

JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

Compiled by: Dr JJ Bruwer, 2002-07-29

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NAME OF PLACE: 20TH CENTURY BUILDING



Photograph: Catharina JM Bruwer.

Previous/alternative name/s :
:
:

LOCATION: Street : corner President and Von Brandis
Street number :
: (76, 78 President; 51, 53 Von Brandis)
Stand Number : 381, 382, 383
Previous Stand Number:
Block number : AX
Suburb : Johannesburg
GIS reference :

ZONING: Current use/s :
Previous use/s :

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Height :
 Levels above street level :
 Levels below street level :
 On-site parking :

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls:

Roof:

Windows:

SITE FEATURES:**ALTERATIONS:****INTEGRITY:****INSCRIPTION:****ARCHITECT:**

'Hanson, Tomkin & Finkelstein.

A partnership in Johannesburg between NL HANSON, S TOMKIN and NI FINKELSTEIN, fellow students at the School of Architecture, University of the Witwatersrand: Hanson joined Tomkin and Finkelstein at the end of 1931, the partnership being thus established. The partners carried out works in a progressive European style in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Springs and Brakpan for about twenty-five years.

Finkelstein left the partnership in 1950 and the style of the firm became Hanson & Tomkin until 1970 when it became SN Tomkin, Hanson & Harris in Durban, until 1978. Hanson's purposeful and decisive qualities, allied to Tomkin's abilities to get work enabled Hanson, Tomkin & Finkelstein become one of the most significant pre- and post-war group of architects in South Africa. (*Arch Rev Feb 1940; Greig 1971; Herbert 1975; SAAR Jul 1936:220 Contemporary Architects 1980*)

Publ: House Harris, SAAR Jul 1934:185-86 ill plans; House Brookstone, SAAR Jul 1934:186-87; Swimming pool, House Brookstone, SAAR Jan 1935:8-10; Meadowbrook: an essay in domestic architecture inspired by Italianate precedents, SAAR Jan 1936:3-7; Hotpoint House, Johannesburg, SAAR Jun 1936:181-86 ill plans; New Master Builders Headquarters, Johannesburg, SAAR Jul 1936:220 ill, plans.

Germiston: House Saffer, project (Herbert 1975:72; Cont Archts 1980: 340) 1932; Johannesburg: House Harris, Central St, Lower Houghton (SAAR Jul 1934: 182-89; SAAR Apr 1965; Herbert 1975:86) 1933; House Brookstone (SAAR Jul 1934:182-9; Cont Archts 1980:340; Herbert 1975:87ff) 1933, 1934; Block of maisonettes for I Ross, Yeoville (SAB Jun 1934:45) 1934; College Mansions, Ameshoff/Biccard Sts (Herbert 1975:261) 1934-5; Hotpoint House, 235 Bree St for General Electric Co (AB&E Oct 1934:21 proposed; Herbert 1975:261; Cont Archts 1980:340) 1934-5; House Rosenstein (Herbert 1975:136-40) 1934-5; House Kreser, Houghton (Herbert 1975:136-40) 1934; House Wilson, Inanda (Herbert 1975:157, 158) 1934; House Jonas: High Acre, 9 Tyson Rd, Parkview (RAU doc) 1935,6; Pretoria: House Kallmeyer (Herbert 1975:136) 1935-6; Maxfeld Mansions for Max Neifeld, 389 Andries/Visagie Sts (SAAR Sep 1935:286; Herbert 1975:141)1935-; Springs: House Schlosberg (Herbert 1975:136) 1935-6; Johannesburg: Reading Court, Willie St, Berea (Herbert 1975:138) 1936; House B Susman, 18 Fifth St, Houghton (Herbert 1975:136; Cont Archts 1980:340) 1936; House Lakofski (Herbert 1975:136) 1936; House Three Ways, 20 Fifth St, Houghton (RAU doc) 1936-7; Denstone Court for Brookstone, Fox/Von Wielligh Sts (dem) (Herbert 1975: 139; Cont Archts 1980:340) 1937; House Hanson, 8 Tenth St, Houghton (Herbert 1975:267; RAU doc; Cont Archts 1980:340) 1938-9; Gower Properties (SAB Jul 1939:51) 1939; *20th Century Cinema bldg*, President/Von Brandis Sts with COWIN & ELLIS (Arch Rev Oct 1944; Herbert 1975: 215, 216, 217; Cont Archts 1980:340) 1939-40; Pretoria: 20th Century Cinema with COWIN & ELLIS (Herbert 1975:267) 1939'.

(Architects In South Africa 1780 – 1940; Draft manuscript, J Walker & G M van der Waal, 1992, HSRC, Pretoria.)

BUILDER:

CONSTRUCTION DATE:

Date on plans :
Approval of plans :
Completion date :

BUILDING STYLE:

BUILDING TYPE:

ENVIRONMENT:

CONDITION:

URGENT ACTION:

SAHRA RECORD REGARDING ALTERATIONS, RENOVATIONS, RESTORATION:

PROTECTION STATUS: (under National Heritage Resources Act, 1999)

- General protection: Section 34(1) structure/s
- Formal protection: provincial heritage site
- national heritage site
- provisional protection
- heritage area
- listed in provincial heritage resources register

Relevant Gazette Notice:

Gazette description:

FORMER PROTECTION STATUS: (under National Monuments Act, 1969)

NOTES:

DEEDS INFORMATION:

Original ownership:

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

HISTORY:

GENERAL NOTES:

Estimated cost of building :
Estimated cost of drainage :
Accommodation approved :
Valuation at completion :
Occupied :

PREVIOUS TENANT/S:

CURRENT TENANT/S:

Europa Fashions
Habeb Cellular
Jhb City Wholesaler

SOURCES:

Unpublished Sources

Architects In South Africa 1780 – 1940; Draft manuscript, J Walker & G M van der Waal, 1992, HSRC, Pretoria.

Plans records of surveyed buildings, Marshallstown and City of Johannesburg: Archives, Building Control, Development Management, City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality.

ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Historic Value:

- Associated with historic person, group or organisation
- Associated with historic event or activity

Architectural/Aesthetic value:

- Important example of building type
- Important example of a style or period
- Fine details, workmanship or aesthetics
- Work of a major architect or builder

Social/Spiritual/Linguistic value:

- Associated with social, spiritual, linguistic, economic or political activity
- Illustrates an historical period

Scientific/Technological value:

- Example of industrial, technical or engineering development/achievement
- New, rare or experimental building techniques

RECORDED BY:



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And Catharina JM Bruwer.

Photographs (unless otherwise indicated) by Johann J Bruwer and Alezea Bruwer.