



PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AUTHORITY - GAUTENG

PRIVATE BAG X33, JOHANNESBURG, 2000
SURREY HOUSE BUILDING,
35 RISSIK STREET,
JOHANNESBURG, 2000
TEL: 011 355 2609

Provincial Heritage Site Nomination Form

This form precedes the submission of the 'Nomination Document' and is designed to assist with the grading of heritage resources in terms Section 3(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, as part of the process of declaration as a National Heritage Site (Section 27). Nominated heritage resources that are of special Provincial significance will be graded as Grade 1 and considered for Provincial Heritage Site status.

Proposed Provincial Heritage Site: MANDELA HOUSE SOWETO

Brief Statement of Significance: *(A full statement of significance is required as an attachment)*

Nelson Mandela lived in the house from 1946 until 1962 when he was imprisoned. After he was released from prison, he returned to this house where his then wife, Winnie, was still living.

The house was built in 1945 and occupied by Nelson Mandela in 1946. The house has always been in the Mandela family.

This house was home to the first democratic president of South Africa.

Proposed By: G. BOTHA
Contact Details: grant.botha@gauteng.gov.za
083 447 9523
011 355 2574
Name of Property: MANDELA HOUSE SOWETO
Street Number and Street: cnr. Vilakazi & Ngakane Streets
Suburb: Orlando West, Soweto
Town: Johannesburg
District: Gauteng

Cadastral Information

Erf/ Farm Number:

Registration Division:

Longitude: 27.9087859

Latitude: -26.2385037

Map Reference: Google Maps

Recording Method: Google Search

Type of Resource

- Place
- Structure
- Archaeological Site
- Paleontological Site
- Geological Feature
- Grave

Do moveable objects relate to the site form part of the Nomination?

NO

Serial nomination (Is more than one site being nominated as part of a 'Joint Nomination') NO

(For serial nominations, complete one form for each site, supply additional details about the information relating to the relation of the sites, and the management and phasing of proposed nomination be attached).

Sphere of Significance	High	Med	Low
International	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provincial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist group or community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What other similar sites may be compared to the site? How does the site compare to these sites?

Rev. Desmond Tutu House in Vilakazi Street, Soweto

- Both are houses where Nobel Peace Prize winners lived
- Both people played an important role in the transformation of South Africa

Owner: The Soweto Heritage Company

(If state-owned; responsible department and official position of contact)

Postal Address: 8115 Vilakazi Street Telephone: 011 936 7754
Orlando West
Soweto

Fax: Cell:

E-Mail: info@mandelahouse.com Web Page: www.mandelahouse.com

Contact Person:

- * Expanded statement of significance; *(Refer specifically to significance criteria listed below)*
SEE APPENDIX A
- * Motivation for declaration as a Provincial Heritage Site, including potential, threats and vulnerabilities;
SEE APPENDIX B
- * Short history of the place;
SEE APPENDIX C
- * Physical description of the heritage resource;
SEE APPENDIX D
- * Locality plan (map) and Site Plan;
SEE APPENDIX E
- * Photographs and plans;
SEE APPENDIX F

- ** List of moveable objects relating to site that are proposed as part of nomination, or for archaeological or paleontological site; list of repositories where these are housed;
- ** Bibliography of documentation relating to the heritage resource;
- ** Statement of current protections and restrictions (e.g. previous Provincial monument; register of immoveable property; conservation area; current zoning; servitudes);
- ** List any heritage organizations consulted and their comments on the proposed nomination.
- *** Site plan (with proposed site boundaries);
- *** Conservation or management plans (send immediately if any exist);
- *** Heritage Agreement (if required).

(Please supply those marked () with this nomination form, as well as any others that are already available. Those marked (**) will be requested when the proposal first goes to PHRA-G Council for endorsement (Tentative List of Provincial Heritage Sites). Those marked (***) will be required when the Nomination goes to the following Council Meeting for approval as a Provincial Heritage Site).*

development of the earth.

iii. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the origin of life; the development of plant or animal species, or the biological or cultural development of hominid or human species.

iv. Importance for its potential to yield information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of the nation, Province, region or locality.

b. It is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

i. Importance for its technical innovation or achievement.

4. Social Value

a. It has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

i. Importance as a place highly valued by a community or cultural group for reasons of social, cultural, religious, spiritual, symbolic, aesthetic or educational associations.

ii. Importance in contributing to a community's sense of place.

Degrees of Significance

5. Rarity:

a. It possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or cultural heritage

i. Importance for rare, endangered or uncommon structures, landscapes or phenomena.

ii. Importance in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practiced in, or in danger of being lost from, or of exceptional interest to the nation, Province, region or locality.

6. Representivity:

a. It is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of natural or cultural places or objects

i. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a range of landscapes or environments, the attributes of which identify it as being characteristic of its class.

ii. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, Province, region or locality.

Signature: 

Date: 11/12/2020

APPENDIX A:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was the house where Nelson Mandela lived from 1946 to 1962 before going to prison and the same house he returned to after his release on 11 February 1990.

The house built in 1945, was occupied by the Mandelas from 1946. The house has always been associated with the Mandela family.

The 'Red Brick Match box' house was built in 1945.

It was a typical 4-roomed township house of its time.

There are still other red-brick houses existing today, but what makes this house more significant is found in section 3 (3) (h) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 which states:

“its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa”

The life and work of Madiba has had an influence on the site and has added great heritage significance to this property.

The Mandela House is only 180 meters from the house of the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Rev. Desmond Tutu.

Nelson Mandela was also awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, adding to the significance of Vilikazi Street as the only street in the world that housed 2 Nobel Peace Prize winners.

Tutu's house has been declared a heritage site.

Vilakazi Street between the Mandela House and Rev. Tutu's House is also a declared area.

APPENDIX B:

MOTIVATION FOR DECLARATION.

The house was the home to one of South Africa's greatest leaders.

The house needs to be declared in order to protect and retain the site as a heritage attraction for the future generations of our country.

The house is near other Liberation Sites.

The site is a good example of section 3 (3) (h) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 which states:

“its strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa”

APPENDIX C: - HISTORY

MANDELA HOUSE – SOWETO

Nelson Mandela's humble house in Orlando West, Soweto, now called the Mandela Family Museum, is an interesting stopover for those keen to imbibe a slice of authentic history on the world's most famous former prisoner.

8115 Vilakazi Street, Orlando West in Soweto is known to many simply as Mandela House. It was where Nelson Mandela lived between 1946 and 1962. The house is a humble abode of four inter-leading rooms that today contain a collection of memorabilia, paintings and photographs of the Mandela family. Even a pair of Mandela's old boots lie on a shelf for display – insight into the man the country fondly called Tata (father). For today the house functions as a museum.

Mandela describes in his *The Long Walk to Freedom*, how he knew that he had finally left prison when he returned here with his wife Winnie, for it was 'the place marked with an X in my mental geography'.

A red-brick 'matchbox' house built in 1945, bullet holes are still in evidence in the walls, as are scorch marks from petrol bombs thrown at the house whilst Mandela was in prison. He chose to return here despite having built a new home a little farther away in the interim, because this home was 'the house of his memories'.

Just up the road from this museum, is another famous house. Rev. Desmond Tutu also lived in Vilakazi Street. Around the corner is the Hector Pieterse Memorial, for it was here that the 1976 students' uprising began. Even closer to the Mandela home is the actual spot where Pieterse fell.

Mandela handed the house to the Soweto Heritage Trust, after divorcing Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. She, however, refused to relinquish it. Instead she turned it into the Mandela Family Museum and started a restaurant and pub across the road.

The house was declared a national heritage site in 1999 and was again placed in the hands of the Soweto Heritage Trust. It has since been refurbished and renovated and includes a visitors' centre and various exhibits.

NELSON MANDELA

1918:

18 July, Rolihlahla Mandela was born into the Madiba clan in the village of Mvezo, Transkei, on 18 July 1918. His mother was Nonqaphi Nosekeni and his father was Nkosi Mphakanyiswa Gadla Mandela, principal counsellor to the Acting King of the Thembu people, Jongintaba Dalindyebo.

1930:

At the age of 12 years, his father died and the young Rolihlahla became a ward of Jongintaba at the Great Place in Mqhekezweni. Hearing the elders' stories of his ancestors' valour during the wars of resistance, he dreamed also of making his own contribution to the freedom struggle of his people.

He attended primary school in Qunu where his teacher, Miss Mdingane, gave him the name Nelson, in accordance with the custom of giving all schoolchildren "Christian" names.

He completed his Junior Certificate at Clarkebury Boarding Institute and went on to Healdtown, a Wesleyan secondary school of some repute, where he matriculated. Mandela began his studies for a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University College of Fort Hare but did not complete the degree there as he was expelled for joining in a student protest.

On his return to the Great Place at Mqhekezweni the King was furious and said if he didn't return to Fort Hare he would arrange wives for him and his cousin Justice. They ran away to Johannesburg instead, arriving there in 1941. There he worked as a mine security officer and after meeting Walter Sisulu, an estate agent, he was introduced to Lazer Sidelsky. He then did his articles through a firm of attorneys – Witkin, Eidelman and Sidelsky.

1943:

He completed his BA through the University of South Africa and went back to Fort Hare for his graduation.



Nelson Mandela (top row, second from left) on the steps of Wits University.
© Wits University Archives

Meanwhile, he began studying for an LLB at the University of the Witwatersrand. By his own admission he was a poor student and left the university in 1952 without graduating. He only started studying again through the University of London after his imprisonment in 1962 but also did not complete that degree.

In 1989, while in the last months of his imprisonment, he obtained an LLB through the University of South Africa. He graduated in absentia at a ceremony in Cape Town. Entering politics

1942:

Mandela, while increasingly politically involved from 1942 in 1944 when he helped to form the ANC Youth League (ANCYL).

1944:

Mandela joined the African National Congress. He helped to form the ANCYL.

Nelson married Walter Sisulu's cousin, Evelyn Mase, a nurse. They had two sons, Madiba Thembekile "Thembi" and Makgatho, and two daughters both called Makaziwe, the first of whom died in infancy.

Mandela rose through the ranks of the ANCYL and through its efforts, the ANC adopted a more radical mass-based policy, the Programme of Action, in 1949.



**Nelson Mandela on the roof of Kholvad House in 1953.
(He was then living in his house in Vilakazi Street.)
Image courtesy of the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation.**

1952:

Nelson Mandela was chosen as the National Volunteer-in-Chief of the Defiance Campaign with Maulvi Cachalia as his deputy. This campaign of civil disobedience against six unjust laws was a joint programme between the ANC and the South African Indian Congress. He and 19 others were charged under the Suppression of Communism Act for their part in the campaign and sentenced to nine months of hard labour, suspended for two years.

A two-year diploma in law on top of his BA allowed Mandela to practice law, and in August 1952 he and Oliver Tambo established South Africa's first black law firm, Mandela & Tambo.

At the end of 1952 he was banned for the first time. As a restricted person he was only permitted to watch in secret as the Freedom Charter was adopted in Kliptown on 26 June 1955.

The Treason Trial

1955:

Mandela was arrested in a countrywide police swoop on 5 December, which led to the 1956 Treason Trial. Men and women of all races found themselves in the dock in the marathon trial that only ended when the last 28 accused, including Mandela, were acquitted on 29 March 1961.

1958:

He and his wife, Evelyn Mase, got divorced.

During the trial Mandela married a social worker, Winnie Madikizela, on 14 June 1958.

They had two daughters, Zenani and Zindziswa. The couple divorced in 1996.

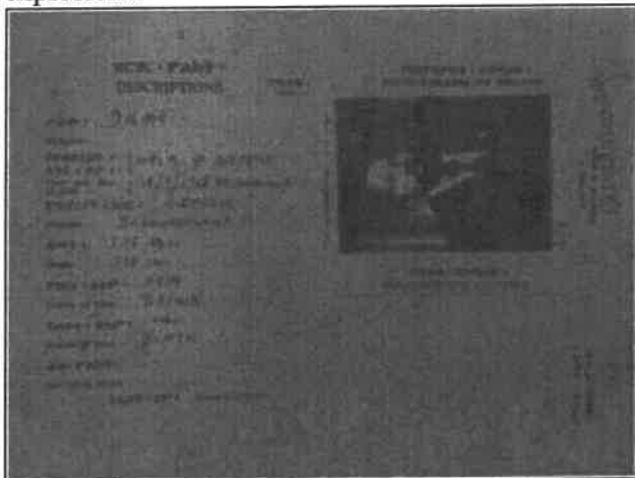
1960:

On 21 March police killed 69 unarmed people in a protest in Sharpeville against the pass laws. This led to the country's first state of emergency and the banning of the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) on 8 April. Mandela and his colleagues in the Treason Trial were among thousands detained during the state of emergency.

Days before the end of the Treason Trial, Mandela travelled to Pietermaritzburg to speak at the All-in Africa Conference, which resolved that he should write to Prime Minister Verwoerd requesting a national convention on a non-racial constitution, and to warn that should he not agree there would be a national strike against South Africa becoming a republic. After he and his colleagues were acquitted in the Treason Trial, Mandela went underground and began planning a national strike for 29, 30 and 31 March.

1961:

In the face of massive mobilization of state security the strike was called off early. In June he was asked to lead the armed struggle and helped to establish Umkhonto weSizwe (Spear of the Nation), which launched on 16 December with a series of explosions.



Madiba travelled with his Ethiopian passport.
© National Archives of South Africa

1962:

On 11 January, using the adopted name David Motsamayi, Mandela secretly left South Africa. He travelled around Africa and visited England to gain support for the armed struggle. He received military training in Morocco and Ethiopia and returned to South Africa in July.

He was arrested in a police roadblock outside Howick on 5 August while returning from KwaZulu-Natal, where he had briefed ANC President Chief Albert Luthuli about his trip.

He was charged with leaving the country without a permit and inciting workers to strike. He was convicted and sentenced to five years' imprisonment, which he began serving at the Pretoria Local Prison.

1963:

On 27 May he was transferred to Robben Island and returned to Pretoria on 12 June. Within a month police raided Liliesleaf, a secret hide-out in Rivonia used by ANC and Communist Party activists, and several of his comrades were arrested.

On 9 October 1963 Mandela joined 10 others on trial for sabotage in what became known as the Rivonia Trial.

While facing the death penalty his words to the court at the end of his famous "Speech from the Dock" on 20 April 1964 became immortalized:

1964:

Speech from the Dock quote by Nelson Mandela on 20 April 1964

"I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

On 11 June Mandela and seven other accused, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Denis Goldberg, Elias Motsoaledi and Andrew Mlangeni, were convicted and the next day were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Goldberg was sent to Pretoria Prison while the others went to Robben Island.

1968:

Mandela's mother died.

His eldest son, Thembi, died.

1982:

On 31 March Mandela was transferred to Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town with Sisulu, Mhlaba and Mlangeni. Kathrada joined them in October.

When he returned to the prison in November, after prostate surgery, Mandela was held alone. Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee visited him in hospital.

Later Mandela initiated talks about an ultimate meeting between the apartheid government and the ANC.

Release from prison

1988:

On 12 August he was taken to hospital where he was diagnosed with tuberculosis.

After more than three months in two hospitals he was transferred on 7 December the same year, to a house at Victor Verster Prison near Paarl where he spent his last 14 months of imprisonment.



**A picture captured during a rare visit from his comrades at Victor Verster Prison.
© National Archives of South Africa**

1990:

Mandela was released from its gates on Sunday 11 February, nine days after the unbanning of the ANC and the PAC and nearly four months after the release of his remaining Rivonia comrades.

Throughout his imprisonment he had rejected at least three conditional offers of release.

1991:

Mandela immersed himself in official talks to end white minority rule. Nelson was elected ANC President to replace his ailing friend, Oliver Tambo.

1993:

In 1993 Mandela and President FW de Klerk jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize.

President

1994:

On 27 April he voted for the first time in his life.

On 10 May 1994 he was inaugurated as South Africa's first democratically elected President.

1999:

True to his promise, Mandela stepped down in 1999 after one term as President. He continued to work with the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund he set up in 1995 and established the Nelson Mandela Foundation and The Mandela Rhodes Foundation.

1998:

On his 80th birthday Nelson married Graça Machel, his third wife.

2007:

"It is in your hands" – Mandela Day quote

In April his grandson, Mandla Mandela, was installed as head of the Mvezo Traditional Council at a ceremony at the Mvezo Great Place.

Nelson Mandela never wavered in his devotion to democracy, equality and learning. Despite terrible provocation, he never answered racism with racism. His life is an inspiration to all who are oppressed and deprived; and to all who are opposed to oppression and deprivation.

2013:

He died at his home in Johannesburg on 5 December 2013 after a long illness.



Madiba wishing farewell to a nation.

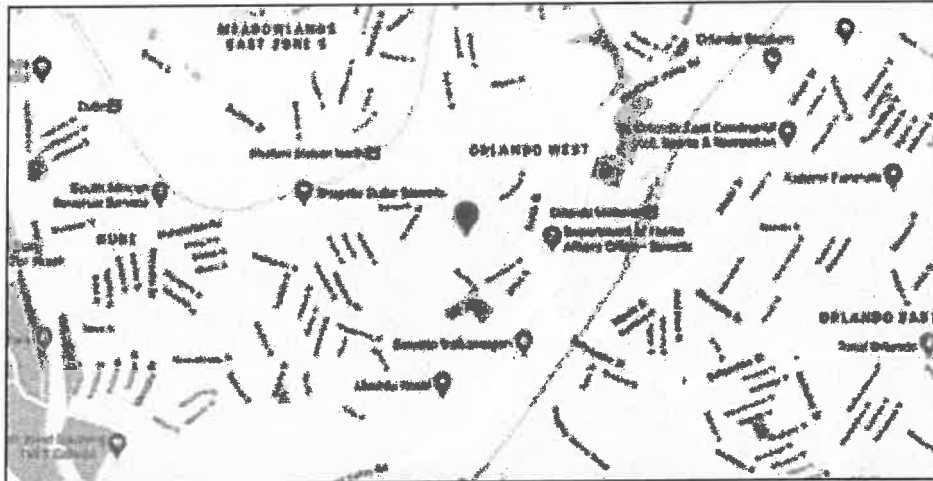
References:

<https://www.sa-venues.com/attractionsga/mandela-house-museum.php>

APPENDIX D: - PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

APPENDIX E: - LOCATION MAPS.

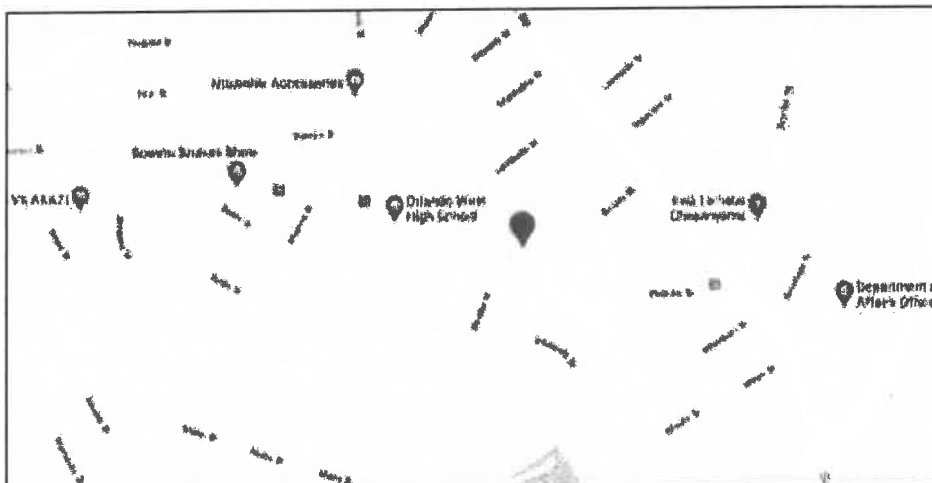
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Locality plan



Aerial View

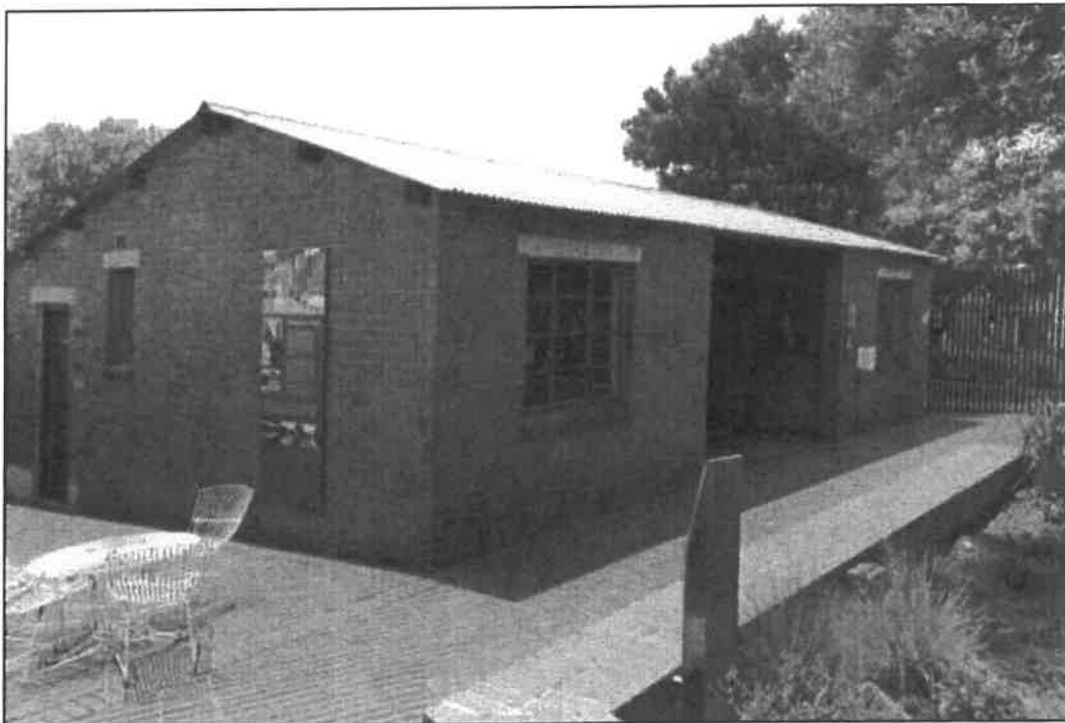


Locality plan



Aerial View

APPENDIX F: - PHOTOS.



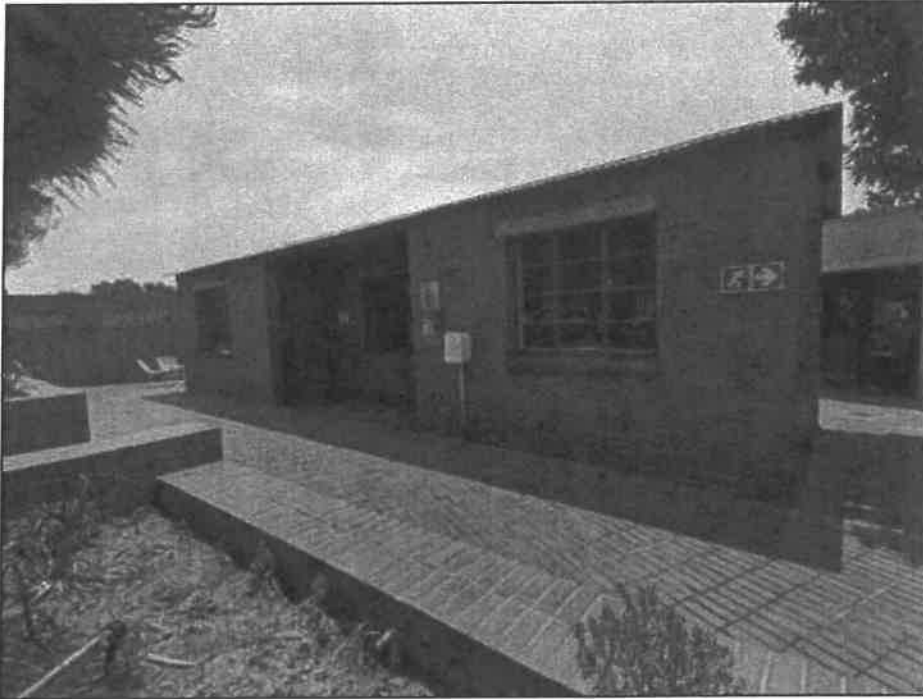
Northern view of Mandela House



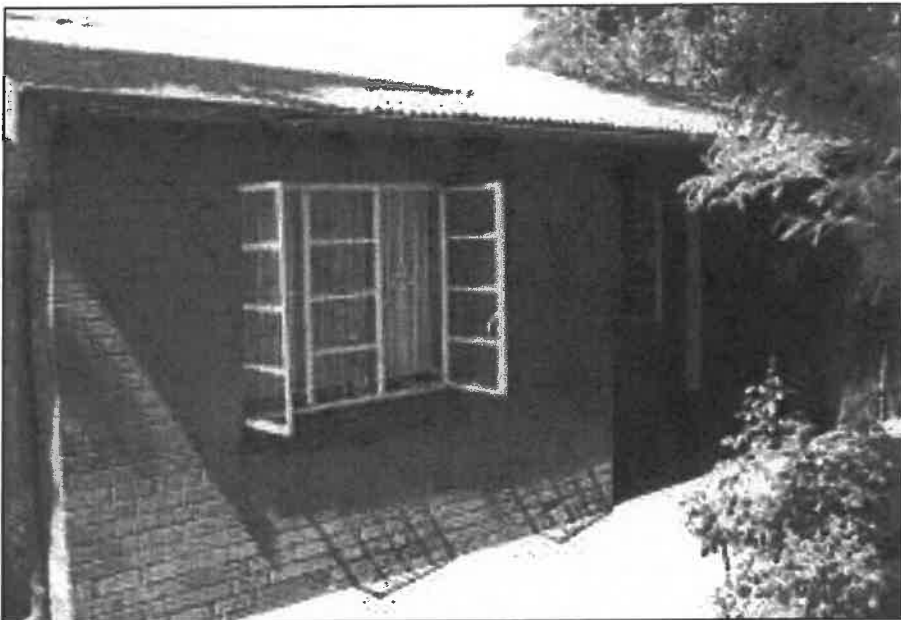
Street view of the Mandela House



Street View of the entrance to Mandela House



Mandela House

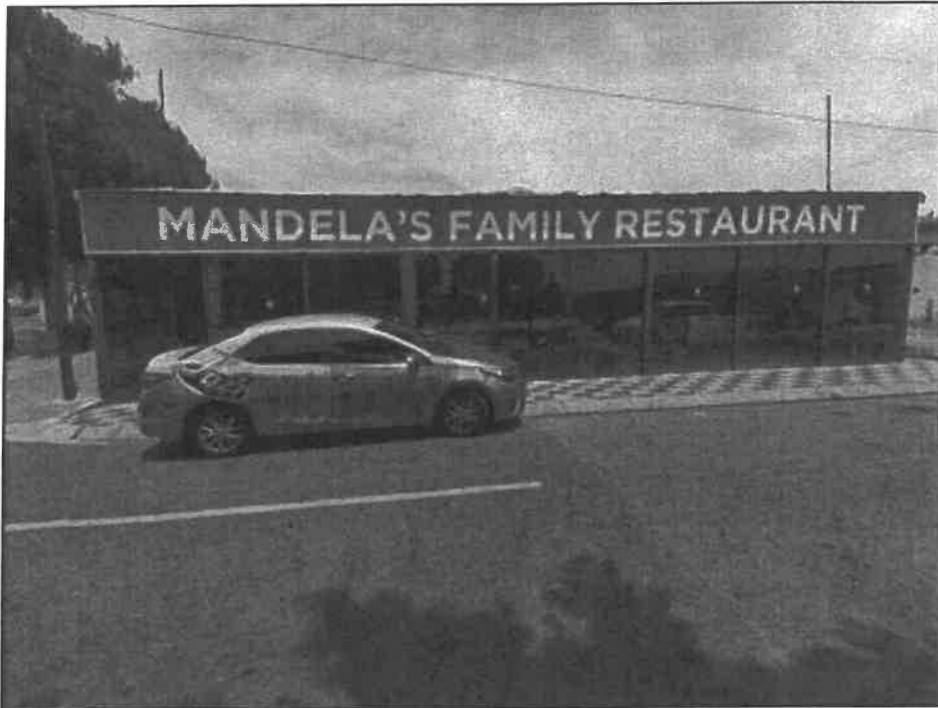


Mandela House before the restoration

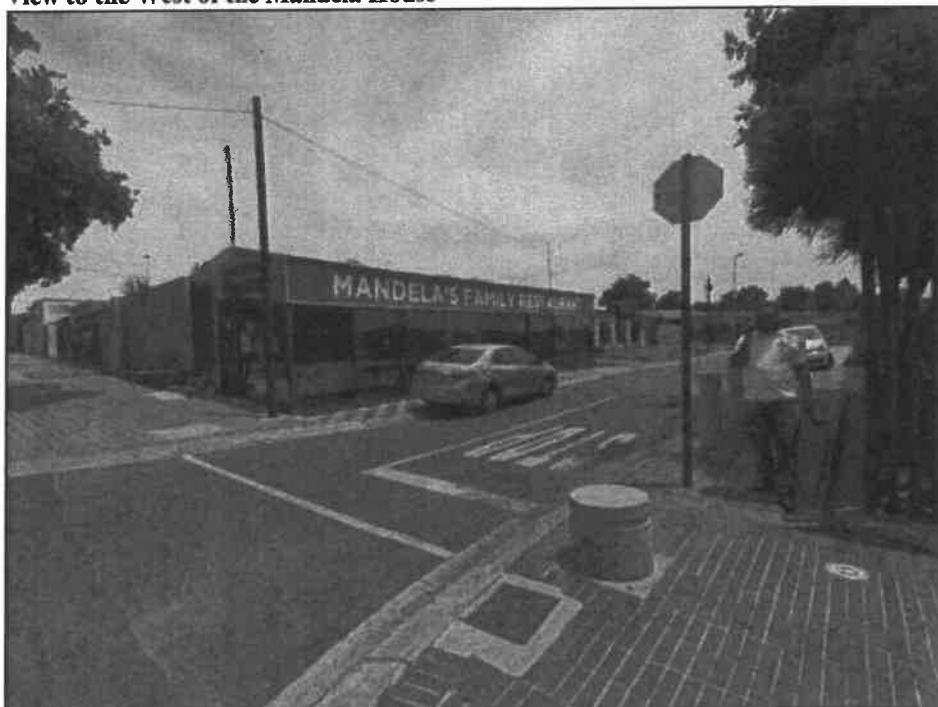


Nelson Mandela with his dog on the stoep of his house

CONTEXT PHOTOS



View to the West of the Mandela House



View to the West of the Mandela House



View to the South West of the Mandela House



Street Signage



View to the south of the Mandela House