

Lindsay Napier architect

LANapier PrArch PGDip MIA P.O.Box 474 Hillcrest 3650
email :lanapier@mindscope.co.za tel 083 6608521

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PROPOSED ALTERATIONS AT 474 DR.PIXLEY KASEME ST, 107 DR.YUSUF DADOO ST, DURBAN CBD AMAFA FORM A – SECTION C

474 Dr.Pixley Kaseme street :



1. Estimated date of Construction : 1897-1905
2. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:
Previous address : 474 West street, part of a pair with 476 West St, plus building at the rear previously known as 5-7 Saville Street. The West st building is double-storey with ground floor shops and living quarters above. The building on Saville Street is named : “Esops Suliman’s Buildings” on the centre parapet across the pair.
The pair are adjacent to the West Street Mosque.
3. ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE :
The building has a narrow façade on the West street boundary with three first floor windows above a veranda/ canopy structure over the pavement. The top of the façade wall has a decorative balustrade. Arched windows have been previously bricked up and rectangular steel windows inserted. The original shopfronts have been changed.
It’s neighbour (476) has a façade that mirrors that of 474 and has the original cast iron veranda posts and filigree. 476 is “listed” by Kearney and in Clause 6 of the Durban Town Planning scheme. The Saville street façade (of the pair) is divided into three with plaster pilasters at first floor level and an arched entrance at street level.
It has been largely altered.
4. URBAN SETTING AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES :
The erf stretches from Dr.Pixley Kaseme St to Saville Street, therefore having two facades and two entrances. It is sandwiched between two buildings 107 Dr.Yusuf Dadoo St (notarially tied) and 476 Dr.Pixley Kaseme St.
Dr.Pixley Kaseme Street (West St) is one of the main commercial streets in the central business district of Durban, Saville Street is a secondary lane that runs parallel to Dr.Pixley Kaseme St. Most buildings are 2-4 storeys in height.

107 Dr.Yusuf Dadoo street :



1. Estimated date of Construction : 1900-1910
2. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:
Previously 107-115 Grey Street, 470-472 West St and 3 Saville St.
Little historical information is available on the building and its owners. Fire insurance map indicate the usage in the 1930's as General dealer and various small shops on Grey Street.
3. ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE :
The building was designed in a neo-classical style with first floor façade plaster detail, arched windows and plastered panels between the windows. Built between the Victorian and Edwardian periods, it may have had a cast iron veranda.
Nothing remains of the original shops and shopfronts. The buildings have a consistent façade facing Dr.Yusuf Dadoo and Dr.Pixley Kaseme Streets, with splayed corners. The Saville street façade has been completely altered. The interior has undergone several changes and little of the original structure remains.
A steel frame and cladding was added in 1968, obscuring the first floor façade.
4. URBAN SETTING AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES : (see above)
The building (or buildings) have three street frontages. The dominant entrance point is on Dr.Pixley Kaseme Street and on the Dr.Yusuf Dadoo/Dr.PK corner.
Dr. Pixley Kaseme Street is one-way travelling West and Dr.Yusuf Dadoo is one-way travelling South.

References :

"A Revised Listing of the Important Places and Buildings in Durban" B.Kearney 1984
Lindsay Napier Pr.Arch