

JOHANNESBURG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SURVEYING FORM

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

NAME OF PLACE: Standard Bank Building (Market Square Branch)



Previous/alternative name/s :

LOCATION: Street : President
Street number : 55, 57
Stand number : 4428
Block number : P

ZONING: Current use/s : Business one
Previous use/s :

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Not all of the original plans for the building could be found. This notwithstanding, it appears that the building was erected in phases. The first phase was the substructure (two basement levels; for parking and mechanical rooms; first basement level with turntable).

During the second phase the original building was erected consisting of a ground floor and mezzanine; first and second storeys; roof (stepped back) with lift machine room and dormitory.

Deviation plans were passed on 22 February 1967. These plans entailed the following: sub basement and basement level; ground floor with mezzanine; nine floors; 10th floor, caretakers flat; 11th floor, lift motor room; 12th floor, stepped back; the living quarters for five 'Non-Europeans', situated on the ninth and tenth floors. The building to this date, however tells a different story, as it appears to comprise of two basement levels; ground and mezzanine; eight floors and roof section.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Walls : reinforced concrete construction with brick panel walls; clad with textured panels.

Roof : flat, concrete.

Windows:



SITE FEATURES:

The closure of Fraser Street in this area provides the setting for the piazza. The tar road has been substituted with two colours of paving brick, layed to form diamond patterns and borders. The President Street side has a fountain and pool. A double row of palm trees was planted on the Pritchard Street side. A row of low street lamps was placed slightly off centre. The piazza is flanked by the Sage Centre on the east side and on the west side, by the Sage Life Building and Standard Bank Building. All this forms a small oasis in a busy area of the City.

ALTERATIONS:

INTEGRITY:

INSCRIPTION:

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

Stucke, Harrison, Ritchie & Watson

Builder: The Reinforcing Steel Co (Pty) Ltd

CONSTRUCTION DATE:First phase

On plan : 13 February 1964
Plans passed : 6 September 1963

Second phase

On plan : 7 July 1964
Plans passed : 17 August 1964
Completed : 1964 (?)

BUILDING STYLE:

Johannesburg Modular Regionalism (Urban Features).

BUILDING TYPE:

Bank and office building.

ENVIRONMENT:

"Vorm in sekere sin 'n eenheid met die aangrensende Executive Centre, en vorm 'n teëwig vir geboue aan suidekant van die Parkplein" (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	<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: Standard Bank

T84/170 Sage Library Gardens Ltd
B43583/1993 Combined Mortgage Nominees Ltd
T41485/2002 Townhomes Pty Ltd

PRE-HISTORY OF SITE:

The corner site of this stand, by 1889, was occupied by a single storey brick building with the entrance in a flattened corner with pilaster-like strips between the arched windows. The architects Stucke & Bannister designed a new door and centre rectangular window in 1904. In 1913 one storey was added for T. Allbret & Co by H.H. Snowball. The stand next to it (i.e. on President Street) was first developed in 1905 when T. Albert & Co had a single storey brick structure built on it; a second storey, designed by H.H. Snowball, was added for the same owner in 1913.

HISTORY:

Estimated cost of the first phase was R42 800.00, the second phase R140 000.00 and drainage R900.00. Accommodation for four 'Europeans' and one 'Non-Europeans' was passed.

GENERAL NOTES:

SOURCES:

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

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

City Engineering Department, Stand No. 4428, Township Johannesburg (Planning Dept., City of Johannesburg)

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

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