JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

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

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NAME OF PLACE: JOSHUA DOORE BUILDING



Photograph: Catharina JM Bruwer.

Previous/alternative name/s : By 1954: Woolworths (Pty) Ltd.

:

LOCATION: Street : Kerk

Street number : 65, 67
Stand Number : 1089, 1090
Previous Stand Number: 1361
Block number : AU

Suburb : Johannesburg

GIS reference :

ZONING: Current use/s :

Previous use/s :

AU-2 1

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

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

Van der Waal: "The retail buildings accentuated the more human horizontal dimension, in character they differed from the non-communicative office blocks in only one respect. Like the latter, they projected their single function aspect in a consistent and uniform façade treatment. Generally, the façade plane was either insignificantly articulated or not at all, nor was it interrupted by a vertical dimension. This severe purity of form prevented any communication between the façade and life on the street. The only concession made was in the concrete sidewalk hoods, where a slightly built-up section supporting the name of the shop in large lettering indicated the entrance(s) to the store(s). These concrete hoods severed the buildings from the streets, giving them a weightless suspended effect, but this effect was less disturbing in these buildings than it was in previous or is even in some contemporary buildings. This is probably explained by the degree of weightlessness already given to the façade plane by the horizontal window bands concealing the interior reinforced concrete frame construction of the building. This technique was particularly successful in the Woolworths Building. The window strips extended across the full width of the façade without any interruption. Any extraordinary feature of the building was the tea terrace on the sidewalk and a balcony on the first floor, both designed to relate the building to activities in the street. While severe lines of the Woolworths Building projected a very modern image." (Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis...) See also BUILDING STYLE.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls:
Roof:
Windows:
SITE FEATURES:
ALTERATIONS:
INTEGRITY:
INSCRIPTION:

ARCHITECT:

'KALLENBACH, KENNEDY & FURNER The partnership between H KALLENBACH, AM KENNEDY and AS FURNER in Johannesburg from 1928. Late in 1928 Furner resigned his post as lecturer at the School of Architecture at the University of the Witwatersrand and joined Kallenbach and Kennedy as a junior partner. The firm built up an extensive practice throughout South Africa. According to Herbert (1975:48), 'the predominant influence in ... the office was undoubtedly Teutonic' which Herbert attributes to both Kallenbach's origins and Furner's admiration of German and Austrian architects. There were also two Austrian draughtsmen in the office, Fritz BERGE and Werner WAGNER, who assisted in the design of the Plaza Cinema and who surely added to this influence. According to Wagner (1990), Kallenbach was the head of the office and saw that work came in; Kennedy was the technical man and Furner the architect. The 1930s were a productive era for the partnership, the boom in the economy coinciding with Furner's arrival; Furner has been credited with the new and more modern image of the firm. In the Rand Daily Mail Exhibition (1934) the firm was responsible for transforming the Hall of Transport into an 'Ideal Village.'

Many South African architects worked at one time or other in the office of Kallenbach, Kennedy & Furner. Among these were TO DUNCAN (around 1934); CR FRIDJHON (in Durban from around 1931), BS COOKE (part time from 1928 to 1931, W Wagner and Fritz Berge. In about 1929 RD MARTIENSSEN worked there briefly. The early records of the office of Kallenbach, Kennedy & Furner have not been kept. (Cumming George 1933; Greig 1971; Herbert 1975; Int Arch 1924 34, ub no 72:66; Lennard 1984; Rennie 1978b:16; SAAR Feb 1934; Wagner 1990)

Publ: The Plaza kinema, Johannesburg, SAAR Dec 1931:117 9 (no author).

(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:				
Johannesburg Late Modernist. 1970s.				
BUILDING TYPE:				
This is a shop to street	and office building. (CJMB)			
ENVIRONMENT:				
CONDITION:				
URGENT ACTION:				
SAHRA RECORD REG	ARDING ALTERATIONS, RENOVATION	IS, 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 INFORMATIO	N:			
Original ownership: Document: Amount:	C B D Kerk Street (Pty) Ltd. T1453/1935			
Ownership: Document: Amount:	Pangbourne Prop Ltd. T54663/2002 R4774 034.00			
Ownership: Registration Date: Document: Amount:	Apexhi Prop Ltd. 2003-02-04 T5684/2003 R24308 146.00			

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

SECOND LIBRARY BUILDING

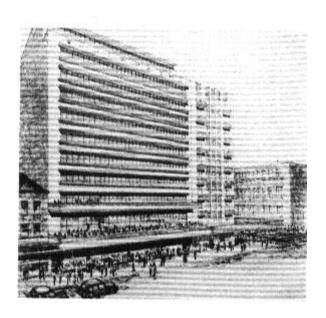
Van der Waal: "Active societies made an important contribution to building development in Johannesburg with the *second Library Building* (1898), 65/7 Kerk Street. A lending library society had been formed as early as March 1889. Later that year books to the value of R1 000 were ordered from England.¹ This would seem to give the lie to the perception that the mining camp's inhabitants were a rather uncivilised lot. The library only really got off the ground in the 189-s when an attractive three-storey building was erected to house the book stock which then numbered about 9 000 volumes.² This building was cleverly designed so



that the ground-floor could be leased to shopkeepers to supplement the income of the society. In 1904 the building was doubled by extensions at the rear, and in 1910-1 the shopping area was also incorporated in the library. Architect William Leck based the design of the façade on the English Palladianism of the second half of the 18th century. In this he not only followed the classicist tradition for library building in England, but also associated himself with the style alternative which was current at the time. The *Library Building* looked far more official than the *Government Building*. The reason was its stern block-like form, subdivision into three sections, Ionic pilasters of the colossal order, and formal lettering in the cornice and above the two entrances at the corners. Reference should perhaps also be made of the stucco sculpture with a coat of arms and allegorical putti above the entrance, as well as the archeologically correct finish of the classicist components of the façade. These features define the knowledge and expertise commanded by architects and artisans of Johannesburg at that time."

(Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis...)

HISTORY:



Woolworths Building by Kallenbach, Kennedy & Furner, 1937 (From Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis...).

To the most modern city in Africa we have brought the most modern shopping technique.

In congratulating the city on reaching its 70th Birthday we congratulate ourselves on our good fortune in having been established in the city for a considerable part of that period.



Woolworths, Kerk Street, extending into Eloff Street, Johannesburg

Branches throughout South Africa

From Stark, F. (Ed.): Seventy Golden Years 1886-1956...).

GENERAL NOTES:

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

PREVIOUS TENANT/S:

By 1954:

65 Kerk - Woolworths (Pty) Ltd.

65 Kerk - Fatti's Mansion.

65 Kerk – Fatti & Co., Ltd.

65 Kerk – Lightning Dry Cleaners.

65 Kerk - Williams, W. L., Jnr, Ltd.

65 Kerk - Krobro Building.

67 Kerk - Stutmor's Shoe

67 Kerk - Gottschalk's Butchery

67a Kerk - Alpine Refrigeration Co. (Pty.), Ltd.

67a Kerk – Elmot & Co.

67a Kerk – City Laundry.

67b Kerk - City Fruit Market.

(The Rand-Pretoria Directory 1954 (Comprising Complete Alphabetical And Trades Directories of Johannesburg, Pretoria And Reef Towns), Cape Times Limited, Cape Town, 1954.)

CURRENT TENANT/S:

Josua Doore

SOURCES:

Published Sources

Chipkin, C.M.: Johannesburg Style; Architecture & Society 1880s – 1960s, David Philip Publishers, Cape Town, 1993.

The Rand-Pretoria Directory 1954 (Comprising Complete Alphabetical And Trades Directories of Johannesburg, Pretoria And Reef Towns), Cape Times Limited, Cape Town, 1954.

Van Der Waal, G-M.: From Mining Camp to Metropolis, The buildings of Johannesburg 1886-1940, Chris Van Rensburg Publications, Johannesburg, 1987.

Unpublished Sources

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

Johannesburg Building, Space & Urban Feature Classification, 1998: Inner City - Metropolitan Planning, Johannesburg Metropolitan Council (Cool Factory).

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

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