

NATIONAL MONUMENTS COUNCIL

A SURVEY OF CONSERVATION-WORTHY  
TOWN HALLS IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE



COMPILED BY: HERMA GOUS  
REGIONAL MANAGER

DATE: 1994-04-18



1994 0154

N OF PROPERTIES IN THE SURVEY

SA Heritage Resources Agency Library

CATERATE: NM  
 INTERPRETATION: Existing National Monument  
 SIGNIFICANCE: Outstanding aesthetic/architectural and historic interest  
 PROPOSED ACTION: None

CATERATE: 1  
 INTERPRETATION: Proposed National Monument  
 SIGNIFICANCE: Outstanding aesthetic/architectural interest. May also be of historic interest.  
 PROPOSED ACTION: Initial entry on the register pending further investigation.

CATERATE: 2  
 INTERPRETATION: Proposed Registered Property  
 SIGNIFICANCE: Intrinsic aesthetic/architectural or historic interest.  
 PROPOSED ACTION: Entry on the national register

CATERATE: 3  
 INTERPRETATION: Other properties  
 SIGNIFICANCE: None  
 PROPOSED ACTION: None

Key SUCOWOTO  
 Acc. No. 94/154  
 Dew.No.\*  
 720.9685 GOU

HOW TO LOCATE A PROPERTY ON THE SURVEY

Each computer entry has a survey number which is provided in the field CATNO. This number corresponds with the photograph number. In this way the description and appearance of properties are easily read together.

## OFS TOWN HALL SURVEY

### Introduction

The town hall as a building type is probably the truest concrete reflection of the aspirations and self image that a town has of itself. This image is nearly always shaped by economic constraints and sometimes by calamities such as fires or even by rapid development or by "forward thinking" town clerks or council members.

The town halls, as they appear in this survey, understandably reflect a diverse selection of styles fluctuating between the unselfconscious town hall of Kestell to the Bauhaus influenced town hall of Bothaville.

The bulk of the town halls surveyed were erected in the 1920's and 1930's culminating in Gordon Leith's town hall for the provincial capital Bloemfontein dating from 1936.

This brief overview of certain architectural aspects of the buildings surveyed should, but does not, investigate the reasons for the coming into existence of the town hall as a building type. One could certainly hint at some of the most important reasons such as community gatherings with a civic purpose. More important though, would be the cultural function that the town hall fulfilled within the smaller rural community. Visiting theatre troupes and the flickering images of the motion picture brought a welcome relief to the often tedious and difficult existence on the platteland.

The town hall apart from its broader social function was and is also home to the local wedding reception or birthday party. For a small fee every (white) inhabitant could "command" the space and the facilities of the town hall. The town hall could and did lend importance to the town and the life of the individual.

In discussing the architectural character of the different town halls certain generalisations unfortunately have to be made in the absence of complete knowledge. The hidden connections between towns and individuals in towns, architects and designers etc. often remain hidden and opinions are then only based on the building as it stands.

### BETHLEHEM

The building is styled along the lines of an American capital and has a restrained and nearly utilitarian air about it. Masey focuses attention on the entrances by using sandstone to create in strict neo-classical fashion porticos and door surrounds to the otherwise nearly bland facades. The facades are rendered in red brick with sandstone detail around the window openings. As a style the neo-Palladianism popularised by Baker and Leith was clearly losing its momentum but the style in a severely spartan form lingered on. On the drawing boards of the PWD to become a sort of Public Service style.

### BLOEMIFONTEIN

The Bloemfontein town hall designed by Gordon Leith is arguably one of the finest in South Africa especially when read in the context of President Brand Street. The building has stylistically been described as forming part of the so-called "New tradition" movement of which the Viceroy's Palace at New Delhi in India is probably the best example. The building uses as ornament on the sandstone facades classical elements fused with local elements such as agricultural activities, the crest of the city etc.

Internally the building boasts an Art Deco interior somewhat less happily grafted onto a classical background.

## **BOSHOF**

The town hall of Boshof displays the continuation of the Cape Dutch style as propagated by Moerdijk and even Baker as a true South African style. The decorative elements on the gables are however a far more "modern" version.

The building probably dates from the late 1920's or early 1930's.

## **BOTHAVILLE**

The architect Hulshof brought Willem Dudok's Hilversum Raadhuis to Bothaville. The blond ("golden brown") brickwork is Swedish in origin and the cubic forms and single horizontal cornice line is similar to buildings such as the Van der Merwe Scholtz Hall on the UOFS campus.

The Bothaville town hall does however in terms of its Modernist roots have its idiosyncrasies. No flat roof - in any event not over the hall itself - these having at that stage (1950) gained a justifiably poor reputation from a waterproofing point of view. The building has a strange, even classical sandstone plinth that grows into the typical modernist facebrick walls and plastered and painted columns.

## **CLOCOLAN**

The town halls in the Eastern Free State are, as can be expected, mainly built of sandstone. Clocolan is no exception and the Cape Dutch gables are an indication that a nationalistic feeling was sweeping the country after the formation of the Union of South Africa. The style was also popularised by Herbert Baker and his work at Groote Schuur amongst others where Cape Dutch and the Arts and Crafts movement met and consolidated in a style that was later to become the "official" architecture of South Africa.

## **DEWETSDORP**

A good few town halls in the Southern Free State (Dewetsdorp, Edenburg, Fauresmith, Springfontein) have been designed and built in a Cape Dutch style often made "grander" by the addition of a classical portico or pediment.

Few city councils could or can afford a clock tower or campanile to accompany the town hall and offices. At Dewetsdorp a centrally placed roof ventilator partially fulfils this function.

The main entrance to the hall is strictly classical (with pleasing proportions) with engaged columns. The somewhat curious brick plinth probably refers to a stone plinth that could not be afforded.

The main gable of the hall as is the side gables are Cape Dutch in character. The rest of the building has a functional austerity in keeping with the conservative and hardworking community which it serves.

## **EDENBURG**

Edenburg's town hall is less inspiring than Dewetsdorp's but has the same family design tree. The bulk of the hall is relieved by verandahs and ancillary rooms on the sides. Once again the Cape Dutch motive is used but in this instance combined with sandstone verandah pillars and quoins. A single Boyle's patent ventilator serves the same dual purpose as the rather more extravagant ventilator at Dewetsdorp.

## **FAURESMITH**

The town hall of Fauresmith is more imposing than others in the Free State mainly because of the clock tower. Of modest size the building nonetheless has a monumental quality that rightly dominates its surroundings.

The building was conceived of in a fairly rigorous classical manner, in any event as far as the main facade is concerned.

The use of precast concrete columns and decorative urns has become widespread in the 1930's, especially the concrete columns soon became a common sight as they lent support to the verandahs that sagged due to rotting wooden supports and fretwork.

#### **FOURIESBURG**

The town hall at Fouriesburg is constructed with sandstone and roofed with the ubiquitous corrugated iron. It has a large virtually unrelieved Cape Dutch gable straddling a basket handle arched entrance to the hall.

Although less elegant perhaps than the town hall at Cloccolan, Ficksburg or Ladybrand it remains an integral and important part of the fabric and the history of the town.

#### **FICKSBURG**

This town hall had the benefit of an architect for its design and probably craftsmen of a higher standard as well. The facade of this sandstone building rises above the mere functional and in fact employs virtually all of young Donaldson's bag of architectural tricks fearlessly stacked on one another: there are pediments (with acroterions) arches, decorative sandstone balls, fluted and engaged columns, a circular sandstone gable ventilator, sandstone "bookend" scrolls and so on.

The rest of the building as elsewhere, is rather spartan and is roofed in with corrugated iron and the mandatory (two) Boyle's patent ventilators.

The building was completed prior to the Anglo Boer War and was definitely in its time more impressive than that of Bloemfontein, the Free State capital.

#### **HARRISMITH**

The town hall of Harrismith is probably one of the finest town halls erected in the Free State.

The building dates from the colonial period and in this sense still reflects the idea of the OFS as a sovereign state. The building is also decidedly English in character with a polychrome facade in brickwork, and sandstone. The building was designed in an Edwardian neoclassical style typical of work done in the colonies of the Empire. The main facade is more severely classical than the rest of the building, a design approach that was also typical of the time.

The fact that the bulk of the hall is relieved by first storey wings that wrap around the main hall makes for a pleasing building with handsome proportions.

#### **JAGERSFONTEIN**

Jagersfontein was born as a functional necessity to serve the thronging mass of diamond diggers who had city building pegged at a somewhat lower priority than working the "blue ground."

The town hall is built of burnt and pointed brickwork. A decorative "frieze" is formed by angled brickwork. The projector room added over the old main entrance is unfortunate. The interior is, barring the light fittings, largely unaltered and displays an impressive pressed steel proscenium arch and steel ceiling.

The building was later painted which is historically unfortunate but aesthetically more pleasing. The building is prominently placed on the town square in close proximity to the town offices and bell tower, both being worthy of conservation.

## **KESTELL**

The Kestell town hall is an example of unselfconscious civic architecture. The building is purely functional, being a rectangle with a double pitched corrugated iron roof. The only decoration is a scalloped design to the bargeboards. The scale of the building is residential and it was possibly designed as a temporary solution to the socializing needs of the community.

## **KROONSTAD**

The town hall of Kroonstad, although prominently placed within the town, is today marooned within a sea of tamed freeway. It is in close proximity to another building designed by the Till brothers, the DR Church. Both buildings are "busy", bristling with chimneys, towers, and corner turrets in zinc.

The building, the result of a competition, was designed in a rather austere classicism but appears animated and nearly sculptural due to the modulated massing of the volumes and the prefabricated details stacked on or tacked onto the mass of sandstone. The building is a jewel in the crown of Free State architecture and as a town hall must rate as one of the most exciting if not the biggest or architecturally the most elegant.

## **LADYBRAND**

This town hall of elegant but rural classical proportions is situated in the cradle of the sandstone building tradition. The building was designed by a well-known Free State architect, Frederick Masey. The building has very little ornamentation but the quarry faced sandstone facade and bulky silhouette seems to blend well with the rugged sandstone hills and mountains around the town.

The building has a centrally placed clock tower, an extravagance that only a handful of towns in the Free State could afford.

## **LINDLEY**

The town hall at Lindley was originally erected in 1891, an unremarkable rectangular sandstone edifice with a double pitched corrugated iron roof. When H.G.E. de la Cornillère added further accommodation he designed an arched colonnade with sandstone pediments (1937). This addition transformed the building from a mere utilitarian hall to a building of not inconsiderable civic dignity.

The arched openings are now to be meshed-up as the conservative local authority entrenches itself against an anticipated attack from the liberated masses.

## **MARQUARD**

The Marquard town hall continues the Edwardian tradition that has by the 1920's become somewhat wedded to the Cape Dutch gable popularised by Sir Herbert Baker. Certain classical elements remain e.g. the suggestion of brick quoins and the precast concrete ball ornaments on the main gable. The gables are elegant but only appear on the main plastered and painted facades. Later, unsympathetic additions has further highlighted the utilitarian, low budget character of the building.

## **REITZ**

The architect H.G.E. de la Cornillère was a well-known architect in the Free State and also played a primitive and leading role in the Orange Free State institute of Architects. He designed the town hall of Reitz in 1937 in a style that could in a certain sense be called a Public Service style. The style is in essence a continuation of the Edwardian neoclassicism but here using also the Baker language of red brick, sandstone and plaster.

The building has an abstracted neoclassical front facade with symmetrical wings and quarter circle porticos on precast concrete columns flanking the main entrance.

## **ROUXVILLE**

The Rouxville town hall was also designed by H.G.E. de la Cornillère but much earlier than the building at Reitz. The building was opened in 1911 and originally finished in red brick and painted plaster. The style is utilitarian classicism with a continental Renaissance flavour. The centrally placed roof ventilator probably doubles as a "tower" as is the case at the Dewetsdorp town hall.

## **SMITHFIELD**

The town hall at Smithfield was erected in 1925 according to a design prepared by H.G.E. de la Cornillère. As later at Lindley De la Cornillère uses the time honoured device, the colonnade to relieve the bulk of the town hall.

This unpretentious building uses mass produced precast concrete columns of the Doric order, a small amount of sandstone and a stepped gable to lend some dignity to the entrance. A forwardly placed Boyle's patent ventilator relieves the otherwise squat silhouette and would, on the architect's drawing board, appear as a somewhat timid "tower".

## **SPRINGFONTEIN**

Little is at present known about the town hall at Springfontein. It probably dates from the 1920's or 1930's. The main entrance and hall have Cape Dutch gables, a stylistic device, as we have seen, much favoured by smaller towns such as Boshof, Dewetsdorp, Fouriesburg and Marquard to name a few.

The front facade is asymmetrical and the lean-to wing with the stepped gable may be a later addition.

## **STEYNSRUS**

The Steynsrus town hall was built in 1929 and is strongly reminiscent of the Dewetsdorp town hall, albeit in a somewhat scaled down version.

The Edwardian tradition combined with facebrick, and plastered Cape Dutch gables give dignity to a building that, as is the case at Dewetsdorp, was designed by someone with above average abilities. Once again the formal classical pediment and abstracted pilasters are utilized to emphasize the main entrance.

## **THEUNISSEN**

The town hall at Theunissen was designed by H.A.C. Wallace, a relatively unknown architect/designer. He however brought to Theunissen in 1936 one of the few Art Deco town halls in the Free State. One must hasten to add that it was a fairly severe application of the style. The main facade in plaster with tiled copings, has two heavy tower like structures surmounted by flagstaffs. The main gable is stepped and the whole building is placed on a facebrick plinth. The entrance doors are covered by a single storey gabled portico. The hall is covered by a gabled corrugated iron saddle roof with Boyle's patent ventilators.

## **TROMPSBURG**

This humble town hall was built in 1926/1927 and probably originally had unpainted brick walls with a hipped corrugated iron roof.

The only pretension to this building is a sandstone entrance gable of rather fine proportions and probably designed by an architect. The gable has an open pediment with a coat of arms in the tympanum and Cape Dutch scrolls flanking the pilasters.

## **VENTERSBURG**

The town hall at Ventersburg dates from 1928 and has a hipped corrugated iron roof and buttressed, plastered walls. The buttresses are probably an effort to cope with the heaving soils prevalent in this area of the OFS.

The main facade of the building has flowing baroque type gables that hint at the Art Deco that was already gaining popularity in the metropolitan areas. Four Boyle's ventilators grace the roof of the town hall.

## **WEPENER**

This town hall designed in 1928 by the well-known H.G.E. de la Cornillère, probably served as a model for the town halls at Dewetsdorp (whose original town hall burnt down in 1928), Steynsrus (without the clock tower) and possibly even Fauresmith (the original town hall burnt down in 1927).

The Wepener town hall is executed in the Edwardian classicism of the time. The plastered walls are articulated by a series of twin pilasters and pediments over doors and windows. A somewhat heavy clock tower presides over the main entrance. The roofspace over the hall is ventilated by one large centrally located ventilator.

## **WINBURG**

The town hall at Winburg is executed in the same Public Service style as in the case of the town hall at Reitz. The large scale use of brick is probably due to the maintenance syndrome that permeates all Public Works Departments. The Winburg town hall has a large semi-circular portico of elephantine proportions.

The building is symmetrical around the entrance axis and has a definite dignity befitting the building type.

## **ZASTRON**

The Zastron town hall is a utilitarian structure that has suffered through various efforts through the years that have tried to "beautify" the building. Little is known about the history of this rather ungainly building. It would appear that a portico in the Post Modern style was fairly recently added to the building.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion it should be clear that there was a town hall building boom during the 1920's and 1930's and there is a definite stylistic trend and unity between these buildings. They therefore are not only important elements within the various townscapes, but also important historical and architectural documents within the OFS.

**ANTON ROODT**  
**APRIL 1994**



DOCNO : 9240016  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.1  
NAME : Civic Centre  
LOCATION : 20-22 Muller Street, Bethlehem  
ERFNO : 9, 9a, 10, 19a, 19b, 20  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Red brick building with tile roof and sandstone portico, quoining, foundation, window sills and lintels. Tower on south elevation.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: Brick Roof: tile  
ENVIRON : High impact, situated on square, landmark in town.  
SIGNIF : The red brick building with its sandstone detail which was designed by F.W. Masey, was erected in 1930-1931. It is one of the most impressive town halls, built in the OFS and a landmark in Bethlehem.

HISTORY : The cornerstones of the building was laid on 1993-01-30 by councillor P. Goble and the Administrator of the OFS, C.M.T. Wilcocks. The building contractor was John J. Peddie. An additional wing was added on to the north elevation in the 1950's.

CATRATE : NM  
STATUS : National monument

DOCNO : 9240077  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.2  
NAME : City Hall  
LOCATION : President Brand Street, Bloemfontein  
ERFNO : 3257  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : City hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Double storey sandstone building with tile roof. Twin towers on front facade. Double timber doors and casement windows with timber shutters.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: tile  
ENVIRON : High impact, conservation area, established garden  
SIGNIF : The building was designed by Gordon Leith and erected in 1934-1936. It is of outstanding architectural and historical merit and forms part of one of the finest streetscapes in South Africa.

HISTORY : The cornerstone was laid on 1934-02-27 by Prince George, Duke of Kent. Officially opened on 1936-12-04 by the Earl of Clarendon, the then Governor-General of the Union of South Africa. Building contractor: W.F. and P. du Plessis.

CATRATE : NM  
STATUS : National monument

- 3 -

DOCNO : 9340012  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.3  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Boshof  
ERFNO : 432 (Dorpsgronde)  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building with gables and high pitched corrugated iron roof. Ventilators on roof ridge. Corrugated iron lean-to verandahs with decorative iron pillars on front facade. Timber doors with arched fanlights and steel windows.  
CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : Medium impact  
SIGNIF : Forms part of town's history.

1.3

HISTORY : Needs investigation

CATRATE : 2  
STATUS : Historical site

- 4 -

DOCNO : 9340005  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.4  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Preller Street, Bothaville  
ERFNO : 373  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Face brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Plastered cornices and pilasters. Sandstone plinth and window sills. Timber and steel doors and steel windows.

1.4

CONSTRMAT : Structure: face brick Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : High, situated on town square, established garden.  
SIGNIF : The building which was designed by J.P. Hulshof and erected in 1950, has intrinsic aesthetic/architectural merit.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1950-03-04 by the Mayor of Bothaville, Dr. T. Meyer. The building contractor was G. Sacchettoni.

CATRATE : 2  
STATUS :

DOCNO : 9340013  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.5  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Andries Pretorius Street, Clocolan  
ERFNO : 619/B  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building. Symmetrical front facade, ending in large Cape Dutch gable. Double pitched corrugated iron roof with ventilators on roof ridge. Sandstone extensions on side elevations with Cape Dutch gables. Timber doors and windows.  
CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : High impact, situated directly on street.  
SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1916-1917, is a fine example of a sandstone town hall. It contributes to the character of the street and is a landmark in town.  
HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1916-11-15 by the Mayor of Clocolan, councillor T.A. Wilsenach  
CATRATE : 1  
STATUS : Historical site

1.5

DOCNO : 9340014  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 1.6  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Dewetsdorp  
ERFNO : 540  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building. Double pitched corrugated iron roof with decorative ventilator. Symmetrical front facade with triangular pediment, pilasters and gable. Extensions with corrugated iron roofs on side and rear of building.  
CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : High, situated on town square, established garden.  
SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1928, is a typical example of town hall built in the OFS. It contributes to character of area and is a landmark in town.  
HISTORY : The building was rebuilt in 1928 after the previous town hall was destroyed by fire.  
CATRATE : 2  
STATUS : Historical site

1.6

DOCNO : 9340015  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 1.7  
 NAME :  
 LOCATION : Church Street, Edenburg  
 ERFNO : 104  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under pitched corrugated iron roof. Symmetrical front facade with Cape Dutch gables and arched openings with sandstone surrounds. Lean-to corrugated iron verandahs with sandstone pillars on front and side facades.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1924-1925, is a typical example of a town hall built in the OFS. It contributes to character of area and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1924-10-25 by E.R. Grobler, Administrator of the OFS.

1.7

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340001  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 1.8  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Fauresmith  
 ERFNO : 9  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: Town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under pitched corrugated iron roof. Symmetrical front facade with tower, triangular pediment and pilasters. Extensions on side elevations with lean-to corrugated iron verandahs. Timber doors and windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, situated on main street.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1930, is a typical example of a town hall built in die OFS. It contributes to the character of the surrounding area and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The building was completed in June 1930 after the previous city hall was destroyed by fire in 1927. It was officially opened by the Administrator of the Orange Free State, C.T.M. Willcocks and the Mayor of Fauresmith, Dr. J.J. van Niekerk.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

1.8

1.9

DOCNO : 9240115  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 1.9  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Old Market Square, Ficksburg  
 ERFNO : 75/RE  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building. Double pitched corrugated iron roof with ventilators. Symmetrical front facade with decorative gable. Extensions on side elevations with lean-to corrugated iron verandahs in-between. Timber doors and steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, situated on town square.  
 SIGNIF : This sandstone building with its Neo-Classical features was designed by Walter Donaldson and completed during the 1890's. The town hall, adjacent museum building and old post office form one of the finest sandstone building groups in the OFS.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1897-07-21 by the Chairman of the Municipality of Ficksburg, Mr. M.I. Fourie. It was completed before the outbreak of the Anglo Boer War (1899-1902).

CATRATE : NM  
 STATUS : National monument

2.1

DOCNO : 9340002  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.1  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Martin Street, Fouriesburg  
 ERFNO : 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Cape Dutch gables on front and side elevations. Timber doors and casement windows, timber floors and pressed steel ceilings.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, established garden.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1926, is a fine example of a sandstone town hall, built in die OFS. It contributes to the character of area and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1926-09-08 by J.H. Meiring. The building contractor was Thos. Drummond.

CATRATE : 1  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9240131  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 2.2  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Warden Street, Harrismith  
ERFNO : 131  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Double storey red brick building with centrally placed tower and decorative sandstone detail, including sandstone portico on front facade. Timber doors and windows. Market hall at rear of building with corrugated iron roof and verandah.  
CONSTRMAT : Structure: brick Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : High impact, situated on town square. Landmark in town.  
SIGNIF : The red brick building with its sandstone ornamentation was designed by the architects Price and Agutter and erected in 1907-1908. It is one of the most impressive town halls, built in die OFS and a landmark in Harrismith.  
HISTORY : The building was erected by the builders Kelly and Anderson of Johannesburg. The cornerstone was laid on 1907-08-02 by Sir Hamilton Goold-Adams, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Orange River Colony. The building was officially inaugurated on 1908-09-07.  
CATRATE : NM  
STATUS : National monument

2.2

DOCNO : 9340004  
CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
CATNO : 2.3  
NAME : Town hall  
LOCATION : Market Square, Jagersfontein  
ERFNO : 14  
TYPE : Civic  
CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
CONDITION1 : Good  
DESCRIP : Single storey painted brick building under double pitched corrugated iron roof with ventilators. Timber doors, windows and floors.  
CONSTRMAT : Structure: Painted brick Roof: corrugated iron  
ENVIRON : High impact, situated on town square.  
SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1913, forms part of an important group of buildings which faced on to the town square. It contributes to the character of the area and is a landmark in town.  
HISTORY : The building was erected after the previous town hall was destroyed by fire.  
CATRATE : 2  
STATUS : Historical site

2.3

DOCNO : 9340016  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.4  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Botha Street, Kestell  
 ERFNO : 19  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Fair  
 DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building under double pitched corrugated iron. Corrugated iron canopy on sandstone pillars above main entrance, which consists of double timber door with fanlight. Sliding sash windows.

2.4

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1919, is a fine example of a plain sandstone town hall, built in a small OFS town. The building is mainly unaltered.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1919-02-22 by the Mayor of Kestell, Mr. C.J. Duminy. The builder was R. Malan.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9240157  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.5  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Church Street, Kroonstad  
 ERFNO : 579  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Excellent  
 DESCRIP : Sandstone building under hipped corrugated iron roof with bell-tower and louvered ventilators. Front facade with two decorative towers, sandstone portico and pediment. Sliding sash windows and timber doors with fanlights.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, faces onto church square.  
 SIGNIF : The sandstone building with its Neo-Classical features was designed by J.H. & A.E. Till. It was officially opened on 1907-06-07 by Sir H. Goold-Adams, Lt.-Governor of the ORC. It forms part of an important architectural group and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1906-03-14 by the Mayor of Kroonstad, T.W. Hoseason. Building operations were started by B.W. Eastwood and Morris & Lightbody and completed by Rowe & Marshall.

2.5

CATRATE : NM  
 STATUS : National monument

2.6

DOCNO : 9240174  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.6  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Joubert Street, Ladybrand  
 ERFNO : 139  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building under corrugated iron roof with louvered ventilators and sandstone chimneys. Sandstone tower and portico in middle of symmetrical front facade. Steel windows and timber doors. Sandstone market building added on at rear.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, established garden, landmark in town.  
 SIGNIF : The building was designed by the architect, F.W. Masey, and officially opened on 1932-01-27. It is a fine example of a sandstone town hall in the OFS and a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1931-03-11 by the Mayor of Ladybrand, J.N. van Soelen. The building contractor was V. Daugaard. The market building at the rear was completed in 1933.

CATRATE : 1  
 STATUS : Historical site

2.7

DOCNO : 9240186  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.7  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Church Street, Lindley  
 ERFNO : 20  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey sandstone building under hipped corrugated iron roof with louvered ventilators. Triangular sandstone gables. Arched entrances to enclosed sandstone stoep on two sides of building.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: sandstone Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, landmark in town.  
 SIGNIF : The original portion of the building, erected in 1911, and the later addition of 1937 was designed by the well-known architect, H.G.E. de la Cornillere. The building is a fine example of a sandstone town hall and a landmark in town.

HISTORY : Original part of the building was officially opened on 1911-12-07 by Mayor of Lindley, S.A. Lange. The builder was P.G.J. Koornhof. The new addition, built by E. Hern, was opened on 1937-09-07 by the Administrator of the OFS, Dr. J.F. van Rensburg.

CATRATE : 1  
 STATUS : Historical site



2.8

DOCNO : 9340011  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.8  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Louis Trichardt Square, Mareestraat, Marquard  
 ERFNO :  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Fair  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Front elevation provided with gables and lean-to corrugated iron verandah, enclosed with steel windows and door.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, situated on square.  
 SIGNIF : Forms part of town's history.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1923-01-17 by the Mayor of Marquard, councillor E. van der Riet. The building cost was 3 000 and the building could accommodate 400 people.

CATRATE : 3  
 STATUS : Historical site

2.9

DOCNO : 9340006  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 2.9  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Reitz  
 ERFNO : 584  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Symmetrical front facade with pilasters, large triangular pediment and gable. Brick extensions on side elevations with corrugated iron roofs. Timber doors and steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1937, was designed by the architect, H.G.E. de la Cornillere. It is a typical example of a town hall, built in the OFS and forms part of the history of Reitz.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1937-02-12 by the Mayor of Reitz, councillor C.H. Walker. The building was officially opened on 1937-12-14 by the Administrator of the OFS, Dr. J.F. van Rensburg.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

3.1

DOCNO : 9340031  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.1  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Piet Retief Street, Rouxville  
 ERFNO : 119  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey painted brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof with tower on roof ridge. Corrugated iron verandas with iron columns. Three arched entrances in front facade. Timber doors and casement windows. Painted sandstone foundation.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: Painted brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, situated directly on street.  
 SIGNIF : The building was designed by the architect, H.G.E. de la Cornillere and officially opened on 1911-07-11 by the Administrator of the OFS, A.E.W. Ramsbottom. It occupies an important place in the history of Rouxville.

HISTORY : The building was erected in 1911 by the brothers Morton of Aliwal-North. It was used as cinema and for religious and political meetings. In 1961 the building was extensively modernised for the centenary celebrations of the town.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

3.2

DOCNO : 9340017  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.2  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Brand Street, Smithfield  
 ERFNO : 528/RE  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Symmetrical front facade with stepped gables and portico, built partially of sandstone. Verandahs on front and side elevations. Timber doors and steel and casement windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, established garden  
 SIGNIF : The building which was designed by the architect, H.G.E. de la Cornillere, was erected in 1925. It is a fine example of a town hall built in the OFS and a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The building was officially opened on 1925-19-08 by the Administrator of the OFS, E.R. Grobler.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340018  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.3  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Christiaan Strauss/Van Riebeeck Street, Springfontein  
 ERFNO : 431  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Cape Dutch gables and enclosed stoeps on front and side elevations. Steel windows and timber doors.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact.  
 SIGNIF : Forms part of history of town

HISTORY : Needs investigation

CATRATE : 3  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340019  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.4  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Steyn/Van Riebeeck Street, Steynsrus  
 ERFNO : 393  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Gables on front and rear elevations. Projecting bay on front facade with triangular pediment and pilasters. Brick plinth. Steel doors and windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, established garden  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1929, is a fine example of a town hall, built in the OFS and a landmark in town.

HISTORY : Needs investigation

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

3.5

DOCNO : 9340020  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.5  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Le Roux Street, Theunissen  
 ERFNO : 82  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof with ventilators on roof ridge. Front elevation provided with stepped gables and a tower on each corner. Steel windows. Brick plinth.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1936, was designed by H.A.C. Wallace. It forms part of the history of Theunissen and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1936-03-10 by the Mayor of Theunissen, J.H. van Heeren. The building contractors was D. Watson and Son. The building was inaugurated on 1936-10-21.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

3.6

DOCNO : 9340021  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.6  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Trompsburg  
 ERFNO : 10  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Front elevation provided with sandstone gable and double timber door with arched fanlight. Steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, situated on main street.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1926/1927, forms part of the history of Trompsburg.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1926-08-27 by Bastiaan Tromp (sen.) It was officially opened in March 1927.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340022  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.7  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Voortrekker Street, Ventersburg  
 ERFNO : 303  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof with ventilators on roof ridge. Gables and lean-to verandah with pre-cast columns on front facade. Double timber main door with side lights and fan lights and steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, established garden.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1928, forms part of the history of Ventersburg.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1928-06-27 by E.R. Grobler, Administrator of the OFS. The building contractor was H.B. Kruger. The building was officially inaugurated on 1928-12-08.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340032  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.8  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : De Beer Street, Wepener  
 ERFNO : 178 (Dorpsgronde)  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Fair  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof with ventilator on roof ridge. Front facade provided with tower and projecting bay with pediment and pilasters. Double timber doors and casement windows. Red painted brick plinth.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, situated on large square.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was designed by the architect H.G.E. de la Cornillere, was erected in 1927. It is a fine example of a town hall, built in the OFS. It forms part of the history of Wepener and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The building was officially opened on 1928-05-31 by the Mayor of Wepener, councillor D. du Plessis. The building contractor was D.J.H. Spies. In 1963 the building was repaired and modernised.

CATRATE : 1  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340010  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 3.9  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Andries Pretorius Square, Winburg  
 ERFNO : 497  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey red brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Stoep with pre-cast columns in front of main entrance. Brick extensions with corrugated iron roofs on side elevations. Timber doors and steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : Medium impact, established garden.  
 SIGNIF : The building which was erected in 1938, forms part of the history of Winburg and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : The cornerstone of the building was laid on 1938-03-23 by dr. J.F.J. van Rensburg, Administrator of the OFS.

CATRATE : 2  
 STATUS : Historical site

DOCNO : 9340033  
 CATALOGUE : NMC OFS Town Hall Survey  
 CATNO : 4.1  
 NAME : Town hall  
 LOCATION : Hoofdstraat, Zastron  
 ERFNO :  
 TYPE : Civic  
 CURRUSE : Other: town hall  
 CONDITION1 : Good  
 DESCRIP : Single storey plastered brick building under hipped corrugated iron roof. Front facade provided with large triangular pediment and portico. Timber doors and steel windows.

CONSTRMAT : Structure: plastered brick Roof: corrugated iron  
 ENVIRON : High impact, situated on large square.  
 SIGNIF : Forms part of the history of Zastron and is a landmark in town.

HISTORY : Needs investigation

CATRATE : 3  
 STATUS : Historical site

3.9

4.1



1.1



1.2



1.3

14



15



16





1.7



1.8



1.9



2.1



2.2



2.3





2.4



2.5



2.6

2.7



2.8



2.9



3.1



3.2



3.3





3.4



3.5



3.6



3.7



3.8



3.9

4.1

