goewereurs kort voor hul vertrek na die paleis ontbied en tot 'n ridder-order verhef het. Die Republiek der Verenigde Provinciën het as republiek, geen sodanige adeldomme verleen nie. Hierby dien onthou te word dat die VOC 'n handels-onderneming was wat alle belang daarby gehad het om goeie sakemanne en administrateurs uit te soek. Dit het dan ook die gevolg gehad dat die Nederlanders male sonder tal die Portugese en Britte die loef af gestek het.

Die geboortehuis

Wat die geboortehuis van Jan van Riebeeck betref skryf dr Böeseke dat sy Mnr Beltjes nie in sy beredenering dat Jan van Riebeeck in sy grootvader se huis gebore is kan volg nie. As argivaris is sy reg as sy van mening is dat daar geen dokumentêre bewys voor is nie. Maar dit is ook reg dat die historikus

uit ander beskikbare gegewens tot so 'n gevolgtrekking kan kom.

In verband met ene Gerrit Janz Bos uit Spijkenisse, wat vrygeleide in Culemborg gevind het, verklaar Anthony van Riebeeck, Jan se vader, dat Bos "dagelyk in syn huys vertoef heeft". Dr Böeseken vind dit vreemd en merk op dat Anthony nóg die eienaar, nóg die huurder van sy skoonvader se huis was.

Ek wil egter daarop wys dat na my oortuiging en algemene Nederlandse opvatting, Anthony en sy vrou by sy skoonouers ingewoon het. Anthony was skeepschirurgyn, was pas getroud, bly in Culemborg, sy vrou verwag 'n baba, sy skoonouers se huis is groot en ruim met plek vir vele, die verstandhouding is goed. Vir my is dit duidelik waar hy ingewoon het al staan dit nie nadruklik in 'n argiefstuk nie.

Anthony het van 1618 sy beroep vanuit Culemborg beoefen en twee jaar na die geboorte van Jan, verduidelik hy sy uitdrukking "syn huys" deur te sê, "als gewoon hebbende in syner huysvrouen vaders huys". In hedendaagse Nederlands sou mens sê, "inwonende bij zijn schoonvader". Inderdaad, geen vaste bewys dat Jan wel in daardie huis gebore is nie, maar tog heel redelik om aan te neem, onder die gegewe omstandighede, dat Jan wel daar die eerste lewenslig moes aanskou het. Dr Böeseken is tog ook bereid om te aanvaar, al bestaan daar geen stukke oor nie, dat Jan in die Barbarakerk gedoop is.

As Nederlander bekend met 17e eeuse uitdrukkings is ek nie bereid nie om die, deur Jan van Riebeeck se grootmoeder gebesigde uitdrukking "te coste gaan", te vertaal as "wonen". Ek lees dit eenvoudig vir wat dit is, "in die kost zijn", dus mee aan tafel sit.

Ek heg veel waarde aan uitdrukkings uit die volksmond. Die Colembergers noem al lankal die huis op die hoek van Achterstraat en Binnemolenstraat, die Van Riebeeckhuis, al het dit nog altyd "De Fonteyn" geheet.

Dat Anthony van Riebeeck se skoonvader, nadat Anthony in 1622 na Schiedam verhuis het, die huis laat vergroot het ag ek glad nie, soos die skryfster beweer, bewys dat "die huis te klein geword het vir sy eie gesin en maak dit dus nog onwaarskynliker dat Van Riebeeck met sy vrou en kind ook daar sou gewoon het". Die teendeel is waar, met die vertrek van Van Riebeeck kom daar tog in die reeds ruime huis nog meer ruimte vry.

Schoonvader Govert Anthoniszoon het die hoekpand bewoon en het die "camer" daar langsaan in 1622 tot 'n volwaardige trapgewelhuys verbou. Dit moet gesien word as 'n aanduiding van sy toenemende welvaart en aansien, soos ook blyk uit sy loopbaan in Culemborg.

Die Van Riebeeck-portret

Dit is jammer dat dr Böeseken, in navolging van Godée Molsbergen, weer eens 'n portret opneem, soos in haar "Die Nuusbode", p 46, wat sy Jan van Riebeeck kort voor sy dood noem. Nie alleen toon die oë, neusvorm en mond op die portret dat dit nie dieselfde persoon is as wat in 1650 deur D Craey geskilder is nie, maar ken ons ook 'n tweede portret van die persoon waaruit dit duidelik blyk dat dit Joan van Hoorn is wat van 1704 tot 1709 Goeweneur-generaal van Oos-Indië was. Met sy tweede huwelik is hy getroud met Jan van Riebeeck se kleindogter, vandaar dat die portret in die

versameling familieportrette van 'n nasaat, jhr mnr J H F K van Swinderen, tereg gekom het. Die jonkheer het die versameling aan die Nederlandse staat aangebied vir plasing in die Rijksmuseum. Dat die Van Riebeeck familiewapen se drie ringe op die portret voorkom kan twee redes hê: óf dit is later aangebring, óf Van Hoorn het die Van Riebeeck-wapen belangriker geag as syne en so kom sy vrou se wapen op sy portret. Wat Craey se portret van Jan van Riebeeck betref het Röntgen-ondersoek bewys dat dit nie oorgeskilder is nie.

Waar was Jan van Riebeeck tussen 1648 en 1651

Dr Böeseken betwyfel dit dat Van Riebeeck gedurende 1648 tot 1650 seereise na die Weste en Groenland sou gemaak het. Ek wil hierin met haar saamstem. As Jan van Riebeeck sulke reise onderneem het sou dit in sy hoedanigheid as skeepschirurgyn moes gewees het. Hy het hom egter tussen 1639 en 1648 gewy aan sy administratiewe loopbaan by die VOC en die chirurgie links laat lê.

Dit alleen sou twyfel wek oor die waarskynlikheid van sulke reise, maar te meer nog, hy is op 28 Maart 1649 getroud, op 15 Oktober 1649 staan hy sy suster Geertruyd by as voog en op 13 Maart 1650 is sy eersteling gebore. Hy moes dus biologies gesproke ook tuis gewees het middel Junie 1649. Walvisvaart was 'n langdurige saak, minstens vier maande vanaf begin Mei tot einde Augustus, soos ook uit die joernaal van Michiel de Ruyter blyk. Dat Van Riebeeck dan vanaf laat Junie tot laat September 1649 op 'n walvisjagvaart kon gewees het, kan as onmoontlik aanvaar word.

Gedurende 1650 sou hy na die Weste kon gegaan het, maar gesien dat hy nie meer chirurgie beoefen het nie is dit ook onwaarskynlik. Daarby ook was juis in die tyd die saak van 'n kolonie aan die Kaap sterk onder oorgeweging deur die Here XVII. Van Riebeeck was hierby sterk betrokke met sy voorlegging oor die saak en sy aansoek om die kommandeurskap. Hy sou eerder in Amsterdam naby die Here XVII wou wees as êrens ver ter see.

Restourasie van De Fonteyn

Ten slotte nog enkele opmerkings oor die slotdeel van dr Böeseken se boek, die stuk oor die hedendaagse gebeure met betrekking tot die restourasie van De Fonteyn, die Van Riebeeckhuis in Culemborg.

Dit is jammer dat skryfster na soveel nougesette studie en navorsing op die laaste nie die voor die handliggende bronne geraadpleeg het nie. Niks sou makliker gewees het as om met die Suid-Afrikaanse Stigting Jan van Riebeeck, in die persone van die voorsitter dr W H J Punt of regter V G Hiemstra, in verbinding te tree en ook met die Nederlandse Stigting Jan van Riebeeck-huis waarvan ek die onder-voorsitter is. Laasgenoemde Stigting is die eienaar van die Huis en het die restourasiewerk laat onderneem volgens restourasieplanne van argitek C W Rooyards.

Volgens die skryfster het regter Hiemstra, toentertydse voorsitter van die SA Stigting Jan van Riebeeck, R32 000 aan die Nederlandse regering vir die restourasie oorhandig. Die bedrag is ingesamel in Suid-Afrika en aan die Stigting Jan van Riebeeckhuis oorhandig. Dit het die aanvang van restourasie-

werksaamhede moontlik gemaak en ook dat owerheidsubsidies betaal kon word. In Nederland kan die sentrale, provinsiale en plaaslike owerhede subsidies bestaan vir die restourasie van aangetekende of beskermd monumente.

De Fonteyn was reeds 'n monument en is aan die Stigting Jan van Riebeeckhuis vir 1 gulde verkoop deur die Stadsraad van Culemborg. Met dié transaksie en die latere inrigting en aanwending van die huis het die Nederlandse staat niks te make nie.

Regter Hiemstra het in 1968 die Suid-Afrikaanse bydrae in die Culemborgse stadshuis aan my as die waarnemende voorsitter van die Stigting Jan van Riebeeckhuis oorhandig.

Op 7 April 1971 is die voltooiing van die restourasie gevier deur besigting van die huis na 'n dinee die vorige aand in die Muiderslot. Bestuurslede van die Nederlandse en Suid-Afrikaanse stigtings en hul eggenotes was teenwoordig.

Die Huis bestaan uit drie pande en die restourasiekoste het op die ou end 650 000 gulde beloop. Die eerste twee is die geboortehuis van Jan van Riebeeck en is as museum en vergaderplek ingerig. Die derde huis is nou die opsigtersistoning. Die restourasieprojek word allerweë in Nederland as uiters geslaagd beskou. Maar hoe mooi dit ook al is, die gerestoureerde huis moes gemeubeleer word en in die verband het weer 'n Suid-Afrikaanse handbystand verleen. Mnr Pepler Scholz, besturende direkteur van Sanlam, het na 'n gesprek met my onderneem om 'n borgingskema in Suid-Afrika voor te hou. Dit was geslaag en kon ons vir ongeveer 90 000 gulde antieke meubels aankoop uit bydraes van Suid-Afrikaanse maatskappye. Vanweë 'n toekenning van die Visser-Neerlandia-prijs kon ons die nodige geelkoperkronie (hangkandelare) bekom. Deur die goedgeunstige medewerking van die Rijksinspecteur voor de Roerende Monumenten en verskeie musea en universiteite, kon ons stukke in bruikleen bekom en van die Stigting Brandsen van de Zijp het ons skilderye van Van Riebeeck-nasate in bruikleen kon kry.

De Fonteyn gee nou 'n beeld van die bewoning in Jan van Riebeeck se tyd en is besig om 'n studiesentrum vir Van Riebeeck en sy tyd en die 17e en 18e eeuse Nederlandse seereise te word. Die biblioteek besit reeds 12 dele van die beroemde Bleau-atlas en 'n volledige Linschoten-stel van 72 dele. Daar word nog steeds gepoog om die boekery en kaartversameling uit te brei. Kaarte van Decima, Taiwan, Malakka, Tonkin en ander plekke waar Jan van Riebeeck die VOC gedien het, sal hopelik mettertyd tot die versameling gevoeg kan word.

Beide die Stigtings dien graag as kanaal vir verdere skenkings aan De Fonteyn.

Ek het groot waardering vir dr Böeseken se werk in verband met Jan van Riebeeck en sy lewe en werk. Haar boek beveel ek graag aan, elke beskaafde Afrikaner behoort die lewe en werk van sy volksplanter te ken. By die Suid-Afrikaanse publiek is daar myns insiens te weinig kennis en insig oor die pionierstyd van Suid-Afrika se ontstaan. Dr Böeseken se boek bied 'n baie nuttige introduksie daartoe en sal hopelik verdere publikasies stimuleer.

—TON KOOT
Amsterdam 1975

(Vertaling W J Punt)

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THE BRENTHURST BAINES. By Marius and Joy Diemont, The Brenthurst Press, Johannesburg 1975.

Thomas Baines se bydrae tot ons Suid-Afrikaanse kultuurhistoriese kennis en ons kunsskatte is bekend en word al lank erken. Baines-skilderye word so hoog geag dat die Kaaplandse Provinsiale Administrasie onlangs een van die weiniges wat ooit opveelings kom, teen R18 000 aangeskaf het. Seker die grootste versameling van Baineswerke is in besit van mnr H F Oppenheimer in Johannesburg. Mnr Oppenheimer het 'n besondere diens gelewer aan Suid-Afrika deur sy versameling te laat versorg en redigeer vir publikasie. Dr Eric Axelson van die Universiteit van Kaapstad tree op as algemene redakteur vir The Brenthurst Press wat van tyd tot tyd Baines-publikasies sal laat verskyn.

Die eerste publikasie is onderneem deur Sy Edele regter M A Diemont en mev Diemont. Hulle het uitmuntend daarin geslaag om in The Brenthurst Baines die kunstenaar en sy werk aan die leser voor te stel en om daaruit 'n besondere beeld van Suid-Afrika in middel van die 19e eeu in te klee. Thomas Baines se eie vertelling en sy sketse, tekeninge, olieskilderye en akwarelle, voer die leser mee op sy reise. Dit is 'n leersame en verrykende ervaring.

Die boek beslaan 183 bladsye met nagenoeg 200 illustrasies. Tegnies is die boek ook van besonder hoë gehalte. Die redakteur en die outeurs en mnr Oppenheimer verdien ons gelukwense en waardering vir hierdie besondere bydrae tot Suid-Afrika se kuns- en kultuurdokumentasie.

The Brenthurst Baines kan bestel word van Frank Thorold (Pty) Ltd, Posbus 241, Johannesburg, 2000 teen R100 vir die standaarduitgawe en R300 vir die spesiale uitgawe.

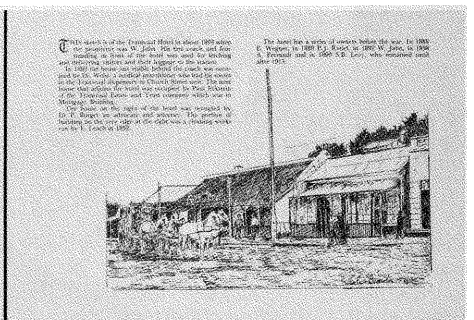
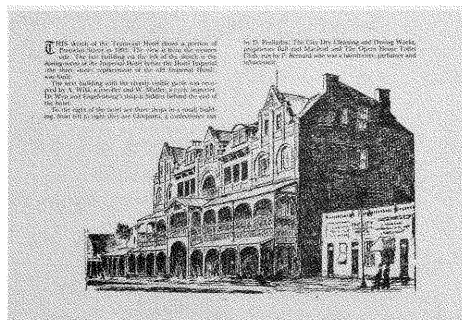
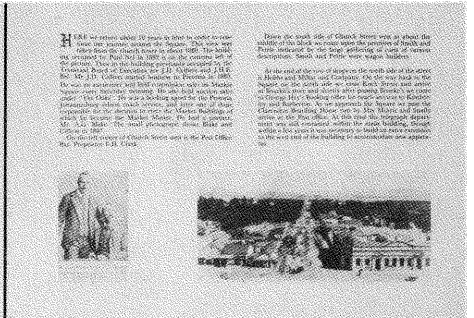
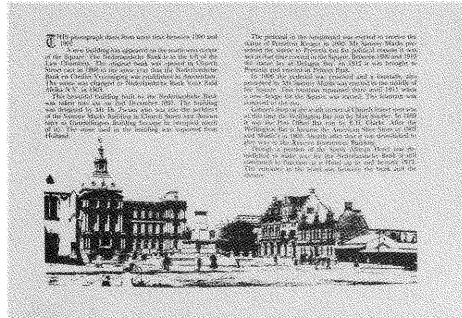
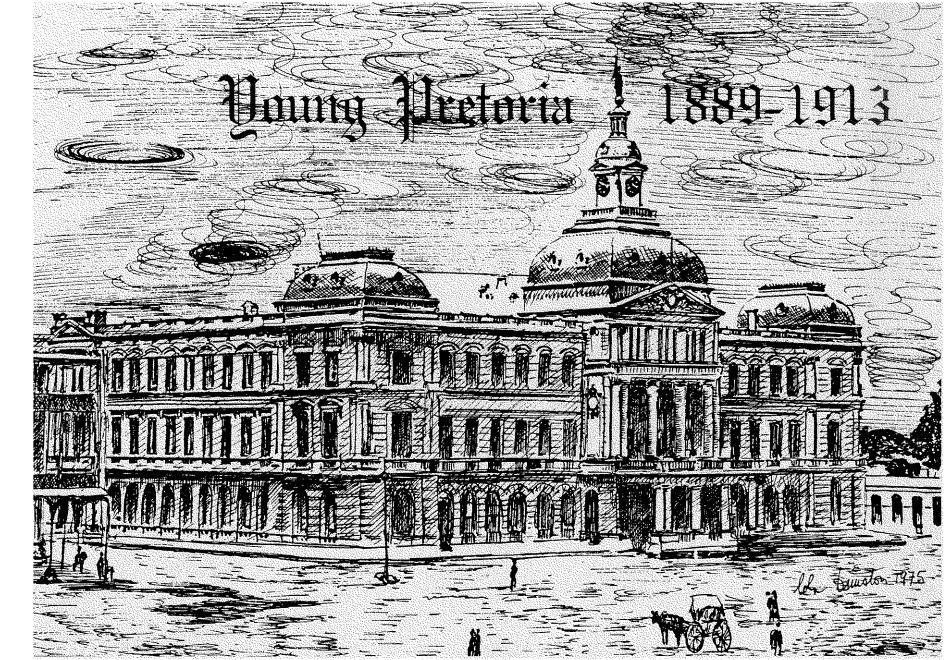
—W J P

YOUNG PRETORIA 1889-1913.

By Lola Dunston, in collaboration with Dr Tom Dunston, Pretoria 1975.

This is a book about Pretoria around the turn of the century. It is a time when the people, big and small, that we have mentioned in this book were building tradition on which we who came later could build on into the future. It attempts to lift the veil that clouds our memory of the places and people that lived and planned and died in those days.

Time passes so fast and so silently that we are in the future before we know it and that interesting past has gone forever. We have attempted to hold on to that past so that in your leisure hour you may wander back in time to Pretoria as your fathers and grandfathers knew it.



There are still many people living who are descendants of those who people this book and many of these living are unaware of the activities of their forefathers. Here they may find a long lost relative and stroll the streets of Young Pretoria in the company of one long gone. Lastly this book attempts to awaken in some of those who are intent on destroying all the traditions of Young Pretoria a pity and regret that may change their minds.

The book comprises 328 pages, 210 x 297

mm, printed in deep sepia. There are 355 illustrations of which 74 are drawings by Lola Dunston. The limited edition of a 1 000 copies costs R27,00 and a de luxe edition of 125 copies of R100 each, numbered and autographed, printed in deep sepia on Aquarello old Master 120 gsm bound in full maroon Morocco leather. A special litho-print of a drawing, not appearing in the book, will be included.

Young Pretoria can be ordered from the author at PO Box 19146, Pretoria 0117.

DIE OUDSTE SILWER IN DIE KAAP, pragboek van prof D Bax

Daar bestaan al 'n taamlike groot aantal boeke en publikasies oor die silwer wat in die tweede helfte van die agttiende eeu en ook in die negentiende eeu in die Kaapkolonie gemaak is. Die doopbekken wat Johannes Hasse in 1752 vir gebruik in die Grootte Kerk in Kaapstad vervaardig het, is die eerste van 'n groot reeks voorwerpe van silwer wat uit die periode van na 1751 bewaar gebly het en vandag nog bestaan. Oor die bedryf van die Kaapse silwersmede vóór 1752 was tot nou toe egter bra min bekend, en oor wat van hul werk bewaar gebly het, nog minder. Dis om dié rede dat prof D Bax aan hierdie silwer lang jare van noukeurige ondersoek bestaan en die resultate daarvan nou in 'n boek uitgegee het.*)

Tipografie

Meesal word aan die einde van 'n bespreking iets gesê oor die voorkoms van 'n boek, maar hierdie is so vakkundig-deeglik geset en gedruk en die ingewikkelde en moeilike tipografie maak so 'n rustige en onopvallende indruk dat dit 'n lus vir die oog is. Die afwesigheid van elke vorm van pretensie gaan selfs so ver dat die boek geen hardeband het nie en dat die feit dat daar net 700 gedruk is nêrens vermeld word nie. Dit is dan ook 'n tipies Nederlandse wetenskaplike uitgawe op sy beste.

Maar nadat 'n mens die tipografie bewonder het, bly die inhoud tog die belangrikste en die feite wat prof Bax aan die lig bring, gee 'n nuwe dimensie aan die vakbedrywigheid van die silwersmede aan die Kaap. Dit het in sekere sin al kort ná Jan van Riebeeck se aankoms begin, want Gijsbert Heecq maak in sy dagboek melding van 'n merkwaardige gebeurtenis wat hom in 1655, toe hy aan die Kaap was, in die omtrek Kloofnek sou afgespeel het.

Volgens hom het toe 'n silwersmid wat as soldaat in die Kompanjie se diens was tussen Tafelberg en Leeukop 'seker silwermyne' ontdek. Uit die silwer wat hy uitgesmelt het, sou hy toe 'n lepel gemaak het. Hierdie 'silwer' het egter swart geword en was dus van baie slegte gehalte of was hoegenaamd nie silwer nie.

Begin

Professor Bax stel dan ook die eintlike bewysbare begin op 1669, sewe jaar ná die vertrek van Van Riebeeck. Daniël Egt, afkomstig uit Gotenburg in Swede, het toe verskillende silwervoorwerpe gemaak nl 'n nagmaalservies vir die klein Gereformeerde Kerk. Hoe hy aan die silwer gekom het, word ook vermeld en dit het beslis nie uit Tafelberg gekom nie. Die kerkraad het hom nl honderd silwer riksdalder vir dié doel gegee, en hieruit het hy, twee bekers, 2 tafelborden, 1 schotel, en 2 kommen gemaak en daarna selfs nog 'n bietjie silwer oorgehou.

Soos ons van prof Bax gewoond is, het hy geen argiefstuk hier of in Nederland of selfs in Swede en ander lande, onaangeroer gelaat as dit moontlik antwoorde op sy vrae kon gee nie – en die resultate is soms verbluffend. Hy behandel in die periode tot 1701 oa Reijnier Smedinga. Prof Bax sê niks van hierdie van nie, maar ek vermoed dat dié maar net 'n pseude-verfrieste vorm van 'smit' was, soos daar in Friesland onder meer

ook 'n stalhouer Stallinga en 'n venstermaker Vitringa was.

In hierdie periode was daar aan die Kaap oor die silwersmede Friedrich Gabriel Ment, Christian Mentzing, Helmer Paal, Christoffel Rudolf Dritselaar en Jan Hendrixsz, wat almal behandel word.

Ná Egt se nagmaalservies is die volgende Kaapse silwer wat vermeld word 'n silwer herinneringstukkie in die Suid-Afrikaanse Kultuurhistoriese Museum, wat gemaak is ter ere van die huwelik, op 5 Augustus 1685 aan die Kaap, van Coenraad Visser en Catharina Everts (omdat sy op see gebore is, word sy ook Van der Zee genoem).

Dit stel 'n skip van die Oos-Indiese Kompanjie se Amsterdamse Kamer voor, met vlae en al. Die twee geliefdes wandel hand aan hand op die strand, en op die keersy is twee 'vurige' harte wat deur pyle deurboor word. Die harte staan in brand en rook styg op.

Ook 'n saag steek deur die harte heen. Hy word regs deur 'n meisiehand en links deur 'n mannehand vasgehou wat uit 'n wolk tevoorskyn kom. Hierdie treksaag is moontlik 'n simbool van samewerking in die huwelik of van die idee dat 'n mens in die huwelik moet gee en neem. Op die voorgrond staan twee duifies met die bekies vir mekaar: sinnebeeld van die liefde. Op hierdie kant staan ook 'n rympie:

Dat Godt heeft vast gestelt
tuschen deese beiden
Dat kan geen mensch op
deser aarde scheijden
De Liefde is soo veer en
vast geraakt
Dat sij twee harten in een
Lichaam maakt.

In 1715 stel die Politieke Raad op voorstel van Goewerneur Pasques de Chavonnes reëls vir silwersmede op en doen die embleem van 'hoop', 'n vrouefiguur met anker, sy intree as waarmerk. In 1733 kom dan as 'adelborst' Matthijs Lotter aan die Kaap aan, 'n silwersmid wat aan die Kaap verskillende geslagte van vakmense sou skenk.

Prof Bax behandel dan tot 1751 nog Bruijns, Viedt, Smit, twee Emmerichs, drie Ackermans, Ficker, Fuchs, Bach, Sandoz en Rogiers en bespreek daarna silwer wat uit Nederland ingevoer of uit die Kaap na Nederland uitgevoer is.

Vordering

Ten slotte word afsonderlike hoofstukke gewy aan die silwer van die Gereformeerde en Lutherse kerke in die Kaap, ook dié van Stellenbosch, Drakenstein (Paarl), Roodezand (Tulbagh) en Zwartland (Malmesbury) en dit word afgesluit met silwer voorwerpe in die Ou Stadhuis en die Drostdy van Stellenbosch. Daarin ook 28 afbeeldings.

Uit hierdie opsomming alleen al sal dit duidelik wees dat 'n mens sonder oordrywing kan sê dat die geskiedenis van die Kaapse silwer nou amper 'n eeu vorentoe geskuif is, eintlik tot direk na die eerste vestiging van die Europese gesag.

'n Mens behoort net die begin van David Heller se bekende boek te lees om te sien hoe baie ons sedertdien gevorder het. Dit is trouens verbasend hoe ons kennis van sg Africana in die laaste paar jaar op talle gebiede uitgebrei is en hoe langamerhand 'n hecltemal nuwe kultuurbeeld oprys. Dis nie

in die laaste plaas aan Professor Bax te danke dat dit so is nie.

*HET OUDSTE KAAPSE ZILVER 1669–1751, D Bax. Amsterdam, Noord-Hollandse Uitgevers Maatschappij, 1974. 208 bls. Prys 65 gulden (ongev. R18,00). Summary in English.

C PAMA

CHURCH STREET IN THE LAND OF
WAVEREN by Gawie and Gwen Fagan.
Published by the Tulbagh Restoration
Committee, 1974.

In this absorbingly interesting book, we have a detailed and permanent record of the fascinating story of Church Street in the Land of Waveren (Tulbagh): its early history, its development through the years, the havoc wrought by the earthquake and eventually how it was lovingly restored along its full length to make it the largest and most imposing restoration project in South Africa. The book starts off with a prologue vividly describing the earthquake, followed by an interesting historical background of the "discovery" of this fertile valley as early as 1658, of the first settlers, the building of the first church in 1743 (incidentally, the oldest church building in existence in South Africa today) thus forming the nucleus from which first a street, Church Street, and then a village, Tulbagh, developed.

With the wealth of original research appearing in this book, the detailed restoration plans, perspective sketches and full descriptions of every single house in Church Street; numerous before and after photographs showing the pitiful condition of houses after the earthquake and then restored to their original beauty, this book will enjoy and fascinate a wide readership. It will be treasured as a valuable acquisition not only for the historian, architect and sociologist but also for each one of us who cherishes his cultural background.

This exquisite book will be an inspiration to all bodies and individuals concerned with the preservation of historic buildings. For one thing it proves that where there is a will, there is a way. As the Prime Minister said in his stirring inaugural address: "But where the private sector shows itself prepared to contribute its share towards financing a worthy restoration project, the State can be relied upon sympathetically to consider supporting such a deserving course".

Through the stalwart efforts and self-sacrifice for more than four years, the entire Church Street could be restored. In recognition of their great share in this magnificent effort, the highest award in the preservation field, the gold medal of the Historical Monuments Council, was awarded to four members of the Works Committee, namely its Convenor, Imker Hoogenhout, its Secretary, Gerhard Froneman, and its Architects-team, Gawie and Gwen Fagan.

The successful completion of their self-appointed Herculean task, which speaks so eloquently in the pages of this fascinating book, will be a source of pride and inspiration to the present as well as future generations.

F D CONRADIE, MEC



Slegs die beste is goed genoeg vir Suid-Afrika . . . dit is waarom Yskor steeds uitbrei.

Die Korporasie voorsien reeds die oorgrote meerderheid van die land se staalbenodigdhede, tog word sy produksie verhoog teen 'n sneller tempo as ooit tevore.

Dag in en dag uit lewer Yskor se werke in Pretoria, op Vanderbijlpark en Newcastle die veelsydigste van alle metale . . . vervaardig deur Suid-Afrikaners vir die Republiek se vooruitgang.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE YSTER EN STAAL INDUSTRIËLE KORPORASIE, BEPERK

Hoofkantoor: Posbus 450 Pretoria 0001



Briewe - Letters

Simon van der Stel Foundation
Pretoria 0001
RSA

Dear Fellow Member,

Almost 10 000 Trust members responded to my May 16 letter about the 29th Annual Meeting and Preservation Conference to be held on the eve of the Bicentennial. This response indicates that this will be the largest Trust gathering in history, when more than 50 authorities on many aspects of preservation present their views and solutions to problems we all face. Because of space limitations, a ceiling has been placed on the number of registrants.

There will be four full days of productive working sessions, sightseeing and good fellowship at some 40 events. Mayor Kevin White of Boston has proclaimed October 6-12 National Trust for Historic Preservation Week. As you will see in the enclosed programme there are tours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of historic sites and areas in and around the Boston area, throughout Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire.

The programme provides choices of conference sessions, workshops, tours and special events. Because of the overwhelming interest this year, I urge you to register early specifying your choices on the registration form and sending in your hotel reservation on the postcard. In order to maintain the quality of the content sessions and not overtax the available meeting space, it will be necessary to limit the number of registrants. So please register early.

I hope to see many of you in Boston at what is certain to be our most successful annual meeting yet.

Sincerely,
James Biddle

President, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington DC
USA

August 18, 1975

Dr S M Naude
Voorsitter
Stigting Simon van der Stel
Posbus 1743
Pretoria
0001

Geagte dr Naude,
KIMBERLEY: MARKPLEIN

Ek skryf na aanleiding van ons samespreking op 24 Januarie vanjaar in verband met die voorgestelde aanwending van 'n gedeelte van die Markpleinperseel te Kimberley vir die oprigting van 'n nuwe departementele gebouekompleks.

Soos ooreengekom, is die saak opnuut ondersoek en het 'n verdere bespreking ter plaatse plaasgevind tussen die Burgemeester en

amptenare van die Stadsraad en die Departement.

Voortspruitend hieruit is nou in beginsel besluit om van die Markplein af te sien en liewer 'n ander perseel vir die Departement se doeleindes te verkry.

Alhoewel dit vir ons sekere bykomende uitgawe, ens., meebring, is ek bly dat ons hierin behulpsaam kan wees.

Die uwe,
Posmeester-Generaal

Die Direkteur
Stigting Simon van der Stel
Posbus 1743
Pretoria
0001

Geagte meneer W J Punt,
NASIONALE KONFERENSIE VAN
HISTORIESE VERENIGINGS

Ons hartlike dank vir die verrigtinge wat plaasgevind het op 9 en 10 September 1974 tydens die eerste Nasionale Konferensie van Historiese Verenigings. Ons het die besprekings in verband met bewaring baie interessant gevind, en dit was 'n voorreg om deelname daarin te kon hê.

U word verseker dat die besprekings op bogenoemde konferensie diep inslag gevind het. Die belangrikheid van bewaring en restaurasie is opnuut besef, en word in die NASKO-Museum goed toegepas en sover moontlik uitgedra.

Hiermee ook ons gelukwensing vir 'n puik publikasie wat ons met dank ontvang het. Nogmaals baie dankie.

Die uwe,
(Mev) K Roodt-Coetzee,
Direkteur,
Nasionale Kultuurhistoriese en
Opelugmuseum
Boomstraat, Pretoria

Dear Dr Punt,
MEDAL FROM THE DUTCH
NATIONAL TRUST

I wish to congratulate you on being awarded the medal from the Dutch National Trust for your exceptional contribution to the preservation of Cape Dutch Cultural Heritage in South Africa. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this honour.

With kindest thoughts to you and yours,

Yours faithfully,
H GUILLUM-SCOTT
PO Box 2837
Pretoria 0001
31st May, 1975

Stigting Simon Van Der Stel Foundation

Smalls - Buksies

French Stone Engraver and Painter Decorator

Mr Alain Lebas is an experienced engraver on stone, stone sculptor and painter-decorator on marble, wood and glass. He has worked for Historical Monuments in France on the Rhiems Cathedral and for Grande Societé International "Claude".

Mr Lebas would like to come to South Africa and seeks suitable employment.

M A Lebas
"Les Roches Fleuries" B
22 Avenue de Toulon
83400 HYERES
France

Antiques for Boekenhoutfontein

Persons who have relics of the Voortrekker and early Transvaal periods, ie broadly 1820-1900, suitable for the farmyard and dwelling of a well-to-do Transvaal farmer, are requested to contact the Director Simon van der Stel Foundation, PO Box 1743, Pretoria 0001. The Foundation is engaged in developing the farm of former ZAR State President S J P Kruger as a national trust property and national amenity.

Contributions in cash and kind will be fully acknowledged.

Monument to the 1820 Settlers Bathurst East Cape

Samuel Bradshaw arrived in Algoa Bay from Gloucestershire in April 1820. In 1821 he started building South Africa's first English type water driven wool mill. By 1825 he was producing woollen blankets and kersey cloth.

The Simon van der Stel Foundation has restored the mill and is now adding the mill wheel. Donations for and contributions of suitable equipment and relics will be gratefully accepted for this important monument to South Africa's British pioneers.

Simon van der Stel Foundation
PO Box 1743
Pretoria 0001

Bothsabelo - Sendingmuseum in wording

In sy nasionale heemskutsaak het die Stigting Simon van der Stel verskeie projekte onderneem, waaronder die restaurasie van Fort Merensky in 1961.

Tans word gewerk aan die sendingstasie 'Bothsabelo' of Plek van Toevlug, by Fort Merensky, ongeveer 15 km noord van Middelburg, Transvaal. Die oorspronklike hartbeeshuisstyl-kerkie is reeds gerestoureer. Die groot baksteen kerk van 1874 word tans gerestoureer. Uiteindelik sal Bothsabelo dien as 'n opelugmuseum aan die sending in Transvaal. Bydraes van voorwerpe en kontant word dringend benodig en sal met dank erken word.

Stigting Simon van der Stel
Posbus 1743
Pretoria 0001

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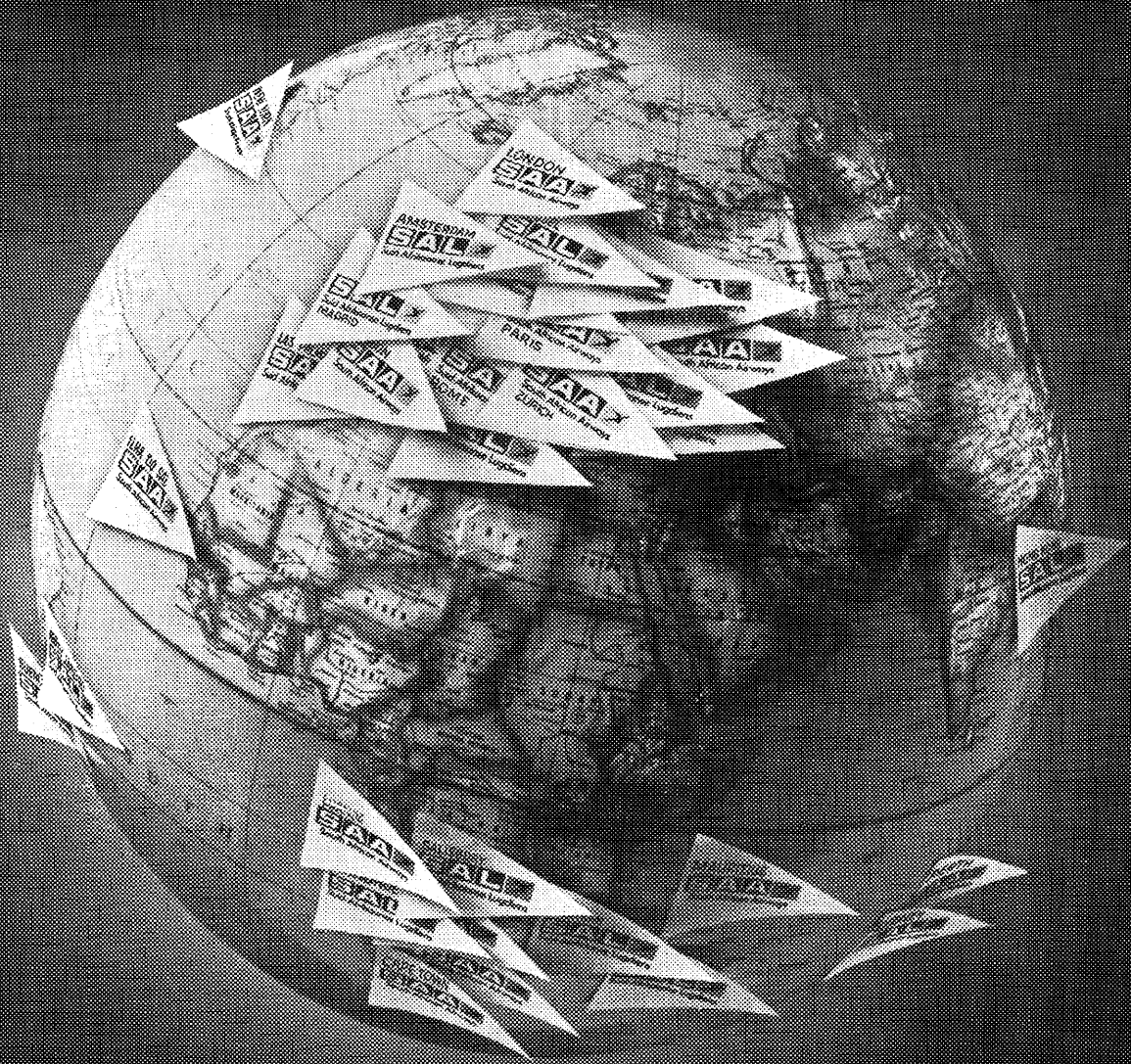


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Dis nie die wêreld wat kleiner word nie.
Dis ons wat groter word.



As mens die Vasteland, die Verenigde Koninkryk, die V.S.A., Suid-Amerika, Australië, en die Verre Ooste met jou diens dek, is jy 'n groot internasionale lugdiens. Soos Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens. En daar's nog 'n rede. Ons groot gasvryheid. Want die oomblik dat u aan boord van een van ons Boeings kom, kan u dit voel. Die lugwaardinne en vlugskeelers weet hoe om u te laat tuis voel. Dit maak nie saak hoe ver van die huis af u is nie.



Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens
Waar almal tuis voel



*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*