JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

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

JJ Bruwer © Cellphone: 082 325 5823

NAME OF PLACE: CUTLER & WILSON BUILDING





Left: Bree Street elevation.

Top: seen in the middle-background is the *Cutler & Wilson Building* with the multi-storey *Monis Mansions* to its rear.

Previous/alternative name/s

: by 1954 – Cutler & Wilson (Pty) Ltd.: by 1998 - Score Furnishers

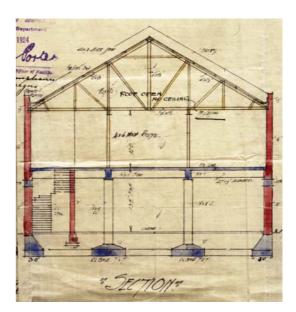
| LOCATION: | Street Street number Stand Number Previous Stand Number Block number GIS reference | : | Bree 214 1217 originally 998 AO |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| ZONING: | Current use/s Previous use/s | : | |

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

| Height | : | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Levels above street level | : | originally two; currently three |
| Levels below street level | : | none |
| On-site parking | : | none |

The building originally comprised two storeys and it was designed in a strictly utilitarian style.

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Top: extracts from submission drawings dated 1924.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls: reinforced concrete construction; burnt brick, originally not plastered.

Roof: hipped galvanized corrugated iron roof with empirical truss.

Windows: steel casements.

Floors: reinforced concrete.

Staircase: winder.

SITE FEATURES:

ALTERATIONS:

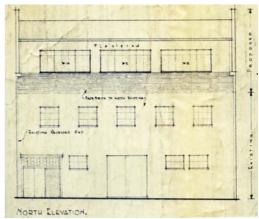
Messrs Cutler & Wilson commissioned the architectural firm of Nurcombe, Summerley & Lange (address 301 Jubilee House, 15 Simmonds Street) to design a third storey and a new main elevation for the building, major internal alterations were undertaken

| for the building, ma | jor internal alterations were undertaken | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| during the same pe | riod. Estimated cost – building £4000; | | |
| drainage £75; additional value £2500. | | | |
| Date on plan | : 15 November 1947 | | |
| Approval of plans | : 19 October 1948 | | |
| Completion date | : 14 March 1949 | | |
| | | | |

According to the Application for Approval of Plans form, the following persons were to be employed:

| 'European' males | : | 12 |
|--------------------|---|-----|
| 'European' females | : | 10 |
| 'Native' males | : | 10 |
| Coloured female | | one |
| | | |

Right: extract from submission drawings dated 1947.



Alterations: new shop fronts and cantilevered canopy; removal of existing brick stringcourse between first and second storeys, and other internal alterations; estimated cost – building R6 000.

| Date on plan | : October 1962 |
|--------------|---|
| Architect | : Nurcombe, Summerley, Ringrose & Todd. |
| Approved | : 30 April 1963 |

| Internal alterations. Date on plan Approved Architect | : January 1969 : 6 March 1969 : Von Berg & Halford | |
|--|--|----|
| Alterations. Approved Architect | : 24 May 1974 : J Cronje | |
| New anodized alumin Date on plan | ium shop fronts and internal altera : 7 February 1979 | ti |

New anodized aluminium shop fronts and internal alterations.Date on plan: 7 February 1979Approved: 14 June 1979Architect: El Graff, Kruger Associates Inc.

INTEGRITY:

The main façade of the building has been altered to such an extent that very little remains of its original design elements.

INSCRIPTION:

ARCHITECT:

Author unknown.

BUILDER:

CONSTRUCTION DATE:

| : | January 1924 |
|---|-----------------|
| : | 29 January 1924 |
| : | 12 March 1924 |
| : | 14 July 1924 |
| : | 9 June 1924 |
| | : : : |

BUILDING STYLE:

Utilitarian, 1920s.

BUILDING TYPE:

Shops to street and warehouse building.

ENVIRONMENT:

The *Monis Mansions* tend to dwarf all its neighbours in this city block, including the *Cutler & Wilson Building*. The building appears however to be well maintained, resulting in an accentuation of sorts of its position in this area of Bree Street.

CONDITION:

The exterior of the building appears to be in a relatively a good condition. First Floor bricked-up.

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: Messrs Cutler & Wilson.

- 1948: Messrs Cutler & Wilson.
- Cutler & Wilson (Pty) Ltd. 1963:
- 1969: Alcove Properties Ltd. 1974: Ellis & Co.
- 1979: World Furnishers (Pty) Ltd.

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

HISTORY:

Stark, 1956: "Cutler & Wilson (Pty.) Ltd. Shipping, Airfreight, Clearing & Forwarding Agents and Bonded Warehousemen.

1897 – 1956. 59 Years In The Service Of The Commercial Community.

After 59 years of trading, of making progress by being helpful, we look back for a moment and realise how fortunate we have been in our associations. We number among our clients many businesses which had small beginnings, and which are today firmly established and respected throughout the country. To them, and to our more recent friends we are grateful, not only for their goodwill, but for the peasant relations which always have existed between us." During 1956 the firm had branch offices at "Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town, and Agents throughout the world."

The postal address of the firm was 2319, Johannesburg, Telephone Number 011 22-3723/4/5/6 and their telegraphic address 'clearing'.

GENERAL NOTES:

| Estimated cost of building | : | £3500 |
|----------------------------|---|-------|
| Estimated cost of drainage | : | £100 |
| Accommodation approved | : | none |
| Valuation at completion | : | £3970 |
| Occupied | : | yes |

PREVIOUS TENANTS:

By 1954: Cutler & Wilson (Pty) Ltd. By 1998: Score Furnishers.

CURRENT TENANT:

Town Talk.

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.

RECORDED BY:

Heritage Resources Management team Johann J and Catharina JM Bruwer. Unless otherwise indicated photographs by Catharina JM Bruwer.

POSTAL ADDRESS BOX 2319. TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "CLEARING" CODE DENTLEY'S TELEPHONE 33-7233 utler & Wilson, Ltd. Shipping, Clearing & Forwarding Agents AND BONDED WAREHOUSEMEN. 214. BREE STREET. BETWEEN HARRISON AND SIMMONDS STREETS JOHANNESBURG. 29th January, 1947: The City Engineer, M unicipal Offices, JOHANNESBURG: Dear Sir, Kindly allow Messrs: Nucombe, Summerley & Lange to inspect the plan of our property on Stand 998, Bree Street, Johannesburg and take copies if necessary. Yours faithfully, P.P. CUTLER & WILSCH. LTD. narius

TELEGRAMS, "CHAMBER" Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce. Natal Bank Chambers. Market Sq. Ichannesburg. 8th February, 1924.

To all Members of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce.

RECEIVED 12 FEB.1924

Dear Sirs,

RAT PROCFING REGULATIONS.

The Town Engineer of Johannesburg has informed this Chamber that the Minister for Public Health has promulgated new Regulations in the "Government Gazette" of the 1st February, 1924, containing 8 Clauses, requiring certain structural arrangements to prevent the passage of rodants, and Clause 3 prohibits a Local Authority from approving plans of any shop or store unless in accordance with the requirements of Clause 2. If desired the "Gazette" can be inspected at this office. The penalty Clause provides a fine not exceeding 250 and 25 per day for continuing an offence.

The Chamber is asked to advise you of the foregoing.

I an,

Yours faithfully,

Documents copied from file of building at Plans Control Department, Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality.





