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A CASE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OLD
POST OFFICE, RISSIK STREET, JOHANNESBURG

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INTRODUCTION

The present paper has been prepared with the object of gathering together facts relating to the Old Post Office, Rissik Street, Johannesburg so that these may be laid before the responsible authorities with the plea that this now historically important building be spared the fate of the demolisher's jackhammer and allowed to live on to remind future generations of the stirring times that were once the scene of present day Johannesburg.

Every endeavour has been made to check the facts against original sources. Unfortunately, in the time available, this has not always been possible and the authors have therefore attempted to overcome this difficulty by quoting, where possible, their secondary sources. Where the veracity of any fact was in question, the authors have chosen to omit it or have pointed out their doubts.

IN THE BEGINNING

The discovery by Harrison and Walker of goldbearing reefs on the farm of Gert C. Oosthuizen during the first months of 1886 brought in its wake a flood of prospectors and financiers, each bent upon the single purpose of accumulating a fortune. Of the first to arrive was Col Ignatius Phillip Ferreira, who trekked over from Pretoria and settled next to the road from Kimberly to Pretoria where it crossed the farm Turffontein. A community soon grew up round his camp and by July, 1886 it was known as Ferreira's Camp.⁽¹⁾

By the end of September, 1886, the total population in Ferreira's Camp, Natalspruit, Turffontein and Langlaagte numbered between 900 and 1,000⁽²⁾. The need for a properly constituted village adjoining the goldfields became evident and on 3rd August, 1886, Johann Friederich Bernard Rissik, then Act.Surveyor-General, and Christian Johannes Joubert, then Minister of Mines, were appointed to a commission charged with the duty, inter alia, of reporting on a suitable site for such a village⁽³⁾.

In their report they recommended that the triangular piece of governmentowned "uitvalgrond", known as "Randjeslaagte", wedged between the farms, Doornfontein, Turffontein, Langlaagte and Braamfontein be set aside for this purpose.⁽⁴⁾ A government surveyor, Jos. E. De Villiers, was appointed by Rissik to lay out the inchoate village.

In his instructions to De Villiers, Rissik stated that the name of the village was to be Johannesburg and that the Government Offices had to be located on the Market Square called for in the plans and, if possible, these offices had to be on a corner site.⁽⁵⁾

De Villiers' plan, according to which present day central Johannesburg is laid out, provided a market square bounded by Sauer, President, Rissik and Market Streets. The area is still known as Market Square.

FIRST POSTAL SERVICES

Arthur Ballantine Edgson was appointed a postal agent at Muldersdrift, district Pretoria, as from 23rd January, 1886. Within months of the establishment of Ferreira's Camp he moved over from Muldersdrift and opened a canteen and store at the camp and continued to act as a postal agent. ⁽⁶⁾

Auret Pritchard, a pioneer gold digger and land surveyor is reputed to have said of the time :

'We had a weekly 'runner' to Pretoria, our sole and only connection with the outside world, for remember the camp lay between Potchefstroom, Pretoria and Heidelberg, the nearest of the three being the last mentioned, thirty miles off. The letters were kept in a small packing-case and, on any one applying for his mail, the box was taken out and emptied on the grass, and you went through the lot, in fact, every man did his own sorting. It was quite a common thing in passing someone on the road for him to shout out, 'Hulloa - there are letters for you at Edgson's'. ⁽⁷⁾

By August, 1886, arrangements had been made for a postal service between Pretoria, Edgson's Store and Bezuidenhout Farm. There were three services to and from the Capital each week. An advertisement in the "Transvaal Advertiser" gave the closing time and the anticipated time of arrival of the mail at each of the centres. ⁽⁸⁾

C.A. Dormehl was appointed postmaster on the 20th September, 1886, and thereafter the mail was sorted alphabetically. After this was done, it was customary for Dormehl to transact business through a window where mail would be received and from where he would read out the mail for the day, the audience calling out as a letter addressed to them was read out. ⁽⁹⁾

During March, 1887, the Post Office was removed from Ferreira's Camp to a galvanised iron building at 70a Market Street. ⁽¹⁰⁾ The work of the Post Office increased further necessitating another move to a building that was

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also opposite the Market Square and which adjoined Hart and Henochsberg's Store. A further move took place to a large iron building put up in Joubert Street. (See note after reference 11).

THE SITE OF THE OLD POST OFFICE

Sites 346, 347, 348, 353, 354, 355 which are situated along the eastern side of Rissik Street, opposite the Market Square, belonged to Mr. Emmanuel Mendelsohne, editor and one of the proprietors of the Standard and Diggers News.⁽¹²⁾ These stands were exchanged for stands in Joubert Street, and as a result, they came into the possession of the Republican Administration. On the stands in Joubert Street, Mendelsohne and others built the Old Standard Theatre. (see maps)⁽¹³⁾

On 28th March, 1933, the General Purposes Committee of the Johannesburg City Council reported that a deputation from this Committee had approached the Government during August, 1932 and had made an offer of £100,000 for the stands on which the Post Office stood.⁽¹⁴⁾ This entry appears to be the first minute of a meeting of the Council at which the Post Office was discussed. The matter was discussed at a further meeting of the Council. By 5th January, 1940, the Council had acquired the stands on which the Standard Building stood. At an ordinary meeting of the Council held on this day, the Council agreed to exchange the eastern part of the Standard Buildings site with the Government for the site on which the present Rissik Street, Post Office stands.

At an ordinary meeting of the Council held on 28th January, 1964 it was agreed that the Council would transfer to the Government portions 1 and 2 of Consolidated Stand No. 349, Johannesburg in return for stands 346-8 and 353-5 (stands 346-8 appear to have been numbered 633-5 at an earlier stage).^(14'a') In addition, the Council would pay the Government £30,000. It was

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a condition of the exchange that the Council would undertake to demolish the Post Office when the building was no longer required by the postal authorities and that the stands transferred to the Council would be laid out by the Council as an open space for the benefit of the City. The exchange was registered on 31st March, 1964.⁽¹⁵⁾

BUILDINGS ON THIS SITE

The first building erected on the area bounded by Rissik, Market, Joubert and President Streets was a galvanised iron building used by various government officials including postal officials.⁽¹⁶⁾ These buildings soon proved inadequate and in the Government Gazette of 9th July, 1887 tenders were invited for the erection of more permanent offices. H. Lindhorst was instructed to prepare the plans. The plans provided for a single storey building extending along the eastern side of Rissik Street from President Street to Market Street. The building was started by W.J. Symons and completed by J.P. Thies.

While the building was in the course of construction, the plans were altered to allow for additional accommodation and the walls strengthened so that a second storey could be added later. It was completed in 1888.

At the first, the Government Building served as the offices of the Landrost and other officials. It became the Post Office about 1893 and officials other than postal officials moved out.

But this building also proved inadequate and it became apparent that merely adding a further floor to the existing offices would not fulfil the needs of the fast expanding mining town. There was a need for a completely new building.

THE ARCHITECT

Sytze Wierda, the son of a horse farmer, was born on 28th February, 1838 at Hemrik, Wynjeterp, Friesland. He studied in Belgium. On 1st December, 1887 he was appointed "Goeverments Ingenieur in Architect" to the Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek. (19)

His architecture reflected current Flemish and French Renaissance fashions. Amongst his more important works are the Raadzaal and Palace of Justice, Pretoria, the Paardekraal Monument and the Court Houses at Krugersdorp, Boksburg and Klerksdorp. He also designed the now demolished Braamfontein Post Office and the Old Fort, Hospital Hill. (20)

Sytze Wierda died at Sea Point, Cape on 10th December, 1911.

THE BUILDER

M.C.A. Meiske, the son of a master builder, was born at Utrecht, Holland on 2nd December, 1861, educated in his native land and served his apprenticeship in the building trade at Utrecht and Amsterdam.

In 1889 he came to South Africa and played a prominent part in the cultural and sporting affairs of Johannesburg and Pretoria.

During the South African War, 1899 - 1901, he fought with the Boers and was wounded at Spioenkop. After recuperating in Holland, he returned to South Africa in 1903.

He constructed the Rissik Street Post Office at a contract price of £65,000.

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Other buildings erected by him include : -

- Railway Stations at - Krugersdorp
 Waterval Boven
 Randfontein
 Lydenberg
- Post Offices at - Braamfontein (recently demolished)
 Jeppe
 Fordsburg
- Power Stations at - Simmerpan
 Rosherville.

He was also responsible for the construction of the two great wings of the Union Buildings, Pretoria. ⁽²¹⁾

THE BUILDING

On 20th January 1887, Mr. I. Van Alphon, Postmaster General, laid the stone of the "mighty and massive pile of buildings which when occupied will form our new post office and telegraph office". ⁽²²⁾

The Post Office comprises two stories and a basement and covers the six stands nearest Rissik Street. It overlooks the Market Square provided for in the plans drawn up by Jos. De Villiers.

The Post Office was opened for business on 30th June, 1898.

After the South African War, when the Transvaal was no longer a Republic, the accession of King Edward VII in 1902 was commemorated, on the instructions of Lord Milner, the newly appointed governor of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, by the erection of an extra storey, the removal of the existing

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cupolas and the building of a new central clock tower crowned with an elaborate cupola.⁽²³⁾

Mr. L. Collins, as wellknown local clock-maker drew up the plans for the clock. The clock cost between £1,400 and £1,500 and was officially started in December, 1904 by Mrs. Frank Brown, wife of the Postmaster - General.⁽²⁴⁾

ARGUMENTS ADVANCED FOR DEMOLISHING THE POST OFFICE

I. FIRST ARGUMENTS

The future of the Post Office seems to have been raised officially for the first time during 1924. Mr. Papenfus, member of Parliment for Hospital, said to the House of Assembly on 24th September that the Post Office was an "antiquated barn", "very congested and very unhygienic".

To this the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, the Hon, Mr. Thomas Boydell replied that a deputation had interviewed his predecessor during that year when it was suggested that the Post Office buildings should be pulled down, the site handed over to the "corporation" for municipal purposes and a new post office erected on some other site near Market Square.

The Minister continued, "I put it to the Hon. Member this way : Let the Johannesburg Town Council come to me and show me that they are prepared to do what they can to help us to relieve the congestion and to give us a satisfactory site for the building and I will be prepared to consider the position and do all I possibly can to meet Johannesburg....."⁽²⁵⁾

The congested conditions complained of were subsequently alleviated by building a new main post office for Johannesburg in Jeppe Street.

2. ARGUMENTS ADVANCED PRESENTLY

- a. THE RISSIK STREET POST OFFICE IS OUT-DATED AND PROVIDES INEFFICIENT ACCOMMODATION FOR POSTAL SERVICES. A MODERN POST OFFICE IS THEREFORE NEEDED AND IT SHOULD BE BUILT ON THE SITE OF THE OLD STANDARD THEATRE.

There is undoubtedly a need for another modern post office in central Johannesburg. But there does not appear to be a need for a new Post Office to be built on the site of the Old Standard Buildings or, for that matter, on the site of the Old Post Office.

If recent trends in central Johannesburg are taken into consideration, it will be seen that there has been a movement to develop properties to the South East of the Rissik Street Post Office. The Trust Bank Centre of 31 floors is already in occupation while the Carlton Centre of 50 floors and the associated Carlton Hotel will be commissioned shortly. Across the street from the Carlton Centre a further high rise building is presently being constructed on the site of the old Empire Theatre. When one has regard to the fact that the population of a town the size of Kimberley will enter daily the Carlton Complex alone, it will be appreciated that there is a need for a new post office to serve this area.

Furthermore, the business community located around the Rissik Street Post Office generally uses the Jeppe Street Post Office. Post boxes are available at this post office and messengers clearing these boxes also transact, at the

same time, other postal business of their firms. The result is that the persons using the Rissik Street Post Office are usually private individuals or messengers sent out by the firms close to the Rissik Street Post Office on special matters after the day's postal business has been attended to at the Jeppe Street Post Office.

The public using the Rissik Street Post Office would therefore not be unduly inconvenienced if the Post Office were closed and they had to switch to a post office in the area of the Carlton Complex or the existing Marshalltown Post Office (in Sauer Street) or Jeppe Street Post Office. At the same time, the provision of a post office in the area of the Carlton Centre Complex would, together with the Marshalltown and Jeppe Street Post Offices, provide a better spread of postal services in the City centre.

This suggestion does however present a problem. At this stage, the State possesses property which it intends converting into a "lung". If the above suggestion is followed, the State would be in possession of a "lung" - the present Oppenheimer Gardens-in which it has no interest, while the Council would be in possession of the Old Post Office in which it has no interest. It seems necessary therefore for the transaction entered into between the State and the Council during 1964 to be cancelled so that the Council retains the "lung" while the State acquires the Old Post Office which can then be preserved, in accordance with established procedures, for the purposes suggested below.

b. THE NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL LUNG IN THE CITY CENTRE

The Council has argued strenuously in favour of a further "lung" in the centre of Johannesburg. It is their intention to demolish the Old Post Office and then to reconstruct the Oppenheimer Fountain on this site. The final scheme would therefore provide for the City Hall to face a branch Post Office on the site of the Old Standard Buildings, with the Oppenheimer Fountains and Rissik Street In between.

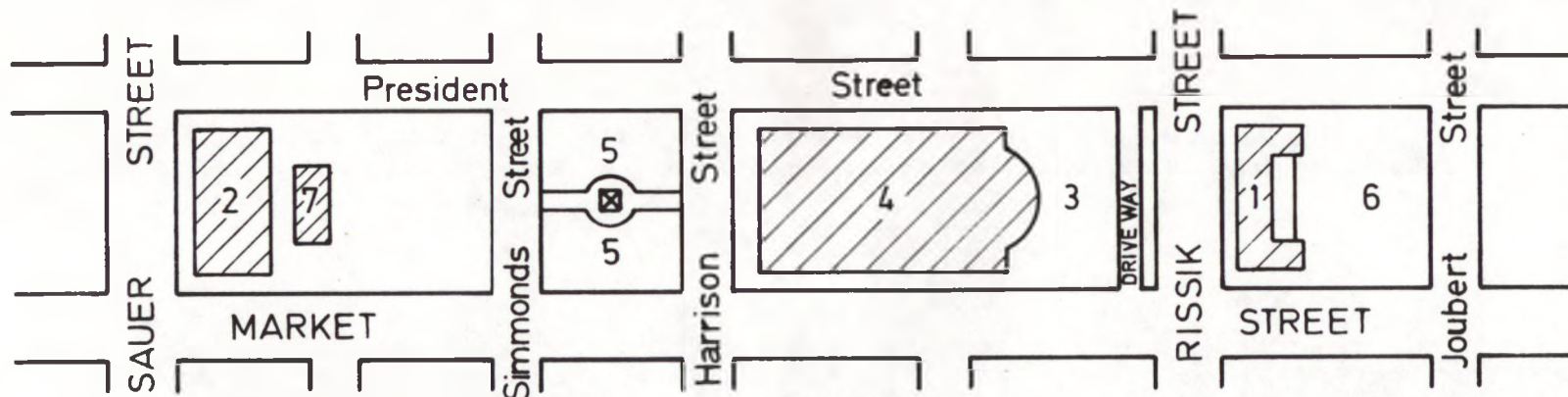


FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2

		PRESIDENT		STREET	
STREET	354	355	356	357	359
	353				358
RISSIK	347	348	349	350	352
	346				351
		MARKET		STREET	
				JOUBERT	



KEY:

1. RISSIK STREET POST OFFICE
2. PUBLIC LIBRARY
3. OPEN SPACE
4. CITY HALL
5. UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE
6. SITE OF STANDARD THEATRE
7. STAR FOUNTAIN.

Creating this new "lung" on the site of the Old Post Office does not justify the destruction of this historically and architecturally important building dating as it does, from the glorious years of the South Africa Republic.

Firstly, an enormous "lung", approximately five times the size of the area occupied by the Old Post Office, has already been created between the City Hall (4) and the Public Library (2). On this "lung" is the Star Fountain (7). Little additional benefit will therefore result, from demolishing the Old Post Office and providing an additional proportionally very much smaller "lung". Furthermore, if this "lung" is merely created at the expense of the "lung" existing on the site of the Old Standard Building, such advantage is negated completely. And if creating this "lung" also means demolishing the Old Post Office, it is submitted that the disadvantages must outweigh, by far, the advantages.

A second argument against replacing the Old Post office for a "lung" is based on the existence, presently, of an open space (3) in the front of the City Hall which is, in area, approximately two thirds of the area occupied by the Old Post Office. Part of this space (3) is taken up by a drive way while the remainder comprises a garden. The drive way is used on special occasions for bringing honoured guests to the doorsteps of the City Hall and as parking space for City Councillors.

It is submitted that the new Civic Offices and Mayor's Parlour on Braamfontein Ridge will be occupied shortly when honoured guests will no longer be brought to the City Hall and the need for the drive way will fall away. Should City Councillors require parking close to the City Hall, use can be made of existing parking space set aside for this purpose in parking garage (5) adjacent the City Hall. This parking space is connected by a passage running under Harrison street, to the City Hall and no inconvenience will therefore be caused to the Councillors.

The point therefore made is that if there is this need for further open space in

front of the City Hall, the present gardens should be relandscaped to extend from the City Hall steps over the drive way to Rissik Street.

The Council's argument in favour of a "lung" on the site of the Old Post Office at the expense of the Old Post Office is therefore both unjustifiable and misconceived.

c. THE OLD POST OFFICE IS UNSIGHTLY AND LACKS AESTHETIC QUALITIES AND IS OF NO ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE JUSTIFYING ITS RETENTION

The late Professor John Jassler said of the post office, in a note in the possession of the authors :

"The quality of the design is outstanding. What distinguishes it is the breadth, restraint and elegance of the exteriors. The sources of the classical architecture which inspired this building belong to Flanders and France....."

"The Old General Post Office in Rissik Street is worthy of being declared a National Monument to ensure its preservation"

Another qualified architect and well-known writer on South African Architecture, Doreen Greig, says in her book ;

"This, the only remaining 19th Century government building of note in Johannesburg, was one of the most ambitious and well-built buildings of the 1890's (in Johannesburg.....authors), designed in brick with lavish painted plaster accents and with the same Beaux-Arts approach and Franco-Flemish features as the Raadzaal and Palace of Justice. The Johannesburg Post Office, however was more restrained perhaps because less money was spent

on it, and the result was a building of architectural merits. Wierda's composition of classical columns, balustrading and decorative surroundings, entablatures to window openings and long mouldings marking the different floors on the main facade was predominantly horizontal. It was relieved by contrasting vertical motifs on three projecting bays, each crowned with a cupola and on the north and south side by tall window openings...."

"The English architect Wilfred Tomkins treated the(clock....authors)... tower on a thoroughly Wren-like fashion, which was out of keeping with the building and, unlike his treatment of the additional floor which he carried out in harmony with those that Wierda had designed."

"Despite these changes the building could be retained and refurbished, instead of going the way of Johannesburg's old buildings." (26)

Having quoted the authoritative voice of these two scholars of architecture, need more be said in rebuttal of this ground of criticism?

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF RETENTION OF THE POST OFFICE

I. HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

- (a) As far as can be determined, the Rissik Street Post Office did not form the centre of any incident of historical importance. It was not at the Post Office, as is stated by some writers, that Lord Roberts received the "keys" of the town from Dr. F.E.T. Krause after the surrender of Johannesburg to the British Forces on 31st May, 1902. The "keys" were handed over to Lord Roberts outside the Court House. ⁽²⁷⁾

Nor was Johannesburg connected telegraphically to the outside world from this Post Office. Johannesburg was already in telegraphic communication with Pretoria and the rest of South Africa on the 27th April, 1887, from a galvanised iron building at 74 Market Street.⁽²⁸⁾

Rather the historical significance of this building must be seen against the circumstance prevailing in Johannesburg at the time of its erection.

Firstly, when the foundation stone of the Post Office was laid on 26th January, 1889, the Witwatersrand Goldfields had been proclaimed for a period of ten years and four months. The village of Johannesburg proper had been in existence for barely ten years. During that time postal services had expanded from the native runner and Edgson's Store to the galvanised buildings in Commissioner Street, the galvanised building on Joubert Street, the first of the permanent government buildings erected in 1888 and finally, the present day Post Office - all in the space of ten years. Indeed, a remarkable achievement.

The Rissik Street Post Office therefore stands as a monument to the goldrush days of Johannesburg, to the days when Johannesburg's population grew in leaps and bounds as each coach brought in more and more fortune seekers.

Secondly, the Old Post Office is historically important because it was the first major government building erected in emerging Johannesburg and today is the only remaining government building erected in central Johannesburg dating from Republican Period and one of the few nineteenth century buildings left in central Johannesburg.

Thirdly, Kruger must have used of the first revenue derived from the Witwatersrand Goldfields to finance the erection of this edifice. Certainly, the coffers of the Republican Treasury could not otherwise have provided the funds for its erection.

2. ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Firstly the architectural features of the building have already been discussed and its importance as an example of Republican period architecture needs therefore no further emphasis.

Secondly, properties in the central part of Johannesburg have been increasing steadily in market value over the years and, with the passage of time, commercial buildings no longer economically productive when measure against the value of the sites they occupy, will have had to make way for new buildings yielding a greater return.

Government buildings, do, however, not have to stand up in the same measure to these rigorous economic standards and it is left to a large extent to these buildings to portray the changing building styles over the years. One has only to look around at the important buildings in other parts of the world to appreciate the veracity of this argument.

The importance of the Old Post Office must be seen in the light of this argument. It is the only example of Republic Period architecture in Johannesburg. If it goes, an example of this type of architecture is lost forever. It is priceless. It is unique in Johannesburg. We cannot afford to destroy it.

3. A MONUMENT TO KRUGER'S OPTIMISM IN THE FUTURE OF THE GOLDFIELDS

The Old Rissik Street Post Office stands as a monument to the unbounded faith and optimism the Kruger Government displayed in the future of thenewly discovered goldfields. Always present at this time was the fear that the rich goldfields

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would peter out as had happened at Barberton and Pilgrimsrest. Common of the time were the remarks of Gardner Williams, an American Mining Engineer, who is said to have reported to Dr. Sauer :

"Dr. Sauer, if I rode over these reefs in America, I would not have got off my horse to look at them. In my opinion, they are not worth hell room". (29)

This feeling of pessimism was enhanced when in 1890 the first mines drove through the oxidized layer forming the crust of the earth and reached into a new type of banket that had a bluish tinge and revealed the glitter of pyrites which prevented the economical extraction of gold from the ore and brought about a major slump in the industry.

Fitzpatrick is reputed to have said at this time that "grass will grow in the Streets of Johannesburg". (30)

Although the problem was licked within two years by the introduction of the cyanide process, the Rissik Street Post Office, commenced five years later, stands as a mark of the confidence of the financially troubled Republic Government of Kruger and in the longevity of the embryonic gold mining industry and the Post Office's existence today serves as a reminder, not only of this confidence&its justification, but of the troubled times the industry passed through before developing into the giant it is today.

4. SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPORTANCE

From a socio-cultural point of view, the Old Post Office is representative of both major cultures in South Africa. It's first two stories were erected in the time of the Republic while the remaining floor and clock tower were added under the British Imperial Government. It is significant that these two styles have been blended together in a single building.

5. FUNCTIONAL IMPORTANCE

Viewed from a practical point of view, the Post Office is possibly the most central building in Johannesburg. To the south of it a greater new business complex is developing round the present Carlton Centre. To the west of it there remains the financial centre of South Africa - the Stock Exchange, the Mining Houses and their appendages, the finance houses. And to the north of it there is the developing business and educational complex of Braamfontein.

Each of these centres is approximately equally spaced from the Post Office and it is therefore ideally suited to assume the roll of an unofficial Johannesburg House - a place that could house the Africana Museum, with its large collection of Johannesburg material, a place that could house a permanent exhibition showing the growth of the City and the industry that has fostered it. It could even form the basis of a National Museum on mining. There is a great need now for such a museum. What better place can be chosen than this building in Central Johannesburg?

The Post Office is ideally suited for mounting temporary exhibitions of a cultural nature, for which there is a great shortage in Johannesburg. Thus it could serve as a central branch of the Johannesburg Art Gallery.

Further, there is a great need in the City for facilities enabling cultural societies to present lectures and shows.

There is also a great need for limited office accommodation to serve the cultural societies of the City, in the same way that Happiness House presently provides this facility for the welfare organisations of Johannesburg.

The Old Post Office could provide a much needed information office which will be central to the major hotels in Johannesburg.

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In other words, the Old Post Office is the place to which the visitors to Johannesburg would be brought when they wanted to find out something about the past history of the City. It is the place to which citizens of the City will go to listen to lectures and see shows. And it will provide a much needed museum in which to house items connected with mining and the history of Johannesburg.

To demolish this building will, forever, deprive Johannesburg of such a facility.

On the issue of its future maintenance, the Johannesburg Historical Society is presently sponsoring, with the backing of leading citizens and institutions, a Witwatersrand Historical Foundation which has as its specific aim the maintenance and preservation of historically important buildings such as the Old Post Office. Present indications are that through grants from this organisation and others together with income derived from subsidies and the hiring out of halls, offices and the like, this building can be preserved for posterity.

CONCLUSION

The Old Post Office's importance and value, on many grounds, has been discussed. The arguments for and against its preservation have been outlined and commented upon. A consideration of these leads one irresistably to the conclusion that the Old Post Office is, probably, historically, the most important building extant in Johannesburg today. It is, at the same time, the only building in central Johannesburg which could serve the functions outlined above. Once demolished it could never be reconstructed.

IT MUST BE SAVED.

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3. SMITH, SUPRA Page 10
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4. GRAY, SUPRA Page 129
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6. GRAY, SUPRA Pages 119, 179
SHORTEN, SUPRA Page 111
7. MAC DONALD, SUPRA Page 205
8. GRAY, SUPRA Page 181
9. SHORTEN, SUPRA Page 112
SMITH, SUPRA Page 27
GRAY, SUPRA Page 181

PAGE TWO (a)

10. SHORTEN, SUPRA Page 112
11. SHORTEN, SUPRA Page 113. There is some doubt about the accuracy of the position of the Post Office in Market Street and whether these reported moves are not confused with the opening of the telegraphic office near the corner of Fraser and Market Streets. Also, it is not clear at which building Dormehl conducted business through a window. One of these Post Offices was sketched by I.M. Stone and the sketch is reproduced in Leyds, G.A., A history of Johannesburg, (1964) Nasionale Bookhandel BPK, opposite page 54 and in Smith, Supra, page 27. If the inscription on the sketch is correct, the building had its back to Joubert Street.
- 12, 13 Confirmation of these facts is being undertaken by the office of the Registrar of Rand Townships to which the authors are indebted for information already supplied.
14. Held by the City Council, Johannesburg under transfer deed F 7681/1937 of 31st July, 1937 issued by the Registrar for Rand Townships.
- 14(a) On application by the City Council, Johannesburg, Stands 349 - 52 and 357 - 9 were consolidated into stand no. 349 (consolidation certificate number F. 3307/64 issued by the Registrar for Rand Townships on 31st March, 1964 in favour of the City Council, Johannesburg).
15. Transfer F. 3308/64 of 31st March, 1964 issued by the

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Rand Townships Registrar in favour of the City Council Johannesburg in terms of Council resolutions dated 5th April, 1940, 6th December, 1960 and 28th March, 1961.

16. These galvanised iron buildings were probably the building sketched by IM. Stone and referred to at reference II above.
17. GRAY, SUPRA Page 142
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25. South Africa, Hansard Assembly Debates 4.9.1924
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