

JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

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

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NAME OF PLACE: SAMANCOR HOUSE



Photograph: Catharina JM Bruwer.

Above: The building as seen from the southwest corner of Anderson and Simmonds Streets.

Previous/alternative name/s : originally Amcor House
:
:

LOCATION: Street : bounded by Marshall, Simmonds, Anderson and Harrison
Street number : 88 Marshall
: (86, 88, 90, 92 Marshall; 10, 12 Simmonds;
: 49, 51, 53, 55 Anderson; 13, 15 Harrison)
Stand Number : 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178
Previous Stand Number:
Block number : CG
Suburb : Marshallstown
GIS reference :

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

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Height : 255' 10"
Levels above street level : 13 levels plus roof
Levels below street level : three
On-site parking : yes

This is a podium and tower construction with cantilevered verandah surrounding the building.

See electronic version of Survey Report for copies of the original building plans.
(CJMB)

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls: brickwork and concrete; terrazzo cladding

Roof: flat; concrete and Malthoid

Windows: steel fenestration; side hung opening out

Verandah: cantilevered
(CJMB)

SITE FEATURES:**ALTERATIONS:**

Alteration plans are available. (CJMB)

INTEGRITY:

Most of the original fabric to the shop fronts has remained intact. (CJMB)

INSCRIPTION:**ARCHITECT:**

Nurcombe, Summerly, Ringrose & Todd.
Chartered Architects And Town Planners.
(Address: 301 Portland Place, 37 Jorissen Street, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.)

BUILDER:**CONSTRUCTION DATE:**

Date on plans : 26 July 1961
Approval of plans : 11 October 1962
Completion date : 1962
(CJMB)

BUILDING STYLE:

Johannesburg Modular Regionalism. 1960s.

Architectural Merit: "A very simple yet very effective building, particularly in its use of colour."
(Johannesburg Building, Space & Urban Feature Classification, 1998: Inner City).

BUILDING TYPE:

Shop to street and office building. (CJMB)

ENVIRONMENT:

CONDITION:

As seen from the exterior the building appears to be in a fair condition. (CJMB)

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: Adrec Properties (Pty.) Ltd.
P. O. Box 5400, Johannesburg.

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

By 1954 the follow portions of this site were occupied by:
86 Marshall Street – Power Electric
88 Marshall Street – J. H. Plane & Co. Ltd.
90 Marshall Street – Ambulance Services
92 Marshall Street – D. H. Saker & Co.
12 Simmonds Street – Brodies Garage
(The Rand-Pretoria Directory 1954)
(CJMB)

HISTORY:

GENERAL NOTES:

Estimated cost of building : R600 000.00
Estimated cost of drainage : R10 000.00
Accommodation approved : none
Valuation at completion :
Occupied :
(CJMB)

"SAMANCOR Retrenched Workers Picket

December 2003 by APF

SAMANCOR Retrenched Workers' Crisis Committee (SRWCC) to picket in Johannesburg on Monday (15th Dec.) from 12h00 to 14h00 at SAMANCOR Head Office, Provincial Labour Dept. and Provincial Environmental Affairs Dept. Over 100 retrenched (steel manufacturer) Samancor workers who are organised under the umbrella of the Anti-Privatisation Forum will be staging simultaneous pickets on Monday (15th Dec.) at Samancor Head Office (Marshall Street, JHB) as well as the Provincial Departments of Labour (Rissik & Fox Streets, JHB) and Environmental Affairs (Court Street, Braamfontein) in Johannesburg.

SAMANCOR Retrenched Workers' Crisis Committee (SRWCC) to picket in Johannesburg on Monday (15th Dec.) from 12h00 - 14h00 at SAMANCOR Head Office, Provincial Labour Dept. and Provincial Environmental Affairs Dept.

Over 100 retrenched (steel manufacturer) Samancor workers who are organised under the umbrella of the Anti-Privatisation Forum will be staging simultaneous pickets on Monday (15th Dec.) at Samancor Head Office (Marshall Street, JHB) as well as the Provincial Departments of Labour (Rissik & Fox Streets, JHB) and Environmental Affairs (Court Street, Braamfontein) in Johannesburg. After decades of service, the company has rewarded these workers' with:

Poisonous & inhuman working conditions

Lethal respiratory illnesses

Forced retrenchments

Miserable compensation

Forgotten medical aid

Lost insurance on housing loans

The communities in the vicinity of SAMANCOR continue to suffer from the labour practices and horrendous environmental pollution of SAMANCOR, while the management of SAMANCOR makes huge salaries and profits. Despite repeated requests by the SRWCC to intervene to enforce labour and environmental rights, the relevant provincial departments have remained silent. The SRWCC, alongside community members, are demanding that:

Samancor release the results of all medical examinations

Samancor cover all health expenses of retrenched and employed workers

Samancor provide decent workers' compensation for retrenched workers

Samancor compensate the families of deceased workers

Samancor disburse housing loan subsidies

Samancor cease subcontracting and the payment of substandard wages

The Provincial Department of Labour conduct an immediate inspection of working conditions at Samancor

The Provincial Department of Environmental Affairs conduct an immediate environmental impact assessment of the Samancor factory and surrounding communities

HUMAN LIFE BEFORE PROFITS MOBILISE, UNITE AND FIGHT!

For further information contact the SRWCC on: 083 342-8144; 083 472-2004; 072 175-8948."

http://www.apf.org.za/article.php3?id_article=38

PREVIOUS TENANT/S:

CURRENT TENANT/S:

Busnet Finance

African Bank

SOURCES:

Published Sources

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

Unpublished Sources

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.

Internet sources

http://www.apf.org.za/article.php3?id_article=38

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.