

JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

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

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NAME OF PLACE: STANDARD BANK ELOFF BUILDING



Photograph: Catharina JM Bruwer.

Previous/alternative name/s :
:
:

LOCATION: Street : Market, Eloff and President Street
Street number : 70
: (79, 81 Market; 70, 72, 74, 76 Eloff; 72, 74 President)
Stand Number : 373, 1/378, 380, 4631, 4785
Previous Stand Number:
Block number : AX
Suburb :
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:**

'Cook, James Charles

...(Apr 1878 - 31 Mar 1955), a pioneer architect in the Benoni-Boksburg area circa 1908 and co-founder of the Johannesburg firm of COOK & COWEN. Currently Cook's origins and training remain obscure. He was in South Africa by 1905 when he was elected an Associate member of the RIBA, living in Bloemfontein, and had apparently lived in Cape Town in about 1904. His first recorded work was a submission for the Pretoria Post Office competition in December 1908 for which he gained honourable mention (1909). He was at the time still resident in Bloemfontein but the same year moved to the Transvaal where he entered into partnership with JF MacKENZIE in Boksburg (cf COOK & MacKENZIE). *The Cape Times* (March 1911) noted that the Pretoria Post Office was executed according to the elevations of Cook & MacKenzie and to the ground plans of TULLY, WATERS & CLELAND. Cook and MacKenzie were listed at separate box numbers in Boksburg in the *United Transvaal Directory* of both 1915 and 1917. Cook was elected a member of the Transvaal Institute of Architects' Council in 1914 and in about 1915 appears to have entered into partnership with WJ SLOAN, with offices in Boksburg, Benoni and Johannesburg (cf COOK & SLOAN). Sloan left this partnership in about 1917 and Cook continued to practise in Boksburg, in 1917 being elected to represent the Association of Transvaal Architects' practice committee in Boksburg. In 1918 Cook entered into partnership with J RALSTON of Pretoria (cf COOK & RALSTON), practising in Johannesburg until about 1923 when the partnership was dissolved, both partners remaining in Johannesburg. He was also a member of Boksburg Municipal Council. He practised on his own account from about 1923 until 1927. His most important building of this period of independent practice was probably the design of Boksburg Town Hall in 1926. During this time he was commissioned to design a number of apartment blocks, a type of work which became the core of the practice with Maurice Cowen with whom he entered into partnership in 1927 (cf COOK & COWEN). He maintained his Boksburg links after he moved to Johannesburg, being requested to design several buildings of importance in there until at least 1939. Cook lived latterly at 3 Central Street in Lower Houghton and died in Johannesburg.

ARIBA Bloemfontein 1905; ISAA 1927. (*AB&E Apr 1926:12; Afr Archt Feb 1914:314; ISAA mem list; PWD 122/3253; RIBA Kal 1905/6; SAAR May 1955:47 death notice; SAWW 1919-20; TAD MHG 2075/55; UTD 1909:401, 413*)...'

(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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Formal protection:	provincial heritage site	<input type="checkbox"/>
	national heritage site	<input type="checkbox"/>
	provisional protection	<input type="checkbox"/>
	heritage area	<input type="checkbox"/>
	listed in provincial heritage resources register	<input type="checkbox"/>

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:

By 1954:

81 Market – Standard Bank, Eloff St. Branch

70 Eloff – Johannesburg Fresh Meat Supply

72 Eloff – Dicks & Son, E. W.

72 Eloff – Reviene Ladies' Fashion House

72 President – Colman & Co., R.

74 President – Garrards (Pty), Ltd.

(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:

Studio 88
Standard Bank Auto Bank
Shi B'Doo
Green Cross Footwear
Egoli Fashions

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

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

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.