

**JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY**

**HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM**

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

**NAME OF PLACE:** Game



**Previous/alternative name/s** : Greatermans  
Dion (by 1995)

**LOCATION:** Street : President  
Street number : 91, 93, 95, 97, 99  
Stand number : 676 (previously 1751), 4677 (previously 674-675,  
677-678, 680-683, 683A)  
Block number : T

**ZONING:** Current use/s : Business one  
Previous use/s : Department store

**DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:**

Nine storeys; no basement (?).

A cold, clinical, and impersonal building, the monotony of the cladding does nothing to the building. (cjmb)

**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:**

Walls : reinforced concrete; clad with light ochre glazed relief tiles.

Roof : flat, concrete.

Windows: steel framed windows.

**SITE FEATURES:****ALTERATIONS:****INTEGRITY:****INSCRIPTION:****ARCHITECT/BUILDER:****CONSTRUCTION DATE:**

On plan :  
Completed : 1974

**BUILDING STYLE:****BUILDING TYPE:**

Shops to street and office building.

**ENVIRONMENT:**

"In Presidentstraat: Sy onpersoonlike geslote blokvorm breek op rigoreuse wyse die menslike skaal van die omgewing en besit geen verwysingspunt wat materiaal, tekstuur en kleur betref nie. In Pritchardstraat: Hoogte en kleur sluit aan by dié van Stuttfords en Foschini. (RAU Report, June 1976)



**CONDITION:**

Good.

**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: Greatermans  
T12516/1972 Mine Officials Pension Fund  
T3008/1988 Mine Officials Pension Fund

T46414/2000 Knycep Trust  
B26846/2000 First Rand Bank Ltd  
T46415/2000 Aconcagua 21 Inv Pty Ltd

### **PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:**

On the north-east corner of President and Rissik Streets by 1889, stood a low corrugated iron structure with hipped roof. It was replaced in ca. 1892 with a double storey structure; the ground floor was built with brick and the first floor with corrugated iron. The building was replaced in turn in 1905, with the Moseley Building, designed by A. & W. Reid. This was a five storey building in the Imperialistic style with bay windows and heavy cornices.

At 44 Rissik Street, there stood since 1922, the four storeyed Bothwell House – which was the location of one of Johannesburg’s leading outfitting establishments for many years. The firm of McCullagh & Bothwell acted as tailors and outfitters to the men and boys of Johannesburg, “and it is safe to say” according to Shorten, “that more schoolboys and schoolgirls have been supplied with uniforms at its well-known shop at 44 Rissik Street than at any other similar establishment in South Africa.” The founder of this enterprise was Samuel Bothwell who emigrated from Ireland to this country in 1890. Situated on the south-west corner of Pritchard and Joubert Streets and facing Joubert Street by 1890, was the Store Bros. Building, which by 1900, had been replaced with the Anglo-Austrian Building.

Situated on the south-west corner (at 64 Pritchard Street) of Joubert and Pritchard Streets was the first Store Bros. Building (constructed in 1889-90).

By 1900, the north-west corner of President and Joubert Streets was occupied by the Gordon Mitchell & Co. Building. The Greatermans Building was later constructed on this site. This happened before 1940. It was management difficulties which eventually led to the closure of the old-timer, Greatermans, in 1982. The space vacated was promptly taken by Dion, a very successful speciality store.

### **HISTORY:**

See History: F-2 Stuttaford

### **GENERAL NOTES:**

### **SOURCES:**

Opname Historiese Geboue In Johannesburg, Second Report June 1976, Inner City, RAU

NMC File 3/1/3/Joh/A : Johannesburg General. [“Graceful old stores have all gone” in The Star, 26 June 1989]

Shorten, J.R.: The Johannesburg Saga, John R. Shorten, Second impression, 1966

The Market Square Of Johannesburg: Catalogue of buildings on and around the square till about 1920 (Compiled by G.M. van der Waal), Public Library, Johannesburg, 1971

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

Registrar of Deeds, Johannesburg

**RECORDED BY:**

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Photographs by Chris JH Coxen (unless otherwise indicated).

**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