# KEVIN HENY PROPERTIES ESTATE AGENTS & PROPERTY BROKERS

9/2/003/3 KH

P.O. BOX 73 PORT ALFRED 6170. CAMPBELL STREET. TEL. (0464) 4-1110 A/H (0464) 4-1941 FAX (0464) 4-1156

Ref No 195/97

11 March 1997

The National Monuments Council PO Box 599 Grahamstown 6140

Dear Sirs

### APPLICATION TO DEMOLISH HOUSE ON ERF 529, PORT ALFRED

We have purchased both erf 527 and 529 in Port Alfred and hereby make application to demolish the existing home on erf 529 which, as advised telephonically by Mrs Kretzman, is older than fifty years, and consideration should be given to preserving the building.

I would assume that the reason for wanting to preserve an old building would be because of its historical interest to the public and possibly to preserve some architectural features of years gone bye.

In my opinion the house is of neither historical nor architectural value because of the following reasons:-

- 1. A room has been added to the original structure which alters the design.
- 2. The roof has been fitted with a modern "harvey tile" roof.
- 3. The original windows have been replaced with steel windows.
- 4. Different types of burglar bars have been fitted.
- 5. Plastic guttering has been fitted.
- 6. The chimney has been halfway demolished.
- 7. Wood and steel glass doors have been fitted to the front and rear.
- 8. The interior has been subdivided with partition walls.

- 9. The original ceilings have been replaced with asbestos ceilings.
- 10. Flush doors are fitted to the interior.
- 11. Electric plugs and lights have been installed.
- 12. Carpeting has been fitted to the floors.
- 13. Outbuildings consisting of a garage, storerooms and toilet have also been constructed on the property probably within the past fifteen years and these are not in keeping with the house.

I have considered incorporating the home into the proposed development and apart from the design and feasibility problems associated with this consideration, the property lies within the fifty year flood plain zone and the floor level of the house is about 600mm lower than the proposed new floor level. In fact, the house has been flooded periodically as can be testified by the previous owners and myself.

84

Yours faithfully,

Kuni Khing

KEVIN HENY for Henbrick (Pty) Ltd

OOS-KAAPSE STREEKKANTOOR EASTERN CAPE REGIONAL OFFICE



#### RAAD VIR NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE · NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

OU TRONK 40A SOMERSETSTRAAT GRAHAMSTAD 6140 OLD GAOL 40A SOMERSET STREET GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

POSADRES POSTAL ADDRESS POSBUS 599 GRAHAMSTAD 6140 PO BOX 599 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140 TELEFOON (0461) 4615 TELEPHONE (0461) 4615 FAKS (0461) 23928 FAX (0461) 23928

9/2/003/3

U VERW YOUR REF

NAVRAE ENQUIRIES

ONS VERW OUR REF

#### 25 March 1997

DATUM DATE

**Kevin Heny Properties Estate Agents & Property Brokers** P O Box 73 PORT ALFRED 6170

Att: Mr Kevin Heny

Dear Sir

## WOOD AND IRON STRUCTURE, ON ERF 529, CAMPBELL STREET. PORT ALFRED

Your letter, dated 11 March 1997, has reference.

Your proposal or application to have the above structure demolished has been discussed and was strongly opposed by this organisation.

The single storeyed residential building dates back to 1910. It is regarded as one of the few remaining wood and iron buildings in this erea, as opposed to a considerable number which have been preserved in van der Riet Street and which gives the van der Riet street the only opportunity for visitors to appreciate old Port Alfred.

May we point out that the area from Biscay Road to van der Riet Street is periodically under flood level. All of those buildings survive.

The points raised in your letter, do not justify demolition. Many of the community in Port Alfred will be devastated with the idea.

May we point out that the National Monuments Council is the official body empowered by the State to ensure the legal protection of South Africa's rich and varied historical and cultural heritage in terms of the National Monuments Act (Act 28 of 1969, as amended), which states under section 12(2A)(f) that "no person shall destroy, damage, excavate, alter, remove from its original sites or export from the Republic... any other historical sites... except under the authority of and in accordance with a permit issued

under this section." Section 1 of the Act defines an historical site as meaning any identifiable building or part thereof ... older than 50 years.

The National Monuments Act defines the objects of the National Monuments Council as follows:

"(To) preserve and protect the historical and cultural heritage, to encourage and promote the preservation and protection of that heritage, and to co-ordinate all activities in connection with monuments and cultural treasures in order that monuments and cultural treasures will be retained as tokens of the past and may serve as an inspiration for the future."

In carrying out these aims the work of the National Monuments Council covers <u>the built</u> <u>environment</u>, as well as aspects of archaeology and palaeontology, historical shipwrecks, cultural treasures (i.e. movable objects) and military graves.

Further consideraton can be given, once we receive architectural plans and photographs.

If you have any further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

R

Yours faithfully

3. Untername for BRIAN JACKSON: REGIONAL MANAGER EASTERN CAPE