CATALOGUE NO: BD-3 **DATE RECORDED: July 2003/February 2004**

JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

Compiled by: Dr JJ Bruwer, 2002-07-29 JJ Bruwer ©
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NAME OF PLACE: [Third] RAND CLUB








Top left: view of main façade of the *third Rand Club*, Loveday Street. Top right: view of Commissioner Street façade. Centre left: Fox Street elevation – view of sandstone plinth. Centre right: painted entrance in Fox Street – an example of an intervention that should never have been allowed to a building such as the *third Rand Club*! Centre right: main entrance – note wooden benches flanking the entrance doors. Bottom left: Commissioner Street – See INTEGRITY. Bottom centre: looking southeast down Commissioner Street – the *third Rand Club* is barely visible in the distant background. Bottom right: Fox Street – from left to right, *Victory House, Kitchen Building,* and the neighbouring *third Rand Club.*

Previous/alternative name/s :

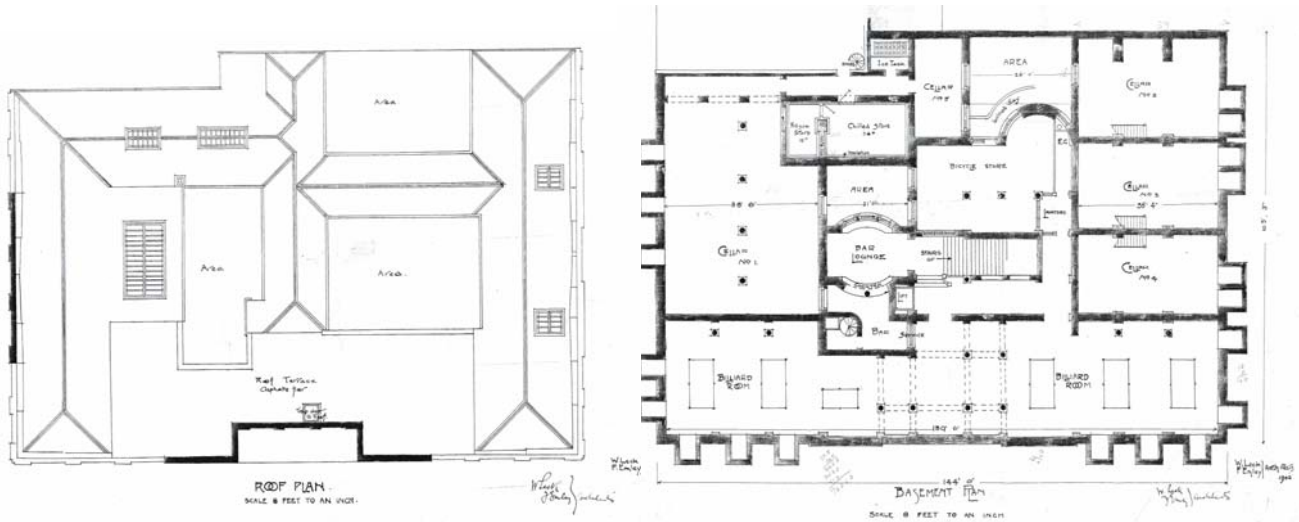
LOCATION: Street : Commissioner
Street number : 96, 98
: [96, 98 Commissioner; 33, 35 Loveday; 93, 95, 97 Fox]
Stand Number : 1173
Previous Stand Number: 185, 186, 189, 190
Block number : BD
Suburb : Marshallstown
GIS reference :

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

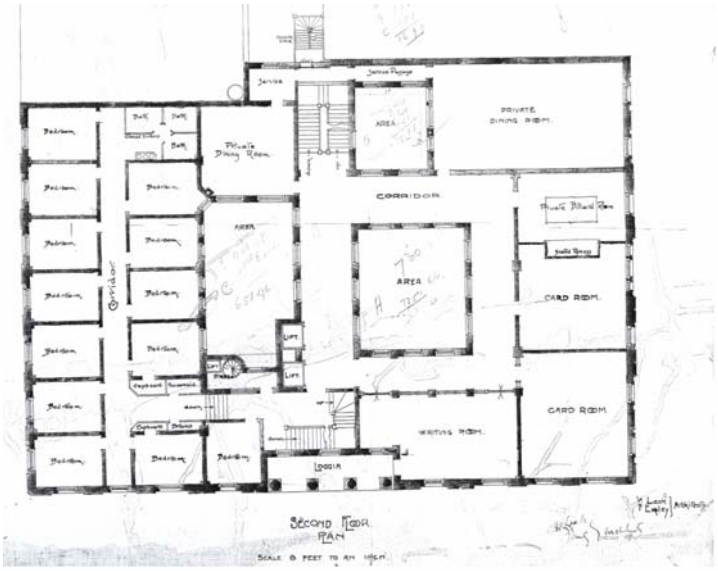
DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Height :
Levels above street level : five
Levels below street level : one
On-site parking : none

Top left: Copy of original Commissioner Street Elevation Plan. Top right: Copy of Section.



Top left: copy of original Roof Plan. Top right: copy of original Basement Plan.



Left: copy of original Second Floor Plan.

"Reflecting the upsurge in activities in Johannesburg," according to Van Der Waal, "club buildings mushroomed all over the city after 1902. Like church buildings, club premises for the first time assumed a significant place in the general city aspect. Admittedly not as prominent as the church buildings, these club buildings were not confined to the edge of the city either – several were built in the very heart of the city. With the British flag and a city government firmly established, it was only to be expected that social, national and sporting associations began to feel a need for accommodation to reflect their character. In accordance with the cycle of business activities in the city, club buildings were put up in two phases – around 1903-5 and then again in 1917-9. The renowned Rand Club (1902-4)… was without doubt the most important club and also one of the oldest. Architects Leck & Emley…designed the building in the form of a simple five-storey block covered with a decorative texture which reproduced the block form in its grid pattern. The dignity of this structure was highly impressive, owing partly to the simplification of the overall form and the sparing use of articulation, and partly to the formal classicist ornamentation on the surface. Nevertheless, a certain degree of tension was created by the contrast between the simplification of the global form and dense surface texture and the variation in colour (brick and plaster work). This tension was repeated in the handling of the three façades. In each façade a central section was created by slight articulation and variation in colour, and this section did not dominate the façade as was usual in the original style. Each of these central sections were divided into three. Of these, the lateral sections were accentuated in the upper storeys and the middle section in the lower storeys. The outside sections were more powerfully modelled by arched pediments and raised parapets, while the central sections were accentuated with balconies on the first and second storeys. Similar visual play is discernible in the ornamentation. Rustication merges into pilaster and pediments into string courses. In this and other important buildings in the city centre, Leck & Emley showed themselves to be a most able firm of architects. In the case of the *Rand Club* the tension between punctuation and background was the main leitmotif. The interior of the *Rand Club* is spectacular. Spatially there are several exciting aspects, such as the ratio between hall, foyer and broad ascending stairs, and the spacious passages, halls and large club rooms on the ground and first floor. Proportions are strikingly generous. So are the appointments. Those fortunate enough to be allowed to visit…[previously entry by a non-member was only allowed if accompanied by a member, this has since changed] cannot but be impressed by the rich materials and the care that has gone into the decoration of the interior, which represented a high point in Edwardian architecture in the city and was without parallel in South Africa during that period. Still in its pristine state, the *Rand Club* gives a good insight into the status and tastes of the highest social circles of the city and also embodies the exclusivity of the top financiers of the country at the time. Together with the New Club (1897), the *Rand Club* gave Loveday Street the sobriquet of 'the Pall Mall of the Rand'." (Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis…).

"The Union Club was the second important club to be built in Johannesburg. The first was The (third) Rand Club designed by F. Emley in 1898 and was built with William Leck as consultant after the war at a cost of £110,000. This was a structure which was admired as being in the fashionable 'French Renaissance' style, 'carved out in cement cored by panels of brickwork'! W. C. Scully, a well-know magistrate and author, wrote of the interior with soaring columns of imitation porphyry, which he found to crowded and large even for their Cyclopean environment, that was 'a megalomaniac's dream realised…barbaric. Titanic, as exaggerated as the wealth of the magnates who built it.'" (Doreen E. Greig, D. E.: Herbert Baker…)

"This incredibly rich neo-classical building has very finely crafted detailing." (Johannesburg Building, Space & Urban Feature Classification, 1998: Inner City).

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls : plastered brick.

Roof: corrugated iron.

Windows: timber frame.

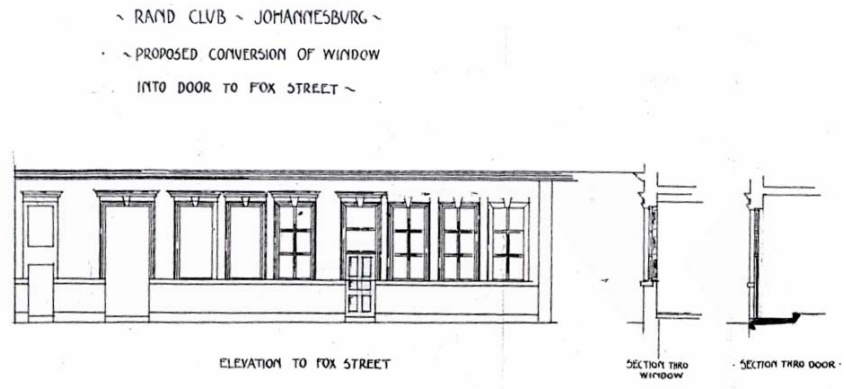
SITE FEATURES:

ALTERATIONS:

The plans record of the building is incomplete.

Left: view of the *third Rand Club* (left foreground) not long after its completion in 1904. (Norwich, O.I.: A Johannesburg Album; Historical Postcards, postcard 53).

No record could be found of the changes affected to the shop fronts of the building in later years.



Left: copy of plan regarding an additional single door to the building in Fox Street. As this plan is not dated and the relevant completed Application for Approval of Plans form could not be found, this alteration cannot be dated.

The following is noted on an Application for Approval of Plans form for proposed work that was approved on 31 January 1927: "apply for permit to replace two pavement lights in Fox Street by open iron gratings similar to one existing"; the associated municipal submission plans for this could however, not be found. Estimated cost – building £50. Author unknown.

INTEGRITY:

The *third Rand Club* is one of the City's best maintained buildings. The modern pavement canopy in Commissioner Street is of bother from an aesthetic viewpoint. It does not however, diminish the authentic features of the building, as it is a reversible intervention.

INSCRIPTION:

ARCHITECT:

Leck & Emley.

BUILDER:

CONSTRUCTION DATE:

Date on plans :
Approval of plans :
Completion date : 1904

BUILDING STYLE:

Edwardian.

"Architectural Merit and Landmark: The Rand Club is a building well known in Johannesburg's history as the Gentleman's Club. Architecturally, the Rand Club has early reneissance (sic.) allusions, and is relatively small in scale compared to its grander neoclassical neighbours." (Johannesburg Building, Space & Urban Feature Classification, 1998: Inner City).

BUILDING TYPE:

Club building.

ENVIRONMENT:

The *third Rand Club* effectively constitutes one of three remaining Edwardian edifices (the others being the *third Standard Bank Chambers* and the *third Corner* House) in the financial district of the City, centred on Commissioner Street. Notwithstanding it's relatively small scale (i.e in comparison to the *third Standard Bank Chambers* and the *third Corner* House), the building is an historic and architectural landmark. Because of its intrinsically pleasing and receptive appearance, it has never been forced to compete with any of its neighbours for either a position or acceptance.

According to Van Der Waal: "After 1900 the spatial expression of the streets was much more regimented than even during the 1890s. The buildings became much broader and higher so that the streets, which previously seemed generously wide, now appeared much narrower. In this way, they acquired a more independent definition of their own. Indeed, a tunnel effect was created, especially in the financial and shopping districts where the street walls were densely packed with relatively tall buildings. This effect was reinforced by the absence of façades covered in verandahs, which had proliferated before 1900. (These were prohibited by the new building regulations.) W C Scully perceived the street of Johannesburg as follows in 1912: 'I wander down Commissioner Street, past the 'Corner House, the Standard Bank, the Stock Exchange, and many other exaggerated human ant-hill throbbing with energy. It is all a gloomy inferno of stone – a series of Babylon-towers of masonry heaped menacingly against the almost obliterated heavens.'" (Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis…).

CONDITION:

Good. The sandstone plinth requires attention.

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:

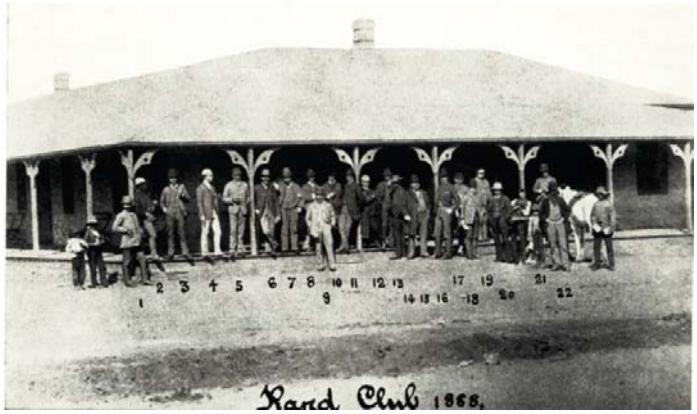
Original ownership:

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

"To compensate for their tough life in the mining camp, the more resourceful diggers" according to Van Der Waal, "improvised all sorts of games and recreational activities. Bars, horse races and athletic meetings were so well patronised that these activities became an integral part of general camp life. In fact, they helped to imbue the community with a striking vitality. There were bars – some rather minute – on virtually every street corner south of Market Square…By September 1887 there were no less than 90 liquor licences in Johannesburg…They were distinguished from the other businesses by signboards and a lamp above the door. These lamps not only served as effective advertisements but also constituted the only street illumination until 1890…The activities of the sports clubs were complemented by social clubs…such as the *Johannesburg Club* and first *Rand Club*…Its central location in the heart of the area which was to develop into Johannesburg's financial nerve centre was probably one of the reasons why the *Rand Club* lasted longer than many other early social institutions."

FIRST RAND CLUB

The first *Rand Club* (constructed in 1888) was situated at the corner of 98 Commissioner and 35 Loveday Streets.This was a simple rectangular brick structure (see photo below) with iron roof, broad verandah, a makeshift dining room, billiard room, four small rooms for reading and playing cards, and a bar counter. After serving its purpose for some eighteen months, it was pulled down to make way for a more substantial club building. The idea to erect such a facility originally came from Cecil Rhodes Kimberley at that time, had a club building, and there was no reason why Johannesburg should be without one



Right: Photo from Neame, L.E.: The Rand Club 1887 – 1957.

SECOND RAND CLUB

The architects A.H. Reid and McCowat were subsequently commissioned to design a new building. The contract for constructing the new building at 96, 98 Commissioner Street, was given to Royce and Cullinan.

Right: Photos from Neame, L.E.: The Rand Club 1887 – 1957.

"Located on the same site as the building of the first *Rand Club* in the heart of the office district, the new club with its rather exclusive membership was one of the leading clubs of Johannesburg even in those early days. Its superior position in the community was also reflected in the size and ornamentation of the building. The longer façade in Commissioner Street was divided into five sections in accordance with the well-know model. Of

Second Club House in "The Nineties".

these, three were accentuated by built-up pediments, while the middle section took the form of a rather ostentatious tower. The double verandah with its coupled pillars and geometrically patterned wooden railing served two purposes: it extended the social space of the club right up to the street and shaded the interior rooms. The location of the tower, with the main entrance protruding on to the sidewalk, manifested an interesting phenomenon of that period, when there were as yet no regulations to prevent buildings impinging on public space. The tower and verandahs were considered essential elements at the time…" (Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis…).

Architects' Design for Second Club House.

"Bicycles were largely used in early Johannesburg, and in the middle of 1895 it was estimated that there were between three thousand and four thousand machines on the road. They were practically all safeties, and only one 'ordinary' (often known as the penny-farthing) was sold to every twenty or thirty safeties. Prominent men like Lionel Phillips, W. P. Taylor and Dr. J. G. Schultze often rode to their offices, and even the Rand Club had a cycle stand put up in the yard, though members were not allowed to bring their machines through the front entrance." (Neame, L.E.: City Built On Gold).

HISTORY:

The information below, titled "The Storey (sic.) of the Rand Club; A Living and Lively Institution", has been sourced from the Club's website, i.e. Rand Club South Africa.htm

"In the English-speaking world outside England, clubs have been a part of the culture of colonisation, exclusive rallying points of Empire, where all the solid virtues and proper male behaviour patterns of the times were enshrined and preserved in an atmosphere of pleasant comradeship. But the Rand Club was never completely like that: it certainly had its own special comradeship, but it was never simply a colonial manifestation, as was sometimes seen in other parts of the world. What made it vitally different from many of the great clubs established in the English tradition abroad in the second half of the last century was the turbulent social, political and financial background of Johannesburg, and the fact that the club grew up at the centre of what became the greatest gold field the world has so far seen, with a cosmopolitan and colourful population, people of all nationalities, drawn to the Transvaal by the glamour of gold and dreams of fortune.

Rand Club…was once in a state of siege. It survived a war all around it without closing its doors. It has not only been a part of history: some of its members in its earlier years tried consciously to shape that history. And although today its traditional and massive internal architecture might suggest unbreakable links with a departed age, it is in fact a living and lively past, to changing times and customs. Its strength has not been in any long tradition or in any hallowed custom, but in the variety and character of its members…The Rand Club, launched in 1887, a year after the proclamation of Johannesburg, has a more exciting history than any other club in South Africa, but it is not South Africa's oldest. That honour rests with the Civil Service Club, in Cape Town, founded in 1858, very closely followed by the Victoria Club in Pietermaritzburg, in 1859.

THE CITY OF GOLD

The Rand Club opened its doors on 10 December 1887 - a year and two days after the first stand in the newly proclaimed township of Johannesburg had been knocked down for £10 17s 6d at a public auction. Hundreds of prospectors for gold were busy on the recently proclaimed public diggings, and crazy dwellings stood like packs of cards all over the veld. 'People pegged claims till the whole countryside looked like the back of a hedgehog,' wrote Carl Jeppe. Johannesburg in those days was a rough, raw, restless town. Tracks criss-crossing the veld were deep in dust, which turned to mud when the summer rains came. Wind was an even worse trial. It blew from one direction or another every month of the year, raising clouds of thick gritty dust, and as the growing waste dumps from mining sprawled across the veld the dust grew worse. There are reports of drivers, scarcely able to

see their horses' ears, wearing veils, and women locking themselves in their homes. But nothing could keep the find dust out. 'Und ach die awful dust clouds Dat blew mit every wind', ran a popular ditty in one of the rough music halls of the period. Strange dwellings spread further and further – whatever human ingenuity could devise. Some men lived in 'fox-holes' covered by tarpaulins or corrugated iron.

Despite the long, slow haul by ox-wagon to Johannesburg from the coast and from Kimberley, the scene changed quickly. A procession of wagons arrived with everything, or almost everything, the community needed, from building materials and food to brandy and barmaids. It was no uncommon sight to see upwards of 100 wagons and other vehicles at the morning market. Wood and iron buildings sprang up on all sides, and the first brick house was occupied a few months before the Rand Club (also brick) opened. By the middle of 1889 the original Corner House – home of the leading mining syndicate – had been replaced by a three-storey building. One after the other comfortable homes appeared, especially in Doornfontein, the first fashionable suburb, as more and more money was generated by gold mining. 'Never in the history of the world was such an extraordinary city conceived and carried out', wrote a visiting editor, K F Bellairs, in 1889. Within half an hour of arriving from Kimberley in the mail coach he had been elected a member of the Stock Exchange! The drive and vitality of this mining camp was wholly concentrated on material gain. Thwarted or disappointed men often turned to violence. 'Johannesburg is hideous and detestable' wrote Flora Shaw, of the Times. (She later became Lady Lugard) in 1892. 'There is luxury without order, sensual enjoyment without art, riches without refinement, display without dignity'. As late as 1913 Lady Phillips, wife of one of the gold mining magnates, returning after an absence of two years, was struck by the 'sordid, untidy aspect of the town, the lack of properly planted trees…. and the total disregard for the beautiful and the orderly'. It was, of course, a matter of opinion. By no means all judgments were as harsh as this.

In his book, 'The Goldfields Re-visited', E P Mathers writing of the town in 1888, two years after its proclamation, said: 'Johannesburg is a great and startling reality. It is unique among mining camps. It took Kimberley several years to emerge from the period of canvas habitations: it was long till Ballarat rose from a collection of miners' shanties to the handsome city it now is. But Johannesburg has already passed through the stages of wagon shelters, tents and reed edifices.'

Indeed, its growth was phenomenal, and everyone felt the exhilaration of progress, the thrill of a possible fortune just around the corner.

'Two years ago', J B Robinson, one of the great figures of the early gold fields, proudly said in the same year in a letter to a friend 'not a hole had been made, and there was no habitation anywhere on the Main Reef. The district was populated by a few hundred farmers who owned nothing but the land they lived on, and who subsisted on the produce they raised from their lands…Today we have a town built in a most substantial way consisting of no fewer than 3 000 houses and a population of at least 17 000 inhabitants. In two years upwards of £5-million has been invested in stocks, shares, buildings and mining concerns.' He added, with a great deal of truth: 'speculation is rampant as in every mining centre. Everything is neglected in the craze to gamble'.

In 1890 bar-keepers and hoteliers were ordered to leave lamps outside their premises to guide people in the dark, and to discourage crime. The camp boasted no fewer than 400 bars in 1895.

In 1888 the Government granted a concession for lighting the town by gas, and not long after electricity arrived. For some years both means were used in the streets, and in the correspondence columns of the newspapers fierce arguments were waged about their relative advantages. The first street lamp, a most ornate affair, was erected in 1892 in Market Square. It was a gas lamp.

Everyone was young, even the wealthy. It was a young, boisterous town. People worked hard, and they played hard. There was little or no 'side', no snobbishness. Men called each other by their Christian names. When the community grew bigger, as it quickly did, the family feeling disappeared, but it was a wonderful thing while it lasted, and went far to compensate for the camp's many disabilities. The end of an era came when hostesses began leaving calling cards, as was the Victorian custom, and only 'knew' certain families.

The rich, the influential, and the hopeful all rubbed shoulders in the streets, and at the week-ends joined in playing games at the Wanderers. Among the leading personalities were Henry ('Beetles') Bettelheim, who built an imposing Eastern-type palace at Doornfontein, one of the early suburbs: George Farrar, with a phobia about dust and dirt; Wolf and Solly Joel, Lionel Phillips, Percy Fitzpatrick, who had yet to write the adventures of Jock of the Bushveld; George Albu; the handsome Dale Lace; J B Taylor; the bearded brilliant Hermann Eckstein, who died from overwork at the age of 44; Eduard Lippert, Kruger's crony and owner of the valuable and contentious dynamite concession; the

unassuming Otto Beit; the popular Landdrost, Carol von Brandis; Carl Hanau, who made and lost several fortunes, Carl Jeppe and many others.

One of the first celebrities to visit the camp was Lord Randolph Churchill. Being an intolerant man, and accustomed to such much better things, criticism came readily to him. He wrote of conditions in 1891 with a biting style: 'Johannesburg is a town of much promise, but strangers will find occasion for much criticism, even censure. The streets are unpaved, and the roadways are as bad, or even worse than, tracks across the veld. When the wind is high, as is often the case, clouds of dust, thick and continuous, make breathing almost a difficulty, nor is this great evil mitigated by any kind of pavement, or by the simple and comparatively inexpensive water-cart. The streets are night are unlit, and after sunset total darkness renders locomotion along the bad roads a matter of difficulty and of danger. The obscurity, however, enables footpads and housebreakers to pursue their avocations with considerable impunity… During the week I was in Johannesburg I did not set eyes on a single policeman either by day or by night.'

Justice was meted out by Captain von Brandis in a tent at the side of Market Square. White prisoners were sent to Pretoria because there was no nearer jail, and natives (everyone called them 'kaffirs' in those days) were invariable sentenced to receive lashes. Watching the punishment administered in the open was for a time a morning diversion for residents and visitors. Yet the captain was not an unfeeling man: he was one of the camp's great characters, a man with tact and a sense of humour. Johannesburg's lock-up was so small he scarcely had a choice in the matter of punishment.

In the abnormally dry season of 1889, Johannesburg faced a threat of starvation. Potatoes, even when a percentage was hardly fit to eat, fetched £5 a bag, wheat £6, mealies £4.10s and mealie meal £5. When Kruger, the President of the Transvaal, was appealed to he acted quickly. In co-operation with the Chamber of Mines he offered a bonus of £20 to each of the first 250 wagons crossing the boarder into the Transvaal for Johannesburg providing it carried at least 6 000 lbs of provisions. From Natal and the Free State began a wagon race, and in a single week 500 reached the camp. The threat of famine disappeared.

Drought came again in 1895. Wells ran dry because by this time the European population had grown to 51 000 (with an untold number of African labourers) and a proliferation of wells caused the water table to fall. At the height of the distress one man is said to have bought a dozen bottles of soda water for 30/- to wash in, and another rode to Pretoria once a week for a bath. Water was hawked through the camp at 6d a bucket.

One reason for the early establishment of a men's social club was that many of the pioneers had come to Johannesburg from the Kimberley diamond fields; among them were Rhodes, Eckstein, Robinson, and Sauer, and they knew the value of such a club.

In her book 'No Ordinary Woman', Dr Thelma Gutsche stresses the point. 'Though similar in pioneering discomforts, in dust and thunder storms and torrential rains, in lack of water and fresh food, and in generally insanitary conditions, Johannesburg was very different from Kimberley. It seemed never to go through "the red woollen shirt and corduroy" stage of the other mining camps!'

Such were the conditions in Johannesburg when the Rand Club was born, and in the years of its infancy. Progress was fast, but even after the turn of the century there remained the haunting fear that the gold would peter out and the settlement become little more than the bare veld from which it had sprung. Recent examples of such a collapse were Barberton and Pilgrims Rest, and it had happened in many parts of the world. Would the Witwatersrand be an exception?

This sense of impermanence, of living for the day, explains, in part at least Johannesburg's high rate of lawlessness in the nineties, and later. In 1909 John X Merriman, Prime Minister of the Cape Colony, dubbed the city 'a university of crime'. The description was widely quoted, especially by Cape politicians and businessmen who watched the dramatic growth of Johannesburg with a mixture of envy and disbelief – envy for the fortunes made, disbelief that it could continue.

Although its facilities were primitive the first Club house was a haven indeed, especially in the bitterly cold winter months, from the boredom that gripped the camp once darkness fell. The best account of how evenings were spent in those very early days comes from Charles Bain, an early Club member, who arrived late in 1887. 'If the weather was fine' he wrote 'you stood in the streets and filled your pipe and talked to some of the others, or walked about the streets until you felt like getting into bed. If the weather was bad or cold, you made presto for the nearest bar where there was warmth and light and shelter. At Mrs Chiappini's (an eating house) dinner finished at eight o'clock and Mrs C locked the door and no one was admitted after that. So that, having eaten, it was the street for everybody.

At nearly every street corner there was a bar, and on the bitter cold winter nights one made for them as being the only shelter available. It was impossible to go to bed as very few of us fellows had decent rooms. Some were of mud bricks, some wood and iron unlined, and others like myself, had to be satisfied with a wattle and daub shack about six feet square. That was what I had at first. It was bitterly cold, and it leaked and all there was in it was a bed and an iron washstand. Can you imagine a young fellow going to that night after night at 8 o'clock and reading by the light of the candle? No, we didn't do that. What we did was to hurry to the first bar that was handy. All the bars, at least the best and in fact most of them, had paraffin lamps hanging from the ceilings – two or three big ones that gave out light and heat and smell. And they also had two or three circular black paraffin heating stoves that gave out a fine heat and smelled also. It was like entering a haven of rest to go into one of these places out of the bitter night and it was cold – much colder than it is now in Johannesburg, because it was a bare windswept ridge in those days, with no houses or buildings or trees to break the wind, and no roads or streets. We just had to stumble along in the dark from one bar to another because there were no lights, and the only illumination was that from the bars. Well, we would enter and approach the Presiding Divinity. All bars had women barmaids in those days and we would order our drinks which were always the same as far as I and my friends and acquaintances were concerned. Square Face Gin which had many recommendations. It was cheap – 6d a tot – it was warming and it was a very healthy spirit to mix with the very doubtful water that was all that was available in those days.

'There was, of course, no water laid on and water was brought up in carts and wagons in barrels from Natal Spruit, the Fordsburg dip and from out towards San Souci near what is now the Show Ground. Ordinary folk paid 6d a bucket and everyone of us had a bucket in our bedrooms. Sometimes there was water init, sometimes there wasn't, and if there wasn't and there were no water carts about we used to pinch it where we could and sometimes get caught and get a black eye in the process.'

Having got our drinks, we would stand about chatting to each other and smoking and enjoying the warmth and shelter, and sometimes having a few words with the barmaid. As a rule she was too busy to have more than a cheery word or two but she kept her eye on everybody, and after about half an hour when our drinks were finished she would eye us pretty steadily and although I never heard anything said, she made it pretty plain that the proprietor didn't keep all those lamps burning for fellows out of the street who didn't spend anything. So of course we ordered another round of drinks. When these had been slowly consumed, another half hour had passed and the barmaid would begin to eye us again, and so we would say goodnight and wander about for a while. Sometimes if we were with someone who had a decent room we would go there for a game of cards. Otherwise we would get fed up with the darkness and the cold and wander into another bar where we would put in another half hour, and then go to bed…'

This was the mining camp of Johannesburg when the Rand Club was established.

THE CLUB IS BORN

A few days before Christmas In the year 1886 two friends were walking through the miming camp that had just been named Johannesburg. They were Cecil John Rhodes and Dr Hans Sauer.

The first sale of stands had taken place a few days earlier – on 8 December – and with their business in Ferreira's Camp completed, Rhodes suggested they look for a site for a gentlemen's club. The grass was pleasantly green after the first summer rains, and the ground they walked over criss-crossed by footpaths and wagon tracks. Posts and pegs hammered into the earth showed where streets and open spaces would be, but as few of the markers could be seen at any one time because of the grass, it was difficult for the men to visualise exactly the township which the Government surveyor had laid out. Sauer had a better idea than Rhodes because he had seen the overall plan.

After they had strolled about for some time, Rhodes stopped. 'This corner will do for the club' he said. He was standing at the junction of Commissioner Street – the first street in Johannesburg – and a street (now Loveday Street) which came from the neighbouring Marshall's township. On the third site was Fox Street.

Rhodes could not have chosen better. Johannesburg has grown from the spot where he stood, and the Rand Club's first, second and third homes have all been built there.

The story of the Club's founding is told in Sauer's autography Ex Africa. He recalls that after choosing a spot Rhodes asked him to find out who the four stands belonged to, and buy them. Knowing they were in an area owned by H B Marshall, he walked towards the tin shanty that served as Marshall's office. On the way he met Ikey Sonnenberg, a speculator who used to run a faro table in the dining

room of the first Central Hotel, and asked him who owned the stands.

'On my telling him that Rhodes wished to buy these stands as a site for a club he at once offered the two that belonged to him as a gift. Ikey Sonnenberg belonged to the great Jewish race, and was widely known in South Africa for his wit, generosity and kindness. I accepted, and thanked him for his generous offer. With Marshall, a Scotsman, it was different. I had to pay the full price of £72 for his two stands.'

Even so, the ground was a bargain. Sauer notes that not many years later the Club was offered £80 000 for the four stands.

Sauer's story goes on: 'Rhodes instructed me to form a small company with a capital of £6 000 in £10 shares. Every candidate for admission to the Club had to take up £10 of shares, and in this way we raised the money needed for the building.'

Sauer's account of the Club's founding was the first to appear in print, but that was not until 1937 – nearly 50 years after the events he described. With the passing of time his memory was not always accurate. He recalls that the first clubhouse had a thatched roof, whereas it was of iron, and another slip was his claim that after becoming chairman of the Club he held the position 'all the years of my stay in Johannesburg'. The records show he was chairman for one year – from 1889 to 1890.

In May, 1909, the Club secretary wrote to foundation members asking about the early days for record purpose and an interesting reply came from A H Kingsley. He said the suggestion that a club be started was not made until May, 1887, but this difference with Sauer of five months is of no importance. Kingsley, too, said nothing about Sauer's walk with Rhodes, but in all probability he had not heard of it. The doctor's version is almost certainly the right one. He had good reason to remember such an unusual walk, and the approach to Sonnenberg which resulted from it. Kingsley's letter to the Club went on: 'Ten men offered to put up £100 a piece. They were Alexander Bailie, G Barber, H Bettelheim, Dr Duirs, Tom Glen, Seton Guthrie, Spranger Harrison. A H Kingsley, W H Norton and Dr Hans Sauer. This money was never called up as directly the report got about that a club was to be started everyone in the camp wanted to join.

'A meeting was promptly held at the Central Hotel, with Capt. Maynard in the chair, at which it was unanimously decided that a club should be built. Alex Bailie and myself were instructed to get out a drawing of the building, which we did there and then on a sheet of foolscap. The builder, whose name I cannot remember, afterwards prepared plans from this rough sketch. 'The land, I believe, belonged to Alex Bailie, and is the same on which the present Club stands. The building contained a bar, a billiards room and four small rooms (which were used as committee room, reading and card rooms) and kitchen.

'Before the floor was completed, the first English church service ever held in Johannesburg was held in the building by Bishop Bousefield, then Bishop of Pretoria. The following week, while the building was still unfinished, the ladies insisted on having a ball which was a great success in spite of several minor accidents owing to visitors and others not walking on the planks laid across the stoep, and thus slipping between them when going to it'.

Sauer and Bailie agreed that the original idea was to raise the small amount of capital necessary for a brick and iron building from Club members, who would then own land and building. However, it is clear from the Club's records that the first building it occupied (and the land) was not owned by members but by the Witwatersrand Club and Exchange Company Ltd. It must have bought the plots Rhodes chose for a club, put up a small building for a few hundred pounds, and the following year sold them to the Club for £8 000.

The first issue of Diggers News dated 24 February 1887, printed the prospectus of the Club and Exchange Company. The company, with a capital of £3 500, had been formed, in the words of the advertisement, 'for the purpose of establishing a residential club and exchange, both of which are much needed…..At present there is no central place of resort, and visitors come and go before their presence is known'.

Carl Jeppe was named solicitor for the company, and Newman Marks secretary for the time being. The provisional directors were J B Robinson (chairman), Cecil Rhodes, J G Maynard, A C Bailie, Dr Hans Sauer, J Spranger Harrison and Dr Bird. Here is one of several instances of Robinson and Rhodes working together. Later they formed separate companies, for not only did 'J. B' have greater faith in the future of the goldfields than did Rhodes, but they did not see eye to eye politically.

The prospectus, incidentally, indicates that Sauer was right about the date when planning for the Club began. Bailie's belief that it was only in May 1887 is most unlikely in view of the advertisement mentioning a club three months before then.

The company's secretary was not Marks but Benjamin M Woollan, an ambitious young Londoner whose special interest seems to have been the forming of companies to provide burgeoning Johannesburg with the amenities it craved. A stock exchange and a club were but two of them. He made money quickly and returned to England. There he died in 1909, leaving a fortune of £223 000.

The company and the club were closely linked. Dr T G Lawrence, the Club's first chairman, joined the board of the company, and the second chairman, Hans Sauer, was in it, too, from the beginning. Rhodes was not a foundation member of the Club but, as Sauer related, he was closely interested. Members thought of him as a foundation member, and a magnificent portrait of him hangs prominently in the Club. The reason he was not a foundation member was probably that he paid only brief visits to Johannesburg, and did not trouble to submit his name for membership until he saw the Club house actually standing.

The preliminary meetings to form the Rand Club probably took place in offices and hotels – precisely where is not recorded. Starting with a committee meeting on 7 October 1887, the early minutes, written in a bold handwriting, were kept in a black hard-covered book. Seldom did the Secretary bother to put a man's initials in front of his name and – more is the pity for historical reasons – entries were as terse as they could be. As the Club grew, so did the size of the leather bound minute books. After the first few years they became huge tomes each weighing 6½ kilos (14 lbs), more than any secretary could comfortably lift. The entries were all handwritten, of course, sometimes in copperplate, sometimes in script, sometimes in any old scrawl. Not until 1954 wee minutes typed although by then companies and business houses had long abandoned the use of longhand. In a Club the traditional way of doing things passed slowly.

At the historic meeting inaugurating the Club the chairman was Henry Bettelheim, and there were four others – Dr T G Lawrence, Alexander Bailie, Hermann Eckstein and Tom Glen. It was decided to ask C D Hay to be secretary (he accepted) at a salary of £10 a month with free board and lodging, but 'without liquor'. Dr Lawrence was chosen chairman and trustee of the Club, and Bettelheim honorary treasurer. Hay was secretary for a year only, but nearly 30 years later, in 1914, he was honoured by being made a life member.

The chairman had brought with him a list of 44 foundation members – they had all paid for shares in the Club and Exchange Company – and a list of 22 who wished to become members but had not yet bought shares. The latter were advised in writing that if they did not send a cheque promptly they would have to balloted for.

It was agreed verbally that the club would occupy the building already being erected on the site Rhodes had chosen, but the rental had not been fixed. At this meeting in October, it was decided to offer the company 75 per cent of the subscriptions received and a purchase of shares 'on the following basis as annexed'. The annexure is missing. Three months later, with £500 in the Bank of Africa, the first payment – a cheque for £400 was sent to the Club and Exchange Company.

The first general meeting of members took place ten days later, on 17 October. Dr Lawrence was in the chair, and in view of the interest and anticipation the Club had aroused in the camp he must have been disappointed that only 11 others turned up – Dr Sauer, C M Norris, Kingsmill, H Eckstein, A W MacIntyre, A Bailie, A H Kingsley, Charles Cowan, Newman Marks, W H Norton and T J Britten.

Little is known about the Club's first chairman, Dr Lawrence. He attended the first sale of stands in 1886 and bought two – one in Mooi Street for £30 and another in Jeppe Street for £40. In the short time he was in the camp he became a director of the Witwatersrand Exchange and Chambers Company Ltd., and was a committee member of the Wanderer Club. He was punctilious in attending committee meetings, and the Club was doing well when he resigned in February 1889, for no given reason. It was a time of near panic when the striking of pyritic ore sent shares tumbling, and hundreds of men, seeing uncertainty and worse in the future, cut their losses and left. Dr Lawrence was probably one of them. Had he stayed another few months he would have seen the corner turned and (who knows?) settled in Johannesburg for good. His name does not occur elsewhere in South Africa, so it is likely he returned to England. No photograph or drawing of him has been traced."

The assassination attempt on the life of Sir Lionel Philips, the 1913 Strike, the visits in 1925 and 1930 to Johannesburg by the lPrince of Wales, as well as the subsequent visit to Johannesburg during 1934 by King George V, are a few of the many important events associated with the history of the *third*

Rand Club. See below.

"A sensation was caused on December 11, 1913 by the news that Sir Lionel Phillips had been shot while going from the Corner House to the Rand Club for lunch. Just outside the club he was approached by a young man named John Lewis Misnum who imagined he had some grievance against Sir Lionel in the matter of a mine store he held. Misnum fired two shots which entered Sir Lionel's body, but thanks to a strong constitution he made a wonderful recovery, though one of the bullets was never removed. Misnum was charged with attempted murder and sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment." (Neame). For further information regarding the shooting of Sir Lionel Phillips, see Fraser, M.: Some Reminiscences Lionel Philips, p.156).

<u>THE 1913 STRIKE</u>

"When 1913 opened, South Africa was slowly recovering from the years of depression and Johannesburg was making steady progress. In the outside world however, industrial troubles were banking up, and the temper of Labour oversea [sic.] affected the mood of the workers in the Union…In May there was a small dispute over a change in working hours at the New Kleinfontein mine at Benoni and a strike was declared…This resulted in the strikers being paid off; the mining property fenced in; and the men on strike replaced with 'scabs' or strikebreakers; the strikers getting more agitated and turning to violence to such an extent that the then Minister of Defence General JC Smuts tried to no avail to brake the strike. The strikers were adamant and spread their reign of terror to other mines. In an effort to combat this, the Government closed all bars and strengthening the inadequate police force…The Strike Committee had meanwhile transferred its activities to Johannesburg and made preparations for declaring a general strike. In order to launch the larger movement it resolved to hold an open-air, meeting on the Johannesburg Market Square at 2.3 p.m. on Friday, July 4…Those who only know modern Johannesburg would find it difficult to visualize the appearance of the centre of the town in 1913. The walls of the Town Hall were rising behind hoardings at the top of the Square…The buildings on all sides of it were only a few storeys high. Simmonds Street did not continue across it, and where the Cenotaph now stands were the Old Market Buildings no longer in use and about to be pulled down. On this open space stretching away as far as the back of the present Library, thousands of excited people were assembling, many of the men being in an ugly mood…On the Market Square as described above a battle ensued with heavy attacks on…policemen, of these 88 were injured, some of them badly and only five serious injuries amongst the public. On discovering that the trains were still running the rioters moved down to the first Park Station were another battle followed on the station grounds…From the station the mob moved on to *The Star Building* [see O-1]; setting it alight and completely gutting the building and once again the Fire Brigade was helpless…Johannesburg was now a City of Dreadful Night. The streets were not as well lighted as they are now, and under a moonless sky they were almost dark. A cold wind swept clouds of dust along the gloomy thoroughfares in which gangs of roughs slunk in the shadows looking for mischief while hordes of strikers with auxiliaries of hooligans roamed about with vague ideas of damaging the property of the mining houses. Small patrols of police, mostly mounted, moved round the central area keeping in touch with the mob when there was a report that buildings were being attacked. Men in the shadows hurled stones or bottles at the police and sometimes fired revolvers at them. The majority of the public had gone home and locked themselves in their homes. There were no trams running and no vehicles in the streets and all bars were closed. After burning down *The Star* offices the crowd surged to the Corner House [see E-1] with the avowed intention of burning it down or blowing it up Up to this point the police had not used firearms. The situation was now so grave that there was a danger that a part of the town would be destroyed…The police opened fire on the crowd attacking the Corner House and several rioters fell, including the leader who carried a red flag. The mob moved away and began to break into the gunsmiths' shops to secure arms…Guns and revolvers from these shops were used in the desultory fighting that went on round the Corner House and in the neighbouring streets. At the Central News Agency premises [see Pre-History: BF-1], at the corner of Commissioner and Rissik Streets, and elsewhere firing went on until two o'clock on the morning of Saturday, July 5, when the crowd dwindled and finally went home…The Saturday morning the centre of the town- seemingly uneventful – was quite, with the usual amount of sightseers doing their rounds. The Strike Committee spent their morning haggling out terms for the continuing supply of water, light and power to the town. In the meantime in Fordsburg and Vrededorp the miners were planning the next round of the strike and threads of dynamiting the mining companies' offices were made…As midday approached crowds of strikers and their friends began to move towards the centre of the town, and the police were stoned. A large number of men collected in central Loveday and Commissioner Streets and it was reported that an attack on the Rand Club was contemplated. Just after one o'clock the windows of the club were smashed, and when the club servants closed the front door the crowd forced it open and entered the porth [sic.] and set fire to it and stole a number of articles lying about. The police and some of the members ejected the intruders, but the mob grew larger and more stones were thrown and several revolver shots fired one of which went through a window and a piece of the glass cut the ear

of Mr. Edgar, the Editor of the Transvaal Leader, who was talking to Mr. Charles Cudleigh. About one hundred and thirty Royal Dragoons arrived to protect the club and they were stoned and abused. Efforts made to induce the crowd to move away were unsuccessful, and shots were fired, and several horses were hit…Some of the Dragoons were dismounted and stationed in the centre of the intersection of Loveday and Commissioner Streets, where there was a lamp post. Police arrived to remove the arms remaining in Simpson's gun shop, and this appeared to anger the crowd and there was more stoning of the soldiers, who were ten ordered to lie at full length in the roadway. At 2 p.m. there was a dramatic and tragic incident. A miner name J. L. Labuschagne, from the Knight's Deep, dashed in front of the crowd and seemed about to charge the soldiers unaided. He flung open his overcoat and shouted "Shoot me! Shoot me!" The mob began to advance behind him, and the troops were ordered to fire and Labuschagne fell shot through the heart. The firing was continued, as the mod did not fall back, but finally the street was cleared and the firing ceased and ambulances arrived to pick up the dead and wounded. The strikers now threatened to obtain dynamite and bombs to use against the troops…General Botha (the Prime Minister) and General Smuts, who had hurried from Pretoria, met the strike leaders and a 'truce' was proclaimed…they [i.e. the two Generals] conceded practically all the demands made by the strikers, for there was a very real danger of a grave conflict and the Government was ill-prepared for it.' (Neame, L.E.: City Built On Gold, Chapter XIV).

Leyds describes the attack on the *third Rand Club,* as follows : "Opposite the Rand Club, at the corner of Commissioner Street, on 5th July, 193, occurred the historic shooting of Labuschagne, one of the strikers in the 1913 revolt. The rioters, having set the railway station and the offices of the 'Star' on fire, and done other destruction, surged to the Rand Club to burn it. Cavalry from the British garrison at Potchefstroom had been rushed to the scene after the declaration of martial law: but were pelted with heavy stones, some dragoons being injured. The troops dismounted and lay down in the street in line, ready to fire. Labuschagne, theatrically seeking to be a martyr, ran before the troops, tearing his shirt open, baring his breast and shouting, 'I'm not afraid of you, shoot me if you dare'. Just then some more stones were flung at the soldiers, and shots were fired. Labuschagne received a bullet and died. No one, not even his co-strikers liked upon the misguided man as a hero. The Rand Club was saved and was attacked again." (Leyds, G.A.: A History of Johannesburg).

<u>THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISITS TO JOHANNESBURG</u>

"The Prince of Wales, afterwards King Edward VIII, and later the Duke of Windsor, arrived on June 22, 1925, and stayed at the Rand Club for three days, the second and upper floors being reserved for him and his staff. The Prince's standard was flown form the clubhouse and a full guard drawn form the Active Citizen Force regiments was [sic.] mounted. The Mayor who received the Prince of Wales was Charles Walters, who had arrived in Johannesburg in the late 'eighties of the previous century [i.e. 1880s] and lived in a room without furniture and hawked vegetables for a living. Later he entered the brick making business and prospered.

The Prince of Wales paid a second visit to Johannesburg on February 1, 1930, on his way to Rhodesia [now Zimbabwe]. He arrived at 7.30 a.m. and went to the Country Club for breakfast, after which he played a game of golf in which he and Captain Piers Legh beat Captain Bain Marias and Dr. Boys 5 up and 4 to play. His signature is still in the visitors' book at the club." (Neame, L.E.: City Built On Gold).

<u>H.R.H. PRINCE GEORGE V' VISIT</u>

"On March 10, 1934, twenty thousand people lined the streets from the station to the City Hall to welcome H.R.H. Prince George. Like his brother the Prince of Wales, he stayed at the Rand Club. He went down the Crown Mines, and the citizens presented him with the model of a mine headgear in gold." (Neame, L.E.: City Built On Gold).

GENERAL NOTES:

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

Right: "This view, looking south, is of the Club of 1904 which had ground floor shops. The presence of a horse-drawn tram travelling east along Commissioner Street is evidence of the early date…Behind the tram is a board stating Rand Clubhouse, W. Leck & F. Emley, Architects. The contractor's name is indistinguishable…" (Norwich, O.I.: A Johannesburg Album; Historical Postcards, postcard 41).

Appearing in The South African Military History Society Newsletter – November 1999, is the following information: "The Battle of Elandslaagte, and the part played in it by the newly-formed Imperial Light Horse Regiment (ILH), was the subject chosen for the curtain raiser at the society's 14th October lecture meeting by Heinrich Janzen, who is himself a member of the regiment's successor, the Rand Light Horse. On 21st October 1899 the tiny, dusty railway station and settlement of Elandslaagte, half way between the Natal towns of Dundee and Ladysmith, became the site of one of the first engagements of the Anglo-Boer War. It was notable in that it experienced the war's one and only authentic cavalry charge. The Boers had captured Elandslaagte two days previously, and had thus cut off any chance of retreat by rail for the British forces under attack at Dundee. Along with the station, the Boers had taken a supply train, the local hotel, and numerous British prisoners. On the night of 20th October, the Boers joined their captives in feasting on the food and liquor blissfully unaware of what was to hit them at dawn the next day. The attack launched by General John French, who commanded the British cavalry under General George White, caught the Boers completely by surprise. They were, however, able to retreat to nearby high ground where their guns began shelling the British. French telegraphed White in Ladysmith, who immediately despatched infantry support under Colonel Ian Hamilton. The subsequent battle sent the Boers in full retreat, with the ILH destroying to a man a German unit which tried to prevent it. The battle ended when a conventional cavalry charge by the Lancers and Dragoons turned the retreat into a bloody rout. The ILH was founded on 8th September 1899 with Queen Victoria's approval for the use of the title "Imperial", and the Royal Standard and Union Flag as its regimental badge. It was recruited from the 5 000 "Uitlanders" who volunteered, and when it rode off to war on 11th October it was 444 strong. Its commanding officer was Lt. Col. J J Scott-Chisholme, recently seconded from the 5th Lancers (Royal Irish). Elandslaagte was its first battle, and Scott-Chisholme was killed leading from the front. Two VCs were awarded, to Capt. C H Mullins and Lt. R Johnstone. The origins of the regiment can be traced to the 64-strong "Reform Committee" of the Rand Club in Johannesburg, 10 of whom would be the first officers of the ILH. Among these dissidents were Dr Jamieson [sic.], who had led the abortive Jamieson [sic.] Raid in 1896; Sir Percy Fitzpatrick; Charles Mullins; Walter Karri Davies (not his real name); James Donaldson; the Gilfillans and Aubrey Woolls-Sampson. These men were destined to become the founders of the ILH. The regiment was born in secret, under the noses of Transvaal President Paul Krugers' numerous spies, and the glory of its first battle and victory at Elandslaagte was marred by the fact that so many of those it fought against had been personal friends before the war. The lecture ended with the regimental piper of the ILH playing the regimental lament to all those who died in the battle." (Information sourced from http://www.rapidttp.co.za/milhist/99/99novnew.html.)

"The club was formed in 1887 and this is the third building on the same site. It was designed by Leck & Emley in Neo French Renaissance style and erected in 1904. The French character is maintained throughout the building in the interior design such as the design of the iron staircase. There are busts of Kruger and of Rhodes in the entrance foyer. The club was attacked during the 1913 strike and was guarded by the Royal Dragoons, who fired on the advancing mob killing one person. During the subsequent strikes in 1914, 1919, 1920 and 1922 all doors and windows were kept bolt. The Prince of Wales stayed here in 1925, Prince George, the Duke of Kent in 1934. A Guard of Honour was posted outside the club, made up of active-citizen force men and watching the changing of the guard was a great attraction at the time. After the Jameson Raid in 1896 the ZARPs arrested twenty members at the club, all quite amicably. Members sent for their cape carts and cabs, messages were sent off to friends and family and a procession was escorted to the Old Fort gaol. The next day they were taken by train to Pretoria. With the advent of the bicycle a special yard with racks as [sic.] provided for members to park their cycles, and later of course garages had to be provided. Dr Julius Gustave

Schultze used to sit on the bench on the front porch to greet his friends. Other members joined him and they were known as 'The Front Porch Benchers'. The third club building included benches in the design." (Norwich, I. *et al*: Some Historic Drives & Walks of Johannesburg).

PREVIOUS TENANTS:

By 1954 the Sportsman Tobacco Co (Pty) Ltd occupied the shop situated at 96 Commissioner Street and at 96a Commissioner Street Strachan & Myburgh Ltd; Hortors Ltd occupied the corner shop at 98 Commissioner Street and at 98a Commissioner Street LF Palmer (Pty) Ltd.

CURRENT TENANT/S:

SOURCES:

For additional illustrative information, see relevant supplementary photo album in electronic format.

See SOURCES DOCUMENT for information on sources consulted with reference to this document.

Below: Extract from brochure issued by Old Mutual Properties in 1994.

Ten Sixty Six | **PRITCHARD STREET JOHANNESBURG**

The monotony of Johannesburg's skyline has been broken by the red granite finish of Ten Sixty Six, Old Mutual Properties' 20-storey office block in central Johannesburg.

Ten Sixty Six embraces the best in modern architectural design and offers a top quality working environment for tenants.

A practical design incorporating natural light and effective use of space ensures an efficient and secure working environment.

Ten Sixty Six does not, however, only represent innovation in design. The transfer of office rights from one of Johannesburg's historic buildings, the Rand Club, to Ten Sixty Six is considered a highly innovative move.

Approval was obtained for the transfer of 2 550m² of office rights from the Rand Club's Loveday Street premises to Ten Sixty Six. This involved Old Mutual and the Rand Club applying for simultaneous rezoning of their two properties.

The Rand Club was rezoned for institutional rights within the envelope of its present five-storey building, and the surplus rights it formerly had were transferred to the Old Mutual site.

The Rand Club benefited from this move, because its new zoning reflects its institutional nature and has effectively reduced its municipal rates.

Old Mutual, on the other hand, was able to enhance the viability of the new office development by adding more high-rental office space.

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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Unless otherwise indicated photographs by Catharina JM Bruwer.


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PRIDE of AFRICA
TAKE AWAYS
CURRY & RICE
FLAME GRILLED
BUNNY CHOWS
PUB LUNCHES
BAB & STEW
CHICKEN
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FOX STR.
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SHOE REPAIRS
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CLOTHING
BAKHUTLA


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Retail


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VICTORY HOUSE
VICTORY APTEEK
CHEMIST APTEEK
25 1 2004


TO LET


MRABA-RABA
From the year 1976 onwards this spot was utilised as a playing board by the member's chaffeurs. The game was played while waiting for their employers to conclude their business in the club. The game was called MRABA-RABA and either stones or bottle tops was used to play the game.


MEABA-KABA


RAVE
CLUB