

<b>Archaeological Site Report</b>	<b>SiteNo</b>	9/2/256/0007-001
	<b>Site Name</b>	House of President M W Pretorius, Thabo Mbeki
	<b>Date</b>	08/09/2012 00:32
	<b>Project</b>	
	<b>CaseNID</b>	
	<b>Coords</b>	-26.696938, 27.098358

Page No: 1      **SiteAutoID:** 26756

Site Category: Building

**SiteComments:**

In the course of the second half of the nineteenth century Marthinus Wessel Pretorius played a very important role in the history of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek and the Republic of the Orange Free State. After the death of his father, A. W. J. Pretorius, in 1853, . he was appointed as commandant-general of Rustenburg and Potchefstroom in his place. In 1857 he was elected as the first President of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek. With a view to closer union between the two Boer Republics he also accepted the presidency of the Orange Free State in 1860. Because of this he was obliged to resign as president of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek but in 1864 he was elected President of the Z.A.R. for the second time and he held this office till 1871. Shortly before the outbreak of the First War of Independence in 1881 he became a member of the Triumvirate who were in office during the war. He lived at Potchefstroom for the greater part of his life and had his residence built in 1868. Not before January, 1894, did he sell this house to a certain J. C. Bodenstein.

**AdminComments:**

Archive Import Bronze Plaque 1961

Damage Types: