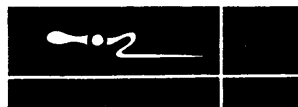
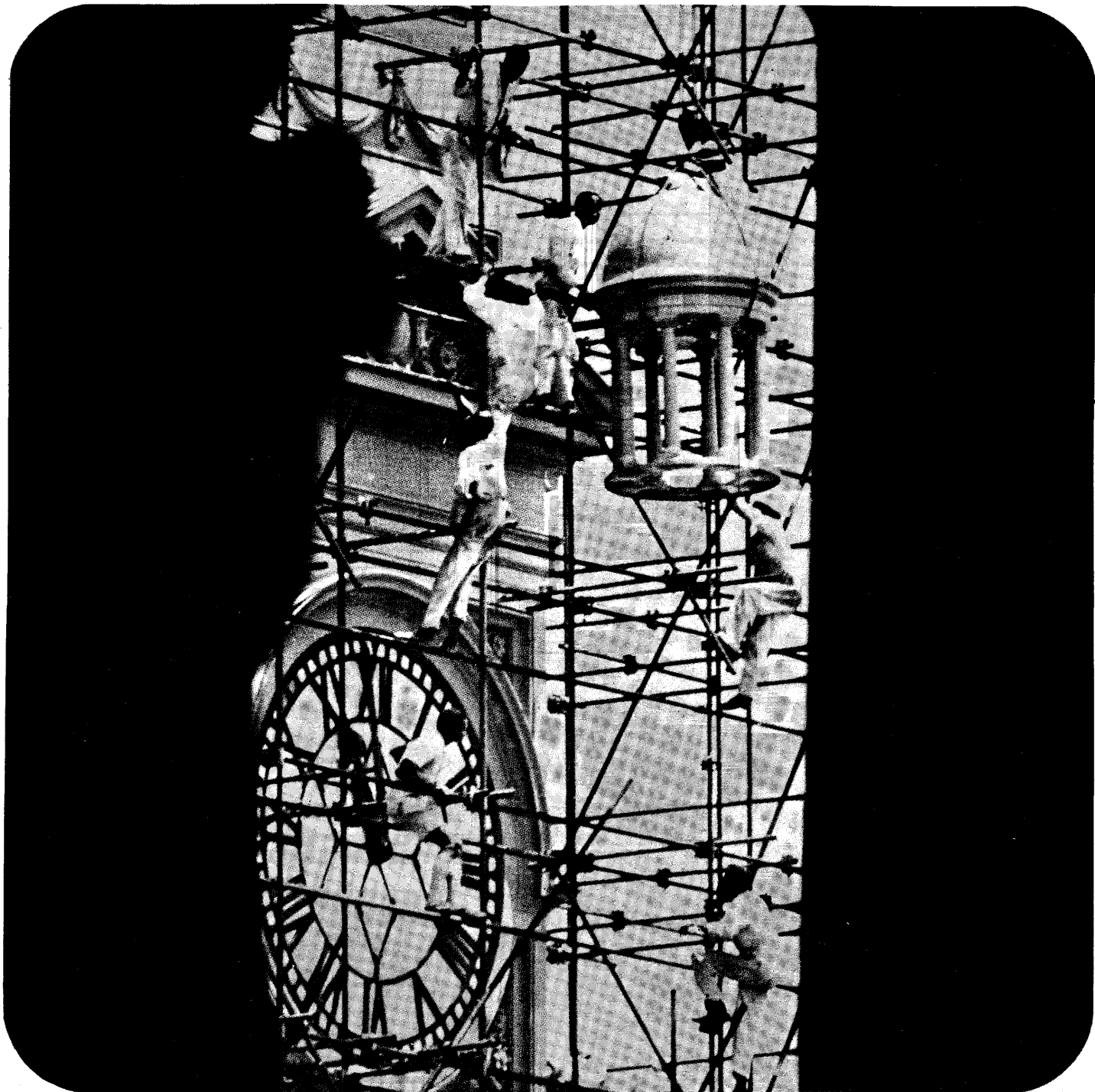




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STIGTING SIMON VAN DER STEL FOUNDATION  
Bulletin Vol. 17 - No. 33 - August/Augustus 1976 - R1,50



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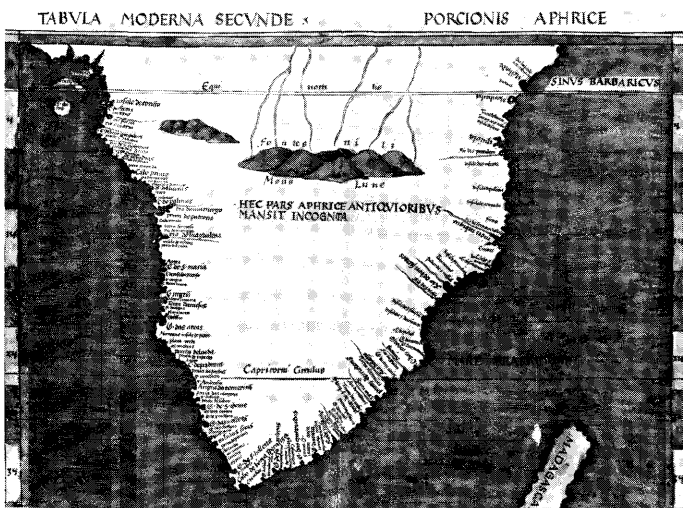
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CALDWELL (EDMUND) ORIGINAL MONOCHROME WATER-COLOUR, 45½ BY 34½ CM. 1883.



WALDSEEMULLER, 1513, FIRST SEPARATELY PRINTED MAP OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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## Algemeen - General

### Wat en waar is die Stigting Simon van der Stel

Volgens die Stigting se Akte van Oprigting en Statute, sy grondwet, is hy bevoeg om al die fasette van bewaringswerk te onderneem. Dit word so beskryf:

**Art 2. Doel, wat die hoofbesigheid beskryf:** Die hoofbesigheid wat die Maatskappy geregtig sal wees om te dryf is: "Om as kultuurliggaam en nasionale heemskutorganisasie, as 'n Vereniging van lede, in die gebied wat by oprigting van die Stigting bekend was as die Unie van Suid-Afrika en Suidwes-Afrika op te tree in belang van bewaring."

**Art. 3 Hoofdoelstelling:** Die hoofdoelstelling van die Maatskappy is: "Om die behoud te bevorder by wyse van aankoop en restaurasie of andersins, van geboue of groepe geboue, en/of van terreine met of sonder geboue, en/of van voorwerpe wat van historiese, kultuurhistoriese, volkekundige, argitektoniese, estetiese, kunswaardige, natuurkundige belang is.

Hierby dien genoem te word dat die Stigting die geregistreerde eienaar van die terme "Nasionale Heemskut", "National Trust", is.

Terloops die Stigting se naam "Simon van der Stel" is al in 1958, voor sy oprigting dus, met algemene byval op besluit omdat Goewerneur Simon van der Stel 'n buitengewoon bekwame en gewilde goewerneur was, al vroeg in sy loopbaan besluit het om hom hier te lande permanent te vestig, gedurende sy ampstermyn bewys gelewer het van sy omgewingsbewustheid en sensitiwiteit vir die skone en omdat hy een van die oudste en mooiste nog bestaande voorbeelde van Kaaps-Hollandse argitektuur gebou het, Groot Constantia.

Die Stigting word periodiek, ongelukkig te dikwels, ongunstig vergelyk met sy eweknieë in ander lande. Om regverdige vergelykings te maak is egter baie moeilik weens die verskille in geografiese grootte, bevolkingstal, bevolkingsdigtheid, bevolkingshomogeniteit, wetgewing, staatsvoorsienings, bewaringsbewustheid en ouderdom.

In Brittanje byvoorbeeld, is daar twee nasionale burgerlike bewegings wat die werk doen wat die Stigting hier doen, die British National Trust en die Civic Trust. Bewaringswetgewing in Brittanje gaan terug tot 1885 en is vandag op 'n besonder doeltreffende peil gebring. Die British National Trust beskik oor 400 000 lede getrek uit 'n bevolking van 50 miljoen

(1/125ste van die bevolking). Die Stigting Simon van der Stel beskik oor 7 000 lede getrek uit 'n bevolking van net 4 miljoen (1/573ste van die bevolking) in slegs 17 jaar.

U weet waarskynlik dat die British National Trust 'n skenking van 'n eiendom slegs sal aanvaar as dit gepaard gaan met 'n kontanttoekenning wat voldoende sal wees om die eiendom mee te restoureer en dan oor 'n tydperk van baie jare instand te hou. Dit gebeur eenvoudig nog nie in Suid-Afrika nie, hoewel daar al hier en daar dergelike geluide na die Stigting se kant gekom het.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse publiek is lank nog nie so bewarings- en omgewingsbewus as wat die geval in die ouer lande is nie. Dat ons mense dit begin word, is egter al duidelik. Hieraan het die Stigting kenmerklik 'n leeu-aandeel. En, belangrik ook, die reeks groot tragedies wat belangrike erfstukke in die afgelope jare getref het.

Dit is die slagoffers van die stootskraper soos die Staatsgimnasium in Pretoria, Sawanhuis in Stellenbosch, Johannesburg se Parktown-huise, Ellis Brownhuis in Durban, Rondgaande Hof 1814-gebou in George en die beplande sloping van die ou telefoonsentrale in Durban, van Kerkplein se Wesfasade. Hierby nog die opskuddings oor die snelweg deur die Knysna-bosse, stapelhuse in Constantia-vallei, bouontwikkeling by Sandy-baai. Ook nog die betonblad op stelte dwarsoor die haweuitsig op Tafelberg, 'n soortgelyke ontwikkeling in Port Elizabeth, en so is daar veel meer.

Maar ook positiewe aksies het tot bewaringsbewustheid bygedra, soos die Stigting se eie restaurasieprojekte en Tulbagh, Kimberley se stadhuis, Stellenbosch se Schreuderhuis om maar net 'n paar by wyse van illustrasie te noem.

In lande soos Brittanje en Nederland waar die nasionale bewaringsliggame al geweldig groot en baie lank gevestig is, is hulle organisatoriese federaal georganiseer. Die bewaringsgedagte onder die mense daar is al uitgekristalliseer met weinig aksentverskille van streek tot streek en met 'n baie sterk loyaliteit en ondersteuning vir die hele organisasie as sodanig onder afdelings, individuele lede en die publiek.

In lande soos Kanada en Australië is die bewegings ook federaal georganiseer. In Kanada volgens die Engels-Franse verdeling en volgens provinsies, in Australië volgens provinsies. In albei lande spruit geweldig probleme hieruit voort.

Federale en uniale stelsels het elk hul voor- en nadele. In Suid-Afrika is ons uniaal georganiseerd, 'n eenheidsbeweging. Hierin lê ons krag. Nie dat ons geen probleme het nie, daar is behoefte aan meer plaaslike identifikasie. Dit sal kom. In ons opset is die uniale die aangewese. Daar word egter voorsien dat die Stigting sodanig sal groei tot waar die stadium bereik word waar dit gerade sal wees om gebiedsrade of afdelings te skep met 'n gesonde mate van omskrewende plaaslike outonomie. Dit dan wanneer dit nie verbroekeling sal beteken nie en wanneer sulke afdelings finansiële staande sal kan bly, wanneer hulle sterk genoeg sal kan wees om 'n hele gebied doeltreffend te dien sonder om gevaar te loop om maar net nog 'n plaaslike historiese vereniging te wees met die naam Stigting Simon van der Stel onder 'n komitee wat honorêr al die werk sal moet doen.

Die Stigting se huidige stelsel van streekkomitees dien uitgebrei te word. Staps-gewys na vermoë word dit ook gedoen. Die bestaande komitees doen belangrike werk vir die Stigting, honorêr, waarvoor daar ook besondere waardering en erkentlikheid bestaan. Hulle het 'n belangrike taak in die uitbouing en versterking van hul Stigting.

Bewaring in die breë sin behels drie uitkenbare aspekte of afdelings. Natuur-bewaring wat betref fauna en flora is een. Dit is goed gevestig, voorsien en bedryf in hierdie land. Tweedens, historiese en fisiese omgewingsbewaring soos wat dit deur die Stigting, die RNG, ander plaaslike bewaringsliggame en historiese verenigings bedryf word. Nog nie op die peil van suiwer natuurbewaring nie, maar tog wel al redelik ontwikkel. Tussen die twee lê daar die derde terrein wat by beide aansluiting vind maar tog selfstandig uitkenbaar is. Dit is die natuurlike omgewings- of landskapbewaringsliggame, in hoofsaak verpersoonlik in die Habitatraad en sy geaffilieerde plaaslike liggames.

Waar by natuurbewaring die klem in die eerste plek op natuurlike ekologie val, val dit by die ander twee, met aksentverskille, in hoofsaak op "menslike ekologie": Diere en plante word om hul eie onthulwe en vir die mens behoed en beskerm. Landskappe, natuurlike omgewings, stads- en dorpsgesigte, pleine, geboue word om menslike redes bewaar. Die Stigting moes in die uitvoering van sy projekte noodwendig 'n vertrekpunt vind. Hy kon immers nie die hele spek-



trum van sy doelstellings in een magtige aksie ten uitvoer bring nie, al het hy van meet af aan besef dat hy eventueel praktiese uitvoering daaraan sal moet gee. Daar is dus begin met klem op bewaring van enkele geskiedkundige en argitektoniese stukke of geboue. Dit moet dan ook gesien word in die konteks van die tyd, 1959. Voorbeelde was Coornhoop, Fort Merensky, Bradshaw-wolmeul en aksies ten behoeve van ander nie-selfverworwe geboue. Later het gekom gebouekomplekse, stedelik en plattelands, soos Boekenhoutfontein en aksies soos vir die behoud van Kerkplein se Wesfasade.

Hoewel hierdie tweede fase lank nie afgehandel en seker nooit sal wees nie, is daar met Boekenhoutfontein en Bothsabelo al beweeg op die derde terrein, dié van natuurlike landskapbewaring met die bedoelde herstel van inheemse plante-groei.

Ons voorsien ook reeds die tyd dat die Stigting hom sal moet wend tot die verkryging van bloot natuurlike of historiese/histories-landelike omgewings. Stukke natuurskoon wat om estetiese en/of historiese redes bewaar moet word. Ongelukkig val dit nog ver buite ons geldelike vermoëns, maar voorbeelde sou wees: Dal Josafat by Paarl, klein ou vergete hawens, stukke kuslyn (ja, selfs Sandybaai!), ou industriële/mynbouterreine (soos Simon van der Stel se ou kopermyn) en parklandskappe in stedelike omgewings. Dit sal 'n verdere deel van die Stigting se "national trust"-bedrywighe-deurs.

En, deurlopend vanaf sy ontstaan tot nou nog, moes die Stigting aanvanklik stok-

sielalleen, maar in die jongste tyd darem met kollegas, die stryd voer om bewaringsbewustheid te kweek en erkenning vir bewaring te verkry. Die erkenning sal kom in die vorm van wetgewing, verbeterde fondsevoorsiening en 'n meer verligte houding jeens bewaring aan die kant van die owerhede. Van die kant van die publiek, individu en handel- en nywerheidswese, meer aandrang op bewaring en koördinasie van beplanning, meer geldelike steun, meer eie uitvoering van restaurasiewerk.

Mens verneem periodiek van meningsuitings oor en oproepe vir die oprigting van 'n nasionale heemskut of "national trust" op die Britse patroon. Dit is jammer, want soos reeds op gewys, bestaan so 'n liggaam reeds 17 jaar lank in die vorm van die Stigting en daarby is die Stigting buitendien ook reeds die eienaar van genoemde terme of benamings. Sulke oproepe verwar die publiek. Dit bemoeilik ledewerwing vir die Stigting. Dit het 'n nadelige uitwerking op die reeds pynlik moeilike taak van fondsinsameling.

Daar is in Suid-Afrika eenvoudig nie plek vir 'n tweede nasionale burgerlike bewaringsliggaam nie, nie met ons relatief klein bevolking en betreklik noue basis van geldbronne vir kulturele aanleentehede nie.

Ons wil diegene wat hulle vir nasionale heemskutaksies wil beywer vriendelik uitnooi om liever van die reeds bestaande gebruik te maak. Kom sluit by ons aan, u sal met ope arms verwelkom word, want ons en die land het u daadkrag, inisiatief en energie nodig – Ex Unitate Vires!

*Redakteur*

ly in the interests of conservation, to provide the citizens with a channel through which to make their conservation voice heard nationally, to amplify their calls for the preservation of their and their children's heritage. That makes it important that the Foundation should acquire a large body of members. That, however, costs money. To fix membership fees at a level where such income would be profitable, would mean that an ordinary annually subscribing member would have to contribute between R35 and R40 per annum. For most people that would be too expensive, with the result that membership would drop and with it income and the Foundation's voice would diminish.

Had we been a sports organisation we should apparently have had far fewer financial problems to contend with. Commerce and industry and the State make enormous amounts available for sport. Sponsorships of hundreds of thousands of rands for sport are common. Cases in point are the recent R500 000 for soccer and cricket, R220 000 for motor racing and the government grant of R80 000 for the World Bowls Tournament. The Foundation and the National Monuments Council have in their whole existence together never had that kind of money available. One wonders where our priorities in South Africa lie, in the evanescence of relaxation or in the perpetuity of cultural assets.

It is understandable that sport is attractive to sponsors because of the high advertising value which results from the high exposure factor. The South African Grand Prix attracts nearly 100 000 spectators plus newspaper, magazine, radio and television coverage. This is not to say that we deny the value to the country of events such as the Grand Prix and Bowls Tournament, not at all. It is, however, short term, of diminishing effect.

Sponsorship of cultural, specifically in our case conservation, projects is less dramatic, less vivid. It is, however, long term, more enduring. The exposure is there, just in smaller doses which are longer lasting. Such sponsorships can have very high advertising value, but it requires more planning, more knowledge, more effort, more follow-up. It can and has been done. Examples are the Mercedes-Benz VOC Collection and the cultural projects of the Rembrandt Group. They have given proof, for which they deserve our thanks. Let us hope that other industrialists and commercial houses will follow their example. In the Simon van der Stel Foundation and its undertakings they will find well-suited projects for sponsorship which will attach their names to projects that enlarge and enhance the nation's store of cultural assets, matters of enduring and increasing value.

*WJP*

## **Inflation and the Simon van der Stel Foundation**

In economic climates such as we are presently experiencing, bodies such as the Foundation find themselves in an extremely difficult position. The Anti-Inflation Campaign results in loss of income. The authorities refuse to increase, sometimes even decrease, grants-in-aid. Commerce and industry simply say they are participants in the Anti-Inflation Campaign and have therefore cut their donations budgets. To crown it all of course, our running costs are rocketing. The Foundation finds itself in a vice grip of reduced income and rising costs. In the short term the Foundation can partially alleviate the situation by increasing productivity by more work performed by fewer employees, by cutting running costs and by freezing of projects. This has been done. In the medium term de-

velopment can be stopped. In the longer term we have to envisage a complete halt to activity. But, freezes and stoppages are in themselves inflationary because when activities are restarted, they are going to cost a lot more to do than if they had been carried out in the first place.

The Foundation's government grant-in-aid has been fixed at a maximum of R21 000 for the past five years. What was R21 000 in 1970 is probably no more than R10 000 today. Should we have kept our personnel and activities at the 1970 level, it would today have cost four times more to maintain anyway. That is even without allowing for normal healthy growth.

The Foundation was established as a national preservation body, South Africa's national trust organisation. It is our purpose and function to operate national-

## How to spend a sporting million

The onset of dusk on Saturday, March 6, signalled the end of Johannesburg's million-rand sports day. At Zoo Lake the curtain was drawn on the R560 000 World Bowls Championships, while only 30 km away in Kyalami, team mechanics were packing up the Formula One racing machines that had competed in the R540 000 Citizen Grand Prix of South Africa.

The crowds dispersing from the two venues were a study in contrast, from the mod, stylishly dressed fashion-setters at Kyalami to the Panama-hatted and white flannel-draped older brigade at Zoo Lake. The only thing they had in common was size of numbers.

But while the two events drew an entirely different type of spectator, the immense cost of each was a common denominator. The air fares to bring over about 200 sportsmen representing 33 different national teams was R288 900, of which the Grand Prix organisers, who had to fly out the racing cars, accounted for R200 000.

There was a lot of preparation before both events became reality. The bowls organisers had to start from scratch to prepare a venue. About R146 000 was spent to transform the inauspicious Zoo Lake Bowling Club into a colourful conglomeration of tents, stands, restaurants, bars and added greens.

The South African Motor Racing Club (SAMRAC), although it has permanent facilities at Kyalami, had to lay out R80 000 for improvements to the track.

The bowls tournament was strictly an amateur affair, but SAMRAC had to budget R250 000 in a parcel deal to guarantee the Formula One constructors appearance money for the cars. This was the biggest single expense of the Grand Prix.

Without spectator support both events would have been an impossibility. So a total of R74 000 was spent on promotion, printing and stationery. The Grand Prix absorbed R59 000 of that amount.

Gate receipts – the bowls took in about R50 000 and the Grand Prix expected receipts of about R390 000 – did not cover the huge expenditures. So both events depended on sponsorship to cover costs. The World Bowls received R80 000, the biggest-ever grant from the Department of Sport and Recreation. Nine private sponsors donated a total of R213 000. Small individual sponsors chipped in R21 000, the City of Johannesburg provided a R20 000 third green and the SA Bowls Association offered to pick up the expected R50 000 loss.

Fertiliser magnate Louis Luyt indemnified SAMRAC for losses of up to R220 000. But director Alex Blignaut of SAMRAC was told that if he did not trim

down the deficits traditionally suffered by the Grand Prix, he could expect no money from Luyt's projected new daily newspaper, *The Citizen*, next year.

Blignaut, although he disagreed with calling this year's edition "the Austerity Grand Prix", told *To the Point*: "We're going to beat the break-even point this year. If we can save Mr Luyt some money, he'll be back with us again next year. Although it takes about three months to audit revenue, we feel we can collect from R50 000 to R80 000 extra with the same crowd we had last year." Just how he planned to do it he refused to say. Money received from television rights should help Blignaut on his way. Although the SABC is notorious among local sport promoters for its tight budget, overseas TV companies have relatively loose purse strings. For example, French television interests paid R2 500 for the rights to film a 45 minute segment of last Saturday's race. American and other European interests have also paid.

*To the Point*, March 12, 1976

## Antiques Exchange - Oudhede-Beurs

Through *Restorica* the Simon van der Stel Foundation can now offer a unique new service to members and non-members alike. We are providing a section for persons who wish to buy or sell historic buildings, antique furniture, works of art, historic documents and Africana, period building materials, antique vehicles, etc. This service is open to private individuals and commercial concerns alike.

*Restorica* has at present a circulation of 8 000 and a readership of about 35 000, all people who naturally are the type of person with an above average interest in and knowledge of things which may be loosely described as being of historic or cultural value, antiques in the broad sense. The owner of a historic building may wish to sell, but he wants to ensure that the new owner will treasure the old building as he has done. This narrows the field of potential buyers to those who may be suitable which the estate agents can trace in their particular area of operations. Through *Restorica*, such a seller could reach a very considerably larger portion of the right type of potential buyers.

Or someone may wish to buy a particular piece to complete a set. He can of course travel the country looking for it and will no doubt eventually find what he wants. It would however be sensible and a lot cheaper to first advertise in *Restorica's* Antiques Exchange section. This is a new service and will have to be given time to develop and will become

even more useful once *Restorica* becomes a quarterly. With this in mind we have set a very modest scale of fees. We trust our readers will make use of the Antiques Exchange to our mutual benefit. Ons wil lesers nie verveel deur die hele verhaal in Afrikaans te herhaal nie. Ons wil dus met die uiteensetting in Engels hierbo volstaan met die vriendelike uitnodiging aan ons lesers om van *Restorica* se Oudhede-Beurs gebruik te maak.

### Fees • Gelde

*Smalls • Boksies*: R1,00 per col cm = ± 15–20 words/woorde per cm.

*Display Ads • Vertoonadvertensies*: Photograph plus caption, units of 1 col (6 cm) × 6 cm = 36 cm<sup>2</sup> – R10 per unit, R15 per 1½ units, R18 per double unit. Foto plus byskrif, eenhede van 1 kol (6 cm) × 6 cm = 36 cm<sup>2</sup> – R10 per eenheid, R15 per 1½ eenheid, R18 per dubbel eenheid.

*Commission • Kommissie*: Per agreement in response to placing of the advertisement. Per ooreenkoms volgend op plasing van advertensie.

## Die Rekenaar

Die Stigting se administratiewe werksaamhede het sodanig toegeneem dat ingrypende optrede nodig geword het om verstikking te verhoed. Kantoorruimte en personeeltal het ontoereikend geword. Ons het ons huidige stel kantore in die Ou Raadsaal ontgroei, met geen vooruitsig om binne afsienbare tyd aangrensende kantore te kan bekom nie. Ons sou moes verhuis na 'n ander gebou, waarskynlik na dunderde kantore met die gepaardgaande ontkoste en ontwrigting. Dit kan ons nie bekostig nie.

Ons administrasie verg meer personeel, wat ons ook nie kan bekostig of huisves nie. Daarom moes 'n ander plan gemaak word om die saak ten minste gedeeltelik te verhelp. Ons lede-administrasie en debiteure en krediteure is oorgeskakel na 'n gerekenariseerde stelsel. Die koste hieraan verbonde is effens goedkoper as vir 'n voldag amptenaar en die doeltreffendheid sekerlik beter. Die oorskakeling was 'n ontsaglike taak en dit sal wel nog 'n ruk duur voordat die stelsel heeltemal uitgewerk en in bedryf is.

Die firma ICL Computers onderneem die Stigting se rekenaarwerk. Voortaan sal ICL se Pretoria-buro maandeliks rekeningstate vir ledelgele en ander debiete lewer. Dit het natuurlik meegebring dat ons elke lid van 'n rekenaarkodenummer moes voorsien. Hierdie nommer word saamgestel uit die lid se ledenommer, datum van aansluiting, streekkode, lidmaatskapklaskode en taalgroepkode. Ons rekenaarstelsel sal ons in staat stel om akkuraat ons ledetal in die verskillen-

de klasse en streke te kan bepaal en in-vorderings geweldig te verbeter. Die beste manier om inflasie te bestry is verhoogde produktiwiteit. Menslik gesproke lewer ons huidige personeel hul maksimum. Hulle is nie masjiene nie, die rekenaar wel.

Aan ons lede wil ons die versekering gee dat ons ons bes doen onder uiters moeilike omstandighede. Ons vra u samewerking, verstrekk altyd u lidnommer wanneer u betalings maak, bestellings plaas of met ons korrespondeer. Byvoort baie dankie.

WJP

## Affiliate members

When it was decided last year to increase the Foundation's membership fees, provision was made for those individuals and bodies who may feel that the increase from R5,00 p.a. to R7,00 p.a. and R10,00 to R15,00 p.a., could become bothersome.

Rather than lose them as members, the Council felt justified in creating a new non-voting class of subscribing members at R5,00 p.a. for individuals and bodies alike. Except for not being able to vote at general meetings of the Foundation or to hold office, such members enjoy the same rights and privileges as other members, including the automatic free subscription to *Restorica*.

In view of the annual cost of maintaining a member on our books, it is fortunate that so few members have decided to avail themselves of the cheaper affiliate membership, in the main only a few pensioners, small societies and libraries have done so.

## Geaffilieerde lede

Toe die Stigting se ledegedelde verlede jaar verhoog is, is voorsiening gemaak vir diegene wat moontlik die verhoging vir gewone lede van R5,00 p.j. na R7,00 p.j. en verenigingslede vanaf R10,00 na R15,00 p.j., lastig kon vind.

Eerder as om sulke lede te verloor, het die Raad dit goed gedink om 'n nuwe lidmaatskapklas sonder stemreg te skep vir individue en verenigings teen net R5,00 p.j. Sodanige geaffilieerde lede geniet, behalwe dat hulle nie op algemene vergaderings van die Stigting kan stem of poste beklee nie, dieselfde voorregte as ander lede, waarby ingesluit is die outomatiese gratis inskrywing op *Restorica*. Gesien die koste verbonde daaraan om 'n lid vir 'n jaar op ons boeke te hou, is dit verbydend dat so weinig lede besluit het om van die goedkoper geaffilieerde lede-

klas gebruik te maak. Slegs 'n paar pensionarisse en kleiner verenigings en biblioteke het dit gedoen.

## Wise men speak - Pêrels van wysheid

Aangesien die substansie van die mens sy geskiedenis is, neem elke anti-historiese optrede die karakter van selfmoord aan. Die ondankbare vergeet dat die grootste deel van wat hy het nie van sy eie werk is nie, maar aan hom geskenk is deur andere wat hulle ingespan het om dit te verwerf of skep. Die huidige mens gee aan homself weinig rekenskap daarvan dat byna alles van wat ons vreugdevol belewe in wat ons tans besit, ons aan die verlede te danke het. Dus moet ons met bepaalde aandag, peïteit en versigtigheid te werk gaan in ons omgang met die verlede, en bowenal, moet ons daarmee rekening hou dat ons geskiedenis van ons is en aanwesig is in wat aan ons nagelaat is.

Die verlede te vergeet, dit die rug te keer, bring mee dit wat ons tans beleef; die terugkeer van die mens na die barbaarsheid.

### Ortega y Gasset

There was a rocky valley between Buxton and Bakewell, once upon a time, divine as the Vale of Tempe; you might have seen the gods there morning and evening - Apollo and all the sweet muses of the Light - walking in fair procession on the lawns of it, and to and fro among the pinnacles of its crags. You cared neither for gods nor grass, but for cash (which you did not know the way to get); you thought you could get it by what the *Times* calls "Railway Enterprise". You enterprised a railway through the valley - you blasted its rocks away, heaped thousands of tons of shale into its lovely stream. The valley is gone, and the gods with it; and now, every fool in Buxton can be at Bakewell in half an hour, and every fool in Bakewell at Buxton, which you think a lucrative process of exchange.

### John Ruskin

'Renier les efforts de la société précédente, chrétienne et philosophique, c'est se suicider, c'est refuser la force et les moyens de perfectionnement'.

### Baudelaire

'Een nationaal gevoel, dat zich niet spiegelen kan in de roerloosheid van het verleden, mist den grondslag van zijn wezen. Het leven van een natie is historie . . .'

### Huisinga

“. . . dasz wir die ganze Vergangenheit in den tieferen Stockwerken des Wolkenkratzeres unseres rationalen Bewusstseins mit uns tragen”.

### Jung

Op niets waren wij meer gebeten dan op wat juiste had afgedaan, uit eigen daden kunt gij weten wat u zelf mag te wachten staan.

Mocht u de naneef niet verschoonen, het geve u geen droefenis: 'het altaarkleed van één aeone de deurmat van de volgende is'.

### J H Leopold

'We are not impotent - we pallid stones  
Not all our power is gone - not all our fame -

Not all the mystic of our high renown -  
Not all the wonder that encircles us -  
Not all the mysteries that in us lie -  
Not all the memories that hang upon  
And cling around about us as a garment,  
Clothing us in a robe of more than glory'.

### Edgar Allan Poe

"Kyk met groot sorg na 'n ou gebou, beskerm dit so goed jy kan, en ten alle koste, teen enige invloed van verval. Tel sy stene soos jy die juwele in 'n kroon sal tel. Stel wagters op, soos by die poorte van 'n beleerde stad. Bind dit hefter met yster wanneer dit los raak, versterk dit met hout wanneer dit swakker word en doen dit gereeld en met liefde en gevoel, en geslagte sal onder sy skadu gebore word en sterk."

### John Ruskin

L'histoire des arts n'est point écrite dans les livres, elle est écrite dans les monuments.

### Guizot

## In Memoriam

Mnr P Barlow, Stellenbosch  
Mr L Bissett, Claremont  
Prof G J Broekhuysen, Kaapstad  
Mr A P de Lima, Pretoria ex  
Lourenco Marques  
Dr G von W Eybers, Pretoria  
Mrs D E Fannin, Pietermaritzburg  
Mr H G Harraway, Port Elizabeth  
Mnr M J Harris, Mosselbaai  
Mnr D C W Prins, Pretoria  
Mnr J.P. Toerien, Kaapstad  
Mrs M. Aschman Cape Town  
Mr R.C. Harris Port Elizabeth



## Meiring Naudé kry 7de Eredoktorsgraad



Dr S Meiring Naudé Foto: Frik Dreyer

Dr. S. Meiring Naudé, Nasionale Voor- sitter van die Stigting, het op 10 April sy sewende eredoktorsgraad ontvang by geleentheid van die Universiteit van Pretoria se gradeplegtigheid. Hy is op 31 Desember 1904 te De Doorns, Kaap- provinsie gebore. Sy skoolopleiding ont- vang hy op Stellenbosch, waarna hy aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch die grade BSc en MSc met lof behaal. In 1928 behaal hy die PhD-graad (cum laude) in Berlyn.

Dr Naudé was vanaf 1952 President van die Suid-Afrikaanse Wetenskaplike en Nywerheidsnavorsingsraad. In 1971 het hy Wetenskaplike Raadgewer van

die Eerste Minister geword waar hy ak- tief die leiding neem met wetenskaplike beplanning in Suid-Afrika. Een van sy groot bydraes tot die wetenskap is sy onafgebroke beywering vir en bevoor- dering van navorsing.

Ook op kultuurgebied is hy baie aktief en dien al sedert 1966 as Nasionale Voor- sitter van die Stigting Simon van der Stel. Dr Naudé is ook voorsitter van die Stigting vir Onderwys, Kuns en Tegno- logie, uitgewers van *Lantern*.

## Mnr Jan Roets



Mnr J B C Roets

Mnr J.B.C. Roets, Nasionale Raadslid van die Stigting, is onlangs as voorsitter van die Shangaan-Tsonga-Ontwikkelings- korporasie aangestel.

Mnr Roets is die besturende direkteur van die Hans Merensky-Trust met uitge- breide belange in landbou, veeteelt en bosbou. Die Merensky-Trust het tot dusver ook die leeu-aandeel gehad aan die restourasie van Bothsabelo.

## Hettie Claassens studeer weer

Mev Hettie Claassens, sekretaresse by ons Weskaapse takkantoor in Kaapstad, het ingeskryf vir die museumkundekur- sus aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch. Sy geniet die kursus besonder baie maar het gevind dat dit taamlik veeleisend is. Daarom is aan haar studieverlof vir die duur van die kursus toegestaan. Sy hoop om volgende jaar weer by die Stigting se werksaamhede te kan aansluit.

## Honour for Bradlow



Mr Frank Bradlow

Photo: Paul Alberts

Mr Frank Bradlow, historian, researcher, collector of Africana, author, business- man and a very likeable person – received an honorary doctorate of philosophy from the University of the Witwaters- rand on April 1.

Mr Bradlow, who is a BComm graduate of Wits, is the director of his own com- pany. But he is perhaps best-known for his books and many contributions to journals on what he calls his hobby – Af- ricana. "It is very pleasant when one gets a reward for something one enjoys doing," he said in an interview.

This enjoyment comes across in an air of quiet enthusiasm for the history of South Africa.

His main interest is in South African painting before 1875. But it is closely followed by his fascination for early ex- plorers and travellers.

His wife, Edna, is co-author of two of his books – *Thomas Bowler of the Cape of Good Hope* and *There Comes The Alabama*. "My wife is a professional historian and shares my interests. This makes things much easier for me," he said.

Besides Mr Bradlow's interests and business, he plays an active part in public life. He is a member of the Foundation's Cape Town regional committee. He is a trustee of the South African Library and of the William Fehr Art Collections, a member of the University of Cape Town Council, and chairman of the Friends of the South African Library, the Van Riebeeck Society and the PEN Club.

## Gwen Mills' 10 years

Mrs Gwen M Mills left the employ of the Foundation at the end of March 1976 after nearly ten years of service as the Foundation's West Cape public relations officer attached to the branch office in Cape Town.

During her period of service she rendered sterling service to the Foundation.



Foto's: Frik Dreyer



The Foundation's Cape Town regional committee in particular, benefitted from her flair for promoting its activities and organising exhibitions, coach tours and members' functions.

Not only in the Cape Peninsula but in the West Cape generally, the name of Gwen Mills has become to be automatically associated with that of the Simon van der Stel Foundation and its activities.

She will be remembered for her contribution to historic conservation work in the West Cape. We feel sure she will continue to apply her talents and energy to this end and sincerely wish her everything of the best for the future.

WJP

## Nuwe aanstellings New appointments

● Mrs Yvonne Chedburn was appointed full-time secretary at our West Cape branch office in Cape Town as from 1 April 1976. The office is now open mornings and afternoons to give better service to our members and West Cape regional committees. We bid Yvonne Chedburn a hearty welcome to our staff.

● Mev Trijntje Wijenberg het op 1 Februarie 1976 by ons aan Hoofkantoor aangesluit. Sy versorg soggens ons lederegisters en *Restorica*-intekenare, werk waarvan sy jarelange ervaring by die Maatskappy vir Europese Immigrasie gehad het. Ons verwelkom haar van harte.

## Nog 'n Raadslid word vereer



Regter M A Diemont

Regter M.A. Diemont, Nasionale Raadslid van die Stigting, het op 18 Junie 'n eredoktoraat in die regte by die gradeplegtigheid van die Universiteit van Kaapstad ontvang.

Regter Marius Diemont is in 1912 op Lindley in die Vrystaat gebore. In 1934 het hy sy LLB-graad met lof aan die Universiteit van Kaapstad verwerf. Hy dien die afgelope 20 jaar in die Raad van

dié Universiteit, en is 'tans die ondervoorsitter.

In 1936 is hy tot die Kaapse balie toegeelaat en 14 jaar later is hy as QC aangestel. In 1954 het hy waarnemende regter van die Kaapse Hooggeregshof geword.

In 1960 met die instelling van 'n streekkomitee van die Stigting in Kaapstad het regter Diemont die voorsitter daarvan geword en gebly tot 1974 met sy verkiesing tot die Raad van die Stigting.

## Eric Vertue kry Goue Medalje



Mnr Eric Vertue

Foto: Ray Ryan

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het 'n goue medalje aan mnr Eric Vertue, FRPS, FPS (SA), toegeken uit erkentlikheid vir sy buitengewone bydrae tot argitektoniese en kulturele bewaring in Suid-Afrika. Dit is die hoogste eerbewys op die gebied van bewaring in Suid-Afrika. Die medalje is op Mamre deur dr P G J Koornhof, Minister van Nasionale Opvoeding, aan mnr Vertue oorhandig. Die Ou Skooltjie op dié dorp wat deur die SA Permanente Bouvereniging gerestoureer is, is by die geleentheid amptelik geopen.

*Die Burger*, 6 Mei 1976

## Ton Koot vereer

Die Nederlands-Zuid-Afrikaanse Vereniging (NZAV) het sy Jan van Riebeeck-penning aan ons gewaardeerde kollega en medewerker Ton Koot, toegeken in erkenning vir sy bydraes tot goeie verhoudings met Suid-Afrika en die Nederlandse kultuurgeskiedenis.

Ons wens mnr Koot geluk met hierdie welverdiende verering.

WJP

## Stigting Simon van der Stel ken erepenning toe

Dr Jan Ploeger, bekende historikus, is bekroon met die Stigting Simon van der Stel se Nasionale Erepenning in Silwer. Die bekroning word gedoen vir sy bydrae tot die bevordering van die Stigting se doelstellings en vir sy bydrae as mederedakteur tot die uitbouing van die Stig-

ting se lyfblad en vir sy bydraes tot Suid-Afrikaanse bewaringskundige bronne-materiaal.

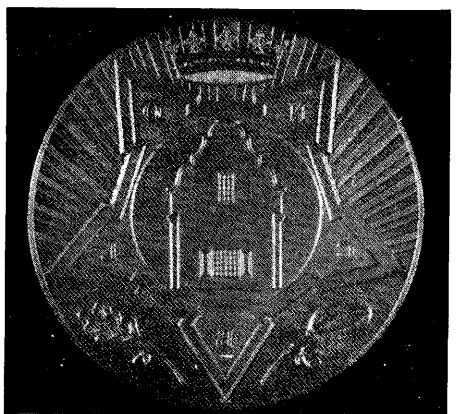
Die penning is onlangs tydens 'n funksie van die Pretoriase streekkomitee van die Stigting deur sy Nasionale Voorsitter, dr S Meiring Naudé, aan dr Ploeger oorhandig.

By dieselfde geleentheid het dr Naudé aangekondig dat die Stigting se Erepenning in Brons aan dr Mary Cook, bekende museumkundige en skryfster oor Kaapse argitektuur, van Swellendam, toegeken is. Dr Cook sal haar penning hierdie jaar ontvang.

Dr Naudé het gesê dat die Stigting Simon van der Stel dit sien as deel van sy landswye bewaringstaak op nasionale vlak, om persone en instansies te bekroon wat besondere bydraes tot die bewaringsgedagte en die toepassing daarvan gelewer het. Die penning kan toegeken word vir deelname aan die programme van die Stigting en die bevordering van die bewarings- en restourasiekunde en bevordering van die Stigting en Suid-Afrika se aansien op nasionale en internasionale kulturele terreine.

Slegs lede van die Stigting kan vir die penning in goud in aanmerking kom. Die goue penning is sedert die ontstaan van die Stigting in 1959 nog net drie keer toegeken. Dit was aan die Eerste Minister, mnr B J Vorster en Caltex SA Beperk in 1969 en aan die oprigter van die Stigting, dr W H J Punt, by sy aftrede as direkteur in 1974.

Die silwer- en brons-pennings word nou vir die eerste keer toegeken.



## Visit by British expert on conservation

Mr Patrick Faulkner, superintending architect for Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings at the British Department of the Environment, visited South Africa at the end of last year for a tour of lectures and conservation clinics. He was the guest of the Foundation and was accompanied on his tour by the director of the Foundation, Mr Willem J Punt. His visit was made possible by the British Council. Mr Faulkner spoke on the conservation set-up in Britain with special reference to preservation techniques, the protection of national monuments and urban historic areas, conservation planning and its economic and financial aspects. The Foundation hopes to annually arrange lecture tours by foreign conservation experts.

### Report on visit to South Africa: 1-10 December 1975

1. The visit was sponsored by the British Council in co-operation with the Simon van der Stel Foundation as hosts.

2. The Brief was to (a) give lectures illustrating the United Kingdom approach to preservation of historic structures; (b) attend and take part in seminar discussions on this subject; (c) to visit and discuss preservation projects in the Republic of South Africa.

### 3. Programme

The programme, covering the aspects above was more or less repeated based on three centres Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town ending with a short visit to the Kruger National Park as the guest of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

### 4. Acknowledgements

Grateful acknowledgement is made of the assistance and kind hospitality given by the following:

Mr and Mrs D Sharp, Director, British Council, Pretoria.

Mr and Mrs K A Bromfield, Regional Director, British Council, Cape Town.

Mr Willem Punt, Director, Simon van der Stel Foundation, Pretoria.

And also

Dr S Meiring Naudé, National Chairman of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

Mr F D Conradie, Executive Member of Cape Provincial Council and National Vice-Chairman of the Foundation.

Professor F Smuts and Mr D J M Jordaan, Chairman of the Simon van der Stel Regional Committees at Stellenbosch and Paarl.

Dr R Liversidge, Director, Alexander McGregor Museum, De Beer Diamond Mines Ltd.

I am particularly grateful to the **Simon van der Stel Foundation** for their hospitality and for arranging a tour so full of pleasure and information. Having met so many officers and staff of the Foundation and seen the results of their work I cannot but be full of admiration.

### 5. Lectures and Seminars

An integral part of the programme was a series of lectures and seminars. I gave illustrated lectures on UK legislation related to conservation, the preservation philosophy and an outline of some techniques used in historic monuments preservation in Britain. These were given at Pretoria on 2 December, in Durban on 4 December and in Cape Town on 5 December. At Durban the lecture was given as part of a Seminar on Conservation which also included contributions by Professor D Robins, Mr Brian Kearney and Mr Walter Peters.

The discussions after the lectures and the informal discussions held elsewhere (Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Kimberley) provided opportunities for a valuable exchange of ideas and were most rewarding.

### 6. Notes on visits made and comments

6.1 *Marabastat Township* on the outskirts of Pretoria. This area of wide grid pattern streets flanked by single storey houses still preserves much of the pattern and atmosphere of past years. It displays many features of vernacular town building that would form a valuable study. Materials are almost universally timber and corrugated iron with covered verandahs on the street front, characteristic are the wooden fret brackets and valances to the overhanging verandahs, patterned boarded doors and shutters, and some decorative shop front surrounds.

Conservation in literal terms is probably an impossibility but recording both by photography and measured drawings would be a valuable exercise especially if accompanied by studies of the social pattern to which these buildings were related.

### 6.2 *Boekenhoutfontein: President Paul Kruger's Farm*

This is a property owned by the Simon van der Stel Foundation who, with the aid of a grant-in-aid from the Transvaal Provincial Administration, is in process of restoring the buildings and site for

public display. It is a declared National Monument. The monument is open 6 days a week and has a monthly average of 500 visitors. The monument consists of the buildings associated with the farm formerly owned by President Kruger and settled by him. They occupy the second site settled by Paul Kruger whose first proved too malarial. The site is enclosed by a dry stone wall at one end of which is a kraal for cattle. The 4 principal buildings within the enclosure: a small settlers house, Paul Kruger's later house, his earlier house now converted to a tea-room and the house Kruger built for his son now occupied by the resident curator. They date from 1841 to 1892. The settlers house is largely a reconstruction based on the known typical pioneers house with mud walls and thatched roof. It nevertheless rests on original foundations. It is intended that this house shall be appropriately furnished. The main house is two-storeyed with the main rooms on the ground floor and a large 'dormitory' occupying the whole of the upper floor. Prior to being taken over by the Foundation the house had been used as a farmhouse and reduced to a single storey and the interior substantially altered. The restoration to its original form was based on evidence in a sketch dated 1880, evidence found in stripping the structure provided material for the reconstruction of the interior, confirmed by descriptions obtained from one who knew the house before the alteration.

It is furnished with contemporary furniture and decorated, as far as possible, in the original manner. Some surviving fragments of original wallpaper enabled the pattern used in the main room to be reproduced. Two pieces of furniture are, indeed, associated with President Kruger. Considerable care and research has been used to ensure accuracy in the reproduction of doors, architraves and other features for which no evidence survived. The same careful research has been used in reproducing methods of construction where new work was found to be necessary. Other reconstructed features are the external oven and pig-sty.

The remaining two buildings, again, rest on the original foundation and have been faithfully restored as to their exteriors but, being adopted to modern use as tea-room and residence, no attempt has been made to reproduce their interiors.

A modern toilet block for visitors has been erected to the rear of the main group, designed in the same style.

The restoration of the former school house, now a barn, and the cart sheds whose foundations have been uncovered is planned for the future.

The restoration of the Paul Kruger Farm complex is being carried out with meticulous care. In relating the first President to the land and its pioneers, and in making so direct a statement of the

simple austerity of the life he led there, it provides an emotional appeal that is the principle justification of the project. It is also a very pleasant place to visit.

In this sort of case there would probably have been little point in preserving the buildings as found as their aesthetic and historic value was small. Restoration on the other hand could be said to have enhanced its historic value in so far as it displays the evidence formerly concealed beneath the later structure. Nevertheless I would suggest that this places a heavy responsibility on the restorer to explain the process by which he arrived at his solution lest he be accused of creating a sham.

I understand that some interpretation of the restoration process and of the original purpose of the buildings is in hand. It is in my opinion an essential element of the project.

### 6.3 *Church Square: Pretoria*

This, the principal square in the administrative heart of Pretoria, is a current conservation issue that is of interest. The large square is planted and grassed in the centre and dominated by the statue of President Kruger. The west side and part of the north and south sides retain their 19th early 20th century public buildings generally in what might be termed Edwardian classic. Though not exceptionally distinguished individually they have a collective dignity that is impressive. The proposed demolition of the west side and the erection there of new government buildings would undoubtedly change this character beyond recall. The public interest aroused by this issue has demonstrated the strength as well as the enthusiasm of the preservation lobby in South Africa. At the time of my visit the fate of these buildings was still undecided.

6.4 *Union Buildings: Pretoria*, stand on a splendid site above the city on Meintjies Kop. Designed by Sir Herbert Baker, the Union Buildings are the most outstanding group of public buildings in the country. They pose a considerable and interesting problem in stone decay, and the red sandstone of which they are built is laminating seriously, apparently along its natural beds. This was a casual visit so that I have no knowledge of what analysis has revealed or what measures are proposed, other than replacement, to overcome the fault. It may be that deposits of mineral salts within the stone are the source of the trouble as the stone appears to be a form of iron stone. It would be of interest to have a sample of the stone for analysis.

A similar condition was noted in some of the buildings in Church Square. (See above).

6.5 *Bishop Macrorie House: Pietermaritzburg*. Built in 1857 this is a town house or 'villa' with rendered wall, tiled roof,

cast-iron verandah and balcony with details reminiscent of Cheltenham or Streatham, it is a good example of its type. The house is a declared monument and has been preserved and restored by the Van der Stel Foundation who now own the property. This is an instance of a successful and flexible approach to conservation in that while part of the house is let, by the Foundation, to the Macrorie Museum Trust (at an uneconomic rent) the remainder is let as two residential flats so that the property as a whole becomes a viable income producing asset.

6.6 The settlement of *Stellenbosch* was founded and named by Governor Simon van der Stel in 1679, and the form of its historic centre had taken shape by the early 18th century. Although it has the inevitable history of continuous growth it is still a small town and pre-eminently an historic town. Few, if any of its early buildings survive in their original state. Three disastrous fires in 1710, 1803 and 1875 damaged or destroyed much and 'progress' left its mark on the remainder. Stellenbosch is now what may be described as a self declared conservation area. The process is described in a well produced booklet issued by "Stellenbosch 300 Action", a non-profit making company formed to further the "restoration and preservation of the historic heart of Stellenbosch". The brochure tells how "there came a time when Stellenbosch had a town Council fully aware of the comparative antiquity of the town . . . and strenuous efforts were made to preserve this old time atmosphere. The first example was the renovation of the Dutch East India Company's Powder Magazine and the Municipality was the first to establish a builders bank of valuable old material from buildings which had been altered or demolished". A campaign was launched to restore the "Burghers' House" on the "Braak" or Town Square and this was done by the Municipality as well as another known as the Coachman's Cottage. "Nowadays the town of Stellenbosch is studded with buildings which are worth the visitors attention thanks to further enterprise by the Municipality in restoring Grosvenor House, sections of Dorp Street and Bergzicht, the Cape Provincial Administration, which was responsible for the comprehensive restoration of the 'Rhenish Corner', the extensive restorations throughout the town by Historical Homes of South Africa Ltd, and the Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation. The churches have helped in the task of restoration and preservation. Also private individuals on the one hand by drawing up the vital list of buildings worth preserving, on the other by tastefully converting large old houses into flats, or into private homes. The Simon van der Stel Foundation has been the source and channel of much of this enthusiasm now

to be strengthened and complemented by the new organisation "Stellenbosch 300 Action".

The National Monuments Council, by proclaiming an increasing number of buildings ensures their preservation for posterity.

Though not mentioned in the booklet the work on the buildings has clearly been coupled with a great deal of environmental improvement.

There is no doubt that this operation has been an extraordinary visual success and in "conservation" terms hardly to be faulted. From the UK point of view perhaps it is of greatest interest as an example of what can be achieved by local enthusiasm and enterprise with a national (*Van der Stel*) if not governmental, agency acting as a catalyst.

In a climate such as that of Stellenbosch the preserver has two considerable allies, the sun and white paint. There is no patina to contend with, accuracy of line and form makes the old indistinguishable from the new, thus preservation and restoration may go hand in hand to achieve an harmonious entity. This is exactly what has been created in the historic town centre, harmony and a visual entity that is very satisfying. The work results from a careful study of traditional forms appropriate to each period represented so that each house restored is a perfect example of its basic period, a state of affairs that could never, in fact, have existed. This is a purely academic criticism but one that must be made as it has led the restorers into placing only the *original* date on reconstructed features rather than the date of restoration. It is as important to identify those buildings that have been restored as it is to record the date on which it was done. After all, 1975-79 will be as historic a period in the history of Stellenbosch as 1679, and it would be a nice compliment to the early builders to record that the 20th century appreciated their work sufficiently to recover it. This, however, does nothing to detract from the extraordinary charm of the town. Dorp Street, particularly is memorable.

6.7 *Tulbagh*, also in Cape Province, is an example of conservation work not dissimilar to Stellenbosch in that its aim was the re-creation of an historic area, as well as individual buildings from remains that had survived the depredations of man. At Tulbagh, very much the smaller of the two, nature also took a hand when the area was struck by a severe earthquake on 29 September 1969, so extensively damaging its historic buildings that demolition seemed inevitable. Rapid action by local enthusiasts prevented this and provided an opportunity for a professional assessment of the ruins.

The survey demonstrated that the buildings were capable of repair and that the

earthquake damage had revealed sufficient structural evidence of their state to form the basis for a reasonably accurate restoration. Effort was concentrated on the principal street, Church Street, and the work placed in the hands of the architects Gawie and Gwen Fagan to whose excellent book and guidance I am indebted for the information in this note. Well outside the town lies its former administrative building the "Drostdy" of C1810 (1804). This, too, was severely damaged by the earthquake only days after its declaration as a national monument. Investigation showed it to be capable of repair, but at a high cost. In view of its national significance the National Monuments Council decided to undertake the restoration of the Drostdy which was purchased and, after restoration by Mr Fagan, leased by the National Monuments Council to Drostdy Cellars (Pty) Ltd to be used as their headquarters and as a museum related to the history of this important wine growing district. Despite a history of disaster by gales, fire and earthquake, the Drostdy had suffered few alterations in its basic design thus enabling the restorers to reproduce the original building with considerable accuracy. As ever great care has been taken in the treatment of details and in the quality of workmanship. The result is a building of great charm and historic interest. Its use is appropriate in that it has enabled the interiors to be either furnished or used as an exhibition area, in which visitors can flavour the characteristic atmosphere of this type of building.

The outstanding interest of Tulbagh however, lies in the rescue and restoration of Church Street, justly claimed to be "the greatest and most important triumph of conservation in South Africa". This is the sort of problem that, for obvious reasons, we do not face in the United Kingdom, but nonetheless the thinking behind the work and the methods used are of great interest and relevance to many conservation problems here.

Work was concentrated on Church Street in which many houses had been severely damaged. First a track leading from the Church at the South end of the village to the Parsonage at the North developed into a street of some 20 or so houses in the first half of the 19th century. The Church itself, built in 1795, is the earliest surviving building though ante-dated by one house, the origins of which date from 1750. The remainder of the historic houses which, except for one, lie on the East side of the street fall into three types, all showing a long facade to the street. The earlier have the characteristic shaped curvilinear gables as a central feature generally typical of the first decade of the 19th century, this developed into the straight gabled type and finally those with shaped corrugated iron

verandahs. They are universally single storeyed, mostly with thatched roofs and colourwashed, usually white, walls.

With remarkable speed after the earthquake a Restoration Committee was formed and agreement reached with the Historical Monuments Council to "freeze" all the houses in Church Street to prevent injudicious demolition. Nearly half of the owners unhesitatingly agreed to restoration to the Committees' plans, but some 16 houses still had to be bought from the owners who had decided to leave the area or were not prepared to have their homes restored. As a result a number of courses were adopted; some were restored and modernised with as much of the interiors brought back to their original state as funds would permit, others bought by the Restoration Committee were either adapted to new uses or modernised and then re-sold to new owners. Thirdly there were those in which the street facade only was restored at the Committee's cost; two more were purchased by the Simon van der Stel Foundation, and one required repair only - being little damaged.

A rewarding spin-off from the restoration exercise has been the careful research carried out into the history, particularly of land tenure, of the individual houses in the street and into the development of the town as a whole. The results of this research have been admirably set out in the Fagan's book. Equally rewarding has been the research into and recording of the vernacular building methods employed in the construction of the houses that were revealed during the progress of the work. These too have been detailed in the same volume and make fascinating reading. It appears that the earlier houses were built on minimal foundations of shale-stone in mud mortar with the walls themselves built of clay laced with straw. The upper parts and the gables were of mud bricks or, generally soft, burnt clay bricks. This form of construction seems to have lasted until the first decade of the 19th century after which burnt clay bricks were more generally used, at least for external walls. Doubtless this "soft" construction explains why the destruction caused by the earthquake, severe though it was, was not even more catastrophic.

As in all forms of mud or soft clay construction these buildings relied on a rendering for weather protection and the rendering in turn on a frequently renewed lime-wash or mud-wash. The interesting point is noted that a compatibility was found to be essential between rendering and wall material, hence the common use of mud rendering except for special buildings or for the mouldings of the shaped gables when lime was introduced. Lime was, in any case, a rare material, difficult to obtain.

Roofs were mostly simple couple roofs with a ridge timber made of roughly

squared wood or left in the round. Pegs were used in the earlier houses, nails in the later. Higher quality houses made use of wrought yellow-wood timbers. Ceilings were boarded or formed of reeds laid across unsquared joists and the roof covering appears to have been almost universally of straw thatch laid unusually thinly by European standards. This consistency of materials gives a remarkable cohesion to the line of houses forming the street and makes a major contribution to the overall charm of the restored buildings.

As a conservation project the significance of Tulbagh lies in the demonstration of what can be done by determination and care allied to a very practical attitude by the Restoration Committee. By a bold acceptance of partial success in dealing with those cases where the owner only allowed the facade to be treated the unity of the whole has been maintained. Impressive too, and I suspect, economic, is the use of traditional techniques in repairing the buildings which gives the whole operation an honesty of purpose which more than overcomes any academic doubts as to the detailed accuracy of the restorations.

As at Stellenbosch one cannot but feel that had the academic limitations, which are physical facts and no reflection on those concerned, been more freely admitted the work would have gained rather than lost stature. This feeling no doubt represents a fundamental difference of philosophy rather than a criticism. To the English mind, or at any rate mine, it is impossible to turn back the clock, the work of restoration irrevocably adds to the history of the building, but is none the worse for being seen to do so. In a minor way this is reflected in the illustrations to Gawie and Gwen Fagan's admirable book, there is no plan which shows the restored buildings in their modern context so that the stranger may identify them with the present day town.

6.8 *Kimberley* sprang up in the 1870's with the discovery of diamonds in the area in 1871, and perhaps its most memorable feature is the "Big Hole", the Old Kimberley Mine and the largest man-made crater in the world, unworked since 1914. Inevitably conservation in Kimberley is related to the diamond industry and those who achieved fame or notoriety through it.

Among the historic houses preserved in the town are those of C B Rudd, Rhode's partner, built C1880, and of Orr a merchant, built 1897. These are typical of the houses, they should really be called villas, built by the richer members of the community. Under their wide spreading roofs, corrugated iron in the case of Rudd's house, there is all the overcrowded richness of late Victorian decoration. Now damaged by damp and past neglect, when repaired and restored





**The Market Theatre Foundation**  
An association incorporated not for gain  
P.O. Box 8656, Johannesburg 2000  
Phone 43-0191

**Trustees:** M.S. McLean (Chairman), P.P. Breytenbach, C. Fisher, M. Manim, B. Simon, B. Trisk, R.J. Tucker.

To all RESTORICA readers:

As all of you are so directly concerned with retaining our traditions and saving our heritage we feel sure the Market Theatre project will appeal to you.

The Market Theatre Foundation, an association incorporated not for gain, vitally needs all the financial help it can get in order to further its main objective, the refurbishing of the beautiful old Indian Citrus Market of Johannesburg.

**Participate with us in this project from its very beginning and make it yours too. Fill in the form below, which indicates ways in which you can be of direct help, and send it to the above address.**

**We need every Rand of support you can afford.**

We should like you to come and see the building as it is, and really understand how it will be. You are invited to come any Saturday at 11.00 a.m. (corner Bree and Wolhuter Streets, Johannesburg.)

Name:.....

Address:.....

Amount enclosed (cheque/postal order\*).....  
(\*Please delete NOT applicable)

Date:.....

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Please indicate which contribution you would like to make. The first 200 donors will be invited to a special Preview Night Party.



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- I would like to give an intercom system for R1 000,00
- I would like to give the sound installation for R5 000,00

Please indicate which contribution you would like to make. The first 200 donors will be invited to a special Preview Night Party.

I will reserve my donations until I have visited the Market Theatre - please phone me at my home/business number .....to arrange a time.

these houses will form an invaluable social document.

Of equal interest but with a different aim is the Kimberley Open Air Museum associated with the De Beers Museum at the old Kimberley mine. Here have been brought together and reconstructed a number of buildings representative of Kimberley in the days of the diamond boom, the Lutheran Church, Barney Barnato's Boxing Academy, shops, bars and the remarkable Harris ballroom with its pressed steel sheet "Adamesque" decorations. The collection is constantly being expanded, verisimilitude is maintained by contemporary street furniture without and equipment within the buildings. The Castle Museum in York is the nearest parallel in England, and in both cases the furnishing of the shops provides a splendid opportunity to display varied 'bygones' in the shop windows and on the shelves.

This is a great success and as a museum display difficult to fault except perhaps on the score of lack of descriptive and explanatory material. It appears to be deservedly popular.

Other conservation issues here are the current restoration work proceeding on a large assembly hall next to the former market square, and the threat of demolition hanging over the adjoining covered market. This latter is a fine example of cast-iron work still in a remarkably good state of preservation. It is to be hoped that the threat will be lifted.

The assembly hall poses some curious archaeological problems, and has (a technique I had not previously seen) a vast ceiling in the late C19 classical style formed of pressed steel sheet; a species of steel 'lincrusta'. Again the restoration is based on extensive and careful research and investigation.

## 7. Conservation Legislation in South Africa

7.1 The National Monuments Act of 1969 sets up a National Monuments Council responsible to the Minister of National Education (via the Directorate of Archives) whose role it is to protect historic sites by proclamation or declaration. Such monuments are identified as declared national monuments which are thus legally protected from destruction or interference, with penalties for infringement of the Act.

Proposals for declaration may be submitted by anyone to the Council which is an honorary body appointed by the Minister and supported by a Secretariat. (It is interesting to note that no architect serves on either the Council or with the Secretariat).

The list of declared monuments, of which there are approximately 600, is retained by the National Monuments Council but not published. There is no cross-reference to the planning legislation.

As for positive protection, historic

buildings in State or public ownership are maintained by the Public Works Department, but within this there is no specialist branch to deal specifically with historic work.

The Department of National Education finances the National Monuments Council by an administrative grant and by ad-hoc subsidies recommended by the Council for the maintenance or restoration of privately owned historic properties or of properties owned by the Council, who under the Act is empowered to purchase and own property.

## 8. Summary Comments

Monument preservation in South Africa appears to be still rather opportunist depending for its motivation on the enthusiasm and energy of individuals rather than a national policy. On the other hand there is no lack of either enthusiasm or energy, and a remarkable amount has been achieved.

To English eyes the accent is on restoration rather than preservation and the compromise solution is yet to be found. It may well be that this lies in the field of interpretation and record. Here I feel there is much to be done and perhaps a stranger, unfamiliar with much of the material, is in a better position to see this because interpretation using accurate recording as its basis, is the link between the visitor (whether he be tourist or student), and the work of the preservationist. Interpretation can take many forms from guide books to site exhibitions and can usefully have two objects. First to explain the function, history and relevance of the monument or object, and secondly to justify the treatment of the monument. When restoration is the objective the second of these two is, to my mind, perhaps the most important as it can provide the reassurance the visitor needs as to the validity of the historic object he is shown. Without this reassurance the historic value itself of the monument becomes questionable. This may appear to be an over academic view but I feel strongly that if the term 'heritage' is to mean anything it must be based on firm fact or else appear (albeit unfairly) meretricious.

Conservation planning is a new skill in South Africa and as yet untried. Again one cannot help feeling that there is a vast reserve of individual sensitivity and enthusiasm available that only needs the seal of "official policy" to release its latent energy. The Grahamstown Study, the Durban lists and, indeed, the public interest shown in the Church Square, Pretoria, issue are evidence of this.

**P A Faulkner**, *Superintending Architect*  
Directorate of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings  
Fortress House  
London  
March 1976

## Dr Derek Lindstrum besoek Suid-Afrika

Dr Derek Lindstrum, direkteur studies aan die Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies aan die Yorkse Universiteit, het Suid-Afrika onlangs besoek. Hy het gepraat oor die bewaring van geskiedkundige dorpe, stede en monumente as nasionale erfgoed by lesings gereël deur die Instituut van Suid-Afrikaanse Argitekture met medewerking van die Stigting.

WJP

## Conservationists and developers must agree

The thorny issue of land conservation which is heating up as South Africa's cities expand outwards, is given a full airing in a recent issue of the *Businessman's Law* magazine.

Mr Andries van Riet, assistant general manager of Sanlam, has some strong views on the matter which continually has property developers and conservationists at loggerheads.

Tracing the likely course of events, Mr Van Riet points out that in most instances, the developer has spent considerable time in drawing up his plans. As finance charges on his investment mount up, he has to follow all the requirements of the town planning authorities in submitting his scheme for consideration.

A careful study of the scheme usually shows that it will bring an amenity to the area and that it meets the need of the community in which it will be erected.

But sections of the public who are opposed to the scheme may raise their objection so strongly that the authorities, initially quite happy to give the plans their blessing, may feel compelled to ask the developer to modify, revise or even withdraw the scheme.

The simple fact, says Mr Van Riet, is that emotional issues can frequently overrule the rational approach to a problem which today is becoming more and more apparent as developers, of necessity, come into areas which may have significant links for certain people.

For instance, does the developer build a roadway through virgin forest or ignore modern-day needs and allow traffic - some of it essential to the development of a country - to become bogged down on wholly inadequate thoroughfares? Must the centre business block, contributing to the economic progress of city, take second place to the possibly interesting old house on the site at present? While Mr Van Riet is fully behind the preservation of the real and proven he-

ritages of the nation, he feels that there is often over-reaction and unjustified criticism against private developers when they seek to replace something unsightly and valueless with better and more useful structures for the progress and benefit of the community as a whole.

Mr Van Riet's solution to this growing battle between conservationists and developers is therefore simple. He calls for an expert assessment of the value of the structure that awaits demolition. He points out that South Africa has the necessary authorities to determine the value to the nation of certain structures.

Then these authorities and the developers, in a free exchange of views and by relating costs of preservation to the true value to the public of what is to be preserved, should come to an accord in which the interests of both conservationist and developer can find expression.

*The Sunday Express*, December 21, 1975

## Dit kan nie!

Een van die onverklaarbare van die moderne lewe is hoe padbeplanners te werk gaan. Voorbeelde is volop waar hulle op papier 'n reguit streep trek en dan agterna blyk dit te wees die oopkrak van 'n byenes.

Die jongste voorbeeld van Edenvale volg op die hakke van die protes in Verwoerdburg teen die voorgestelde PWV-pad deur 'n rits deugdelike wonings en op die onlangse besware teen die kusp pad in die Tsitsikamma wat daardie mooi bosryke streek grof op bepaalde punte sou skend.

Die voorstelle vir Edenvale is dat 400 wonings gesloop moet word om plek te maak vir nuwe padverbindings tussen die Rand en Pretoria. Inwoners is op hol gejaag, die stadsraad hou 'n spoedvergadering en dan kom die hoofingenieur van die provinsie se paaie-afdeling en sê flussies daar is nog nie duidelikheid nie; inwoners hoef hulle nie te bekommer nie, want die betrokke pad is deel van 'n langtermyn-projek wat dalk eers oor dertig jaar aangepak word! Om 400 wonings te sloop en te vervang sal konserwatief geraam R20 miljoen oorskry. Dit kan mos net nie! In normale tye is dit 'n onbesonnenheid en meer so wanneer almal saamstaan om inflasie te beveg.

Al sou die stootskrapers dertig jaar moet wag, is die skade reeds aangerig. Die vertroue van 'n hele gemeenskap is ondergrawe. Daar is, die reeks ongelukkige voorbeelde in ag geneem, klaarblyklik ruimte vir meer doeltreffende skakeling tussen al die instansies wat met beplanning te make het, en die publiek. Hierdie

klas sake moet met groter omsigtigheid gehanteer word met behoorlike raadpleging van tot die nederigste huisbewoner en grondeienaar.

*Die Beeld*, 12 Februarie 1976

## The highway dictators

### New road bosses can devastate your suburb

The Government plans to appoint special highway dictator boards with the power to override local authorities and lay down exactly where highways are to cut through towns and cities.

If one of these roads cuts through your suburb neither you nor your council will have any say in the matter – and there will be no point in trying to object through ratepayers' associations or other forms of protest.

What is more, although municipal councils will have their authority greatly reduced by the new dictator boards, they are likely to go along with the idea – because it will relieve them of having to take these unpopular decisions which would lead to almost certain electoral defeat.

Centrepiece of the new system is the proposed M6 – a massive 200-metre motorway, nearly six times the width of the M1, which is designed to slice through the heart of Parktown and link up with the overall Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging road grid.

The Johannesburg City Council has rejected it. To do otherwise would be political suicide in the face of the fury such a monster motorway would arouse among thousands of affected residents.

But the new highway dictator board for this area will almost certainly order that it be built.

“We are now convinced that the M6 will soon become a reality,” said Mrs Flo Bird, secretary of the Parktown Residents' Association, this week. “And if it is a decision by one of these boards, there is virtually nothing we can do to prevent it coming through Parktown.” Provision for the dictator boards – called Metropolitan Transport Advisory Boards – is contained in the Public Transport Bill published in Cape Town this week. The boards will be controlled by the National Transport Commission, which, in terms of the Public Transport Bill, will “regulate and control the formulation and application of an urban transport policy which is in its opinion efficacious.” Each board will operate within a clearly defined “metropolitan area” and will consist of at least 10 members including a director who will be chairman.

Four Government departments, local authorities and organised commerce and industry will be among the bodies represented on the boards.

Concern about the ability of the boards to take arbitrary decisions was expressed this week by two Progressive-Reform Party MPC's, Mr Alf Widman, and Mr Sam Moss.

Mr Widman said one of the main difficulties raised by the new Bill was that it made the provincial administration subservient to the National Transport Commission which meant, in effect, that an elected body was subservient to an appointed one.

Mr Widman, the leader of the PRP in both the Transvaal Provincial Council and the Johannesburg City Council, conceded that the new legislation could provide political advantages for local authorities which would no longer be required to take unpopular decisions on the routing of roads and highways.

He added, however, that local authorities should be prepared to put their own plans forward and fight for them if necessary. It would be wrong for them to hide behind the skirts of a national body for the sake of political expediency.

Mr Sam Moss, MPC and city councillor for Parktown, said he believed the main danger in the proposed legislation was that the ordinary man in the street would have far less say in local government. He said he thought Parktown's M6 highway was now far more likely to become a reality than ever before.

Mr Moss has put a series of questions about the M6 to the United Party controlled Johannesburg City Council. He has also asked the council whether it is in favour of a metropolitan body which will supercede it in transportation planning and the implementation of these plans.

PETER BUNKELL

*The Sunday Express*, May 30, 1976

## Geen diktators, sê Driessen

„Diktators? Onmoontlik!” Dit was gister die reaksie van die Sekretaris van Vervoer, mnr Johan Driessen, op berigte die naweek dat die stedelike vervoerrade diktators sou wees wat stede en woonbuurte deur snelweë sou toebou, sonder om 'n flenter om te gee vir die behoefte en begeertes van die gemeenskappe wat geraak word.

Die vervoerrade sal tot stand kom as wetgewing wat nou voor die Parlement is, aanvaar word. Die wetgewing volg op 'n indringende studie oor stedelike vervoer, onder die voorsitterskap van mnr. Driessen self.

Die „diktatorrade“ soos die stedelike vervoerrade gister in die *Sunday Express* genoem is, sal hoegenaamd geen uitvoerende gesag hê nie, sê mnr Driessen. Hulle is adviserende liggame wat die administrateurs van die verskillende provinsies en die Nasionale Vervoerkommissie van raad sal bedien.

Die hele gedagte dat die vervoerrade die stede onder snelweë wil toebou is vreemd aan sy Departement se beleid. Hoe meer snelweë daar in stede gebou word, des te meer motors sal na die stede gelok word, en die gedagte is juis om die toevloei na stede te verminder, sê hy.

Juis daarom is die plan om snelweë rondom die stede te bou, om verkeer weg van die stede te hou.

Mnr Driessen erken dat plaaslike owerhede nie meer in die posisie sal wees om politieke beslissings ten nadele van gekoördineerde beplanning te neem nie. Plaaslike owerhede sal egter wel deeglik inspraak en deelneming hê by die bepaling van hoe en waar snelweë nodig en geregtig is.

*Die Transvaler*, 31 Mei 1976

### Deurpadrade 'n hulp, maar . . .

Die instelling van rade om beheer uit te oefen oor die roetes van deurpaaië deur dorpe en stede sal vir plaaslike owerhede van groot hulp wees, maar dit is jammer dat dié owerhede se aandeel in sulke beslissings in 'n groot mate uitgeskakel gaan word.

Só sê mnr Sam Moss, stadsraadslid van Johannesburg wat die afgelope jare hard veg om te verhinder dat die M6-snelweg deur Parktown gebou word.

Voorsiening word gemaak vir dié vervoerrade in die Vervoerwetsontwerp wat verlede week in Kaapstad gepubliseer is. „Ek voel besorg daaroor dat die vervoerrade, as hulle wil, besluite kan neem sonder om mense wat direk by sulke besluite betrokke is, se wense in ag te neem,” sê mnr Moss.

Hy sê die vervoerraad kan nou besluit om die M6-snelweg deur Parktown te bou en die Johannesburgse stadsraad, wat direk by só iets betrokke sal wees, sal niks aan so 'n besluit kan doen nie. Hy sê hulle sal waarskynlik verteenwoordig word in die raad, maar dié verteenwoordiging sal nie veel beteken nie.

*Die Transvaler*, 31 Mei 1976

### Kommentaar

Dat die bewaringskundiges nie geken is by die samestelling van sulke rade nie, is erg genoeg. Dat daar geen Register van Bewaringswaardighede bestaan waarna die rade met hul beplanning kan verwys nie, is nog erger. Gelukkig vorder die Stigting se bevorderingsaksies in dié verband baie goed. Eersdaags sal 'n voorlopige lys vir verskeie belangrike gebiede beskikbaar gemaak kan word.

WJP

## Irene dairy, golf course may be saved

It is possible the controversial K54 road which threatens the Irene farm and golf course may be built south of the Irene Country Club.

This breakthrough in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging road grid row came at a meeting a while ago between the Irene Vigilance Committee and the MEC for roads, Mr Theo Martins.

“It appears certain areas of the Animal and Dairy Science Research Institute’s farm south of the country club consist of fairly rocky terrain of lesser agricultural value,” Mr Dan van Onselen, the committee’s chairman, said.

“Our committee intends to approach the Department of Agriculture to sound them out about the re-routing of the K54 secondary road over these areas instead of along Nellmapius Drive as planned.”

Mr Van Onselen said Mr Martins and Dr P W B Kruger, the PWV consortium member responsible for areas north of Johannesburg, had undertaken to investigate this proposal.

The committee is still battling with the authorities about the planned route of the PWV-6 freeway through 33 Irene north homes.

“We would like the freeway to run along the planned K69 road north of Kloofsig, past Bays Hill to the north of Valhalla,” Mr Van Onselen said.

“This matter has been discussed with the military authorities who undertook to establish to what extent their facilities would be affected by the widening of K69.”

*Pretoria News*, March 25, 1976

## Council is Government puppet

City councillors had become Government puppets and local governments were hamstrung by red tape, Pretoria’s former mayor, Mr Louis Cloete, said.

“Send the councillors home and appoint a State official to run the city,” he said, listing various municipal functions now in State hands or for which every action needed Government approval.

“Health services are almost entirely in the hands of the Government and finances are constantly under Government control. The city’s yearly capital estimates have to be approved by the State Treasury.

### Control

“Electricity supply has been taken away from municipalities and water supply is

under Government control. Abattoirs are under control of the Government – appointed Abattoir Commission.

“Marketing, town planning and housing are all subject to regulations. And there are other examples,” Mr Cloete said.

“The only useful purpose councillors serve nowadays are to investigate complaints of ratepayers.”

*Pretoria News*, March 1976

## Munisipale bevoegdhede m.b.t. bewaring - duidelikheid nodig

Wat die bevoegdhede van plaaslike owerhede ten opsigte van bewaring is, is nie vir my duidelik nie. Ek vermoed dat veel meer as wat gebruikelik is onder bestaande wetgewing moontlik is (kyk artikel p 7 *Bulletin* 31). Dit sal egter intensiewe navorsing verg om duidelikheid daaroor te kry. Die aangewese weg lyk vir my te wees dat bewaringsbevoegdhede pertinent in 'n ordonansie op plaaslike bestuur omskryf word. Die Swakopmund-simposium se resolusie ten dien effekte was 'n goeie stap in daardie rigting. As die SWAA dit positief kan opvolg, sal dit 'n deurbraak wees en 'n navolgingswaardige presedent vir die provinsiale administrasies stel.

In Duitsland, Brittanje, Frankryk, Nederland en ander lande is die bevoegdhede van plaaslike, streeks- en sentrale owerhede met betrekking tot bewaring duidelik. Daar bestaan parlementêre en plaaslike wetgewing vir bewaring. Nederland het 'n nasionale wet vir monumentesorg en erken die outonomie van plaaslike owerhede ten opsigte van bewaring.

In Amsterdam byvoorbeeld, bestaan daar 'n bewaring-soneringskema en 'n Stedelijke Bureau voor Monumenten-Zorg. In 'n verklaarde bewaringsgebied mag geen slopings- of bouplanne ten uitvoer gebring word alvorens dit nie deur die Bureau goedgekeur is nie. Nederland het reeds meer as 200 beskermende stads- en dorpsgesigte, bewaarde historiese kerns dus.

Tans is ons in Suid-Afrika nog aangewese op die algemene gevoel vir bewaring en die aktiwiteite van liggame soos die Stigting om vrywillige oorweging vir bewaring van eienaars en ontwikkelaars te verkry. Ons plaaslike owerhede het maar kort arms in dié saak en is meesal onkundig en ongevoelig daaroor. Ons stadsbeplanners is meesal ook onkundig oor bewaring en geneig om straatverbodings, deurpaaië en hoogbou as sinoniem met vooruitgang te beskou.

Ons is inderdaad nog ver agter by

Europa wat dit betref, ons wat dit nog minder kan bekostig as hulle.

Daar is ook die kwessie van belasting-toegewings en restourasiesubsidies aan eienaars van gerestoureerde geboue. Plaaslike owerhede het deurgaans nog negatief gereageer op die Stigting se versoeke in verband met belastingverligting. Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede kan restourasiesubsidies toeken op gerestoureerde verklaarde gedenkwaardighede. Die RNG kry egter self só 'n klein toewysing in fondse dat dit in praktyk nie veel op die gebied kan doen nie en noudat hulle self ook restourasies onderneem, is daar nog minder beskikbaar.

Wat die gemeente onredelikheid in verband met beskerming van historiese geboue betref, net dit: In Brittanje byvoorbeeld, kan 'n stadsraad deel van sy stad tot "conservation area" verklaar. Alle veranderinge aan bestaande geboue is dan aan streng beperkinge onderworpe. As die stadsraad besluit dat 'n straat byvoorbeeld gerestoureer moet word, moet alle eienaars tot restourasie volgens stedelik goedgekeurde planne oorgaan. Subsidies en lenings vir restourasie is egter aan almal beskikbaar deur die plaaslike owerheid, wat weer op sy beurt by die sentrale owerheid kan aanklop. As 'n eienaar in so 'n straat sou weier om te restoureer, word sy eiendom onteien teen die markwaarde in ongerestoureerde toestand.

Wat hier opval, is weer eens die algemene bewaringsbewustheid en aanvaarding van bewaring as noodsaaklik. Om 'n eienaar te belet om te sloop en te dwing om te restoureer is seker in 'n sekere sin onredelik. Maar die Europese beskouing is dat die algemene publieke belang voorrang het en bewaring is in die algemene belang. Daarin vind hulle die regverdiging vir hulle streng bewaringswette.

WJP

## Vryburger Bierman 1776

**Joachim van Plettenberg, Gouverneur van Cabo de Goede Hoop** en den ressorte van dien etc. etc. benevens den Raad, doen te weeten:

**Alzo Hendrik Bierman van Hanover A° 1767** voor soldaat a f9 per maand met het schip Geynensch hier aangeland, en op den 11 Aug des selvigen jaars onder sijn lopend verband aangesteld tot Smit met f14's maands, aan ons bij request seer instantig heeft versogt omme uyt 's Comp. dienst ontslagen en tot Burger te mogen werden aangesteld, hebbende d'E Comp behoorlijk gediend; Soo ist dat wij sijn versoek goedgunstiglijk accordeeren, omme seg alhier of

elders met deselfs Smits-ambagh en alle verdere gepermitteerde burgerlijke trafficquen te mogen erneeren, mits geen Land van d' E Comp in Eigendom sal mogen versoeken, die ook aan Haar blijft behouden die magt en dat vermogen, omme hem ten alle tijden, wanneer benodigd ofte sijn gedrag niet betamelijk weesen mogte, wederom voor desselfs oude qualiteit en liagie in dienst te neem en submitteer en de hem wijders onder alle soodanige Placcate als'er op 't stuk der Vrijlieden reeds zijn beraamd, ofte nog in 't vervolg mogten vasgesteld werden.

*Actum In 't Casteel de Goede Hoop den 13e February 1776*

J VAN PLETTENBERG

Gesien by Burgerraaden  
J La Febre  
J v Renen  
G Meijer

## R15 000 aan Habitatraad

Omgewingsbewaring in Suid-Afrika het vandag 'n nuwe tydvak betree.

Prof Roelf Botha, voorsitter van die Habitatraad, het Metal Box Suid-Afrika geloof vir sy inisiatief ter ondersteuning van die nasionale poging om 'n beter omgewing vir die land.

Metal Box het die amptelike staatsubsidie van R15 000 vir die Habitatraad gewenaar. Die raad is die erkende oorkoepelende liggaam vir meer as 50 geaffilieerde organisasies wat met die omgewing te doen het.

Mnr Nigel Gilson, 'n direkteur van Metal Box, het by die oorhandiging van die tjek in Johannesburg gesê dat sy maatskappy, 'n wêreldleier in die ontwikkeling van praktiese hergebruik van materiale, die werk van die Habitatraad ten volle steun.

*Die Transvaler*, 10 November 1975

## Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede Jaarverslag 1 April tot 31 Maart 1975

Die RNG se voorsitter, Sy Edele regter M R de Kock se jaarverslag word vir ons lesers opgesom.

Hierdie jaarverslag handel oor die sesde bestaansjaar van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede en die Raad het dus nou reeds sy kinderskoene ontgroeï. Dié tydperk is gekenmerk deur 'n ongekende toename in belangstelling in die bewaringsgedagte in Suid-Afrika. Die feit word onder andere daarin weerspieël dat daar sedert 1969 altesaam 248 gedenkwaardighede verklaar is vergeleke met die 307 gedenkwaardighede wat in die 35 jaar van die bestaan van die Raad se voorganger, die Historiese Monumentekommissie geproklameer is.

Nogtans is daar die toenemende besef in verskeie oorde dat die Staat 'n veel groter aandeel sal moet verkry in en 'n veel groter finansiële bydrae sal moet maak tot monumentesorg om enigsins op vergelykbare vlak met die meeste oorsese lande te kom. 'n Leidende land op bewaringsgebied soos Nederland se jaarlikse staatsubsidie bedra ongeveer R25

miljoen. Ook in Brittanje en verskeie ander Europese lande word groot bedrae geld op bewaringsgebied bestee, en sodanige lande beskik oor 'n groot personeel om monumentesorg landswyd effektief te behartig. Restourasiewerk op al die verskillende vlakke word byvoorbeeld in Brittanje en Nederland met minstens 50% deur die Staat gesubsidieer, en die plaaslike owerhede word ook in staat gestel om aansienlike addisionele subsidies aan private eienaars toe te staan.

### Verklaarde gedenkwaardighede

In die huidige verslagjaar is 'n vyftigtal geboue, strukture of terreine permanent tot nasionale gedenkwaardighede verklaar by wyse van altesame 40 Goewermentskennisgewings. Sodoende het die Raad verseker dat nog 'n aantal van Suid-Afrika se erfenisse sover menslik moontlik vir die nageslag behoue sal bly. In hoofsaak beteken sodanige verklaaring slegs dat geen strukturele veranderinge sonder die toestemming van die Raad aan gedenkwaardighede aangebring kan

word nie. Hoewel daar sedert die instelling van die Raad in 1969 merkwaardige vooruitgang was wat betref die aantal gedenkwaardighede wat verklaar is, is daar nietemin groot rede tot kommer as gevolg van die vinnige verdwyning vanaf Suid-Afrika se geboueskat in die besonder. In 'n groeiende nywerheidsland is 'n mate van sloping van geboue van historiese of argitektoniese belang waarskynlik onvermydelik. Die noodsaaklikheid van verdere versnelde aksie, 'n veel groter finansiële subsidie en personeel asook die opstel van 'n lys van bewaerwaardighede kan egter nie oorbelemtoon word nie. In Amsterdam self is byvoorbeeld meer as 6 000 monumente, terwyl Brittanje reeds ongeveer 230 000 geboue op sy nasionale bewaringslys het. Dit sluit nie eers die ongeveer 400 sogenaamde bewaringsgebiede ("conservation areas") in Brittanje waar argitektoniese komplekse in hul geheel deur wetgewing beskerm word in nie.

### Die Raad se Medalje

Die gewese Historiese Monumentekommissie het sedert 1941 altesaam 16 medaljes toegeken aan persone wat hulle in die besonder onderskei het op kultuurhistoriese gebied, veral in verband met die bewaringsgedagte in Suid-Afrika. Met die instelling van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede is besluit om voort te gaan met die toekenning van 'n soortgelyke medalje aan verdienstelike persone. Waar daar in die verlede goue-, silwer- en bronsmedaljes toegeken is, is dit die Raad se beleid om slegs goue erepenninge van 18 karaat goud toe te ken. Die Raad se goue-medaljes is die hoogste toekenning op bewaringsterrein in Suid-Afrika.

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het vanjaar besluit om drie medaljes toe te ken, te wete aan mnr en mev G Fagan (gesamentlik), mnr I M Hoogenhout en mnr G L Froneman. Die medaljes is by die seremoniële opening van die gerestoureerde Drosdy op Tulbagh op 7 Oktober deur Sy Edele senator J P van der Spuy aan hierdie persone oorhandig. Die toekenning is gedoen vir die buitengewone bydrae wat hulle reeds op die gebied van bewaring gelever het en in die besonder vir die Tulbaghse restourasieprojek wat ná die aardbewings van 1969 onderneem is. Die gerestoureerde Kerkstraat is op 14 Maart 1974 seremonieel geopen deur Sy Edele die Eerste Minister.

### Beheer oor wetenskaplike opgrawings en die uitvoer van wetenskaplike voorwerpe

Dit is 'n uiters belangrike verantwoordelijkheid van die Raad om te waak oor Suid-Afrika se groot rykdom aan argeologiese oorblyfsels, rotskuns, fossiele, meteoriete en ander wetenskaplike skatte. Voorwerpe van dié aard mag slegs ooreenkomstig permitte wat die Raad

uitreik, versamel, verwyder of uitgevoer word.

Beide op paleontologiese en argeologiese terrein het Suid-Afrika reeds wêreldbekendheid verwerf met vondste wat hier gemaak is. Dié vondste dui daarop dat Suid-Afrika van primêre belang is as een van die oudste wêrelddele wat mense en dierelewe betref. Suid-Afrika se rotskuns is vanweë die kwaliteit en algemene voorkoms daarvan ook uniek.

Ingevolge die Wet op Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, 1969, word alle rotskuns beskerm en is dit 'n strafbare oortreding om dit te beskadig of te vernietig. Dit is ontstellend dat hierdie onvervangbare erfenisse steeds onder vandaliste deurloop. Vandalisme sal waarskynlik nooit heeltemal uitgeroei kan word nie, maar die fisieke beskerming van die belangrikste voorbeelde van rotskuns, byvoorbeeld met behulp van inspekteurs of opsigters, sal baie daartoe bydra om die erns van die probleme te verminder. Ongelukkig beskik die Raad tans nog nie oor die finansiële middele of personeel om hierdie kulturele erfenis en toeristetrakksie effektief te beskerm nie.

'n Belangrike aanverwante probleem is die vertering van die rotstekeninge. Die WNNR is verlede jaar genader met die oog op navorsing vir die bewaring en verduursaming van rotskuns. Die Raad het reeds R10 000 vir die eerste fase van hierdie belangrike projek bygedra. 'n Nasionale loodskomitee, bestaande uit kenners op dié gebied, is aangestel om die Nasionale Bounavorsingsinstituut van die WNNR te steun en te adviseer in sy navorsing. Die eerste vergadering van die loodskomitee het op 16 Oktober 1974 plaasgevind en heelwat van die veldwerk is reeds onderneem.

'n Aansienlike aantal permitte is vanjaar uitgereik. Vyf-en-twintig permitte is toegeken vir argeologiese opgrawings. Twee permitte is voorts uitgereik vir die permanente uitvoer van argeologiese materiaal en nog twee vir die tydelike uitvoer van argeologiese voorwerpe. Wat die opgraving van paleontologiese voorwerpe betref, is 14 permitte uitgereik. Drie permitte is toegeken vir die permanente uitvoer van paleontologiese materiaal. Ten slotte is een permit uitgereik vir die maak van afgietsels van rotsgravures. Altesaam 47 permitte is dus vanjaar uitgereik. Van permithouers word gewoonlik vereis om een keer per jaar aan die Raad verslag te doen, en 'n aantal besonder interessante voorlopige verslae en permanente publikasies is reeds ontvang.

### Herstel en restourasie van gedenkwaardighede

Die Raad het gedurende die afgelope jaar weer 'n besondere bydrae tot restourasieprojekte in Suid-Afrika en Suidwes-Afrika gelever. 'n Totale bedrag van R180 228,33 is deur die Raad aan restourasiewerk bestee, waarvan die groot-

ste gedeelte met die afronding van restourasieprojekte op Tulbagh in verband gestaan het.

'n Totaal van R66 300,00 is in die eerste plek aan die Tulbagh-restourasiekomitee uitbetaal vir die suksesvolle afronding van hierdie unieke projek. Van hierdie bedrag is 'n staatstoekenning van R50 000 ontvang, wat meebring dat die Staat 'n totale bedrag van R100 000,00 via die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede beskikbaar gestel het vir die restourasie van Kerkstraat in Tulbagh. Hiernaas is R28 185,76 vanjaar bestee in verband met die afhandeling van die restourasie van die Drosdy op Tulbagh. Hiermee is die grootste enkele restourasieprojek wat nog deur die Raad onderneem is, feitlik afgehandel.

By verskeie ander verklaarde gedenkwaardighede dwarsoor die Republiek en Suidwes-Afrika is restourasiewerk vanjaar afgehandel wat op koste van die Raad gedoen is of waarvoor die Raad 'n bydrae bewillig het. Hieronder val 'n bedrag van R13 430,00 ten opsigte van die restourasie van Bien Donné naby Franschhoek. Hierdie indrukwekkende H-vormige gewelhuys is tot sy vroeë glorie herstel en word tans deur die Raad teen 'n nominale bedrag verhuur aan twee gesinne van die plaaslike proefplaas. Hierbenewens het die Raad vanjaar R8 799,50 uitbetaal vir die volledige restourasie van genl. J C Smuts se woonhuis op Doornkloof. Bedrae van R6 000 en R5 305 is onderskeidelik ten opsigte van die restourasie van Rhebokskraal naby McGregor en Krugerhof by Waterval-Onder betaal. Laasgenoemde is onlangs deur die Raad aangekoop en sal na restourasie vir museumdoeleindes beskikbaar gestel word. Noemenswaardig is ook die subsidies van R3 000 elk wat in verband met die restourasie van De Oude Bakkerij van die Stigting Simon van der Stel in Tulbagh uitbetaal is, asook Vergenoegd naby Faure en Klein Zoar in Kaapstad.

In Suidwes-Afrika is 'n totaal van R7 996,37 uit die Kapitaalrekening bestee. Die grootste bedrag hier was R4 857,50 wat vir die restourasie van die Kaap Kruis-terrein uitbetaal is.

Gedurende die jaar is spesiale vertoë tot die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding gerig om 'n finansiële subsidie ten opsigte van die herstel van ernstige vloedskade aan Tafelberg, wat een van die Raad se belangrikste gedenkwaardighede is. Die Raad is besonder dankbaar om te kan meld dat R33 000 deur die Staat vir hierdie doel bewillig is. Groot-skaalse restourasiewerk word reeds onderneem en sal hopelik in die volgende verslagjaar afgehandel word.

Ten slotte kan gemeld word dat die Raad se restourasieplanne vanjaar ongelukkig gekortwiek is vanweë sy ongesonde finansiële posisie. Min nuwe projekte is aangepak omdat die huidige finansiële toestand dit verhinder en in baie gevalle

kon subsidies aan private persone of liggame nie oorweeg word nie. Die dringende noodsaaklikheid van 'n veel groter finansiële toekenning van die Staat om tred te hou met die snelle toename in belangstelling in en daadwerklike deelname aan restaurasie deur die privaatsektor kan nouliks oorbeklemtoon word. Publisiteit, publikasies en openbare betrekkinge is belangrike funksies van die Raad, wat poog om die groei van bewaringsbewustheid by die breë publiek van Suid-Afrika te bevorder.

Met sy huidige beperkte personeel was dit onmoontlik vir die Raad om soveel aandag aan hierdie noodsaaklike funksies te skenk as wat hulle verdien, maar in die verslagjaar is verskeie belangrike projekte nogtans suksesvol aangepak. Een daarvan was die uitgee van 'n monumentekaart van die Westelike Provinsie met die naam "Op Reis deur die Geskiedenis". Die kaart is deur 'n vooraanstaande motorhuurfirma gefinansier.

'n Aantal fotografiese tentoonstellings is ook gereël. 'n Verskeidenheid van foto's deur mnr Eric Vertue, 'n lid van die Raad, is onder die titel "Ons Erfenis" deur 'n bekende winkelgroep ten toon gestel. Die twee tentoonstellings was die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede se bydrae tot die Kaapstadse Fees van 1975.

'n Suksesvolle uitstalling van foto's is ook in Windhoek, in samewerking met die Administrasie van Suidwes-Afrika, deur lede van die Raad se plaaslike Streekkomitee gereël.

Hulp is voorts aan 'n aantal instansies verleen om hulle in staat te stel om inligting omtrent monumente te versprei.

Op dié manier is byvoorbeeld 'n beskrywende teks vir 'n Lugdiens-almanak vir 1975 verskaf. Dié almanak het hoofsaaklik bestaan uit tekeninge van gedenkwaardighede. Foto's van nasionale gedenkwaardighede is ook verskaf vir 'n landsweye wedstryd wat deur 'n groot sake-onderneming georganiseer is.

Raadslede het ook grotendeels bygedra tot die Raad se aktiwiteite in die publisietsveld. Artikels oor die werk van die Raad en oor spesifieke gedenkwaardighede is deur raadslede en personeel gepubliseer. Lesings en radiopraatjies is ook gehou. Verteenwoordigers van die nuusmedia is weer gevra om raadsvergaderings by te woon en persverklarings is gereëld uitgereik. Skakeling is ook met sekere invloedryke verslaggewers gehandhaaf. Besoekersboeke met die embleem van die Raad is nou beskikbaar en word by uitgesoekte gedenkwaardighede gebruik. Daar word verwag dat die Raad se nuwe, hersiene lys van gedenkwaardighede binnekort uitgegee sal word. Hierdie lys is in 'n vorige jaarverslag aangekondig, maar is vertraag weens gebrek aan fondse. Die kantoor het weer hierdie jaar 'n groot aantal navrae oor die Raad se werksaamhede behartig. Onder andere is 'n breedvoerige vraelys oor

die toerisme-potensiaal van gedenkwaardighede voltooi.

### Toesig en inspeksies

Die lede en personeel van die Raad het gedurende die verslagjaar 'n groot verskeidenheid inspeksies ter bewaring van gedenkwaardighede dwarsoor die land uitgevoer. Vanweë die groot aantal gedenkwaardighede en die afgeleë ligging van baie daarvan, het die behoefte aan 'n groter personeel en die wenslikheid van inspekteurs weer eens vanjaar duidelik na vore getree. As die behoefte voorsien word, sal noodsaaklike onderhoudswerk ook meer aandag kan geniet.

Die Raad is spesiale dank verskuldig aan die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie en amptenare van die Departement van Openbare Werke wat vanjaar weer 'n groot aantal gedenkwaardighede in die loop van hul bedrywighede geïnspekteer het. Verslae wat van hulle asook van lede van die publiek ontvang is, was besonder waardevol.

Die Raad is weer baie dank verskuldig aan verskeie persone wat as ekkurators van verskeie gedenkwaardighede opgetree het. Dit geld veral vir sodanige gedenkwaardighede wat nie in private besit is nie of waar dit as museums of vir ander nuttige doeleindes aangewend word en in stand gehou word. Hiernaas word die hulp en samewerking van die betaalde opsigters baie waardeer wat in deelydse of heelydse hoedanigheid by terreine diens doen.

Tot op hede besit die Raad 27 eiendomme wat deur hom aangekoop is of aan hom oorgedra is, wat noodwendig heelwat verpligtinge meebring. Gedurende die verslagjaar is die Bien Donné-herenhuis in trust aan die Raad oorgedra en is grootskaalse restaurasiewerk alhier onderneem. Enkele ander eiendomme is tans in verskillende stadia van oordrag aan die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede.

### Finansies

'n Staat van inkomste en uitgawe vir die jaar en die balansstaat soos op 31 Maart 1975 verskyn aan die einde van die verslag. Ten opsigte van die rekening vir administratiewe doeleindes het uitgawes die inkomste met R1 095,11 oorskry.

Die kapitaalrekening het 'n opgehoopde saldo van slegs R117,13.

Administratiewe inkomste in Suidwes-Afrika het uitgawes met R179,44 oorskry. Die Suidwes-Afrika-kapitaalrekening het 'n saldo van R732,65.

Die Mackie Niven-trustfonds vir die instandhouding van "The Lookout", naby Uitenhage, staan op R3 571,11; die Historiese Monumentefonds staan op R385,69 en die Basil Humphreys Trustfonds vir die instandhouding van die Sendingkerk by Campbell staan op R1 104,43. Die nasate van die Wessels-familie het reeds etlike jare gelede 'n bedrag bemaak vir die instandhouding van die Wouter-

sen Wesselsgrafkelder te Groenpunt. Gedurende die huidige jaar is die kapitaal aan die Raad oorgedra nadat die Raad hom bereid verklaar het om die instandhouding van die grafkelder waar te neem. Die kapitaal bestaan uit R1 700,00 en die rente word vir die instandhouding gebruik. Restaurasiewerk sal binnekort onderneem word om hierdie grafkelder en ringmuur, asook die terrein binne die ringmuur, weer op te knap en te restoureer.

Die fondse van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede is steeds ontoereikend om die toenemende eise wat aan die Raad gestel word, te dek. Belangrike restaurasiewerk sowel as administratiewe uitgawes is aansienlik vertraag en sal in die toekoms nog meer vertraag moet word as gevolg van onvoldoende fondse.

### Dankbetuigings

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede is weer eens besondere dank verskuldig aan talle individue en instellings vir bystand wat gedurende die jaar ontvang is.

Besondere dank en waardering is eerstens verskuldig aan Sy Edele die Minister van Nasionale Opvoeding, sen J P van der Spuy, wat nog eens bewys gelewer het van sy belangstelling in die werksaamhede van die Raad. Daar is reeds melding gemaak van die inspeksietoer wat deur die Minister meegemaak is. Samesprekings is by verskeie geleenthede ook deur die Voorsitter en senior raadslede met die Minister gevoer. Die Sekretaris van die Departement, dr J T van Wyk, se steun en belangstelling word eweneens waardeer. 'n Instansie wat ook veral vermelding verdien, is die kantoor van die Direkteur van Argiewe en sy personeel in Pretoria en Kaapstad. Soos in die verlede, het die Argiewe weer vanjaar as onmisbare skakel tussen die Raad en die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding gedien. Hiernaas is wesentlike ondersteuning van verskeie ander staatsdepartemente ontvang. Die onderskeie Provinsiale Rade het weer eens hul besondere bydrae tot bewaring gelewer en die Raad kon steeds op die Administrasie se noue samewerking steun. 'n Woord van spesiale dank word teenoor mnr F D Conradie, Kaaplandse LUK, uitgespreek vir sy simpatieke houding en daadwerklike ondersteuning. Mnr Conradie het as nuut aangestelde Voorsitter van die Tafelbergbewaringsraad ook op hierdie vlak waardevolle voortgesette skakeling met die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede gehandhaaf.

Waardering word voorts betuig vir die samewerking wat ontvang is van die stads- en dorpsrade, asook afdelingsrade en ander plaaslike owerhede. Daar is sover moontlik ook met historiese verenigings en aanverwante kultuur-organisasies saamgewerk. Vanweë die uitgestrektheid van die land, het hierdie or-

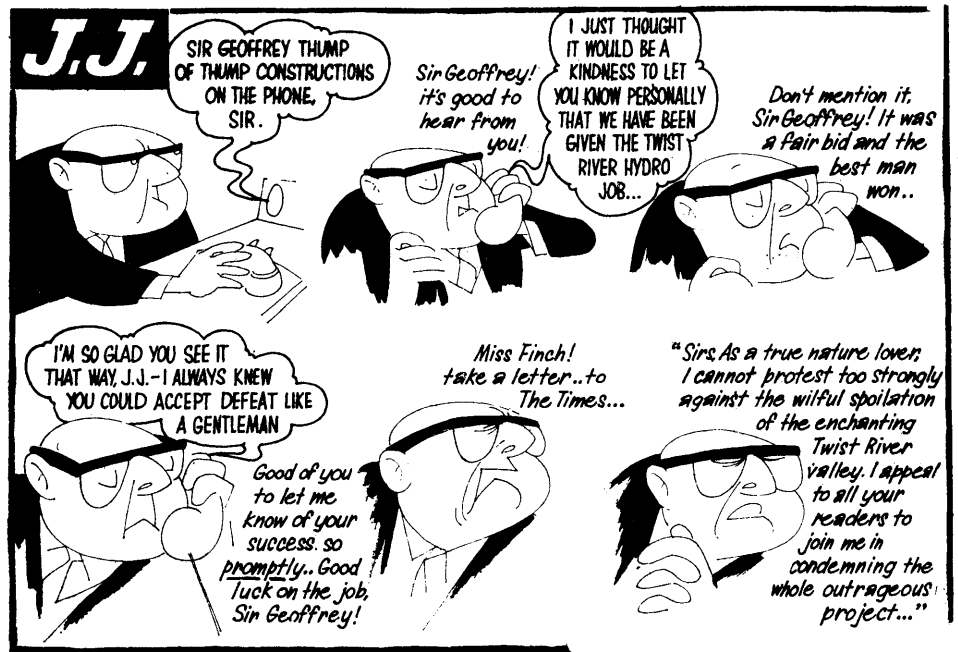


ganisasies hul deel bygedra om as "wag-honde" op bewaringsvlak te dien. Hier-naas is noue samewerking vanjaar weer gehandhaaf met die Stigting Simon van der Stel. Gedurende die verslagjaar het dr Willem Punt afgetree as eerste direkteur en stigter (in 1959) van die Stigting. Dr Punt het diep spore in die bewaringsveld getrap en het 'n belangrike rol gespeel in die opwekking van 'n bewaringsbewustheid onder die breë publiek. Sy bydrae sal steeds in dankbare herinnering geroep word deur alle bewarings-instansies en hy word 'n aangename en vrugbare aftrede toegewens. Dr Punt is as direkteur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel opgevolg deur mnr W J Punt. Hy het hom reeds met sy entoesiasme en toewyding op bewaringsgebied onderskei en word bedank vir die aangename en daadwerklike samewerking wat in die afgelope jaar ondervind is. Hartlike medewerking is weer eens ondervind met die takke van die Stigting in Kaapstad, Stellenbosch, Paarl en Worcester. Gedurende die afgelope jaar het mnr I M Hoogenhout ook uitgetree as Besturende Direkteur van Historiese Huise Beperk. Sedert die maatskappy se ontstaan in 1965, het dié maatskappy reeds ongeveer 45 eiendomme aangekoop met die oog op restourasie. Mnr Hoogenhout se plek word ingeneem deur die toegewyde mnr G Froneman wat hom ook reeds op bewaringsgebied on-

derskei het. Baie aangename samewerking is weer eens ondervind. Dit is onmoontlik om melding te maak van die tallose individue aan wie die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede dank verskuldig is vir hulp en ondersteuning gedurende die verslagjaar.

Al dié persone het op onbaatsugtige wyse saamgewerk vir die behoud van ons onvervangbare kulturele erfenisse wat in toenemende mate 'n toeristeaantreklikheid en bate geword het.

(Opgesom – Redakteur)



With appreciation and acknowledgement to Bill Wellings and Roy Dewar.

## Die eerste Europeane in die Nasionale Krugerwildtuin

1725

## The first Europeans in the Kruger National Park

deur W H J PUNT

In hierdie tweetalige werk verskyn die dagverhaal van kaptein Frans de Cuiper in 1725. Die ekspedisie het uit 31 soldate en matrose bestaan en moes 'n pad vanuit Delagoabaai na Monomotapa verken. Hulle was die eerste Europeane om die Transvaalse Laeveld tot naby die huidige Skukuza te betree. Ook bevat die boek uiters interessante historiese dokumente in verband met die geskiedenis van die goudvelde van Monomotapa en Zimbabwe. 'n Boeiende verhaal, met kaarte en foto's, deur dr Willem Punt van 'n militêre verkenning wat ons voorouers tydens die bewind van die VOC onderneem het.

Sagte Band: R2,50  
Harde Band: R4,00 geteken

Bestel van Stigting Simon van der Stel  
Posbus 1743, Pretoria 0001 of Posbus 4451 Kaapstad 8000

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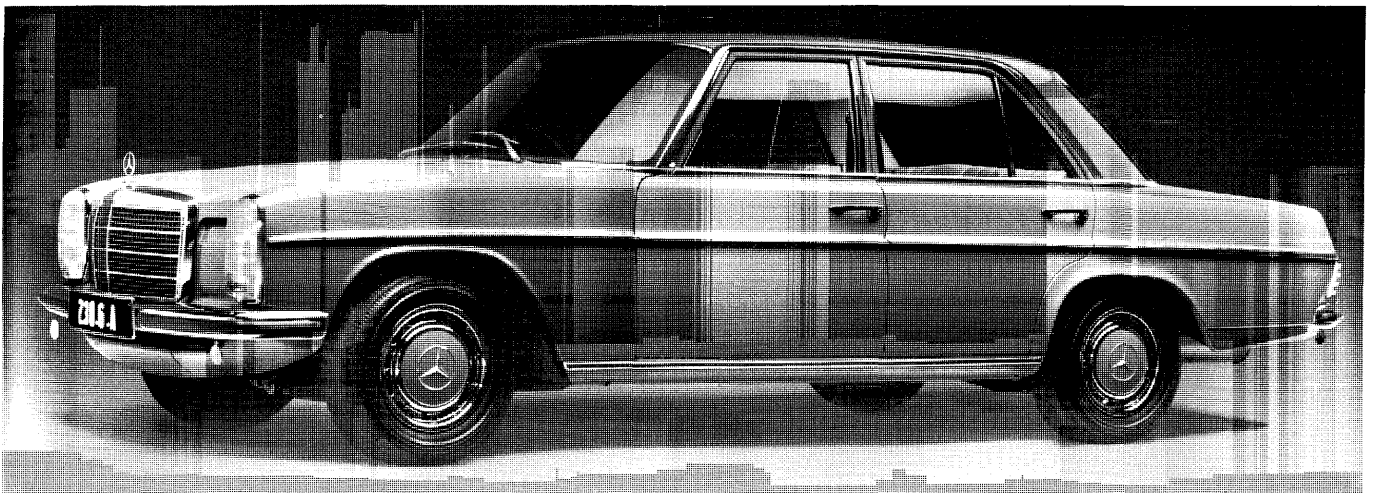
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# Transvaal

## Restourasiefonds: Bothsabelo

'n Nasionale Restourasiefonds "Bothsabelo 100 000" is deur die Stigting Simon van der Stel geloods.

Restourasiewerk op Bothsabelo, die ou Berlynse Sendingstasie naby Middelburg, het onlangs nog 'n stap gevorder. Die groot kerk se grasdak is oorgedek teen 'n koste van R12 000. Om die hele sendingstasie te restoureer word nog R100 000 benodig.

Bothsabelo is een van Transvaal se oudste sendingstasies. Die naam beteken, "Plek van Toevlug".

Die restourasie word onderneem deur die eienaar van Bothsabelo, die Stigting Simon van der Stel, as deel van sy nasionale heemskuttaak.

In 1963 het die Stigting die eerste fase van hierdie projek voltooi met die aankoop en restourasie van Fort Merensky. In 1973 skenk die Stadsraad van Middelburg die res van die terrein aan die Stigting en is die 1865 eerste kerkie, in hartbeeshuisstyl gebou, gerestoureer, asook die twee ou rondawels.

Die volgende fase is die stapsgewyse restourasie (weens gebrek aan fondse) van die groot kerk van 1871. Die inheemse plantegroei op die terrein van 40 ha word ook met verdrag herstel.

Restourasiewerk aan die pastorie, die bakoond, kombuis, skuur en kraal sal aangepak word sodra voldoende fondse daarvoor gevind kan word.

Met elke maand wat verbygaan, styg die koste van restourasiewerk met 2%. Daarom het die Stigting nou 'n spesiale fonds geopen vir die Bothsabelo-projek. Uit normale bronne sal dit so lank duur om die nodige fondse te bekom dat die koste eventueel onbetaalbaar sal word.

Bydraes sal in die Stigting se lyfblad *Restorica* erken word. Skenkers wat daarom vra, sal ook vir hul bydraes lidmaatskap van die Stigting kan verkry. Die Stigting se adres is Posbus 1743, Pretoria 0001.

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel is in 1959 opgerig as Suid-Afrika se nasionale burgerlike heemskutorganisasie. In hierdie bewaringstaak het die Stigting al eienomme bekom en gerestoureer in Transvaal, Kaapland en Natal. Hieronder tel; Boekenhoutfontein by Rustenburg, Coornhoop in Kaapstad, twee Kaaps-Hollandse huise in Tulbagh, 'n huis in Graaff-Reinet, die 1820-Setlaarsmonument by Bathurst en Macrorie-huis in Pietermaritzburg.

In Desember 1858 het twee jong sendelinge, Alexander Merensky en Carl Grützner, in Natal aangekom om die Evangelie onder die Zoeloes te verkondig.

Twee jaar later word hulle na Swaziland gestuur, maar die opperhoof wou wa-

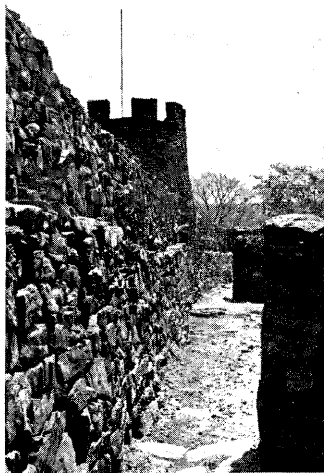
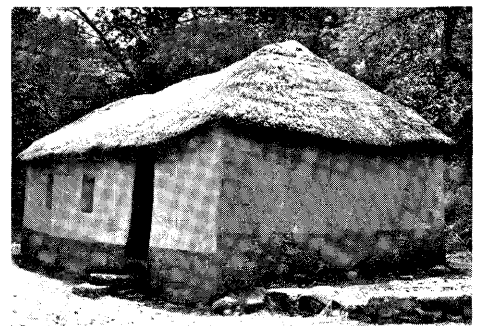
pens en perde hê in ruil vir vergunning om sendingwerk te doen. Met behulp van President Burgers gaan Merensky en Grützner na Gerlachshoop, naby die Bapedi-kaptein Malco se stat. Malco verjaag hulle egter en hulle gaan na Sekwati se stat, Mosego. Maar toe sy seun, Sekoekoeni, in 1864 opperhoof word, volg daar 'n tydperk van Christenvervolging wat eventueel sou lei tot die noodsaak van die fort te Bothsabelo.

Aanvanklik is die fort ter ere van die Duitse keiser, Fort Wilhelm, genoem. Na restourasie het die Stigting Simon van der Stel die fort tot Fort Merensky herdoop, ter ere van die stigter van Bothsabelo, Plek van Toevlug.

Vanuit hulle stamlande verdryf, het omtrent 200 Bapedi en Bakopa hul sende-

**Restourasiewerk op Bothsabelo, die ou Berlynse sendingstasie naby Middelburg, het onlangs nog 'n stap gevorder. Die groot kerk se grasdak word oorgedek. Die pastorie, bakoond, kombuis, skuur en kraal sal mettertyd gerestoureer word.**

Foto's: Frik Dreyer



ling, Alexander Merensky van die Berlynse Sendinggenootskap, gevolg en in Februarie 1865 hulle intrek op Bothsabelo geneem. 1866 was daar reeds 420 inwoners en tot 1873 het die getal tot 1 315 gegroei. Al reeds die eerste jaar het hulle die klein kerkie en Fort Merensky gebou, wat nou gerestoureer gesien kan word.

In 1868 was 'n groter kerk nodig en met die hulp van 'n ou Noorse messelaar het hulle die tweede kerk, nou die dwarsgebou van die groot kerk, begin bou wat op 15 Maart 1868 ingewy kon word. Die vinnige groei van die getal inwoners het Eerw Merensky gedwing om weer planne vir 'n nog groter gebou te maak. Die kerkraad het toegestem en die hele gemeente het aan die werk gespring om die handewerk te doen. 200 000 stene was nodig wat gevorm en gebrand moes word. Hout is ver van die sendingstasie afgekap en na die oonde aangery. Uit die Pongolawoude is geelhout vir die dak en die galerye met ossewaens aangery.

Volgens plan is die kerk dwarsdeur die bestaande gebou opgerig om sodoende 'n kerk in kruisvorm te kry. Al die los klippe op die terrein is gebreek en aangekarwei om 'n stewige fondament te kry. Transvaal was arm aan lang hout en dit was 'n probleem om steiers vir die dak en die toring te maak. Twee Europese messelaars was behulpsaam om die mure en die toring te bou. Toe die mure klaar was, was ook die dak reg om opgesit te word. Onder toesig van 'n Duitse timmerman en smid is die hout bewerk en gesny en die vensters, deure en banke gemaak. 'n Sendeling, wat baie handig was, het die kruis en die sink op die 20 meter hoë toring opgesit. Dit was 'n merkwaardige prestasie want selfs vandag is dit 'n probleem om daar te kom.

'n Tweede sendeling het uit Noord-Transvaal gekom om die kleurglas wat uit Duitsland gestuur was te sny en met lood in die vensters in te sit. Vroue en kinders was besig om water en klei aan te dra, gras te sny en matte te maak wat op die latte onder die gras gesit is vir 'n beter vertoning van die binneansig.

Dit was 'n besondere prestasie, dat met behulp van die hele gemeente die gebou in die bestek van net nege maande voltooi kon word. Onder groot belangstelling is die kerk op 23 Oktober 1871 ingewy.

As in gedagte gehou word, dat in die verloop van sewe jaar die Fort, die ou skool (1871) en die drie kerkgeboue feitlik sonder hulp van buite opgerig is, ongereken die bou van eie huise en tuinbou, dan is dit 'n noemenswaardige vertoning wat die geloof en liefde van die eerste geslag van swart Christene sigbaar gemaak het.

In April 1970 het tydens 'n diens die klok, wat meer as 100 jaar die gemeente tot godsdiens geroep het, gebars en die mense het daardeur afgelei dat hulle tyd te Bothsabelo verby was. Die volgende

jaar moes hulle na hulle tuislande terugkeer. Die tyd van "ballingskap" was verstreke, maar Bothsabelo en sy geboue bly 'n voorbeeld van wat God onder die heidense volkere gedoen het.

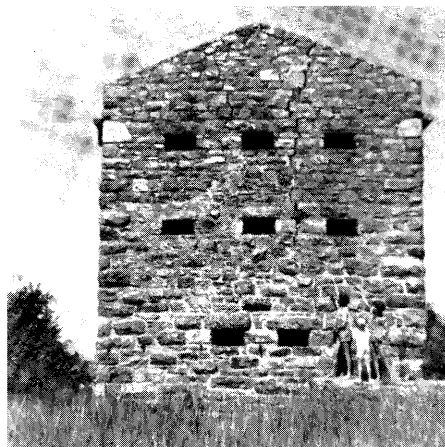
WJP

#### Bothsabelo 100 000

Ons erken met besondere dank en waardering ondergenoemde bydraes:

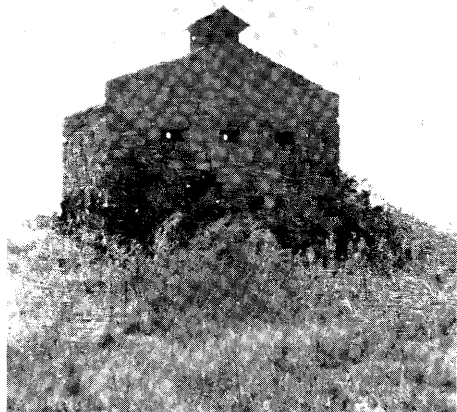
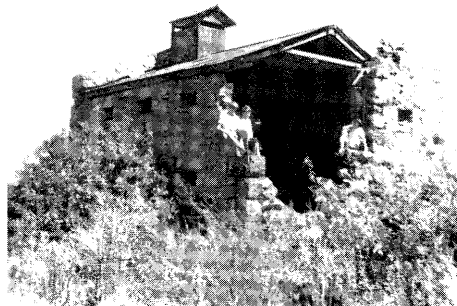
Hans Merensky-Trust,	R2 500,00
Johannesburg	R10,00
I C Nitzsche, Pretoria	R10,00
W J Punt en gesin, Pretoria	R10,00
<b>Totaal</b>	<b>R2 520,00</b>

#### Oorblyfsels uit Anglo-Boere-Oorlog in Gevaar



Blokhuse by Dalesidestatie naby Vereeniging. Een van die blokhuse wat omstreeks 1901 gebou is, is tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar. Die ander een is bouvallig, alhoewel die dak nog in 'n redelike toestand is. Van die skietgate se ysterplate is verwyder, asook die deur. Die kosyn is gebuig, vermoedelik deur die muur se val.

Foto's: L B Rood



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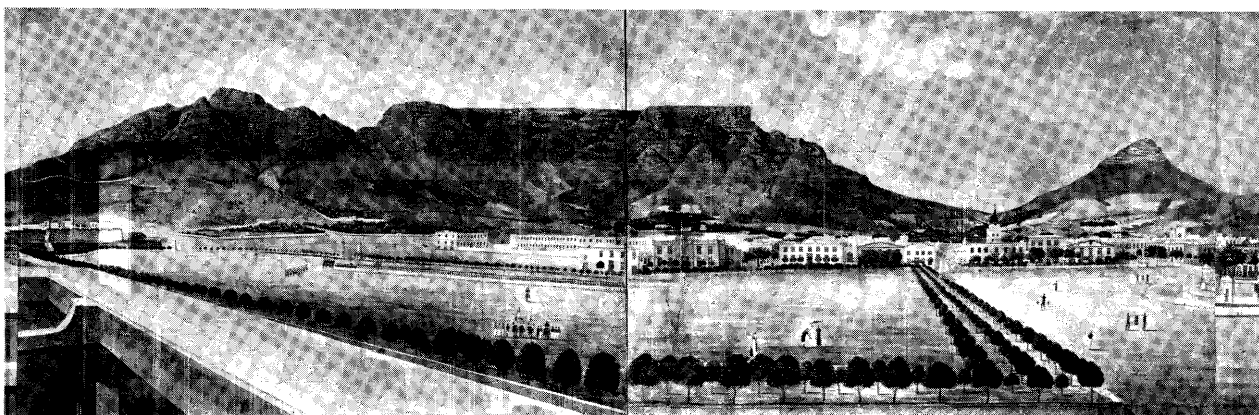
Claude Gelee, called Claude Lorraine, 'Landscape with Mercury and Argus' – discovered by Sotheby's in the Eastern Transvaal and sold in London for £105 000.



One of a pair of spinach green jade circular Roundels, Ch'ien Lung – discovered in Ladysmith, Natal, and sold in London for £5 000.

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# Johannesburg Market Theatre

It has been said that a city that has lost its historic buildings is like a man who has lost his memory. Johannesburg, hardly out of its formative years, not even a teenager by city standards, has almost lost its memory already.

Without a memory we are without the experience which mellows us.

Without a memory we are without the upbringing which gives us confidence. Without a memory we have not the tradition which gives us pride.

Yet in the back corners of our city there are still reminders of the past, and it is not too late to save them. One of these, which recently narrowly missed the demolisher's hammer, is the Johannesburg Newtown Market. We can analyse this building under the criteria for preservation detailed in the December 1975 issue of *Restorica* by D van den Velden-Visser which is as follows:

- a) Though not an exceptionally good example, is it rare or perhaps the only example of its kind?
- b) Is it part of a group of buildings which as a whole would suffer through the demolition of one?
- c) Is the building a particularly fine example of its kind?
- d) Has the building great exceptional architectural merit?
- e) Is the building the first of its kind?
- f) Has the building important historical associations with either people or events?

At first glance the Johannesburg Newtown Market does not seem to fall into any of these categories and yet seems to comply on all accounts. The magnificent east facade is a fruit salad of architectural style consisting in the main of a combination of "Banker's Georgian" and "Edwardian Baroque" with a sprinkling of Victorian bits and pieces and garnished with alterations in the "Municipal workshop" style. If the facade lacks architectural purity it abounds greatly in charm, yet has an irresistible sense of majesty.

As we enter the grand entrance gates into what was once called the "Corn Exchange" we are impressed by the simplicity and harmonious rhythm of Colonnades of Doric (almost Mycean) columns. From the Corn Exchange there are two paths we can follow. The more direct path leads straight into the Marketing Hall, the other into the Annexe, originally destined for the sale of dairy and poultry products. Immediately we find ourselves in volumes filled with a



Market Square, Johannesburg

H. & Co., P. E.

## Market Square, Johannesburg.

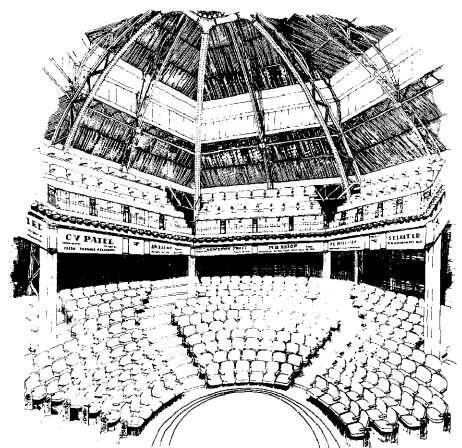
sacred light. Without analysing our contentment we know that the space is "just right". We start to examine the cause of our wellbeing, we notice that in the main hall the roof is supported on enormous 3-pin arches. These are reputedly the largest in the country, 36 metres, and spring uncluttered from massive concrete buttresses which disappear into the floor and nestle in the clay of the swamp that was once called "the insanitary area". A 3-pin arch consisting of two quadrants hinged at the middle, and two springing points with great 75 mm bolts, was the ideal structural system, because it was capable of moving in the event of a differential settlement of the foundations.

If the interior of the main hall is wonderful, then that of the Annexe is even more so. Barney Simon has described the atmosphere as being close to religious. The structural system is exactly the same as that of the main hall but in this instance the quadrants are arranged in an octagonal pattern and rise unimpeded through the gallery, past an octagonal clerestorey light to meet an octagonal compression ring on which sits a charming octagonal cupola. This is an exact miniature of the main structure which, in its own case, rises to its own tiny octagonal compression ring and in turn finishes in a tiny cupola.

What the external facade lacks in architectural purity is more than adequately made up for by the industrial honesty

of the interior and structure. The enormous arches were manufactured in England and shipped out to South Africa in 1908 with their armies of neat rivet heads, their stress plates flared out at junction points where additional strength was required, with its sensitive detail at the ends of the arches which accurately focus the stresses in the arches onto the pins which, like big knuckles, slide into each other and unashamedly show how the stresses are transferred from roof to arch, from arch to foundation.

The building was designed by the City Engineer's Department under its then head, G S Burt Andrews. One cannot find any reference to an architect working on the job although there were 51 architects in practice in Johannesburg at the time. However, it is obvious that:



A sensitive mind arranged the proportions of the interior of the main hall and especially the Annexe.

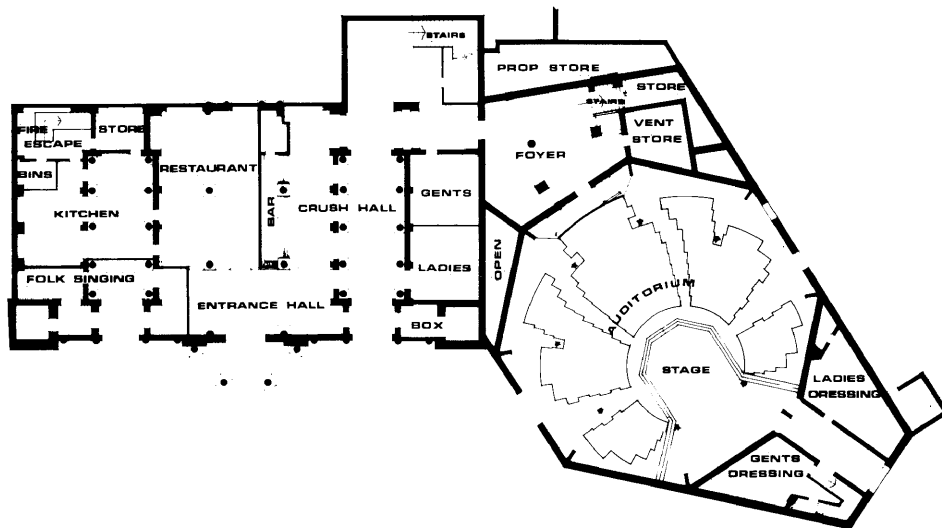
A humorous and tongue-in-cheek mind designed the central portion of the Rates Hall, reminiscent of a colonial church.

An honest mind designed the galleries on either side of the Rates Hall to echo exactly the external facade, and a disciplined mind made the structure unashamedly say what it was doing, where its weaknesses were, and how they were to be strengthened.

Another criteria for preserving a building is its association with people and events. To the best of our knowledge the story of the Market has no great characters wound up in its past and no nation-shattering events to call attention to itself. But its story is interesting and much of its past is woven into the very fabric of Johannesburg's history. In the Annexe we find old notice boards with names such as Patel, Ismael and Essop, third and fourth generation descendants of those early pioneers who joined the first market in Johannesburg soon after its establishment in 1887.

Before this time markets were operating in a haphazard fashion in Ferreira's Camp and on the Square in Marshall's Camp where produce was sold out of hand from the back of Boer wagons. Paul Kruger could see that if this trading was organised on a proper basis it could produce an additional form of State income; he therefore promulgated regulations compelling all produce to be sold through a central market. The market was to be run by a Market Master who would receive a commission of 10% on the turnover. One does not need to be a financial wizard to appreciate that the job of Market Master in Johannesburg would be a particularly lucrative one, and a scramble for the job began. The then deputy Sheriff, Mr Zulsdorff, was elected; however, by some sleight of hand he was replaced by Stefanus Papenfus before he had even thought of making a start. Stefanus Papenfus was one of Johannesburg's earlier shrewd operators, the brother of a local politician and a friend of Carl von Brandis.

At 7.00 a.m. on 7th February, 1887 Papenfus opened his first market, having previously put up a tin shack a few yards to the west of the site now occupied by the City Hall, on the newly laid out Market Square, the survey of which had been completed by Jos de Villiers in November, 1886. At first only a few waggons came each day; however, with the great purchasing power of Johannesburg, the market grew. After eight months a turnover of £50 000 had been achieved of which Papenfus reaped £5 000 against a modest £250 which accrued to the Gezondheids Comité which received  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  per annum of the turnover out of which it was expected to run the thriving young town.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

Within a year Paul Kruger complained that the Market Master in Johannesburg was making more money than the President himself. John R Shorten in his detailed study of the period, "The Johannesburg Saga" records that in order that the public might enjoy the comforts of a public market, the use of which was to be optional, Market Master Papenfus persuaded the Government to give him the right "to erect a building, to let stalls, shops, offices and rooms, to conduct sales in the said building, and to let the main hall for public entertainments". Valued at approximately £1 000 a wood and iron market house was erected in May 1888, containing the promised offices and other facilities, and by another remarkable negotiation this enterprising man leased the offices to the Government for 10 years at an annual rental of £300. "i.e. the entire building was paid for in three years from the rental derived from only a small portion".

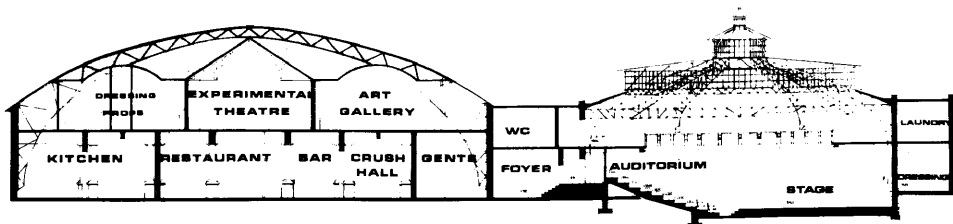
Towards the end of 1888 Papenfus sold out his interest. However, it was obvious that the Johannesburg Market was too lucrative an operation to be left in the hands of an individual with its average monthly turnover of £39 000. In 1889 the Johannesburg Market Buildings Company Limited was launched under the chairmanship of Dr Hans Sauer, Rhodes's local representative. This Company also acquired the concession held by the Johannesburg Weighbridge Syn-

dicate which had been established to erect and work a weighbridge. In a description of the Market buildings in February 1890 *The Star* reported: "The market hall is thronged with all races and all colours and the stall holders do a roaring business. The proceedings are enlivened by a kind of music produced from a harp, violin and cornet".

It was quite clear that Papenfus's market was becoming too small for the growing business. In September, 1891, a new brick building was constructed at a cost of £49 000 containing a market hall, 26 shops and 44 offices on the first floor. This building on the Market Square became the focal point of local business and social activity in Johannesburg for a decade. Here one could see black convicts being flogged in the open or breaking stone to harden the surface, the mud of the open square being sprayed with carbolic, the open air stock exchange functioning in Simmonds Street over the road from the Market Square, and side by side with them the land and cattle auctioneers and other salesmen peddling their wares.

In 1904 dead rats were found in the market building. All the fixtures were removed and piled up in the square where at midnight on 18th May, thousands watched a huge bonfire which was eventually extinguished by the fire brigade.

Fear of a plague scare was at such a pitch



SECTION

that the Rand Plague Committee would not allow the buildings to be reopened until the end of that year. The owners of the market instituted proceedings against the Municipality for £19 000. They submitted that they had suffered these damages due to the closure of the Market. On 1st April 1906 the Town Council and the Government, as equal partners, bought the market concern for £189 750 which put an end to this drawnout legal squabble. Immediately prior to Union the Transvaal Government transferred its entire share of the Market and Market Square to the Town Council, one of the conditions being that the income derived from its share was to be devoted to the establishment of an art gallery for Johannesburg. This was later built in Joubert Park.

The plague scare provided the Town Council with an opportunity to buy the so-called "Insanitary Area" where, Maurice Norton notes, "about 6 000 people are living in great squalor with the fear of plague". The then Town Council passed an ordinance whereby the area was expropriated. The fire brigade had the paradoxical assignment of burning the whole area to the ground. Here Newtown was laid out with 646 stands and ample provision for the new market undertaking and an abattoir.

The main buildings, built by Henderson & Gordon at a cost of £115 000, were ready for trading operations by early March 1913. At that time the market hall, 118 ft wide and 660 ft long constituted the largest area covered by a single roof in the country. Apart from auction facilities there were 41 shops, a restaurant, bank, post office and railway offices all within the confines of the hall itself, and an annexe provided a further 11 shops devoted to the sale of meat, dressed poultry, fish and butter. At the eastern entrance was a large hall referred to as the "Corn Exchange". Here commercial men engaged in the grain trade. A large open space to the south of the main building was known as the "Outspan" and here wagons, rolling in from the countryside, could park and make use of the weighbridge facilities. The Outspan was later called "Mary Fitzgerald Square" after a lady better known as "Pickhandle Mary" who led strikers in 1911 against the police, armed with pickhandles stolen from a convenient store. She also led a group of militant

women who immobilised the Johannesburg Tramway Department by the effective method of sitting on the rails. By the middle 20's, wagons were disappearing and gradually the Outspan came into use as a parking area for commercial vehicles and for the convenience of housewives shopping in the retail market.

The friendly and cosmopolitan crowd, so characteristic of old Johannesburg, soon settled into its new trading home in Newtown. Barney Simon notes "that despite the beauty and vitality of their new market, the Municipality was afraid that the new site might seem too far for the town's housewives, so they provided free tram rides from the old to the new market site and a brass band that entertained them on their arrival. On Sundays, the main hall was used for symphony concerts".

It will be seen that there is a good case for preservation of the Market especially in Johannesburg, where so few old buildings have been preserved. Nevertheless, even the most preservation conscious must admit that it would be an exorbitantly expensive luxury for any Municipality to restore such a building unless a viable use could be found for it. Such a use was not forthcoming and the Roads Department found the site convenient through which to make a new motorway. The Municipality reluctantly resolved to demolish the building. However, in the Forward Planning Branch, Maurice Norton had sufficient foresight and persistence to work on in the hope of staying the demolition order. His idea was to turn portion of the Market, namely the old "Corn Exchange" and "Annexe" into a theatre but like all good ideas, it was useless unless it could be "sold" to those in authority. Patiently objections were worked on and overcome. However, the Council was still not convinced. To many of them this remained "emotional nonsense" until Maurice Norton read somewhere that the Johannesburg Market contained the largest 3-pin arch in the country. This comparatively small point swung the politicians and authority alike, for who amongst us would wish to go down in history as having sanctioned the destruction of so significant a construction?

Once the city fathers had given their blessing to the scheme it was "all systems go". The premises were put out to tender "to persons interested in taking over the shell and converting it into a theatre". The tender was won by "The Company" and their "Market Theatre Foundation", a non-profit making company, was formed to raise funds from public donation and subscription to restore and convert the existing building into a theatre for the use of all South African theatre producers.

There were three problems which plagued, and will continue to plague, the

minds of those interested in recycling and preserving old buildings:

- 1 To what extent can one alter the function of an old building and still preserve its integrity? A philosophical problem.
- 2 To what extent can one add modern conveniences and not destroy its atmosphere?
- 3 To what extent do local bye-laws affect the project?

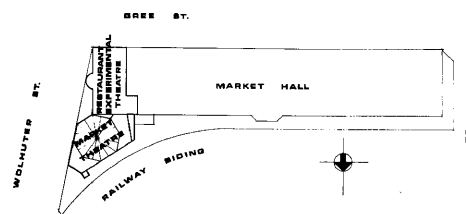
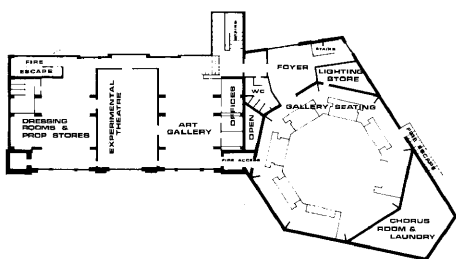
### To what extent can one change the function of an old building and still preserve its integrity?

In the case of the Newtown Market it is clear that the building cannot be maintained as a market for the following reasons:

- a) The central business district of Johannesburg will soon overtake the Newtown Market.
- b) Soon the new market and abattoir will be complete and there will no longer be the need for railway lines to penetrate so deeply into this area of Johannesburg.
- c) The access and parking space available is too limited to run a viable market.
- d) It is desirable to focus all subsidiary markets around the main market from a planning point of view, rather than splinter the city's market centre.

If these buildings cannot be used for the purpose for which they were designed, what other functions can they fulfill?

The Annexe, Maurice Norton felt, would make an ideal theatre as it is of a size which would house a theatre comfortably, and has a human scale. However, the essence of the existing building is the magnificent play of light in the hall and the tiny stalls tucked around the walls over and under the gallery with a kind of speaker's rostrum in the middle. A theatre on the other hand, requires open spaces with clear, unimpeded views and no light whatsoever. The market is airy and open with fixed louvres providing the ventilation. In order to accommodate a theatre it is necessary to close up all openings to the outside in order to reduce noise so critical in a theatre. The existing market has a flat floor, ideal for wheeling trolleys; a theatre requires a raking or stepped floor and in excavating down to create such a floor, how are the proportions, which themselves go to making the old building





maintained? In the case of the Newtown Market, treatment may seem more drastic than cure. Nevertheless we have, we believe, preserved the original essence of the building. Its facade, historic structure, volumes and proportions are retained and only a few sacrifices made as a compromise to its new function.

### **To what degree can one add modern conveniences without destroying its atmosphere?**

*Blackout:* In the case of any theatre it is important to achieve blackout conditions. This required intense soul searching and we find that we must, reluctantly, permanently black out the clerestorey windows which we will be compensated with clever artificial lighting. Where we have been able to keep windows we have preserved them, sometimes against our better judgement.

*Air Conditioning:* It is important to close openings between the theatre and the exterior to eliminate noise especially on this particular site with its nearby railway line and busy streets. The existing sheet iron roof is to be left exposed internally from an aesthetic point of view, but externally it will be insulated for sound and hail. Even so, during performances, one can expect similar conditions to those on the hottest day in Komatipoort. It is obvious that air conditioning is necessary. If air conditioning is necessary, where does one run ducting? There are no spaces where this can be located unseen. We decided that honesty was the best policy and are placing it in a position where it will be the least offensive and are finishing it in a smooth, rather negative treatment. It will be obvious what is old and historic and what has been installed at a later date.

*Stage Lighting:* From the very first moment that one walks into the Annexe, it becomes obvious that this space is just right for theatre in the round. The problem then arises that the stage lighting must of necessity cover the entire ceiling of the building. Once again we have adopted the "honesty is the best policy" approach and designed a completely new element in the volume, designed to harmonise with the existing and have not attempted to fake period lighting grids or period theatre lighting.

*Raking Floor:* In order to provide good sight lines it has become necessary to rake the floor down steeply and remove a number of columns. This was a great worry at first. We feared that once we had dug down into the ground and lowered the floor, all the proportions would become elongated. We found, however, that if we removed every second column supporting the gallery, the proportions once again fell into place and created an acceptably unimpeded view. However, the existing structure was not strong enough to simply remove the intermediate columns.

A new beam had to be cast to support the slab at the mid point. This was achieved by placing it behind the proposed position of the handrail of the gallery which will, to a large extent, mask it.

### **To what extent do local by-laws affect the project?**

*Insurance:* Portion of the existing market, excluded from the theatre lease, has been let as a warehouse on a temporary basis to a company storing inflammable goods. The press and public of Johannesburg took the Municipality and the tenant to task for this obvious sacrilege and everyone was extremely sensitive about the situation. The area occupied by this tenant had not been subdivided from the portion to be occupied by the theatre. It seemed a fairly simple solution to erect a fire wall but this was not to be so. Various insurance companies got together, representing the building contractor, the warehouse tenant, the Market Theatre Trust, and the Municipality, and each insurance broker had his own opinion on how the matter should be handled, each advancing a number of good reasons why his own client should not be involved in any way. Eventually it became a protracted negotiation between the Council and its warehouse tenant. It was finally established how the insurance and various indemnities would be handled. All that remained was to build the fire wall. The tenant, who was a party to all of the negotiations, suddenly became concerned that the contractor, with possibly irresponsible labour, might create a holocaust while building the fire wall; the tenant was further shaken when the builder informed him that it would be necessary to cut off an old but very beautiful handrail with cutting torches thereby aggravating the danger. He had to resign himself to the forthcoming doom but insisted on the following safety measures:

- a) The raw material would have to be moved back 10 m from the working area.
- b) The goods would have to be covered with a heavy canvas.
- c) A protecting wall would have to be built to protect the goods while the fire wall was being built.

Now the problem arose as to how the contractor could protect the goods while he was building the protecting wall. Could one suppose that he could move the goods further back and build yet another protecting wall? When this was suggested to the warehouse tenant he could not see the funny side, but it was obviously becoming ridiculous. It was eventually decided that the contractor would build a steel wall between himself and the warehouse and that at all times a fireman would be on duty with hoses at the ready and a direct open line to the Fire Department while the work was

progressing, and that as the work became more hazardous, eg when it came to cutting off the handrail, two firemen would be present in addition to two watchmen. Now the various insurance companies felt that it was their duty to keep an eye on this and in turn suggested stationing two executives, (presumably in a deck-chair with adequate refreshment for each), to watch the firemen watching the labourers and the bricklayer. The contractor's biggest fear was that the bricklayer would suffer from stagefright and not be able to perform at all. But like all problems which at one stage seem insurmountable, they were overcome and soon forgotten.

In order to avoid problems of precedent, the Municipal authorities inspected the plans with a fine tooth-comb and found bye-laws that no one connected with the scheme knew existed. Some of their officials did not know they existed either, or, if they did know of their existence, how to interpret them. Having discovered enormous difficulties with the bye-laws, the Council then went to endless trouble to help to overcome them. Some of the problems encountered and the action taken is recorded.

*Access to the Theatre:* For a theatre of this size, only one entrance door and one fire escape is required. A passage, the width of the auditorium entrance door is required to the street, widening out by a quarter of the width of the entrance door as it emerges on to the street (approximately 2 m). If the relative bye-laws are faithfully applied in the Market Theatre, the street entrance doors would total almost 7 m, due to the fact that there are a number of existing entrances, and a number of existing staircases, which for convenience are being left as they are. The existing facade will only permit entrance doors on to the street of approximately 5 m. The City Council granted a waiver of this bye-law, especially in the light of the fact that the entire theatre population could pass through these doors in one minute. These exists excluded the six other independent fire escapes which apparently would not count under this bye-law.

*Fire proofing the steel arches:* The dominating features of the interior are the magnificent prefabricated arches. The bye-laws calls for exposed steelwork to be fire proofed. This was clearly unacceptable. The architects did not want it; the Market Theatre Trust did not want it; the Council did not want it, and even the Fire Department did not want it. But bye-laws will be bye-laws and have to be handled as such. The Fire Department felt that they could do a deal provided (a) sufficient fire escapes were provided for the safety of the audience and in their opinion this amount to 10 fire escapes; (b) no combustible material was to be used in the finishes of the auditorium except for the seats; (c) no scene changes

were to be permitted in the middle of a performance. All fairly onerous conditions, but nevertheless a small price to pay for retaining the essence of the original building.

*Theatre? – Concert Hall?:* In line with modern techniques the Market Theatre Foundation wanted a theatre in the round or a deep thrust stage, and the whole shape of the building cried out for this type of treatment. The existing shape of the building does not permit a conventional stage with proscenium, flies and wings, etc. However, without these elements it is not a theatre and therefore must be a concert hall; but it is being designed especially for plays, so that it is not a concert hall. Theatre, concert hall – concert hall, theatre – the debate went on. The deep apron stage is perhaps the oldest form of theatre technique known and the most popular form in newer theatres throughout the world. So it was named a theatre subject to the waiver of all bye-laws relating to stages, wings, theatres, prosceniums, etc.

It should be recorded that without the help of Mr Galgut, his plans examiners,

the Fire Department and Mr Hall himself (the City Engineer) nothing would have been achieved.

Acknowledgement for much of the information contained herein is due to the authors mentioned in the article, and in particular to Shorten's "The Johannesburg Saga" for permission to quote from which the authors are most grateful.

## Boekenhoutfontein

### Gewilde aantrekkingskrag

Boekenhoutfontein het 'n belangrike voorbeeld van die Stigting Simon van der Stel se nasionale heemskut-funksie geword. Die besoekerstal vir die jaar geëindig 29 Februarie 1976 het die 6 000-tal oorskry. Ons publiseer die ontleding van Desember 1975 as voorbeeld van 'n tipiese maand. September is 'n minder gewilde maand (225) en Augustus (925) die gewildste maand. Oktober 1975 was ook baie gewild, maar toe was daar op 10 Oktober alleen 400 besoekers op Boekenhoutfontein.

tuine en huise, asook in duur ingevoerde boumateriale het die mynmagnate hul rykdom, en in die karakter van die huise en tuinontwerp hul stylgevoel en smaak uitgedruk.

Die gebied waarin *The View* en *Hazeldene Hall* lê, is die oudste gedeelte van Parktown. In 1892 as eksklusiewe elitebuurt gestig, het Parktown stuksgewys ontstaan. Die eerste perseel was *Hohenheim*, en daarna is 'n driehoek van 41 erwe in die suidoostelike hoek van die voorstad afgemeet. In die aangrensende strook, wat die tweede uitleg van erwe gevorm het (standplase no 42-80), staan ons twee villas. Hierdie uitleg het na 22 Februarie 1993 plaasgevind. Toe is naamlik op 'n vergadering van direkteure van die voorstadeienaar, die Braamfontein Company besluit om aan die landmeter, Currey, opdrag te gee om verdere standplase aan die toe pas "Parktown"-gedoopte voorstad uit te meet. Currey het in sy uitleg die deels vrye, deels strak straatpatroon van die eerste deel voortgesit, soos blyk uit die diagonale strate: Parklaan, Queens- en Victoriaweg, en uit die parallelle strate: Empire-, Junction- en Ridgeweg. Laasgenoemde dank sy benaming waarskynlik aan die rif van die lae rantjie waarop dit loop.

### The View

As oudste bestaande bouwerk in Parktown herinner *The View* nie alleen aan die stigtingsjare van die voorstad nie, maar ook aan die kleurvolle pioniersjare van Johannesburg as myndorp tydens die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek. Sy eienaar, T M Cullinan, het 'n belangrike rol gespeel in die sosiale en ekonomiese geskiedenis van ons land. Terselfdertyd is *The View* vandag, in sy ongeskonde toestand, een van die mooiste voorbeelde in die stad van 'n spesifieke rigting in die Victoriaanse woonhuisbou.

T M Cullinan is algemeen bekend as stigter van die Premiermyn, die vindplek, in 1905, van die wêreld se grootste diamant. Minder bekend is dat hy ook een van die eerste bouers in Johannesburg was, en, tydens die negentigerjare, een van die belangrikstes in die stad! Vir baie van die vroeë mynhuise en banke was Cullinan die bou-aannemer. (Almal ongelukkig reeds afgebreek.) Verder het hy ook vir die boubedryf in Transvaal veel beteken as dryfkrag agter baksteen- en sementfabrieke.

Thomas Major Cullinan is in 1862 op Elands Post naby Seymour in die Kaap gebore. As leerlingbouer begin hy in 1881 sy loopbaan in Queenstown. Op soek na fortuin en avontuur trek hy in 1884 na Barberton. Twee jaar later trou by op Dordrecht met Annie Francis Harding en die jong paartjie verskuif vroeg in 1887 na Johannesburg. Daar is tien kinders uit die huwelik gebore.

Tydens die negentigerjare maak hy groot opgang as bouer en in 1897 verskyn sy villa *The View* hoog op die Parktownrant.

## Munisipale aanslag op Parktown

G M VAN DER WAAL

In navolging van die verwoesting wat die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie in Parktown aangerig het, gaan die Stadsraad van Johannesburg 'n groot gedeelte van die villavorstad verder verniel deur 'n rigoreuse paaienewerk. Die hart van Parktown se oostelike helfte is sedert 1960 stelselmatig deur die Provinsie opgeëis vir 'n onderwyskollege en hospitaal. In November 1975 het die Stadsraad 'n plan bekend gestel waarin die suidelike deel van hierdie helfte aan paai en parkeerterreine opgeoffer gaan word. Nie alleen die parkkarakter van die gebied sal verlore gaan nie, maar twee manjifieke historiese villas moet ook verdwyn: *The View* en *Hazeldene Hall*.

Weinig historiese villas in Johannesburg vorm so 'n interessante eenheid as *The View* en *Hazeldene Hall*. Hoewel eersgenoemde, op Ridgeweg 18, die oudste bestaande bouwerk in Parktown is (1897), en laasgenoemde, op nommer 20, slegs effens jonger (1902), verkeer hulle in 'n byna ongeskonde toestand. In hul prag en praal is hulle dan ook unieke voorbeelde van Victoriaanse woonhuisbou in die stad, en weerspieël hulle die eertydse rykdom van hul welvarende eienaars, wat albei leidende figure in die Suid-Afrikaanse ekonomiese geskiedenis was. Maar ondanks hul fraai voorkoms

en historiese assosiasies word albei geboue deur slopershamers bedreig.

Wanneer mens vanaf Empireweg die boulevardagtige Queensweg in noordelike rigting inslaan, en al kronkelend teen die helling opbeweeg, bereik jy bo-aan die steilte Ridgeweg op regterhand. Hierdie deel van Parktown het vroeër 'n historiese kern gevorm, met as pole die landgoed *Hohenheim* (afgebreek 1971) van Lionel Phillips in die noorde, en *Sunnyside* van Hennen Jennings in die ooste (fragmente het in 'n hotel oorgebly). Dit verbaas dus nie as in hierdie villawyk *The View* en *Hazeldene Hall* hulle op straat aankondig deur swaar, dubbele gietysterhekke tussen hoë hekpilare nie. Terwyl die heining by eersgenoemde deur 'n baksteenmuur vervang is, gee die tuin van laasgenoemde nog 'n indruk van hoe begroei die strate vroeër was. Opritte lei na die huise wat in die middel van hul ruim erwe ( $\pm 120 \times 50$  m) staan. Voor die huise eindig die opritte in 'n sirkel en lei van daar oos verby na stalle en koetshuise. Die geskiedenis herleef as mens jou indink hoe weelderig-uitgedoste gaste hier uit swierige koetse gestap het om feeste in dié villas by te woon. Die uitbundigheid en weelde van hierdie tyd het as't ware gestol in die twee rykversierde fasades. In die omvang van



Thomas M Cullinan, stigter van die Premiermyn naby Pretoria, het 40 jaar in hierdie Parktown-villa gewoon

Na die eeuwisseling spits hy hom egter meer toe op sy nywerheidsondernemings en neem hy ook deel aan die politiek. 1902 was vir die Transvaal, maar ook vir Cullinan 'n besondere jaar. Die vrede van Vereeniging is toe gesluit. Vir Cullinan is 'n agste kind gebore, wat aanleiding was om *The View* aansienlik uit te brei. Verder het hy in dié jaar Premiermyn gestig asook die Consolidated Rand Brick, Pottery and Lime Company. Een van sy mededirekteure, Charles Jerome, het ten slotte in 1902 ook sy *Hazeldene Hall* langs *The View* opgerig. Erkenning vir sy bydrae in die heropbou van Transvaal se ekonomie kry Cullinan in 1910 toe hy tot ridder geslaan is. Dan word hy tewens verkies tot LV vir Pretoriawestelike distrik. In sy Parktownvilla *The View* woon hy tot sy dood in 1936, dus vir byna 40 jaar.

Dit was op die hoogtepunt van sy loopbaan as bou-aannemer dat Cullinan *The View* in Parktown bou. Vir dié doel koop hy in 1896 'n ruim erf aan, in die oudste gedeelte van die voorstad. Hoewel die meeste standplase toe reeds verkoop was, het die villas hier nog maar yl verspreid gestaan. Strate, met gruis verhard en met lanings bome beplant om mettertyd die gesogte tuinvorstadefek te gee, het slingerend tussen die koppies geloop. Ten spyte van die vroeë koopdatum van sy erf, het Cullinan wel deeglik aan sy sak gevoel dat die "boom" van die mynindustrie en stadseconomie en die toenemende prestigewaarde van Parktown as elitebuurt, grondpryse die hoogte in laat skiet het. Vir die stand-

plaas, waarvan die prys drie jaar tevore op £100 vasgestel is, moes hy in Augustus 1896 £1,250 betaal! Die bou van *The View* moes in die daaropvolgende jaar plaasgevind het, na alle waarskynlikheid deur homself, omdat Cullinan se naam reeds onder "Parktown" in die 1898-uitgawe van *Longland's Johannesburg and District Directory* verskyn.

Die vroegste boudokument van *The View* dateer uit 1903. Dit is 'n verbouingsplan, opgetrek deur die argitektfirma Aburrow & Treeby, en word bewaar in die munisipale planne-argief. Vir die Johannesburgse munisipaliteit was dit naamlik eers moontlik om, na verkryging van groter magte na die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog, eienaars in "privaatvorstede", soos Parktown, te verplig om bouplanne vir goedkeuring in te dien. Vóór 1899 moes bouplanne by die voorstadeienaar ingedien word, in die geval van Parktown by die Braamfontein Company. Ongelukkig bevat dié maatskappy se argief geen bouplanne nie, en daarom ontbreek *The View* se oorspronklike bouplan. Ewenwel kan heelwat uit die 1903-verbouingsplan afgelei word. Die plan toon die oorspronklike gedeelte met die aanbou aan die westekant daarvan. Tussen die twee gedeeltes bestaan opvallende ooreenkomste, sodat moontlik dieselfde argitektehant daarvoor verantwoordelik was, naamlik die firma Aburrow and Treeby. Die oorspronklike argitek vir *The View* sou egter hoogstens Charles Aburrow kon gewees het, aangesien die firma eers in 1902 gevorm is en slegs Aburrow vóór die datum gepraktiseer het toe hy tewens stads-

ingenieur was. Die moontlikheid bly egter nie uitgesluit dat Cullinan self die plan in 1897 opgetrek het nie.

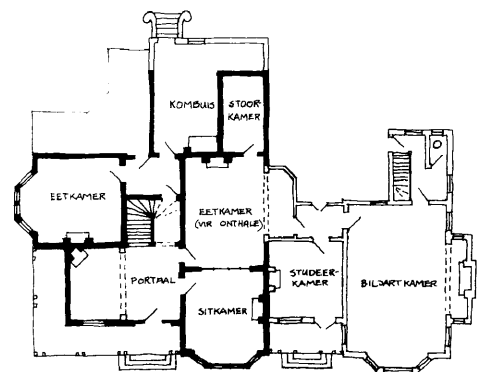
As tipiese vroeë tweeverdieping-Parktownvilla het *The View* een van die beste en hoogste posisies in die heuvelagtige landskap ingeneem. Dit was gerieflik naby die perdetremroete na die binnestad (oor Hillbrow) en terselfdertyd het dit 'n onbelemmerde uitsig gebied oor die laer beboste areas na die noorde; vandaar: *The View*. Ofskoon strate aan albei smal kante van sy reghoekige erf verbyloop, is die huis op die noorde georiënteer. Die aanpassing aan die stand van die son en aan die landskap (hier: die uitsig) is toe reeds algemeen by groot erwe in Johannesburg toegepas. Sinds enkele jare moet *The View* ongelukkig sy uitsig ontbeer deurdat drie hoë koshuisblokke oorkant die straat dit versper.

In sy grondplan volg *The View* die gangbare patroon vir dubbelverdiepinghuise gedurende hierdie tyd (1890-1910) in Johannesburg: Die sit- en eetkamer lê vooraan in die ontwerp, op die begane grond, en alle slaapkamers op die eerste verdieping. Verder dien 'n sentrale trap met 'n portaal op beide verdiepings as die hoofverkeerskanaal. Die oorspronklike

Hierdie rekonstruksietekening toon *The View* se fasade in 1897. Dit toon 'n ontwerp wat tipies laat-Victoriaans van karakter is.



Rekonstruksietekening van *The View* se grondplan. Die 1897-gedeelte is in swart aangedui.



uitleg het 'n volledige huis gevorm en die aanbou bestaan slegs uit 'n studeer- en biljartkamer op die grond, en slaapkamers op die eerste verdieping (sien tekening). Dat die aanbou nie oorspronklik beplan is nie, maar nodig geword het toe Cullinan se gesin in 1902 tot tien uitgebrei het, blyk byvoorbeeld uit die ongemaklike aansluiting tussen oud en nuut by die onthaaleetkamer.

*The View* se fasade-ontwerp is tipies laat-Victoriaans van karakter. Dit blyk veral uit die pittoreske effekte wat verkry is deur 'n asimmetriese, gekompliseerde komposisie, 'n drastiese modellering van die fasadevlak en deur toepassing van 'n verskeidenheid bou-elemente en -materiale. Hierdie effek geld vir beide die oorspronklike gedeelte en die aanbou, vanweë die ooreenkomste tussen die twee. Die doelbewuste asimmetriese komposisie het tydens die herlewing van die Gotiek ontstaan en het tot aan die einde van die vorige eeu gewild gebly in die woonhuisbou. Asimmetrie is in die oorspronklike gedeelte van *The View* bereik deur die gewel en verandaparty wat in breë trekke in die aanbou herhaal word as 'n beklemtoning daarvan. Hierdie uit- en inspringende partye veroorsaak tevens 'n skerp kontraswerking en 'n grillige daklyn wat deur geaksentueerde skoorstene verder verhoog word. Ten slotte dra ook die verskeidenheid bou-vorme en -materiale van verskillende kleure by tot die grillige effek, soos op die foto te sien is: binne die ou en nuwe gedeelte, sowel as tussen die twee gedeeltes. Opvallend ten opsigte van laasgenoemde is veral die meer beklemtoonde gewel by die aanbou, en sy enkelvensters in die voorkant van die erker.

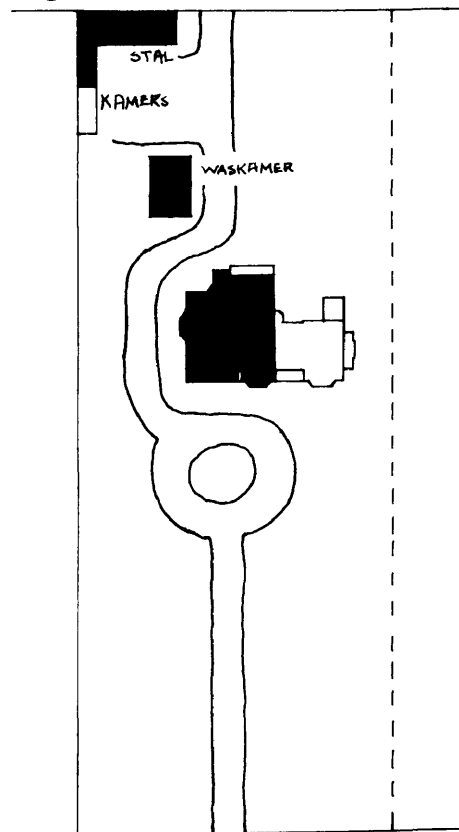
Die boumode wat *The View* verteenwoordig, staan bekend as die "Neo-Queen Anne". Dit was 'n boutrant wat van 1870 tot 1900 in Engeland gangbaar was en waarin die nasionale woonhuisbou uit die Gotiek en Renaissance herleef is. Karakteristiek van die herlewing was die toepassing van gewels, erkers, skuifraamvensters en 'n speelse afwisseling van rooi baksteen-muurvlakke en wit sandsteenaksente. In *The View* se fasade verwys hierdie elemente na verskillende stylperiodes. Die strak vorm van die gewel met vertikale planke wat vakwerk voorstel, herinner aan die Middeleeue, terwyl die erker met sy klassisistiese lyste en hoekaksente na die Renaissance herlei kan word. Gewels was gewild as fokuspunt om versierings in aan te bring, en die erker as plooiing van die fasade en as verhoging van die geselligheid van die interieur. 'n Meer tipies-koloniale element is die verandas waaruit eweneens, behalwe dekoratiewe (pittoreske), ook funksionele aspekte afgelei kan word.

Verandas het vroeg in die 18de eeu in die kolonies ontstaan as 'n aanpassing by die tropiese klimaat. Weens hul eksotiese karakter is dit later ook in Engeland toegepas by die sogenaamde "Cottage

orné" (1790-1830). In die kolonies en ook in Amerika en Suid-Afrika het die veranda egter langer gangbaar gebly en meer toepassing gevind vanweë sy praktiese funksie om koelte aan die stoep en daaragterliggende vertrekke te verleen. Dit was verder veral in Britse gebiede buite Engeland dat ook gietyster as veranda-materiaal ontwikkel, maar wat om ekonomiese redes hoofsaaklik by stadsgeboue aangetref word. Soos gebruiklik by privaatwoonhuise in Johannesburg het ons by *The View* dus met 'n houtveranda te doen. In die verandas se geometriese, sowel as in hul grillige sierpatrone klink nog 'n eggo van die Oosterse herkoms van hierdie bou-element.

Van besondere betekenis in die versiering van *The View* is die handbeskilderde binnemure, deure en plafonne in groten-deels ongeskonde toestand, wat in die oorspronklike gedeelte voorkom. Friese en panele met effens-gestileerde plant- en diervoorstellings in sagte tinte van verskillende kleure versier die ingangs- en trapportaal, kantoor, sitkamer en ontvang-eetkamer. Ofskoon hierdie sier- tegniek, sover bekend, nie verder in Johannesburg voorgekom het nie, getuig die vaardigheid waarmee dit geskilder is, van 'n kunstenaarshand. Daar bestaan egter moontlik wel verband hiermee met die sogenaamde "Aesthetic Movement" in Engeland vlak voor die

**Soos by alle groot villas in Johannesburg het *The View* se oprit in 'n sirkel voor die huis geëindig. Die oorspronklike deel van die huis is in swart aangedui.**



eeuwisseling, waarin veral Japanese interieurskuns geïmiteer is en waaraan die skilderinge in *The View* ook herinner. Dit is verder bekend dat "Maples" van Londen die meubelment versorg het, en gevolglik was die interieur in sy oorspronklike toestand 'n ryk en feestelike geheel. In die 1903-aanbou kan hoofsaaklik die monumentale vuurmaakplek en muurlampe in die biljartkamer as interessante details genoem word. Hulle illustreer die veranderde smaak sinds 1897. Terwyl die ouer deel 'n intieme, gesellige gees adem, verwys die vuurmaakplek na die onpersoonlike, formele Neo-Barok en die grillige muurlampe na die fin-de-siècle Art Nouveau.

*The View* se oorspronklike buitegeboue staan nog in die suidoostelike hoek van die erf: 'n stal, koetshuis en bediende-kwartiere. Maar vanweë langdurige verwaarlosing dra hulle weinig by tot die besondere waarde van die villa. Ongelukkig is na 1903 ook nog 'n broeikas van hout en glas op die noordoostelike hoek van die huis aangebou wat nie so goed by die gebou pas nie.

### Hazeldene Hall

*Hazeldene Hall*, net soos sy buurman *The View*, neem 'n belangrike plek in die ontwikkeling van die Johannesburgse argitektuur in. As enigste bestaande voorbeeld van 'n woonhuis met dubbele verandas voor die volle fasade vorm dit 'n unieke bouwerk in die stad. Ook vir die ekonomiese en sosiale geskiedenis is die gebou van belang. Sy eienaar, Charles Jerome, was naamlik medestigter en -direkteur van sowel Premiermyn as van die Consolidated Rand Brick, Pottery & Lime Company en het as sulks ook 'n goeie sakevriend van Thomas Cullinan gevorm. Vir die ontwerp van *Hazeldene Hall* het Jerome teweens dieselfde argitekturfirma opdrag gegee as Cullinan vir sy verbouing in 1903.

Charles Jerome is gebore op 22 Februarie 1863 te Calvey, naby Slough, Buckinghamshire, Engeland. Op jeugdige ouderdom kom hy na die Kaap waar hy 'n plaas begin, maar met die Oos-Transvaalse "Gold Rush" trek hy, net soos Cullinan, na Barberton. Vermoedelik dateer hul vriendskap uit hul Barberton-dae, of eerder, maar daarvan is niks met sekerheid bekend nie. Die ontdekking van die goudrif op die Witwatersrand trek ook Jerome aan, en so verhuis hy in Februarie 1887 na Johannesburg (moontlik gelyktydig met Cullinan). Hier ontplooi hy hom as entrepreneur, as "speculator", en neem hy teweens deel aan die plaaslike bestuur as stadsraadslid. Een van sy vroeë mynsuksesse was in Boksburg, by die steenkoolmyne, wat hom die bynaam van "King Coal" besorg het. In die jare negentig tree hy dikwels saam met Cullinan in die sakewêreld op, maar hul verbintenis bereik sy hoogtepunt eers in 1902, na die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog.

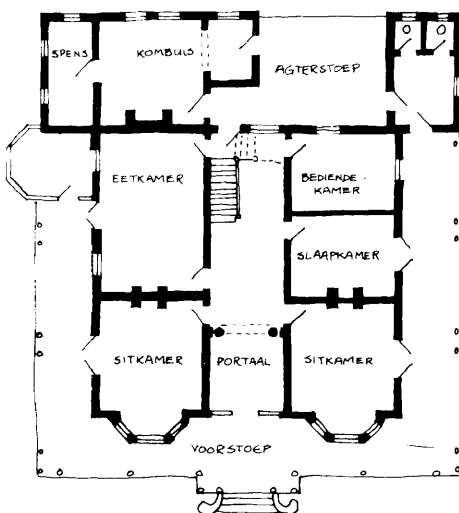


**Hazeldene Hall van Charles Jerome, buurman van Thomas Cullinan. Dit is die enigste voorbeeld in Johannesburg van 'n woonhuis met dubbele gietysterveranda. Nou staan dit gevaar om gesloop te word.**

In September dié jaar stig hy naamlik saam met Cullinan en twee ander die Consolidated Rand-maatskappy en in November ook met Cullinan en ses ander stigterslede die Premiermyn. Vroeg in dieselfde jaar gee hy ook die argitek-firm Aburrow & Treeby opdrag om vir hom 'n dubbelverdiepingvilla in Parktown langs *The View* te ontwerp. Aburrow & Treeby se plan van 3 April 1902 toon 'n buitengewone huisontwerp, wat sterk herinner aan stadsgeboue uit die tyd. Grondliggend vir sy sonderlinge karakter is die dubbele gietysterveranda

**Argitek-tekening van Hazeldene Hall, 3 April 1902**

Foto: Aburrow & Treeby

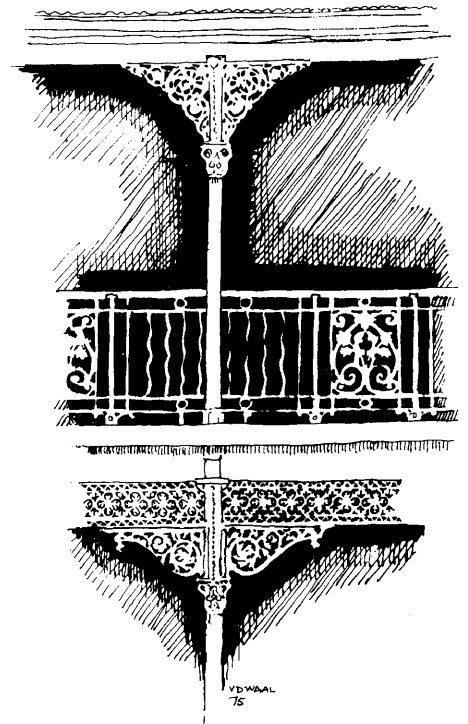


wat simmetries voor die hele fasade en grootste deel van die sykante strek. Hierdie boutrant het in Johannesburg, op só 'n skaal, naamlik uitsluitlik toepassing gevind op handelsgeboue en woonstelle. *Hazeldene Hall* se ontwerp het dan ook 'n teenstelling gevorm met die pittoreske asimmetriese komposisies van huise voor 1910. Simmetrie, kenmerk van die Neo-Barok, het eers hierna algemene toepassing by huise geniet en *Hazeldene Hall* kan gevolglik as 'n vroeë voorloper hiervan aangemerkt word. Jerome moes 'n besondere voorliefde vir die veranda-boutrant gehad het om sy villa só van die tradisionele opvatting te laat afwyk. Moontlik was veranda-onderdele van gietyster vir hom maklik bekombaar, want op die argitekplan staan te lees dat hy die gietyster self sou verskaf. *Hazeldene Hall* staan, op dieselfde hoogte as *The View*, ook in die middel van sy erf, en kyk eweneens na die noorde. Dit besit 'n eenvoudige plan waarvan die grond- en eerste verdieping byna eenders is. In die middel strek, van voor na agter, 'n breë gang cum portaal met agteraan die trap. Vertrekke van gelyke breedte lê agter mekaar langs die gang/portaal, met die vernaamstes vooraan: onder die sitkamers en eetkamer en bo die hoofslaapkamers. Gewoontegetrou vind mens die diensvertrekke, soos kombuis en badkamer, agteraan die huis. 'n Sementstoep van twee-en-'n halwe meter breedte strek om die voor- en sykante van die huis, waaraan die verandas koelte verskaf. As besonderheid kan nog die broeikas aan die oostekant langs die eetkamer genoem

word, wat hier gelukkiger opgelos is as by *The View*. Eertyds was derglike eksotika kenmerkend van alle groot villas. In samehang met die grondplan en die verandas, besit *Hazeldene Hall* se fasademuur ook 'n simmetriese indeling: 'n sentrale ingang met twee identiese erkerpartye aan weerskante oor die volle twee verdiepings. Terwyl die erkers die huislikheid van die binne-ruimtes beklemtoon, gaan hulle buite as aksente in die fasade verlore agter die verandas. Wel word die ingang deur 'n uitspringende risaliet met fronton in die verandas geaksentueer. Die gietysterverandas van *Hazeldene Hall* is uit Skotland ingevoer, vervaardig deur Walter Macfarlane van Glasgow. Macfarlane het omstreeks 1850 met produksie begin en tot ongeveer 1910 'n uitgebreide verskaffingsdiens vir die meeste Britse kolonies gehad. In Johannesburg kon hy reken op 'n monopolie en so het die stad eertyds minstens sestien volledige verandafasades besit waarvan daar nog vier oorgebly het. *Hazeldene Hall* is een van die fraaistes hiervan.

As aparte raamwerk van voorafvervaardigde konstruksie- en sierelemente wat voor die fasade staan, het die verandafasade maar weinig argitek-tevernuf geverg. Alle elemente kon per nommer in fabriekskatalogi bestel word. Soos by die Colosseum in Rome, staan suiltjies in een lyn bo mekaar op reëlmatige afstande, met horisontale relings voor elke verdieping. Suiltjies raak korter en dunner by hoër verdiepings en die relingontwerp ligter. Binne die formele raamwerk van die konstruksie-elemente vind mens

**Die grillige lynespeel van Hazeldene Hall se gietysterverandas roep herinnerings op aan Oosterse filigraanwerk.**



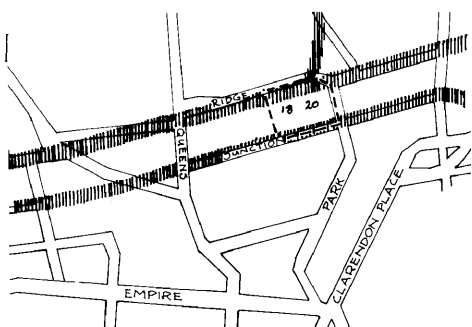
paneeltjies met gestileerdplantaardige lynontwerpe wat in hul ingewikkeldheid aan Oosterse filligraanwerk herinner. Hierby val veral bo- en ondermekaar vleggende stingels en blare op, waarby 'n spiraalmotief die botoon voer en 'n rustelose beweging veroorsaak. By elke aparte paneel kom 'n hoofelement voor, meestal 'n blom, waarvan kleiner variasies elders herhaal word.

Ofskoon *Hazeldene Hall* se interieur in 'n betreklik ongeskonde staat verkeer, kan weinig van spesiale betekenis opgenoem word. Soos by alle groot villas uit hierdie tyd vind mens hier ook ornamentele gietystervuurmaakplekke met passende skoorsteenmantels van hout in die ver naamste vertrekke.

Net soos by *The View*, besit hierdie tuin nog sy oorspronklike tuinuitleg. Die oprit kom in die middel van die tuin tussen twee manjifieke gietysterhekke deur en eindig voor die huis in 'n sirkel waarbinne 'n palmboom staan. Ook hier loop die koetspad oos verby, na die stal en koetshuis. Die enkele groot naaldbome in die tuin herinner aan die tyd toe Charles Jerome en sy gesin hier gewoon het.

*The View* en *Hazeldene Hall* regverdig monument-verklaring deur die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede. Ongelukkig het dit nie reeds eerder plaasgevind nie, want dan kon die munisipale paaie-plan daarmee rekening gehou het. Nietemin is dit nog nie te laat nie – die skema moet nog in besonderhede uitgewerk word en daar bestaan sterk teenkanting daarteen van verskillende bewaringsliggame en inwoners-verenigings. Albei geboue is reeds geruime tyd benut as professionele kantore, waartoe hulle hul uitstekend leen. Momenteel doen *Hazeldene Hall* egter suksesvol diens as privaatkunsgallery, terwyl *The View* ook geskik is as konsulaat. Ten slotte sal aan die villas en tuine ook enkele opknappings moet geskied om die eertydse prag en praal uit die Victoriaanse era te herwin.

**Volgens die nuwe munisipale plan vir Parktown sal *The View* op nr 18 en *Hazeldene Hall* op nr 20 in Ridgeway tussen twee breë strate te staan kom en 'n aansienlike deel van hul tuin verloor. Of sal hulle moet plek maak vir 'n parkeerterrein?**



## 'n Stad lewe slegs as menslike omgewing

„Johannesburg se middestad hoef nie te sterf nie. Dis basies 'n gesonde stad – veel gesonder as die meeste Amerikaanse stede. Die dood van ontmensliking wat baie Amerikaanse stede die afgelope twintig jaar bedreig het, is in Johannesburg deur twee faktore vertraag: die feit dat die middestad nog talle ou woonstelgeboue bevat en die besonder gelukkige nabyheid van Hillbrow met sy digte bevolking.

„Dit het meegebring dat die stad se are nie net bedags nie, maar ook snags nog pols met die ware lewensbloed van 'n stad: mense. Om te keer dat daardie lewensbloed nie opdroog nie, moet die Johannesburgse stadsraad egter nou alles in die stryd werp in sy projekte vir die herbevolking van die middestad. Hy moet dit 'n plek maak waar die bevolking nie net werk nie, maar lewe”.

Hierdie bemoediging en waarskuwing is deur die vermaarde Amerikaanse deskundige op die gebied van stedelike aanleg prof David Crane gegee op die simposium oor stedelike ontwerp wat einde verlede week by die Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit gehou is.

Hy het verwys na die beoogde ontwerp vir die middestad van Johannesburg wat deur mnr Victor Fry, senior stadsbeplanner van Johannesburg, uiteengesit is. Die ontwerp sluit onder meer in: 'n toename van 3 persent per jaar in voetgangersverkeer deur die stelselmatige sluit van strate, die breër sypaadjies om die konflik tussen die voetganger en die motor uit te skakel, die aanleg van parke en meer arkades om die bestaande vierkant-uitleg meer buigsam te maak, en so meer.

Prof Crane het hierdie voorstelle en reeds bestaande ontwikkelinge soos die Carlton-sentrum aangeprys, maar dit beklemtoon dat 'n stad slegs 'n lewenskragtige organisme sal bly indien daar aangename huisvesting vir 'n inwonende bevolking in die middestad gebied word. Desentralisasie beteken nie ontvolking nie – in Amerika is dit reeds juis bewys dat slegs 15 persent van die bevolking dit vandag kan bekostig 'om in 'n voorstedelike woonhuis te woon.

In die skep van lewenskragtige, aangename woongebiede is die dae van die individuele argitek verby, het prof Crane gesê. 'n Stad soos Johannesburg moet nie kompartementeel nie, maar as geheel deur 'n groep deskundiges onder 'n sentrale gesag beplan word. Dit is die enigste manier om 'n bevredigende, menslike omgewing te skep.

Die ontwikkeling van 'n stad moet in die eerste plaas by die mens – in al sy aspekte, ook sy verlede – aangepas word in 'n buigsame, gelukkige geheel. *As blote funksionele noodsaaklikheid as enigste maatstaf in die oprigting van nuwe geboue geneem*

*word, dan is 'n stad tot 'n siellose dood gedoem, het prof Crane gesê.*

HM

*Die Beeld*, 17 Mei 1976

(Kursivering van die redakteur)

## SA's loss if old homes go

**Many historic homes are threatened by the Johannesburg City Council's development plan for Parktown.**

**Barbara Price spoke to several authorities about the consequences of the plan.**

The thorny question of the development plan for Parktown will be discussed in public by the Johannesburg City Council later today. The debate takes place against a backdrop of mounting public pressure to conserve Parktown and prevent it from becoming a traffic junction.

● Mr Willem Punt, director of the Simon van der Stel Foundation: “Parktown represents a unique setting for the world's finest collection of Victorian architecture and applied art – its conservation is vital not only to Johannesburg but to South Africa.”

● Mr G van der Waal, a researcher financed by the city council to report and make recommendations on the historic Parktown houses: “An effective preservation policy for Parktown demands proclamation, restoration and renovation.”

Two houses and one environmental area recommended by Mr Van der Waal as being worthy of national monument status are threatened by the council's road proposals for a pair of three-lane, one-way, east-west roads.

● Dr Oscar Norwich, chairman of the Johannesburg Historical Society: “In spite of all our efforts to save the Cullinan house (built 1897), it is in imminent danger of being demolished for road-making purposes. We will use every means possible to have the building declared a national monument.”

● Helen Aron, photographer and writer on historical Parktown: “The little that remains of historic Parktown must be declared a national monument to secure it for all times. The city council has the power and the legal machinery to do this via the National Monuments Council – the sincerity of the council is brought into question if they don't use these means.”

● Ann Sutton, landscape architect: “The city council hasn't taken up the Park-

own Association's recommendation that a large public park similar to that of Central Park, New York, be created to provide a suitable setting for the historic homes and a much needed public and tourist amenity.

"Even at this late stage discussion could take place between officials from the hospital, College of Education, city council and developers with the purpose of drawing up an open space plan which would conserve and preserve what is left of Parktown."

*The Star*, November 25, 1975

## Duur kultuur, kla Parktown

Sommige eienaars van die paar oorblywende herehuise in Parktown, Johannesburg, voel ontstoke oor die publiek se volgehoue pogings om die plekke van slooping te red.

Mev Soli Ornstein van Jubileeweg 5A, Parktown, sê dat sy moeg is vir mense wat haar gedurig oor die toekoms van die plek lastig val. „Die huis is nie eens een van die ou plekke nie – dit is in die veertigerjare gebou,” het sy aan *Beeld* gesê. Mnr Sybrand van Niekerk, die Administrateur van Transvaal, sal nou uitsluitel moet gee of dié huis sowel as die aangrensende perseel met nog 'n herehuis daarop vir nuwe ontwikkeling moet plek maak.

Retco, die eiendomsontwikkelaars, het 'n opsie om die plek te koop indien sy aansoek slaag. Die Johannesburgse stadsbeplanningskomitee het reeds die aansoek afgekeur.

Dit is die geweldige hoë eiendomsbelasting wat die mense dwing om hul eiendomme te verkoop, het die sekretaresse van die Parktownse Vereniging, mev Flo Bird gesê.

Baie huiseienaars in Parktown moet drie en vier keer meer eiendomsbelasting as ander Johannesburgers betaal omdat hul grond ontwikkelingsmoontlikhede het, het sy gesê.

Die eenaar van Hazeldene Hall in Ridgeweg, mnr V P Myerson, is ontvrede omdat die stadsraad nie die herehuis wat reeds die afgelope veertig jaar in sy familie se besit is en op die oomblik 'n kunsgalery huisves, wil koop of sake-regte aan hom wil toeken nie.

„Die eiendomsbelasting bedra jaarliks R3 800. Wie kan dit bekostig om die plek aan te hou? Dink jy ek wil graag sien hoe stootskrapers die plek platstoot? Maar met 'n hospitaal agter die huis en 'n perseel met die reg om 'n bank net langs my op te rig . . . kan jy dit verkwalik?”

As die stadsraad sy meesterplan vir Parktown uitvoer, sal die perseel waarop Hazeldene Hall staan, vir 'n parkeerterrein, plek maak.

Die huis langsaan, The View, wat deur sir Thomas Cullinan gebou is, behoort nou aan die stadsraad. Die huis word as kantore gebruik.

„Die plek is in 'n skokkende toestand,” sê mev Flo Bird. „Binne is die pragtigste voorbeelde van handgeverfde panele in Suid-Afrika.”

Maar nie al die inwoners van Parktown wil graag van hul huise ontslae raak nie. „As jy 'n gelowige is, bid vir die behoud van ons huis,” het Lady Andersson van Victorialaan, Parktown, gesê. Die huis waarin sy en haar man, sir L Andersson woon, is reeds in 1900 gebou en is een van die pragtigste oorblywende voorbeelde van die Victoriaanse boukuns.

*Die Beeld*, 19 April 1976

## Sloper staan hier ook reg

### Poskantoor: Behoue of nie?

Die historiese poskantoor in Rissikstraat, Johannesburg, gaan moontlik behoue bly. Hierdie gebou, wat deur die argitek, Sytze Wierda, ontwerp is, is feitlik een van die enigstes uit die tyd van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek.

Die stadsklerk, mnr A P Burger, sê dat daar tans geen verwickelinge is nie. Die Poskantoor gebruik die gebou wat op munisipale grond deur die Staat opgerig is.

Indien slooping moet plaasvind, sal 'n nuwe poskantoor deur die Staat gebou moet word, het mnr Burger gesê.

Volgens woordvoerders van die Poskantoor, behoort die gebou nou aan die stadsraad. Hulle sê dis vir die raad om oor die lot daarvan te besluit.

En sy bestuurskomitee wou op 22 Junie 1970 geen verdere onderhandelings voer nie, omdat „dit geen doel sal dien nie”. Hierdie bekragtiging van 'n vorige besluit het gevolg ondanks vertoë van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede. Die bestuurskomitee het 'n versoek geweier dat die behoud van die gebou deur die volle stadsraad bespreek word.

In die brief het die raad onder meer gesê dat dié ou poskantoor en die ou stadsaal 'n unieke kompleks vorm wat vir die student in argitektuur en die liefhebber van oudhede van baie groot waarde is.

Op 'n vergadering van die Johannesburgse Historiese Vereniging, wat toespraak is deur mnr Mervyn Emms, kurator van die Poskantoor museum, is besluit om vir die behoud van die gebou te pleit.

*Die Vaderland*, 29 Julie 1975

Die Poskantoor in Rissikstraat, Johannesburg. Word dié historiese gebou behou?

Foto's: Frik Dreyer





Die Stadsaal en die poskantoor, Rissikstraat, Johannesburg, vorm 'n unieke kompleks  
Foto: Frik Dreyer



## Kerkplein 1980

WILLEM J PUNT

Stedelike pleine ontstaan op twee maniere, of die stad groei rondom 'n oop terrein, of 'n oop terrein word in 'n beboude gebied geskep deur verwydering van geboue. Pretoria se Kerkplein is 'n voorbeeld van die eerste of historiese tipe. Die beplande Verwoerdplein sal 'n voorbeeld van die vervaardigde soort wees. Die Strijdomplein is 'n voorbeeld van 'n historiese plein, Pretoria se ou markplein, wat gemoderniseer is en 'n geheel ander funksie en karakter gegee is. Oor hoe suksesvol of aanvaarbaar dit is

bestaan daar sterk meningsverskil. By baie mense is daar nog nostalgiese herinneringe aan die ou mark met sy krioelende mense, die vrugte- groente- en visverkoopsaal en die afdakke en die bestrating van granietkeie. Dit was 'n heerlike menslike omgewing. Daar was rede vir mense om daarheen te gaan, dus was daar lewe.

Kerkplein was 'n kerkplein, vandaar die naam. Dit was en is die sentrum van die stad. Winkels, hotelle, kroë, kafees, bio-

skope, banke, poskantoor en die kerk het gesorg dat daar soggens en saans, sewe dae per week, mense op Kerkplein was. Nou is daar nie meer die hotelle, kroë, kafees en bioskope nie. Daardie bedrywe wat meeste bygedra het tot 'n deurlopendheid van teenwoordigheid van mense en 'n gemoedelike gees het verdwyn. Daar het net 'n paar winkels en saaklike kantore oorgebly. Die menslike balans is versteur en word verder ontwig deurdat die Plein in 'n busterminus omskep is wat meebring dat die meeste mense net vir arriveer en vertrek daar kom, of om in die gees van die tyd, haastig saaklikhede af te handel. Die gevolg is, in die konteks van ons maatskaplike opset, dat net Bantoe personeel in kantoorgeboue en posbodes in hoofsaak van die Plein as plein gebruik maak.

Om aan Kerkplein sy historiese rol as kerkplein terug te gee, is nie meer moontlik nie. Maar om Kerkplein sy regmatige plek te laat inneem as oase en menslike omgewing, stadskernsentrum en as plek van ontspanning en saaklikheid is wel moontlik. Kerkplein kan 'n terrein van balans in menslike bedrywigheid in die stedelike milieu wees. Dit is inderdaad ekonomies en sosiologies ook nodig, en dat dit juis Kerkplein moet wees is histories logies. Dit is die historiese kern van die stad. Dit adem nog die geskiedenis van Pretoria, van die ZAR, van Paul Kruger, van die Britse besetting, van die unifikasie van Suid-Afrika en van die blye totstandkoming van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika. Hierdie gees word aan burger en besoeker gereflekteer in die geboue rondom die Plein. By uitstek in geboue soos Tudor Chambers, die Raadsaal, die Paleis van Justisie en die res van die Wesfasade se geboue daartussen. Geboue met 'n trotse geskiedenis, maar belangriker nog, geboue van menslike skaal en karaktervolle voorkoms.

Die vraag ontstaan wat kan gedoen word om Kerkplein sy volle rol en plek in die samelewing te gee. Dit verg optrede ten opsigte van die twee hoof fisiese aspekte van 'n plein. Die geboue daarom heen en daar agter en die oppervlak van die plein. Die huidige geboue moet bewaar, gerestoureer en gediversifiseer benut word. Nuwebou daaragter moet neutraal van voorkoms en beperk tot hoogtes in terme van menslike skaalverbreding wees. Die oppervlak van die Plein moet so beplan, uitgelê en benut word dat dit vir mense aangenaam sal wees om daar te kom en 'n wyle te vertoef. Dus die Plein moet nie in 'n gat omskep word deur oordonderende hoogbou nie en nie steriel gemaak word deur die stank van dieselrook, die geraas en gevaar van busse en motorverkeer en die afwesigheid van aantreklikhede nie. Daar moet winkels en dienstekantore wees, blommeverkopers, snuisteryverkopers, opelugkafees, koffiekroegies, orkesverhoë, toilette en in die nabyheid, maar nie op die Plein self nie, die beskikbaarheid van busse en



taxis. Die oppervlak van die Plein moet 'n menslik aanvaarbare terrein wees. Dit kan gedoen word deur omgewings-elemente van plaveisel, water, plante, rusplek en beligting te laat harmoniseer met mekaar en ruimte.

Dit behels 'n herbeplanning en heruitleg van die hele Plein wat insluit, Paul Krugerstraat vanaf Pretoriusstraat tot Vermeulenstraat, Kerkstraat vanaf Andriesstraat tot Bosmanstraat, Parlementstraat, Mutuallaan, Burolaan en Banklaan.

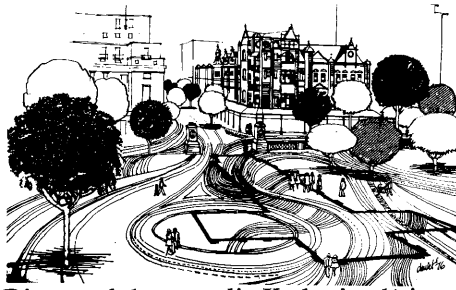
Die meegaande illustrasies toon 'n moontlike wyse waarop Kerkplein heruitgelê sou kon word. Wat behou kan word, is die ingangsuile en die suidelike half-ringmuur om die Nuwe Plein 'n koppeling te gee met sy vorige voorkoms. Wat verwyder word, is die bestaande plantegroei, behalwe die jakarandaboom in die suidoostelike hoek, die teeroppervlakke en die geboue in suidoostelike en suidwestelike hoeke. Verkieslik kan die huidige voetstuk van die Krugerstandbeeld vervang word met een volgens die beeldhouer Van Wouw se eie oorspronklike ontwerp wat meer esteties aanvaarbaar was en meer prakties ook in soverre dit die vier Boerefigure beter sou laat vertoon en nie so vandalisme-uitnodigend sal wees nie. Wat nuut bykom, is bestrating met baksteen- en leiklipplaveisel, vywers en spuitfonteine, inheemse bome en plante, rusbanke, 'n orkesplatform, ondergrondse toilette, paalligte en kolligte op sekere bome en die beeldgroep en spreibeligting van die geboue om die Plein, paslike stalletjies vir blommeverkoppe, ens., areas vir opelugkafees.

Om die naam Kerkplein weer sy verband terug te gee word daar in die baksteenplaveisel op die regte plek in volkskaalse maat, die plan of dan fondamentlyne in blouleiklip uitgelê. In die geestesoog sal die ou kerk van 1882-1904 so weer herleef en betekenis gee aan die naam, Kerkplein.

Parlementstraat, Burolaan, Mutuallaan en gedeeltes van Kerkstraat wes en oos, Banklaan en Paul Krugerstraat noord en suid, word geplaveide wandelstrate, maar met voertuigtoegangsvoorsiening in bedoelde gedeeltes. Bus- en taxistaanplek word voorsien in Pretorius-, Bosman-, Vermeulen- en Andriesstrate.

Wat die plaveisel betref, word gedink aan baksteenmosaïek, graniet- of marmerspaandermosaïek en leiklip. Die plantegroei sou insluit, grasperkareas, broodbome, apiesdorings, wistinkhoutbome, kameeldoringbome, kareebome, strelitziass en beddings van sierblomme.

Beplanning van die geboue wat eventueel op die oop terreine aan Parlementstraat-Noord en Mutuallaan sal verrys, kan voorsiening maak vir winkeltjies en boetiëks op straatvlak. Die oop kol voor die ou Capitolbioskoop sou pragtig gevul kon word deur 'n gebou wat simpatiek in hoogte en styl aanpas by die ou Neder-



Die grondplan van die Kerk uitgelê in swart graniet

landse Bankgebou en 'n visuele oorgang gee na die ingangsportaal van die TPA-gebou. So 'n gebou sou byvoorbeeld 'n nuwe raadsaal vir die Provinsiale Raad kon huisves of die openbare toonbanke van die TPA se publieke dienste soos navrae, uitreiking van lisensies en so meer.

Oor die res van die Wesfasade se geboue se hergebruik is daar al veel gesê, dit is bekend. Die geboue is ekonomies benutbaar ten opsigte van 'n lewendgemaakte Kerkplein. Byvoorbeeld, Ou Nederlandse Bankgebou – kunssentrum, Ou Law Chambers – restaurant, Cafe Riché – opelugkafee, winkels en kantore, Poskantoor – poskantooroonbankdienste of hotel, Ou Nasionale Bank en ZAR-Staatsmunt – poskantoor museum, Kirknessgeboutjie – stedelike toeristeburo. Hoe dit ook al sy die gedagtes hier uitgespreek, word nie voorgedra as 'n finale bloudrukplan nie. Die bedoeling is

om te illustreer dat Kerkplein iets anders kan wees as wat hy vandag is.

Nota: Hierdie artikel is geskryf vóórdat dit bekend was dat die wesfasadegeboue gesloop gaan word. Dus word nou bedoel dat die nuwe geboue moet aanpas by Kerkplein en tot die lewe-in-die-omgewing bydra.

WJP

## Die Eerste Minister besluit finaal - die Wesfasade word gesloop

Die aankondiging op 13 Februarie deur die Eerste Minister dat die Regering finaal besluit het dat daar nie gehoor gegee kan word nie aan die versoeke vir die bewaring en restourasie van die Wesfasade-geboue, is deur kultuurmense landswyd met 'n gevoel van skok en verbystering ontvang. Omgewingsensitiewe burgers van Pretoria is verslae. Ons verneem dat die Burgerkomitee vir die Bewaring en Restourasie van Kerkplein, wat verlede jaar die leiding in die peiling van die openbare mening oor Kerkplein geneem het, besluit het dat hy nie die stryd gewonne gee nie. Die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria het besluit om in terme van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur die die burgemeester van Pretoria te petisioneer om 'n openbare vergadering van belastingbetalers van Pretoria oor die toekomst van die Wesfasade en van Kerkplein self te belê.

## Kommentaar op sloping van Kerkplein

Prof P G Nel, voorsitter van die Afrikaanse Kultuurraad:

Die Afrikaanse Kultuurraad het 45 jaar gelede al bewys gelever daarvan dat hy hom nie sal laat onderkry nie. Ons sal nie swig nie. Ons veg vir 'n beginsel en ons sal voortgaan tot die einde . . .

*Die Hoofstad*, 16 Februarie 1976

Mnr Piet Muller, sameroeper van die Burgerkomitee vir die bewaring en restourasie van Kerkplein:

Die openbare mening eis dat die Burgerkomitee selfs in dié stadium nog alles in sy vermoë moet doen om te verhinder dat die geboue gesloop word.

Mnr Hannes Meiring, argitek, Pretoria:

Dis 'n besluit wat geslagte wat kom, moeilik sal kan begryp. Dis veral jammer in 'n tyd waarin ook Suid-Afrika se jongmense met nuwe oë na hul omgewing kyk en bewaringsbewus geword het soos nooit tevore nie.

**Dr S Meiring Naude**, voorsitter van die Stigting Simon van der Stel: Die Raad het reeds in Augustus verlede jaar besluit dat die Stigting hom sal onttrek aan verdere verstoë om die behoud van Kerkplein. Die besluit het gevolg op 'n ontmoeting van belanghebbendes met die Eerste Minister. Mnr Vorster het toe reeds gesê dat hy die saak oorweeg het en nie die behoud van die Wes-fasade kan goedkeur nie. Ons het geen keuse gehad as om by sy beslissing te berus nie. Die Stigting het met leedwese verneem van die besluit van die Regering dat die Wes-fasade van Kerkplein vervang sal word met nuwe geboue wat by die ander geboue op Kerkplein sal aanpas.

*Rapport, 15 Februarie 1976*

**Jaap Steyn**, politieke kommentator  
Rapport:

By ons is die tradisionele gesagsverhoudinge nog nie juis aangetas nie. Die tyd gaan egter ook hier verby dat gesagsdraers maar net besluite neem, hulle op die onderhoriges afdwing en as daar na redes gevra word, by wyse van spreke antwoord: "Sommer. Oor ek só sê".

Ondergeskiktes moet sover moontlik in besluite geken word. In dié opsig wag daar 'n moeilike aanpassing vir baie gesagsdraers – ook party owerheidsinstansies. Een voorbeeld maar: die manier waarop die laaste paar maande opgetree is in die Kerkplein- en Sandy Bay-aangeleenthede.

Duisende bewaarders – historici, argitekte en lede van die publiek – het argumente aangevoer oor waarom hulle teen die sloping van die wesfasade van die Kerkplein is. 'n Alternatiewe plan is voorgestel.

Maar die veldtog is gewoonweg "agitasie" genoem, op geen argument is behoorlik geantwoord nie en daar is nie gesê hoekom die alternatiewe plan verwerp word nie. Die publiek is behandel soos lastige kinders in die ou dae: "Hulle moet gesien maar nie gehoor word nie". Dié soort houding skep verset teen gesag. Dit help net dat gesag ondermyn word.

*Rapport, 16 Mei 1976*

## Die kinders gaan ons verwyf

**Franz Cloete**, Internasionale Kindermuseumstigting, Posbus 28716, Sunny-side, skryf:

Die besluit om die Wesfasade van Kerkplein, Pretoria, te sloop, is beslis een van die mees tragiese voornemens wat ons owerhede nog ooit gehad het. Namens die Internasionale Kindermuseum word die sterkste misnoeë teen dié stap uitgespreek.

Dit lyk ook nie baie logies dat oorlogsvelde aan die een kant gerestoureer word, en aan die ander kant die verlede weer doodgevee word nie. Daar is geen verskoning om die kinders van Suid-Afrika hul erfenis op hierdie manier te ontnem nie!

Onder die gedoemde geboue is die Capitol-teater, 'n massiewe ou marmerpaleis van vervloë tye, wat nog vir 'n duisend jaar kon staan as die hand van vernietiging nie so swaar daaroor gehang het nie. Wat 'n uitstekende museum- of uitstallingslokaal is dit nie!

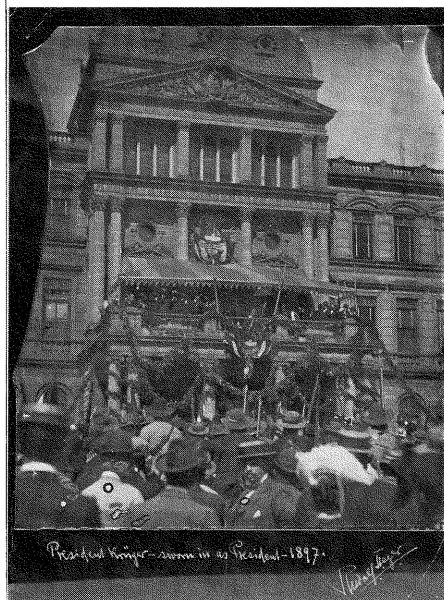
Buitendien is die desentralisasie van die middestad baie wenslik, en is daar toevallig nou genoeg ruimte beskikbaar vir 'n halfdosyn of wat Torings van Babel in Prinsloostraat.

Die geslachte van die toekoms sal nog 'n vinger na die wyse ou volksvaders van ons dag kan wys, en na die grootste flater wat hulle ooit begaan het, naamlik die sloping van die Wesfasade, wat tereg as die Acropolis van Suid-Afrika beskou kan word.

*Rapport, 29 Februarie 1976*

## Die laaste inswering van Paul Kruger as President van Transvaal in 1897.

Foto: Rudolf Steger



## Besin finaal oor Kerkplein

Is ons erfenis ons erns skryf:

Dit was met aansienlike skok en ongeloof dat ek pas gelees het dat die westelike fasade van Pretoria se historiese Kerkplein wel gesloop gaan word ondanks verstoë uit alle oorde. Hierdie besluit is op die hoogste vlak geneem en dit lyk of die koeël deur die Kerk (plein) is. Nogtans is só 'n beslissing onverstaanbaar as die feite in ag geneem word. Af-

gesien van die historiese en argitektoniese meriete van die saak, wat nie op emosionele gronde berus soos ongelukkig al beweer is nie, is daar die ekonomiese aspek wat in die huidige finansiële tydsgewrig tog tot die owerhede behoort te spreek. Is daar byvoorbeeld al bereken wat die sloping van die betrokke sewe geboue met hul bestaande akkommodasie en die vervanging daarvan sal kos? In hierdie tyd van inflasie is die belastingbetaler geregtig om te weet wat hierdie onnodige slopery van sy kulturele erfenis hom sal kos.

Dit is voorts bekend dat die middestad van Pretoria reeds ernstige verkeersprobleme ondervind vanweë die groot konsentrasie van hoë geboue rondom Kerkplein. Wat die posisie sal wees ná die voltooiing van die nuwe "prestige"-geboue kan selfs die leek voorspel.

Die ernstige verstoë van instansies soos die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede (as die amptelike bewaringsliggaam wat deur die staat self ingestel is) en die Stigting Simon van der Stel vir die behoud van die geboue was vrugtelos. Die magteloosheid van bewaringsliggame en individue ten opsigte van die behoud van die westelike fasade is beklemtoon deur die Wet op Ontwikkeling van Kerkplein, Pretoria (Wet Nr. 53 van 1972). Dié wet se oogmerk was "... om die ontwikkeling van Kerkplein, Pretoria, en van sekere persele aangrensend daaraan en in die onmiddellike omgewing daarvan onderhewig te maak aan die goedkeuring van die Minister van Openbare Werke."

Die tragiese verloop van verdere verstoë vir die behoud van die geboue is reeds geskiedenis. Selfs op die feit dat ongeveer 10 000 inwoners van Pretoria en elders hulself in 'n versoekskrif en by wyse van 'n openbare optog teen hierdie sloping uitgespreek het, is geen ag geslaan nie.

Het ons inderdaad so min geestelike dissipline dat die maklike uitweg van sloping dikwels gevolg word ten koste van onvervangbare kultuurskatte? Dit is ondenkbaar dat iets soortgelyks in enige Europese land sal gebeur. Daar is talle voorbeelde van stadspleine in Europa soos in Brussel, Venesië en Dubrovnik in Joego-Slawië waar bloot die gedagte aan die sloping van een enkele van daardie geboue as heiligskennis beskou sou word. Die historiese, argitektoniese en kulturele belang van die betrokke gebouegroep is al herhaaldelik deur bevoegde kenners as van genoegsame nasionale belang beskryf om die behoud daarvan in enige omstandigheid te regverdig.

Mag daar in dié geval nog besin word voordat begin word met sloping. Die finale verdwyning van die historiese westelike fasade van Kerkplein sal sekerlik as een van die grootste terugslae op bewaringsgebied in Suid-Afrika bestempel word.

*Die Beeld, 19 Februarie 1976*



Alan, what do you do about your insurance? I have just received my bill for my cars and the caravan. The premium is R180 and next month I'll have to find another R60 for my householders and all risks insurance. One just never gets around to saving up the R20 per month.

Well George, I had the same problem 'til I joined the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

But what has that got to do with insurance?

Well, the Foundation offers its members an excellent comprehensive cover scheme, underwritten by Mutual and Federal, probably one of the largest insurers in the country. I now have practically all my movables fully covered – cars, caravan, also our household effects for R15 000 and even the contents of our freezer and R50 hole-in-one cover, not that that's much use with the kind of golf I'm playing these days! I also have R200 000 cover for personal liability and Mary and I are covered for R4 000 for personal accident. The premium is R15 per month, which is not much and no problem because the bank pays it over each month.

That sounds like the answer, thanks for the tip. But tell me, how do I join the scheme?

That's easy. Membership of the Simon van der Stel Foundation costs only R7 per year. Just send your R7 and enquiry to Terry McDonogh. He'll arrange it. It simply means you're helping yourself and the Foundation in its necessary and excellent preservation work.

Shall do. Come on, you're first off.

**TERRY MCDONOGH & CO (PTY) LTD**

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## Almal moet Kerkplein help red

'n Landwyse front teen die voorgenome sloping van die westelike fasade van Kerkplein in Pretoria is gister op die simposium oor stedelike ontwerp in Johannesburg deur 'n senior lektor van die Universiteit van Pretoria, mnr. Anton du Toit, bepleit.

Op die simposium, wat by die Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit gehou is, het sowat 150 argitekte, stadsbeplanners en -ontwikkelaars van oor die hele land en selfs uit Amerika geluister toe mnr. Du Toit 'n beroep op alle argitekte doen om nie te verslap in hul stryd om Kerkplein te behou nie.

Hy het daarop gewys dat die kwessie van die sloping van Kerkplein tot dusver net tot die Noorde beperk was, en 'n beroep op alle Suid-Afrikaners gedoen om by die stryd betrokke te raak.

„Kerkplein is 'n nasionale erfstuk wat nie durf verlore gaan nie. Dit is die plig van elke Suid-Afrikaner om by die stryd betrokke te raak. Kaapland moet ook by die stryd betrek word; hierdie keer moet hulle nie die mentaliteit openbaar dat die beskawing by die Hexrivier eindig nie,” het hy gesê.

Mnr. Du Toit het gesê dat televisie 'n baie waardevolle bydrae kan maak om 'n groter deel van die Suid-Afrikaanse publiek by die Kerkpleinkwessie te betrek.

Die groot aantal argitekte by die simposium het hul volle steun aan mnr. Du Toit se planne toegesê. Een van die sprekers by die bespreking wat op mnr. Du Toit se referaat gevolg het, het daarop gewys dat die stryd om nasionale monumente dikwels in die verlede misluk het omdat die momentum nie volgehou was nie.

*Die Beeld, 15 Mei 1976*

## Pleinprotes: Basta nou!

Mense moet nie weer met agitatie en protes na die Eerste Minister hardloop nadat daar finaal oor planne vir die verandering van Kerkplein se wes-fasade besluit is nie, sê die Administrateur, mnr. Sybrand van Niekerk.

Hy het onlangs in die Provinsiale Raad gesê uitvoerige aandag is reeds aan die beoogde projek gegee. Finaliteit is nou daaroor bereik nadat alle moontlike inligting ingewin is.

„Ingevolge wetgewing is norme bepaal waarvolgens geboue behoue kan bly op die plek waar hulle staan, maar dan moet hulle vroegtydig tot nasionale gedenkwaardighede verklaar word,” het mnr. Van Niekerk gesê. Indien so 'n aansoek van die hand gewys word, moet dit so aanvaar word.”

*Die Hoofstad, 12 Februarie 1976*

## Minister sal eers sê sê oor Plein

Die Stadsraad van Pretoria sal nie met die ontwikkeling van 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein voortgaan alvorens die toestemming van die Minister van Openbare Werke, mnr. A. L. Schlebusch, verkry is nie.

Volgens 'n voorstel van die stadsraad se bestuurskomitee sal die volle raad op 'n vergadering gevra word om aan te beveel dat die Minister se beginselgoedkeuring verkry word voordat daar met gedetailleerde ondersoek vir die skema voortgegaan word.

Die Direkteur van Stadsbeplanning en Argitektuur mnr. B. W. Ball het op 20 November 1974 opdrag van die stadsraad ontvang dat sy afdeling die moontlikheid van 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein moet ondersoek.

Dié Afdeling het sy verslag voltooi en aan die bestuurskomitee voorgelê en daarin word gemeld dat die bou van 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein, 'n praktiese moontlikheid is.

Afgesien van meer besonderhede oor so 'n skema, sal die stadsraad vanmiddag ook gevra word om in beginsel die bou van so 'n sentrale busstasie onder Kerkplein sonder dat die huidige pleinvlakke verlaag word, as 'n praktiese moontlikheid te aanvaar.

*Die Hoofstad, 26 Februarie 1976*

## Wys ons Plein se slopers

Dit het hoog tyd geword om die mense en instansies, wat eintlik verlof gegee het vir die sloping van Kerkplein, te ontmasker en tot verantwoording te roep. Die tyd is verby om agter die Eerste Minister te skuil.

Só het prof. P. R. Botha, voorsitter van die Habitatraad, in sy jaarverslag op die raad se tweedaagse konferensie in Johannesburg gesê.

Prof. Botha het beklemtoon Habitatraad sal hom heftig verset teen elke poging om van Kerkplein 'n goedkoop politieke speelbal te maak.

Prof. Botha het beklemtoon dat omgewingsbewaring ook die kultuuromgewing insluit. Dit is daarom die plig van die Habitatraad om Suid-Afrika se argitektoniese en stadsboukundige erfenis te bewaar. Daar is ook verskeie ander instansies wat hul vir dieselfde doel beweer. Die Habitatraad is besig met skakeling om mettertyd 'n Nasionale Bewaringsfonds in die lewe te roep.

Die konferensie is afgesluit deur prof. Richard Fuggle, hoof van die Skool van Omgewingsleer by die Universiteit van

Kaapstad. Hy het 'n referaat gelewer oor die ontspanningsbenutting van die berggebiede.

*Die Beeld, 15 Mei 1976*

## Kerkplein vir oulaas

Nabetragtings oor die sloping van die wesfasade van Kerkplein in Pretoria waarop die Regering nou finaal besluit het, kan moontlik in een opsig 'n goeie doel dien.

Hierdie besluit teen die sin van duisende Pretoriane is nie die gevolg van enige gebeure van gister of verlede jaar nie. Dit is die eindresultaat van 'n verkeerde stap wat 20 jaar gelede geneem is, toe die Provinsie besluit het om die Holfordplan vir die beplanning van die middestad eenvoudig te ignoreer en die nuwe provinsiale gebou nie aan Strubenstraat nie maar in die onmiddellike nabyheid van Kerkplein op te rig.

Prof. Holford het destyds, in 1949, aanbeveel dat Strubenstraat 'n goewermentslaan gemaak word met sy eindpunt die Uniegebou, 'n pragtige skema wat met verwesenliking 'n sieraad vir die stad kon gewees het. Die Provinsie was die eerste om die plan te ondermyn. Die straatblok naaste aan die Ou Raadsaal is aangekoop en, gepaard met plegtige versekerings dat die Plein nóóit aangetas sou word nie en dat die nuwe gebou van 13 verdiepings net 'n mooi agtergrond sou uitmaak vir die geskiedkundige geboutjies in die wesfasade, is met die ontwikkeling van die blok begin.

Die Pretoriane het werklik geglo dat as een vinger gegee word, die hand nooit gevat sou word nie. Vandag het hulle die dure les geleer dat 'vooruitgang' nooit gestuit kan word as dit eers 'n vastrapplek gekry het nie. Daardie 'agtergrond' waarvan destyds gepraat is, het nou die 'voorgond' van Kerkplein se westekant geword, met die stootskrapers as die eerste linie.

Dit is gedane sake, behalwe vir die Noord-Transvaalse Streek van die Kunsvereniging, wat nou voor die situasie te staan gekom het dat hy oor maande of jare sal moet padgee uit die Nederlandse Bank wat hy sedert 1963, danksy die welwillendheid van die Provinsiale Administrasie, op die allergunstigste voorwaardes as kunsgalerye en kantore kon gebruik. Die hoofkantoor van die Kunsvereniging is ook sedert verlede jaar daarin gehuisves.

Een ding is in die onvaste omstandighede duidelik, dat die Kunsvereniging nie sonder die daadkragtige steun van die verskillende gesagsinstansies en die onbaatsugtige hulp van ons kunspubliek 'n geskikte nuwe tuiste, dié slag hopelik van blywende aard, sal kan bekom nie. Die alternatief is ewe duidelik.

*S.A. Kunskalender, Maart 1976*

## Voorgestelde busstasie onder Kerkplein

Die Direkteur van Stadsbeplanning en Argitektuur het pas 'n verslag aan die Stadsraad voorgelê waarin 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein voorgestel word. Die Raad het in beginsel besluit dat so 'n sentrale busstasie wel in die praktyk moontlik is.

Hierdie verslag is opgestel nadat die Raad reeds in November 1974 opdrag gegee het dat 'n voorlopige ondersoek oor die moontlikheid van 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein geloods moet word.

Die volgende belangrike uitgangspunte is onder andere vir die doeleindes van die verslag aanvaar:

- Dat 'n sentrale kruispunt nodig en wenslik is vir die bedryf van 'n busdiens om die middestad te dien.

- Dat Kerkplein die aangewese plek vir hierdie kruispunt is omdat Kerk- en Paul Krugerstraat, wat tweerigtingstrate en dus meer geskik vir busroetes is, daar kruis.

- Dat 'n versonke busstasie onder die Plein die beste oplossing vir die skeiding van voetganger- en voertuigverkeer op die Plein bied, asook vir die estetiese probleme wat busse en ander diensvoertuie op straatvlak vir die Plein inhou.

- Dat geen winkelkelder onder die Plein nodig is nie, behalwe miskien 'n enkele winkel of kiosk wat gewoonweg met 'n groot busstasie gepaard gaan.

Verskeie alternatiewe benaderinge tot die ontwerp van 'n busstasie onder, of op, of selfs bo Kerkplein is ondersoek om sodoende die mees praktiese oplossing te vind. Belangrike voordele verbonde aan 'n busstasie onder Kerkplein het egter die keuse daarop laat val. Hierdie voordele behels onder andere die volgende:

- Die afritte maak geen inbreuk op die Plein nie.

- Behalwe in die geval van noodvoertuie kan alle ander voertuie van die huidige Pleinvlak uitgesluit word.

- Afgesien van die oostelike afrit (in Kerkstraat) sal die afritte min ontwrigting van handelsverkeer veroorsaak.

Die verslag toon aan dat die voorgestelde versonke busstasie in die toekoms moontlik ingeskakel kan word by 'n versonke Kerkstraat tussen Prinsloostraat en Kerkplein. Hierdie versonke deel sal net vir busse en diensvoertuie gereserveer word. Die huidige verslag beoog dus net 'n versonke busstasie onder Kerkplein. 'n Ver-

sonke Kerkstraat moet dus nie in hierdie stadium aan 'n versonke busstasie gekoppel word nie.

Deur hierdie voorgestelde versinking van Kerkstraat in die toekoms word 'n ononderbroke voetgangerruimte tussen Prinsloostraat en Kerkplein voorsien. By die beplanning van die voorgestelde Hendrik Verwoerd-plein is aaneenskakeling met Strijdomplein ook in die vooruitsig gestel. Die verwesenliking van 'n gedeeltelik versonke Kerkstraat sal dus nie net die belangrikste pleine van die Stad met mekaar verbind nie, maar ook help om agt stadsblokke tussen Prinsloo- en Bosmanstraat deur middel van die aaneengeskakelde voetgangerruimtes met mekaar te integreer. Die konflik tussen voetgangers en voertuie sal dus in 'n groot mate uitgeskakel word.

Alvorens daar egter met 'n meer gedetailleerde ondersoek voortgegaan kan word, sal die Minister van Openbare Werke se beginselgoedkeuring ingevolge Die Wet op Kerkplein, Pretoria, 1972, eers verkry moet word.

*Nuusbrief, Stadsraad van Pretoria, Februarie/Maart 1976*

## Cities are for people

Nothing short of radical action is now going to save Church Square from degenerating into a lifeless and sordid pit. It is imperative that a programme be launched now to bring people back to the centre of the city.

It has all the possibilities. It is rich in history and tradition. It has the geographical advantage of being accessible. It will soon have a massive population of flat-dwellers on its doorstep in the new Goedehoop area. It could become one of the most charming and exciting city centres in the country.

All this opportunity will be squandered if the plan to demolish the western facade and build skyscrapers in their stead is not reviewed and modified. For this will only perpetuate the Square's existing nature by day as a place of passing for hundreds of busy workers. It will leave the Square to a night-time of sepulchral gloom, with the two tower-blocks standing sentry over it in shining armour of glass.

## Place of leisure

No, what is needed is a place for people to go during work and after work and at their leisure.

The western facade must become a rallying-point. It must be converted into an attraction – cafes, a hotel, theatre, art gallery, a museum. The tarred and unsightly roads must be replaced by trees

and grass and flowers and fountains and sculptures – setting an imaginative trend for the rest of the city.

For surely progress is not all eightlane highways and multi-storey towerblocks. Cobbles, trees, narrow streets, riverside walks are very much a part of the modern city.

The plan put forward earlier this week by Dr Willem Punt spells out such a trend. It foresees development of the Apies River, of quaint assets such as narrow streets, the reversal of the process of moving people out of the city into suburbs by developing more residential areas in the city itself.

A city needs the heartbeat of people. It needs a soul.

It is not too late . . . if there is the will.

The example has already been set in cities such as Cape Town and Grahamstown with great effect. In Pretoria, the place to start is Church Square.

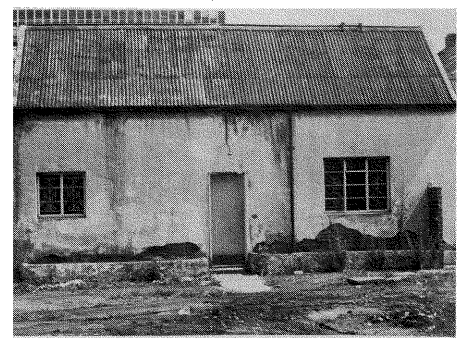
*The Pretoria News, May 10, 1976*

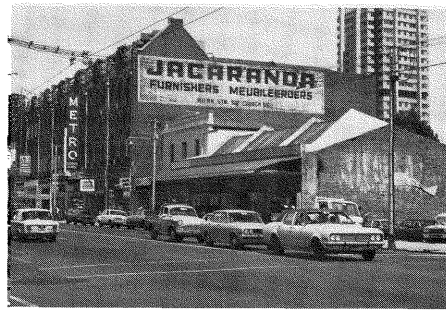
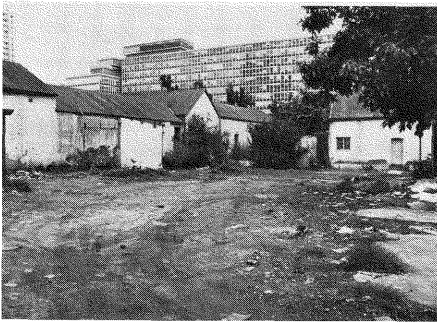
## Mohandas K Gandhi's first day in Pretoria

I had expected someone on behalf of Dada Abdulla's attorney to meet me at Pretoria station. I was perplexed, and wondered where to go, as I feared that no hotel would accept me.

Pretoria station in 1893 was quite different from what it was in 1914. The lights were burning dimly. The travellers were few. I let all the other passengers go and thought that, as soon as the ticket collector was fairly free, I would hand him my ticket and ask him if he could direct me to some small hotel or any other such place where I might go; otherwise I would spend the night at the station.

The station became clear of all passengers. I gave my ticket to the ticket collector and began my inquiries. He replied to me courteously, but I saw that he could not be of any considerable help. But an American Negro who was standing near by broke into the conversation.





USA, 1957. Translated from the Gujarati by Mahader Desai.)

Note: Johnson's Hotel has not been identified. The baker's (wife's) house is presumably the one now demolished on the corner of Prinsloo and Church Streets. – Ed.

### Mooi voorbeeld van Groepsbewing Artilleriery se 15 nou Nasionale Monumente

Die vyftien historiese woonhuise in Artilleriery (aan die noordekant van Verdedigingshoofkwartier) is tot Nasionale Monumente verklaar. Twaalf van die huise gaan nou teen 'n beraamde koste van R144 000 deur die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou gerestoureer word. Die wonings is waardevolle herinnerings aan ons militêre verlede; aan die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek en die Staatsartillerie. Die huise, wat argitektonies 'n sterk neo-Renaissance-inslag vertoon, maak 'n gebouegroep uit wat waarskynlik uniek in ons land is.

Die bou van die huise het op 2 Mei 1896 'n aanvang geneem en is 18 maande later voltooi. Dit is gebou vir die bevelvoerder, offisiere en onderoffisiere van die Staatsartilleriekorps van die ZAR. Dit is volgens vier basiese patrone ontwerp en verskil in grootte en voorkoms – afhangende van die rang van die destydse bewoners. Ook ten opsigte van die plafonhoogte, die hoogte en breedte van die gange en voordeurkosyne, was verskillende afmetings voorgeskryf. Die huise is in die volgende tipes verdeel:

A-tipe: Die ampswoning van die Korpskommandant, op die hoek van Potgieterstraat en Artilleriery, 53 vt 10 dm by 52 vt 4 dm.

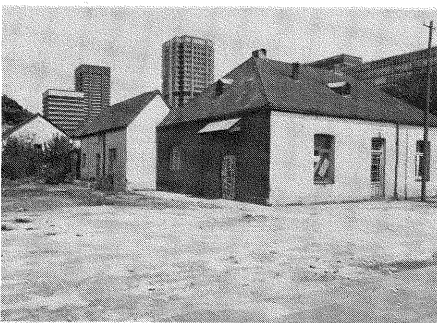
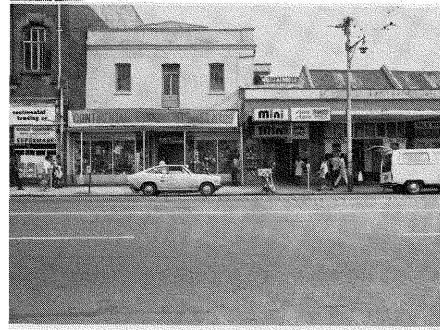
B-tipe: Twee kapteinswonings, 46 vt 9 dm by 57 vt 4 dm.

C-tipe: Ses luitenantswonings, 42 vt 10 dm by 57 vt 4 dm.

D-tipe: Ses onderoffisierswonings, 37 vt 4 dm by 47 vt 7 dm.

Die D-tipe huise het ook nie "oor een bergplaats voor een spider" en 'n studeerkamer beskik nie.

Die eerste bewoner van die kommandantshuis was Lt kol S P E Trichardt. Behalwe vir dié woning wat vandag as Weermagkantore gebruik word en drie ander aan die onderpunt van die straat wat aan die SA Spoorweë behoort, word die res vandag nog deur Weermagslede en hul gesinne bewoon.



'I see,' said he, 'that you are an utter stranger here, without any friends. If you will come with me, I will take you to a small hotel, of which the proprietor is an American who is very well known to me. I think he will accept you.'

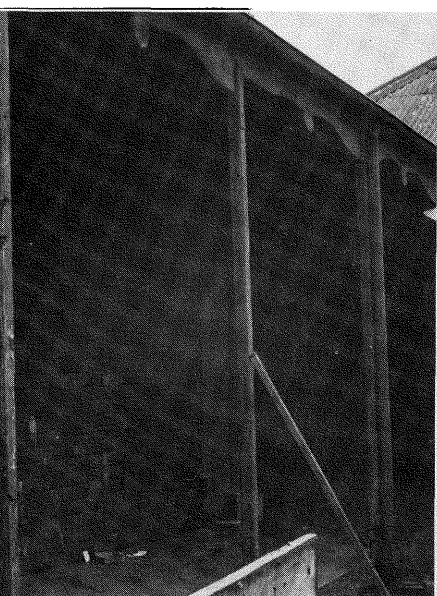
He took me to Johnston's Family Hotel. He drew Mr Johnston aside to speak to him, and the latter agreed to accommodate me for the night.

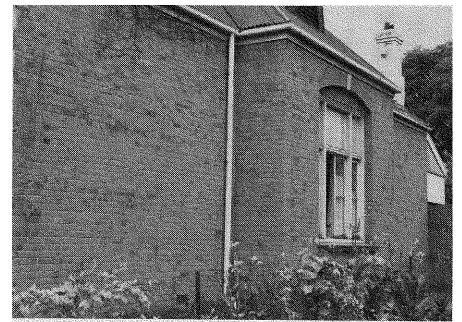
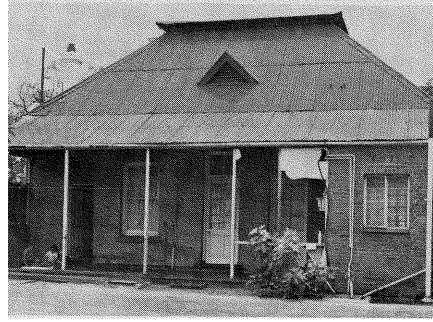
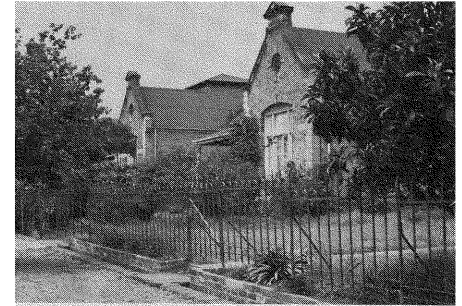
Next morning I called on the attorney, Mr A W Baker. Abdulla Sheth had given me some description of him, so his cordial reception did not surprise me. He received me very warmly and made kind inquiries. "I have not yet found rooms for you. But I know a poor woman. She is the wife of a baker. I think she will take you and thus add to her income at the same time. Come, let us go to her place."

So he took me to her house. He spoke with her privately about me, and she agreed to accept me as a boarder at 35 shillings a week.

I went to Mr Johnston, paid the bill and removed to the new lodgings, where I had my lunch. The landlady was a good woman. She had cooked a vegetarian meal for me. It was not long before I made myself quite at home with the family.

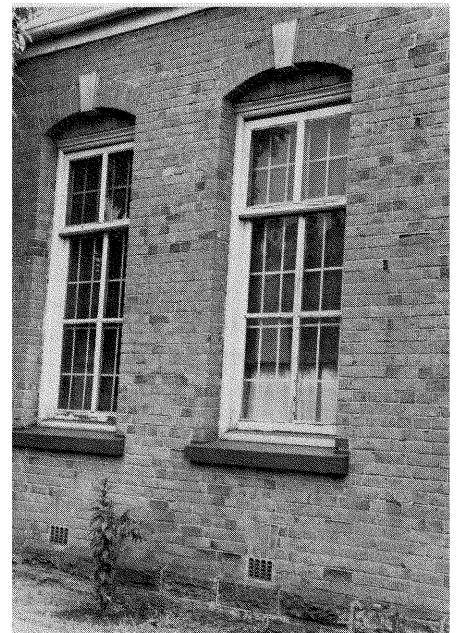
(Exerts from Chapter X of Mohandas K Gandhi. *An Autobiography. The Story of My Experiments with Truth*, published as a paper back by Beacon Press,

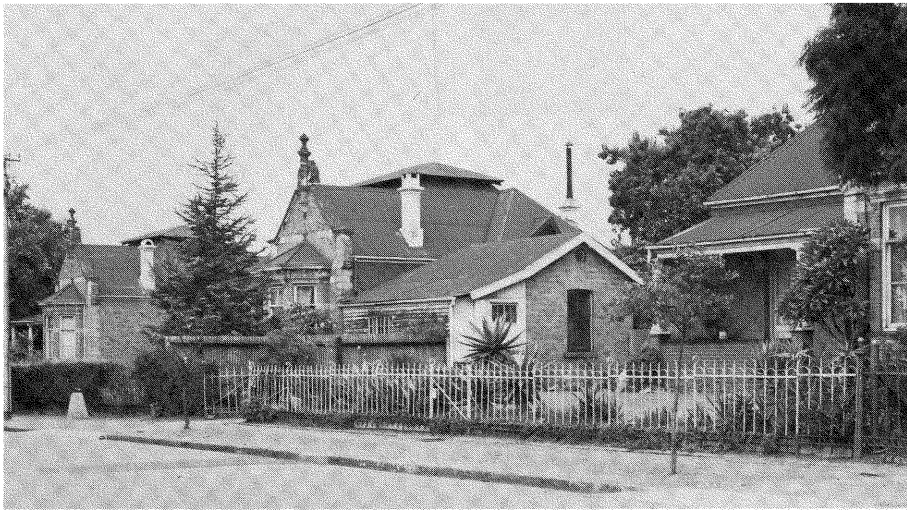




Die huise in Artillery . . . 'n gebouegroep wat vandag waarskynlik uniek in ons land is. Die huise, wat argitektonies 'n neo-Renaissance-inslag vertoon, is besonder indrukwekkend en is militêr-histories gesien, waardevolle erfenisse uit 'n trotse verlede.

Foto's: *Frik Dreyer*





nie. Ek self sou graag R20 000 wil gee, maar ek is bang die gebou sal hernieu word, en daarna maar weer in vergetelheid verval.”

In die gebou is probeer om ’n museum te skep. Uiters waardevolle artikels, soos ’n stoel van Paul Kruger, ’n oliekrui uit die dae van Pontius Pilatus, ou Voortrekker-jaggewere, is daar uitgestal.

Plakkate en kennisgewings is aangebring en drie of vier nuuskieriges het opgedaag.

Die Boksburgse stadsraad het intussen besluit om nie die huidige stadsaal te sloop soos die plan was nie. Die gebou sal grotendeels behou en gebruik word as ’n konferensiesentrum.

*Die Vaderland*, 29 Julie 1975



**Kolonel S P E Trichardt, bevelvoerder van die ZAR-Staatsartillerie, was die eerste bewoner van hierdie kommandantshuis**

Foto: *Frik Dreyer*

Volgens ’n woordvoerder van die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou is ’n argitek reeds aangestel om die restourasie te onderneem. Die restourasiewerk gaan hoofsaaklik op die buitevoorkoms van die huise gemik wees aangesien die huise binne met verloop van tyd tot ’n mate gemoderniseer is.

Hoewel die huise buite ook met verloop van jare van hul oorspronklikheid verloor het – geeneen het byvoorbeeld meer die oorspronklike houttraliewerk op die voorstoep nie – word geen moeite ontzien om die korrekte inligting ten opsigte van die oorspronklike voorkoms vir die restourasiewerk te vind nie. Advertensies is byvoorbeeld ’n ruk gelede in verskeie koerante gepubliseer waarin lesers om foto’s gevra word waarop die oorspronklike houttraliewerk verskyn. ’n Baie ou foto, met net die skadu-afbeelding van die traliewerk op die grond, is op dié manier verkry. Dit is egter genoegsaam om oorspronklike replikas te kan maak, aldus die woordvoerder.

*Paratus*, November 1975

Nota: Argitek Johan de Ridder het opdrag om die restourasiewerk uit te voer.

*Redakteur*

## Dringende hulp is hier nodig

Die eerste steengebou aan die Oos-Rand, wat in 1863 gebou is, gaan dalk gesloop word as daar nie vinnig hulp kom nie. Dié klassieke gebou het amper sewentig jaar lank op Boksburg as landdroshof en kantore gedien.

„Dit is nie Boksburgcana nie, dis Africana! Die stadsraad bou nou nuwe kantore van ’n paar miljoen rand, maar hulle het nie R22 000 om hierdie gebou te red nie,” sê ’n ontstoke inwoner van die dorp, mnr Cornelis Fletteman.

Die afgelope paar jaar is die gebou nie meer gebruik nie. Kenners voorspel dat dit nog net vyf jaar sal bly staan as vernuwings nie daaraan gedoen word nie. Die Nasionale Monumentekommissee het die gebou reeds as ’n nasionale monument verklaar.

Om die gebou te herstel, sal ongeveer R45 000 kos. Die helfte van hierdie bedrag sal deur die Monumentekommissee bygedra word.

Tot dusver wou die stadsraad nie sy deel bydra nie.

„Ek dink dis ’n skande! Ons het ’n plig teenoor ons kinders om hulle te laat sien waar ons voorouers presteer het,” sê mnr Fletteman.

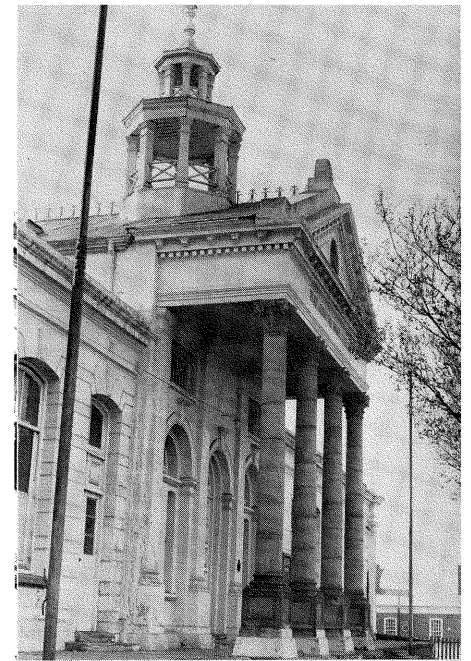
„Daar was ’n soortgelyke gebou op Klerksdorp. Dit is gesloop. Daar was nog een op Krugersdorp. Dit is gerestoureer en is vandag die trots van die dorp.” Tot ongeveer tien jaar gelede is die gebou deur die Departement van Justisie gebruik. Dit is daarna deur die stadsraad vir ’n appel en ’n ei aangekoop. Die raad het die gebou tot die beskikking van liefdadighedsorganisasies gestel.

Nie een van hulle, behalwe MOTH, het belang gestel nie.

„Ons is maar bietjie meer as 60 MOTH-lede. Ons kan nie R22 000 bymekaar kry

Hierdie klassieke gebou wat suiwer volgens die Korintiese styl gebou is, is die eerste steengebou aan die Oos-Rand.

Foto: *Die Vaderland*



## Die verhaal van ’n verlate sendingstasie

W.L. MAREE

Die Voortrekkerheld Piet Potgieter, staatspresident Paul Kruger, drie Afrikaanse sendingvriende, ’n gewonde Britse soldaat, verskillende Duitse sendelinge en ’n vyandige Bantoestam speel almal ’n rol in die verhaal van ’n ou sendingstasie naby Kranskop, die baken van die Springbokvlakte.



Daar kleef altyd iets tragies aan 'n verlate plaas of 'n vervalle woning. Waar vrolike stemme eens weerklink het, waar gesinne gewoon en gewerskaf het, heers nou 'n doodse stilte. Net 'n paar fondamentklippe, 'n moedige blommietjie of 'n verwronge vrugteboom getuig miskien nog van die lewe van vervloë dae.

Net so stem 'n verlate sendingstasie 'n mens tot weemoed. Die gedreun van kinderstemme word nie meer in die skool gehoor nie, die melodieë van Bantoesangene sweef nie meer om die kerkgebou nie. Al geluide wat 'n mens hoor is die gekraak van die vloerplanke en die geklap van oop vensters in die wind.

So lyk dit vandag op Middelfontein – 'n plaas met 'n veelbewoë verlede. Eertyds was dit die woonplek van die vermaarde Voortrekkerleier, Piet Potgieter, later die tuiste van die sendingvriend Gert Lottering, en eindelik 'n eeu lank 'n sendingstasie van die Berlynse Sendinggenootskap.

'n Paar myl noord van Nylstroom, langs die teerpad na Naboomspruit, sien 'n

mens die toring van die sendingkerkie tussen die bome aan die voet van 'n heuwel uitsteek. Regs kyk jy oor die vlakke na Kranskop, die baken van die Springbokvlakte. Die Bantoe-naam van Kranskop is Modimulle; die sendingstasie het dan ook vroeër as Waterberg (die naam van die distrik) of Modimulle bekend gestaan.

Tog moes ons onlangs soek na die afdraaipad wat na die ou sendingstasie lei. Ons kon skaars glo dat die grasbegroeide, verspoelde paadjie wat agter die konsertinahek verdwyn, ons by ons bestemming sou bring. Eers na die vriendelike voorman van die spoorwegstasie ons versoek het dat dit wel die regte pad was, het ons versigtig nader gery.

Op die foto's kan u sien wat ons daar aangetref het. 'n Netjiese sendingkerk, 'n interessante grasdakpastorie wat baie oud moet wees, 'n stewige skoolgebou, 'n groot begraafplaas. Maar alles is 'n toonbeeld van verlatenheid. Die geboue staan leeg, die gras groei welig, geen mensestem is êrens hoorbaar nie.

verrig. Eers kruip hy in die donker by een van die grotte in en probeer die Bantoes in hulle eie taal oorreed om oor te gee.

'n Paar dae later word Piet Potgieter deur 'n verskuilde vyand doodgeskiet. As sy liggaam van die krans af val, binne die verskansing wat deur die Bantoes opgerig is, spring Paul Kruger sonder aarseling oor die skans en onder 'n geweldige spervuur van weerskante dra hy die lyk van sy boesemvriend na veiligheid. Daarna is die lyk per ossewa na Middelfontein vervoer vir die begrafnis.

In my kinderdae was tekens van die fundamente van Potgieter se huis nog sigbaar en is die stam nog aangewys van 'n lemoenboom wat hy glo self geplant het. 'n Paar jaar gelede is die stoflike oorskot van Piet Potgieter egter met militêre eerbetoon herbegrawe op Potgietersrus, die dorp wat na hom vernoem is . . . en hierdie keer kon ons nie eens meer sy ou rusplek in die populierbos vind nie.

### Gert Lottering

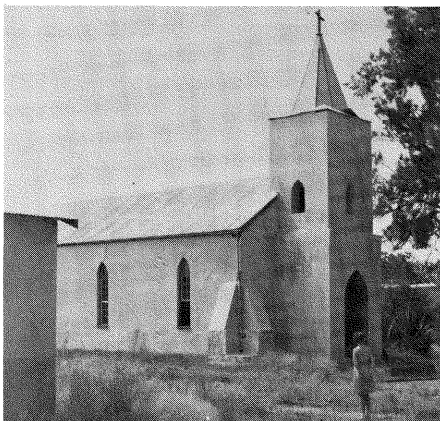
Die name van die drie broers Cornelius, Frans en Gert Lottering verdien besondere vermelding in die sendinggeskiedenis. Cornelius en Frans het in Soutpansberg gewoon en Gert vlakby hierdie selfde Middelfontein. Dit was Cornelius wat aan die einde van 1862 op Rustenburg vir di Henri Gonin en Alexander MacKidd vertel het van die Buysvolk in Soutpansberg wat graag 'n sendeling wou hê en wat kort daarna sy eie bediende te voet gestuur het om die Buyse se uitnodiging aan ds MacKidd te besorg. Dit was ook die Lotterings wat aan MacKidd die plaas Goedgedacht geskenk het, waar MacKidd 'n sendingstasie gestig het en waar eerw Stephanus Hofmeyr later gewerk het.

Op reis na Soutpansberg in 1863 het ds en mev MacKidd by Gert Lottering naby Middelfontein aangedoen. Hy skryf: „Gert, who resides in Waterberg, was good enough to bring us with his own oxen from his own place to our destination.” As Stephanus Hofmeyr twee jaar later Soutpansberg toe gaan, bly hy ook by Lottering oor en gee Lottering vir hom twee slagskape en 'n brood as padkos saam.

Na sy ordening en huwelik in die Boland in 1867 gaan Hofmeyr en sy bruid weer by die Lotterings langs. „Hij verhaalde mij dat er dicht bij hem een zendeling van het Berlijnsche genootschap eene plaats had gekocht en er nu woonde, en dat het hem zoo aangenaam was”, skryf Hofmeyr. „De zendeling, eerw. Koboldt, is ons komen bezoeken, en ik ben ook bij hem geweest.” Uiteindelik vertrek Hofmeyr met twaalf osse van Lottering voor sy groot wa, en laat hy sy helper, Pieter Dempers, 'n rukkie daar agterbly met die ander waens en osse.

'n Jaar later bring eerw Hofmeyr nog 'n besoek aan „den zeer vriendelijken heer

### Ou Duitse Sendingkerk, Middelfontein.



### Piet Potgieter

Dit is al meer as dertig jaar gelede dat ek as 'n skoolseun die eerste keer op Middelfontein gekom het. Op 'n Sondagmiddag in die Voortrekker-eeufeesjaar, 1938, het 'n vyftigtal inwoners van Nylstroom die verlate graf van kommandant Piet Potgieter besoek en die oprigting van 'n gedenkteken bespreek. Kort daarna is die gedenkteken deur 'n span Voortrekkerseuns onder leiding van twee offisiere voltooi.

Op 9 Desember 1938 was ons weer daar om die Louis Trichardt-ossewa (wat tans by die Universiteit van Pretoria staan) te verwelkom. By die pasvoltooiden monument het die kommandant-generaal se skoondogter 'n gedenksteen gelê en is die oorspronklike leiklip-grafsteentjie teruggeplaas. Die hoogbejaarde oom Jan van Rensburg, wat as seun die touleier was van die wa wat die kommandant-generaal se lyk na Middelfontein vervoer het, het 'n krans op die graf gelê.

Ja, hier het Piet Potgieter gewoon, die seun van die groot Voortrekkerleier Andries Hendrik Potgieter. Die meeste reisigers weet van die monumentjie tussen die twee kameeldoringbome by Moorddrif, 'n ent verder langs die grootpad na die noorde. Daar is Piet Potgieter se oom, Hermanus Potgieter, en sy jaggeselskap in 1854 wreed deur die krygsmanne van die Bantoe-kaptein Mapela vermoor. Toe 'n Boerekommando kort daarna opruk om die moord te wreek, vlug Mapela na die bekende spelonke van kaptein Makapan, wat weier om hom uit te lewer.

In die grotte is die Bantoes lank deur die kommando onder aanvoering van Paul Kruger en Marthinus Wessel Pretorius beleër. Daar het Paul Kruger twee van die groot heldedade van sy loopbaan

Lottering” en vertel hy: „Die arme man heeft veel geleden van een inval in den nacht door de vijandige Kaffers van Mapela, die met duizenden op de plaats aanvielen. Er waren slechts vier of vijf weerbare mannen. Maar het gelukte hun, met Gods hulp, hen drie malen terug te slaan.”

### Eerw Koboldt

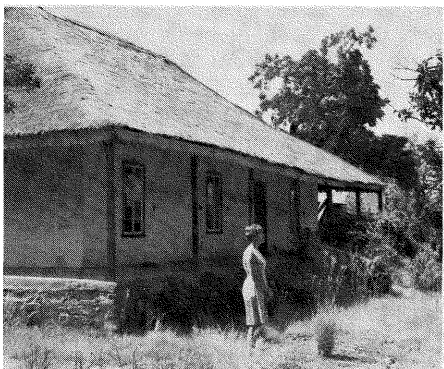
Hoe het die Duitse sendingstasie daar ontstaan? In 1867 het die direkteur van die Berlynse Sendinggenootskap ’n besoek aan Middelfontein gebring en het Gert Lottering ingestem om ’n perseel vir ’n sendingstasie af te staan. In Augustus 1867 het die 33-jarige eerw Adam Heinrich Koboldt daar aangekom om met die werk te begin. Omdat Koboldt die geskenkperseel as te klein beskou het, het hy kort daarna op sy eie verantwoordelikheid ’n aangrensende plaas gekoop. Dié plaas is twee jaar later deur die sendinggenootskap oorgeneem.

In Maart 1868 is die sendingstasie deur ’n rowerbende van Makapan aangeval – die aanval waarna eerw Hofmeyr hierbo verwys het. Die bende het ’n groot aantal vee weggevoer, maar danksy die bewarende hand van die Here is die sendelinge nie deur die koeëls gedood nie en is die stasie nie deur die brandende spiese aan die brand gestee nie.

Aan die begin het die sendeling nie veel aanmoediging van die Boere in die omgewing gekry nie, veral omdat hulle bang was dat hy van hulle beste werkvolk sou weglok. Deur sy rustige maar volhardende arbeid en deur sy hulp in tye van siekte het Koboldt egter geleidelik hulle toegeneentheid gewen. Met verloop van tyd het verskeie Bantoes hulle op die sendingplaas gevestig. Onder hulle was heelwat van die sogenaamde oorlamse volk, wat lank reeds vir blankes gewerk het en in ’n groot mate die taal en gewoontes van die blankes aangeneem het.

Die werk was reeds mooi op dreef toe eerw Koboldt in Februarie 1874 op 40-jarige leeftyd op die sendingstasie oorlede en begrawe is.

### Die ou sendingpastorie op Middelfontein, Let op die grasdak en die houtsnewerk.



### Eerw Beyer

Die volgende maand is sy plek deur eerw Emil Bernhard Beyer ingeneem. Hy het reeds 51 katkisanter en 50 skoliere daar aangetref. Omdat die klein gebou-tjie op die sendingstasie nouliks die helfte van die toehoorders kon bevat, het eerw Beyer dadelik die oprigting van ’n behoorlike kerkgebou – waarmee eerw Koboldt reeds ’n begin gemaak het – aangepak. Die netjiese kerk kon reeds in Julie 1877 in gebruik geneem word, sonder dat die sendinggenootskap nodig gehad het om enigiets daarvoor by te dra. In 1880 het eerw Beyer uit die diens van die Berlynse Sendinggenootskap getree ten einde daar naby op sy eie plaas Sandfontein te gaan boer en sendingwerk te doen. Later sou hy as sendeling van die Ned Geref Kerk op Mochudi werk.

### Eerw Krause

Na twee of drie ander sendelinge daar waargeneem het, het Middelfontein in Desember 1880 weer ’n vaste sendeling gekry in die persoon van eerw Paul Robert Oswald Krause. Slegs vyf maande na sy aankoms moes eerwaarde Krause sy vrou afgee en is die tweede blanke graf op die sendingstasie gegrawe.

Waterberg is in daardie jare dikwels deur malaria geteister. In die meeste ander opsigte was die sendelinge van Middelfontein egter beter daaraan toe as op ander sendingstasies. Hulle het in ’n redelik beskaafde omgewing gewoon en het in ’n steeds groter mate die vriendskap van die Boere in die omgewing gewen. Meermale het van die blankes die sendingdienste bygewoon.

Toe die sendingdirekteur, eerw H T Wangemann, in November 1884 die sendingstasie besoek het, was hy heel ingenome met wat hy daar aangetref het. By die erediens het hy oor die 400 toehoorders gehad. Na hy die rondte by die ander Duitse sendingstasies gedoen het, het hy na Middelfontein teruggekeer en is die eerste algemene vergadering van al die Berlynse sendelinge van Noord- en Oos-Transvaal daar gehou. Terselfdertyd is ’n konferensie van evangeliste gereël en is die eerste twee Bantoeleraars georden.

Kort daarna is die nuwe skoolgebou met twee klaskamers voltooi, en in 1888 is ’n nuwe woning vir die sending opgerig. Intussen het eerw Krause in Februarie 1886 ’n tweede huwelik met mej Lydia Kahl, ’n sendingonderwyseres, gesluit.

### Paul Kruger

In Oktober van dieselfde jaar, 1886, is die sendingstasie vereer deur ’n besoek van president Paul Kruger. Die staatspresident se reis het hom tot in Soutpansberg gevoer, waar hy eerw Hofmeyr ook ontmoet het.

Tien jaar later, in Oktober 1896, was die president weer daar. Van dié besoek het



Die skoolgebou is ook nog bruikbaar. Die deur met die boogvensters weerskante dui waarskynlik die oudste deel van die gebou aan.

’n breedvoerige beskrywing uit die pen van eerw Jensen bewaar gebly.

Die sendingstasie was feestelik versier met ’n ereboog, vlae, blommekranse- en stringe. Die president is met saluutskote en koorsang begroet. Sy aankoms was heel indrukwekkend, in die koets getrek deur agt perde en begelei deur ’n afdeling artilleriste. Nadat hy behoorlik verwelkom is en ’n rukkje gerus het, het hy ’n lang toespraak tot die gemeente gerig. Hy het die nag op die sendingstasie oorgebly.

President Kruger se toespraak vorm interessante leesstof, veral wat sy standpunt oor die sending en rasseverhoudings betref. (’n Breedvoerige verslag van die besoek en ’n opsomming van die toespraak is opgeneem in Die Sendingblad Desember 1967).

Tydens die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog het ’n dramatiese gebeurtenis hom op die sendingstasie afgespeel. Terwyl ’n groep Boere by die sendeling vertoef het, het ’n Britse patrolië onverwags daar opgedaag. Skote het geklap en ’n paar koeëls het die kerk en die pastorie getref. Van dié merke is vandag nog teen die mure sigbaar.

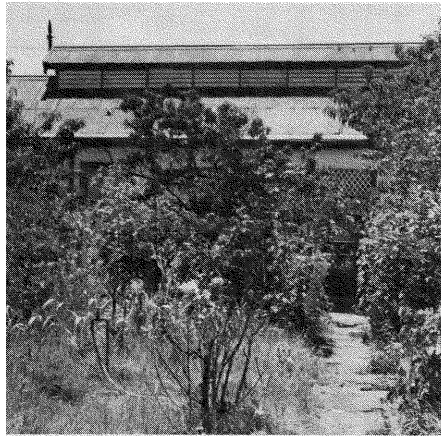
In die skermutseling is ’n Britse soldaat gewond. Hy is deur die sendinggesin verpleeg tot hy gesond was. As blyk van waardering het sy familie later ’n som geld aan die sendingstasie gestuur, wat aangewend is om die kerk van ’n toring te voorsien.

Na eerw Krause se dood het ander sendelinge gekom en gegaan. Die laaste sendeling wat op Middelfontein gewoon het, was eerw H O Zimmermann. Hy was egter vir sowel Potgietersrus as Middelfontein verantwoordelik en het meestal op Potgietersrus gewoon, terwyl ’n Bantoeleraar op Middelfontein gestasioneer was. Eerw. Zimmerman, wat in 1913 na Suid-Afrika gekom het, se dienstyd in daardie omgewing het in 1932 begin, maar is in 1935 en 1936 deur ’n verblyf in Duitsland onderbreek. Eerw. Zimmerman, wat pas verlede jaar oorlede is, is by sy aftrede deur sy broerskind opgevolg, maar dié het hom eweneens op Potgietersrus gevestig.

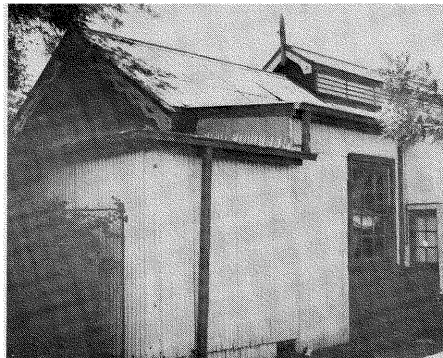
Aangesien Middelfontein eintlik 'n „swart kol” in 'n blanke gebied was, is sy Bantoebewoners twee of drie jaar gelede as 'n groep na 'n Bantoegebied naby Warmbad verskuif. As gevolg daarvan het Middelfontein opgehou om 'n volwaardige sendingstasie te wees. Die plaas behoort wel nog aan die sendinggenootskap, maar word aan 'n blanke boer verhuur. Net Kranskop staan nog onveranderd daar naby as die stille getuie van die geseënde werk van meer as 'n eeu.

*Die Voorligter*

In Parkstraat, Hatfield, Pretoria staan 'n besonderse ou sinkhuis. Dit was oorspronklik 'n Britse militêre gebou wat van Middelburg, Transvaal oorgeplaas is, en waarskynlik vanuit Indië as deel van Britse militêre toerusting na Suid-Afrika gebring is. Die huis is vermoedelik in 1880 vervaardig. Dit het 'n tipiese vollengte stoep aan die voorkant van die huis. Al die kamers loop op die stoep uit.



Agteraansig van die sinkhuis

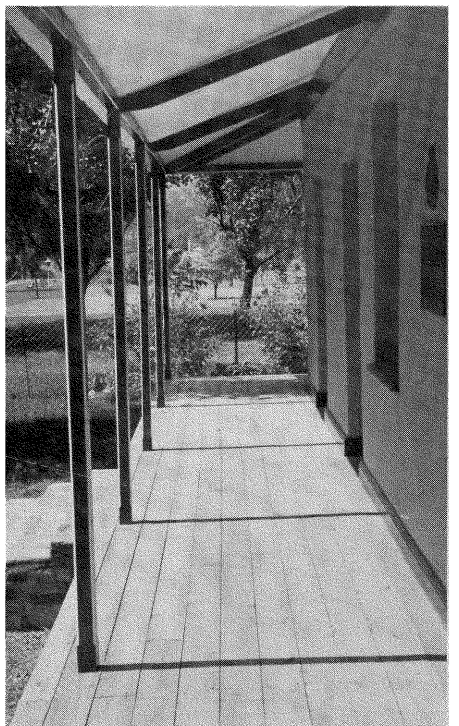
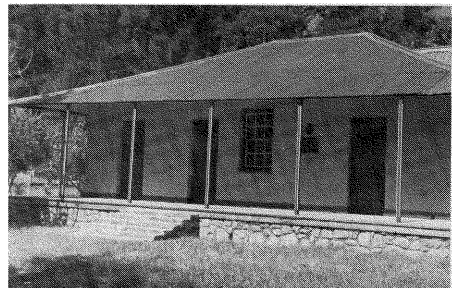
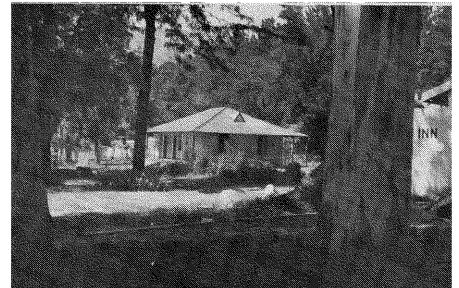
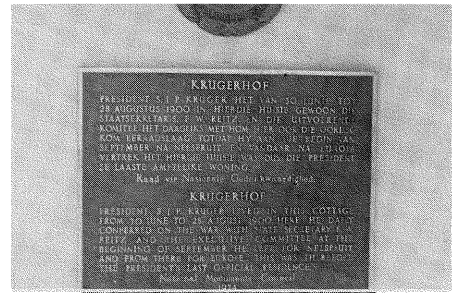


Die ou sinkhuis se besondere dak, gebou vir beter ventilasie



Krugerhof, Waterval-Onder, gerestoureer deur die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede

Foto's: Frans Fouché



STIGTING SIMON VAN DER STEL FOUNDATION

# Almanak 1977 Calendar

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel sal, in samewerking met Heer Drukkers, 'n almanak produseer met 'n pragtige reproduksie van Hannes Meiring se tekening van die Melrose-huis, Pretoria  
Hierdie almanak is teen betaling van R1,00 verkrygbaar van die Stigting, Posbus 1743 Pretoria 0001

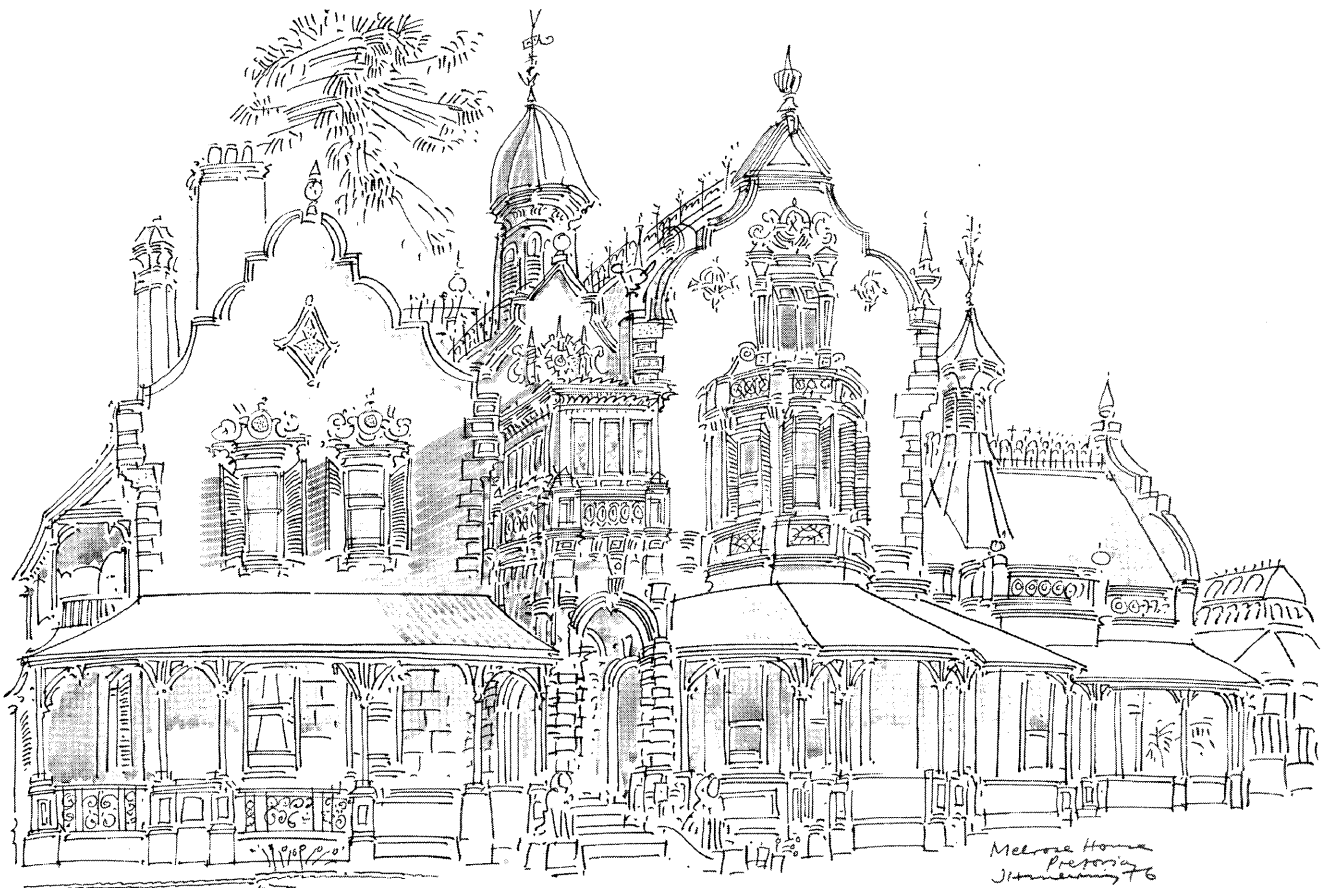
The Simon van der Stel Foundation will in collaboration with Heer Printing Co, produce a calendar with a beautiful reproduction of Hannes Meiring's drawing of Melrose House, Pretoria  
This calendar is available at R1,00 a copy from the Foundation, P.O. Box 1743, Pretoria 0001

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# Oranje-Vrystaat - Orange Free State

## Stigting kry nuwe tak in Vrystaat

Suid-Afrikaners moet hulle erfenis versorg as erbetoon aan hul voorgeslagte en as trust vir hulle nageslag, het mnr Willem Punt (jr), direkteur van die Stigting Simon van der Stel, gisteraand op die stigtingsvergadering van 'n Vrystaatse tak van die Stigting in die C R Swart-ouditorium by die Vrystaatse Universiteit gesê.

Hy het gesê dat daar baie meer bewaringswaardighede in Suid-Afrika is as wat die meeste mense dink. Die Stigting Simon van der Stel wil 'n landwye bewaringsbewustheid by Suid-Afrikaners kweek.

Die Stigting beywer hom nie net vir die bewaring van historiese geboue nie, maar ook vir natuurbewaring en landskapbewaring.

Die bewaring van historiese geboue gaan nie net oor die gebou self nie, maar oor wat die gebou vir die mens kan beteken. Ná die verkiesing van die bestuur het mnr Gawie Fagan, wat reeds groot bekendheid vir sy werk aan die Kasteel in Kaapstad verwerf en die Akademiese erpenning in 1975 ontvang het, verskeie aspekte van bewaring en restourasie in Suid-Afrika met kleurskyfies toegelig.

Die streekbestuur vir die Vrystaatse tak is: Prof Leon Roodt (Hoof, Departement Argitektuur, UOVS) as voorsitter, prof. A A F Teurlinckx (kunsgeskiedenis) as vise-voorsitter, mev L de Bruin (Suid-Afrikaanse vereniging van Universiteitsvroue) as sekretaresse en mnr André Bezuidenhout (LPR) as tesourier. Die 4 addisionele lede is mnr Willem Krogh van Kroonstad, mnr J W Cronje van die argief in Bloemfontein, dr A H Marais van die Departement Geskiedenis aan die Vrystaatse Universiteit en prof F D W van Zyl.

## Die ou Presidensie, Bloemfontein

L ROODT

Restourasiewerk aan die Ou Presidensie vorder stadig maar seker. Die beklemmende gevoel wat ontstaan by die gedagte dat die werk nog minstens 5 jaar in beslag sal neem, is hoofsaaklik ge-

koppel aan die feit dat die bedrewe vakmanne wat die werk tot dusver behartig het almal eersdaags op uittrede staan weens hulle gevorderde ouderdom. Daar is ook geen groot menslike reserwes waaruit die ambag van klipwerker vernuwing kan verwag nie.

Die werk van die afgelope 18 maande was hoofsaaklik gekonsentreer op die belangrike oosaansig waarin die meeste tydrowende sierelemente voorkom. Die huidige geslag vakmanne sal nog die gekompliseerde boogwerke voltooi wat 'n kenmerk is van die hoofingang.

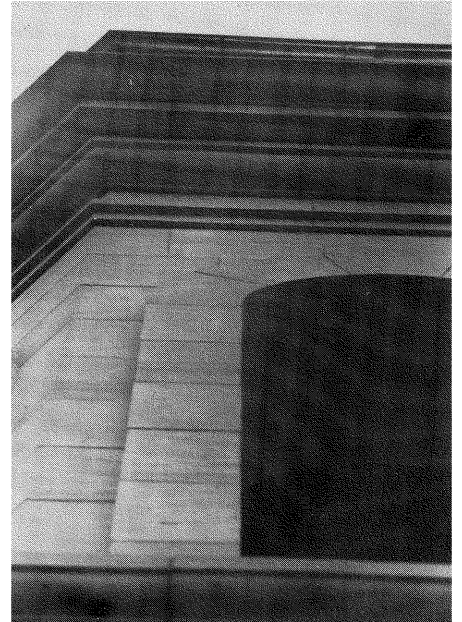
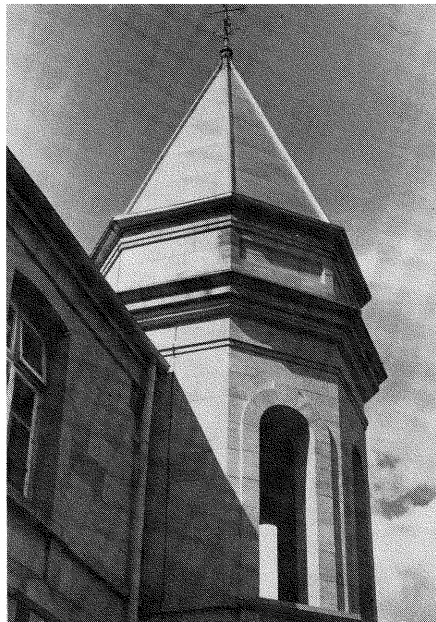
Alhoewel die hoofingangsboog oorspronklik vrydraend was, was die bobelasting van die struktuur sodanig dat die

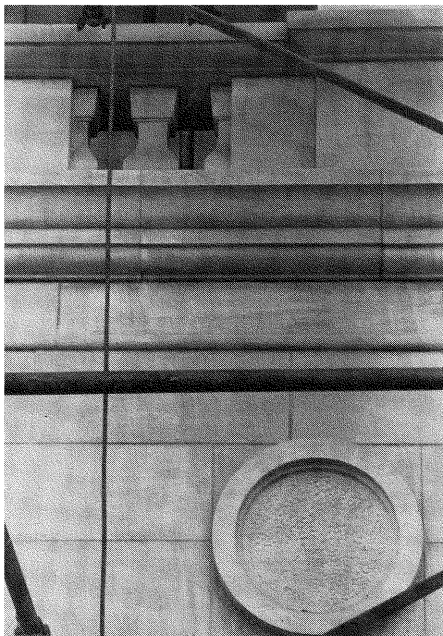
boog begin sak het en omstreeks 1888 verstewig moes word met 'n drieledige steunboog wat onder die hoofboog ingebou is. Aangesien die klipwerk wat die oorspronklike boog moes vervang aan dieselfde tekortkoming sou ly, moes 'n besluit geneem word om of die boog inwendig met staal te verstewig of om weer eens die ondersteunende boog in te bou. Daar is uiteindelik op laasgenoemde alternatief besluit deur die Departement Openbare Werke en is hierdie boë ook alreeds voltooi.

Wat die dak betref, is besluit om dit weer dieselfde profiel te gee as wat dit oorspronklik gehad het. Die kunsmatige verhoging van die dak wat ook omstreeks

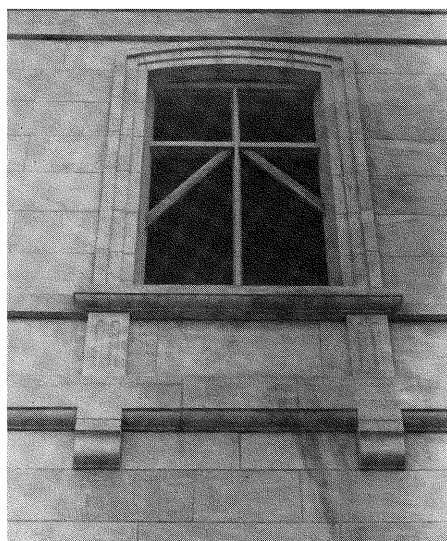
## Die ou Presidensie, Bloemfontein

Foto's: L Roodt



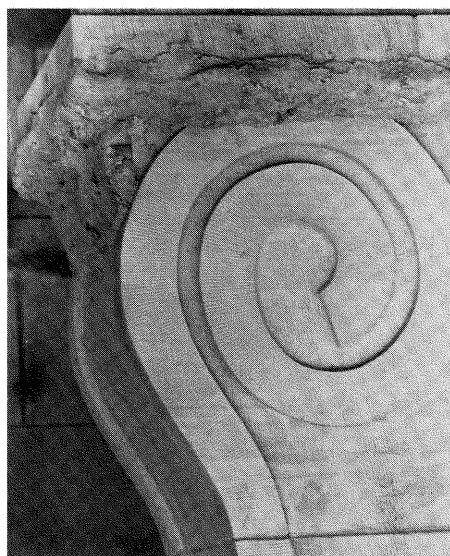
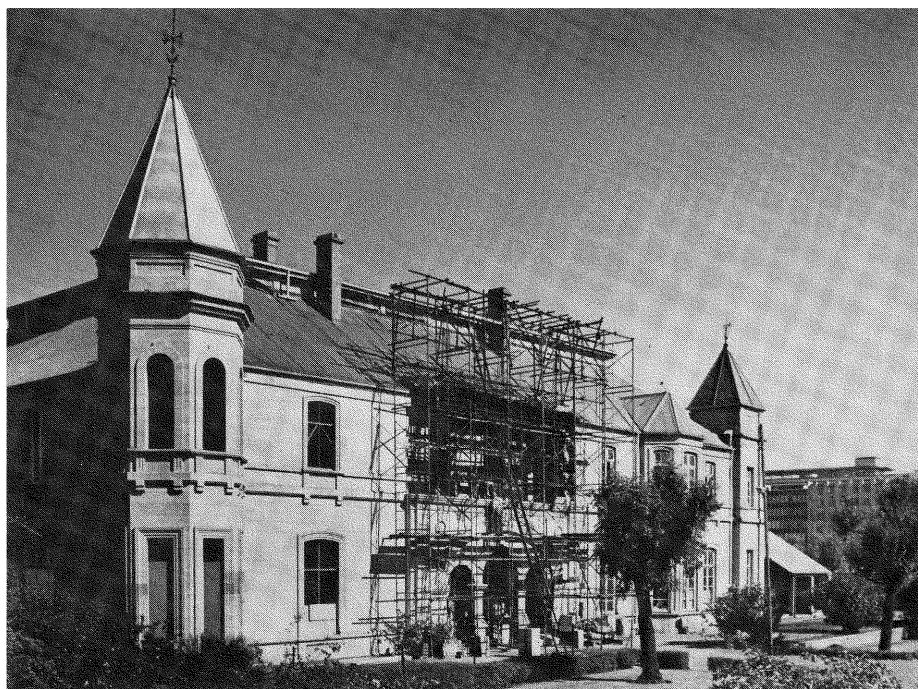


Uit die ruwe sandstene op die voorgrond word die mure weer tot vorige glorie herstel – soos die Suidtoring in die agtergrond. Op die twee rotsblokke lê 'n hamer wat gebruik word om die stene te bewerk *Foto: Jan Wessels*



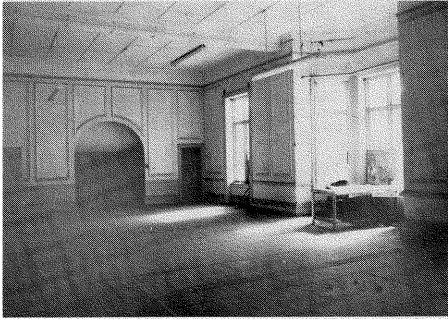
Foto's geneem vanaf die suide wat die gerestoureerde Suidtoring aantoon. Die portaal en balkon word tans behandel.

*Foto's: Jan Wessels*



Brandskade nadat 'n brand in die Huguenot-teater of Kleintheater van SUKOVS, wat destyds in die banketsaal ingerig was, meer as twee uur gewoed het. Gelukkig is dit deur die Bloemfonteinse brandweer beveg minute na aanmelding. Die gebou is gered toe vlamme reeds na die tweede verdieping begin deurdring het.

*Foto: Jan Wessels*

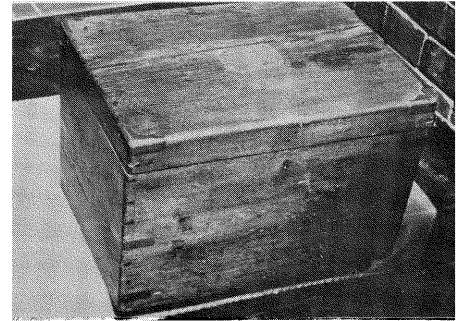


Die verlate vertrekke sal later herstel word. Hierdie vertrek is regs van die ingangsportaal en het as 'n sitkamer gedien.

Foto: Jan Wessels

1888 of 1890 aangebring is, was bedoel om reënwaterprobleme en klimaatsprobleme te bowe te kom en sal nou kontemporêre oplossings bekom sodat die oorspronklike daklynprofiel bewaar sal bly.

Die Ficksburg-sandsteen waarmee die werk tans uitgevoer word, is veel duur-samer as die Bayswater-sandsteen van weleer maar is gelukkig dieselfde kleur. Belangrike meublement is intussen aangekoop deur die Ou Presidensie-Stigting en die eindproduk behoort een van Suid-Afrika se mees interessante kulturele erfstukke te wees.



### Kan u help

... om hierdie eikehoutkissie te identifiseer?

Die kissie is ongeveer 15 jaar gelede in 'n rommelwinkel in Schubartstraat in Pretoria gekoop. Die afmetings is 49 cm x 34 cm x 32 cm. Daar is geen voering of afskortings binne-in nie.

WJP



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Established 1959

Simon van der Stel Foundation  
PO Box 1743, Pretoria 0001 RSA

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Dit is immers tog vir en deur u wat dit beskerm moet word.

### SOUTH AFRIKA SE NASIONALE HEEMSKUTVERENIGING

Opgerig 1959

Stigting Simon van der Stel  
Posbus 1743 Pretoria 0001 RSA



## Kaap - Cape

### National Councillors meet Chief Minister Sebe

On Saturday 3 April 1976 Simon van der Stel Foundation National Councillors, Dr S Meiring Naudé, Mr F D Conradie MEC, Mr J B C Roets and Mr I M Hoogenhout and the Foundation's Director Mr W J Punt and History Adviser Dr W H J Punt met the Chief Minister of the Ciskei, Mr Lennox Sebe in his office in King William's Town.

The visit was arranged as part of the Foundation's efforts to encourage conservation awareness among the top political leaders in the Homeland areas.

Mr Sebe welcomed the initiative taken by the Foundation and said he was very pleased that the Councillors and executives of the Foundation had taken the trouble to call on him personally. Mr Sebe said that he placed high importance on nature conservation and on the protection of historic relics, whether they be of White or Black cultural origins. He also wished to stimulate environmental improvement in Black urban areas by encouraging tree planting and respect for indigenous flora. Mr Sebe said he would welcome future advice and visits by the Foundation.

Dr Naudé thanked the Chief Minister for his warm welcome and friendly reception of the delegation and said that the Foundation would gladly render whatever assistance it practically could.

The visit to Mr Sebe was one of the highlights of a tour of the Border area arranged by Mr Eric Bigalke, director of the East London Museum for Foundation Councillors and their wives. As tour guides the visitors were privileged to have Mrs Barbara Charlton of the East London Museum and Mr Brian Randles of the King William's Town Museum.

The tour included: Gately House in East London, Fort Murray, the Mission Museum in King William's Town, Braunschweig, Frankfort and Berlin.

The prospect of restoration of Fort Murray was heartening, but the fate of the church at Braunschweig and the whole village of Frankfort, now that the populations had dwindled to a few for the former and nil for the latter, left the visitors saddened and perplexed. It heavily underscored the dilemma of the preservationists in the context of South Africa's general state of preparedness for historic and environmental conservation.

### Oos-Kapenaars praat oor hul erfenis

Tydens 'n goed bygewoonde en lewendige simposium oor bewaring, wat die Stigting op Donderdag 1 April 1976 in Oos-Londen aangebied het, het dit duidelik geblyk dat bewarings- en historiese erfenisbewustheid in die Grens geweldig toegeneem het.

Die simposium is geopen deur die Stigting se Nasionale Voorsitter, dr S Meiring Naudé. Mnr Willem Punt het as gespreksleier opgetree.

Mev M Rainier, historikus, het gesê dat bewaring belangrik is omdat daar grondige menslike redes voor bestaan. Die mens, het sy gesê, reageer op skoonheid, 'n emosionele belewing van 'n estetiese ervaring. Die vertroutheid met en mooiheid van ou geboue en omgewings verskaf 'n gesonde emosionele belewenis vir die mens. Tweedens is daar ook bloot wetenskaplike redes vir bewaring, het mev Rainier gesê. Dit is dan die tegniese en sosiologiese kennis wat te haal is uit die studie van bewaarde materiale en tegnieke en van wat uit geboue te leer is oor die leefwyses van vroeëre geslagte. Hieraan het mev Rainier toegevoeg dat bewaring ook belangrike positiewe ekonomiese implikasies het. Dit bly goedkoper om te bewaar as om te sloop en opnuut te bou en die meeste ou geboue kan vir hergebruik ingerig word.

Mnr T Webster, voorsitter van die Historiese Vereniging van Grens, het sy vereniging se werksaamhede toegelig en veral verwys na die vereniging se belangrike rol met betrekking tot die op rekord bring van plaaslike geskiedenis.

Pastor A A Brandt van die Duitse Setlaarsvereniging op King William's Town het besonder insiggewend gepraat oor die jammerlike toedrag van sake met betrekking tot Duitse setlaar-nedersettings, onder andere Braunschweig en Frankfort. Mnr B Randles, historikus van die King William's Town-museum het 'n oorsig gegee van fisiese oorblyfsels van Britse vestiging in die Grensgebied.

Ander sprekers en lede van die paneel was mnr B Watson, bekende Oos-Londense argitek en lid van die raad van die Oos-Londense Museum en die Stigting se Nasionale Ondervoorsitter, mnr F D Conradie LUK.

### The South African Missionary Museum King William's Town

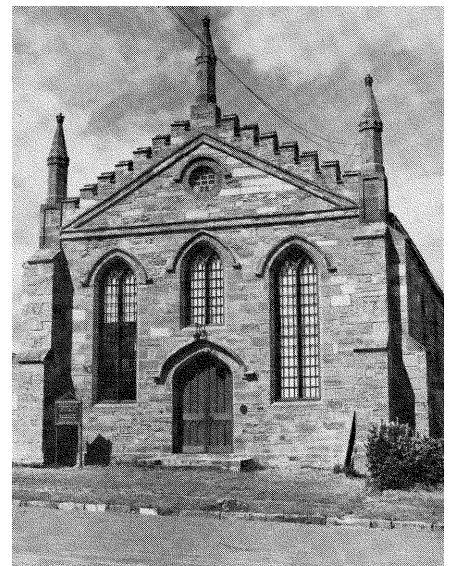
A MURRAY MCGREGOR  
Curator

Like so many other places in the Eastern Cape and the Transkei, the Borough of King William's Town took its origin in a mission station. This was in January 1826, when the Rev John Brownlee, a Scottish missionary in the service of the London Missionary Society, and his wife Catherine (born De Jager, of Swellendam) set up the Buffalo Mission with its church and house, the first dwelling for whites in what is today King William's Town. They selected a truly strategic spot for spreading the Gospel and the benefits of civilization, and ever since then King William's Town has been a centre of mission-work. Many famous mission institutions such as Lovedale, Mount Coke, St Matthew's, Healdtown, Emgwali are in the area whose centre is King William's Town.

For many years the Kaffrarian Museum in King William's Town had been building up a collection of basic missionary material with a view to establishing a Missionary Section of the Museum as a tribute to the work and example of

### The South African Missionary Museum, King William's Town

Photo: Frik Dreyer





the missionary pioneers of our land and their successors. Their chance came in 1972 when the company, Historical Homes of South Africa Limited, bought and restored the old Berkeley Street Church and offered it to the Board of Trustees of the Kaffrarian Museum for use as a Missionary Museum.

This church, erected in 1855 by the well-known Methodist missionary and church-patriarch, William Shaw, was used as a Wesleyan Church until 1894, when it was sold to the Baptist Church, who used it as a mission church. For over thirty years (1895-1925) the well-known missionary, the Rev C W Pearce, was the minister in this church, doing mission work here and in the 29 preaching-posts, mostly started by him, in the districts outside. In 1967 when the Group Areas Act was applied here the African congregation had to leave the church, which then stood vacant for five years, until it was rescued by the Historical Homes Company. In June 1973 visitors were first allowed into the Museum.

## German relics in the East Cape

Queen Victoria's Secretary for War, Lord Panmure, recruited German mercenaries to fight in the Crimean War. After the war the mercenaries (known as the British German Legion) were sent with their wives and children as military settlers to British Kaffrarian, the area beyond the frontier of the Cape Colony which is now the Ciskei. They arrived at Panmure (now East London) in 1857. Sir George Grey, Governor of the Cape Colony, persuaded the British Government to agree to a scheme of assisted emigration of Settlers, mostly agriculturalists and general labourers, from the Prussian provinces of the Uckermark and Pomerania. These German Settlers, who were attracted from European feudalism by the promise of ownership of land and homes of their own, arrived in British Kaffrarian in 1858 and 1859.

The families of both the German Legionaries and the German Immigrants suffered great hardship in those early days. At first the German Settlers were provided with tents until they built their settler homes which had sod-walls under thatch without ceilings. Due to the primitive conditions many of the babies and children died of pneumonia and other illnesses. Gardens were cultivated with wooden staves or wooden ploughs. Those Settlers who could not afford draught animals pulled the ploughs themselves. Produce fetched pitifully low prices. One of the Settlers was reduced by hunger to eating his own dog.

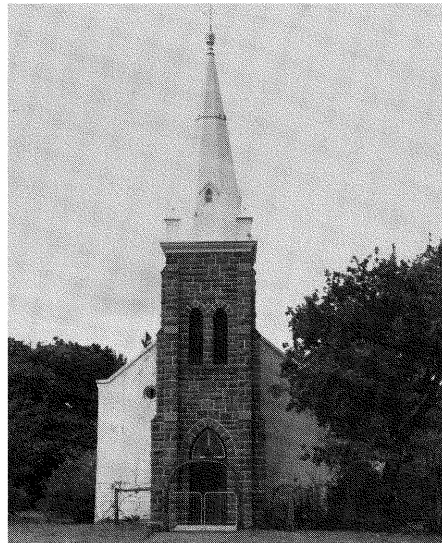
There were no pastors or teachers, the children were illiterate and spiritual life suffered.

Gradually conditions improved. Schools and Churches were built. Church and home became the focal points of communication where news was exchanged, sorrows and joys were shared and pleasure derived. Today many of the descendants of the Settlers still speak German in their homes and the Lutheran Church in the Ciskei still conducts services in German.

The German cultural heritage in the Ciskei is now threatened with extinction. Land and property occupied by German Settlers and their descendants is being purchased for the Xhosa Homeland. Old homes, churches, cemeteries, schools, trading stores and even entire villages are being abandoned. Greedy antique dealers snatch up what remains of the German cultural heritage and scatter

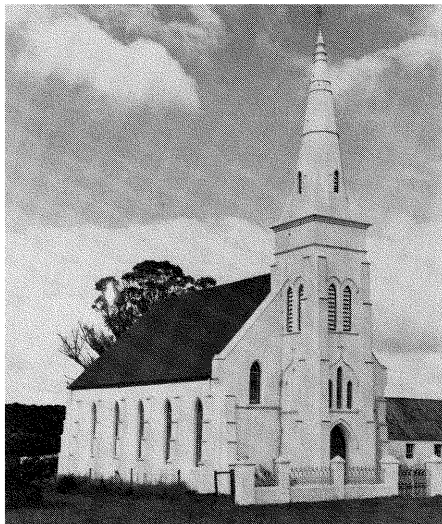
**Lutheran Church, Frankfort**

Photo: *Frik Dreyer*



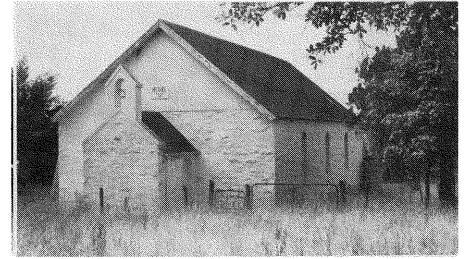
**Lutheran Church, Braunschweig**

Photo: *Frik Dreyer*



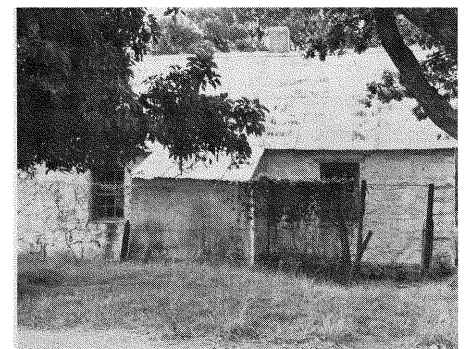
**First Baptist Church in South Africa, Frankfort**

Photo: *Frik Dreyer*



**Die weduwe Schröder se huis in die hoofstraat, Frankfort**

Foto's: *Frik Dreyer*



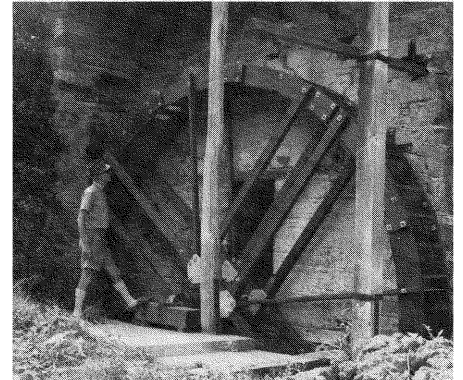
these items throughout South Africa – leaving the area where they belong barren and bare.

A German Settlers Association has recently been formed in King William's Town. Quick action can still save sufficient relics to preserve the cultural history of three generations of courageous German Settlers and pass it on to future generations.

The German Settlers Association  
C/o The Kaffrarian Museum  
King William's Town 5600

**Gerestoureerde Bradshaw-wolmeul, Bathurst. Die meulwiel is deur mnr Geoff Palmer gebou en geïnstalleer. Die meulwielput en afleivoer is deur mnr T Fitzgerald gerestoureer.**

Foto's: *Frik Dreyer*



## **Bradshaw-Wolmeul, Bathurst**

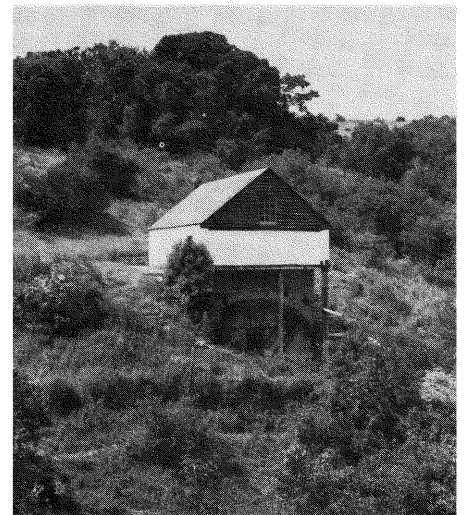
Hierdie belangrike projek van die Stigting het nog 'n stap gevorder met die onlangse installering van 'n meulwiel. Die meulwiel is deur mnr Geoff Palmer gebou en geïnstalleer. Die meulwielput en afleivoer is gerestoureer deur ons ere-opsigter by die Meul, mnr Terence Fitzgerald.

Aangesien dit nie prakties was om te probeer om 'n eksakte replika van Bradshaw se oorspronklike meulwiel te maak nie, het ons dit goedgevind om 'n moderne weergawe van 'n ou tipe meulwiel te maak met afmetings wat by die meul en sy fisiese aanduidings pas. Die wiel is 4,57 m in deursnit en die as is 61 cm in deursnit. Met die oog op duursaamheid is chanfuta-hout vir die wiel en yarra-hout vir die as gebruik met gegalvaniseerde yster-hegplate. Hoewel die wiel tans nog "te nuut" lyk, sal die werking van die water en die weer mettertyd 'n natuurlik verouderde voorkoms meebring.

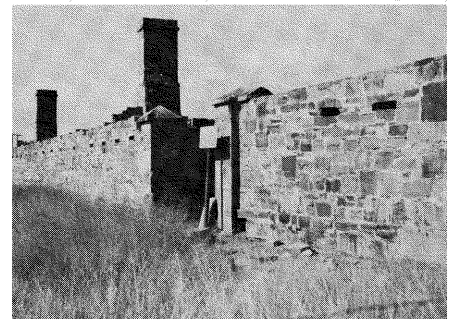
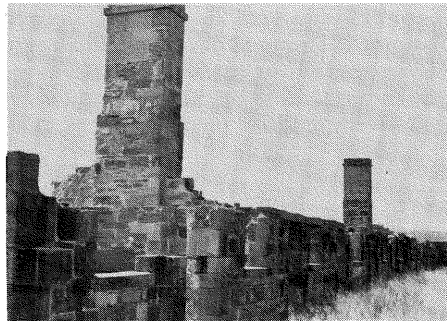
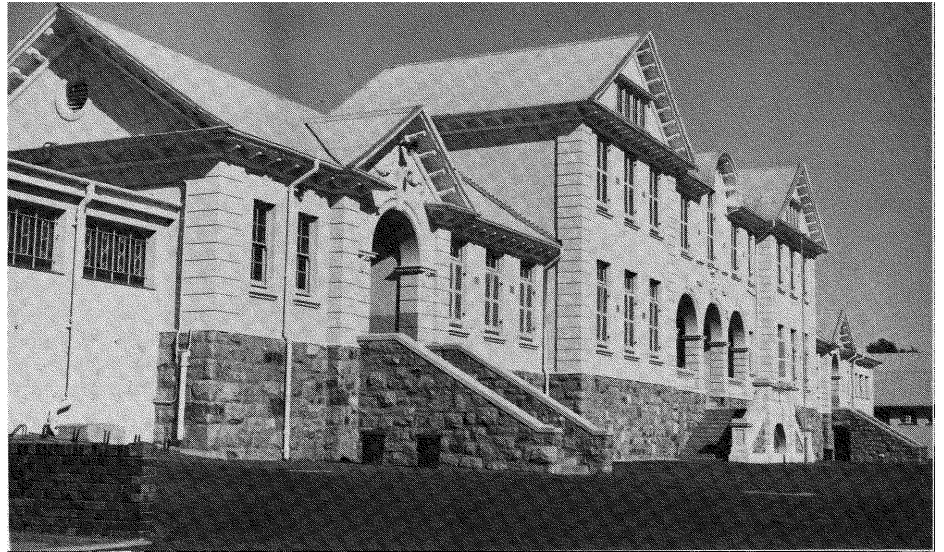
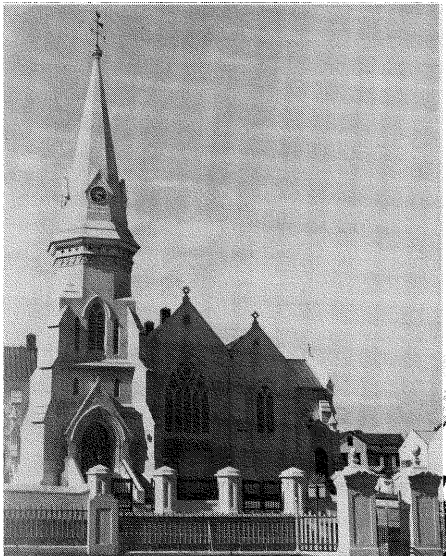
Die volgende stap in die projek is die herstel van die watertoevoer deur die oorspronklike ou meulsloot, wat nog duidelik waarneembaar is, plek-plek oop te grawe en die watertoevoer uit die standhoudende spruit weer te herstel. Daarna sal die fondse vir die aankoop van 1820-tipe Engelse wolmeulmasjinerie gevind moet word. Ons weet reeds waar ons dit in Brittanje kan kry. Dan sal die boonste (3e) verdieping as 'n klein museum ingerig word. Hiervoor moet nog R5 000 gevind word.

Die moontlikheid om later ook weer 'n wolwassery en wolkampek in te rig, word in gedagte gehou. Dan sal Samuel Bradshaw se Kersey-stof en woldekens miskien weer gemaak kan word!

Die stigting is besonder dankbaar teenoor mnr Palmer en Fitzgerald en lede van die Lower Albany Historical Society vir hul volgehoue belangstelling in die Bradshaw-meul. Sonder hulle sou dit inderdaad moeilik wees vir ons om steeds met hierdie pragtige projek te vorder.



**King William's Town  
in Beeld**



**Fort Murray naby Mount Coke, King William's Town en Oos-Londen. Hierdie Britse verdedigingspos is tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid verklaar. Restourasieplanne word deur bewaringsbewustes in King William's Town onder leiding van mnr Brian Randles gesmee**

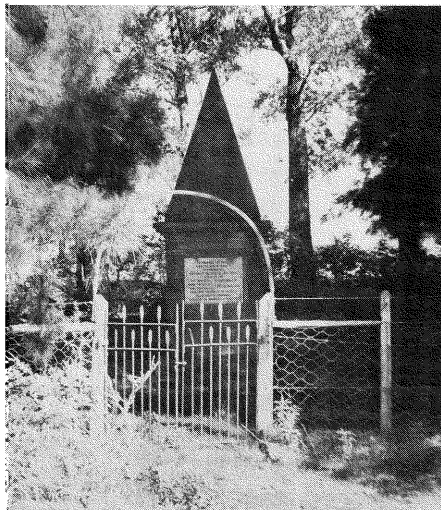
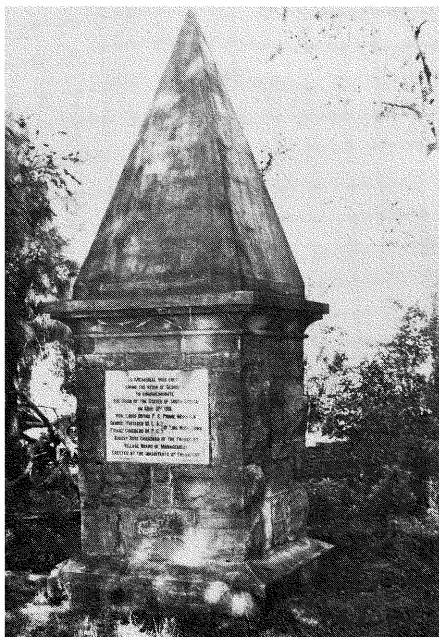
*Foto's: Frik Dreyer*



## UNIEKE MONUMENT – OOK VERLORE?

Uniewordingsgedenkteken te Frankfort  
naby King William's Town

Foto's: W King



## Restoration - with a difference - in the Eastern Cape

A S BASSON

Chairman

Lower Albany Historical Society

Some fifteen miles east of Bathurst stands a little church at Cuylerville (named after General Jacob Cuyler). It is well off the main road and is notable because of the fine defence put up during the 7th and 8th Xhosa Wars. There is also an old cemetery. The church is a National Monument but its condition had deteriorated and was causing concern. There again a man, of Bathurst this time, stepped forward and offered to restore the church on similar terms to those offered by Mr Palmer. The result is a very impressive restoration and an extension of the life of the Church for a long time. Mr Acton also worked for many months on St John's Church, Bathurst. These two men deserve the highest praise for the services they have performed, and one hopes that others will be inspired by their achievement.

## Veremarksaal Port Elizabeth

In teenstelling met die bohaai oor die slooping van die wesfasade van Kerkplein in Pretoria gaan daar omtrent geen stemme op vir die behoud van die Veremarksaal in die Baai nie. Die een rede is glo dat die ou saal vir die Geskiedkundige Vereniging argitektonies onaanloklik is. Die ander is dat 'n groot saal in elk geval deel sal uitmaak van die burgersentrum wat in die middestad van Port Elizabeth opgerig gaan word. Daar is darem 'n moontlikheid dat die

saal óf in sy geheel óf gedeeltelik bewaar sal bly, maar dis onwaarskynlik dat hy vir sy huidige doel gebruik sal word. Sy toekomst sal eers finaal bepaal word by die uitslag van 'n wêreldwye wedstryd vir argitekte om die beplanning van die beoogde burgersentrum te bepaal.

Om onbekende redes is daar maar baie min oor die „kussingfabriek”, soos Rod Mckuen nou die dag gespot het, geskryf. Selfs die doel van die gebou, 'n soort kruis tussen 'n stasie en 'n marksaal, is volgens Alf Porter, 66, die man wat die meeste weet, onbekend.

Alf is die voormalige stadsbibliotekaris van Port Elizabeth. Sedert sy aftrede in 1963 is hy bibliotekaris van die Africanadeel van die biblioteek.

Hy vertel dat dit onseker is wanneer met die bouery begin is, maar dit was waarskynlik in 1881. „Die gebou was in elk geval in 1883 in aanbou, want daar het in dié jaar 'n skets van die saal in 'n koerantjie verskyn waar dit nog in aanbou was,” vertel hy.

„Ons is nie heeltemal seker waarvoor die saal gebou is nie, maar ek meen hy is gebou om die ou oggendmark, wat destyds op die plein gehou is, te vervang, hoewel hy nie sover ek weet veel vir die doel gebruik is nie.

„Waarvan ons wel seker is, is dat die gebou in 1885 voltooi was, want die Suid-Afrikaanse uitstalling van Desember 1885 tot Januarie 1886 is daarin gehou. Dit was 'n soort landboutoonstelling waaraan al vier die destydse republieke deelgeneem het.

„Omtrent dieselfde tyd het die museum ook uit die stadsaal na die veremarksaal getrek. Dit was daar gehuisves totdat die huidige museum in Birdstraat in 1918 voltooi is.

„Veral vanaf 1894, toe die orrel aangekoop is, het die saal ook baie met die kultuurlewe in die stad te doen gehad. Roger Ascham is in die jaar as stadsorrelis aangestel. Hy het tot in 1934 met sy dood die pos beklee en goed oor 'n duisend uitvoerings gegee,” vertel Alf. Die saal se naam dateer uit die bloeytydperk van die volstruisvere toe daar elke Maandag, Dinsdag en Woensdag dwarsdeur die jaar volstruisvere opgeveel is. Destyds het 'n pond vere tot R250 gehaal en 'n volstruismannetjie R2 000.

En dit was nog daardie dae se geld. Die tydperk het van die vroeë jare tagtig gehou tot die modes in 1914 verander het.

Alf vertel dat daar ook 'n hele paar historiese vergaderings in die saal gehou is, onder meer toe Joseph Chamberlain in 1903 hier was.

Sedert die Eerste Wêreldoorlog dien die saal nog altyd die tweeledige doel van vermaaklikheids- en kultuurplek. Aan die een kant is dit al die groot boks- en stoeligevegte en besoekende popkunste-naars, en aan die ander kant ernstige musiek soos die SAUK-orkes wat daar optree.

Alf vermag nie veel teenkanting teen die moontlik sloping nie. „Dis ’n argitektonies onaantreklike saal en ek glo nie die Geskiedkundige Vereniging sal beswaar hê nie. Daar is wel beswaar van musiek-liefhebbers omdat die saal die enigste oorblywende groot saal vir musiek-uitvoerings is, maar as daar ’n groot saal in die nuwe burgersentrum is, sal dié besware seker verdwyn,” sê hy.

*Rapport*, 14 September 1975

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel en die Instituut van Argitekte in Port Elizabeth skenk dringende aandag aan die saak.  
*Redakteur*

## Two houses declared monuments

Initiators of moves to have houses in Cora Terrace, Port Elizabeth, proclaimed national monuments expressed surprise that only two houses of seven in the lane were proclaimed in the Government Gazette.

They are Mr Arthur Gregory, who was the first to renovate his house in the then derelict area, and Dr J B Scott, chairman of the Port Elizabeth Historical Society, which applied to the National Monuments Council for the houses to be proclaimed.

According to a notice in the Gazette, Mr Gregory's home, 9 Cora Terrace, and 7 Cora Terrace, which belongs to Mr K White, are outstanding examples of Victorian architecture and contribute to the traditional aspect of this particular part of the city.

### Deeds

Mr Gregory said he felt the proclamation was the crowning of work he began when he bought the old house in 1961 and began restoring it.

Mr Gregory's house has title deeds dating from 1831 but its exact age has not been determined.

He said he had asked the society to apply for all seven houses in the terrace and a wall running opposite them between Cuyler and Bird streets to be proclaimed. Dr Scott said he did not know why only two houses had been proclaimed. Their owners had complied with various requirements of the National Monuments Council and balconies on four houses had been demolished because they did not conform with Victorian style. He said he would ask the council why only two houses were proclaimed.

The houses in Cora Terrace originally belonged to Mr Henry Watson Henderson, who bought the site in 1831 for R18. A proviso was made that he should erect a substantial dwelling within 18 months.

Henderson was killed in the Xhosa uprising of Christmas Eve, 1834, at the Clay Pits, near Grahamstown.

The plot was on the border of what was then the military reserves. It is believed the houses were built for officers at Fort Frederick, overlooking the Baakens Valley in Port Elizabeth.

*Eastern Province Herald*, Nov 15, 1975

### Editor's note

We asked Mr George Hofmeyr, secretary of the National Monuments Council to comment. Mr Hofmeyr said that since the Gregory and White homes were declared, further homes have been recommended for declaration. However two of the owners have to date not responded to the National Monuments Council's request for their acceptance of declaration. Mr Hofmeyr pointed out that it was not NMC policy to declare buildings to be national monuments without the owners's consent.

## Boberg kies nuwe streekkomitee

Op Maandag 17 Maart 1976 het lede van die Stigting in die Franschhoek-, Paarl-, Wellington-gebied op 'n goed bygewoonde algemene vergadering in die KWV se wysaal op Paarl 'n nuwe streekkomitee vir 1976 gekies. Die streekkomitee is soos volg saamgestel:

Voorsitter: mnr D J M Jordaan; Ondervoorsitter: mnr D Diedericks; Sekretaris-penningmeesteres: mej H Louw; Lede: mnr Kobus Meiring LPR, mev M Bauermeister, mnr D Opperman, mnr J v d S Uys, mev J de Villiers, mnr P Badenhorst, mev H van Vuuren, mnr C Hofmeyr.

Die gasspreker was prof dr Dirk Kotze wat besonder interessant en onderhoudend gepraat het oor die argitektoniese nalatenskap van die sendingbeweging in die Kaapprovinsie.

Die Stigting se direkteur, mnr Willem Punt, het een en ander meegedeel oor die jongste stand van sake betreffende die Stigting, waarna 'n film vertoon is.

Die aand is afgesluit met 'n kaas- en wynonthaal.

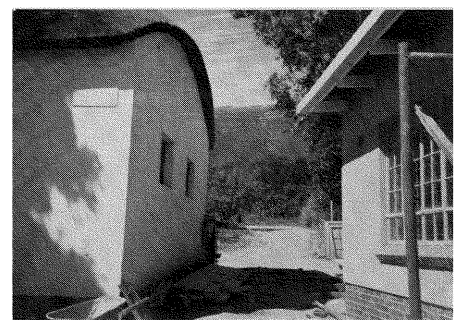
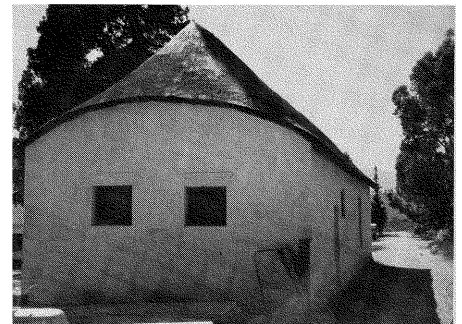
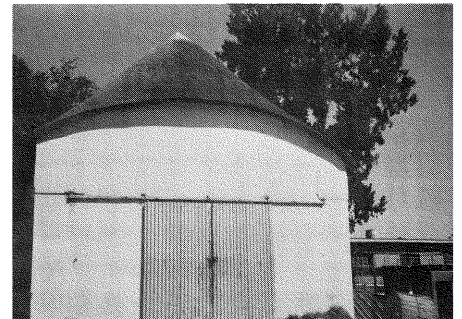
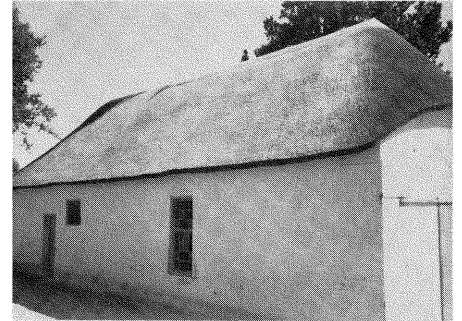
## Steinthal, Ryse sending by Tulbagh

Die ou (1825-1850) skoolgebou by die Steinthal-Kinderhuis van die NG Sendingkerk in SA, is gedurende 1974 van 'n nuwe rietdak voorsien. Die kappe met penne en rouriemhegting is egter nog die oorspronklike. Die mure en vensters,

een deur en die plafonbalke is ook nog van ouds.

Die gebou gaan as biblioteek ingerig word sodra die oorblywende restourasiewerk afgehandel is. Daarvoor moet egter nog die fondse gevind word, berig die direkteur van die Steinthal-Kinderhuis, ds M J N van Zyl. Belangstellendes kan aan hom skryf by Posbus 17, Tulbagh 6820.

WJP



## Besoek aan erfgoed

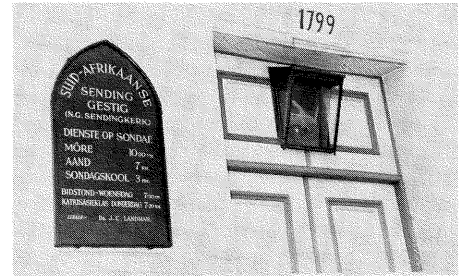
Lede van die Kaapstadse streek van die Stigting het onlangs die geleentheid gekry om die plaas Diemersdal van mnr en mev M M Louw in Durbanville te besoek. Een en ander oor die geskiedenis daarvan is aan die besoekers meegedeel. Die plaas is in 1698 aan Hendrik Sneewind uitgegee. Sy weduwee is getroud met 'n kolonel Diemer – vandaar die naam.

Die plaaswerf vorm 'n pragtige reghoek met die huis, buitegeboue, arbeidershuise – alles netjies bymekaar met blom-

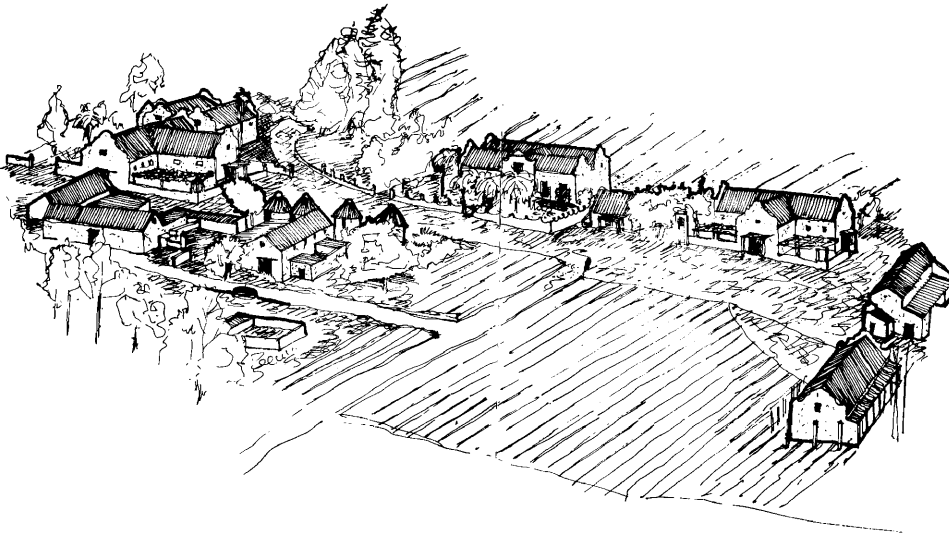
tuine, groentetuine en vrugtebome, soos op bygaande skets van S. Bolnik gesien kan word.

Mevrou Gwen Mills, skakelbeampte van die Stigting in Kaapstad, het as gids opgetree. Besoek is ook gebring aan die ou plaas Eversdal en die All Saints-kerk. By die N.G. Kerk is die silwerdoopbak gemaak deur Wilhelm Lotter aan die lede gewys, asook die twee Nagmaalsbekers van Lawrence Twentymen.

Die sketse in die pragtige brosjure wat by die geleentheid aan die lede gegee is, is gemaak deur mnr S. Bolnik, argitek en lid van die Stigting.



### 'n Skets van die plaaswerf van Diemersdal, Durbanville deur S Bolnik



## Breestraat 90 - Kaapstad

Aktiewe lid en medewerker van die Stigting, mev Joan Kantey, stadsraadslid van Kaapstad, het onlangs met 'n mosie in die raad geslaag om positiewe aandag op Breestraat 90 te vestig.

Die stad se werkekomitee gaan ondersoek instel en verslag doen oor die bruikbaarheid en restaurasiemoontlikhede van hierdie pragtige Georgiëanse gebou.

Mev Kantey het gesê dat R10 000 vir voorlopige herstelwerk nodig is om die gebou as pakhuis bruikbaar te maak. 'n Verdere R60 000 sal nodig wees vir volledige restaurasie en omskepping in 'n

kantoorgebou wat lonend verhuur kan word.

Die gebou is van ongeveer 1830, hoewel die grond reeds in 1768 aan Jan Serrurier toegewys is. In 1776 verkry D G van Reenen dit, later W van Reenen en daarna Matthias Taute.

Breestraat 90 is volledig bewaringswaardig as ekonomiese projek en vir sy belangrikheid as skakel in die fasadebeeld van daardie deel van Breestraat.

Die Stigting vertrou dat die behoud en restaurasie van Breestraat 90 spoedig werklikheid sal word.

WJP

## Sendinggestig het nog 'n bestemming

As die Suid-Afrikaanse Sendinggestig in Langstraat, Kaapstad, gerestoureer word, sal dit nie net as museum dien nie, maar ook as 'n sentrum vir bespreking en sal dit as bymekaarkomplek vir interkerklike samewerking voortbestaan.

Só het prof P J J S Els van die Teologiese Skool van die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland onlangs gesê by die begin van

'n veldtog om R470 000 in te samel om die gebou van sloping te red deur dit te koop en te restoreer.

Die voorsitter van die geldinsamelingsveldtog, mnr Pat Tebbutt, het gesê die eienaar van die Sendinggestig het 'n opsie vir die verkoop daarvan verleen, maar dit verstryk binnekort. Die opsie kan verleng word, maar kan nie vir altyd oop gehou word nie.

In 1799 het die Londense en Rotterdamse Sendinggenootskappe gesamentlik vier sendelinge na Suid-Afrika gestuur. In dieselfde jaar het hulle Het Zuid-Afrikaansch Genootschap ter Bevordering van die Uitbreiding van Christus' Ryk gestig. Die Sendinggestig is in 1804 vir die genootskap voltooi. Johan Godfried Mocke was die bouer en Joseph van Schalkhoven die skrynwerker.

Argitektonies is die gebou uniek. Dit het die enigste oorblywende Korinthise pilasters van pleister en staandak van kalkbeton in die Kaap. As voorbeeld uit die Bataafse Tydperk (1803–1806) is dit al kerkgebou wat wesentlik onveranderd bly staan het.

Die kerk het nog sy oorspronklike preekstoel, in die styl van Anton Anreith uit 1824, orrel en ingevoerde eikehoutbanke. Die gemeente van die Sendinggestig is in 1937 amptelik by die NG Sendingkerk ingelyf. Teen die laat sestigerjare het dit vir die gemeente duidelik geword dat hulle nie die geld gehad het om die gebou te restoreer nie. Oproepe om geld was sonder welslae en in 1970 is dit aan die eienaar van die aangrensende hotel verkoop.

Die geld wat op die manier verkry is, sal gebruik word vir 'n nuwe kerkentrum in Belhar, Bellville-Suid, wat ook as sinodesaal vir die NG Sendingkerk sal dien.

Die ameublement is nie saam met die gebou verkoop nie. 'n Ouderling en scriba van die gemeente, mnr I J van der Ventel, sê die kerkraad het dit as bydrae vir die toekomstige museum geskenk.

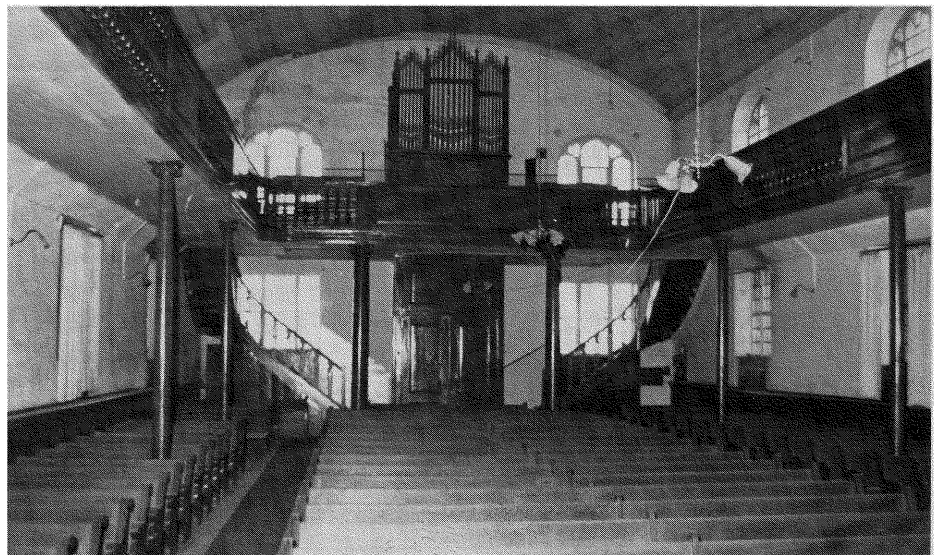
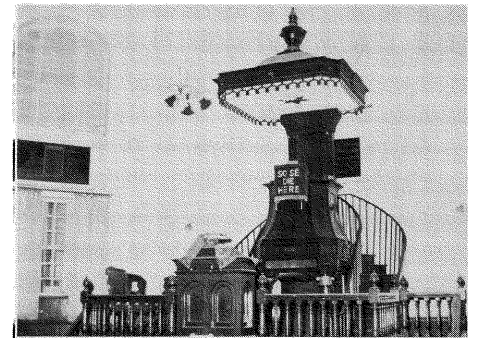
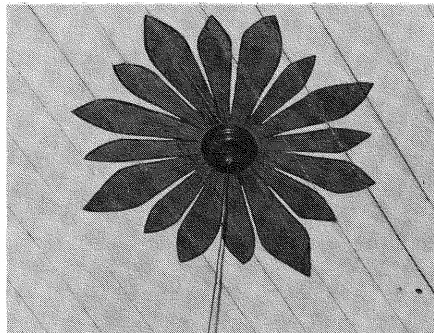
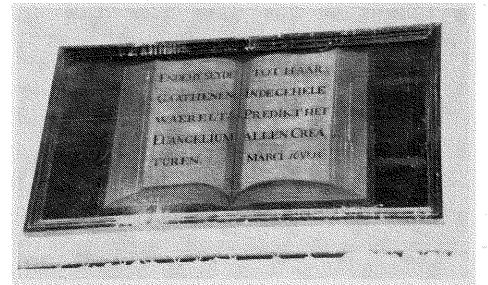
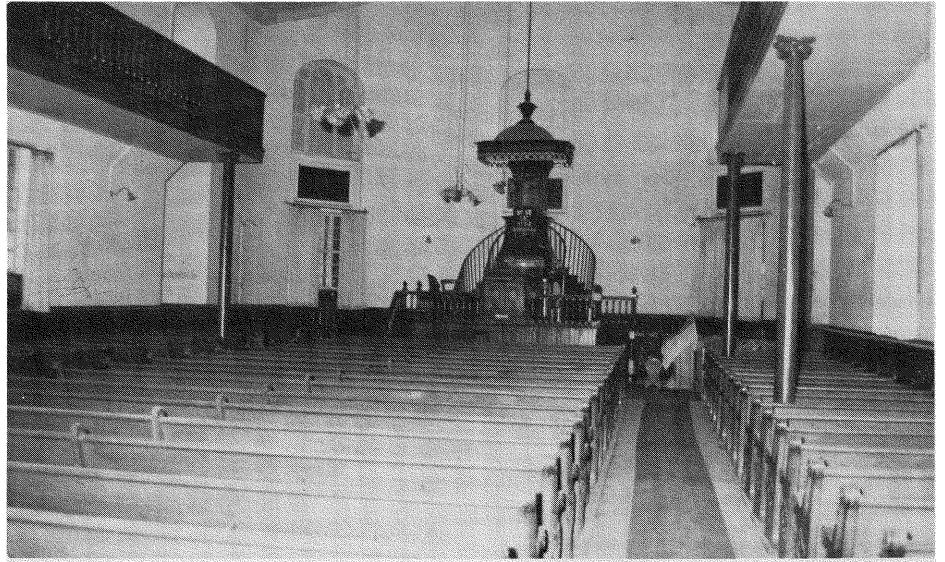
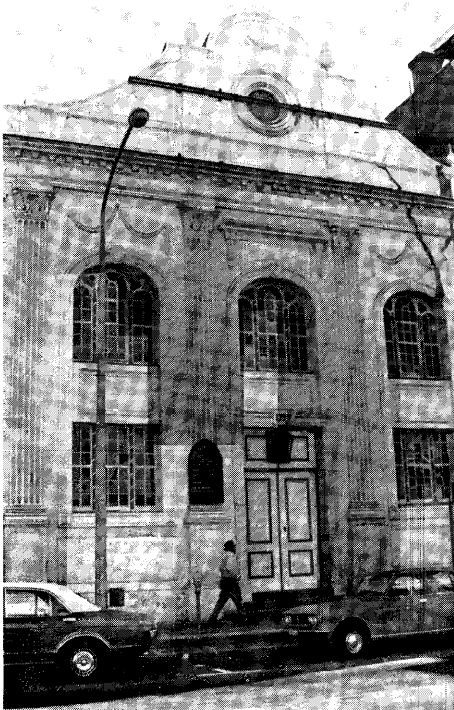
Die Sendinggestig is tot 24 Julie vanjaar bevries deurdat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede dit voorlopig tot monument geproklameer het. Die proklamasie kan moontlik verleng word.

Die Raad het 'n bedrag van R10 000 aan die Trustfonds belowe. Daar word ook gehoop dat die Provinsiale Administrasie 'n stewige bydrae sal lewer.

Die Burger, 6 Mei 1976



Die Sendinggestig, Langstraat, Kaapstad  
Foto's: M W Marsh



## Planne aanvaar

Die restourasieplanne vir die voorkant van die geskiedkundige gebou op die hoek van Strand- en Breëstraat, wat volgens kenners 'n VOC-pakhuis was, is onlangs deur die Kaapse stadsraad se plannekomitee goedgekeur.

Volgens 'n verslag van die departement van die stadsingenieur is die veranderinge aan die Strandstraatse kant van die gebou aanvaarbaar omdat dit in ooreenstemming is met die karakter van die aangrensende Lutherse kerkkompleks en die gebou self. Die res van die voorkant moet so na as moontlik aan die oorspronklike gerestoureer word.

Die gebou moet volgens die verslag wat geveerf word en advertensies aan die Strandstraatse kant sal aan spesiale beheer onderhewig wees en deur die stadsingenieur goedgekeur moet word. 'n Vertoonvenster aan die Breëstraatse kant van die ou gebou is goedgekeur, onderworpe aan sekere wysiginge. Die venster is nodig omdat die gebou gebruik sal word deur 'n onderneming wat uitlaattelsels en bande vir motors verskaf.

*Die Burger*, 18 Maart 1976

## The slow death of Table Mountain

TONY SPENCER-SMITH

A shock map showing how Cape Town's magnificent Table Mountain could be devastated within 75 years by a monotonous blanket of alien vegetation is contained in a major report released by the University of Cape Town. The report tells a sorry tale of how man, by meddling with the ecology of the mountain, has unleashed forces which he will be hardpressed to control.

### The Conquerors

The alien plants – which include pines, hakeas and acacias – are conquering the indigenous vegetation at an alarming rate.

The CSIR asked UCT's botany department to make an urgent conservation survey of the mountain, which is a national monument. The project was under the overall supervision of Dr Eugene Moll, a botanist well known for his extensive conservation work in Natal.

He is now senior lecturer in plant ecology at UCT. Most of the field work and the data analysis was done by the co-author of the report, Mr B M Campbell. The report says the mountain is a world-renowned geographical landmark with extremely rich, unique and beautiful natural flora.

The Cape Peninsula has more species of plants than Britain and 15 per cent are

found on Table Mountain. The flora of the South Western Cape is unique. It comprises an entire floral kingdom – and there are only six of these kingdoms in the world.

Now, says the report, the mountain is in big trouble. The reasons include:

- The spreading pest plants.

- Frequent and extensive uncontrolled burning. More than half the "fynbos" – the unique low bush vegetation of the area, which contains many proteas – has been burnt in the last five years. Too frequent fires destroy many indigenous species and aid the spread of the plant invaders.

- The tahr. There are now more than 500 of these Asian mountain goats on the mountain, all descendants of a pair which escaped from Groote Schuur Zoo 40 years ago. Now they are gobbling the vegetation at a prodigious rate.

- People. In ever-increasing numbers they are clambering up the hot slopes or riding at ease in the cable car. They are contributing to the destruction of the natural vegetation and ultimately to soil erosion, both by trampling and the indiscriminate use of fire. They also cause an enormous litter problem.

- Building encroachment. The National Monuments Commission has no control over the kind of buildings that may be built on private land next to the mountain, even if buildings on this land obscure or spoil the view.

All these factors, says the report, have caused widespread erosion.

The authors make a number of far-reaching management proposals to stop the rot.

These include the expropriation of all private land within the proclaimed area of the monument; the incorporation of additional areas; a truly co-ordinated approach to the management of the mountain, and a massive pest plant eradication programme.

*The Sunday Tribune*, February 29, 1976

## Daar word gewoeker in die stilte

VICTOR HOLLOWAY

Nou onlangs het ek van 'n onheilspellende stilte op die bewaringsfront in Kaapstad gepraat. Stilte was (of is) daar wel, maar geen stilstand nie. Die mense wat van Kaapstad 'n motorstad wil maak, werk baie hard in die stilte. Die saak van die bewaarders gaan stilletjies vinnig agteruit.

Hierby is 'n foto van die jongste tragedie: die verbreking van die White House Hotel in Langstraat, seker die beste voorbeeld van Victoriaanse argitektuur in Kaapstad.

Wat nie geïllustreer kan word nie, is die voortgesette woekery oor die parkeergarage langs Riebeeckplein en die beoogde verbreding van Kortmark- en Houtstraat.

Oor die White House kan 'n mens huil. Hoe kan dit in die jaar 1975 gebeur dat 'n juweel soos hierdie sito-sito vernietig word? Is daar dan niemand met gesag wat omgee nie?

En Riebeeckplein? Nadat die bewaarders 'n ruk gelede gemeen het dat die gevaar van 'n Moskou-agtige parkeergarage, 'n tweede langs hierdie plein, afgeweer is, hoor ek vandeeweek van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede dat die voorlopige proklamasies daar ingetrek is. Ek kry die indruk dat die stadsraad nou ongehinderd kan voortgaan met sy plan.

## Gee hulle om?

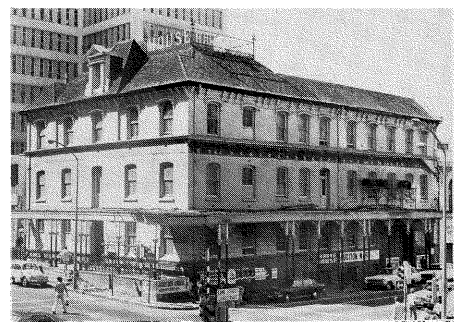
Word die parkeergarage gebou, gaan Hout- en Kortmarkstraat tot in Langstraat verbreed word. Weet u wat hierdie verbreding gaan beteken? Eenvoudig dit: slooping van die geboue aan die een kant van albei hierdie strate. Hoe is dit moontlik dat niemand probeer keer nie? Waar is die verklarings van die Stigting Simon van der Stel om van die ander openbare liggamme nie te praat nie? Waar is die briewe van bewaarders aan ons koerante? Waar is 'n aanduiding dat die burgers van Kaapstad omgee?

André Rossouw vertel van die mooi en effektiewe poging van Oranjezicht se mense in die Primrose-stryd, maar die Kaap hou nie by Oranjezicht op nie. Kan die mense wat met soveel welslae die stryd teen die toringgebou in hul buurt gewen het, nie saamspan en die stryd om die middestad wen nie?

'n Baie groot bewaarder, 'n man wat jare gelede met plakkate geprotesteer het toe Coornhoop in sy geheel bedreig is, sê nou die dag aan my: „Wat my aangaan, kan hulle nou maar alles platslaan. Ek het te lank gestry en kan nie meer nie.”

**Die White House Hotel in Langstraat is seker die beste voorbeeld van Victoriaanse argitektuur in Kaapstad**

Foto: *Die Burger*





'n Ander, selfs groter bewaarder, voel ná 'n reeks terugslae ook so. Maar hulle moenie tou opgooi nie. Eendag gaan ons 'n man kry wat gaan sê: „Halt!” soos Giscard d'Estaing in Parys gedoen het. Die moeilikheid in Kaapstad is net: as hierdie man nie gou na vore tree nie, sal daar niks meer wees om voor „Halt!” te skree nie.

*Die Burger*, 6 Desember 1975

## Gwen Mills talks to Joan Kantey

The preservation of our historic architectural heritage in the Republic is an interest of Mrs Joan Kantey, a Councillor in the Cape Town Municipality, and keen supporter of the Simon van der Stel Foundation.

The fate facing the Constantia Valley, the changing land pattern, leaving the historic homesteads surrounded by subdivision, land development and cluster housing is very much the concern of Mrs Kantey. The subject occupies an important place in her portfolio of community services.

Mrs Kantey considers that the situation in the Constantia Valley is more hopeful, than possibly a year ago. In an interview with the Cape Town Public Relations Officer, these were the views she expressed.

“A number of persons outside the ‘Constantia Property Owners Association’, have joined forces to save the ‘Historic Triangle of Constantia’ – the area formed by the houses, Groot Constantia, Hoop op Constantia, Klein Constantia, Buitenverwachting and the newly-restored Nova Constantia homestead.” “The Council for the Habitat”, of which Mrs Kantey is a member, and to whom representation was made, conducted an investigation into the agricultural potential of the Constantia land. This investigation was made by the Executive committee of Habitat under the chairmanship of Dr Penzhorn and then Professor Roelf Botha. The potential of the land for “wine production”, especially the vines producing “Constantia red wine”, was explored. The conclusion was that vast areas should be placed under vineyards. This is indeed a very firm basis for the cause of preservation in Constantia.

Mrs Kantey, during the interview also spoke of the SA Sendinggestig church in Long Street. She felt it tragic to learn that one of Cape Town’s historic buildings may still be demolished.

“The church stands as a memorial of a past architectural style. Whites and Coloureds originally brought it into being. It belongs to our Christian life in the

city, when men and women in domestic employ in the areas of Tamboerskloof, Vredehoek and Oranjezicht went regularly to evening and other services in this church.”

The Sendinggestig church was once a centre of social life for the community. Mrs Kantey thinks a new use, such as a museum, need not be found for this church. It can be restored and returned to the people.

## Claremont Cape Town

NORAH HENSHILWOOD

Of all the suburbs of Cape Town, Claremont is the one that through business expansion and population growth has changed more than any other. Originally its area on the mountainside was part of a farm that in 1660 had been granted on the banks of the Vers River (later named the Liesbeek) to one of Van Riebeeck’s “free burghers”. When M. Thibault, the Government architect, made an official survey in 1812, this farm, called *Veldhuysen*, or *Veldhuysse*, extended over more than ninety-nine morgen. A German owner later changed the name to Feldhausen. Sir John Herschel, the famous astronomer lived here for four years while he mapped the stars of the Southern Hemisphere and from here he viewed Halley’s Comet through his telescope, the site of which is marked by an Obelisk, still to be seen adjoining the

grounds of the Grove Primary School. Elliott’s photograph of the old Feldhausen homestead has led Fransen to describe it as “one of the most beautiful homesteads of the Peninsula”.

By the beginning of this century the homestead had become a boarding house and later a private hotel with the name altered to “Herschel Hotel”. That the homestead was later pulled down to make room for a nursery school is a sad loss to Claremont and to Cape architecture.

Near the homestead was a little school of dressed stone that after Herschel’s day became the primary school of the Diocesan College while the old house was used as its boarding department.

Leading to the homestead were two avenues, one of oak – “Feldhausen Avenue” today – and the main one of pines, now “The Grove”.

Two piers of the gates that led to the oak avenue were still standing in my youth. Oak trees in double ranks had been planted in squares, many of them perhaps grown from the hedges set out to protect the orchards and vineyards of the old farm. Apart from a few oaks still to be seen in Feldhausen Avenue, there is nothing to remind one of earlier days. The little school has gone, to be replaced by a large primary school whose grounds have spread over what was once open fields. The vault that marks the graves of Baroness Van Buchenröder and her daughter Baroness Knobel who died at Feldhausen before Herschel’s day, may still be seen though almost overshadowed by a new building nearby.

It was perhaps inevitable that open

### Feldhausen (Veldhuysen), Claremont

From photograph in the Archives, Cape Town: *W A Elliott*



spaces like the Vineyard Field (next to "The Vineyard" where Lady Anne Barnard once stayed) – where the boys of Claremont, both white and coloured played cricket and football in season – should be built over as the population expanded. The Bishopscourt woods where chinchinchees, lachenalias and wild iris grew on the banks of the river have also given way before the same pressure. Paradise Estate, once the home of sugarbush, lobostemon and a wealth of other indigenous flowers is now covered with homes.

Legislation has altered the character of certain areas such as the "Malay Field" which extended over several streets near Feldhausen. Here was a community of Malays whose costume and customs gave colour to the district.

However the real life of Claremont as a community was to be found on the Main Road where before the first World War a few pine trees and even a runnel of water might still be seen.

Many of the owners lived above their shops. Buildings frequently had the iron pillars with cut-away slats on their balconies that were such a characteristic of buildings of the period. They gave a lightness to the general appearance of a street where, during business hours, goods for sale were displayed on the pavement, open for inspection by the passersby who had not yet become "traffic".

Not a single facade of this earlier Claremont remains today.

Looking at an early photograph of the Main Road one notices the numbers of buildings that boasted turrets, gables and domes, excrescences which would be considered today as a waste of money. Trams, mostly "double deckers", rumbled on their tracks from Cape Town to Wynberg. There were no motorcars and few carts to interfere with the pedestrians. Certainly an uncluttered thoroughfare!

Opposite the station was the Town Hall, the site of all public entertainment where concert parties, school productions and meetings were held. The site today is covered by a few small shops and a flower market. Where the present "Civic Centre", successor to our Town Hall now stands was once the site of the well-known private school for girls, "Milburn House", owned and run by Miss K K Gale, a graduate of Girton College in Cambridge. "Milburn" was a double-storied building with a thatched roof, probably somewhat shabby in appearance, though the school itself had a fine reputation.

Close to "Milburn" was "Stanhope", once also, I believe, part of the Feldhausen farm. The large grounds of "Stanhope" have been covered with buildings and all that remains as a reminder of the past is the name of a nearby road. One is glad that the beautiful gardens of the late Mr H Arderne were saved from a similar fate and have become a public amenity. This garden and the proximity of the National Botanic Gardens at Kirstenbosch help to provide the feeling of space and beauty which marked old Claremont.

### Nuwe lewe vir ou huise

Een van die jongste voorbeelde van huise, wat in Kaapstad gerestoureer is, is 'n treffende bewys van hoe ou huise met verbeelding en tegniese vaardigheid 'n tweede lewe in 'n hedendaagse omgewing gegee kan word en so te help om die vraag na huisvesting te verlig.

Dit is die nege aangrensende terras-huise in 'n doodloopstraat, wat met stene plavei is. Die huise staan in Cavendishstraat, Claremont, teenoor die winkelkompleks Cavendish Square. Die restourasie is deur Gordon Verhoef en Krause gedoen.

Die Victoriaanse huise, wat in die begin van die eeu gebou is, het baie vervalde begin raak, maar was van 'n goeie konstruksie. Die restourasie het dit weer in 'n verkoopbare toestand gebring.

Nuwe vloere en dakke is in- en opgesit, die kombuise en badkamers gemoderniseer en die agterplase en stoepe met rooi bakstene plavei. In al die huise is 'n slaapkamer en die sitkamer saamgevoeg om 'n groot woonruimte skep.

Buite is die tradisionele Victoriaanse styl behou en die oorspronklike houtsniewerk teen die geute en gewels herstel. Al die houtsniewerk moes oorgedoen word. Die skuifvensters en die lae muurtjies om die huise is behou en die oorhoofse elektriese bedrading gaan ondergronds geplaas word.

Bypassende lamppe gaan in die middelplein aangebring word. Klein grasperke is by elke huis geplant.

Omdat geen motorhuise beskikbaar is nie, is 'n sentrale parkeerplek gebou.

Die huise, wat almal twee slaapkamers het, is 'n ligte mosterdkleur geverf, terwyl die houtwerk wit is. Die pryse is R28 000 en hoër.

*Die Beeld*, 14 Februarie 1976

### Gebou uit 18de eeu herstel

'n Buitegebou uit die agttiende eeu, al oorblyfsel van die Oranjezicht-opstal, gaan deur die Kaapse stadsraad gerestoureer word.

Die raad se bestuurskomitee het op aanbeveling van die geriewe- en gesondheidskomitee besluit om die gebou vir R5 500 te restoureer. Die opstal is omstreeks 1790 gebou en word sedert 1948 deur die sewende Padvindergroep van Kaapstad gebruik.

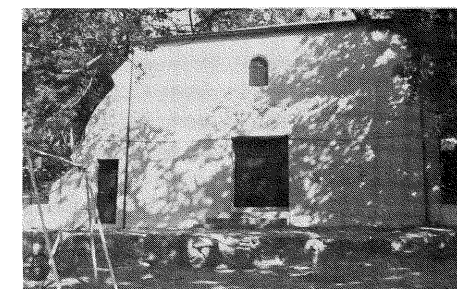
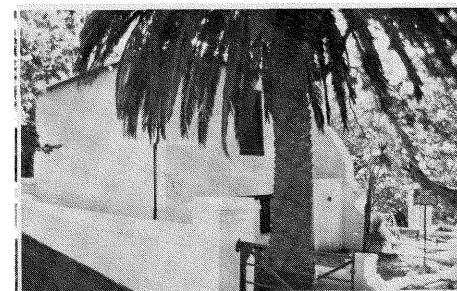
Volgens die stadsingenieur, mnr J G Brand, het die gebou 'n nut en moet dit weens sy historiese waarde behou word. Die gebou, in die Kaaps-Hollandse styl, is op die hoek van Bo-Oranjestraat en Sidmouthlaan geleë. Dit is tans taamlik verwaarloos omdat die Padvinders wat dit deur die jare van die stadsraad gehuur en in stand gehou het, nie die geld het om dit te herstel nie.

In die geriewe- en gesondheidskomitee se verslag sê mnr Brand die gebou sal binne en buite oorgepleister en oorbekraan moet word en twee vensters moet vervang word. Die water sal ook afgekeer moet word van dele van die mure onder die natuurlike grondlyn. Die vloer en die dak moet nie vervang te word nie. Herstelwerk aan die geute en dak is wel nodig, volgens mnr Brand.

*Die Burger*, 16 Julie 1975

### Buitegeboue van die Oranjezicht-opstal, Kaapstad

Foto's: M W Marsh



**Hierdie bladsy geborg deur die Munisipaliteit, Paarl**

## Kelder dalk Monument

Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede sal eersdaags vergader om te besluit oor die wenslikheid om die ou grafkelder van baron William Ferdinand van Reede van Oudtshoorn in die Tuine as 'n nasionale gedenkwaardigheid te proklameer.

Die grafkelder is aan die end van 'n gangetjie agter die Monta Rosa-verpleeg-inrigting. Dit is tot dusver deur die Grootte Kerk in Kaapstad in stand gehou.

Ná swaar reën het 'n deel van die grafkelder 'n paar maande gelede ingeval en moes die kiste verwyder word. Die kerkraad het die standpunt gehuldig dat dit die beste sou wees om die grafkelder te verskuif na Franschhoek, waar 'n replika opgerig is van die huis Saasveld, waarin die baron eers gewoon het.

Die kerkraad meen dat die grafkelder en die huis histories en argitektonies bymekaar pas. Daarby is die grafkelder nou

op 'n plek waar dit ontoeganklik is vir die publiek.

Verteenwoordigers van die kerk en die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in Kaapstad het byeengekom om die aan geleentheid te bespreek. Ná die same-sprekinge het ds J G J van Vuuren aan *Die Burger* gesê 'n kommissie wat aangestel is, het vasgestel dat die grond waarop die grafkelder staan, nooit op die naam van die kerk oorgedra is nie. Dit is onseker aan wie die eiendom behoort. Ds Van Vuuren het gesê daar is nou besluit dat dit beter sal wees as die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede die beheer oor die grafkelder oorneem.

Intussen het 'n regstreekse afstammeling van die baron, mnr Mochrum van Reede van Oudtshoorn, van Kaapstad, 'n sterk pleidooi gelewer dat die grafkelder nie na Franschhoek verskuif word nie.

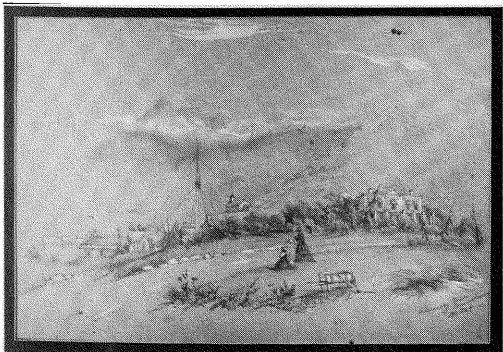
Die baron wat in die grafkelder begrawe is, is die seun van baron Pieter van Reede van Oudtshoorn wat as Goewerneur van die Kaap aangestel is, maar in 1773 onderweg na die Kaap gesterf het.

*Die Burger*, 16 Junie 1975



Die grafkelder van baron Reede van Oudtshoorn in Kaapstad

Foto: M W Marsh



## PETER VISSER ANTIQUES

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Two original drawings from a collection of eleven mid 19th century Cape drawings by C E B showing:

Top: On the beach near the Amsterdam Battery "Lady I love" at anchor 1848

Bottom: Admiralty House, Simonstown 1849

# Mariendahl Brewery, Newlands

JAMES WALTON

## One of South Africa's finest industrial monuments

Situated on the south bank of the Liesbeek River, within a stone's throw of the famous Newlands rugby and cricket fields, is one of South Africa's finest industrial monuments, Mariendahl Brewery. Fronted by sweeping lawns and colourful flower-beds, the well-preserved white-walled buildings stand out against the back-drop of Table Mountain to present what must be one of the most attractive groups of industrial buildings anywhere.

The tall brewery, dating from 1859, is the oldest remaining relic of an industry which had its South African origin just over two hundred years earlier, for, on 16 February 1657, Van Riebeeck recorded that "today in accordance with instructions from our Lords and Masters, a trial was made with brewing beer", and he later reported that the beer "to all appearances succeeded well". The Cape beer, however, would not keep for more than four or five weeks, and samples sent to India and Holland arrived sour. Nevertheless, the experiment continued and on 4 October 1658, the ensign, Jan van Harwarden, "was busy brewing beer" and the following day "the beer was rising nicely in the cooler, and in the morning, when it had been placed in a half-aum, it began to ferment well". Orders were accordingly given for more to be brewed so that some casks could

be sent to Batavia and Holland to test how long it would remain in good condition at sea, and these samples were considered by the Council to be "fairly drinkable". In the same year a second brewery was established by a man named Visagie on the banks of the Liesbeek "two hours distant from the fort".

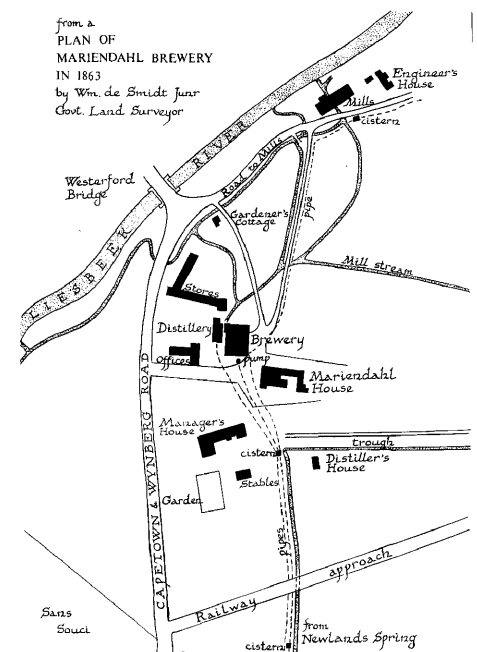
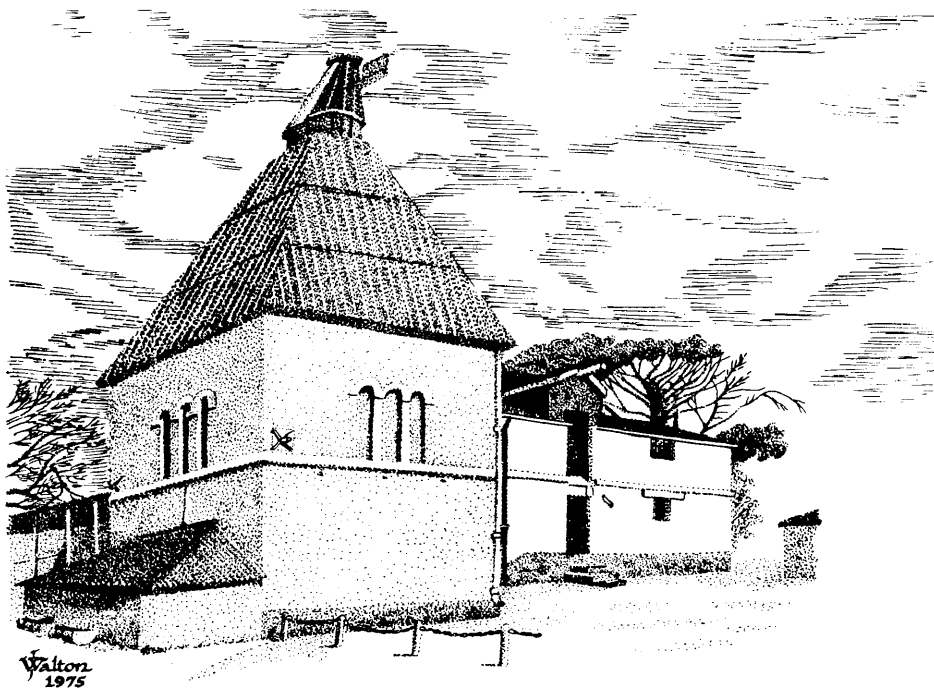
Van Harwarden died in 1659, having "devoted his time to agriculture and beer brewing", but the following year another brewhouse was erected outside the fort walls on the north-west side, and the Council requested that a further trial be made. Four years later it was publicly announced that burgher Jan de Wacht was to have the sole right to brew Cape beer. Up to that time all Cape beer had been brewed from imported grain and black sugar obtained from the ships but in October 1665 Van Riebeeck received a letter ordering him to attempt the brewing of beer from Cape corn, and then to inform the Council of the result.

In an effort to improve the quality of Cape beer the Lords Seventeen wrote on 27 August 1694 that they would send out by the first convenient ship to India "die brouwer en meentsman Rutgert Mensink" to the Cape to establish a brewery. Mensink and his family arrived aboard the *Dregterland* the following year and he was granted thirty morgen of land, named Papenboom, "about one and a half hours distant from the Castle,

above the Liesbeek River, near to the "Schuur", a place which Mensink regarded as having the finest water for his purpose. He was allowed a monopoly of brewing beer, and this was inherited by his widow and son, who were brewing at "De Brouwerij" in 1700.

The monopoly passed to Dirk Gysbert van Reenen when he purchased Papenboom, but it provoked such intense jealousy that a special tax was imposed on every measure of beer sold, and a small building was erected immediately opposite the front entrance of Papenboom to house the tax-gatherer. In February 1796 Van Reenen addressed a memoir to Major-General Craig, the Governor, asking to be allowed to maintain the monopoly of brewing beer, but his request was refused, and this was the signal for the establishment of other breweries. By 1837 there were three breweries in Cape Town, two others in the Cape district, two in Grahamstown and one "near Glen Lynden", Bedford, operated by William Ainslie.

As Mensink had found, the water from the Palmboom stream and the Newlands spring was ideal for brewing, and Newlands became the most important centre of the industry during the first half of the nineteenth century. A pioneer in this field was Jacob Letterstedt, a Swede, who came out to South Africa in 1820, when he sailed from Portsmouth with Nightingale's party in the "Amphitrite". On 14 August 1822 he married Maria Barendina Becker, widow of Johannes Frederick Dreyer, who owned Questenburg and Louwvliet, and on 10 April 1845 part of the estate, known as Mariendahl, was granted freehold to Letterstedt. On the plan accompanying the lease, a house, Mariendahl House, and a



mill on the Liesbeek are shown but his brewery was not built until 1859, according to the date stone on the building. Between then and 1861, however, he created quite an extensive establishment for the time. According to his will, dated 11 May of that year, he owned "Mariendahl, with the brewery, the malting and distillery premises and the mill erected and being thereon", in addition to several properties in Cape Town and rights to a portion of Newlands Spring and a stream of water leading over Palmboom. A plan of Mariendahl, dated June/July 1863, shows not only the buildings but also the intricate water-supply to the brewery and mill.

Jacob Letterstedt died on 18 March 1862 and his business was carried on by his daughter Lydia, Vicomtesse de Montmort, and her husband, under the name of "Letterstedt and Company", until 1888, when Mariendahl Brewery and "all the buildings connected therewith, the railway siding and all adjacent buildings and ground, except Mariendahl House and garden, at present in the occupation of the lessors, in addition to certain water rights" were leased to Anders Ohlsson and Company.

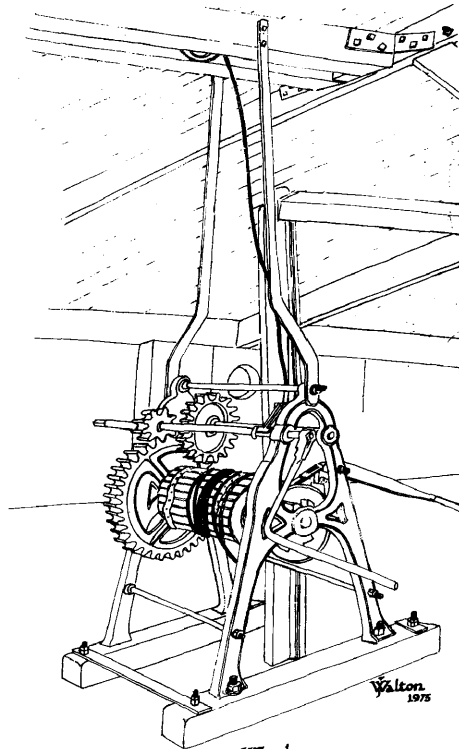
Anders Ohlsson was born near Christiania, Norway, in 1841, but he received his education in Sweden and at the age of twenty-three he sailed for South Africa, where he started up business as an importer of Swedish goods before branching out as a trader in Damaraland in partnership with A W Eriksson. On 5 January 1881 Ohlsson purchased from David Iredale, a miller, "ground called 'Anneberg', Palmboom, Rondebosch", and he must have built a brewery at Anneberg immediately after obtaining possession, for in the 1882 Directory we find "A Ohlsson and Co, Millers, Brewers, Anneberg Brewery, Newlands". On 12 February 1896 Ohlsson acquired Mariendahl, so that he then owned all the Newlands breweries, which were floated as a limited company under the style of "Ohlsson's Cape Breweries, Ltd".

Most of the buildings shown on the 1863 plan have survived, although many of them have been considerably altered. The angular stores building was largely demolished before 1888 but the outside wall of the wing running parallel to the road still forms the boundary wall of the car park. The brewery itself remains very much as it was when first built and it still houses a giant wooden vat, made by "Henry Pontifex and Sons, Albion Works, King Cross, London", but a second similar vat has unfortunately collapsed. The "taking-in" door, with its landing-platform and pulley-beam above, forms a picturesque feature of the building. Inside is a fine old winch, used in conjunction with the pulley to hoist sacks of malt and hops.

The oast-house is the most attractive

building of the complex but it was built after Letterstedt's time. In Britain and western Europe such oast-houses were used for drying hops but whether that at Mariendahl served a similar purpose has not been established. It could have been used as a malting, although hops were cultivated in the neighbourhood. Even in the time of Van Riebeeck attempts were made to grow hops at the Cape, and over two thousand five hundred hop plants were imported, but the trial was not a success. Similar experiments also failed until 1829, when it was recorded that hops had been successfully cultivated in the vicinity of George.

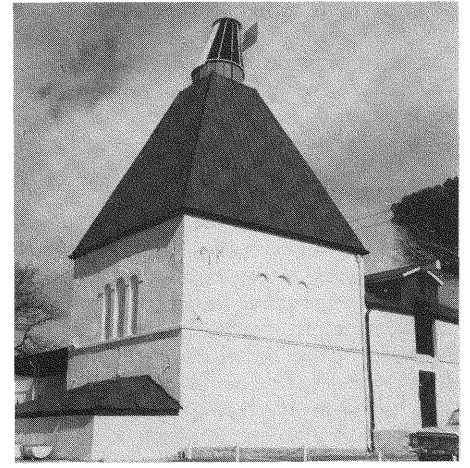
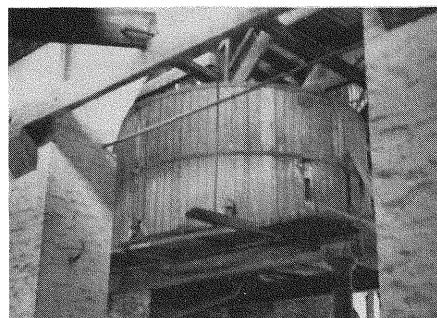
Nevertheless, hops were grown at Newlands before 1888. In that year the Comte de Vasselot de Régné and the Vicomte de Montmort, son-in-law of Jacob Letterstedt, privately published a booklet on *Hop Cultivation*, which was printed by the Wynberg Times Steam



Winch  
Mariendahl Brewery  
Newlands

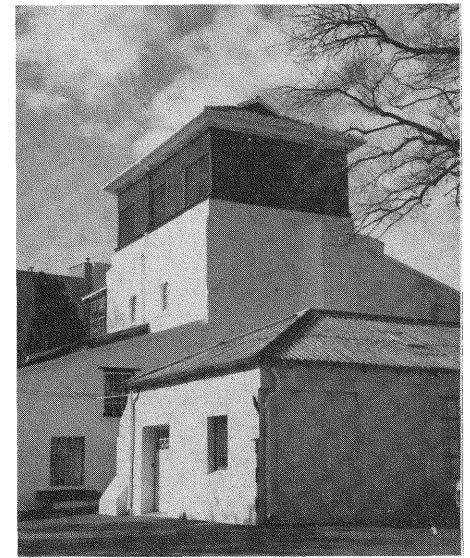
Wooden vat made by Henry Pontifex and Sons, Albion Works, King Cross, London

Photo: James Walton, 1975



Oast-house

Photo: James Walton, 1975



The Brewery, built by Jacob Letterstedt, 1859

Photo: James Walton, 1975

"Taking-in" door

Photo: James Walton, 1975



Printing Office. In this booklet the authors urged the need to cultivate hops in South Africa as an important source of revenue. They gave full details of how hops should be cultivated, dried and pressed, and they made frequent references to hops already being grown at Newlands. In view of the Vicomte de Montmort's obvious interest in hop cultivation and his association with Mariendahl Brewery, it is possible that the oasthouse may have been erected about that time for the purpose of drying hops. Ohlsson's Cape Breweries are to be congratulated on the excellent way in which they have preserved the old buildings of Mariendahl Brewery, which constitute such a fine industrial monument, and it is hoped that pressures of development will not result in the destruction of the complex, particularly the brewery, oasthouse and adjoining buildings. Overseas, the study of industrial archaeology and the preservation of industrial monuments are now receiving considerable recognition, as is evinced by the mass of literature on the subject and by the many fine open-air industrial museums which have been established. A start has been made in South Africa, and the preservation of Mariendahl Brewery would be an important contribution.

#### Notes

- 1 The above is an abridged version of part of a wider survey of the Cape brewing industry being undertaken.
- 2 My thanks are due to Mrs Margaret Cairns for much of the history of Mariendahl Brewery.
- 3 I am also grateful to Dr R F M Immelman for allowing me access to his copy of *Hop Cultivation* by Le Comte de Vasselot de Régné and Le Vicomte de Montmort.
- 4 A valuable account of the South African brewing industry was published as a supplement to the *South African Hotel Review* in February 1958.

#### Huise vir Sandy Bay

Die Administrateur van Kaapland, dr L A P A Munnik, en die uitvoerende komitee het in beginsel besluit om beperkte dorpsontwikkeling by Sandy Bay toe te laat.

In 'n verklaring sê dr Munnik die goedkeuring van die 450 wooneenhede impliseer nie dat verdere ontwikkeling later goedgekeur sal word nie. die goedkeuring is onderworpe aan strenge voorskrifte om ontwikkeling en bewaring te versoen.

Dr Munnik sê maatreëls moet getref word om te verseker dat skending van die omgewing tot die absolute minimum

beperk word, asook vir die daadwerklike herstel van onvermydelike skending, veral dié van inheemse bome en plante-groei.

*Die Beeld*, 11 Maart 1976

#### Min kan die Stempastorie nou nog red

Daar is bitter min wat nou nog Die Stempastorie in Simonstad van die stootskrapers kan red. Die huis waar die musiek van Die Stem van Suid-Afrika 57 jaar gelede deur ds M L de Villiers getoonset is, gaan gesloop word as die een of ander instansie nie tot sy redding kom nie.

Die amptelike kanale is reeds deurgery. Weens finansiële oorwegings wil die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou nie die pastorie koop en restoureer nie. Nou bly daar min hoop vir die behoud van die gebou oor.

Die huidige eienaar is ds Hennie Louw, 'n afgetrede Vlootkapelaan wat sterk daarvoor voel dat die pastorie 'n nasionale gedenkwaardigheid word.

Ds Louw se stryd om die huis vir die nageslag te bewaar, het begin toe hy vernem dat die grond waarop die huis staan, onteien gaan word. Volgens ds Louw, 'n emeritus van die NG Kerk, sal dit 'n kwade dag wees as die huis met sy vyf pragtige marmerkaggels, sy Burmese

kiaatdeure en -vensters met die grond gelyk gestoot word, om van sy geskiedkundigheid nie te praat nie.

Presies 57 jaar gelede het ds M L de Villiers uit die boonste verdieping na die see en die blou berge gekyk en die inspirasie gekry om C J Langenhoven se woorde in musiek gestalte te gee.

Ds Louw het die steun van die munisipaliteit van Simonstad wat reeds 'n beroep op die Regering gedoen het om die pastorie vir die nageslag te bewaar. Die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou, wat oor aankope besluit, het om geldelike redes geweier – die restourasie sou te duur wees.

'n Nuwe pastorie vir 'n tweede Vlootkapelaan is wel nodig, maar Die Stempastorie voldoen nie aan die vereistes nie.

Die LV vir Simonstad, mnr John Wiley, voel sterk oor die behoud van die pastorie. Dit is deel van ons kulturele erfenis en die behoud daarvan sal sekerlik byval vind by elke regdenkende Afrikaner het mnr Wiley gesê. Hy sal die saak bepleit by die Minister vir Nasionale Opvoeding, dr P G Koornhof.

Ds Louw was ook reeds in aanraking met die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, die Stigting Simon van der Stel en vooraanstaande sakemanne, maar die Departement van Gemeenskapsbou het die seggenskap.

*Die Beeld*, 6 Februarie 1976

## Advertising Preservation



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- Enclosing the front porch of an old house can ruin its appearance.  
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## Ida's Valley, Stellenbosch

FIONA ERSKINE

The history of Groot Idasvallei as known up to the present time consists only of what has been written in a few reference books, quoting: Dorothea Fairbridge in *Historic Houses of South Africa*:

"And at last we came to Stellenbosch and passed through it to Ida's Vallei on the Kromme River, at the foot of Simon van der Stel's six-peaked mountain.

"The original grant of 'Groot and Klein Ida's Vallei and Nazareth' was made to the Huguenot exile, Francois Villon of Clermont, on another September day in 1692. His wife was Cornelia Campeenaar, and their son Henning married Marguerite de Savoie after the death of her first husband, Christoffel Snijman. She was the daughter of Jacques de Savoie, a sturdy and truculent old Huguenot who with his wife, Marie Madeleine le Clerc, had come to the Cape with special introductions from the Company. In them he is described as "one who has been under the cross of persecution at Ghent for many years". Whether there is any truth in the tradition which assigns him kinship with the royal house of Savoy it is difficult to say. There are many strange stories associated with the old refugees, stories such as that of the Du Plessis who came to the Cape at the end of the seventeenth century. He was of the house of Richelieu, and his descendant was the actual head of the family. But, for the most part, the stories are vague, and I have only mentioned the Savoy tradition because there is over the door of Ida's Vallei a device in plaster which may or may not be a crown, and a plaster bird which may or may not be an eagle. If it were the white cross of Savoy it would carry more conviction. At present namesakes of Francois Villon bury their name in its Dutch form of Viljoen, while that of De Savoie has died out of the country.

"An early house evidently stood near the present homestead, which belongs to Mr Malleson and is set in a thriving fruit farm. Some ruined walls and the remains of an Italian garden have been found. If the dates on the old door-plates are to be taken as indicating the age of the present building the portion which is now the back of Ida's Vallei was built in 1787 and the present front in 1789. That the back was once the front is easily to be believed, for it has an equally beautiful gable, with heavily moulded scrollwork in plaster, and the eagle in plaster is over the graceful fanlight above the doorway. The windows which look out on what is now the front have been modernized, but this was before the present ownership,

and those windows which look on what is now the back still retain their charming small panes, iridescent with age and weather, and their heavy teak shutters.

"Yet another story lingers round Ida's Vallei, though there is no record of it in official documents. It is said that Simon van der Stel, whose wife remained in Holland, loved a lady called Ida van der Merwe and gave her a portion of the land on which Ida's Vallei now stands. The story is very vague and anyone may read what he pleases into it – for my part I think it is to the credit of Governor Simon and the lady that Ida's Vallei was as far from Constantia as it was possible for any place to be in those days."

Hans Fransen and Dr Mary Cook in *The old houses of the Cape*: "Granted in 1683 to Francois Villon (now Viljoen), a Huguenot who arrived here years before the main body of Huguenots came. Most of this group of early Stellenbosch grants, all dated 1683, were regranted a few years later with diminished areas. Ida's Valley was regranted in 1692 to Villon's widow, about 45 morgen instead of the original 74 morgen. In 1775 Samuel Johannes Cats acquired the farm; he built the present house in 1789. No support can be found for the traditional story that a woman called Ida lived in this valley in the late 17th century and gave her name to the place. It is not impossible that somebody who saw the side of the mountain running with water in winter or spring thought of the classical many-fountained Mount Ida. In those days the classics were more familiar to people than they are now."

These two authors lead me on to the mystery of Ida herself. For my part I

find it hard to accept the "explanation" of Mount Ida because many of the people-burgers and indeed some of the heem-raaders of the time were unable to sign their names save for a cross. On the basis of "there is no smoke without fire" and as Idas Valley has retained its original name ever since its granting in 1682, I am persuaded to believe it was named after a lady either already dead or living at that time. Whether or not she was Governor Simon's mistress is pure speculation, but it is known that his wife never came to South Africa and that in spite of being a Godfearing man he did indeed have mistresses in the plural. Some say Ida was a slave, others that a page from the church registers, where she might have been recorded, is missing. (A common practice in British history to lay any scandal in a family.)

As has been said Samuel Johannes Cats built the present house, but in what did the previous half dozen or so owners live? I have made photostat copies of all the original deeds and transfers, and by checking all the owners and their wives in *Genealogies of Old SA families*, De Villiers, Pama, I have found that Cats was not just the second son of a Dutch ship's surgeon, acquiring Ida's Valley by chance, but hitherto unknown, was directly connected to both the two original grant holders of Groot and Klein Idasvallei. To be precise his half-brother Johannes (through his mother Petronella Cloete) was the great-great-grandson of both Francois Villon (Groot Idasvallei) and Gerhard Cloete (Klein Idasvallei), his own mother Catharina Groenewald being the second wife. He was also the grandson of the previous owner Johannes Groenewald, who died at Groot Idasvallei at the age of seventy-four (approximately). Samuel's father, Johannes, died young and we find his maternal grandfather's inventory (Johannes Groenewald's) included a bill for the education of Samuel and his elder sister Johanna Margaretha. From this fact it

### Homestead, Ida's Valley

Photo: M W Marsh



seems reasonable to assume Samuel and Johanna grew up at Groot Idasvallei under their grandfather's wing, where he took the trouble to have them properly taught.

Samuel bought Groot Idasvallei and Nazaret, together rather more than 100 morgen, in 1775 after his grandfather's death, for 3 334 guilders, equal to the present sum of R1 500–R2 000. Five years later in 1780 he bought Klein Idasvallei from his aunt's second husband Pieter de Hoog, a Fleming, for the sum of 2 000 guilders, or about R900, which consisted of 37 morgen. He now had three adjacent farms and three separate farm houses (according to the transfers). Strangely, it seems it was the custom of those times to pay for and not inherit the property.

In April 1777 he had very sensibly married his first cousin, Catharina Margaretha van Coller (as did I!), though I fear it was a shotgun wedding, for their eldest of eight children was born only four months later, in August of the same year.

It seems Samuel Cats was a public spirited man; at the age of 29 he was made a Deacon of the Church, at 31 he became an Army Officer and in 1786 at the age of 36 he was appointed heemraad for the first time. Perhaps it was this as much as his family ties with Ida's Valley that prompted him to start building for himself in the following year (1787) a hofsteede, or did he? As I cannot read High Dutch, I sought the help of Mrs Cairns, attorney, genealogist, historian and authoress. Somehow in the depths of the archives she has found in unpaginated, unindexed books (also not chronological) several very early inventories taken at Groot Idasvallei. The first taken at Francois Villon's death in 1689, begins with a list of his six children and their respective ages. Then it simply lists, "the hofsteede and lands, hok, vineyards, garden and orchards, valued at 2 000 guilders."

Villon's widow Cornelia re-married Wemmer Pasman and in 1713 the inventory taken at her death names "A hofsteede and other buildings". The house is described as follows:

*In 't voorhuys* – (obviously used as their diningroom) 3 tin dishes, 12 tin plates, 2 copper candlesticks, 7 chairs and a rectangular table.

*Kamer aan de rechterhand* – 2 beds with bedding (not fourposters, just 'kadels), a mirror, an iron, 2 tin chamberpots and a wood stove.

*Kamer aan de linkerhand* – (another bedroom) 1 kadel, 1 hat rack, 1 large copper kettle, 1 adze, 1 new plough share, 14 sickles and 4 canvas sacks. (Mrs Pasman must have put up with a lot!)

*Combuys* – dishes, pots, buckets, shelves, chimney chain, comfoor, 2 kettles, bowls and garden tools.

*Solder* – an amount of wheat and rye.

Wemmer Pasman says he has no cash. *Pershuys/Wine cellar* – where the wine was made. 1 winepress, 16 leagures wine and 4 empty leagures.

*Stock* – Various; 4 male slaves, 2 women slaves, and a grandchild. In 1774 there is a far more comprehensive inventory taken at Johannes Groenewald's death, listing the contents of five separate rooms, some of which I will pick out.

*Voorhuis* – 5 shelves containing porcelain dishes and plates, 1 glass-fronted cupboard (presumably a glazed armoire) – standing on top assorted porcelain, and inside glass and porcelain, 1 pipe rack, 1 wooden wash stand with container, 1 grandfatherclock, 1 copper lantern, 1 silver sugar bowl, 3 silver forks, 2 field glasses and 1 Biblestand.

*Righthand room* – 1 mirror, 2 pictures, 1 copper chimney chain, 1 copper ash scoop, 1 copper tongs, 1 copper hard-brush, 1 rusbank, 1 table with cloth, 10 chairs, 1 bed and on it 2 bolsters and 5 cushions.

*Agterkamer* – 3 ophaalgordyne (a sort of pleated blind), 1 fourposter bed and on it bedding, 3 tables, 18 chairs, 1 cupboard and on it 3 porcelain pots, 2 copper spittoons and 1 screen.

*Left front room* – 1 fourposter with curtains, 1 bookcase and books, 1 hatrack, 1 pair pistols and 2 holsters.

*Kitchen* – 4 chimney chains, 1 waffle iron, 1 pothook, 1 pair tongs, 1 iron kettle, 1 copper kettle, 1 copper tart pan (currently worth approximately R1 000 each) 1 copper coffee pot, 2 copper candlesticks, 9 tin dishes, 1 kitchen table, 1 bakkist, 1 pestle and mortar and 4 water buckets.

*Solder* – 1 table leaf, 1 meal kist and 2 flourscoops.

*In the cellar* – 4 old vats, 2 vinegar vats, 6 assorted vintage tubs, 1 treading tub, 1 wine press, 2 pairs steps, 1 butter vat, 1 vat half full of tar, 20 canvas sacks and 1 copper brandy kettle with its pipes and cooling vat.

*Smithy* – 1 pair bellows (a pan is still here on the solder of the slave quarters), 1 anvil, 2 large hammers, 3 small hammers, 1 iron cudgel, 1 vice, 3 smiths tongs, 3 hand axes, 4 adze, 1 two-man saw, assorted carpenter's tools and 1 lathe.

### Drawing room of the Ida's Valley homestead

Photo: M W Marsh



*On the werf* – 7 spades, 6 picks, 1 grindstone sharpener, 2 deck chairs, 2 step-ladders, 2 horsewagons, 1 oxwagon, 13 old wagon wheels, 1 harrow with iron handles, 1 cart and some thatch.

*Little room on the werf* – an old fourposter, 1 cradle, 1 plane, some old copper and six chairs.

There are various points these inventories raise and I'll confine my comments to the most significant. Calisch's English/Netherlands dictionary defines Hofsteede as "a great farm or country house", as opposed to the word "opstalle" meaning "a building", which was the more usual. Whenever Ida's Valley has been referred to in these inventories and indeed in all the early transfers it is always as a Hofsteede, or a hofsteede and opstalle. This is surprising as it's been thought until now that anything before Samuel Jan Cats present homestead was more or less a nothingness. But a nothingness with its own cellar and winepress in 1713 is surely rather different. Longsuffering Mrs. Pasman did it seems put up with the plough share in her bedroom, but surely they couldn't have squeezed the winepress through the door too?

This brings me to the wine cellar whose present gable is dated 1817. How rewarding it will be, if during its approaching restoration, it should prove the same one mentioned in 1713 and again in 1774, when Johannes Groenewald was busy distilling brandy in his "copper kettle with its pipes and cooling vat".

Another point brought out by Groenewald's inventory is that the then homestead was presumably T-shaped, or a rectangle. Now Samuel Cats (having as we've seen, been brought up at Ida's Valley, surely would not have demolished his grandfather's five-roomed hofsteede simply to erect a six-roomed one immediately afterwards. Could it be that after all Cats was not the original builder, that he simply enlarged what was here, turning it into an H-shaped hofsteede and beautified it with its present gables? Lastly, the same two inventories of 1713 and 1774 both make it plain that the "kamer aan die regterhand" had a chimney in it and it was not the kitchen. The room had beds in it on both occasions and similarly both had a kitchen and its contents listed further down the page. I mention this as I believe more than one chimney to be unusual.

### The Restoration

When we arrived here in March 1972 the Homestead was beautiful and charming, but it was in such poor repair it was obvious further patching up operations would be absolutely futile. *From the practical point of view* the electrical system was totally inadequate, there were two power points in the entire house. The refrigerator occupied one, the second was for ironing and inbetween the elec-



tric polisher was plugged in with an enormously long flex, which even then only stretched over half the house. From the fuse box in the kitchen the electric wires hung in festoons across the ceiling, caught up here and there with pieces of string.

In the kitchen hearth there was a black polished metal stove dated 1897, just like the one Beatrix Potter portrays in "A Tale of Tom Kitten". In order to get a good start in the morning the maids used to fill the dying oven last thing at night with the logs they were to use the following morning.

The sewage system was unhygienic to say the least. Upstairs there was no running water except for a tap fixed to a catwalk that ran across a flat roof. The "modern" tin roof leaked in 7 places.

*From the architectural point of view* the homestead had been extensively changed more than once in Victorian times. There was also a Victorian single-storied extension on the south elevation, flat roofed, which leaked terribly and blocked off the south courtyard, spoiling the symmetry of the whole exterior. There were Victorian partition walls in almost every room, which spoilt the proportions, and three extra chimneys in working order. The front facade had six french windows with their outer louvred shutters. Both the courtyards had been filled, one as a passage with a staircase in it, the other with lean-to maids' rooms.

Our aim was to put this list of wrongs right and restore the house to its original 18th century design, and so we sought the help of Gabriël Fagan, the architect.

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### Old Parsonage Fraserburg

The old parsonage in Fraserburg, built in 1855, is to be restored for use as a museum. The Cape Provincial Administration is to undertake the work. The archi-

tect is Mr Dirk Visser, a member of the Foundation's Cape Town regional committee.

WJP

### These Stellenbosch buildings should be preserved

PHILIP ERSKINE

We have another example where the commercial interests, and the temptation to take advantage of development gains are destroying the old and unique character of Stellenbosch's Dorp Street.

Plans are far advanced whereby the Grand Hotel is to be demolished and OK Bazaars are proposing to expand on to this site and have a new entrance off Dorp Street.

It is now an urgent matter for the Monuments Council to use their powers and declare all the existing old buildings in Dorp Street and the adjacent street as National Monuments.

The public look to the Monuments Council to protect certain parts of the town from the inevitable pressing commercial development. The area is quite small, but until this is done the very special atmosphere of the top end of Dorp Street will be lost.

Nobody takes issue over the fact that a town must be able to develop the commercial activities, but in the right place, but the top of Dorp Street is not the right place.

Many people feel very bitter that so little has been done to protect these old buildings. The same old arguments are used again and again: 'The building is not so important to merit saving; or, the commercial development is only a natural extension to the accepted and existing activity; or, that this firm is perfectly entitled to expand to its normal increased trade; or that only a "tasteful building" will be allowed in its place . . .' The fact remains that if this plan goes ahead the general atmosphere of the top end of Dorp Street will be changed.

In a largely residential area, with early Victorian and Georgian buildings, oak trees, the water bubbling down the roadside furrows which adds up to something very special and must be preserved, we suddenly have the entrance with large plateglass windows and the activity which surrounds a large modern store. It is so obviously in the wrong place.

The public have no power and are helpless and have just to watch the slow destruction of a small but very special street which is totally unnecessary. The Monuments Council will receive huge public support if they act urgently and declare these buildings national monuments, even against their owners' consent.

*The Cape Argus*, May 4, 1976

### Dié sloping geweer

Stellenbosch se-stadsraad het 'n aansoek van die eienaars van Voorgelegen in Dorpstraat dat hierdie bekende eiendom gesloop word, geweier.

Volgens die stadsklerk, mnr M J Smith, dink die stadsraad daar is geen motiveering vir so 'n stap nie. Die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede het onlangs kennis gegee van voorlopige proklamasie van die eiendom. Dit vorm 'n belangrike deel van Dorpstraat.

Die H-vormige dubbelverdiepingwoning, asook die buitegeboue en tuiningmure word argitektonies as uniek beskou. Die outydse tuin met sy rustige atmosfeer, waartoe die Meulstroem deels bydra, is 'n estetiese kleinood wat aansluit by die unieke gebouekompleks rondom, volgens kenners van die ou Stellenbosch.

Die eiendom het oorspronklik deel gevorm van die Nieuwe Molen, wat in 1750 aan die landdros en heemrade toegeken is. Die woonhuis is ongeveer 1797 deur Johannes Victor opgerig. Bekende Stellenbosse families soos die Reitze, Smutse en McPhersons het later die eiendom besit. Aan Dorpstraat is dit in werklikheid twee geboue wat vas teen mekaar gebou is met aparte nommers. Die eienaars twyfel blykbaar oor die historiese waarde van die eiendom wat teen 'n hoë prys vir ontwikkeling verkoop kon word.

### Geldtekort

Intussen is die restourasie van die Ou Landbousaal in Die Laan op Stellenbosch voorlopig gestaak omdat die geld opgeraak het.

Die ou saal maak reeds 'n pragtige vertoning met die restourasiewerk wat die Stellenbosch-museum aangepak het. Dit was met 'n skenking van R20 000 uit die boedel van wyle mnr Peter Barlow, bekende boer van Idasvallei.

Vanweë stygende boukoste kon slegs 'n deel van die werk nou afgehandel word. Die sinkdak sal ongeskilder gelaat word en die afwerking van sekere binnemure en die vloer sal ook agterweë bly.

Die tentoonstelling van ou landbou-implemente, waens en ander outydse rytuie moet agterweë gelaat word totdat geld weer beskikbaar word. Die pak-kamer en werksinkels sal intussen betrek word.

Sedert 1972 tot verlede jaar het die aantal besoekers aan die Stellenbosch-museum van 28 284 tot 60 398 toegeneem.

Die Schreuder-huis in Ryneveldstraat, oudste gedokumenteerde woonhuis in Suid-Afrika, is verlede jaar deur 7 862 en die kruithuis van die eerste April deur 9 147 besoekers besoek.

*Die Burger*, 8 Maart 1976

## **Pauw antwoord op koerantberig**

Mnr Theo Pauw, Voorsitter Stigting Simon van der Stel, Worcester-tak, skryf: Meneer, – Dit is goed dat sake van openbare belang op 'n verantwoordelike wyse in die pers bespreek word. Ons verwelkom dus die gesonde meningswisseling wat kan volg op die hoofberig in u uitgawe van 7 deser en vertrou dat dit tot groter helderheid sal lei in verband met 'n aangeleentheid waarom daar soms misverstande by die algemene publiek voorkom.

Ons het besondere waardering vir die ewewigtige en oorwoë menings van enkele gemeenskapsleiers met wie u verteenwoordiger onderhoude gevoer het. Dit stem ooreen met die uitgangspunt van hierdie organisasie, 'n nasionale liggaam wat hom op 'n baie breë terrein in Suid-Afrika vir die bewaring van ons kultuurhistoriese erfenisse beywer.

Almal sal saamstem dat ou geboue nie voor die voet en sonder uitsondering beskerm kan word nie. Nie elke ou gebou is bewaringswaardig nie. Daar is bowendien omstandighede waarin die onvermydelike aanvaar moet word en selfs 'n kosbare historiese eiendom gesloop moet word, hoe jammer dit ook al mag wees. Maar daar is ook dikwels oplossings moontlik, waardeur 'n stad of dorp of distrik bevoorreg kan word om dinge van blywende betekenis in sy midde te bewaar.

Hierdie dinge is baie dikwels in of om die middelpunt van 'n dorp of stad te vinde, soos selfs 'n oppervlakkige blik op byna enige ou stad in Europa of elders in die wêreld sal laat blyk. Dit is 'n vrug van die beskawing dat mense met eerbied en bewondering na die beste dinge uit hul verlede kyk en moeite doen om dit te behou – of dit nou geboue of kunswerke of verhale van heldedom of karakteradel is.

Op enkele misvattinge moet ons die aandag vestig:

Dit is natuurlik 'n ooreenvoudiging en 'n fout om vooruitgang en bewaring as pole teenoor mekaar te stel. Die twee behoort in 'n gesonde gemeenskap hand aan hand te gaan en mekaar aan te vul. Daarvan is talryke voorbeelde in die ouer lande van oos en wes en ook in ons eie mooi land te sien. Die vraag moet seker gestel word of die begrip vooruitgang nie soms al te eng vertolk word nie. Worcester het ruimte vir sake-uitbreiding beskikbaar en nie ál ons bestaande sakepersele (of potensiële sakepersele) is ten volle beset nie. As ons wil lewe en laat lewe, kan Worcester sowel 'n bloeiende sake- en nywerheidsentrum as 'n beduidende middelpunt van kultuurlewe word en bly. Ons pragtige dorp beskik oor sommige van die mooiste voorbeelde van verskillende karaktervolle boustyle, om maar één aspek van

die onderwerp te noem. Ons roep alle seksies van ons gemeenskap op om hierdie erfgoed te waardeer en in stand te hou. Die potensiaal van die dorp en distrik as toeristesentrum sal op die duur daardeur verhoog word, en daáruit moet die sakelewe weer voordeel trek. As die sakebedryghede van ons gemeenskap agteruitgaan, sal dit gewis nie weens die bewaring van sekere geskiedkundige ou geboue wees nie. Intendeel.

Die Stigting Simon van der Stel, waarna u in u berig by name verwys, kan geen eiendom tot Historiese Gedenkwaardigheid laat verklaar nie, maar beywer hom vir 'n groter bewuswording ten opsigte van die bewaringsgedagte by die publiek en die owerhede. Die proklamering van 'n gebou is die uitsluitlike verantwoordelijkheid van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, 'n statutêre liggaam wat sy funksie in oorleg met die betrokke eienaars vervul.

Die benaming „monument” is nie 'n korrekte beskrywing van die begrip waaroor dit hier gaan nie. 'n Gebou of pad of ruimte word tot „nasionale gedenkwaardigheid” verklaar wat beteken dat dit histories of argitektonies as belangrik genoeg beskou word om vir die toekoms te bewaar. Dit beteken egter nie dat só 'n eiendom verder leeg moet staan of noodwendig as 'n museum ingereg moet word nie. Voordat die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede die proklamering van 'n plek of gebou oorweeg, word die vraag gestel: Waarvoor sal dit na verwagting aangewend word? By voorkeur word so 'n gebou dan gebruik vir die doel wat dit oorspronklik gedien het: as woonhuis, as winkel, as kerk, as meulhuis, ens. So nié, word 'n ander gebruik daarvoor gevind. Ons weet van geen verklaarde nasionale gedenkwaardigheid wat leeg staan nie.

Die Stigting, en ook die Worcesterse tak daarvan, het geen belang by openbare strydoering nie, maar verkies die weg van oorlegpleging, oordeding en verspreiding van inligting solank die tyd dit toelaat. Die komitee het trouens die afgelope paar maande aandag gegee aan maniere waarop die doel en strewe van die organisasie ter geleger tyde meer doeltreffend met die publiek en die plaaslike owerhede gedeel kan word. Die kolomme van u blad is spesifiek as 'n belangrike kanaal van kommunikasie in die vooruitsig gestel. Die komitee het dan ook in die jongste tyd teenoor die Stadsraad die wens uitgespreek dat daar in verband met dorpsontwikkeling steeds meer vrugbare gedagte-wisseling in sake van gemeenskaplike belang sal plaasvind en het sy gretige samewerking in dié verband aangebied. Dit geld vanselfsprekend ook die geleentheid wat mag voorkom om belangstellende vergaderings of individue in verband met bewaring in te lig.

Ten slotte nog net die één opmerking: hier mag op die duur geen sprake van

botsende belange wees nie. Die toekoms van Worcester berus op die hede en die verlede. 'n Dorp of stad word nie oornag wat hy is of sal wees nie, maar groei met verdrag en neem die elemente van sy geskiedenis in sy karakter op. Daar moet in die harte van sy inwoners 'n plek wees vir die beste dinge uit elke tydperk van sy ontwikkeling. Só lewe en groei die beskawing in 'n gemeenskap. Nie baie burgers van Wes-Kaapland het die voorreg om 'n dorp soos Worcester te erwe nie!

*Worcester Standard Advertiser,*  
November 14, 1975

## **Agricultural museum planned**

An agricultural museum which, it is claimed, will be the first in South Africa, is to be established at Kleinplasia, the showgrounds here. The estimated cost is R350 000.

The curatrix of the Worcester Museum, Mrs Heloise Naude, said that the primary aim was the preservation of old farming implements and developments since the pioneering days in the Breede River Valley. Replicas would be built of old farm buildings.

*The Pretoria News,* October 27, 1975

Members of the Simon van der Stel Foundation recently undertook a bus tour of historic farms in the Hex Valley. The purpose of the excursion was the studying of architectural aspects on these farms. Mr John Rennie, well-known architect, explained the lay-out and construction plan of the house at Kanetvlei to members of the Foundation.

*Worcester Standard Advertiser,*  
April 16, 1976

## **Beaufort-Wes wil bewaar, restoreer**

Beaufort-Wes is deeglik bewus daarvan dat met beplanning en ontwikkeling ook in gedagte gehou moet word dit wat bewaar en restoreer kan word. Daarom is die dienste van dr Mary Cook van Swellendam bekom om 'n verslag voor te lê oor geboue wat vir die nageslag bewaar behoort te word en wat van argitektoniese belang kan wees.

Nou word besef dat 'n doeltreffender museum ingerig moet word. Met behulp van die argitek, mnr Gawie Fagan, is 'n verslag opgestel oor die wenslikheid om

die Ou Stadhuis, wat tot 'n Nasionale Gedenkwaardigheid verklaar is, die aangrensende Sendingkerk en die vroeëre Sendingpastorie vir museum-doeleindes in te rig. Die entoesiastiese verslag van mnr Fagan is aanvaar. Daar is besluit om voorkeur te verleen aan die implementering van die eerste fase soos voorgestel teen die voorlopig geraamde bedrag van R104 000. Die werklike inrigting en goedkeuring van hierdie projek is nog onderworpe aan die goedkeuring van die Provinsiale Administrasie.

Die restourasie en inrigting van die Sendingpastorie langsaan die eerste Sendingkerk op Beaufort-Wes, waarvan die vader van prof Chris Barnard en dr Marius Barnard vir baie jare die leraar was, geniet volgens dr Marius Barnard die hartlike steun van die broers Barnard.

Saam daarmee word die Eric Louw-gedenklokaal ter ere van wyle dr Eric Louw, in lewe Minister van Buitelandse Sake, ingerig.

Daarbenewens word 'n museum ingerig waarvoor reeds skenkings ter waarde van duisende rande ontvang is, o.m. die uitmuntende munt- en fotoversameling van mnr Wynand Vivier.

Die verwagting is dat die gedenklokale en ander uitstallings 'n groot toeristetrakksie sal wees en in werklikheid van nasionale sowel as internasionale belang sal word.

*Die Burger*, 21 November 1975

## Paul Kruger se huis gerestoureer

Die geskiedkundige huis op die plaas Bulhoek in die distrik Steynsburg is onlangs deur die Geloftefees-komitee van die dorp gerestoureer. Dit word deur sommige geskiedskrywers as die geboortehuis van pres Paul Kruger beskou.

Die huis is tydens die opening van die Oranje-Vis-tonnel druk besoek en ook deur ou inwoners van Steynsburg wat die vyftigste bestaansjaar-vierings van die Hoërskool Paul Kruger bygewoon het.

*Die Volksblad*, 10 September 1975

## Hope to save historic Karoo homes

Scores of historic Karoo-style homes in Graaff-Reinet have become the victims of progress during the past five years. Some have been torn down to make way for modern buildings, others have been renovated beyond recognition.

Many townspeople fear Graaff-Reinet is losing its character and quaintness.

A group of people who want to preserve the character of that historic corner of the Eastern Cape plan to meet to form a vigilance committee.

They hope the committee will be able to use "gentle persuasion" to save the more than 400 18th century homes still standing in the town.

The move to establish the committee was started by three women. Mrs Ann Matthew, Mrs Peggy Pienaar and Mrs Eira Maasdorp.

They approached the Town Council and pleaded for the formation of a vigilance committee.

The council appointed two of its members to sit on the committee - Mr A L Murray, the Mayor, and Dr C J J van Heerden.

In an interview Mrs Matthew said the committee could not force anybody to conform to a certain type of architecture. "But we want to make people aware of what they are doing when they demolish or modernise a historic building," she said.

"Where we can, we want to persuade

people to preserve these buildings and not alter them.

"We will advise people on how to restore the buildings and on what they should look like after restoration."

Mrs Matthew said it was often in the owner's own interest to restore a building.

"It is often more profitable for an owner to restore a building than to renovate it," she said.

"Many restored buildings have recently fetched high prices."

Further efforts to preserve the town's old buildings are being made by a group of Graaff-Reinet businessmen.

They have floated a company, Graaff-Reinet Historic Properties (Pty) Ltd, and through it they are buying and restoring old homes.

The company's managing director, Mr E S Whitlock, said the company had already bought three houses.

"One has been restored, one is being restored, and the third will soon be restored," he said.

*PE Evening Post*, November 15, 1975

## George Rex - remarkable but not royal

PATRICIA STORRAR

It is sad that there should be in South Africa today so few material reminders of the remarkable George Rex, one-time marshal of the court of vice-admiralty in Cape Town and for 35 years grand seigneur of the straggling little huddle of houses which was later to grow into the town of Knysna. It is even, considering the wealth of rumour, legend and speculation which has flourished round Rex's name for nearly a century and a half, a little strange.

A petrol station today plies its trade at No 17 Prince Street, Gardens, Cape Town, where once George Rex's handsome house, *Schoonder Zigt*, stood in its famous gardens.<sup>1</sup> *Melkbout Kraal*, his even finer estate on the east bank of the Knysna lagoon, has virtually vanished without trace. Only with the help of a diagram which Rex drew up for insurance purposes and which gives the exact dimensions of the buildings, is it possible to trace the outlines of the main house in the raised mounds which are all that is left of the crumbled foundations. Industrial buildings have crept up to within 30 metres of the spot where he once welcomed his guests at the front door of *Melkbout Kraal* and Escom power pylons tower even closer to his grave, which lies in what were his once beautiful grounds.<sup>2</sup>

The slipway on the upper reaches of the Knysna lagoon, where in 1826 Rex laid the keel of his brig, *The Knysna*, has been proclaimed an historical monument and a granite monolith bearing a plaque marks the spot.<sup>3</sup> Here the overhanging bushes have recently been cleared round the monolith itself, but the spot is still difficult to find. *Belvidere House*, on the west bank of the Knysna lagoon, is the only building extant in any way connected with the founder of Knysna (having been built in his lifetime by one of his sons-in-law)<sup>4</sup> but even that is now up for sale and it is by no means certain that it will be preserved.

The origins of the enigmatic George Rex, popularly supposed for almost a century and a half to have been the illegitimate son of King George III of Britain and a fair Quaker girl, Hannah Lightfoot, have at last been firmly established, thanks to the expertise of Professor Ian R Christie, Head of the Department of History at University College, London. All he had to go on was the fact that Rex had been a proctor of Doctors' Commons, London,<sup>5</sup> that he had been appointed marshal and sergeant-at-mace of the vice-admiralty court, Cape of Good Hope, in 1797<sup>6</sup> and that he had a much-loved sister, Sarah Rex, who died at her home in Bath in 1842.<sup>7</sup> The will of

this Sarah Rex (who is acknowledged by all investigators, including Sanni Metelkcamp<sup>8</sup>, to have been George's sister) had already been examined and the fact noted that in it the children of George Rex were named among others as legatees.<sup>9</sup>

Professor Christie used this will of Sarah Rex as a starting point in his investigations. In it are mentioned various freehold and leasehold properties which were to be sold and the proceeds divided among various legatees; the sum of £1 000 was to be a bequest "to my nephews and nieces, the children of my late brother, George Rex, of the Cape of Good Hope . . ."

The second vital link in the chain of evidence leading to the establishment of Rex's genealogy was a document found in the records of the Manor of West Ham Burnells in Essex and this records the sale of Sarah's lands in terms of her will.<sup>10</sup> Certain copyhold lands, "all those three acres and three roods of land situate, lying and being in Bromley Brook in the parish of West Ham . . . formerly in the tenure of John Warren . . ." are described in detail. It is these copyhold lands which provide the key to the long-standing puzzle, "Who was George Rex?"

The third important document constituting a confirmatory link in the chain is the claim, made on 20 April 1765 by one John Rex, a distiller of Goodmans' Fields, Whitechapel, to his right to take possession of certain copyhold lands left to him in terms of his maternal grandfather's will.<sup>11</sup> These lands are described as "all those three acres and three roods of land lying in Bromley Brook in the parish of West Ham . . . now in the tenure of John Warren". The similarity of the wording between this paragraph and that quoted from the will of Sarah

Rex, furnishes proof that this was one and the same parcel of lands. The next document to be examined lays bare the relationship which entitled Sarah Rex, spinster, to inherit the lands which John Rex inherited from his grandfather.

The spotlight now turned on the will of John Rex (George's father)<sup>12</sup>, who is shown in the London merchant directories of the seventeen-seventies in business as a distiller at 87 High Street, Whitechapel. This will mentions two lots of land in Plaistow Marsh "in the parish of West Ham in the county of Essex . . ." which were clearly the same copyhold lands as those already proved to have been held by Sarah Rex. One interesting clause in John Rex's will reads: "In regard I have already advanced my eldest son George Rex considerably more than I have my other son and daughter, therefore from and immediately after the decease of my said wife, I give and devise the said freehold and copyhold lands . . . unto my daughter Sarah Rex and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten . . ."

What more conclusive evidence could one find of George Rex's rightful lineage than the passing down of this parcel of lands through more than four generations: from John Rex's maternal grandfather to his eldest daughter's eldest son;<sup>13</sup> from John Rex to his daughter, Sarah, in succession to his wife and, when Sarah died, the bequest to her nephews and nieces in South Africa from the sale of these same lands. In fact, had George not predeceased his sister<sup>14</sup> he would have inherited these lands, because his younger brother, John, (also mentioned in the father's will) had died long before either of them.<sup>15</sup>

It seems hardly necessary, after so neat a piece of detective work, to supply further evidence of George Rex having been

the eldest son of John Rex of Whitechapel and his wife, but further evidence there is in plenty. In the register of christenings of St Mary's Church, Whitechapel,<sup>16</sup> the christenings of George, John and Sarah, children of John and Sarah Rex, as well as of two other daughters who must have died young, as they are not mentioned in the father's will, are recorded.

According to this register George Rex was baptised on 2 September 1765 and the fact that he was born in August 1765 is confirmed by the information entered on his death certificate on 3 April 1839 that his age at the time of death was "73 years and 8 months".<sup>17</sup> The birthdate of his sister, Sarah, who was baptised on 29 June 1770, corresponds exactly with the age given in her obituary notice when she died in Bath in August 1842.

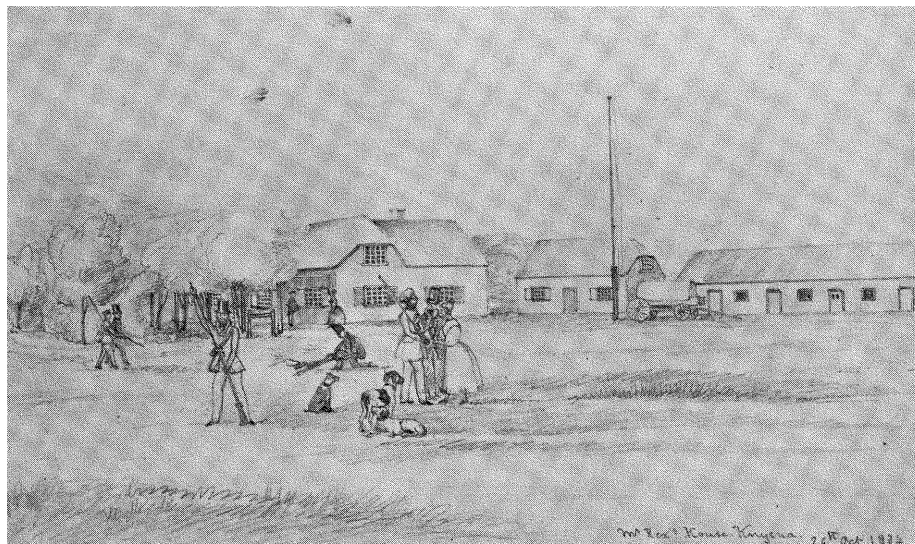
The three children who survived in the family, George, John and Sarah, have now been firmly identified. The combined evidence of the four documents points overwhelmingly to the conclusion that George Rex was born the eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Rex of Whitechapel, London.

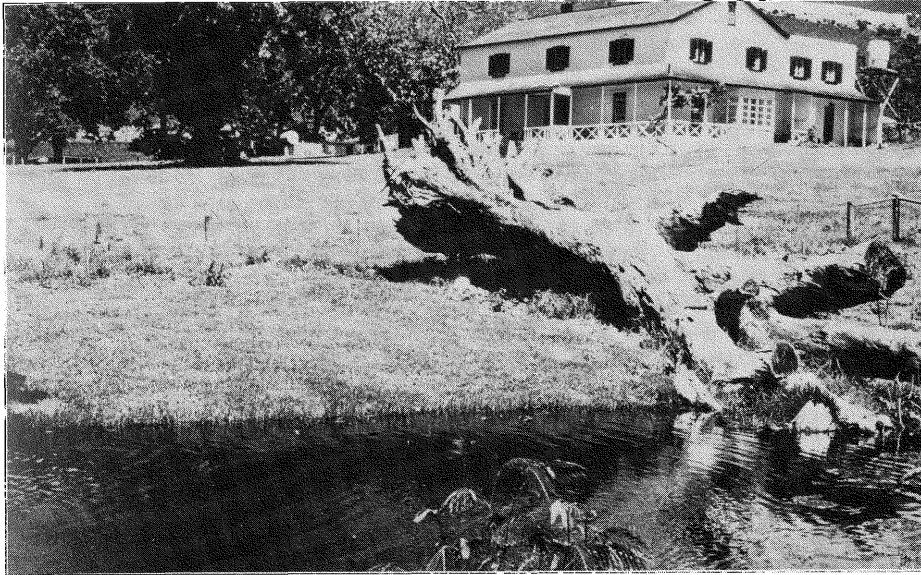
Although Rex was not royal he was nonetheless remarkable. Two further documents discovered in London in 1973<sup>18</sup> enabled the present writer to establish that he worked in Doctors' Commons for a total of 17 years – first as a clerk, then a notary and finally a proctor. He received the appointment of marshal and sergeant-at-mace when the vice-admiralty court was established at the Cape and held this position until the court was dissolved preparatory to the withdrawal of the British in 1803. In 1804 he settled at Knysna, where he built up his estate, *Melkhout Kraal* (bought reasonably in a deceased estate)<sup>19</sup> to become a centre of gracious hospitality.

He acquired other quitrent farms at low cost and from 1830 onwards owned roughly 10 000 hectares in a great U surrounding the Knysna basin.<sup>20</sup> Largely through his persistent efforts the Knysna lagoon was opened to shipping in 1817 and, having been laird of the little village and built up a considerable trade in timber there, he in effect founded the town of Knysna.

One achievement erroneously attributed to him recently was the building of *Belvidere House*, the future of which is now causing some speculation. This was actually built by Rex's son-in-law, Thomas Henry Duthie, who married Rex's third daughter, Caroline, in 1833<sup>21</sup>. George Rex did engage labourers for them during their absence overseas on a prolonged honeymoon and mustered building materials in readiness for their return, but did not build the house. Thomas and Caroline Duthie moved into *Belvidere House* on 10 April 1835<sup>22</sup> and

A reproduction of a water-colour of *Melkhout Kraal*, painted by Major A C Gregory on 29 October 1834. From Mr Harry F Oppenheimer's private collection, by permission of the owner.





**Belvidere House**

it was occupied in an unbroken line by their descendants until 1974. Now, thanks to an unusual clause in the will of the last direct descendant, it must be sold.

It is to be hoped that, partly because of its historic associations and partly because of the sheer beauty of the surroundings, this house will be preserved. What a fine museum it would make and how easily the buildings could be restored to house the relics of Knysna's past, including the relics of the father of Knysna, George Rex<sup>4</sup>

PATRICIA STORRAR

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- <sup>13</sup>Storror p 174.
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#### Patricia Storror

Patricia Storror has always been a keen conservationist of our cultural past. Nearly thirty years ago, as Patricia Knox, she collaborated with Thelma Gutsche in timeously recording for posterity historic sites, buildings and other landmarks of old Johannesburg. Most of the buildings described in this book, *Do You Know Johannesburg?*, have since been demolished. She was the author of *Beginners Please: A History of the Children's Theatre in South Africa*, placing on record a commendable effort to stimulate interest in the performing arts, which has also, sadly, disappeared from the scene. Mrs Storror, a graduate of the University of Cape Town, was for many years on the editorial staff of *The Star*, Johannesburg. She has contributed to various publications, including a short biography in *Better Than They Knew* (1971) on the pioneer actor-manager, Leonard Rayne. Her long association with the Plettenberg Bay district led her to delve into its past with a view to writing a book on it, but in the course of her research in this country and in England evidence about the family origins of George Rex came to light which was of such importance that she switched course and wrote a definitive biography of this remarkable Englishman, *George Rex: Death of a Legend* (1974). She has now returned to her original project.

Patricia Storror is as actively concerned with the preservation of history's tangible landmarks as with the accurate recording of history itself.

## Knysna se Koppe verklaar

'n Deel van die Knysnakoppe is onder die jongste toevoegings tot die sowat vyfhonderd nasionale gedenkwaardighede in Suid-Afrika.

Volgens 'n afkondiging in die *Staatskoerant* is die geskiedkundige Metodistekerk op King William's Town en 'n Kaap-Hollandse huis op Montagu ook tot monumente verklaar.

Erf 1406, die oostelike deel van die bekende Knysnakoppe, is weens sy natuurlike skoonheid verklaar.

Volgens mev C Ingram van die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede in Kaapstad is dit nie die eerste keer dat natuurdele tot monumente verklaar word nie. Melville-koppies in Johannesburg en Tafelberg is reeds as sulks verklaar. Die doel daarvan is om hulle te bewaar soos hulle nou is en te voorkom dat daar onder meer geboue opgerig word.

Die Metodistekerk in King William's Town is in 1855 opgerig. Dit is later deur 'n plaaslike Duitse Baptistegemeente gebruik en huisves tans die Suid-Afrikaanse Sendingmuseum.

Die Kaap-Hollandse huis in Langstraat 21, Montagu, is in die sestiger jare van die vorige eeu gebou.

*Die Burger*, 4 Augustus 1975

## Save Knysna environment group launched

An action group – the Knysna Vigilance Committee – has been formed for a “save Knysna” campaign, aimed at protecting the town's environment from attacks in the name of progress.

Copies of a letter criticising the local authorities for insufficient attention to ecological issues will be sent to every Knysna ratepayer.

The letter calls for a central authority to be set up – either by the province or the State – to control the development of the Garden Route and to protect Knysna's “precious heritage” from the depravations of quarrying, road building, poor town planning and pollution.

The letter says; “Knysna without its precious heritage of its lagoon and its beautiful setting would be an insignificant little town.”

It warns that some developments in recent years in Knysna will be condemned by future generations.

“Because of the ward system no protest against these piecemeal attacks on our environment has been possible,” the letter says.

'The Vigilance Committee has been formed to organise a combined front against the danger which threatens our town.'

### Robbing

The letter outlines some of the wrongs the committee thinks should be put right. It says:

- The point of access to the Knysna lagoon, at Leisure Isle, has been sorely neglected.
- The approach to the town from Plettenberg Bay is being rebuilt at enormous cost in a way that is robbing it of all its character.
- Caravan parks and an industrial area obstruct public access to the lagoon.
- Loads of timber are transported through the town on big trucks that contribute to pollution.
- The historic valley of Welbedacht Road is threatened by the proposed feeder road to the free-way.
- Devastation is being caused by quarrying.
- The Phantom Pass is being turned into a scene reminiscent of the Witwatersrand mine dumps.

The letter says the committee plans to submit a petition to the provincial authorities on the "damage being done." Members of the committee are Mr W Nielsen, Mr G Chapman, Dr A Reitz, Mrs D Chaplin, Mr and Mrs E Kurtz, Mr B Nimmo, Mr M Bridger, Mr Sholto Douglas and Mr J B Steele.

*The Argus*, September 19, 1975

## Oudtshoorn-Pastorie ná jare monument

Die nuus dat die kerkraad van die moedergemeente Oudtshoorn op sy jongste vergadering besluit het dat die ou pastorie tot nasionale monument geproklameer mag word, is vir talle mense 'n bron van groot vreugde. Daarmee is 'n lang gesprek tussen die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede en die kerkraad suksesvol beëindig.

Oudtshoorn is bekend vir sy sandsteen-geboue. Dink maar aan die historiese kerkgebou waaraan terloops sewentien jaar lank gebou is en wat in 1879 voltooi en in gebruik geneem is. Dan is daar die ou Hoër Seunskool wat nou die C P Nel-

Museum huisves, Pinehurst en verskeie ander. Sommige van die eertydse mooies is nie meer onder ons nie, soos The Towers wat 'n paar jaar gelede moes plek maak . . .

Een van die mooiestes is die pastorie wat net oorkant die kerk is, tussen Hoogstraat en Baron Van Rheedestraat.

Dit is 'n groot dubbelverdiepinggebou met pragtige klipmure en mooi houtwerk. Die vensters, trappe en traliewerk is van kiahout en die vloere van geelhout. Dit het 'n leidak.

Die gebou het in strukturele opsig feitlik onveranderd gebly; net één vertrek aan die noordekant agter het 'n moderne venster gekry.

### Geskiedenis

Die geskiedenis van die pastorie is soos volg:

Op 3 November 1879, kort nadat die kerkgebou ingewy is, het die kerkraad besluit om 'n nuwe pastorie te bou en die bestaande pastorie, waarin ds T J van der Riet gewoon het, te gebruik as „eene eerste klas onkerkelyke school”. 'n Kommissie is aangewys om die saak te ondersoek en 20 November daarvoor verslag te doen.

Op dieselfde vergadering het ds Van der Riet te kenne gegee dat, aangesien sy gesondheidstoestand swak was, hy moeilik met sy werk as herder en leraar sou kan voortgaan.

Op 20 November het die kommissie by die Kerkraad aanbeveel dat ds Van der Riet toegelaat word om sy emeritaat te aanvaar, en om in die geval van sy uitrede die pastorie aan hom te skenk. Indien dié voorstel aangeneem word, moet daar dadelik oorgegaan word tot die oprigting van 'n nuwe pastorie op die kerk-erf oorkant die kerk.

Albei voorstelle is aanvaar en 'n boukommissie is aangewys waarvan B Keyter, O I Olivier en W Deas die lede was.

Nadat ds Van der Riet teen die einde van Desember demissie ontvang het, was die gemeente ongeveer ses maande lank vakant. Toe is ds G W Stegmann daar bevestig. Hy het tydelik elders gewoon.

Op 27 Desember 1880 is berig dat 'n tender van Delbridge en Courtney van Mosselbaai vir die bou van die pastorie aanvaar is. Dit het £3 250 bedra. Die kostes in verband met die verwerk en uitplak was nie daarby ingereken nie.

Die boukontrak is op 1 Desember 1880 onderteken. Daarvolgens moes die gebou binne twaalf maande afgelewer word. Ene Lesser is as boumeester aangestel.

### Voorspoedig

Met die insameling van fondse het dit besonder voorspoedig gegaan. Op 24 Januarie 1881 het die boufonds volgens die Kerkraadsnotule reeds ongeveer £2 000 bedra. Dit sou aangevul word

deur kerk-erwe te verkoop en in Mei-maand 'n basaar te hou.

Op voorstel van diaken J J (Jurie) Schoeman is in verband met die basaar besluit „dat ingeval Brandewijn, Wijn, of Azijn magt word gegee, dezelve aan eene Commissie zal worden ingezonden die voor de verkooping zal zorgen, die echter niet op de Bazaar zal plaats hebben”. Langsaan hierdie besluit in die notuleboek staan dié kantaanteekening: „Gevaar dat drank voor bazaar sal gegee worden.”

Die verkoping van die erwe op 18 April 1881 het £1 367 bedra en die dankfees het £1 880 en vier sjielings opgelewer. Daarmee was die geld gevind en kon die bouwerk ongestoord voortgaan. Die gemeente moes definitief goed gemotiveerd gewees het om só spoedig só baie bymekaar te bring!

Die muur en hekke aan die voorkant (oostekant) van die pastorie is in 1881 aangebring. Ook 'n muur met 'n hek aan die westekant, agter die pastorietuin.

Op 29 Mei het die Boukommissie gerapporteer dat die werk voltooi was. Die buitegeboutjies was ook klaar.

Daarna was daar nog 'n algemene magtiging aan die predikant (ds Stegmann) om kleiner veranderings te kan aanbring met die doel om die huis moontlik geriefliker te maak.

### Sewe monumente

Met verloop van tyd het die klipkerk in die neo-Gotiese styl en die sierlike pastorie bekende bakens op Oudtshoorn geword. In sekere sin herinner hulle 'n mens aan die Lutherse Kerkkompleks in Strandstraat, Kaapstad. Sou iewers in die land nóg só 'n mooi Nederduitse Gereformeerde kerk-en-pastorie-kombinasie in 'n historiese styl wees?

Die kerkgebou is 'n paar jaar gelede tot nasionale monument geproklameer. Nou, ná onderhandelinge wat van 1969 af geduur het, is die weg oop om ook die pastorie te proklameer.

As die pastorie geproklameer is, sal Oudtshoorn sewe nasionale gedenkwaardighede hê: die ou hoër seunskool, Pinehurst, die kerkgebou, die pastorie, die hangbrug in Kerkstraat, die voorste gedeelte van die Kangogrotte en die woonhuis van die volstruisplaas Greylands.

PROF DIRK KOTZE  
*Die Burger*, 4 Desember 1975

## Preserving Arniston way of life

The Save Arniston Campaign was a good example of what the preservation movement was really about – preserving an actual way of life, Mr Willem J Punt, director of the Simon van der Stel

Foundation, told Property Argus this week.

The campaign was launched this week to raise R100 000 to restore 80 fishermen's cottages at Arniston, near Bredasdorp. It was started by a group of architects and businessmen who have already spent R8 000 from their own pockets for urgent restoration work.

Mr Punt, who was in Cape Town to give his foundation's support to the campaign, said this aspect of preserving an actual way of life was an important one that had previously been greatly under-stressed, if not ignored.

"If we merely wish to perpetuate a record of what is or was a way of life it would be easier and cheaper to select the best three or so cottages for preservation and destroy the rest," he said.

"But it is misguided to believe that buildings should be preserved merely for their own sake. They are merely a utilitarian construction. Their real importance and value as objects for preservation is that they form part of a human environment.

"The people behind this campaign to preserve Arniston have recognised the real object of preservation . . . to preserve the whole community and its way of life, and not merely the buildings."

Mr Punt said the Simon van der Stel Foundation welcomed projects of this kind as it was beyond the foundation's means to tackle every such project.

"The conservation and preservation concept has been slow in developing compared with countries in Europe, but compared with younger countries we can be quite proud," he said.

"Arniston is a good example of proper

preservation that should help to nurture and reinforce the fishing community there."

His only reservations about the project were the possible difficulty of raising R100 000 in the present financial climate and the possible difficulties in maintaining the restored buildings.

A hundred artists have given paintings to be sold to raise money for the campaign. They will be on show in the lower mall of Cavendish Square, Claremont, in April.

The chairman of the campaign, Mr G J Schroder, said that the village was unique in South Africa as it was the only one which was absolutely unspoiled, and which could be restored to its original state.

The 80 cottages belong to the Fishermen's Union and are leased to Coloured families whose only livelihood is fishing. The village is a famous beauty spot and a favourite with artists. But many of the whitewashed cottages, built in the 19th century, are so dilapidated that they will collapse unless urgent repairs are carried out.

Mr B J F Bennetts, committee secretary, said that the tenants' income was too low for them to do this work themselves.

The Divisional Council intended to expropriate the area in 1973 to bulldoze the cottages and use the site for scheme housing.

But it was persuaded not to and is now in favour of the Save Arniston plan. The village was declared a national monument on December 12.

The campaign committee plans to restore only the exterior of the cottages, any improvements to the interior will have to be paid for by the tenants.

But since starting the work, the committee has realised the social implications of beginning to improve life in the cottages, and there are plans to provide piped water and sanitation and to educate the fishermen and their families about such things as birth control and household management.

They will also be employed in building, which will give them extra income.

"There is a lot to be done if this beautiful place is to continue to exist, unspoiled for people to see in the future," said Mr Schroder. "And the time has come when it is funds that are needed, not just sympathy."

● An exhibition of photographs of the Arniston cottages was opened at the BP Centre in Thibault Square, Cape Town, this week by Mr F Conradie MEC, patron of the preservation campaign.

ALUN VAUGHAN

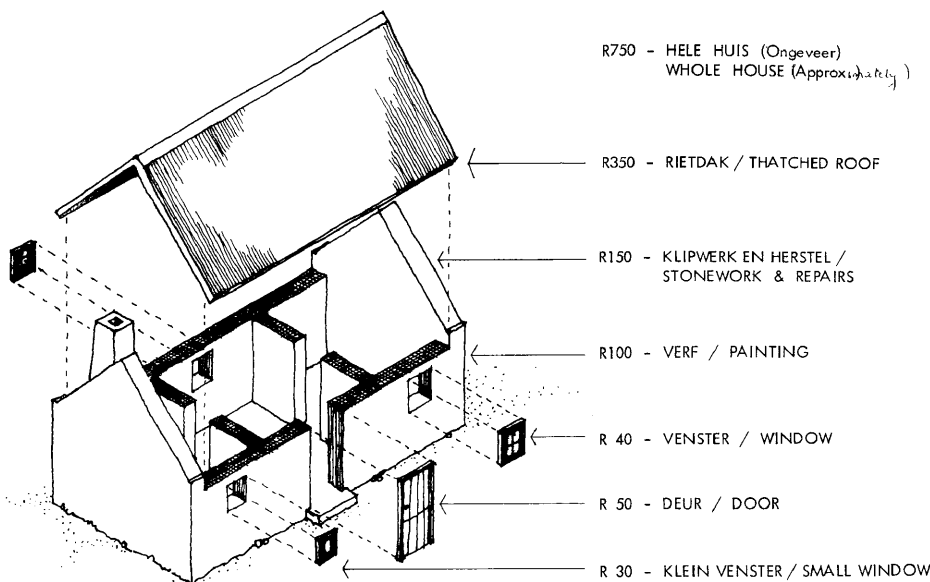
*The Cape Argus*, January 24, 1976

## Antiques Exchange



A rare William and Mary side table in kingwood oyster veneers, c. 1690

for sale at  
**Donore Gallery**  
Price Lane, Wynberg,  
Cape Town



Estimated Costs of Restoration  
Beraamde Koste van Herstelwerk;

PRESERVE ARNISTON  
BEWAAR ARNISTON.

Ontdek die ryke erfenis  
van Stellenbosch in

# Stellenryck

Wyne van Oorsprong



STELLENRYCK-  
DIE OORSPRONKLIKE WYNKELDER  
OP DIE PLAAS VAN LAMBERTUS FICK  
TE STELLENBOSCH.

## Stellenbosch-ryk in tradisie

Wyne in die Stellenryck-reeks kom uit die roemryke Stellenbosch-gebied, waar voortreflike wynmakerskuns reeds eeue lank gedryf is. 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 vrug van 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 gedryf is.*

## 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.





## A whaleboat the first museum ship in South Africa?

C DE JONG

Since times immemorial right whales visit the bays of the Cape Province during winter to give birth to their calves in shallow and safe water and to suckle them. They gave their name to Walvis Bay and after 1790 attracted whalers from many nations who anchored in the bays to provision and to hunt whales with their rowing boats. Leendert Jansen and Jan van Riebeeck proposed to the Dutch East Indian Company to kill not only seals but also whales off South Africa, but as whaling claimed specialized personnel and equipment and many casks it was not practised before 1792. Between 1792 and 1850 several land stations on the Cape coast participated in the hunt until the whales became scarce and the stations had to close down.

The foreign ships used the bays also as bases to pursue another kind of whale, the sperm whale in the open sea out of sight of the coast. For many decades after 1800 North Americans operated from Delagoa Bay and Madagascar to catch sperms. Those were the days of sailing ships, hand harpoons, open cooking pots on ship's decks and Moby Dick adventures. The Moby Dick of the wide whaling grounds off Southeast Africa was no legend; he was called Madagascar Jack.

The industrial revolution was introduced into the dying old whaling industry by the Norwegian skipper Svend Foyn. In 1864-70 he modernised it single-handed. He created modern whaling with steam-propelled ships (whaleboats), armed with a swivel harpoongun, operating from land stations where a factory converted whales into oil, meat meal for fodder, bone meal for manure and steaks for food. After 1904 the floating factory was introduced, installed in a mother ship which serves as a base to a fleet of whaleboats.

From Norway modern whaling spread to all coasts overseas frequented by whales - also to Africa. Between 1900 and 1914 some 14 land stations were founded scattered along the coasts of Africa south of the Equator. The gunners, mates and factory managers were mostly Norwegians. In 1908 the first

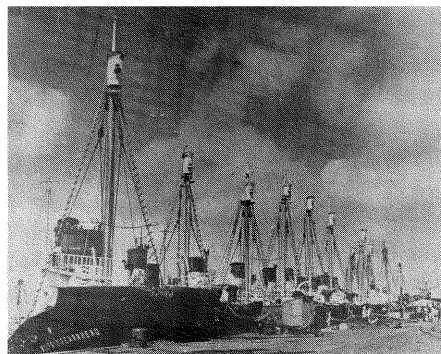
whaling station in South Africa was established by the Norwegian, Johan Bryde, and two immigrants from Norway in Durban, the merchant Jacob J Egeland (1864-1946) and the carpenter Abraham Larsen. After one year they separated from Bryde who continued whaling at Saldanha Bay; they called their company the Union Whaling Company because the Union of South Africa was drawing near. They invited members of the National Convention in Durban in 1908 to attend a hunting trip on a whaleboat before leaving. Among their guests were General De la Rey and Percy Fitzpatrick who described this new adventure.

Other land stations were founded in the Union and by 1912 six were in operation in Natal. During the First World War most of them closed down. Some resumed whaling after the war - "Union Whaling" in 1921 - but owing to the depression only this firm and the Premier Whaling Company, founded in 1920, remained active. They combined in 1932 when the Great Depression made it difficult to go it alone.

The Union Whaling Company continued whaling year after year, both during the Second World War and the decline of open sea whaling in the main field, the Antarctic Sea, after 1960. The humpbacks and blue whales became scarce and were protected, but "Union Whaling" switched over to other baleen whales: fin, sei and minke, and when these too became rarer in the Antarctic Sea, sperm whales became the principal game. The big, toothed animals abound in the old vast field around Madagascar.

### Whaleboats of the Union Whaling Company moored to Salisbury Island, Durban, in the years sixty

Photo: C de Jong



As the Durban company was alone in these grounds and the number of "sperms" to be killed was strictly limited by the government, the company could have continued the hunt for endless years and the international action to stop all whaling to save the baleen whales was inapplicable to "Union Whaling's" activities.

South Africa also sent three factory ships to the Antarctic Sea for a number of years, two of which Union Whaling equipped; they were "Uniwaleco" in the thirties and "Abraham Larsen ex-Empire Victory" after the Second World War. In the course of years Union Whaling has extended and modernised its land station continuously and in the last decades it was the largest and most modern of the world with a good reputation among official whaling inspectors and biologists. But costs were high and rose fast and the catch always fluctuated owing to the variability of weather and whale feed. In 1968 the company had to restrict its activity and sold half of its 12 whaleboats. It recovered until fuel oil prices rose enormously; fuel oil is one of its highest cost items. After the latest fuel price hike in October 1975 and a bad season the directors decided to close the station. Whaling off South Africa has ended, probably for ever. For many years the quaint whaleboats with their high bridge, catwalk leading from the bridge to the platform upon the high stem and harpoon gun, were conspicuous entering the Durban Bay with whales in tow or moored in neat rows at Salisbury Island. They will no more be seen.

The land station will be stripped of its whaling gear and the remaining six catchers will be sold or scrapped. But I consider it in the national interest to preserve part of its equipment, a set of harpoons, flensing knives, hooks and other tools, the furnace of the blacksmith who straightened harpoons bent by struggling whales, and above all one of the six fast, storm-battered, dapper whaleboats. This ship will be a living relic of a glorious industry which is now dying all over the world, and of a meritorious South African enterprise.

I propose to acquire one of these whaleboats from the owners, to moor it to the Victoria Embankment and to install it as a floating whaling museum, the first museum ship in South Africa. Pictures, photos, maquettes, tools and an excellent

coloured film of 12 minutes of the Union Whaling activities will show the public modern whaling, how it was practised off Natal and possibly also off the Cape Province.

With whaling whaleboats are disappearing fast. I hope that the City Council of Durban or a private foundation will acquire one of the whaleboats in Durban and convert it into a new attraction for the many tourists in this city. I can refer to an excellent example: the whaleboat "Rau IX", built for a German whaling company in 1939, used for whaling, laid up in the far Sheep Islands north of Scotland, found by the German national maritime museum at Bremerhaven, bought, brought to the old port of this busy fishery port, moored alongside other national museum ships and visited by many people. So far "Rau IX" is the only museum ship in the world which served in modern whaling. I hope that South Africa will preserve one of her own ships as a whaling museum for posterity.

### **Confusion over notice in Gazette**

What could have been a "monumental mix-up" over Durban's City Hall turned out to be merely a matter of confusion. A notice in the Government Gazette on December 12 declared the City Hall a national monument, with the Local History Museum and the Francis Farewell Gardens.

But, the historical and architectural description referred to the old Town Hall, now the Post Office. It read: "The Town Hall, Durban, was designed by Philip Dudgeon in the neo-classical style. The foundation stone was laid in February, 1883."

However, Mr G Hofmeyer, secretary of the National Monuments Council in Cape Town, confirmed it was the present City Hall which had been declared a national monument, although both buildings had been considered by the Council.

*The Natal Mercury*, January 20, 1976

### **No bulldozing this tea shop**

The Colombo Tea and Coffee House in Durban's West Street has remained where it was established in 1901.

According to the owner, Mr Norman Richardson, it will only be demolished "over my dead body".

A quaint little building, it not only looks good, it smells good too. Surrounded

by architectural monuments of the 70's, this vintage curiosity seems to beckon: "Here's where you'll get all you need for a quiet cuppa tea . . ."

Developers have had big plans and have offered big money for the site, but its conservation-conscious owner refuses to be lured.

Unfortunately that is more than can be said for other buildings worth preserving throughout South Africa that daily bite the dust.

With this worrying thought in mind the Natal Provincial Institute of Architects held an exhibition on the conservation of buildings.

A leading South African architect, Mr Hans Hallen, echoed the growing concern among many people over the deterioration of the quality of South African cities and towns, particularly in visual terms.

"It is a sad but true fact", he says, "that you only miss old buildings once they have gone. The public should be made aware of what it has before it is too late."

With a wry smile he points out that in the Cape once threatened old buildings are now "our national heritage".

The idea was not to make old buildings museums but to find new uses for them. With astronomical increases in land values and building costs this was only logical.

"You can't treat an old building like a butterfly - stick a few pins through it, attach it to a board, and say 'Isn't it beautiful?'"

Old buildings should live.

SUZANNE VOS

*Sunday Times*, August 31, 1975

### **Two new monuments**

The Local History Museum in Durban and the officers' quarters at 20 Bell Street, Fort Beaufort have been declared national monuments.

The museum building was completed in 1866, and was originally used as a court and post office. It is the oldest surviving Government building in Durban. The officers' quarters were built in 1849.

*Rand Daily Mail*, November 29, 1975

### **Lost Toll House turns up at Kloof**

Durban's old Toll House, built in 1866 and believed to have gone the way of so many of the city's historical buildings, has been found alive and well - indeed being lived in - at Kloof.

The Toll House with its gate was sited at the top of Berea Road as a means of raising funds for the hardening of Durban's main outlet.

Tolls ranged from two shillings and sixpence for a wagon to sixpence for a saddled horse.

Pedestrians were allowed in free.

But one of the curious bye-laws covering the toll gate was that all pedestrians entering had to be suitably clad from neck to knee, which was not easy for the Zulus who in earlier times were included to be clad mostly in their skins. However, they could hire a pair of trousers for a shilling and return them on leaving.

An umfaan leading a team of oxen once caused quite a stir in West Street.

He was clad in his madam's cast-off corsets, a rather large garment in those days, which adequately covered him from neck to knee.

But everybody wasn't so determinedly honest.

Some of the transport riders with their wagons tried to evade paying tolls. One of their tricks was to muffle the wagon chains with sacks and try to sneak through the gate at first light.

However, one particular toll keeper, Harry Bird, was equal to such manoeuvres although confined to a wheel chair.

He had acute hearing and would hear them moving surreptitiously through.

He would send one of his children, still in night clothes, to run after the errant wagon and demand the toll.

According to one of the riders "Harry was a real hard one. Nothing slipped past him."

In 1900 the toll system was discontinued and the house was sold.

All that could be remembered of it was that it had been dismantled and loaded on two wagons.

After that it had disappeared into the blue hinterland, apparently lost for ever.

But recently when Mrs Daphne Strutt of Durban's Local History Museum was giving a lecture to a Kloof audience, she was told by Mrs Lesley Kure that the house was in fact still in existence and was being lived in by a young married couple, Alain and Rosslyn Rouillard.

Two years ago they had been looking for land in Kloof and when they were offered a plot with the advantage of an old wood and iron cottage they jumped at the opportunity. For the time being they would have a roof over their heads.

"It wasn't much of a house when we bought it, but still it was far better than a flat", said Mrs Rouillard.

"It was a bit scary, old trees hanging over the roof and branches scraping on the corrugated iron at night.

"We soon had it in a livable condition and for the time being it suited us. The only real problem was that the bath and the other place were outside and under



**The old Toll House, one of Durban's historical buildings of the last century, was built in 1866 at the top of Berea Road. It served as a home for the toll keeper until 1900 when it was removed to Kloof.**

—Photo: *The Natal Mercury*

the house. They are still there and at night this is more than inconvenient." Now Mr and Mrs Rouillard want to build a new house and cannot do so without shifting the old Toll House. They hope it will not have to be demolished and finally lost for all time. A group of interested Kloof residents are now trying to find a site for the old house.

There is also the problem of removing it but the thinking is that if an old time farmer could do so with two wagons modern cartage should be able to cope. Provided the removal is successful, the house will not be used as a museum as was suggested but as a home for a couple interested in having an historical home. Mrs Strutt will even donate the old toll gate now in the back of the St Andrew's Street museum so that both can be together again.

ARTHUR BOWLAND  
*The Natal Mercury*, November 26, 1975

### **Dundee call for restoration of Rorke's Drift**

The Dundee Town Council is to ask the provincial authorities to consider the possibility of a national committee to investigate the restoration of Rorke's Drift on a national scale.

The request will be made "in view of the tremendous importance of the battle of Rorke's Drift in the history of South Africa."

#### **Curator**

The local authorities of Newcastle, Ladysmith, Vryheid, Glencoe and Utrecht

are to be approached for their views on the joint appointment of a museum curator to serve all these towns.

*Natal Witness*, October 1, 1975

### **New Germany A page of Natal history brought back to life**

A New Germany Lutheran Church, founded in 1862, has been rebuilt and restored by a leading wineries group. It has been declared a national monument. The church, in Shepstone Road, New Germany, was built by the first German settlers in Natal under the pioneering leadership of their missionary pastor, Carl Wilhelm Posselt.

It served the growing German community for more than 100 years. But with the growing industrialisation of New Germany, it was decided to build a larger and more modern church nearer the residential areas.

In 1969 four hectares of land adjoining the church was sold to the Stellenbosch Farmers' Wineries for the establishment of a new winery and offices.

When the Lutheran congregation saw the beautiful Cape Dutch style buildings erected by SFW, they approached them and asked if they would buy the church as well but preserve the sacred fixtures and fittings.

The wineries have now spent R20 000 rebuilding and restoring the church and have turned it into a chapel and community centre.

The magnificent altar, altar rail, pulpit and pews which were sent out from Germany in the last century have been rehoused in the little chapel which is now situated at the back of the building. All have been cleaned and restored and members of the Lutheran community have restitched and repaired the altar cloths and drapes.

The original organ in the gallery has also been restored and can now, along with the little chapel, be used for weddings and christenings.

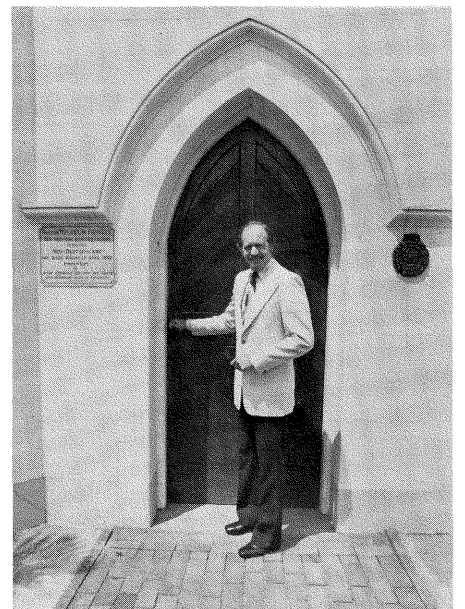
The roof was rotten and eaten with borer. This and the ceiling had to be renewed and the floors relaid. The vestry was falling down and this was redesigned into a porch.

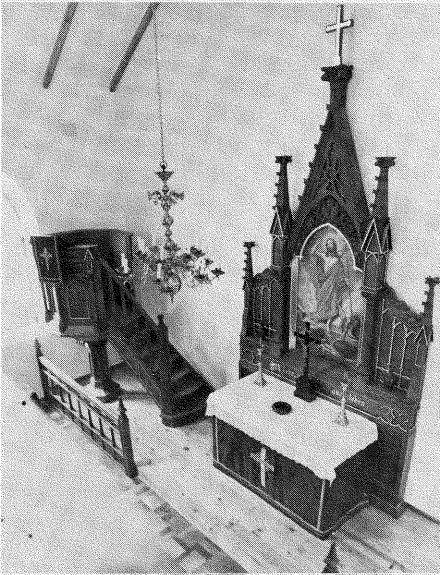
It cost R150 to restore each window frame and the stained glass was reglazed. The magnificent brass chandelier was cleaned and more light fittings added."

The front of the building has been renamed Nederburg Hall and is used for seminars, literacy classes and receptions. The public can always visit the winery and the chapel during the week and at weekends by appointment.

### **Lutheran Church, New Germany**

Photo's: *The Natal Mercury*





**The magnificent altar and pulpit of the Lutheran Church**

Photo: *The Natal Mercury*

It is hoped that memorabilia of the early German settlers will be donated to the hall for safe-keeping.

*The Natal Mercury*, March 11, 1976

## Pietermaritzburg plan to save crumbling arch

An ex-servicemen's association in Pietermaritzburg may be asked to launch an appeal for funds to pay for the restoration of a familiar landmark in the Capital – the memorial arch in Church Street, writes our Civic Affairs Editor.

In recent years a number of efforts have been made to repair the arch but have merely proved temporary expedients and the condition of the structure has deteriorated.

At its meeting yesterday the Finance Committee noted that the consulting architect felt it would be advisable to replace the decayed stonework at a cost of R18 700.

As no funds are available for the purpose, the committee recommended that the SA Legion (BCESL) be asked to launch an appeal campaign to pay for the restoration work.

Meanwhile, a firm of Durban stonemasons – asked to inspect the arch – has found it to be in a potentially dangerous condition.

### Fallen

A representative of the firm found that very serious deterioration had taken place to the extent that several pieces of the stonework had already fallen off. A two-day thorough examination had also revealed that many large pieces were about to fall.

“We therefore strongly recommend that

the memorial arch should be barricaded off so that the public would not be injured by falling masonry,” states a report submitted to the committee.

*The Natal Witness*, October 8, 1975

## National monument gains by capital

Three school buildings in Pietermaritzburg have been declared national monuments in terms of notices by the Minister of National Education, Sen J P van der Spuy, in the *Government Gazette*.

The buildings are Clark House and Victoria Hall, of Maritzburg College, and the historic Longmarket Street Girls' School building at the corner of Boshoff and Longmarket Streets.

Clark House was erected in 1887 and the adjoining Victoria Hall in 1895. These buildings housed the original Pietermaritzburg High School. Clark House itself is built in the neo-Gothic style and is one of the best-known school buildings in South Africa.

Mr R D Clark, who put College on the map, was also responsible for the building of the Victoria Hall. Before the hall was built, assembly and speech day functions were held in the quad, which in wet weather became very muddy.

Mr Clark agitated and finally building started on the Victoria Hall. This was in the year of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee. The hall was named after her.

The building was barely finished in 1899 when it was taken over by the British to be used as a hospital in the South African War. The hall itself was used as an officers' ward.

The Army moved out in the middle of 1900 and the boys returned.

The Longmarket Street Girls' School building was erected between 1903 and 1911.

*The Natal Mercury*, November 1, 1975

## Tanner Farm

With reference to Mr Harold Bailey's drawing of Tanner House, which you featured in the *Witness* of April 22, may I, for the information of those of your readers who are interested in such subjects, make some adjustments regarding the history of the place?

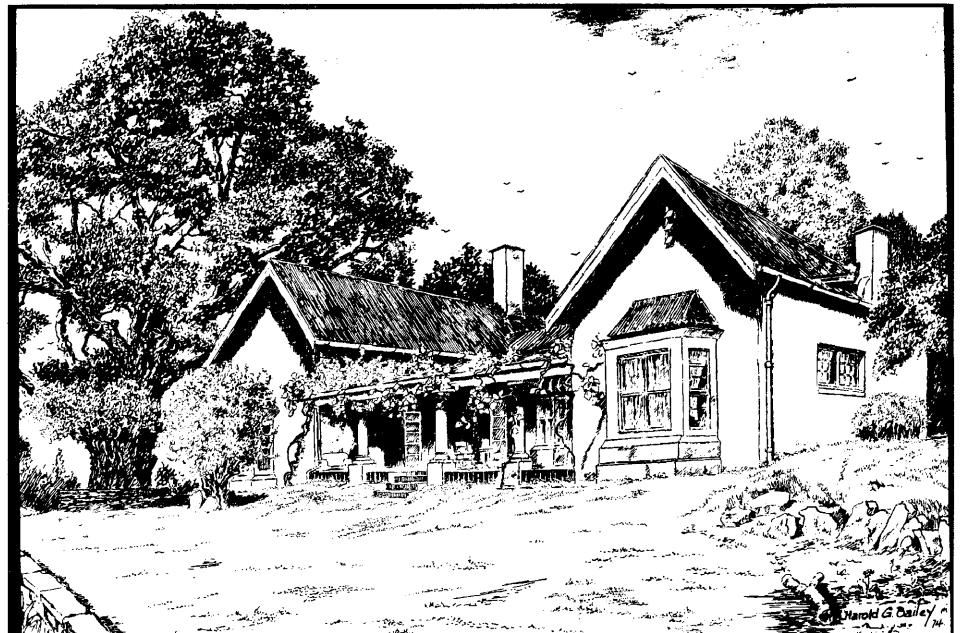
We do not know for certain when the first building was started on the land, but we do know that it was eventually bought in 1881 by a Mr Richard Basing Tanner, a land surveyor, who put it in the name of his wife, Jessie. She owned it until 1924, during which time it would have acquired the name of Tanner Farm, and it then passed into the joint ownership of two of her daughters, Annie and Harriet – I am at present trying to find out exactly what family she had.

The property remained in the Tanner family until the last war, when it began to be broken up and to revert to various owners – Orchard Circle, nearby, was named after one of them.

In 1951 the house was derelict, and was acquired by Mr R H (“Peter”) Field, who gave it the name of Tanner House, after consultation with a member of the family. In the time of the Tanners, it had always been called Gartside. Mr Field completely restored the house, and was largely responsible for its present state, and from whom we acquired it in 1965.

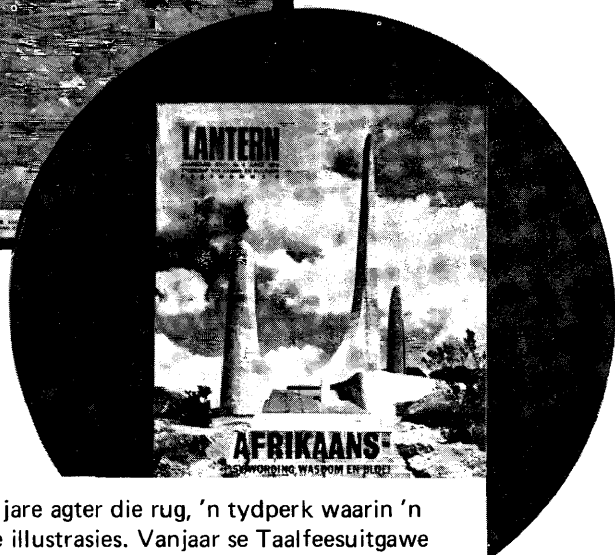
DR D W F CHARLTON

*The Natal Witness*, April 29, 1975





# 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.



## GESKENKKOEPON – LANTERN

Die Redakteur, LANTERN, Posbus 1758, PRETORIA 0001.

Ek wil LANTERN as geskenk aanwend en teken graag in vir:

Name en van van persoon wat LANTERN moet ontvang:

.....  
 .....

Adres: .....

My name en van: .....

Adres: .....

'n Posorder/poswissel/tjek van R3.50 word hierby ingesluit.

## INTEKENKOEPON – 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: .....

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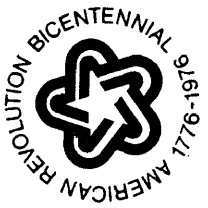
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## Overseas - Buiteland



### United States of America

### The National Park System

#### An American heritage of land and history

From the establishment of the first national park - Yellowstone - in 1872, National Parks have evolved through Congressional enactments into a system containing more than 250 parks in the 50 States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

#### Resources for re-creation and recreation

Millions of Americans find enjoyment in their National Parks each year - refreshment of mind, body, and spirit. And billions of dollars, \$6,4 billion in 1967, go to thousands of others who furnish the needs of travelers who every year visit the parks.

#### Legislative Landmarks

The history of the National Park movement in this country could be viewed as the natural evolution of an *environmental ethic*. This emerging ethic stands as an imperative guideline in carrying out the responsibilities that Congress has entrusted to the National Park Service. It seeks to bring together into a manageable fusion, the two worlds of man - the natural world into which he is born, and the cultural world he has created.

Among many legislative enactments creating the National Park Service and defining its mission, the following have primary significance:

**Act of March 1, 1872.** This legislation established Yellowstone National Park - the world's first national park - thus establishing a new policy for management and use of the public lands.

**Antiquities Act of 1906.** This act extended the public land policy relating to natural parks to provide authority for the President, by proclamation, to set aside as national monuments "... historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest ..."

**Act of August 25, 1916.** Congress established the National Park Service and assigned to it the administration of the

national parks and most of the national monuments theretofore established, and enunciated a broad framework of policy for the administration of these areas.

**Act of February 21, 1925.** Provided for "securing of lands ... for ... preservation as national parks through the acquisition of lands in private ownership ... through donations." This action was significant in that prior thereto the national parks and monuments had been set aside from the public lands.

**Act of March 3, 1933.** This authorization for reorganization within the Executive Branch of the Government resulted in transferring to the Department of the Interior for administration by the National Park Service the national memorials and parks of the Nation's Capital, and national monuments, historical, and military parks administered by other Federal agencies.

**Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935.** Established a national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States. The act also directed the Secretary of the Interior to carry out wide-ranging programmes in the field of history and placed with the Secretary responsibility for national leadership in the field of historic preservation. The act also established the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments.

**Park, Parkway and Recreation Area Study Act of June 23, 1936.** Authorized, among other things, studies to expand the National Park System to include areas having primary recreational significance.

**Act of June 30, 1936.** Provided for the administration of the Blue Ridge Parkway, thus introducing the rural parkway concept into the System.

**Act of August 17, 1937.** Established Cape Hatteras National Seashore, marking the beginning of the national seashore concept.

**Act of August 7, 1946.** The Congress authorized the National Park Service

through cooperative agreements to administer recreation on lands under jurisdiction of other Federal agencies.

**Act of August 7, 1961.** The authorization of Cape Cod National Seashore marked a new concept in the development of the National Park System; namely, the use of appropriated funds at the outset to purchase a large natural area in its entirety for a park. Prior to this enactment, areas, for the most part, were established either by setting aside portions of the public lands or from lands donated to the Federal Government by public or private interests.

**January 31, 1962.** The Outdoor Recreation Commission, established pursuant to an Act of June 28, 1958, submitted its report to the President of the United States. The report contained far-reaching recommendations affecting the future of outdoor recreation. Implementation of many of the recommendations of the Commission affect the National Park System. For example, Policy Circular No. 1 of the President's Recreation Advisory Council not only defines national areas but also establishes broad guidelines regarding their management.

**April 2, 1962.** The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation was established and assigned the nationwide recreation planning and related functions of the Secretary then being performed by the National Park Service, under the authority of the Park, Parkway and Recreation Area Study Act of 1936.

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#### NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION (USA)

**30th Annual General Meeting and Preservation Conference, Philadelphia 27-31 October 1976**

Simon van der Stel Foundation members who may be near Philadelphia at that time and would like to attend this USA Bicentennial function, should write to me. I shall channel such requests to the correct address. So if you are able to represent the Foundation, please contact me.

W J Punt  
Director  
P O Box 1743  
Pretoria  
0001

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**Act of May 23, 1963.** This law charged the Secretary of the Interior with the responsibility "to promote the coordination and development of effective programmes relating to outdoor recreation."

**Act of September 3, 1964.** Among other things, established the National Wilderness Preservation System and required the Secretary of the Interior, within 10 years, to review roadless areas of 5 000 acres or more in the National Park System and make recommendations as to whether such lands should be added by the Congress to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**Act of September 3, 1964.** Established the Land and Water Conservation Fund from which appropriations may be made by the Congress for allocation to (1) the States, on a matching basis for planning, acquisition of land and water areas, and construction of outdoor recreation facilities; and (2) the Federal agencies, including the National Park Service, for use in acquiring lands needed for outdoor recreation.

**Act of October 15, 1966.** Congress broadened its policies for historic preservation and authorized assistance to State and local governments and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The act also established a 17-member Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to advise the President and Congress and to coordinate Federal, State, and private activities in historic preservation.

**Act of July 15, 1968.** Increased revenues for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and provided additional land acquisition authorities to the National Park Service.

## US Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Park Service Bicentennial Events

#### More than 250 sites from coast to coast are preparing programmes

With the Nation now officially entered into its bicentennial period, the pace has begun to quicken for the National Park Service and its own schedule of observances.

So far, three years and \$100 million, the largest bicentennial budget of any established Federal agency, have gone into NPS preparations for the 200th birthday celebration. Many of the agency's plans are just now coming to fruition.

Archeologists, historians, architects, and designers are among those playing significant roles in one of the most comprehensive programmes in Park Service history.

The result, for the 270 million Americans

expected to visit NPS sites during the bicentennial, will be varied programmes and activities designed to enhance their understanding and appreciation of our Nation, where it has been, and where it is going.

New and expanded visitor centers are underway at more than a dozen Revolutionary War sites. Replicas of Revolutionary War cannons, uniforms, and clothing are being made. Dramas and historical vignettes are being prepared, and new films, exhibits, publications, and living history programmes are in production.

Special activities are planned at each park under the bicentennial themes of "heritage," "festival," and "horizon." These activities, ranging from living history demonstrations to discussions and debates, will relate to the park's historic significance or to its natural resources. They will include such themes as ethno-culture, colonial and Indian history, environmental education, and performing arts.

Construction projects are an important part of the National Park Service bicentennial programme. Among the significant projects are construction of the National Visitor Center in Washington, DC; construction of Constitution Gardens, a visitor use area in Washington, DC; restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings and construction of a new visitor center at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, Pa; archeological research and reconstruction of Fort Stanwix in Rome, New York; and restoration and rehabilitation of historic structures and battlefields at Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown, Virginia.

Materials to make historic events and personalities come alive for visitors are being prepared at Harpers Ferry Center, the Park Service facility in West Virginia which designs and produces exhibits, films, slide presentations, and publications which explain the natural and historic significance of park areas. During the bicentennial, visitors will be offered programmes covering both bicentennial subjects and those evolving from the park's main theme as it related to the American experience.

Some specific examples are:

- "People of 1776" – A traveling live production portraying different aspects of colonial life: military, domestic, and American crafts.

- "America: 1776" – A film depicting the life of the average person during the time of the American Revolution. Crafts, ways of life, and the differing attitudes of the people of the Colonies will be shown.

- "Wilderness: 1776" – A motion picture about the America west of the Appalachians in 1776.

- A traveling exhibit of the artworks produced by the Park Service Artists-in-the-Parks programme, which has concentrated upon bicentennial sites for the past two years. The exhibit will travel to museums and other sites across the country.

Publications developed for the bicentennial, including *National Park Guide to Historic Places of the American Revolution*, will be available for purchase either in the parks or through the Superintendent of Documents. A series of books (*Signers of the Declaration*, *Signers of the Constitution*, and *The Presidents*) relate historic sites and buildings to the historic personalities. Historic booklets will be available on several of the major bicentennial sites.

The National Park Service will produce three history charts: "The Continental Navy," "The Continental Soldier," and "Philadelphia in 1776." The *Sunday Times* of London will produce three charts: "The Royal Navy, 1763-1783," "The Redcoats," and "London in 1776." The Service will receive reproductions to print the three British charts as part of the NPS series.

Educational charts for use by school classes will be produced on two subjects: "A Nation in Celebration, 1776," and "A Colonial Farm in Virginia." A series of colourful posters will depict some of the bicentennial parks.

With all of these activities either underway or beginning in coming months, it is obvious that the personnel of the National Park Service will be busy making the bicentennial an important and meaningful occasion in the lives of Americans. The big day is July 4, 1976, and the big event is at Independence where the Bicentennial Bell, cast in London by the same firm that cast the Liberty Bell, will be dedicated. Commemorative activities will occur throughout the day.

*NPS Newsletter*, 4 July 1975.

### Denver Service Centre National Park Service USA

In designing park environments, the National Park Service has long had no peer. Our planning and design standards are emulated and admired throughout the world. Because of our commitment to quality, the question of special protection and development of parks has meaning in terms of design – for design, in the broadest sense, is concerned with the quality of an environment, and the order and harmony of both the natural and the man-made.

But what are the criteria by which we measure quality? How do we differentiate

between the ordinary and the excellent? Obviously, park designers must possess a deep understanding of park resources, regional influences, and the park's socioeconomic climate. Without this, one can hardly respond to functional requirements with attainable design solutions that are respectful of management goals and visitor needs.

Designs should be contemporary. They should also be subtle interpretations of bold forms; be "quiet" on the landscape; and avoid flamboyant, exotic solutions. This requires the most sensitive use of regional influences such as forms, textures, materials, and colours in a non-imitative, expressive way. Visitors must not be confused as to what is historic and what is not. It is our aim that each structure in a park represent the period of time in which it was built, yet be harmonious with related structures of other eras – creating an exciting montage rather than monotonous sameness.

Park facilities must be visually enjoyable and additive to the park experience. The mood and spirit of the park must pervade interiors as well as exteriors. As an example, one park concessioner has erected a new lodge that not only satisfies these criteria, but even the design and offerings of his menu bespeak that place. In past decades, park designers consciously tried to hide their art among the trees – and that worked fine in an era of generous budgets and unlimited space. But soon uses were found for the interstices between structures; automobiles dominated developed areas; utility systems became complex nightmares; and parklands grew scarce. This sprawl system, perfected in the older forested parks, was promulgated to newer, arid, treeless parks, with desecrating results all too obvious.

These pieces of park art (and art they should be) must be good enough that they need not be "hidden among the trees." Rather, they should be integrated with site through sensitive choice of forms, materials, textures, and colours. Park designers and managers should be alert to opportunities for clustering park functions and facilities. Clustering can result in conservation of land and economic resources, and can create pedestrian and socially oriented space.

If, therefore, this collection of areas we know as the "National Park System" is truly unique and significantly different, and if the management thereof must also be unique and different, it follows that the application of man's hand in the design of such areas must also be unique and different.

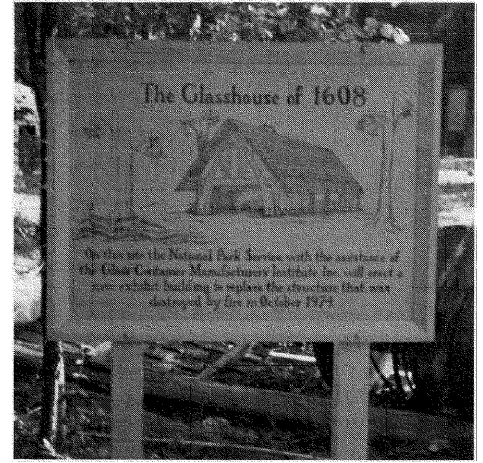
And this is the mission of the Denver Service Center – to provide a broad range of creative, high-quality designs for the Nation's unique parklands.

*Exponent NPS USA*, Vol 1 No 1,  
October 1974

## Americans put reconstructions to work

**Our Honorary Correspondent John Lukens in Philadelphia writes:**

My primary responsibility is to provide technical advice and assistance on the maintenance of buildings in National Park Service areas of the Mid-Atlantic Region which comprises the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. I have very little to do directly with work in Philadelphia since Independence National Historical Park has a very competent maintenance force plus a group of historical architects detailed from the Denver Service Center to work in the Park. Just now I happen to have an interesting structure under construction from my drawings and specifications at Jamestown, Virginia, since it was needed quickly to replace one that burned down. I enclose a snapshot of a descriptive signboard on the site for the reconstruction of the Glasshouse of 1608. (It's predecessor was a conjectural reconstruction which we built in 1957). The purpose of the building is to house a continuous exhibition of glass-blowing in the traditional hand method by people in 17th century costume representing the first industry ever established by English



colonists in North America. It is essentially a mediaeval English barn framed with tree-trunks which we were permitted to harvest from the grounds of the neighbouring Naval Weapons Station. My reconstruction is scheduled to be completed about the end of February, after which I should be able to provide you with a few more interesting pictures.

J B LUKENS  
Regional Architect  
Mid-Atlantic Region  
National Park Service  
US Department of the Interior

## Protection of historic structures from damage caused by overuse

The Service's Establishment Act of August 25, 1916 states that "The Service thus established . . . (shall conserve) the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife (in) national parks, monuments, and reservations (so as) to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

This mandate presents us with a particularly sensitive responsibility in management of historic structures. Most historic structures are fragile resources, easily damaged by overvisitation or overuse. When such damage results in the need for the Service to rebuild or replace portions of the original structure with new material or even with old material from another source, some of the authenticity of the resource has been lost. Of course this will tend to happen gradually due to the ravages of time and climate even if the structure is not used or opened to visitors but we have a compelling obligation to avoid causing accelerated damage

by improper adaptive use or by unregulated heavy visitation. Our most careful and best-informed judgement is required in dealing with this dilemma. Adaptive use of historic structures is appropriate only if it leaves them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Structures which must be opened to visitation need constant watching to insure that their deterioration is not unduly accelerated by the intensity of visitation.

The *Activity Standards for Historic Resource Studies and Management*, December 21, 1971, Part II, under Historic Structures states that, "A historic structure will be managed satisfactorily when . . . Use of the structure after development is so managed as to prevent damage to the structure, its environment, and such contents as may be historic. In all questionable matters, professional advice will be sought."

There are numerous examples of appropriate adaptive use of historic structures in Historic Areas of the National Park System. These range from use of his-



toric houses as employee quarters to concessions for shops which are in keeping with the theme of the parks in which they are located. A particularly appropriate adaptive use is to house a non-profit organization with a cultural purpose compatible with the historical theme of the area. All restrictions and guidelines which apply to the adaptive use must be clearly set out in the agreements under which it is established so that they are clearly understood by all persons concerned.

Public visitation to historic structures is always regulated to some degree just by the fact that the Service is in charge of the structure, establishes opening and closing times, and exercises some kind of surveillance. If a building contains antique furnishings this surveillance becomes more stringent and may be aided by installing intrusion alarms, closed circuit TV scanners, and/or barrier railings to enable visitors to see things without getting close enough to touch them. Modern floor-covering mats and runners may be used over antique floors and carpeting to save them from excessive wear from the feet of visitors. In many cases the buildings and their contents have to be directly supervised by admitting visitors only in scheduled personally-conducted tour groups. The size of such conducted groups may be limited as necessary to avoid overloading weak floor or stair framing or simply to keep the group small enough so that the guide will be able to keep them all within the range of his or her personal surveillance. To sum up, the purpose of our conservation of historic objects, including structures, is "to provide for the enjoyment of same" (by the Public), so we cannot just concentrate on conservation to the exclusion of use. However, since this enjoyment must be "in a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations," we must always lean toward conservation when faced with choices. That word "*unimpaired*" (for the enjoyment of future generations) appears to be the key word.

JOHN B LUKENS  
Regional Architect  
Mid-Atlantic Region  
National Park Service  
USA

## Giving in America

Increasingly, charitable giving is an important aspect of American life, not only for the nonprofit institutions that receive the funds, but also for the donors who frequently make the gifts because of the tax benefits accruing to them. A recent survey indicates that in 1973, nonprofit

groups received \$26 billion from living persons, \$2 billion in bequests, \$2 billion from foundations and \$1,25 billion from corporations. It is also estimated that nearly 6 billion hours in volunteer time is contributed annually to these groups. While all that seems like a great deal of money, one must keep in mind that there are 6 million nonprofit institutions competing for those dollars.

A recent development in this area merits attention. It is the long-awaited report of the Filer Commission, *Giving in America: Toward a Stronger Voluntary Sector*. In November 1973, John D Rockefeller, 3rd, initiated a privately funded citizens panel, the Commission on Private Philanthropy and Public Needs, chaired by John H. Filer, chairman of Aetna Life and Casualty.

In the course of its deliberations, the commission sponsored more than 75 reports on various aspects of giving. One, "The Role of Philanthropy in the Environmental Field: Preservation of Natural Lands and Historic Properties," was prepared by Janet Koch, a writer from New York City, and Thomas W. Richards, president of Hartzog, Lader and Richards, environmental consultants, and a special consultant to the president of the National Trust.

The commission made a wide variety of recommendations to increase personal and corporate giving. Changes in the way individuals can take deductions were tied to income levels; for example, someone earning less than \$15 000 could take a deduction of \$100 for a \$50 donation. The commission thought business should increase its giving level from less than 1 per cent of pre-tax net income currently to at least 2 per cent by 1980. Some members, however, favoured a straight 2 per cent tax on corporate profits, against which could be charged corporate donations to charity, while others, including several corporate executives, thought businesses should be required to have a 1 to 2 per cent donation level in order to receive credit for the deduction.

Another recommendation was that federal regulations be established for interstate charitable solicitations. In a survey for the commission, 30 per cent of the people questioned did not like the way their funds were used and one out of seven "complained of excessive fund-raising or administrative costs."

The Filer Commission also recommended that nonprofit groups, except foundations, "be allowed the same freedoms to influence legislation as are granted business corporations and trade associations." The US Congress has bills before it on this matter. The legislation, if approved, would amend the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954 to permit public charities to participate in the legislative process.

The report of the Filer Commission should be of interest to all those involved

with nonprofit groups. Members of Congress are currently reviewing the recommendations. If people want changes, they must stand up and be counted and make their feelings known.

*Preservation News (USA)*, March 1976

## Conquering preservation's last frontier

Last month I had the opportunity to point out the negative effects public tax policies have on the preservation of our historic resources and to offer some of the Trust's ideas for remedying this chronic situation. The occasion was my opening address to public and private opinion leaders attending the first national conference on Public Tax Policy: Effect on the Conservation of the Built Environment, sponsored by the National Trust at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC.

As I told the assembled conference participants, we believe the injurious effects of much of our existing tax policy on cities, neighbourhoods and individual structures are highly visible. This situation makes it imperative that solutions be found through the tax laws to encourage preservation.

The overall policies of the tax system today still encourage demolition and penalize those who seek to retain old structures. Changes in the public tax laws to indirectly encourage the preservation of those structures would appeal to a broader spectrum of owners and investors who may not be the beneficiaries of federal support – provided through grant-in-aid programmes of the National Park Service and other federal agencies. In 1973 the trust made a study of its own goals and programmes as they relate to the environmental movement. Formulation of a taxation policy was one of the main legislative priorities recommended in the report. Last month's conference, generously supported by the Ella West Freeman Foundation, was a direct outgrowth of the Trust's intent to meet that priority. Through such educational conferences and publications of proceedings we will continue to support the establishment of a sympathetic tax policy, both for its own merits and as part of the conquering of preservation's last frontier – the broader problem of economics and finance.

The Trust in 1970 submitted comments in order to formulate a preservation tax policy to a historic preservation subcommittee of a Tax Law Advisory Committee appointed by the Council on Environmental Quality. The study compiled by the tax committee resulted in the forerunner of a bill now before com-

mittees of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate – the Historic Structures Tax Act. By providing tax incentives for the rehabilitation and conservation of the urban environment, the Historic Structures Tax Act would redress the current imbalance that favours demolishing rather than preserving buildings.

I emphasized at last month's conference that this year will see the coming and going of many celebrations that will last as long as memory or newsprint will allow, but that may leave nothing permanent for future generations. The reform of our current tax policies to encourage the retention and preservation of our structures and surroundings would be a creative contribution to the spirit of this Bicentennial year.

JAMES BIDDLE  
President  
US National Trust

*Preservation News (USA National Trust),*  
March 1976

## Interior announces preservation grants

Secretary of the Interior Thomas S Kleppe announced in early February almost \$22,3 million in matching grants for historic preservation projects throughout the country.

The grants, which are made by the National Park Service under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, go to the states and the National Trust.

Under the 15-month apportionment announced by Kleppe, the National Trust is to receive \$3,2 million with the states sharing almost \$19,1 million. Last year, for 12 months, the National Trust received \$2,7 million and the states nearly \$17,6 million. This brings the total funding under the National Historic Preservation Act to date to \$72,7 million.

The money is administered by the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation and is used to assist in historic preservation surveys as well as to fund public and private acquisition and restoration of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. So far the funds have aided nearly 1 300 National Register properties and the new money is expected to help 800 more.

The funds are apportioned throughout the individual states by the state historic preservation officer based on demonstrated need. Recipients must match the money with non-federal dollars or donated goods and services. Community development block grant funds may be used as a match, if the project is a part of the community development plan.

The nearly \$22,3 million available is but a fraction of the amount requested. This year the states and the National Trust have certified a matching capability of more than \$267 million, according to National Park Service figures.

*Preservation News (USA),*  
March 1976

## AIA President urges recycling

The president of the American Institute of Architects said in St Louis recently that "we need a fresh approach to preserving our cities."

Speaking to the Central States Regional Conference of the AIA on October 23, William Marshall, Jr, FAIA, called on architects to *recycle cities*. "If a building, a block, a neighbourhood, a district is worth keeping and recycling to meet our present needs, then we must do it. If we can convert an old movie house into a performing arts center – and do it with less money, less materials, less energy and less disruption to the city than building a new structure – then we must do it."

Marshall noted that recycling takes less energy and added that while historic preservation is a worthy goal, there are many other reasons to save cities.

"For the past few years," he said, "it seems as if we have been living through an endless series of crises." He listed the energy crisis, the scarcity of materials and the economic crisis. "These crises mean that we can no longer afford – if we ever could – to treat our cities as disposable commodities. We can no longer assume – if we ever could – that the best way to make our cities livable again is to rip out old buildings and replace them with shiny new developments."

The Norfolk, Va, architect added that conservation of cities should not be limited to single buildings but rather entire areas and said also that recycling provides a continuity to cities that is missing in new developments.

"Those who have been fighting for historic preservation all these years – an uphill struggle – have helped us realize that the best kind of urban growth and development is a process of evolution – a process that doesn't destroy the past, but respects it, builds on it, learns from it and makes it a living part of our present and future," Marshall concluded.

*Preservation News (USA),* January 1976

## Las Vegas - the adult Disneyland

JOHN WAKEFIELD

Las Vegas is part of an entertainment network of the West Coast ie Los Angeles, Grand Canyon, Lake Mead, etc. Located within 300 miles of Los Angeles, it is an important stopover for those en route from the East Coast.

The illusion of Las Vegas is an escapism to sin, sex, and gambling for the Lawrence Welk (Nixon's silent majority) generation of middle class Americans. Primitive man and beasts occupied the Las Vegas Valley about 28 000 years ago. Then, unlike now, the valley was a verdant sea of lush foliage and vegetation.

Late in the 16th century, when the Old Spanish Trail was carved out of the wilderness to establish a route between Santa Fe and the Missions of California, the meadows and natural spring of Las Vegas were known to the pioneers.

The first American occupation of Las Vegas came in 1855, when William Bringham Young of Great Salt Lake arrived with a band of 30 young men detailed by Brigham Young to "go to Las Vegas, build a fort there to protect the immigrants from the Indians."

On May 15, 1905, Las Vegas was really born. Around a platform erected under a spreading mesquite tree near the present railroad depot, nearly 3 000 people gathered to hear an official of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad (now Union Pacific) explain plans for a major rail development through Las Vegas and the Southwest. He started a land auction which lasted two days and saw the sale of 1 200 lots at a total price of \$265 000. In a matter of days a mammoth tent city came to life on the desert. Housed in the tents were a post office, saloon and gambling house, as well as hotels and a bank. The main hotel was a huge canvas structure 140 feet long. Las Vegas really started to feel its civil muscles when construction was started on Hoover (Boulder) Dam and through its completion in 1935.

Last year 14 million visitors spent \$221 379 000 in Las Vegas.

### Structure of the City

The two most interesting areas for study in Las Vegas are Fremont Street and

the Strip (Route 91A). By whatever means one comes to Vegas – by air, bus or rail – all these means of transportation either lead directly onto either the Strip or Fremont Street. Fremont Street is pedestrian oriented and the Strip is motor car oriented.

### Freemont Street

The railway station did play an extremely important part in the growth of Fremont Street.

The relationship of the railway station was almost religiously positioned on an axial basis to Fremont Street.

For the first four blocks there is a very high concentration of casinos. This area lives for the moment when the red sun sinks behind a dusty horizon; one cannot find a more spectacular display of light anywhere in the world.

The casinos of pedestrian oriented Fremont Street have an almost bazaar like quality and it is possible to wander from one casino to the next without returning to the street.

A casino called the Union Plaza Hotel has now been built on the station site.

### The Strip

Some 30 years ago Tom Hull owned a hotel in Los Angeles and he was driving back from Las Vegas when he had a flat tire on Route 91A. He was surprised at the amount of traffic going back to Los Angeles.

He decided to build the first hotel on the Strip called the “El Rancho Vegas” – built in 1940 and burned down in 1960.

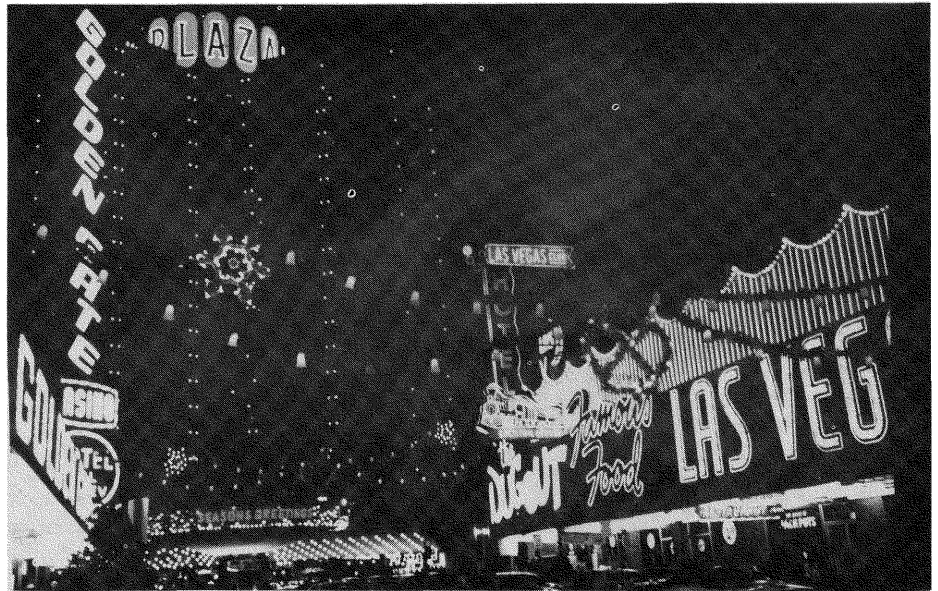
The Las Vegas Strip is not a chaotic sprawl but a set of activities whose pattern depends, as with other cities, on the technology of movement and communication and the economic value of land. We term it sprawl because it is a new pattern we have not yet understood.

The Strip is analogous to a harbour pier with a series of ocean liners permanently docked next to the quay. Each ship (casino) is trying to sell a different illusion to its travelers.

The hotels make their communication with the passing motorist (travelling  $\pm 30$  mph) via means of signs.

Token parking is found in front as well as taxi rank and buggy cars which are located right at the major entrance. The bulk of the parking, along the sides of the complex, allows direct access to the hotel, yet stays visible from the highway.

Whether it is day or night it is hot in summer and black oceans of tarmac radiate heat derived from the sizzling sun. This is in total contrast to that moment when one passes through the crisp curtain of air into the luxurious interior. Usually one is confronted with a vast gambling area which also serves as a public circulation space. This area



is thickly carpeted and virtually limitless low space is experienced, which houses many activities, mainly those connected with gambling. Those gambling devices which are most profitable to the house are placed near the entrances, i.e., one arm bandits. It is not uncommon to see middle-aged women busy feeding in nickles or dimes and cranking handles of two or three gangsters (one arm bandits) simultaneously.

### Signs

Neon has done for Las Vegas what the skyscraper did for Chicago and New York – it created the image by which it has come to be identified. A typical solution has been a two-posted standard bearer carrying the name of the establishment high in the air so as to be visible for miles.

The signs are cumbersome, undistinguished and have the tastefully judged proportion of a used car sales banner.

One can start to look at three qualities of individual signs:

- 1 Physiognomic
- 2 Heraldic
- 3 Informational

The total image of a sign, i.e., its inherent structural configuration, plus any applied imagery and information is its physiognomy. The other two qualities, heraldic and informational are then parts of the physiognomy which exist in differing balance in different signs. The heraldic elements for long distance impact and identification. The specific information is reserved for the closer view with the secondary information to be read only after pulling off the Strip.

New signs are no longer intricate compositions of neon as is found in some of the older signs, but are large panels of



light with letters silhouetted against the neon. This is for ease of changing titles.

### Cosmetic Architecture

Most casinos follow a very similar pattern of design. If we were to move from the street through a hotel/casino complex, it would follow in this order:

- 1 The sign.
- 2 Token parking in the front of casino.
- 3 Taxi drop off at entrance to casino.
- 4 Opulent air of luxury in the casino which is one large space. Off this large space are located hotel reception, large and small theatres, bar and cafes.
- 5 The green oasis is the focal point of all casinos.

There are three slight variations on this theme:

- A The Landmark Hotel which looks like a phallic symbol – where the hotel shape becomes the advertisement in itself.
- B Circus Circus – where the casino is in the form of a tent – similar to the above except that actual circus events are performed inside the casino.
- C MGM Grand – the last generation of casinos, but much more than that. It is a mini city with theatre, movie houses, shopping and a Jai-Alai stadium.

### Casino Design

Many illusions are very carefully created inside the casino. Let's look at them in detail:

- 1 A hierarchy of gambles has been established by the attendants' appearance, subtle level changes, and by motif character. At the lower end are the slots (minimum bet 5c) near the entrance, while the most impressive is Baccarat (minimum bet \$20) located at the back of the casino.
- 2 No man wearing a mustache is permitted to work in any casino, presumably on the grounds that a mustache suggests a sinister or shifty character.
- 3 There are no clocks in any gaming establishment.
- 4 The enclosure of the gambling room and its subspaces makes for privacy, protection, concentration, and control, by having no visual access to the outside.
- 5 Free drinks are served players in the casinos on the Strip – although they are a little watery. It is not at all unusual for the waitresses who serve cocktails to net one hundred dollars a day in tips.



- 6 Thick carpets provide an air of luxury, but no seats are provided. The managers would prefer you to stand and gamble.
- 7 Famous entertainment names almost assure personal contact with the gamblers at the tables.
- 8 Each casino extends its theme in this central area, i.e., Caesar Palace – a Roman orgy, or Sahara – Arabic influence.
- 9 Light sources, chandeliers, and the glowing, juke-box-like gambling machines themselves are usually stimulation.
- 10 What is very important is the attractiveness of the hostesses in these areas. The least attractive of them are the change girls for slot machines, who usually wear smocks. The Keno girls are better looking and are dressed in virtually a one-piece swimming costume. The upper end of the scale, below the showgirls, are the drink hostesses, who the casino carefully selects and are virtually bunnies.
- 11 Low one-way mirrored ceilings also permit outside observation of the gambling rooms.
- 12 If the hotel has a casino, local regulations will determine how visible or accessible it may be. In Las Vegas the idea is to force all circulation through the casino whereas in Puerto Rico the casino is only open during certain hours and there are strict regulations as to how obvious the gaming may be.
- 13 Entertainment in Las Vegas is divided, basically, between the big rooms and the lounges, and all the major hotels boast both. The big rooms, seating roughly 600 to 1 000, present the top names and offer a dinner show at 8 p.m. and a drinking show at midnight.

### Opening of the Landmark and International Hotels

To the accompaniment of a 21 gun promotional salvo, the Landmark Hotel (476 rooms) opened. "In France, it is the Eiffel Tower. In India, it is the Taj Mahal. In Las Vegas, it is the Landmark," boasted TV spots. Its qualifications for

uniqueness included: The world's longest swimming pool (240 ft, shaped like a hot-water bottle), and the only high-altitude casino (on the 29th floor) in town. The International Hotel (1 519 rooms) claims to superlatives were: The world's biggest eternal flame (35 ft high) burned brightly outside the entrance, while the world's largest swimming pool (350 000 gallons), located on the second floor roof recreation deck. The world's biggest casino (30 000 sq ft) directly below; dwarfed by a stage as large as that of Radio City Music Hall.

No mention was made of the fact that water leaked from the world's largest swimming pool into the world's largest casino!

### Sex

If one opens the centerfold of Panorama (a free tourist newspaper), there are advertisements for numerous massage parlours and porno movies.

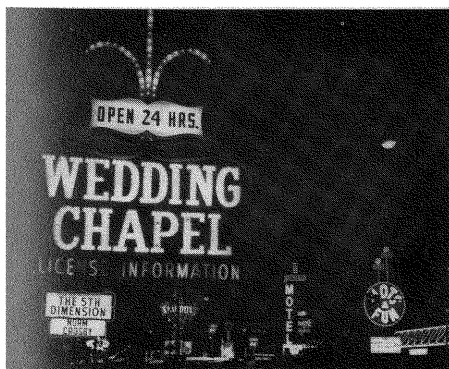
Outside the city there are numerous small trailer-camp communities which survive solely on prostitution. According to the Los Angeles Times, "prostitution is one of the biggest industries in rural Nevada."

The town fathers of Wells noted that visitors seemed to be having trouble locating the red-light district, so they helpfully installed directional signs. When reactionary residents of one town kicked up a fuss because a house of ill repute was operating next door to the local school, the town newspaper editorialized: "Don't move the house. Move the school." The school was moved.

### Wedding Chapels

The wedding chapels are perhaps the most pathetic form of imagery in Las Vegas. Usually some cheap cosmetic facade is applied to the most mundane of buildings, probably flanked on either side with a gas-station.

It is fairly common to see billboard type advertisements on cabs advocating the benefits of being married at a particular wedding chapel. The Chapel of the Bells has a turnover of \$300 000 per year and performed no less than 74 ceremonies last year on St Valentine's Day. A basic wedding can run from as low as \$35,



but there are many option extras, i.e. con-fetti \$1,50, bridesmaids can be hired for \$20 for a 15 minute period, video tape recording of service \$105. But it is possible to be married at Sheriff Lamb's office for a nominal amount. The marriage business is a \$20 million dollar industry. But what is even more profitable is the divorce industry in that each person who applies for a divorce has to be a resident of the state for 6 weeks. Thus there are many apartment houses that offer 6 week leases.

### Natural Ecology

Las Vegas currently consumes 19 billion gallons of water a year and a high proportion of that in use for outside recreation facilities, i.e. swimming pools, golf courses, etc. Many hotels have wells which are seriously depleting the water table under the desert. In the past 20 years the city has sunk 3 feet and is increasingly sinking. Fortunately it is sinking uniformly, but it could have serious ramifications.

### Future of Las Vegas

What will it be like in 2500 AD? Mile high plastic palaces? An air conditioning dome across the entire city? A canal for cruises around Las Vegas in the historic QE2? A launch pad to the Stardust orbiting satellite casinos? Or, an underwater casino at Hoover Dam? All is possible.

## England

### The conservation of historic structures 19 September - 1 October 1976

#### Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, University of York

A two-week course concerned with the principles and methods to be applied to the evaluation and subsequent conservation of Historic Structures in stone and timber so that their value as factual evidence remains unimpaired. The course is arranged by the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies in collaboration with the British Council and the Department of the Environment, and is intended primarily for those professionally concerned with conservation work on buildings and monuments.

The period will be devoted to a study of the subject based on York.

The scope will be as follows:

- 1 The purpose of structural conservation.
- 2 Analysis of the structure as an historic document and the significance of its component parts.

3 Historic methods of construction related to repair and techniques.

4 Inter-relationship between investigation, excavation and consolidation.

5 The cause of failure of historic structures.

6 Repair techniques in masonry and brick buildings:

- (a) the stabilisation of the structure;
- (b) the treatment of surface decay.

7 Repair techniques in roof structures and timber buildings.

### Directors of Studies

P A Faulkner, RIBA, FSA, Superintending Architect, Ancient Monuments, Department of the Environment, London.  
R Gilyard-Beer, OBE, FSA (now retired), formerly Assistant Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Department of the Environment, London.

D Linstrum, DiplArch, PhD, FSA, RIBA Radcliffe, Lecturer in Conservation Studies.

### General Information

#### Qualification of members

Applicants should be professionally interested in the restoration and preservation of ancient buildings and must have a fluent knowledge of English. They should be able to follow and take part in English conversation conducted at the normal rate. This is essential if they are to derive the maximum benefit from attendance. There will be 40 members only.

### Joining Instructions

These will be issued by the Institute in July/August and will give directions for reaching the course centre, including postal address and telephone number of the centre and latest time of arrival.

### Duration of Course

Members will assemble at the course centre on the afternoon of 19 September and will be free to disperse on the afternoon of 1 October, unless members apply to join the preliminary two-day course on Conservation in Urban Areas.

### Cancellation of Course

The Institute reserves the right to cancel any course, without notice and without indemnity, subject to the return of any registration or enrolment fee already paid.

### Accommodation

Course members will be accommodated in student rooms at the University of York, and lectures will take place in the King's Manor, where facilities include a lecture room, seminar rooms, a library and reading room and, in addition, a dining room and common rooms. No

accommodation is provided before or after the course except in the case of Commonwealth Architects attending their own conference from 12-17 September.

#### Fee

Course A: £165,00 – cheques should be made payable to the University of York and sent direct to the Institute in York. The fee includes full board and all lectures and excursions. An additional £20 will cover attendance at the preceding two-day seminar (Course B).

#### Closing Date and Application

Applications must be received in York by 1 June 1976, together with the full fee. (A deposit of £35 will be retained if the application is cancelled before 7 August 1976, thereafter the fee becomes non-returnable.)

#### Applications

Applications should be made to the Secretary, The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies or through the British Council (whose address is given below). Applicants for the time being resident in Britain should apply to the Secretary, at the Institute, The University of York, King's Manor, York, YO1 2EP (0904 24919). There are no application forms and applicants should state age, qualifications and relevant experience as well as post currently held. Please indicate *clearly* if you wish to attend the preceding two-day seminar (additional cost, £20).

#### Travel to and from Britain

Members must make their own travel arrangements to and from the course centre. Return reservations should be made if possible before members leave their own country, as it may be difficult to secure them while in Britain.

Mr David Rymer, Secretary, The Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies King's Manor, York, YO1 2EP, England. Mr Derek Sharp, Representative, British Council, 170 Pine Street, Arcadia 0083, Pretoria.

## Nederland

### Royalty on conservation

HRH Prince Claus of the Netherlands opens the 1975 European Architectural Heritage year Congress of Europa Nostra.

When I was asked to open this Congress, I wondered what I should talk about. As I considered the matter, I went out to

look around in parts of cities which experts call monuments and I also had a look at some newly-built townships, consisting of apartment blocks, lined up regimentally side by side.

What I saw were two extremes. Extremes which might help somebody like myself who is searching for an answer to the question why and for what human, social and even technical reasons, we are inclined to feel sentimental about the old parts of cities, about typical village centres, about a lively marketplace, about a picturesque tower in its ancient setting. Why don't we feel the same empathy for these new tall packing-case dwellings, even when we know that inside they are well conceived and better equipped than the older houses?

It was not difficult to discover what so many had discovered before me: that the normal human being's enemy No 1 is monotony. And that the opposite of monotony is variety. Why are Amsterdam's canals so picturesque? Not only because of the atmosphere created by the water, trees and filtered light and the beauty of so many of the houses, but certainly no less because of the variety of dwellings on either side with their great multiformity of facades, where there is anything but monotony.

Could such a simple fact be a lead to this Congress? What are the problems that city-planners face nowadays, what are the problems at the root of the hateful monotony that so often mark our new towns? Are there any other factors that play major roles in the planning of our cities of today and tomorrow? Can we oppose them if we want to?

Let us first try, at this Congress held to mark Architectural Heritage Year, to examine one by one the good things that have come down to us from the past, and let us see what lessons we can learn from them. I do not propose to enter into technicalities; that is not my job. But perhaps you will allow me in this introduction to join you in an endeavour to find out what the people of today, who are caught in the maelstrom of change, what the younger generation of today who will have to live in the towns and cities you are restoring or building, really need; I think you will agree with me when I say that what they need is a happy environment, an environment capable of inspiring them to live full and harmonious lives.

Reading through publications issued by the Council of Europe, by architects and other experts concerned with Architectural Heritage Year and with this Congress, time and again one comes across the words "Historic", "house", "street", "monument", "planning", "legislation", "conservation" and many similar terms but the word "man" occurred all too infrequently.

And yet, as I see it, man and his well-being should be the central and essential

consideration in every discussion on problems mooted at a Congress like this.

You will forgive me if, as a man of this day and age, I ask as I contemplate charming old towns, towns as a source of warmth, why we can't do today what the builders of old did, though on a different scale and using different methods? The answer will be: in former times man could still be regarded as an individual, nowadays he is one of a great number. The population explosion makes demands that have to be met: people need a roof over their heads, reasonable accommodation, transport to and from their work, patches of green here and there. If we can cope with this huge problem, and perhaps provide something in excess of the bare requirements, we, the municipal authorities and city planners, will have reason to be satisfied.

As a layman, and with all due respect for what has been achieved in various parts of Europe, I dare to answer no, and to reinstate with all the force of conviction the terms "man" and "human happiness". I do not pretend for a moment that what I am saying is in any way original; I know that, in recent years especially, many people have become aware of this social problem area and are studying it. I shall not belabour the value and beauty of so many old city districts and ancient buildings, nor the necessity of restoring and preserving them. I should be preaching to the converted! I would, however, like to try to single out a few points that might serve as guidelines for the builders of today.

I have already mentioned one of them: variety in shape. Another is satisfying the great diversity of requirements of a community of human beings so that all its functions are taken care of. A third point is an understanding of and hence respect for the relative values linking man, human needs, buildings and open spaces. Next in order of importance I would put an overall sense of relationships, by which I mean the relationships between the built-up elements. The last point I would underscore is the sense of territoriality, which is common to humans and animals.

On taking a somewhat closer look at these few points (there are undoubtedly many others) we see that social aspects, that is to say, man's welfare in the community of which he is a component, inevitably come to the fore.

Providing variety and meeting the requirements of a complete community of human beings are closely interrelated. Every living organism is built up of continuously changing agglomerations of cells. A town is a living organism. In the old days the baker lived next door to the notary, the handicraftsman next door to the doctor. Their houses were in keeping with their functions, variety was the result.

The variety we observe in the old city centres attracts us. Although it does not have to be slavishly imitated, it cannot but be regarded as vital to our multi-functional society: variety should accompany the integration on a human scale of the needs of daily life – living, working, shopping, recreation – the designers of new buildings and the planners of new complexes of structures should allow churches, club-houses and cafés to weigh just as heavily as economic and other considerations. I have seen in various European cities rows of apartment blocks which must have been designed by people to whom the ideas I have just expounded had never occurred, or by people who had been compelled to place numbers and economic considerations before human well-being, at least if one regards economic considerations as bearing only on welfare and not on well-being.

I know that in many European countries including the Netherlands, praiseworthy and successful efforts have been made to ensure that new towns or new suburbs meet the requirements of human communication and social life to which I have referred. Praise for these efforts should not prevent me, as I open this Congress, from drawing attention to points which are all too often ignored or are not given adequate consideration by the designers of the blocks of residential barracks still being erected all over the place.

I now come to another aspect of the matter, that of scale and the understanding of relationships, to which I would add a sense of proportion. Perhaps this springs from the fact that the space around us is also very largely determinative of the atmosphere in which man lives and consequently of the behaviour of human beings. As Aesop said: the town is man's tutor. The child in the cradle, man in his home and outside his front door: the street, the town. The proportions achieved in many old towns put us at our ease, give us a sense of well-being because the built-up environment in which we live and the manner in which the space around us is divided up have a direct effect on our equilibrium. A patch of green at the bottom of the gulf between two huge blocks of flats lacks this propensity. There are frightening examples of lack of a sense of scale and proportion in some places where the old environment has been criminally mutilated, where the silhouettes of beautiful city areas and villages have been ruined by office blocks, factories or blocks of flats that clash most painfully with the scale and form of the older groups of buildings. Was the authorities' and builders' innate love and understanding of their architectural heritage perhaps clouded by other materialistic considerations?

That is another point that should be seen

as a warning at this Congress, indeed, taken as an alarm signal.

It shows how important it is to study and endeavour to understand the relationships in the old cities so that we may find out why and how the citizens of towns and villages shared that understanding. If the planners of our future cities start thinking seriously about this problem, the word "man" will appear more frequently in their writings and fewer stereotype tenement blocks will be erected with alienation effects on the people forced to live in them.

Another point I mentioned, a characteristic common to nearly all the animal kingdom, is the sense of territoriality: Where do I belong? What belongs to me? What enables me to recognize my environment? What gives me my identity? Apart from any aesthetic pleasure we may derive from our environment, it is our sense of territoriality, the sense of belonging somewhere, which helps to enhance the affection we feel for old city centres. It is the old animal instinct, which makes one particular blackbird always return to *your* garden, *his* garden. But what sense of territoriality can we hope to derive from one flat among hundreds of metres of identical flats when the number on the door is the only distinguishing feature? How can a child possibly pick out its own street from a regular pattern of identical streets with identical blocks? And to anyone who answers – yes, but . . . yes, but . . . we have to house as many people as possible as quickly as possible, I would reply: It must be possible to do it differently. What if the architect stopped thinking about *his* visiting card for a moment and thought of the brighter visiting card of the community for a change? What if the prefabricate building industry – the need for which I recognize – were to organize itself so as to produce a greater selection of structural elements for a wider variety of dwellings? What if town planners were to foreswear monotony once and for all and force themselves – or be forced by the population – to give planning priority to the desires and often subconscious needs of the citizens themselves? What if we stopped just talking about participation and really gave those who are to live in what city planners, architects and builders produce the opportunity to help actively in the creation of a truly human environment? There are two things that come down to us from the past – a heritage of beauty and the fruits of centuries of experience. Let us profit by that wealth of experience so that we may continue to enjoy our heritage of beauty unimpaired.

It is the task of this Congress to make everyone aware of his duty to conserve the splendid heritage which has come down to us from our forefathers in the form of towns and cities, streets and houses.

To conserve, not in the sense of preserving in a museum-like state but in a form as nearly adapted to the needs of modern man as is consistent with true conservation and functioning as living units within his dynamic world. A task of equal if not even greater importance is to ensure that our, *contemporary*, towns and buildings, will also be of such worth that those who come after us will wish to conserve what *we* hand down to *them*. I place the emphasis on the word "Contemporary". We don't want to imitate, but we do want to preserve continuity in the development of European culture.

Our fellow countryman Huizinga, the historian, admired the "Colourful variety of our cities in the Middle Ages". If we succeed in our endeavour, perhaps a historian living in the 21st century will then, like his predecessor Huizinga, also be able to admire the colourful variety of the cities of the coming decades.

I think we are justified in amplifying the motto of this Congress to read "A future for our past and for the present which we are now making". You, Ladies and Gentlemen, have a vital role to play in that present.

I sincerely hope, that you will have the strength, wisdom, imagination and love of humanity to achieve the objectives of your Congress and that you will increasingly involve the public in your decision making.

*Rijksvoorlichtingsdienst  
's-Gravenhage*

## **Rhodesia**

### **Conservation in Rhodesia**

Concern for the future of Rhodesia's already scarce architectural and historic heritage has led to the establishment of a national conservation body in Rhodesia, the "Heritage Rhodesia".

One of the most ambitious projects is to reconstruct an open air museum type display, a Street of Memories in Salisbury. Stewart Meikle's old home "Ivanhoe" has already been acquired for this purpose. Other buildings which Heritage Rhodesia wishes to save, in situ, are: one of the country's oldest railway stations and Lonhro Building, the Brewery Building, Market Hall and Rancho House in Salisbury.

Heritage Rhodesia is welcomed to the conservation scene in Southern Africa, we wish them every success. Interested persons can contact Heritage Rhodesia at PO Box 3903, Salisbury.

WJP



Piet, hoe hanteer jy jou versekeringsake? Ek het so pas my jaarlikse aanslag vir my motors en woonwa se versekering gekry. Dis R180 en volgende maand kom ook nog die huisraad se versekering. Dit is met alle risiko's R60. Man, dit is 'n probleem om die geld te vind! Mens dink mos nooit daaraan om die R20 per maand op sy te sit nie.

Ja, Gert, ek het ook die probleem gehad totdat ek lid van die Stigting Simon van der Stel geword het.

Maar wat het dit nou met versekering te doen?

Wel, die Stigting bied aan sy lede 'n uitstekende omvattende dekkingskema. Nogal onderskryf deur een van die grootste versekeraars in die land, die Mutual en Federale. Nou is so te sê al my roerende goed volledig gedek – motors en woonwa en die huisraad vir R15 000, en selfs die inhoud van ons vrieskas en R50 as ek 'n putjie-een sou behaal, goed om te weet al is my gholf op die oomblik hoe sleg! Ek het ook dekking van R200 000 vir persoonlike aanspreeklikheid en R4 000 vir ongevallen vir my en Hester. Die premie is maar R15 per maand, wat nie veel is nie en geen moeite nie want dit word maandeliks deur my bank oorbetaal.

Ou Piet, dankie jong, dit is nou werklik die moeite werd. Maar hoe kan ek by die skema aansluit?

Dis maklik. Lidmaatskap van die Stigting Simon van der Stel kos maar R7 per jaar. Stuur net R7 met jou navraag aan Terry McDonogh. Hy sal alles reël. So help jy jouself en ook die Stigting in sy pragtige en noodsaaklike bewaringstaak.

Ek sal so maak. Kom, jy moet eerste afslaan.

**TERRY MCDONOGH EN KIE (EDMS) BPK**

**Geregistreerde Versekeringsmakelaar**

**Posbus 11362 Brooklyn 0011 Pretoria**

**Telefoon: 012-78-3228**





SCHETSEN UIT DE GESCHIEDENIS VAN DIE MONUMENTENZORG IN NEDERLAND. J A C Tillema, Ministerie van Cultuur, Recreatie en Maatschappelijk Werk, Staatsuitgeverij, s'Gravenhage 1975.

Hierdie boek is iets besonder en kan sonder meer aanbeveel word as 'n standaardwerk vir diegene wat met die bewaring, restaurasie en argitektuurgeskiedenis te make het.

Tillema slaag uitmuntend daarin om nie net 'n beeld van monumentesorg 1875-1975 in Nederland te trek nie, maar om die bewaringsgedagte filosofies te ontleed en in konteks te plaas, om mens tot nadenke en ontledende denke te bring. Dit is leesstof vir kennisname.

Om hierdie boek van 656 ryklik geïllustreerde bladsye na behore te bespreek sal self 'n boek afgee. Ek volstaan met enkele aanhalings.

"Is het van waarde zich met het behoud van het 'nationale patrimonium' bezig te houden en daaraan uit de publieke kassen grote bedragen (te kleine voor hetgeen werkelijk nodig zou zijn, maar dat komt nog ter sprake) ten koste te leggen? En wie zijn zij, die uiteindelijk van die zorg profiteren, de kunsthistorici, de aesthetische fijnproevers, de zich zo beschaafd achtende 'algemeen ontwikkelden' - een soort 'elite' dus - of ook de melkboeren, de stratenmakers, de kantoorbedienden, de accountants en de industriemanagers - dus het gehele volk, wij allemaal tezamen? Of zelfs ook de vreemdelingen?"

Het is, als bijna alles in deze wereld, bij de enkelen begonnen. Terwijl de grote massa - regeerders en geregeerden - werkt, slaapt en zich vermaakt (dat is dan die befaamde, of beruchte, zwijgende meerderheid), begint in sommige breinen wel eens iets te woelen dat gevolgen kan hebben, ver uitgaand boven de oorspronkelijke bedoeling. Bij de monumentenzorg lag die oorspronkelijke bedoeling duidelijk op het intellectuele vlak van geschiedbeoefening en schoonheidsbeleving. De historici en de aestheten waren de voorlopers. Hiermee bedoel ik niet hen die in periodes van revolutie of oorlog trachten te redden wat te redden viel, zoals wij dat van Grégoire hebben gezien. Dit is immers voor mensen met een bepaalde geestelijke achtergrond een zo natuurlijke impuls, dat die nauwelijks verklaring behoeft. Neen, de voorlopers, als van wie nu sprake is, waren zij die in meer normale tijden zich afvroegen of monumentenzorg niet een integrerend deel van het maatschappelijk bestel, dus ook van overheidsbemoeiing, zou behoren uit te maken en zo ja, op welke gronden en met welke consequenties.

Monumenten zijn wat grote en bescheiden geïnspireerden van verdwenen geslachten op het gebied der architectuur en de daarmee verband houdende beeldende kunsten tot stand hebben gebracht. Maar ze zouden daartoe niet in staat zijn geweest, hadden

tijdgenoten hun niet de gelegenheid geboden. Een monument is daarom meer dan een op zichzelf staand rijk of simpel kunstwerk, het is voor wie goed toeziet een spiegelbeeld van een of meer hoofdstukken onzer geschiedenis. Door een monument te verzorgen behoeden wij dan ook niet alleen de daaruit sprekende schoonheid, maar doen wij tevens recht wedervaren aan de geest die voor onze eigene mede bepalend is geweest. In de portretten onzer ouders en grootouders vinden wij iets terug van onszelf, al zijn er die dit niet altijd meer waar willen hebben.

Monumentenzorg - het met liefde omringen van onze historische bouwwerken - is behalve een uiting van piëteit evenzeer een daad van welbegrepen eigenbelang; daarover zal voor en na worden gesproken. Die liefde heeft vaak ontbroken, heeft zich ook op velerlei wijze gemanifesteerd. Men kan, uitgaande van de eigen gedachtenwereld, bepaalde ideeën kritisch bezien; dat zal herhaaldelijk het geval zijn.

Men beschouwe die kritiek echter als secundair mits toewijding aan het monument duidelijk herkenbaar zij; de vorm is minder essentieel dan de gezindheid.

Toewijding aan onze monumenten - voor wie het hart hem die niet vermag in te geven en evenmin overtuigd wenst te worden, lijkt verder lezen verloren tijd. Wie echter monumenten kan zien als menselijke scheppingen - geschonden of nog in volle pracht - met eigen leven en eigen ziel, verwant aan leven en ziel van makers en gebruikers, zal wellicht voor wat hier bijeen werd gebracht enige belangstelling kunnen opbrengen." WJP

### THE CHARACTER OF TOWNS; AN APPROACH TO CONSERVATION.

Roy Worskett Ariba Ampti. The Architectural Press, London 1969.

Mr Worskett gained much of the material and experience that have gone into his excellent book from his work in the British Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The book is well illustrated with drawings, photographs and diagrams and is written in a clear easy to read style. The Character of Towns is strongly recommended as necessary reading for architects, town planners, engineers and preservationists. The following passages are descriptive of the book.

"It is often suggested that it is possible to judge the quality of an age or society by the way in which it cares for its elderly people. It is also increasingly true to say that one can judge a society by the degree to which it allows the qualities of its urban or rural environment to be destroyed, either inadvertently or by purposeful vandalism. The archaeological, architectural and visual qualities of our many historic towns can make a considerable contribution to the quality of

our environment if we realise their value and urgently take action to conserve them. This involves everyone - not only the architects and town planners but everyone with eyes to use and the will to make a fuss.

Following the passing of the Civic Amenities Act in 1967 more attention is being given to the conservation of the character and identity of towns. It is essential that the Act should be interpreted broadly - conservation must mean more than simply preserving historic buildings - and this book sets out to show the wide range of interrelated townscape qualities that ought to be taken into account in drawing up a conservation policy. Furthermore it is suggested that these wider qualities can be a major factor in determining specific visual disciplines and codes for various aspects of the design of the new development in our existing towns.

Above all conservation must be seen within the framework of general planning policies. The main thesis of the book is based on the assumption that conservation need not be too heavy a financial burden providing its inherent limitations are accepted, and incorporated into planning policies. Whether the area concerned is a whole village, a small town, or part of a city centre, the conservation of its fabric will affect the degree of economic activity and growth, the accommodation of traffic and the amount and type of new development. It will inevitably determine certain social changes. Planning can only go so far to achieve all that is required. Vigilance and informed opinion will also be needed from both individuals and civic societies.

First, what are we trying to conserve? We have said that it is the character of a town. What makes up that character? What is it that makes one town different from the next, that makes the resident feel he is at home and gives the visitor a new experience in each town?

Historic buildings which are valuable for their architectural quality as acknowledged masterpieces of their time are an obvious starting-point. But there are other buildings which ought to be considered, buildings which illustrate a town's history through their association with people or events, local activities or styles and periods of architecture.

But these are by no means the only contributions to a town's identity. There is an experience to be gained from a visit to Liverpool which is quite distinct from that gained when visiting Manchester, when visiting Durham or Newcastle, Salisbury or Winchester. These differences are concerned with something more than discovering historic buildings. The social functions of a town, the influence of its geographical and political background, the local topography, will all have determined its siting and form in the same way that these influences, though different in content, determine the siting of new towns today. All these factors combine

together to influence the appearance of the urban fabric or townscape.

In his book *Townscape* Gordon Cullen says: "One building standing alone in the countryside is experienced as architecture, but bring half a dozen buildings together and an art other than architecture is made possible". This is the art of townscape." WJP

AMSTERDAM IN WINTERTOOL. Ton Koot, bv Internationale Uitgeverij, Het Wereldvenster, Baarn Nederland 1975.

Ons medewerker en vriend, Ton Koot, slaag weer eens daarin om sy geliefde Amsterdam aan lesers so voor te stel dat mens die koue nattigheid maar warm menslikheid van die stad in die wintermaande wil ervaar. En omdat Amsterdam sy groot stadskern bewaar het, is dit moontlik om jou by Ton Koot se verhaal daadwerklik in te leef, al gaan dit in hoofsaak oor die 17de- tot 19de-eeuse winters.

Ton Koot bewys sy gevoel vir Amsterdam op boeiende wyse. Hy het uit skilderye en gravures met pittige teks daarin geslaag om 'n unieke beeld van ou Amsterdam te trek.

Sy lewendige beskrywing van die vreugde van die yskaatser en die mens se genieting van die bevrore gragte.

"Elke ijsgracht kreeg haar koek-en-zoepie, waar die schaatsenrijder achter de beschutting van een dekseil warme lafenis en een zoet hapje werd geboden voor civiele prijs en onder de leus:

Ben je koud of hebje pijn  
Bij Ome Japie is-ie fijn  
'n Zure bom of kouwe koek  
Warme melk of hete zoep."

"Amsterdam in Wintertooi" sal deur alle Amsterdam-liefhebbers geniet word. Dit kos f27,50 (± R7,00). WJP

AFRICANA BOOKS AND PICTURES; A SELECTION OF PUBLISHED PAPERS. Frank R Bradlow (A A Balkema).

Frank Bradlow, a recognized authority on Africana has written a thoughtful, intelligent and well-illustrated book, "Africana Books and Pictures", a selection of published papers.

He provides the reader with another erudite and fascinating example of his knowledge of pictorial and written Africana. It is based on years of research.

The author's essay on Sidney Mendelssohn provides the reader with an illuminating picture of an important collector of Africana. His collection is housed in the Library of Parliament.

In evaluating the importance of Mendelssohn's bibliography Mr Bradlow quotes a former well-known parliamentary librarian, Mr Paul Ribbink, as saying: "Mendelssohn not only presented the Union of South Africa with as much literature as he could collect, but he provided the necessary chart, by the use of which one is now guided in any desired direction through the wealth of South African descriptive and historical literature."

The name of Mendelssohn is known, but Frank Bradlow in his too short biography uncovers the gentler shapes of Mendelssohn's personal background and enthusiasm for Africana. This is particularly seen in his pioneer work on compilation of his monumental South African Bibliography.

### Notepaper

The survey of illustrated 19th century notepaper and envelopes at the Cape includes Thomas Bowler's notepapers engraved by Harwood & Sons in 1844 and described by "Sam Sly's Journal" of July, 1844. Steel engravings from an envelope "Panorama of Cape Town from the Roof of the Lutheran Church", after W S Sherwill is an important illustration. It is fortunate that notepapers have been preserved. They were the fore-runners of the modern picture postcard.

The writer does not leave the reader precariously poised in mid-air and asking for more detail concerning the three artists, J M C Schonegevel, C C Schonegevel and the lesser known P C Trench. The chapter devoted to these men is a gem in concise detail and brings them to life.

A useful chapter devoted to the production of Africana prints by lithography comprehensively answers many questions posed by Africana art collectors. The author's practical approach to this question is clearly based on his own experience in the production of his books on Africana and art history.

### Bowler prints

The production of Africana prints is today an academic specialization. Advertising media have an excellent use for mechanically produced prints, and knowledge is necessary to enable collectors such as Mr Bradlow to appreciate and evaluate prints from originals. Pictures and prints by William Hodges, Sir Jahleel Brenton and four important pictures, water-colours by Thomas Bowler, are dealt with. The author has written much on Thomas Bowler, but he advances new opinions rooted in a framework of research, and his own enthusiasms and curiosity in Africana. This appears in his introduction to the book. He explains his almost obsessive urge to know more about Africana.

GWEN M MILLS

*The Cape Times*, October 8, 1975

THOMAS BAINES; HIS LIFE AND EXPLORATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA AND AUSTRALIA 1820-1875. J P R Wallis. New Introduction and captions by F R Bradlow. Kaapstad, A A Balkema, 1976. Linneband, 255 bls.

Na die groot belangstelling wat daar in die laaste twintig jaar vir die werk van Thomas Bowler ontstaan het, waardeur hy amper as ons nasionale skilder beskou word, sien 'n mens vandag dieselfde gebeur met die werk van Thomas Baines. Albei is in nie geringe mate nie te danke aan die onvermoeide werk van Frank Bradlow. Vir hierdie kulturele arbeid het hy 'n paar weke gelede dan ook tereg 'n ere-doktorsgraad van Wits gekry. Dit was J P R Wallis wat vier-en-dertig jaar gelede Baines as't ware herontdek en ons in 'n baanbrekende biografie 'n beeld gegee het van 'n man wat volgens sy Victoriaanse tydgenote meer en verder gereis het as dr Livingstone. Hy word beskryf as iemand met 'n kenmerkende individuele karakter, 'n gebore ontdekkingsreisiger en bewonderaar van die lewe van wilde diere, wat onder alle omstandighede sy taak kon uitvoer.

Bo alles was hy 'n kunstenaar en die mees produktiewe skilder wat ooit in Suider-Afrika (en Australië) gewerk het. Daar bestaan vandag nie minder nie as vierduisend tekeninge, akwarelle en olieverskilderye van hom. Bradlow het 'n *catalogue raisonne* hiervan

in voorbereiding wat as 'n vervolgedeel van hierdie boek sal verskyn en waarna iedereen met verlange sal uitsien. Dis daarom te begrype dat Bradlow ook uitgekies is as redakteur van hierdie nuwe uitgawe van Wallis se werk. Die boek het in der waarheid 'n merkwaardige gedaantewisseling ondergaan met toevoeging van 170 nuwe swart-wit afbeeldings van Baines se werk en agt plate van akwarelle of waterverftekeninge in kleur. Dis nou 'n waardige monument en veral ook 'n inleiding tot die kuns van een van die merkwaardigste kunstenaars wat ons land opgelewer het.

Hoewel Baines 'n baie goeie skilder was, lê die waarde van sy werk nie in die eerste plek op die artistieke vlak nie, maar op die topografiese: hy stel ons in staat om deur sy werk die nog grotendeels ongerepte Suider-Afrika van sy dae te sien. Sy metode was om growwe potloodsketse ter plaatse te maak van taferele waarin hy belang gestel het en hiervan dan direk daarna goed-afgewerkte akwarelle te maak. Wanneer die onderwerp hom besonder getref het, het hy dan van sommige van dié akwarelle ook nog weer olieverskilderye gemaak. Van hierdie drie-voudige werkwyse is talle voorbeelde in die resterende werk bewaar. Omdat hierdie akwarelle dus vervaardig is na onmiddellike sketse en toe die tafereel bowendien nog vars in sy geheue was, is die visuele betroubaarheid van sy werk besonder groot.

Vandag word die waarde van Baines se werk dan ook steeds hoër geskat en op kunstveiling hier en oorsee styg die pryse vir sy werk jaar na jaar. Hierdie nuwe uitgawe van Wallis se *Thomas Baines* kom dus juis op tyd, veral omdat dit so pragtig geïllustreer is, waaraan ook die groot formaat van die boek meewerk. Dit doen tewens reg aan die nagedagtenis van J P R Wallis, 'n man wat beslis meer aandag verdien as wat hy vandag kry. Geen liefhebber van Suid-Afrikaanse kuns en Africana sal in die toekoms sonder hierdie boek kan klaarkom nie.

C PAMA

*Die Burger*, 29 April 1976

PRETORIANA. Dr Herman Rex, (Redakteur)

Nuusberigte, foto's, tekening, spotprente en redaksionele kommentaar oor die geskiedkundige Kerkplein in Pretoria, het pas in boekvorm verskyn en is by verskillende boekwinkels beskikbaar.

Hierdie pragbundel wat as 'n spesiale uitgawe van „Pretoriana" gedoop is, bestaan uitsluitlik uit materiaal wat aan die verskillende dagblaie en naweekkoerante ontleen is en waarin daar teen die besluit om die geboue aan die westekant van Kerkplein te sloop, beswaar gemaak word.

Die publikasie, wat 'n samevatting is van koerantmateriaal oor die stryd om die behoud van die historiese geboue aan die westekant van Kerkplein, bestaan uit meer as 230 artikels, kommentaar, briewe en die volledige Pleitskrif aan die Eerste Minister, mnr B J Vorster. Dié pleitskrif wat onder groot belangstelling voorberei is, is op 5 Augustus 1975 aan die Eerste Minister in die Uniegebou, Pretoria, oorhandig. Pretoriana nr 72, handel dus in sy geheel oor die "Kroniek van die Wesfasade" van Kerkplein en dit sal beslis 'n gewaardeerde versamelstuk op enige boekrak wees.

*Hoofstad*, 16 Maart 1976



## Briewe - Letters

Geagte mnr Punt,

Ek sluit met genoeë vir u 'n brosjure in waarin ek glo u belang sal stel.

Dit handel oor die Sendinggestigkerk in Langstraat, Suid-Afrika se oudste sendingkerk, een van die vroegste uitinge van die Kaapse sin vir gemeenskapswaardes, en een van Kaapstad se mooiste voorbeelde van vroeë 19de-eeuse argitektuur.

U sal ook uit die brosjure merk dat tensy R470 000 binnekort gevind word hierdie geskiedkundige gebou gevaar staan om gesloop te word.

Ek is oortuig daarvan dat u, net soos ek, baie in die stryd sal wil werp om 'n gebou so ryk aan geskiedenis en van soveel argitektoniese betekenis te bewaar.

Ek beveel dus die fondsinsamelingspoging om die Sendinggestigkerk in Langstraat te red, ten sterkste by u aan.

'n Lys van trustees vir die projek kom in die brosjure voor. U sal ook sien dat die beskermheer Sy Edele Regter J H Steyn is. Ons is vol vertroue dat steun ook van die Kaaplandse Provinsiale Administrasie verwag kan word.

U daadwerklike ondersteuning sal hoog waardeer word.

Die uwe,  
P H Tebbutt  
Voorsitter  
SA Sendinggestig Trustfonds  
Posbus 653  
Kaapstad  
8000

Dear Dr Meiring Naudé,

Although I realise that the Foundation has many calls on its interest and generosity, I am writing to ask whether there is any chance of its being able to make a contribution towards a work of restoration which is badly needed in Plettenberg Bay.

On the Look-Out side of our town, buried in the long grass and bush some 20 metres off the Beacon Way, are six graves of great historical interest. In fact, now that all traces of the grave of Johann Friedrich Meeding, first Postholder of Plettenberg Bay, have been obliterated, these are the oldest marked graves in this area.

The persons interred in the six graves are:

- 1 Robert Charles Harker, Government Resident, JP and Postmaster of Plettenberg Bay from 1828 to 1847. One-time Major in the British Army. Died 1859.
- 2 His wife, Maria (born Maria Herrick, of County Cork, Ireland). Died 1834.
- 3 A grand-daughter of the above couple, Maria Sautenberg. Died 1839.

4 Edward Herrick Harker, son of Robert Charles and Maria Harker. Died 1858.

5 Edward Herrick Harker's wife, Wilhelmina, daughter of S H du Toit, JP, of Uitenhage. Died 1851.

6 John Archibald Sinclair, who married the Harkers' daughter, Julia Maria. He was the first man to carry out whaling operations on a substantial scale in Plettenberg Bay. Died 1859.

The Town Council of Plettenberg Bay has agreed to clear and level the site, provided that my small committee of four interested persons guarantees to reconstruct the graves and erect a stone wall round the area. This is going to cost somewhere in the region of R1 000 (even using a Coloured stone-mason) and of this amount R300 has been promised by two of the Harker descendants whom I have managed to trace. We are sure you and the members of your Council will agree that this scheme should go forward. If the Council is prepared to make a donation of, say, R300 towards the cost of restoration, I feel sure that we can raise the rest of the amount required from private individuals. A cheque should be made payable to HARKER GRAVES RESTORATION. I need hardly add that my committee and, in time, the many visitors to Plettenberg Bay who are interested in its history, will be extremely grateful to the Foundation for its assistance.

(Mrs) Patricia Storrar  
PO Box 208  
Plettenberg Bay  
6600

We regret that we are not able to support your appeal. The reasons for this are:

● It is standing policy of the Foundation not to contribute financially to projects other than its own while these own projects are still incomplete and still require extensive financing.

● We would have difficulty in deciding on which of the many appeals for financial assistance we should support.

● The Foundation presently finds itself in an extremely difficult financial position. The current economic climate has taken a very heavy toll of our resources and income, to the point where we have had to freeze most of our own projects.

We are however, grateful for your efforts to have the graves restored. This is a worthwhile project indeed. I have taken the liberty of referring a copy of your letter to the War Graves Commission who in some instances also look after historic graves.

Editor

Dear Sir,

I have received from you recently a copy of your Annual Report and Bulletin No 31 and have now received a complimentary copy of *Restorica I*. For these I thank you.

You were good enough to promise that, when the English version of the Constitution of the Simon van der Stel Foundation became available, you would forward a copy to The Heritage of Rhodesia. If you could help us by doing so, I should be very appreciative.

The Heritage is endeavouring to establish itself as the Simon van der Stel Foundation has done in order to preserve buildings of historical and architectural value in Rhodesia.

I note with appreciation the struggle that is being made by your Foundation to save Church Square in Pretoria and congratulate the Foundation on the excellent work it has achieved.

Yours sincerely,  
G H Tanser  
Director  
Heritage of Rhodesia  
January 15, 1976

Dear Mr Punt,

Thank you for your encouraging letter dated 17.10.75. I regret not being able to take advantage of the invitation extended and although I am vitally interested in our architectural heritage it now seems that to make even a little honest effort in the cause of culture one must needs channel one's activities. Mine have been so diversified of late that I have not done any design, which is what all this preparatory work should lead up to.

After reading, and I may say thoroughly enjoying the June 1975 issue of Bulletin, I intend to visit as many sites of interest as possible, and acquire future issues of *Restorica* as these become available. The article enclosed "Some Thoughts on Domestic Architecture" does not of course have any historical connotations, but was written for people who are concerned about their immediate domestic environment, such as I imagine readers of *Restorica* would be.

Dr Punt's idea of appreciating contemporary and historic architecture in their appropriate settings without overpowering each other seems analogous to my contention that if buildings and complexes in our cities could be seen as entities, tied together by way of landscaping, the hidden beauty in our urban environment would show itself in all its variety. This requires master-planning in principle for communal and human amenity. In England the concept of traffic architecture

is receiving attention! Cities, in my opinion, are where sentient people live and work, and should ideally become cultural centres, with heavy industry and various institutions in the country. The centreline of all planning can only be the individual human being, not the machine, the motor vehicle, political considerations, false economy etc. Perhaps the worst mistake ever made in Pretoria from the environmental point of view was the siting of the Provincial building next to the old Raadsaal, and this error is now to be compounded. Iscor Headquarters, and the Union Buildings were sited far more successfully I think. We are expected, and almost compelled to look up to our leaders, but when this sort of thing is done I am sure the angels weep. A sociological survey was made in England on completion of a new housing estate and it was found that the architects lived some distance away in restored Georgian town houses! Herewith a small donation towards a worthy cause.

Cordially yours,  
C W Dreyer  
Pretoria

Dear Sirs,

Thank you very much for sending me the desired copy of your Bulletin and especially for adding the newest number.

I am glad to take them back with me to Germany whereto I am travelling back in a few days. I'll be showing the copies to other Germans who certainly are interested in your

fine magazine and the ardent work of preservation of historic monuments which you accomplish.

Sincerely yours,  
Dr Lotte Uhe

Geagte mnr Punt,

Dankie vir die eerste uitgawe van *Restorica* wat ons pas bereik het.

Namens die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede wil ek u graag gelukwens met hierdie puik publikasie, met sy hoë standaard en aantreklike aanbieding. Soos in die verlede met die Bulletin die geval was, is *Restorica* vol insiggewende artikels en nuusbrokkies wat 'n goeie geheelbeeld gee van bewaring in Suid-Afrika. Die gedeelte oor monumentesorg in oorsese lande help ook om die posisie in perspektief te plaas, al besef 'n mens net weer eens die agterstand wat nog op hierdie gebied in Suid-Afrika bestaan.

In laasgenoemde verband, is u insiggewende inleidingsartikel en die artikel van mnr Ton Koot voorts met groot belangstelling gelees. 'n Mens vertrou van harte dat daar wel nog 'n toekoms vir Suid-Afrika se verlede sal wees en dat die owerhede sal besef dat die gister van môre is nou!

U word ten slotte nogmaals bedank vir die aangename en daadwerklike samewerking wat daar vanjaar tussen die Stigting Simon van der Stel en die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede op alle vlakke bestaan het.

G Hofmeyr  
Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede

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*Elke Sigaret  
'n Meesterstuk*



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Saw the Vision of the World, and all the wonder that would be...*  
Alfred Lord Tennyson.

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